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MODEL HS-T103

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[New Medical Group Commander](#)

AirScoop

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Col. Tom 'Sling' Bladen

Vice Commander

Col. David 'Moon' Halasi-Kun

Command Chief

Chief Master Sgt. Brett Barbee

Chief of Public Affairs

1st Lt. Amelia Leonard

Public Affairs Staff

Master Sgt. Lindsey Sarah Watson-Kirwin

Senior Airman Sara Kolinski

Airman 1st Class Camille Lienau

Did you know?

September is National Suicide Prevention month.

If you need help, there are resources available.

[DOD Safe Helpline](#)

877-995-5247

[Suicide Crisis Line](#)

800-273-TALK (8255)

[Veterans Center](#)

413-737-5167 (local)

877-927-8387 (24/7)

[Disaster Distress Helpline](#)

800-985-5990

[LGBTQ National Hotline](#)

888-843-4564



[First MAANG Behavioral Health Technician](#)

Chief's Corner: What lies ahead for Team Barnestormer

By Command Chief Master Sgt. Brett Barbee, 104th Fighter Wing command chief



It is with great humility and honor that I assume responsibility as your 104th Fighter Wing command chief. Since arriving in late June and each day since, I'm consistently impressed with the level of talent and potential our Airmen across the wing have. We must aggressively pursue opportunities to leverage our collective potential in ways that strengthen our warfighting competence while preserving our force and families. I would like to share some thoughts I mentioned during my assumption of

responsibility recently. I believe it is important for those who did not hear it firsthand, to read it from me.

I'm asking all Barnestormers to think about the special people in your lives. Whether you are married or in a significant relationship, whether you have children or aging parents, grandparents, friends etc. Everything you hold sacred, I ask you to keep it in mind as you read the following.

Enemies never die, conflict is unending, chaos never ceases. Where do the solutions lie? Well, I can say from my position and my experience thus far, the answer is clear. It is here. The solutions lie in each of you; in **US**, within Team Barnestormer. I can say with confidence as you read this, our enemies are planning, plotting and maneuvering to do one thing: threaten all which we hold sacred, threaten our American way of life our founding rights, and freedoms as humans. As American service members, we must not and we will not allow that happen. Our very existence as a Nation and a free society depends on it.

So what does this situation mean to you? Your family? Our community? Our Nation? Every Barnestormer has the ability to disrupt and destroy that which threatens us. Are we doing everything we can to do so each day? Every Barnestormer in uniform, our civilian professionals, our veterans, our community leaders, our families... what are we doing every moment to ensure the preservation of our liberties? How are we honoring the sacrifice for those who have given their lives to preserve the liberties we enjoy right now? How are we carrying on the legacy of excellence created by those before us and through which provide us the opportunity to serve today? I ask us to reflect on those questions.

For our Barnestormers in uniform prepare to copy.

As **YOUR** command chief, I commit to the following:

1. I will not ask you to do anything I have not, cannot, or am not willing to do myself.
2. I commit to challenging the status quo and legacy ways

of thinking in order to create a better environment for our Airmen, their families and our lethality.

3. I commit to holding US accountable to our readiness as war-fighting Airmen while honoring our oath of service, core values, our history and heritage as Barnestormers. We will be better today than we were yesterday.

In addition to my commitments, this is what I expect from you:

1. Perform at your maximum potential every day. You owe it to yourself, your family, your teammates and our fallen. You, and only you, know if you are performing at your maximum potential. If you require guidance on how to assess that, refer to our Air Force number one core value.
2. Remove the following words from your brain and lead others to do the same.
 - a. Can't; replace with words such as "not yet" "I/we

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intend to” “we are working a solution”

b. Manage; We manage programs, We **LEAD** humans.

c. They; It doesn't matter what rank you wear or what position you hold...guess what? In some capacity **YOU** are **THEY**. If you encounter a challenge, solve it. Don't lay blame somewhere or with someone else.

3. **LEAD**, Lead every day.

Contrary to legacy ways of thinking, **leadership is not a position. It is action and 104th Barnestormers take bold action.** Consider this, the average age of a service member in WW2 was 26. Young service members were thrown into leadership positions due to combat loss each day and decisively led others to victory. We have many Airmen across the wing who are 26 and younger. These are our leaders now and in the future. Who will drive on

to the Barnestormer objective when we are gone? I will tell you, our young Airmen (officers and enlisted) will but only if **WE** develop and empower them. So with that in mind, what are **WE** doing every day to prepare for that inevitability?

In closing, I want to leave us with a quote from our first Commander in Chief. “Ninety-nine percent of failures come from people who make excuses.”
–President George Washington.

Barnestormers don't make excuses. We forge victory. Prepare your mind, body and spirit to dominate.

Thank you for your commitment, dedication and sacrifice to our Nation. Please extend my thanks to our Barnestormer families. Without their support we would not be able to accomplish our mission.

Thank you, have a great day and God Bless America.

Chief Barbee



FSRT continues advancing to readily support base & community

Story and Photos by Senior Airman Sara Kolinski, 104th Fighter Wing

Airmen on the 104th Fighter Wing Fatality Search and Recovery Team took part in training to familiarize themselves with the techniques for setting up new shelters August 20, 2020, at Barnes Air National Guard Base, Massachusetts.

The new temporary shelters are necessary for successful execution of the FSRT mission – to provide fatality search and recovery processing capabilities in contaminated and non-contaminated environments, said Master Sgt. Lauren Gallagher, 104 FW FSRT Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge.

Gallagher said that the new tents will be beneficial for the FSRT team and will require less manpower for set up.

“The new tents decrease set up time expeditiously compared to previous models used,” said Gallagher. “This will enable us to provide support at a much faster rate.”

Fatality Search and Recovery Team members and alternates perform shelter training semi-annually, however getting a new shelter made the recent training more essential.

“In order to be mission ready we need to know how to put up the new tents purchased,” said Staff Sgt. Carissa Tryba, 104 FW FSRT team lead. “We will continue training throughout our drill weekends practicing fast and efficient ways to set up that helps us do our tasked mission.”

Lt. Col. Sherri Hrovatin, 104th Force Support Squadron commander, said that the 11 members on the FSRT team have special training which allows them to operate in a broad spectrum of dangerous environments including those contaminated with nuclear, biological, or chemical agents.

“The training our members performed this week enhance their ability to establish command and control in a non-contaminated environment while assisting state emergency responders with recovery of our citizens,” said Hrovatin.

The team spent the day with instructors setting up the tents and learning the best techniques for effective set up to ensure all the Airmen comfortable with their roles in the mission.

“I remember being new to FSRT and struggling understanding what is it exactly we do,” said Tryba. “There is lots of training to be on the team and really the only way to learn and understand is to do an actual operation.”



Airmen from the 104th Force Support Squadron Fatality Search and Recovery Team assemble tents during a shelter training Aug 20, 2020, at Barnes Air National Guard Base, Massachusetts. The Airmen spent the day with a team of instructors learning the proper procedures for assembling the tents safely and efficiently.



Staff Sgt. Carissa Tryba, 104th Force Support Squadron Fatality Search and Recovery Team team lead, helps assemble tents during a shelter training Aug 20, 2020, at Barnes Air National Guard Base, Massachusetts.



Senior Airmen Jean Santiago-Reyes and Staff Sgt. Nelson Marques, 104th Force Support Squadron Fatality Search and Recovery Team members, carry parts to assemble tents during a shelter training Aug 20, 2020, at Barnes Air National Guard Base, Massachusetts.

Headlines and Highlights

104th Public Affairs Office



[104th Fighter Wing leadership presents awards around base](#)



[104 FW says farewell to Air Staff Judge Advocate for Massachusetts](#)



[Retired Major General visits 104th Fighter Wing](#)

Highlights, Welcomes, Farewells and Promotions

104th Public Affairs Office

Force Support Squadron officer takes oath of office, virtually



Welcomes

Airman 1st Class Zyiasia Knighton, AMXS Staff Sgt. Travis Bell, FW
Airman 1st Class Paul Uhomoibhi, AMXS

Farewells

Master Sgt. John Takach, MXS
Master Sgt. Paul Barsalou, CF

Chief Master Sgt. Maryanne Walts, FW

Promotions

Airman Jordyn Sanders, AMXS
Airman 1st Class Madelyn Lonczak, MDG
Airman 1st Class Jeremy Lakata, AMXS
Airman 1st Class Dylan Sliech, CES
Airman 1st Class Jennifer Joseph, LRS
Airman 1st Class Julia Gauvin, LRS
Airman 1st Class Brian Bodenstein, CF
Airman 1st Class Andrew Buell, AMXS
Airman 1st Class Joshua Tekpeh, LRS
Senior Airman Jose Lozada, MXS
Senior Airman Margaret Noble, MXS
Senior Airman Daniel Adler, MXS

Staff Sgt. Danielle Burns, FSS
Staff Sgt. Gabrielle Dubois, FSS
Staff Sgt. Caleb Neilon, FSS
Staff Sgt. Alexis Duda, LRS
Tech. Sgt. Preston Hallett, AMXS
Tech. Sgt. Jay Kinney, LRS
Tech. Sgt. Edmund Schram, MXS
Tech. Sgt. Jared Piubeni, AMXS
Master Sgt. John Roach, SFS
Master Sgt. Jamie Santiago, OSF
Master Sgt. Karl Reinholz, CES
Master Sgt. Lindsey Verderber, FSS

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[DSG Careers on SharePoint](#)

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