

# CROSSROADS

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Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal

"6-5...  
IN THE FIGHT!"

FY 2013



915  
SORTIES

9,361  
LODGED



5,15 M  
gallons  
FUEL ISSUED

## Popular Numbers

### Medical Appointment:

Base: 535-3261  
Off base: 295-573-261  
Base Alt: 535-1089  
Off base Alt: 295-571-089

### Emergency:

Base: 911  
Off base: 295-571-911

### Lajes Against Drunk Driving:

Fri & Sat: 295-57-5233

### Sexual Assault Response Coordinator:

24/7: 535-7272  
Off base: 966-677-266

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## Lajes Airmen trek to Peru to provide medical care



Dr. (Maj.) Nicholas Seeliger, 65th Medical Operations Squadron, speaks with Peruvian patients in the rural highlands of the Andes Mountains in Peru as part of a medical volunteer humanitarian project in 2008. On May 31, he will lead volunteers of various medical professions from Lajes Field, Azores; Eglin AFB, Fla.; Hurlburt Field, Fla.; Ramstein AB, Germany; Fort Sam Houston, Texas; and Oakland, Calif., to participate in Healing Peru by providing free medical services to many indigenous people there. (Courtesy photo)

By Staff Sgt. Angelique N. Smythe  
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Many people only dream of opportunities to participate in humanitarian projects assisting indigenous people in faraway lands.

On May 31, 15 Airmen and civilian medical professionals will live out that dream by traveling to the rural highlands of the Andes Mountains in Peru to participate in a medical volunteer humanitarian project called Healing Peru.

Led by Dr. (Maj.) Nicholas Seeliger, 65th Medical Operations Squadron Family Medicine physician, the team will provide free medical services, preventative health care, health education and economic assistance to the indigenous women of the Andahuaylillas village in support of the Q'ewar Project, a social work initiative program.

"The Q'ewar Project focuses on helping women of these communities who are usually coming from really difficult social situations; many of them are either widowed, separated or victims of domestic violence," said Seeliger. "This project brings these women in, teaches them a trade, such as how to make different types of quilts, blankets and dolls, and that's how they establish themselves."

Seeliger and his wife, Kristy, formed the Healing Peru nonprofit organization in 2007 while stationed at Eglin AFB, Fla. This is the fifth year he will lead yet another team to provide medical assistance and strengthen relationships within the Andahuaylillas village.

The volunteers from across the Air Force have no formal training related to working in humanitarian environments which have no medical resources. Healing Peru provides an opportunity for Air Force medics to learn how to work in austere or remote environments with limited resources. Care is usually provided to an average of 2,000 people within their short two-week visit.

"We try to help them the best we can, and then we try to give them a diagnosis and treatment," said Seeliger. "The types of illnesses these people have are things most of us take for granted, such as simple lacerations, skin infections, urinary tract infections, arthritis and diseases of labor.

These are hardworking farmers; their bodies hurt, so most of what we do is provide pain relief. We provide pain relief medicines, nutritional supplements, prenats and those kinds of things."

Staff Sgt. Tim Begley, who first participated in Healing Peru in April 2012, will share this rare experience with his



To read more on "Healing Peru" see page 4

Today's Fight—Airmen and Families—Host Nation Relationship—Future Challenges



# What type of leader are you?

By Capt. John R. Berg  
65th Mission Support Group

Not many Airmen join the Air Force knowing what type of leader they are...yet all are called to lead. Airmen joining military service in their late teens and early twenties quickly learn that their Air Force expects each of its members to lead. Yet at this age and level of experience few know what type of leadership style fits him or her; few can say with certainty what type of leader he or she is. Knowing your personal brand of leadership is a critical first step to being as effective as you can be. So how do you make this "discovery?"

I would advise that the best way to discover your personal leadership style is to become a student. Study the leaders at your base, study to understand what natural strengths you have and study to develop the skills the Air Force has invested in you.

Start by observing the leadership styles of the Airmen around you. Think back to leaders you looked up to from previous bases, from time spent at school or in outside organizations. Who was an impactful leader and what made him or her so effective? And don't limit your studies to those leaders you have personally met or worked with, read about the rich history of leaders the United States Air Force has produced!

Is every USAF leader built the same? The answer is a resounding "No!" We all fill our leadership résumé with different strengths and skills. This diversity produces a wide range of leaders who are able to effectively lead a diverse force in different ways. To be an effective leader is to move a group toward a desired outcome, and this can be done in many ways. We are not all called to stand in front of crowds inspiring others with our spoken word, nor are we all

called to lead Airmen in combat strengthening those around us with our courage under fire. Each of these is a fantastic trait but so is the ability to communicate to others a commitment to excellence by the daily example of hard work, or to demonstrate strength by keeping yourself and those around you physically ready to answer the call to deploy. There are fundamental qualities that each Airman leader must possess and those Core Values unite us as a force. But there is absolutely no requirement to "fake" who you are to become a more effective leader. A vital first step in developing your personal brand of leadership is knowing where your strengths lie and what particular skills you possess. Exploit those strengths and develop those skills!



Each of us has the capacity to be a strong Airman leader. But that does not mean that we are leaders the first time we put on the uniform. Fortunately we work in an environment that understands the importance of growing through experience and education. Pay keen attention to the examples of good and bad leadership to better understand how these experiences can refine the leader that you are. Take advantage of education by being a diligent student in Professional Military Education. Be honest with yourself and your subordinates so that feedback can be used as constructive criticism. And if you are not receiving feedback, insist that you get it! No Airman has reached his or her pinnacle in the first year of military service, this we all know... but the path to maximizing your strengths and skills never truly ends.

Be an effective leader by exploiting your strengths and employing your skills to advance those around you. The Air Force expects no less and your Airmen deserve no less!



**Commander's Action Line**  
535-4240  
abw.cc@us.af.mil

*The Commander's Action Line is your link to the commander for suggestions, kudos and as a way to work problems or issues within the 65th Air Base Wing for which you can't find another solution.*



Col. Chris Bargery

*Your chain of command should always be your first option — but when that's not the answer, call or e-mail the Commander's Action Line at 535-4240 or abw.cc@us.af.mil.*

**Col. Chris Bargery**  
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



The 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the Crossroads.

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

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## Safety Saves Lives for Lajes Motorcyclists



The Lajes Exchange knows that safety is no accident; that's why they are committed to providing a wide selection of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) which could make the difference between life and death for military motorcyclists.

According to Army and Air Force safety centers, 65 Soldiers and Airmen lost their lives in motorcycle accidents in fiscal year 2012.

"Riding with the right safety equipment is extremely important," said the Lajes Exchange's General Manager, Carrie Cammel. "That's why our motorcycle safety gear consists of sturdy helmets, gloves, vests and more, all designed to increase visibility and help protect riders."

Safety gear along with skills learned in motorcycle safety training classes combine to increase survival and prevent injuries.

Motorcycle riders can browse the Exchange's PPE selection online at [www.shopmyexchange.com](http://www.shopmyexchange.com).

## Commissary survey goes live June 1



Whether you shop at your local commissary or not, the Defense Commissary Agency wants to hear from you.

From June 1 through Aug. 1, an online survey will be available on [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) by clicking on the "take our survey" link or accessing the survey directly at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DeCA-Shopping-Survey>.

"We're asking for input from our regular shoppers, occasional shoppers and non-shoppers alike," said Tracie Russ, director of DeCA's business development directorate. "The responses will be analyzed and used to improve the commissary for all our patrons."

The survey takes only 8-12 minutes to complete, and Russ said the time spent will have meaningful impact on future improvements at commissaries worldwide.

## LAJES WARRIORS OF THE WEEK

**Name:** Gwen Berrones  
**Rank:** Master Sergeant  
**Unit:** 65th Mission Support Group  
**Hometown:** Aspermont, Texas  
**Duty Title:** NCOIC of Executive Services



**Accomplishments:** Master Sergeant Gwen Berrones is the NCOIC of Executive Services in the 65th Mission Support Group. Sergeant Berrones wears many hats as she can count thirteen "additional duties" in addition to her primary job of reviewing all decorations, managing the Group's awards program and holding subordinate MSG units accountable for Group and Wing suspenses. Perhaps her most important additional duty is as the wing Report of Survey Manager. In this capacity she is actively managing fifteen reports investigating over \$44K in unaccounted for equipment. Sergeant Berrones is married to Master Sergeant Frank Berrones and they have two children: Isabelle, 4 and Dallas, 2.



**Name:** Christine Graham  
**Rank:** GS-07  
**Unit:** 65th Mission Support Group  
**Hometown:** San Antonio, Texas  
**Duty Title:** Secretary  
**Accomplishments:** Mrs. Christine Graham is the 65th Mission Support Group Commander's Secretary. Her duties are diverse: reviewing official correspondence, managing the Commander, Deputy and Superintendent's busy calendars, processing requests for fundraisers, and even representing the Commander in certain official functions such as the DoDDS School Advisory Council. Aside from these important duties, Mrs. Graham supports a busy household. Her husband, Lt Col Loren Graham, commands the 729th Air Mobility Squadron and they have two children: Katie, 13, and Hayden, 9.



"Healing Peru" from page 1

wife of almost four years, Staff Sgt. Lora Begley. Both Begleys are medical technicians with the 65th MDOS.

"Tim came with us last year and was an integral part of the whole project," said Seeliger. "He worked really hard, and I think he had a good experience. His wife was unable to go last year; I believe she was deployed shortly after. It was something important enough to her that when she got back, they both decided to go this year. They're paying out of pocket for this (permissive temporary duty assignment). It's not cheap to fly from here to South America, so this says a lot at how motivated they are to be a part of the project."

Although both Tim and Lora have the same job in the Air Force, they have never had the opportunity to actually work together. At Lajes, Lora is in charge of education and training for the 65th Medical Group, and Tim works in ambulance services.

"The fact that we'll both be able to go together is awesome," said Tim. "Last year, I think we saw close to a thousand people in just a few days. I was just overwhelmed at how great it went, how much we were able to do and how many people we saw. It was incredible.

"We triaged all the patients, gathered all their information, took their vital signs and put together a story of what they were there for so the doctor could treat them, prescribe and hand out meds. We also did a lot of dental care, a lot of extractions. They don't grow up with dental care, so their teeth get worn down over time."

Some of the villagers even traveled for days just to see the visiting doctors.

"We had trouble just walking around on flat ground and with the elevation," said Tim. "Everything was so steep, yet we had one woman who walked for three days from a mountain village, even further removed from where we were, just to come see the doctors.

"I'm glad I was able to use my military training to go out and do this humanitarian mission. Being in the medical field, I always thought it would be really nice to go to these countries and help people in this capacity. It's in a very remote area of the world, so we're gaining an additional experience that we don't normally see with a healthy active duty population."

Lora said she's very excited for this opportunity.

"We've always talked about how much I would love to do humanitarian missions in Africa or South America for extended periods of time whenever we get out of the military or retire," said Lora. "It's definitely a goal, a dream."

At age 16, Lora's first opportunity to serve in this capacity came when her church visited Vietnam.

"We visited various hospitals to educate people about AIDS," she said. "We also visited orphanages and minority villages in the mountains."

Tim and Lora will now both share their second humanitarian experience together in Peru.

"Last year was the first one I'd been able to volunteer for, so it'll be the same thing twice, but completely different in that we'll have a lot of different patients," Tim said.

Most natives of the Andahuaylilla village, an isolated community, speak the ancient language of Quechua, and very few speak Spanish in this Spanish-speaking country. Therefore, translators are usually heavily relied upon for a three-way translation of English, Spanish and Quechua.

Although Tim took three years of Spanish courses throughout high school, he said it only gave him a small foundation. He learned much of his Spanish by interacting with people from Central and South America while working in the construction trade for nearly five years before joining the Air Force.

"Of course, they have a completely different dialect than everywhere else, but once you're immersed in it for a couple days, it comes right back," he said.

For the first time this year, an obstetrician and physical therapist will go with the team.

"There's an OBGYN coming from California; she's prior Air Force and is now the Assistant Program Director of the OBGYN Residency Program at University of California, Davis," Seeliger said. "We hope to have her work with some of the midwives who work in a village near where we're going to be. This is the first time a physical therapist is coming as well, so she's going to do a lot of her muscular skeletal treatment. This community is a hard laboring community with farmers and laborers, so they have lots of aches and pain."

This year's Healing Peru volunteers are from Lajes Field, Azores; Eglin AFB, Fla.; Hurlburt Field, Fla.; Ramstein AB, Germany; Fort Sam Houston, Texas; and Oakland, Calif.



Team Lajes celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Team Lajes celebrated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with a luncheon on May 24. For more photographs of the APAHA luncheon, check out the 65th Air Base Wing's Flickr Page: [www.flickr.com/photos/lajesfield](http://www.flickr.com/photos/lajesfield). (U.S. Air Force photo by Guido Melo/released)



# 65th CS radar technicians at work

*Feature*



*Airman 1st Class Brian Kalweit, 65th Communications Squadron ground radar technician, adjusts the voltage at a radar antenna site during his routine maintenance check. The antennas ensure radio frequencies are transmitted and received properly. (Photo by Guido Melo/released)*



*Manuel Silveira trains Airman 1st Class Brian Kalweit on troubleshooting a high voltage modulator which develops high voltage for use in transmitters. Silveira and Kalweit are ground radar technicians with the 65th Communications Squadron. (Photo by Guido Melo/released)*



*Airman 1st Class Brian Kalweit, 65th Communications Squadron ground radar technician, adjusts the voltage at a radar antenna site during his routine maintenance check. (Photo by Guido Melo/released)*

# LAJES ON THE WEB



## Lajes Field

6-5...  
in the FIGHT!

"Lajes Link" - [www.lajes.af.mil](http://www.lajes.af.mil)

The 65th ABW Events Calendar is online! For a complete list of events, visit Lajes Link!

- Monthly Wing Promotion Ceremony, May 31 @ 3pm - Base Theater
- Airman Leadership School "Beach Run", June 3 @ 3:45pm - TTU Parking Lot
- Lajes High School Baccalaureate Service, June 3 @ 6pm - Lajes Chapel
- Lajes Field CCAF & College Graduation Ceremony, June 5 @ 3pm - TORC Ballroom
- 65th ABW Motorcycle Safety Ride, June 6 @ 12pm - Contact Maj Walworth, 535-6137
- Lajes High School Graduation, June 7 @ 5pm - Ramo Grande Auditorium



**AFN LAJES Radio 96.1FM**

- The Morning Wake Up Call: 0600-1000  
- The Double D MidDay Show: 1200-1300  
- The Afternoon Drive: 1400-1800

Request Line: 535-3121 or 295-57-3121



### Lajes Field, Azores

[www.facebook.com/65abw.lajes](http://www.facebook.com/65abw.lajes)

'Like' Lajes Field, Azores for the latest news stories, photos, videos and weather updates!



### Lajes Field Photos

Looking for photographs from the latest promotion ceremony or Warrior Welcome?

We post these photos on Flickr so Airmen, civilians and family can access them anywhere.

## BULLFIGHT SCHEDULE



Remember: Airmen and families assigned to Lajes Field are not allowed to participate in bullfights. If you are viewing a bullfight, you must maintain a safe distance, be behind adequate barricades or located on/in a building. Contact Wing Safety at 535-6137 for more info.

Friday, May 31: 6:30 p.m. Largo São João, Lajes  
Friday, May 31: 6:30 p.m. Ribeirinha  
Saturday, June 1: 6:30 p.m. Cantinho  
Saturday, June 1: 6:30 p.m. Largo São João, Lajes  
Saturday, June 1: 6:30 p.m. Cinco Ribeiras  
Sunday, June 2: 6:30 p.m. Largo São João, Lajes  
Sunday, June 2: 6:30 p.m. Terreiro, São Mateus

## ASK ED

A column that looks at the culture and history of the Azores

By Eduardo Lima, Community Relations Advisor



### Local festivals abound during summer

The warmer weather brings the festival season to the Azores in general and Terceira Island in particular. This is also the tourist season when thousands of Azorean immigrants return to the islands to celebrate with relatives and friends.

Most of the islands' festivals have cultural and religious origins, some dating back hundreds of years and continue to be religiously held annually.

Each town around the islands has its own festival, even the smallest towns, usually to honor their patron saints at a certain time of the year. On Terceira Island, these summer festivals usually begin with a religious procession on Sunday afternoons. The evenings are usually preempted with concerts by rock bands, folklore groups or concert bands. These cultural events usually finish with the traditional street bullfights which are usually held in the number of two or three.

Being Terceira a party-going island, its people are already looking forward to the Sanjoaninas Festival, the largest cultural event on the island. This annual festival attracts thousands of tourists from the Azorean communities in the U.S. and Canada, mainland Portugal and other Azorean islands.

Sanjoaninas takes place in the main streets of Angra and usually features parades, concerts, expositions, street and arena bullfights,

sports activities, etc. This year's Sanjoaninas is scheduled for June 21-29.

The city of Praia will also host a similar festival, Aug. 2-11. Besides the parades, concerts and other cultural activities, the festival also features a bullfight on the beach and a food fair with several restaurants from various regions of Portugal, offering cuisine specialties to illustrate the gastronomy of their regions. This is an excellent opportunity for people to experience different dishes from different regions.

The Wine Festival happens the first or second weekend in September in the wine museum in the town of Biscoitos. During the Saturday's afternoon, people parade down to the vineyards closer to the ocean to pick the grapes. Later in the afternoon, participants are invited to stomp the grapes with their bare feet and taste the new wine and other season specialties.

Terceira Island's summer festival season ends every year in October with the Lajes town's festival being held during the first week of the month and the last bullfight on the 15th.

The Crossroads newspaper will publish a list of cultural events throughout the summer, especially the street bullfights and the Sanjoaninas and Praia Fest.