

ANGEL'S WINGS ONLINE

920TH RESCUE WING

APRIL 2018



HONORING A HERO

The Patrick Air Force Base community came out in full force to honor Master Sgt. William Posch upon arriving home to the Patrick AFB April 3, 2018. Service members and civilians lined the streets to pay respect to Posch and his family for their ultimate sacrifice during his dignified transfer. Posch, 36, was one of two parascuemen the wing lost March 15, 2018 when they were killed in a helicopter crash on an overseas combat deployment to Iraq. Staff Sgt. Carl Enis, 31, was the other. See page 4 for coverage of the memorial service. (U.S. Air Force photo by Matthew Jurgens)

notes of interest

WING OFFICER AND ENLISTED CALLS

All 920th Rescue Wing Airmen are required to attend the officer or enlisted call April 8 at the Patrick Air Force Base Theater. The officer call begins at 11 a.m., followed by the enlisted call at 1 p.m. Attendees should be seated 15 minutes prior to the events.

WING COMMANDER'S CALL

Col. Kurt Matthews hosts a commander's call April 8 at the Patrick Air Force Base Theater. All Airmen are required to attend and must be seated by 2:15 p.m.

YELLOW RIBBON EVENTS

The Air Force Reserve Yellow Ribbon Reintegration program hosts a special event for deploying or recently deployed Airmen and their families June 29 to July 1 in Orlando, Florida. The event provides access to information on healthcare, education, employment, and financial and legal benefits. Click on the above link to register for the event. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Laura Morales at (520) 228-3354.

news & features



WING PARTICIPATES IN MELBOURNE AIR SHOW

Reserve Citizen Airmen of the 920th Rescue Wing showcased the HH-60G Pave Hawk and HC-130N King at the Melbourne Air & Space Show March 24-25, 2018 at the Orlando Melbourne Airport.



MAINTAINERS WELCOME NEW COMMANDER

Freshly promoted Col. Leo J. Kamphaus, Jr., assumed command of the 920th Maintenance Group March 3, 2018 at Patrick Air Force Base, Florida.



RESCUE TEAM SUPPORTS ROCKET LAUNCH

The 920th Rescue Wing supported the Falcon 9 rocket launch April 2 and the Atlas V rocket launch March 1, 2018 from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida.

NEW COMMANDER'S SUGGESTION BOX

Members of the 920th Rescue Wing can now ask questions, provide ideas, or make suggestions to the commander via a virtual Commander's Suggestion Box located on 920th Rescue Wing Sharepoint. Look for the icon at the bottom of the webpage. Click on the above link to access the new information tool.

FREE INCOME TAX RETURN ASSISTANCE

The Patrick Air Force Base Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program provides free income tax return preparation through April 17 for all active duty, Reserve, retired military and federal civilian employees stationed at Patrick AFB who earn \$80,000 or less per year, combined gross household income. This service is provided by volunteer tax counselors who have been trained and certified by the IRS. Assistance is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Shark Center in South Patrick Housing. To schedule an appointment, call 321-494-4718.

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COL. KURT MATTHEWS 920TH RESCUE WING COMMANDER



920th Rescue Wing warriors,

On March 15, Jolly 51 crashed in the Anbar Province of Iraq. The crew consisted of members from the New York Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing, Capt. Andreas O'Keefe, Capt. Christopher Zanetis, Master Sgt. Christopher Raguso, and Staff Sgt. Dashan Briggs, as well as a Combat Rescue Officer, Capt. Mark Weber from the 38th Rescue Wing, Moody AFB, Georgia. You should all know by now, that our own Master Sgt. Bill Posch, and Staff Sgt. Carl Enis, were also on board and killed in action that night. Since the moment of their loss, the 308th leadership team went into action and has put forth a phenomenal effort to take care of our fallen heroes, their team, and their families. I have been in awe of the poise, purpose, effort and effectiveness from the 308th Rescue Squadron and all of its team! They are leading by example during the most tragic event our proud wing has suffered. I want to repeat my sincerest condolences to the 308th Rescue Squadron, each and every one of them, past and present... and to thank them for their spirit and professionalism.

I also want to express my heartfelt thanks to their sister squadrons from the 304th and 306th, the 920th and 943rd rescue groups, the 920th Rescue Wing, and our 10th Air Force and Air Force Reserve Command leadership for their immediate commitment and unwavering support of the 308th Rescue Squadron. Lt. Gen. Miller herself, welcomed Bill and Carl home at Dover AFB, Delaware, as part of their dignified transfer. From the top down we have honored our fallen heroes. But it is from the bottom up, where we feel our loss the most. So it is to the teammates, fellow PJs, friends, and supervisors of Bill and Carl that also extend my sympathy for your loss. And my promise that I will be a part of the tribute the 920th Rescue Wing will continue in memory of Bill and Carl as we move forward healing and doing the mission. To explain what I mean by that, I am including an excerpt from my speech at their memorial.

"I would like you to know that the 920th Rescue Wing exists... every part of it, and every person in it, to get PJs to the X. If you think about it, we may have different roles, different squadrons, and different specialty codes or position descriptions, but this is a RESCUE wing. An AIR FORCE rescue wing. And the Air Force uses air power to get PJs to and from the X. Part of my commander's intent letter to the wing reads:

In today's world climate, I don't expect the conflict our nation is engaged in (call it what you will—state of war) to resolve anytime soon. We will continue to be asked to answer the call to serve. Therefore, my guidance is that we will perform our duties in such a way that we will always deploy and redeploy with no unnecessary loss of our own personnel or equipment.

I can't discuss the details of the crash of Jolly-51, but I can assure you that it was anything but unnecessary. Everything that crew was doing then, and previously, was vital to ensuring the success of our objectives in that Theater and supporting our National Security interests. None of their deeds were unnecessary. And yes, this is a tremendous loss... but I am more filled with pride today than I am with sorrow. Because every man on that helicopter was doing what he loved... doing what they volunteered and worked and trained to do. And they loved it because it is an awesome thing to be there for our brothers and sisters-in-arms! They were there that day in case others needed combat rescue. It is an awesome mission, and one they were proudly serving, on that tragic day.

While I have many heroes today, the ones that stand the tallest are the crew of Jolly-51! Today I stand in their shadow... we stand in their shadow. But I can tell you, they want to lift us up! The crew of Jolly-51... including Bill and Carl, want to lift us up and put us on their shoulders! They want us to be better, because they were better! And our obligation is to honor their lives by keeping them in our hearts and minds and endeavoring each day to make them proud of us! Because we are so grateful, and so proud of them!"

I would like to conclude with recognizing all the incredible accomplishments this wing has done and seen over the past

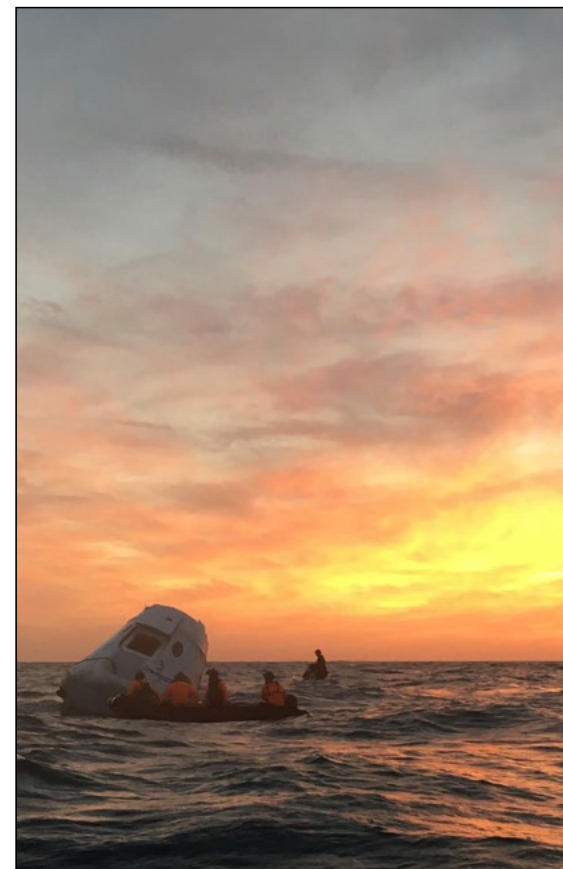
year! Yet, we've also endured some unforeseen tragedies. I want to remind you that although these unfortunate things have happened, they are no fault of anything you have done. Your efforts are bringing this wing to an all-time high level of performance! But we are also suffering through some all-time lows. So I ask you all to bond tightly to each other, continue to support the mission and work hard. Because what you are doing is unmatched, and what our country needs. It is what Bill and Carl would want us to continue doing: proudly serving the creed... "these things we do that others may live!"

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kurt".

KURT A. MATTHEWS, Colonel, USAF
Commander

trainingspotlight



SPACE RESCUE

Reserve Citizen Airmen of the 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland, Oregon, work with the 45th Space Wing and Detachment 3 personnel off the coast of Cape Canaveral, Florida, April 5, 2018 to develop and progress tactics, techniques and procedures in support of NASA, Boeing and SpaceX capsule and astronaut recovery. The training, which runs through April 17, 2018 is a team effort that also includes Airmen with the 39th, 301st and 249th Rescue Squadrons. (Courtesy photo)

awards&honors

Congratulations to the 920th Rescue Wing's newest major selects:

Capt. Connie Ambrose, 720th Security Forces Squadron
Capt. Megan Janson, 920th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
Capt. Daniel Morgese, 39th Rescue Squadron
Capt. Ryan Ruddy, 308th Rescue Squadron
Capt. Maria Sarmiento, 920th Aerospace Medicine Squadron



FINANCE TEAM RECEIVES AFRC HONORS

The 943rd Rescue Group finance team was recently named the 2017 Air Force Reserve Command Financial Analysis Office of the Year for their support of the group's personnel recovery mission. The team efficiently handled more than \$30 million in funding for the unit to support various deployments and other costs associated to ensure the 943rd RQG Reserve Citizen Airmen had all essential supplies needed for the rescue mission. The team includes from left to right: Paul Olson, Karen Crosby, Jeffery Roseberry, Annabelle Ngayan and Gloria Sturm. Also part of the team, but not pictured is Maurice Hart. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Luke Johnson)



Wing pays tribute to fallen rescue heroes

By Tech. Sgt. Lindsey Maurice
920th Rescue Wing Public Affairs

It was a roller coaster of emotions for the approximately 1,500 people who joined together from across the globe to pay tribute to pararescuemen Master Sgt. William Posch and Staff Sgt. Carl Enis March 27, 2018 in aircraft Hangar 750.

The pararescuemen assigned to the 308th Rescue Squadron were two of the seven Airmen killed in an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter crash in Anbar Province, Iraq, March 15, 2018.

"Today is a day in which we should remember the joy, the laughter, the magnanimous life of Bill and Carl and the entire crew of Jolly 51," said Lt. Col. Timothy Hanks, 308th RQS commander. "Today is another day in our healing process for family, friends, teammates, and the community. It is a day in which we recognize the pain is real and still raw, but it is also the day we celebrate the lives of our fallen heroes."

All eyes were on the families of the fallen as their 60-vehicle motorcade of military and civilian police, SWAT teams and veteran motorcyclists arrived at the hangar. The crowd became still at the presentation of the colors followed by a steel-guitar solo performance of the Na-



Lt. Col. Timothy Hanks, middle, 308th Rescue Squadron commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Mike Ziegler, right, 308th RQS chief enlisted manager, honor Master Sgt. William Posch, Staff Sgt. Carl Enis and the rest of the Jolly 51 crew who were killed in a helicopter crash in Anbar Province, Iraq, earlier this month, during a memorial ceremony March 27, 2018 at Patrick Air Force Base, Florida. (U.S. Air Force photo by Phil Sunkel)

tional Anthem by pararescueman retired Chief Master Sgt. Robert Disney.

The brotherly love of the Guardian Angel community was at the forefront of the ceremony as fellow PJs and combat rescue officers traveled from as far as England, Alaska, Oregon, Arizona, and

Georgia among other locations to show their support for the families. The maroon sea of their berets filling the seats directly behind the family and the right side of the hangar was a visual statement of

[SEE HEROES ON PAGE 5](#)



Master Sgt. William Posch,
308th Rescue Squadron
Oct 30, 1981 – Mar 15, 2018

HEROES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

their support. Guardian Angel is comprised of CROs; PJs; survival, evasion, resistance, and escape specialists and uniquely trained support personnel dedicated to the Air Force core function of personnel recovery.

"Over the past week I've had the honor and the privilege to be with our gold star families and hear their stories how they as wives, mothers, sisters, brothers, family and friends remember Bill and Carl," Hanks said. "You have paid the ultimate sacrifice as well. Please know with this loss you've also gained 1,000 sons, brothers, uncles, sisters and fathers. You can call anywhere around the world and mention who you are and any of these men amongst you will drop everything to meet your request."

The lives deeply touched by the two American heroes was evident as speaker after speaker took to the podium sharing sentimental memories and hilarious tales of embarrassing blunders, adrenaline-fueled adventures and the good times.

"I've known Bill and Carl for an incredibly long time," said Staff Sgt. Joshua Langley, 308th RQS pararescueman. "We are all better for knowing these two. They taught us so much about life

and they have made the world such an entertaining place. We should always celebrate the great times, the rescues, the laughter and the memories."

Posch was raised in Jacksonville Beach, Florida, where he spent much of his teenage years lifeguarding for the Jacksonville Beach Ocean Rescue. In 2000, he enlisted into the Air Force and graduated from the Pararescue Apprentice Course in 2003. After leaving active duty, Posch became a traditional reservist at the 308th RQS. In 2010, he began working full time at the unit. He was a combat veteran who participated in numerous joint special operations missions and tactical deployments. He supported major military operations at home and abroad including Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, Joint Task Force Katrina, JTF NASA Space Shuttle launch and recovery, and JTF Harvey, where he and his fellow rescue warriors saved 235 hurricane victims in Texas. In 2013, Posch was named one of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

But of all his accomplishments, each person to take the podium noted that Posch's proudest moments came with fatherhood.

"Every time I spoke with him, that's what he talked about – how much he loved his boys and how much he loved being a father," said Senior Master Sgt. Ivan Ruiz, 57th Rescue Squadron pararescueman and Posch's close friend of more than a decade. "He would always send me pictures. He kept Kai and Jackson at his side as much as possible. He was a great father."

Enis didn't pursue his dream of becoming a pararescueman until after graduating from Florida State University in 2008. He graduated from the Pararescue Apprentice Course in 2012 and was assigned to the 308th RQS shortly thereafter. He deployed with the unit multiple times, supporting combat operations throughout the Horn of Africa and most recently in Iraq. In 2013, Enis was named 920th Rescue Wing Airman of the Year and Air Force Reserve Command Pararescueman of the Year.

Within both his civilian and military circles, Enis was known for his passion of the outdoors and his expert hunting, fishing, and diving skills. Several of his best friends and hunting buddies shared tales of adventures around the



Staff Sgt. Carl P. Enis,
308th Rescue Squadron
Mar 31, 1986 – Mar 15, 2018

world from taking down large game and wrestling crocodiles to spear hunting giant fish.

"Carl and I shared a mutual love for the outdoors and became quick friends," said Dan Sherraden, Enis' close friend since college. "He was the most talented and athletic individual I have ever met in my entire life. He was fearless and he was one hell of a diver and spear fisherman."

Sherraden spoke to Enis' natural ability to excel at anything thrown his way as well as his humble nature.

"We have learned of a lot of his accomplishments from all of you here," he said, "not from Carl because he didn't feel the need to brag about the things that he accomplished because that's the way that Carl was, and that's unusual."

During the ceremony it was noted that both men were posthumously awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and the Commendation Medal with Combat Device.

The tribute closed with the time honored pararescue tradition of each Guardian Angel in attendance pounding the flash from his beret into a commemorative board to be placed on display in the 308th RQS.

[Click here for memorial video coverage.](#)

Aircrews put their water survival skills to the test

Aircrews with the 39th and 301st Rescue Squadrons spent a portion of the March unit training assembly weekend practicing their open water survival techniques March 4, 2018 along the Banana River, near Patrick Air Force Base, Florida.

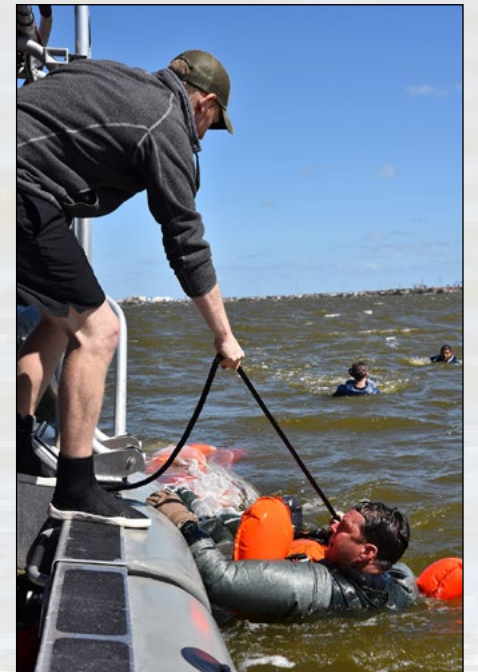
Aircrew flight equipment specialists with the 920th Operations Support Squadron and survival, evasion, resistance and escape specialists with the 304th RQS and 308th RQS conducted the water egress and water survival training sessions, which are a requirement for flyers every three years in order for them to remain proficient. Aircrews trained on their respective life saving equipment including rafts and emergency kits as well as reviewed procedures for evacuating the aircraft above and below the water.

Staff Sgt. Willy Golden, right, 304th Rescue Squadron survival, evasion, resistance and escape specialist, prepares Maj. Jennifer Orton, 39th Rescue Squadron HC-130N pilot, for her turn at having to disengage from her parachute while being dragged through the open water March 4, 2018 near Patrick Air Force Base, as part of her water survival training.

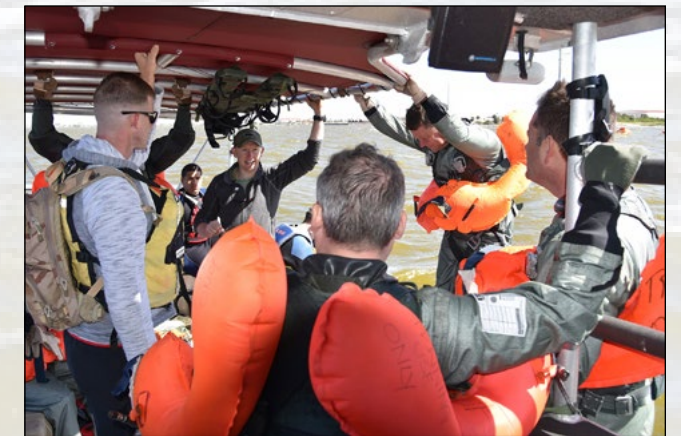


Staff Sgt. Willy Golden, left, and Staff Sgt. Stephan Diaz, lower a wet parachute onto Lt. Col. Casey Sreenan, 39th Rescue Squadron HC-130N pilot, to test his ability to disengage from the device should he become entangled in an open water emergency landing March 4, 2018 near Patrick Air Force Base. Golden is a survival, evasion, resistance and escape specialist, with the 304th Rescue Squadron and Diaz is an aircrew flight equipment craftsman with the 920th Operations Support Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photos by Tech. Sgt. Lindsey Maurice)

Below: Staff Sgt. Willy Golden, left, 304th Rescue Squadron survival, evasion, resistance and escape specialist, pulls Lt. Col. Casey Sreenan, 39th Rescue Squadron HC-130N pilot, out of the Banana River March 4, 2018 after Sreenan properly disengaged from his parachute in a water survival training scenario.



Master Sgt. Waco Cooper, left, and Tech. Sgt. Phil Tracy, right, test Senior Master Sgt. John Loudon's ability to properly escape a downed helicopter under water March 4, 2018 at Patrick Air Force Base, during a water egress training session. Cooper is a 920th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment craftsman; Tracy is a 304th Rescue Squadron survival, evasion, resistance and escape specialist; and Loudon is a 301st Rescue Squadron special missions aviation specialist.



Above: Staff Sgt. Willy Golden, middle, 304th Rescue Squadron survival, evasion, resistance and escape specialist, reviews open water parachute dismount procedures with 39th Rescue Squadron aircrew members before putting their skills to the test March 4, 2018 on the Banana River near Patrick Air Force Base. Left: Sergeant Golden ensures 39th RQS aircrew know how to survive in an inflatable raft, found aboard an HC-130N aircraft, as part of their training.