

# THE BEACON

## TEAM MARCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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THE BEACON IS THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MARCH ARB. ALL QUESTIONS ARE DIRECTED TO THE MARCH ARB PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE AT 9516554137.

FaceBook:  
<http://www.facebook.com/TeamMarch>

YouTube:  
<https://youtube.com/user/452AMWPA>

Instagram:  
[@teammarcharb](https://www.instagram.com/teammarcharb)

# COMMANDERS CORNER

Knights,

This month I borrow inspiration from our 4AF Commander, Major General Durham. Each time he speaks, he reminds us to “FOCUS ON THE FUNDAMENTALS.”

That is exactly my ask of each of you this UTA.

Due to this year’s scheduling, the June UTA is our last scheduled time together until August. A lot can happen in the world between now and then. Think about the impact 60 days had on Afghanistan in May 2021 or Ukraine in Feb 2022. The 452D and Team March had major responses to both those incidents, and we might be asked to do so again any day. It is imperative that we stay **READY NOW** to **DEFEND, MOBILIZE, and FIGHT!**

Doing so starts with the fundamentals:

How’s your basic airmen readiness going?  
Is your PT test complete?  
How about your PHA?  
Did you sign your EPB/OPB yet?  
Are all your orders complete and submitted?  
What about that last travel voucher?

It’s a lot, I know – but like they told me at my first tech school – “you don’t graduate, your gradebook does.” We must process the administrative paperwork before we can **MOBILIZE** our Airmen. If your paperwork is incomplete, you are simply not ready to mobilize. Completing the behind-the-scenes admin stuff is just as important as your primary AFSC because if we can’t process the paperwork to get you out the door, you’ll never be able to generate combat power for America – at home station or deployed.

So, this weekend, please take time to **FOCUS ON THE FUNDAMENTALS**. Clean up all those lingering little things, then enjoy a little break as we get back after it in August.

I’m TDY with some of our best Tanker crews and maintainers to **STEEL FORGE** this weekend. We’ll be exercising our nuclear mission with our ANG partners. It’s exciting to see the entire enterprise come together for this incredibly important mission we support every day. Col Oberoi and CMSgt Bilal will be making the rounds back home at March – they’ll be interested to hear how you’re focusing on the fundamentals this UTA. Let ‘em know if you need anything.

Defend, Mobilize, and Fight!

Col Bailey

# MARCH HOSTS INAUGURAL FOUNDATIONS COURSE OF THE AIRMANSHIP CONTINUUM

MARCH AIR RESERVE BASE, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES

06.05.2024

Story by Stanley Thompson

4th Air Force

The Air Force Reserve Command's (AFRC) inaugural class for the Foundations Courses of the Airmanship continuum, a significant milestone in our Professional Development Program, was held here at March Air Reserve Base, California, from 13-17 May 2024. This five-day course was led by Chief Master Sgt Cassandra Obermuller, Senior Enlisted Leader (SEL), 514th Force Support Squadron, and on loan to AFRC's Professional Development Center at Robbins Air Force Base, Georgia, as the Foundations Program Manager. As the host wing, the 452d Air Mobility Wing team invited over 44 airmen from the Air Force, the Air Force Reserve, and the Air National Guard to partake in the new professional enhancement course envisioned in "A Letter to the Force" in September of 2023.

The former Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force, General Charles Brown Jr., now Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Chief Master Sgt Joanne Bass, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force (retired), played a pivotal role in the development of this professional enhancement program. They sent a letter to the Airmen of the U.S. Air Force describing how our learned knowledge remained a competitive advantage to our national defense needs. They wanted to ask themselves the question, "Are we doing enough professional enhancement type training, and will we be ready for the fight?" They discovered that the development strategies which taught our enlisted force through the Enlisted Professional Military Education (EPME), and upgrade training models are what has made our airmen the force they are today. However, as times change, we progress, and progression leads to the need to seek improvement in both speed and unity since both exist in an age that dominates the battle space. To integrate teams in achieving Agile Combat Employment and empower Multi-Capable Airmen through mission command, significant changes were made in the Enlisted Force Development (EFD) Action Plan. This plan was commissioned to reimagine via exploration, an ecosystem as laid out in the Line of Effort (LOE) number five, Force Development Ecosystem. The EFD Action Plan has been updated to reflect the Enlisted Airmanship Continuum (100-900), marking a new era in our training program.

The new course design institutes the Foundations Courses, which replace the base-level Professional Enhancement Seminars and become the prerequisite for attending EPME courses. The design also supports leadership readiness in critical positions by preparing the Job Qualification Standard (JQS). Lastly, PME will become on-demand by providing unrestricted access to pertinent content for all Airmen.

A spectrum between airmanship 100 and airmanship 900 revealed the “right learning at the right time” determination as presented in LOE 5 laid out the following: 100 = Basic Military Training (BMT), 200 = Technical School, 300 = the first Foundations Course, Airmanship 300 which is also a prerequisite of Airman Leadership School (ALS), 400 = ALS, 500 = the second Foundations Course, Airmanship 500 which is the prerequisite of Non-Commissioned Officers Academy (NCOA), 600 = NCO Academy, 700 = the third Foundations Course, Airmanship 700 which is the prerequisite of the SNCO Academy, 800 = the SNCO Academy, and finally 900 = the Chief Master Sgt level of professional enhancement course.

All three airmanship courses were taught in this five-day intensive by a joint team of REGAF and Reserve facilitators, including Obermuller. The first four days of each class focus on a centralized learning base, regardless of the commands they are in, such as AFRC or ANG. “The fifth day is the major command (MAJCOM) day of learning. It is the day that students learn how the MAJCOM they are assigned to plays a role in the fight. For AFRC, history, mission capabilities, and the unique requirements of navigating the Reserve coalesce into a cohesive story. Obermuller says, “On the one hand, it is an opportunity for the airmanship 300 students to learn how their actions and goals at the tactical level support national objectives and how the diverse skills from their civilian lives increase the effectiveness of mission command.” “On the other hand,” she says, “the airmanship 500 and 700 students learn more about leading and creating teams, the mission command concepts, and AFRC’s role in the Great Power Competition (GPC). Their primary focus was learning how to translate their commander’s intent into executable actions to achieve mission objectives.”



In addition to the over 44 airmen in attendance, 17+ NCOs and SNCOs from around the Fourth Air Force are also attending the course to obtain their credentials as course facilitators. This historic inaugural course begins here and continues to the 10th Air Force, followed by the 22nd Air Force, with 55+ fully trained facilitators in addition to the number already trained.

Obermuller reminds us that each wing's command chief owns this program and, through these courses, has the unique opportunity to maximize readiness and lethality to improve organizational performance. Albert Einstein believed that opportunity was present in everything that some thought was complex. "The Foundations course is the first step in improving the Enlisted Professional Development ecosystem. These courses will close development gaps and expand airmen's knowledge through dynamic content, ultimately building airmen across the Air Force that are operationally indistinguishable," she says, "who doesn't want that future?"



*Congratulations!*

# MARCH FOOTBALL CLUB: VICTORY ON THE SOCCER FIELD

MARCH AIR RESERVE BASE, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES

06.06.2024

Story by Maj. Perry Covington  
452 Air Mobility Wing

In a remarkable blend of athleticism and military camaraderie, the March Football Club (March FC), composed of Air Force reservists and members of Team March, has emerged as a powerhouse in military soccer tournaments across the country. Formed just a few years ago, this self-funded team has not only showcased their passion for the game but has also created a unique platform for recruitment and team spirit within the military community.

March FC, fueled by sheer enthusiasm and the tight-knit bonds of its members, has competed in various military tournaments nationwide, earning accolades and respect from its peers. Its most notable achievement to date is winning the prestigious Shield Cup, a testament to its skill, dedication, and relentless pursuit of excellence.

Staff Sgt. Amador Marin, one of the founding members of March FC, said, "We do it for the passion. We're not like active duty teams that get special time to practice and play. We have jobs outside of our military duties, so we have to make our own time to get together."

Unlike many military sports teams that rely on funding, March FC is entirely self-funded. The team members cover every expense, from travel to equipment. This financial independence underscores their commitment to the sport and to each other, reinforcing the sense of unity that defines this exceptional group.

"It's hard sometimes," Marin stated. "We have to figure out how to make it work since we don't get funding like an active duty base, but we do our best with what we got. We were lucky enough to get some old uniforms from Fullerton Community College, who were kind enough to donate to us, but other than that, it's all us."

The formation of the team has had a significant impact beyond the soccer field. Through their dynamic play and engaging presence, March FC has successfully recruited new individuals into the Air Force Reserve. Their story of teamwork, discipline, and mutual support serves as an inspiring example, attracting those who are drawn to both military service and the beautiful game.

"My own brother has enlisted because of what he saw with our team. He was inspired by the fact that we could serve our country and play a sport we all love," Marin said.

Despite being a relatively new team, the March Football Club has rapidly made a name for itself within the military soccer circuit. Their swift rise to prominence is a testament to the talent and hard work of its members, who balance their demanding military duties with the rigorous training and competition schedule required to excel in soccer.

As they continue to compete and win, the March Football Club not only brings pride to March Air Reserve Base but also highlights the positive impact of sports within the military. Their journey is a powerful reminder of what can be achieved when passion, teamwork, and dedication come together in pursuit of a common goal.



Looking ahead, March FC is set to continue its upward trajectory, aiming for more victories and further strengthening the bonds within their team and the broader military community.

“We’re hoping to get back to San Antonio to compete in the Defenders Cup in September. That’s the 42-team tournament with military participants from all over the country. That’s where we’ll show everyone what we got,” said Marin.

With each match, they not only play to win but also to inspire, recruit, and build lasting friendships, embodying the true spirit of military camaraderie.



Follow March FC



@marchfc\_1917

## 452 EOD HELPS K-9S LEARN HOW TO SMELL MASS ODOR

MARCH AIR RESERVE BASE, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES

06.06.2024

Story by Ms. Wendy Day  
452 Air Mobility Wing

In the evolving landscape of law enforcement and public safety, explosive detection working dogs are indispensable for mitigating threats. Canine teams traditionally train with minimal amounts of explosives, which does not fully prepare them for scenarios involving larger devices. To address this gap, the annual Mass Odor Event, orchestrated by the Department of Homeland Security, with the help of March Air Reserve Base's Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team, provides a unique and enhanced training platform.

"Traditional training methodologies do not always mirror the complex situations these teams will encounter in the field," said Master Sgt. Jamie Pumford, section chief of EOD Operations and Training from the 452d Civil Engineering Squadron at March ARB. "This event uses approximately 200 pounds of different explosive materials to create more realistic scenarios. This substantial exposure is vital for both the dogs and their handlers."

The Mass Odor Event plays a vital role in the training of explosive detection dogs for a multitude of reasons. First, the event offers dogs exposure to a wider range of explosive odors in quantities larger than what is typically available during regular training sessions. This extensive exposure is crucial for preparing them for real-world scenarios where they might encounter large-scale explosive devices. Secondly, the event creates realistic training environments that simulate actual threats and settings. These settings challenge both dogs and their handlers in unique ways, including complex scenarios that involve working through distractions and obstacles, thus enhancing their operational effectiveness.

Additionally, the event provides an invaluable opportunity for handlers to test and improve their skills. They gain experience interpreting their dogs' signals in more demanding contexts, which is essential for improving their abilities to read and respond accurately under pressure. The collaborative nature of the event also stands out, as it brings together teams from various agencies. This fosters a supportive environment where handlers can exchange insights, tactics, and experiences, facilitating communal learning. Such interactions help build a network of knowledgeable and skilled teams that are better prepared for deployment.

Last, the feedback gathered during these events is instrumental for ongoing training development. Trainers and program developers utilize this feedback to refine and enhance training materials and methodologies, ensuring they are aligned with the

demands of real-world performance. This comprehensive approach to training not only boosts the capabilities of the detection dogs but also ensures that the handlers are well-equipped to manage the complexities of modern security environments.

"Being out here today is crucial for the Air Force because it's not only about providing explosives for training but also about maintaining and strengthening the relationships we have," said Staff Sgt. Jonathan Labrada from. "It's about building and fortifying connections, which is absolutely essential. Representing the Air Force in a positive light and supporting these events shows the strength of our commitment to our community and nation."

The inaugural event last year saw participation from 53 teams across seven different agencies, demonstrating the growing recognition of the need for such advanced training. This year, the number of teams participating in the second annual event has increased to 60, underscoring the event's value and effectiveness in the law enforcement community.



Transportation Security Administration K-9 Handler Ryan Rayos, a former Air Force Security Forces member who worked with K-9s and now continues with the TSA, emphasized the importance of realistic training. "Seeing an increase in teams this year underscores the demand for high-quality, realistic training," said Rayos. "Events like these are critical in ensuring our dogs can handle real-world threats. The realistic exposure to larger quantities of explosives is something we can't replicate in daily training."

The event serves not just as a training exercise but as a vital component in ensuring that both dogs and handlers are prepared to respond effectively to explosive threats, enhancing public safety and security. As threats evolve, so must the training and capabilities of those on the front lines. The Mass Odor Event represents a significant step forward in preparing law enforcement's best four-legged officers to face the challenges of tomorrow. This proactive approach not only enhances safety but also showcases the commitment to excellence and continuous improvement within the military, community law enforcement, and the canine detection community.



# HISTORY HITS

"Ok, let's go."

80 years ago, General Eisenhower set the wheels in motion to launch the greatest fighting force ever assembled with those three simple words.

Today we pause to remember. But we must also remember our own lineage in the 452d to such momentous events.

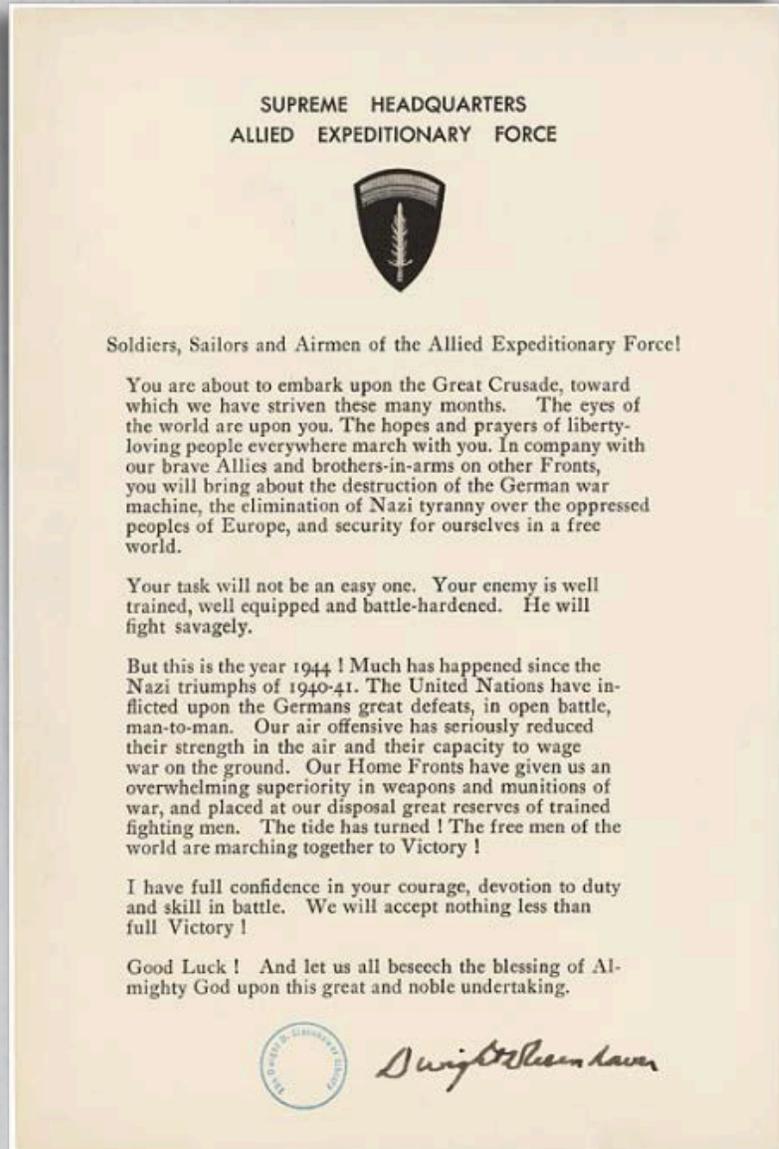
Just weeks prior to the invasion, two members of the 452d Bombardment Group were posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for their actions to defeat the enemy and save the lives of their fellow Airmen.

In the years leading up to the invasion, the Eighth Air Force suffered over 26,000 casualties to prepare the continent for invasion. Every Airmen is a warrior!

Always remember that!

DEFEND, MOBILIZE, FIGHT!

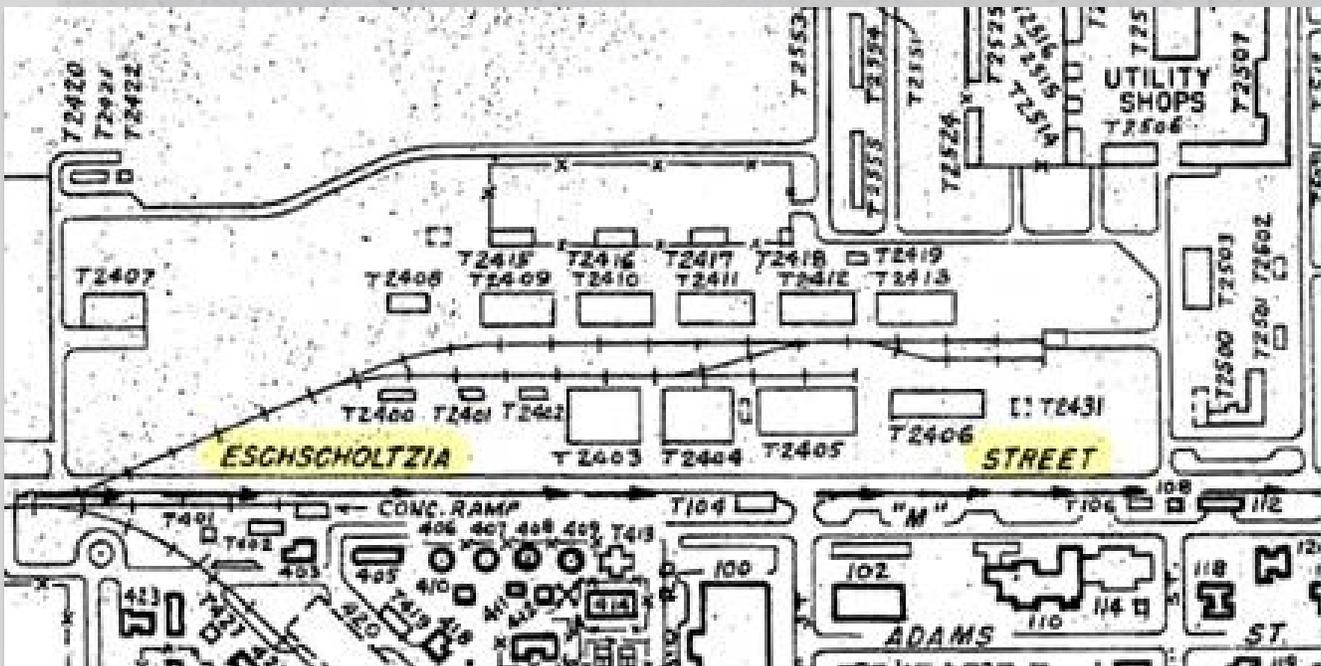
-Col Bailey



# MARCH ARB FUN FACT

**Did you know** that Meyer Drive was once named Eschscholtzia Street, which is the Genus for the California poppy? *Eschscholzia californica*. The image below is from a 1948 topo map. Plant species names often change or even slightly change, such as dropping off the ts to z.

-Chris Wagner-Coshland  
Environmental  
Cultural & Natural Resource Manager



If you have a fun March ARB historical fact, submit it to the Public Affairs workflow email at [452amw.paworkflow@us.af.mil](mailto:452amw.paworkflow@us.af.mil)

# BASE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL COMPLAINTS RESOLUTION PROGRAM IS PRESCRIBED BY DAFI 90-301, INSPECTOR GENERAL COMPLAINTS RESOLUTION. AIR FORCE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN MEMBERS HAVE A DUTY TO PROMPTLY REPORT FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE (FWA) OR GROSS MISMANAGEMENT; VIOLATIONS OF LAW, POLICY, PROCEDURES, OR REGULATIONS; AN INJUSTICE; ABUSE OF AUTHORITY; MISCONDUCT; INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT; AND DEFICIENCIES, OR LIKE CONDITIONS, TO THE APPROPRIATE SUPERVISOR OR COMMANDER, TO AN IG OR OTHER APPROPRIATE INSPECTOR, OR THROUGH AN ESTABLISHED GRIEVANCE CHANNEL. TO FILE AN IG COMPLAINT, CONTACT THE 452D AMW/IGQ COMPLAINTS RESOLUTION PROGRAM CHIEF AT:

452 AMW/IGQ - INSPECTOR GENERAL COMPLAINTS

PHONE: 951-655-5828

E-MAIL: 452AMW.IG@US.AF.MIL

LOCATION: 895 BAUCOM AVENUE, BLDG 323, MARCH ARB CA 92518

## HOTLINES

|     | COMMERCIAL     | DSN      | TOLL FREE      |
|-----|----------------|----------|----------------|
| SAF | (202) 404-5354 | 754-5354 | 1-800-538-8429 |
| DOD | (703) 604-8799 | 664-8799 | 1-800-424-9098 |

ONLINE COMPLAINT FORM: [HTTPS://WWW.AFINSPECTORGENERAL.AF.MIL/](https://www.afinspectorgeneral.af.mil/)



# YELLOW RIBBON

REGISTRATION FOR THE YELLOW RIBBON EVENT IN SAN DIEGO, CA, 19-21 JULY 2024 IS OPEN! PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR MEMBERS WHO ARE GETTING READY TO DEPLOY OR RETURNING FROM A DEPLOYMENT.

## QUALIFICATION CRITERIA:

RECEIVED A CALL TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR 90+ DAYS IN SUPPORT OF A CONTINGENCY (CONUS/OCONUS)

MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND A PRE-EVENT 120 DAYS PRIOR TO THEIR DEPLOYMENT.

RETURNED FROM A DEPLOYMENT FOR 90+ DAYS IN SUPPORT OF A CONTINGENCY (CONUS/OCONUS)

MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND A POST-EVENT 30-DAYS AFTER THE END OF THEIR DEPLOYMENT (INCLUDING LEAVE) AND REMAIN ELIGIBLE FOR 1-YEAR.

BEEN ON ACTIVE-DUTY ORDERS FOR 90+ DAYS IN SUPPORT OF A CONTINGENCY (CONUS/OCONUS) IN A 24-MONTH PERIOD.

AND YOU MUST HAVE BEEN SEPARATED FROM YOUR FAMILY AND/OR PLACE OF RESIDENCE FOR 50% OF THE DEPLOYMENT.

**\*PRE & POST 1ST/2ND DEPLOYMENT\***

[HTTPS://WWW.YELLOWRIBBON.MIL/URL/D2\\_\\_M1X9F2ALTBHVBIG9PG](https://www.yellowribbon.mil/url/d2__m1x9f2altbhvbic9pg)

# BASE ANNOUNCEMENTS



## THE TRIAD SUMMIT



### Inviting & Engaging All:

- Commanders
- Senior Enlisted Leaders
- First Sergeants

#### DATE:

- 19 & 20 AUG 2024

#### TIMES FOR BOTH DAYS:

- 0730 - 1700

#### LOCATION:

- Navy Reserve Center Riverside Drill Hall
- 2960 Graeber Street, Bldg 1230  
March ARB, CA 92518-2031

\* Please go to the following link to register:  
[https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?  
i=835895&k=0A6247017252](https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=835895&k=0A6247017252)

\* Point of Contact:  
Lt Col Cindy N. Storoy, 452 MSG/CD  
cindy.storoy.2@us.af.mil  
951-655-7291

Hosted by:



The Triad Team consists of the Commander, Senior Enlisted Leader, and First Sergeant with the focus of ensuring the Squadron meets all of its requirements with the ultimate goal of mission readiness.

Find out more by participating in this two-day event.

# BASE ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PREVENTION WORKFORCE

- Our prevention workforce has moved to building 115.
- SARC, Director of Psychological Health, and our Chaplain can be accessed there.

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

- Official portraits are offered every Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday of drill from 0900-1000. All walk-ins. BLDG. 625
- Does your unit have something awesome coming up that's newsworthy? Call PA! We'll make you famous 😎. We'd love to cover your event/mission. 951-655-4137



# BASE ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Recharge For Resiliency Events

### Whitewater Rafting and Overnight Camping

Date: June 28th through June 30th

Location: Kern River

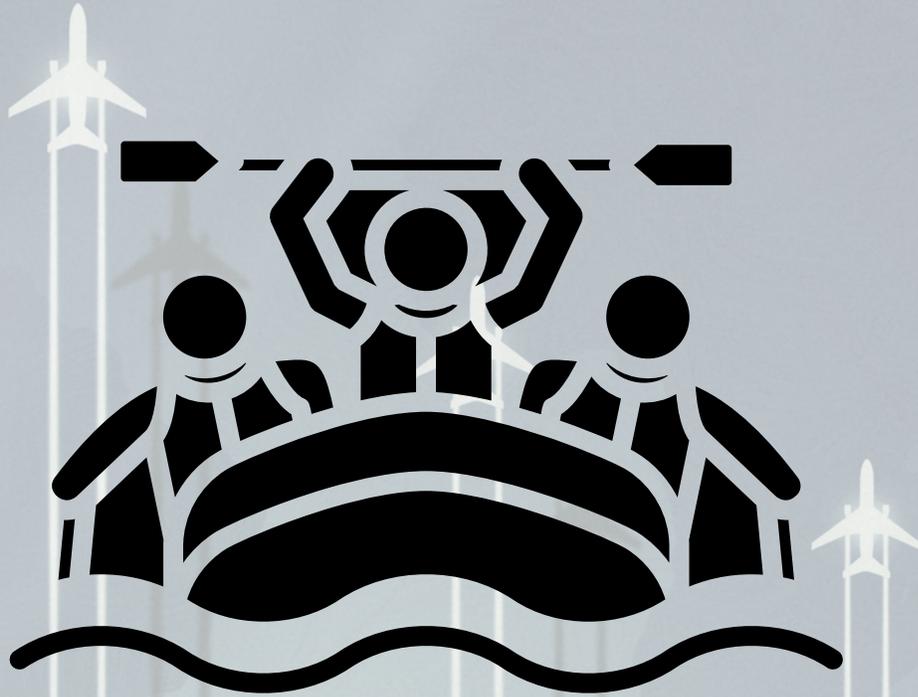
Single Airmen Cost: \$65.00

Transportation Included

Depart ODR June 28th at 0900 return June 30th

Only three spaces are available

Sign up at Outdoor Recreation Bldg. 434 Monday through Friday from 0830 - 1630. For more information call 951-655-2816.



# BACKSTREET UTA MENU

## UTA MENU

### UTA HOURS (SAT & SUN)

Breakfast 0530-0900

Lunch 1100-1330

Dinner (Sat ONLY) 1600-2000

### BREAKFAST AT BACKSTREET COUNTER TOP SERVING LINE

Price .....\$12.15

Drinks **Choice of (1)**

Coffee, tea, 1% milk, or orange juice

Bacon/Turkey Bacon or Sausage Patties  
Scrambled Eggs

Home Fried Potatoes

Pancakes or French Toast  
Will alternate Sat & Sun

Wheat toast, Asst. Cereals and Oatmeal  
**Choice of (1)** Assorted Muffin  
**Choice of (1)** Orange or Apple

### LUNCH AT BACKSTREET COOKED TO ORDER MENU

Pound of Wings .....\$17.95

Choice of Sauce: Barbecue or Buffalo (Hot)  
With **Choice of** Side Salad, Freedom Fries,  
or Onion Rings

8 Oz. Hamburger or Cheese Burger ... \$15.95

Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato and Onions  
With a **Choice of** Side Salad, Freedom Fries,  
or Onion Rings

Philly Cheesesteak Sandwich ..... \$18.00

Grilled Onions, Peppers and Mozzarella Cheese  
With a **Choice of** Side Salad, Freedom Fries,  
or Onion Rings

Grilled Chicken Sandwich..... \$15.00

Kaiser Roll with Lettuce, Tomato, Onion & Cheese  
With a **Choice of** Side Salad, Freedom Fries,  
or Onion Rings

Grilled Chicken Salad

with Dinner Roll ..... \$15.95

Orders come with.

Dessert Choice of (1)

Chocolate Cake, Carrot Cake, Chocolate Brownie

Drinks Choice of (1)

1% Milk, Coffee, Snapple, Fountain Drinks.

Choice of (1)

Orange or Apple

### DINNER AT BACKSTREET COOKED TO ORDER MENU

Salisbury Steak ..... \$18.00

Served with your **Choice of** French Fries or Mashed  
Potatoes and Gravy, Seasonal Mixed Vegetables, and  
Garlic Bread

Grilled or Crispy Chicken Salad ..... \$15.95

Served with Garlic Bread

Sweet and Sour Chicken Breast..... \$16.95

Served with Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Mixed Vegetables,  
Hawaiian Dinner Roll

12" Medium Assorted Pizza ..... \$14.00

Pepperoni, Sausage, Supreme, or Cheese

Personnel signing AF-79 Orders come with:

Dessert Choice of (1)

Chocolate Cake, Carrot Cake, Chocolate Brownie

Drinks Choice (1)

1% Milk, Coffee, Snapple, Fountain Drinks

Choice of (1)

Orange or Apple

### BOTTLED BEVERAGES

Juices

Orange Juice.....\$2.50

V-8 Splash or Kiwi.....\$3.00

Snapple

Kiwi • Mango • Diet Peach.....\$3.00

2% MILK .....\$2.00

BOTTLED WATER.....\$2.00

MONSTERS.....\$3.00

### FOUNTAIN DRINKS

Small - \$2.00 • Medium - \$2.50 • Large - \$2.75

• Iced Tea

• Fanta Orange Soda

• Fruit Punch

• Lemonade

• Powerade

• Iced Tea

• Fanta Orange Soda

• Fruit Punch

