

# CROSSROADS

Rated #1 Best Web-Based Publication in the U.S. Air Forces in Europe



Vol. 18, No. 24 June 21 2013

Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal

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

FY 2013



993  
SORTIES

10,304  
LODGED



5,60 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

## In this Edition

Chaplain commentary  
Rising VI Pg 2

MDOS' new commander  
Pg 3

AMS' new commander  
Warriors of the Week  
Pg 4

Mission photography  
Pg 5

Upcoming wing events  
Pg 6

## Lajes exercise season in full swing



*U.S. and Portuguese Air Force first responders treat a victim with simulated injuries during a joint 65th Air Base Wing and Headquarters Azores Air Zone exercise here in 2012. The 65th ABW has begun exercising various scenarios in preparation for the wing's September Unit Effectiveness Inspection. The wing will exercise scenarios on a regular basis this summer. Check Lajes Link for announcements on how the exercises may affect the base community. (U.S. Air Force photo/Lucas Silva)*

## USAFE Commander: "Step up, Step in" on SAPR Down Day

By Lt. Gen. Tom Jones  
U.S. Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa  
Commander

In this dangerous world, the last enemy our Airmen need to face is one from within our own Air Force family.

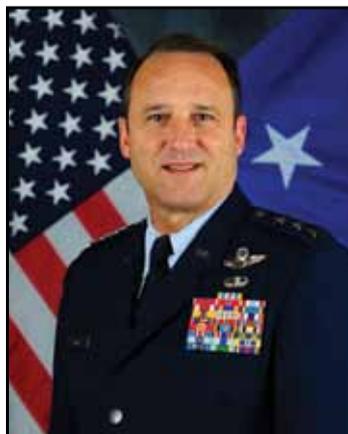
Fostering a professional climate free from sexual assault is every Airman's responsibility. That is why we are standing down command mission activities to focus our attention on the serious issue of sexual assault prevention and response. We need to rededicate ourselves to upholding the high standards we committed to when we volunteered to serve in the Air Force.

Remember every Airman is a sensor. Changing our climate will take the active commitment of commanders, supervisors and Airmen at all levels to get out in front of this issue. We must pull

together to support victims of sexual assault and ensure allegations are addressed immediately, and we must also have the courage to get involved and stop sexual assault before it happens.

During the upcoming stand-down day, Airmen will have a chance to talk about difficult situations involving sexual assault prevention and response. Take advantage of this time to discuss how you can contribute to workplace professional ethics, responsibilities we have as Airmen to enforce standards and the debilitating consequences sexual assaults have on our people and readiness.

I need each and every Airman to stand up for one another, to step up, and step in to stop sexual assaults and foster a climate of dignity and respect. We can only succeed if we all do our part. Sexual assault is a crime that cannot and will not be tolerated. Our Airmen deserve nothing less.



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



# How helping others helps you

By Chaplain (Maj.) Jeff Granger  
65th Air Base Wing Chapel

So, there I was driving a 15-passenger van full of technical training students from San Antonio, Texas, to Joplin, Mo., on Fourth of July weekend, 2011. We were on a mission to help clean up after some devastating tornados struck the Missouri city. Although we were on a mission to serve and help others, we were unaware of some profound blessings about to be bestowed upon us.

This chapel-sponsored program was not just a chance for these Phase I students to serve, but also their ticket off base for a few days.

No road trip would be worth mentioning if it didn't have some mechanical trouble, and our trouble came just two hours away from our destination in a remote part of northeastern Oklahoma. Stranded in a small town, I prayed and scrambled to see what we could do for back-up transportation.

After a couple inquiries with some local shop owners, a man showed up at the service station and asked, "I hear you guys need to get to Joplin?"

I replied, "Well, actually, we need to get to the church we're staying at in Springfield (Mo.), then to and from Joplin and Springfield all weekend."

He responded, "I was going to offer to drive you there in our church van, but in that case, here are the keys. Bring it back when you're done next week."

I was blown away by his generosity and the answered prayer; it was such an unexpected and undeserved blessing.

We stopped in Joplin to get dinner on our way to the Springfield church. After dinner, we drove to see the damage. It was incredible to see how one city block looked virtually untouched and the next was destroyed.

Early the next morning, we returned to the disaster area to get an assignment from a non-profit organization coordinating help



from church groups. We were given lists with addresses and descriptions of work to be done. Our first assignment was a house that had to be completely gutted; the tornado spared the structure, but tore the roof off. A rainy week followed the tornado's damage, destroying the house's interior. Like the difference in city blocks, this very house was a reminder of how the storm's wrath could be terrible one place, but leave a small glimmer of hope behind.

While out to a hard-earned lunch at a deli, our luck went south for a moment. Shortly after our food was served, the manager came over because my credit card had been denied for a fraud alert, possibly because I was racking up so many bills for supplies and tools.

Almost immediately, a woman recognizing our Airman Battle Uniforms came over to thank us for coming to help. With that, the manager said, "You know, don't worry about this. I'll mark this down as a donation."

These new Airmen were struck by this and many other expressions of thanks. They didn't feel that they had earned such gratitude, but even their mere presence to help was appreciated. The Airmen found the three-day service trip more fulfilling for themselves than what they felt they were able to offer to others.

We often hear it said that those who give selflessly receive more than those whom they help. This is not a trite statement. Research demonstrates that this is, in fact, true. In a study of cancer patients who received regular phone support, the measurable benefits of that support were more substantial for those giving the support than for those receiving the support.

It truly is more blessed to give than to receive. As Airmen, we do this every day as we serve our country. We do this when we work on service projects. We do this when we take time to give physical, emotional and spiritual support to one another. We are blessed when we are a blessing to others.

**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.*

*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](mailto:abw.cc@us.af.mil).*



Col. Chris Bargery

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



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

*The Public Affairs Office (Unit 7710, APO, AE 09720) is located in Bldg. T-100, Room 240.*

*Submissions can be e-mailed to [65abw.pa@lajes.af.mil](mailto:65abw.pa@lajes.af.mil) or faxed to 535-6326 and are due the Thursday prior to the required publication date. Call 535-6161 for more details.*

*This Air Force funded newspaper is an authorized weekly publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas.*

*Contents of the Crossroads are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.*

*All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.*

### Editorial Staff

- Col. Chris Bargery**  
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing
- Capt. Mark Graff**  
Editor-in-Chief
- Mr. Eduardo Lima**  
Community Relations Advisor
- Staff Sgt. Angelique Smythe**  
Editor
- Mr. Manuel Martins**  
Layout Designer

## Rising VI: Shaping the Leaders of Tomorrow

By Tech. Sgt. Bethany West  
65th Contracting Flight

Because of the vital role junior enlisted members play in the Air Force's future, the Rising VI Association at Lajes Field is helping shape tomorrow's enlisted leaders today through mentorship and leadership opportunities.

Since 2009, the Lajes Field Rising VI has encouraged its members to develop professionally and individually by focusing on shaping those qualities and attributes of a good wingman, leader and citizen. Within the Rising VI, there are special committees that are charged with carrying out this vision.

The Mentoring Committee provides mentoring

events and programs that help develop well-rounded, professional, and competent future leaders. Some of their recent events include a "Dining with Diplomats" dinner that has taught Airmen proper etiquette in a formal dining setting and a "Take Charge of Your Career" luncheon presented by Master Sgt. Michael Doyle, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron Emergency Management.

This committee also provides monthly professional seminars and luncheons. The next luncheon is titled "True Colors" and will be presented by Master Sgt. Crumel Mooring, 65th Air Base Wing Equal Opportunity, on June

**For more on "Rising VI" see page 3**



# 65th Medical Support Squadron welcomes new commander

By Capt. Mark Graff  
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Richard Smith took command of the 65th Medical Support Squadron during a change of command ceremony at Lajes Field's Top of the Rock Club, June 17. Lt. Col. Zoya Lee-Zerkel relinquished command of the squadron as Col. Lorn Heyne, 65th Medical Group commander, presided over the ceremony.

"I'm genuinely excited to be here," said Smith, who assumes command of the 65th MDSS and 55 personnel providing healthcare delivery services including pharmacy, laboratory, radiology, resource management, TRICARE and patient administration operations and medical logistics, readiness and information systems.

Smith comes to Lajes from Joint Base Andrews where he was the deputy chief, Medical Support Division for the Air Force District of Washington and the 79th Medical Wing.

He is a prior-enlisted Airman having previously served as a dental technician and also, in the South Carolina Army National Guard. The lieutenant colonel commissioned in 1996.

Smith noted the significance of unit-level contributions to the larger Air Force mission, saying that medical support squadrons are central to caring for Air Force beneficiaries.

"While the work that happens at the headquarters-level is very important, it's at the unit-level where the rubber meets the road," said Smith. "This is where diagnostics and therapeutics support the medical mission. This is where medical resources of all kinds are allocated. This is where information systems keep the whole thing going. This is where medical facilities, equipment and supplies are provided, all so that our providers can lay hands on patients, diagnose and treat."

Smith noted the 65th MDSS' "moral obligation to provide health services support to... any beneficiary that walks through in the door of the 65th Medical Group."

Heyne said the new squadron commander boasts a wide variety of career experiences, but a few characteristics uniquely prepare Smith for squadron command's unique challenges.

"Although (Smith) has an extensive background in aeromedical evacuation and medical planning, it's his planning experience that will be vital as we continue to move into our transition period," said Heyne, noting Lajes Field's planned 2014 reduction. "However, it's his drive for excellence and unequivocal reputation that makes him the right person to command the 65th Medical Support Squadron," said Heyne, also a prior-enlisted serviceman.



Col. Lorn Heyne, 65th Medical Group commander presents the unit guidon to Lt. Col. Richard Smith during a change of command ceremony, June 17, 2013, Lajes Field, Azores. Smith assumed command of the 65th Medical Support Squadron from Lt. Col. Zoya Lee-Zerkel. Smith is a prior-enlisted Airman having previously served as a dental technician and also, in the South Carolina Army National Guard. The lieutenant colonel commissioned in 1996. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chenzira Mallory/released)

Lee-Zerkel moves on to an Air Force Medical Service fellowship in the Office of the Secretary of Defense's Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation office.

Heyne lauded Lee-Zerkel's command tour achievements, including her squadron's four, USAFE individual and team awards and six, 65th Air Base Wing awards.

"She was instrumental in the excellent score received by the air base wing for the operational readiness inspection and successful College of American Pathologist's inspection of our laboratory," said Heyne. "As you can tell by her accomplishments, Lt. Col. Lee-Zerkel has a very impressive record."

The outgoing squadron commander commended the men and women of the 65th MDSS as she departed.

"The supreme professionalism you demonstrate each and every day is awe-inspiring," said Lee-Zerkel.

## "Rising VI" from page 2

25 at 11:30 a.m. in the Education Center auditorium. This seminar will help individuals identify their personality and the personalities of others using "True Colors" which provides individuals with insights into different motivations, actions and communication approaches. Moreover, it enables individuals the ability to more effectively and efficiently communicate with others resulting in more harmonious work and home environments.

In the future, the Mentoring Committee will host a Speed Mentoring event, Airman Shadow program, Effective Writing seminar and a Joint Professional Military Education luncheon.

Volunteering is also an important part of military service and the Rising VI mission. Through volunteerism, Airmen are able to make a difference within their community while receiving an unparalleled sense of satisfaction and accomplishment.

In an effort to enhance bi-lateral relations through volunteerism, the Local Outreach Committee is hosting a School Supplies Drive for the Angra Livramento Orphanage. If you are interested in donating items, contact your unit point of contact or Senior Airman Devon de Castrique.

Furthermore, the Rising VI greatly values the mentors and wingman of Lajes Field. As a way to highlight these unsung heroes, the Recognition and Awards Committee solicits and grades quarterly

packages for Mentor and Wingman Awards. These awards allow our members to formally acknowledge the selfless service of those mentors and wingmen who motivate Airmen to reach their full potential, demonstrate a true commitment to their fellow Airman and positively affect the lives of the junior enlisted.

The Rising VI is a professional military organization whose members include all junior enlisted in the grades of E-1 through E-6 stationed at Lajes Field. At no cost to join, members enjoy an open invitation to all of the organization's events, including our monthly meetings, which are held the second Wednesday of every month at 3:30 p.m. in the Top of the Rock Club dining room.

In order to sustain the expenses of all of our events and programs, the Fundraising Committee sponsors events that not only focus on esprit de corps and camaraderie of the junior enlisted but also provide a means to accomplish the mission of the organization. Some of their upcoming events include selling food at Freedom Fest on July 4, a Golf Tournament on July 12, and a Tough Mudder at the end of the summer.

In closing, I encourage all junior enlisted members interested in invoking a positive change within themselves and the Lajes community to become an active member of the Rising VI.

For more information about the Rising VI, e-mail the Rising VI Executive Council at [lajesfield.rising62@us.af.mil](mailto:lajesfield.rising62@us.af.mil).



# New commander for 729th AMS

By Capt. Mark Graff  
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Maj. Ryan Reynolds took command of the 729th Air Mobility Squadron at a change of command ceremony at Lajes Field, June 19. Col. Carlos Ortiz, the 521st Air Mobility Operations Group commander, presided over the ceremony as Lt. Col. Loren Graham relinquished command of the squadron.

Reynolds now commands the 729th AMS, which is specialized in command and control and loading and unloading of passengers and cargo. The 729th AMS is one of six squadrons, detachments or operating locations under the 521st AMOG, which is part of Air Mobility Command.

Commending Graham as the outgoing squadron commander, Ortiz said 729th Airmen are known for producing outstanding results while enabling AMC's global mission - a standard that Reynolds now upholds.

"Commanding Airmen who are proudly serving their country during a time of war is a sacred trust our commander in chief places in just a few - a very select group - officers," said Ortiz. "A smooth transition from one commander to another has become a hallmark of our free nation, while serving as a shining example to all of our defense partners. So today, as Air Force leaders have done for generations, we will pass the reins of leadership from one great warrior to another."

Ortiz lauded Reynolds as a leader and officer with an amazing track record, who is ready for squadron command, saying his career-long success and experience have prepared him to lead the 729th AMS.

"To the men and women of the 729th Air Mobility Squadron, I stand

here humbled and proud to be your new unit commander... I am impressed by your professionalism and enthusiasm," said Reynolds, coming to Lajes Field from the Air Force's Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

"Attitude is everything' is one of my favorite quotes and it's obvious to me by your attitude why you're the best small terminal in the Air Force. I look forward to serving with you and it's my pleasure to be part of the mighty fine 7-2-9," said Reynolds.

During Graham's tenure as the 729th AMS commander, the unit directly supported Lajes Field operations, garnering many accolades and achievements, Ortiz said.

"For two consecutive years, (Graham) led the Airmen of the 729th to new heights in excellence. His team moved more than 25,000 warfighters and 4,500 tons of munitions and other critical supplies to and from the fight on more than 1,800 missions," the group commander said.

"(Graham's) squadron simultaneously supported three combatant commands - EUCOM, AFRICOM and CENTCOM. (His

amazing leadership has generated awesome results."

Reynolds commissioned from Indiana State University in 2000 with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Aerospace Administration. He holds two Master's Degrees.

The major's career includes tours as a senior logistics advisor, installation deployment officer, petroleum logistics officer and staff officer at the major command and joint levels.

Graham departs to Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., where he will be the 355th Mission Support Group deputy commander.



Col. Carlos Ortiz, the 521st Air Mobility Operations Group commander, presents the unit guidon to Maj. Ryan Reynolds during a change of command ceremony, June 19, 2013, Lajes Field, Azores. Reynolds assumed command of the 729th Air Mobility Squadron from Lt. Col. Loren Graham. (Photo by Guido Melo/released)

## LAJES WARRIORS OF THE WEEK

**Name:** Riale (Lee) Fagundes  
**Unit:** 65th Air Base Wing Chapel  
**Hometown:** Pretoria, South Africa  
**Duty Title:** Protestant Parish and Religious Education Coordinator  
**Accomplishments:** Coordinates Protestant chapel services and ministries for Airmen and families at Lajes Field. She directs over 40 volunteers serving in 14 ministries. She moved to the Azores in 1993 with Duarte, her Azorean husband of 26 years. She is the mother of Valente (22) and Patrick (19). She assists the Chapel volunteers in their ministry to the Protestant community, organizing and facilitating programs for the Lajes airmen and families.



**Name:** Christopher Varner  
**Rank:** Technical Sergeant  
**Unit:** 65th Air Base Wing Chapel  
**Hometown:** Akron, Ohio  
**Duty Title:** NCOIC, Chapel Operations  
**Accomplishments:** TSgt Varner leads the Wing Chaplain's comprehensive wing program by training, equipping and managing the chapel staff and assets. He provides for the religious freedom, advise to leadership and crisis counseling for all

authorized personnel and family members at Lajes Field. He recently earned the coveted Polar Bear Leadership Award at the Air Force's premier Arctic Survival School, Eielson AFB. He is new to Lajes and excited for the opportunity to serve our Airmen!



# Around Lajes Field



Tech. Sgt. Candice Compton, 65th Air Base Wing Equal Opportunity advisor, provides EO training to first term Airmen. Compton teaches everything from policy to inappropriate behaviors. She provides scenarios that define the term prejudice and shows Airmen the process to start a complaint. This training is designed to heighten understanding and awareness of how certain behavior affects the mission. (Photo by Guido Melo/released)



Michael Peters, 65th Air Base Wing chief of protocol, places a placard on a vehicle in preparation for a distinguished visitor. Peters ensures first-class hospitality is provided to distinguished visitors as well as provides protocol guidance to wing members and helps them plan dignified, professional ceremonies and social activities. (Photo by Guido Melo/released)



Bruno Nogueira, 65th Air Base Wing ground safety manager, checks the seatbelt straps in a forklift for wear and tear. Nogueira helps prevent ground mishaps by proactively informing and educating wing members on safety-related issues. He also inspects work processes and infrastructure to ensure safety and compliance. (Photo by Guido Melo/released)



Tech. Sgt. Jonathon Marion, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron Readiness and Emergency Management, checks his equipment prior to an exercise. Marion manages programs that saves lives and minimizes the loss or degradation of resources through hazardous, physical and environmental threats. (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!

- Lajes Community Theatre - "Moving Forward", June 22 @ 4pm - CAC
- 65th ABW Exercise, June 24 All Day - Basewide
- SAPR Stand-Down Day, June 26 All Day - various locations
- 65th OSS Change of Command, June 27 @ 2pm - T-810
- Blues Day, June 28
- Monthly Promotion Ceremony, June 28 @ 10am - CAC
- Tech. Sgt. Release Part, June 28 @ 3pm - TORC Ballroom
- Wing Formation & Run, July 5



**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.*

- Saturday, June 22: 6:30 p.m. Arena bullfight in Angra bullring
- Monday, June 24: 1:00 p.m. Release of the bulls in Angra
- Monday, June 24: 6:30 p.m. Arena bullfight in Angra bullring
- Tuesday, June 25: 6:30 p.m. Porto das Pipas (Angra Pier)
- Friday, June 28: noon, Rua São João, Angra (street bullfight for children)
- Saturday, June 29: 6:30 p.m. Porto de São Fernando, Porto Martins

## ASK ED

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

By Eduardo Lima, Community Relations Advisor



### Sanjoaninas Festival 2013

The Sanjoaninas Festival will take place in Angra June 21-30. This is the largest non-religious festival on Terceira and the Azores archipelago dating back to the 16th century. Sanjoaninas honors Saint John the Baptist and is a legacy of a secular tradition on the island which has evolved over the years and now includes parades, concerts, arena and street bullfights, sports, as well as other cultural events. Below are the festival's highlights. (Note: all parades will take place in the city's main street.)

Tonight, 9:45 p.m. – Parade by two marching bands from Angra; 10 p.m. – Opening parade of floats featuring the theme "Ocean of Emotions;" 11 p.m. - Entertainment by DJ Black&White Connection (Bailhão parking lot)

Saturday, 1:30p.m. – Boat rides to Ilhéu das Cabras (Split Rock); 6:30 p.m. – Arena bullfight in Angra's bullring; 11:30 p.m. – Parade of motorcycle riders; Midnight – Concert by Angra Jazz band (stage next to the marina); 1a.m. – Entertainment by DJ Rui Vargas (Bailhão parking lot)

Sunday, 11 a.m. – Sanjoaninas Bowling Tournament at the Angra Bowling Center; 1:30p.m. – Boat rides to Split Rock; 9 p.m. – Parade of traditional St. John's marching groups; 1 a.m. – Concert by Azorean band "Ronda da Madrugada" (Bailhão parking lot)

Monday (Angra's municipal holiday)

10:30 a.m. – Soap box derby race (Canada Nova Santa Luzia); 1

p.m. – Running of the bulls (top of main street); 6:30 p.m. – Arena bullfight; 11 p.m. – Concert by local rock band "October Flight" followed by the Portuguese rock band "X-Wife" at 12:30 a.m. (Bailhão parking lot)

Tuesday, 6 p.m. – Street bullfight at the Angra pier; 9:30 p.m. – Ethnographic parade featuring Terceira's festivals; 11 p.m. - Concert by Portuguese rap band "Macacos do Chinês" followed by the Portuguese rock band "PAUS" at 12:30 a.m. (Bailhão parking lot)

Wednesday  
9:30 p.m. – Parade of the island's marching bands; Midnight – Concert by Portuguese pop band "Os Azeitonas" (Bailhão parking lot)

Thursday, 9:30 p.m. – Parade by the Veteran Scouts' Brass Band; 11 p.m. – Concert by Portuguese rock band "SALTO" (Bailhão parking lot)

June 28, Noon – Running of the bulls for children (Rua São João); 11 p.m. – Concert by Portuguese rock band "Sétima Legião" (Bailhão parking lot); Midnight – Concert by local rock band "Rock, Rhythm & Blues" (stage by the marina)

June 29, 10 p.m. – Martial arts demonstration (next to the marina); Midnight – Concert by local rock band "RAM" (stage by the marina); 00:45 – Fireworks at Bailhão parking lot

June 30

3 p.m. – Street bullfight in São Bento; 6:30 p.m. - Arena bullfight.