

THE ROCK

Lajes Field Newsletter



December 12, 2014

DOD Air Force USAFE Lajes Field US Embassy, Portugal Youtube Facebook

COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

The spin and body sculpt classes at the fitness center are really great. However, it seems like there is never any room for active duty military personnel in the evening classes, since many people cannot get off work early enough most evenings to grab a spot. Is there a way that the fitness center can schedule more classes in the morning, change the evening class schedule, or reserve spaces for active duty personnel?

The Fitness Center staff understands these concerns and has developed the following solution. Starting next Tuesday 16 December the Fitness center will be reserving 10 seats in the spin classes for Active Duty Air Force until 5 minutes after the scheduled class start time. If the seats are not filled at that point, the seats will be open on a first-come, first-serve basis. Additionally the Fitness Center staff is looking into the options of increasing the amount of spin classes offered. There will be no changes to Body Sculpt classes since there is usually space available in these classes.

The key is to have a plan

Many times a weekend or holiday safety brief hits on the idea of having a plan but too often no plan truly exists. Having a plan isn't just an A-B-C of where you are going and how you are going to get there. It is much more complex than that. It is much easier to look at it as a series of what if questions. What if my car breaks down? What if the person who was supposed to drive has been drinking? What if I get separated from my Wingman? What if I get called back to work? The more of these types of situations you think through before the activity begins the better you will handle the unexpected situations life can throw at you. Besides these what if scenarios there are two things I have done for a number of years as a backup. First, in our digital age don't rely just on the cell phone. It can be lost or stop working and leave a person disconnected from their support net-

work as well as their plan. One work around for a dead or lost phone is having a meeting point. I have found that having a meeting point can be very helpful especially at a concert, festival or big sporting event. Secondly, always have some extra cash and an emergency credit or debit card with you. A small amount of money can often get you safely out of a bad situation and the card can be used for everything from phone calls to a cab ride. These types of backups help ensure a safe event even if the plan seems to have fallen apart. I challenge each of you to think through your outings whether they are outdoors activities, night life or family trips you need to have backups to your A-B-C plan.

- Chief Klink

Developing Airmen Ethos

By Staff Sgt. Zachary Wolf
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Ethos is a Greek word meaning character. The Air Force has a strong interest instilling ethos into Airmen and helping them develop strong character. One way Lajes hopes to accomplish this mission is through a new program and website that offers a variety of ethos-building classes.

"The Airmen Ethos Page is a one-stop shop for all professional development," said Master Sgt. Craig Preston, 65th Force Support Squadron career assistance advisor. "Not only does it include classes from the Lajes Professional Development team, but it

also includes Airman and Family Readiness Center classes and resiliency training. However, it does not include mandatory training like the First Term Airmen Center, Airman Leadership School and Noncommissioned Officer Professional Enhancement Courses; only optional courses are included."

The idea for this "one-stop shop" came from Chief Master Sgt. David Klink, 65th Air Base Wing command chief.

"Coming from Air Mobility Command, they had something called 'Leadership Pathways,' which is a sharepoint-based system that they were using to consolidate professional development," Klink said. "So as soon as I got here, I realized we didn't have anything

like that."

Klink linked up with Tech. Sgt. Lavaughn Hardy, 65th Communications Squadron section chief of knowledge operations, and his team and they created a website following Dover's template and made changes to fit Lajes' demographics and private organizations.

Not only does this provide a place for Airman to find professional development opportunities, but it also gives supervisors a source to direct their Airmen to.

"A lot of people try to build their record and their repertoire for Below-the-Zone," Klink said. "It's one of the most common

For more on "Ethos" see page 2

Photo Perspective



Graduates of Airmen Leadership School class 15-A pose for a photo during the ALS Graduation Ceremony at Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal, Dec. 11, 2014. Over the course of six weeks Airmen spent time developing leadership skills that will allow them to better perform as leaders in the Air Force.



Children from the Lajes Field Elementary School sing a Christmas song during the tree lighting ceremony on Dec. 5, 2014, Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal.

"Ethos" from page 1

questions for Airmen holding the rank of Airman 1st Class, ask their supervisors. This program gives them a meter. If there are two AICs and one of them attended 10 of these classes and the other attended one, then they themselves, peer to peer, can identify that they may need to do more of what the other Airman is doing."

As the Airman is responsible for their own career, this gives them another outlet to develop themselves and possibly fill out another bullet on their Enlisted Performance Report or their Officer Performance Report.

"One of the things that I noticed is people like the carrot in front of the cart, not everybody, but some people have that checklist mentality," Klink said. "When they look at professional development, they may say, 'I am going to get five courses this quarter' and that is their personal goal. I want a way to reward and reinforce that."

One way to reinforce that mentality is that after attending 10 and then 20 of these classes, Airmen are rewarded certificates from Wing leadership.

When someone thinks of professional development, they may think of things like resiliency or bullet writing; things that are

Air Force specific. The idea behind this program was to develop Airmen and their character and that doesn't have to be strictly Air Force material.

"We are open to any topic," Preston said. "We aren't constrained only by the typical Air Force courses, although they are important and we will continue to offer them, but we are also looking for 'personal-skills' type classes. If you want to showcase your flight or section to the Airmen of the Wing we are looking for people willing to do that as well."

[Click to read more](#)

Base Announcements

Eagle Eyes
Drinking Water Leak Detection Study
GTC Payment Options
Holiday Mailing Season
Expanded Influenza Vaccine Available
New housing website
All members PCS'ing from Lajes Field with Privately Owned

Vehicle (POV)
TMO Information
Civilian Personnel Newsletter
Non-command sponsored dependents memorandum
BAH Revalidation Required for All Airmen
65th Medical Group Closed for Training 2nd Tuesday of Each Month

[Click to read for more Base Announcements](#)

Community Events

Aqua Knights of Atlantis Meeting December 16

[Click to read for more Community Events](#)

Island Events

Arts and Crafts Festival (Angra)
Concerts
Movie Schedule (Praia & Angra)
New Year's Eve at Praia Marina

[Click to read for more Island Events](#)

Commander's Action Line
65cc.actionline@us.af.mil

Produced by
2014 | 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs
Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal