

# OUTSTANDING AIRMEN OF THE YEAR



## **SSGT. JORDAN S. BISHOPP**

Explosive Ordnance Disposal Craftsman, 377th EOD Flight  
377th Air Base Wing (Air Force Materiel Command)  
Kirtland AFB, N.M.  
Home of Record: Watseka, Ill.

On his third deployment, this one to Afghanistan, Bishopp completed more than 120 combat missions, neutralizing 46 improvised explosive devices. He analyzed 12 post-blast IED attacks, helping improve operations, and he collected and catalogued more than 500 post-attack IED items, providing evidence instrumental in the capture of at least three enemy IED bombers. Over three deployments, he completed more than 400 missions, countering 200 IEDs, and received the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, and the Joint Service Achievement Medal. One of his commanders calls him “the complete package,” who shows superior job knowledge and leadership, particularly in mentoring younger airmen.

## **TSGT. RICARDO A. CHAVEZ**

Military Training Instructor, 433rd Training Squadron  
433rd Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve Command)  
Lackland AFB, Tex. (Part of Joint Base San Antonio)  
Home of Record: El Paso, Tex.

Chavez began his Air Force career as a security forces specialist, including serving as an undercover agent for a joint drug enforcement team, before switching to the Reserve and cross-training as a military training instructor. Chavez has the Master MTI Blue Rope Award and is among USAF’s top MTIs. He is considered a BEAST master—training recruits in basic combat skills and improving courseware in USAF’s new Basic Expeditionary Airman Skills Training program. He has improved the MTI process, cutting class prep time by 26 percent and equipment errors by 42 percent. Chavez also serves as an MTI training manager, providing orientation and ensuring compliance for newly assigned instructors.



## **TSGT. DUSTIN K. GOODWIN**

Flight Chief, 48th Security Forces Squadron  
48th Fighter Wing (US Air Forces in Europe)  
RAF Lakenheath, UK  
Home of Record: Forbestown, Calif.

Goodwin has deployed twice to both Iraq and Afghanistan. Recently in Afghanistan, in a three-hour-long attack against his facility, he engaged 20 enemy fighters and killed three himself—at one point shunning full cover to take out two insurgents who were throwing grenades. He received a Bronze Star Medal and Air Force Combat Action Medal. He also responded outside the wire to 13 enemy rocket attacks, receiving an Army Combat Action Badge. Goodwin helped foil an espionage plot and organized transfer of a high-value-target prisoner, receiving State Department praise. He also worked with the Army’s Criminal Investigation Division and US Secret Service to help defuse a potential threat to the President.





The Air Force Outstanding Airman program annually recognizes 12 enlisted members for superior leadership, job performance, community involvement, and personal achievements.

The program was initiated at the Air Force Association's 10th annual National Convention, held in New Orleans in 1956. The selection board comprises the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force and the command chief master sergeants from each USAF major command. The selections are reviewed by the Air Force Chief of Staff.

The 12 selectees are awarded the Outstanding Airman of the Year Ribbon with the bronze service star device and wear the Outstanding Airman badge for one year.



**SMSGT. PATRICK D. JONES**

Operations Flight Superintendent, 375th Civil Engineer Squadron  
375th Air Mobility Wing (Air Mobility Command)  
Scott AFB, Ill.  
Home of Record: Shreveport, La.

Jones, who helps manage 250 multiskilled military and civilian engineers, was named best AMC superintendent and led his squadron to best in AMC. USAF benchmarked his work to develop a \$15 million 24-mile pipe repair plan. He anchored the wing's Air Traffic System Evaluation Program, receiving AMC inspector general praise for "best to date" preparation. His effort during a major snow recovery operation ensured uninterrupted Tanker Airlift Control Center operations during Haiti earthquake relief activity. He also saved USAF some \$2 million by enlisting Reserve help in repairing and converting 85 housing units to transient living facility quarters.

**SRA. NORA L. LIMJOCO**

Dental Lab Journeyman, 30th Medical Operations Squadron  
30th Space Wing (Air Force Space Command)  
Vandenberg AFB, Calif.  
Home of Record: Bossier City, La.

Limjoco has "definitely raised the bar," according to one supervisor. In addition to excelling at her primary work, designing and fabricating dental prostheses, she directs the wing's Basic Life Support program, oversees the Precious Metals program, and is a member of the 30th Medical Group security team. As part of the BLS program, Limjoco has certified more than 3,000 base personnel, greatly improving wing emergency readiness. She led a five-person lab during the NCOIC's six-month absence and is rated No. 1 among five lab personnel by providers. Her efforts to develop a dental lab case log and initiate product timeline comment codes were lauded by Air Force Medical Operations Agency officials.



**SMSGT. KATHLEEN M. McCOOL**

Superintendent, Recruiter Screening Team  
Air Force Recruiting Service (Air Education and Training Command)  
Randolph AFB, Tex.  
Home of Record: Tucson, Ariz.

McCool transitioned from health services management to military training instructor, achieving a Master MTI Blue Rope Award, before volunteering for recruiting and becoming one of the top 12 recruiters in the nation. She took her enlisted accessions production flight from bottom to first place among 189 AFRS production flights. She revamped the new recruiter assignment process, reducing screening time by 5,000 hours per year. She spearheaded AETC's special duty briefing team, increasing recruiter duty applications by 300 percent, and her mentoring skill enabled a new recruiter to earn top rookie honors in 2010. She also led recruiter hiring, securing high caliber personnel with a 96 percent successful recruiter schoolhouse graduation rate.

**SMSGT. DAVID L. NEWMAN**

Superintendent, Knowledge Operations Management, J3  
US Strategic Command  
Offutt AFB, Neb.  
Home of Record: Port Hueneme, Calif.

Newman orchestrated more than 1,800 taskings related to nuclear command and control policy and forecast more than 50 nuclear inspections across five platforms, helping revive NC2 accountability. He received a Joint Service Achievement Medal for leading the response team when USSTRATCOM headquarters flooded. Among other accomplishments, he spearheaded a two-day Combatant Commander Liaison Officer conference; revamped an evaluation program, improving quality and timeliness; led J3 implementation of DOD's Translingual Instant Messaging (TriM) initiative; and worked with several Army and Air Force inspectors general on employing Defense Connect Online to capture testimony to save money and expedite investigations.



**SSGT. JOHN C. NORRIS**

Tactical Air Control Party, 148th Air Support Operations Squadron  
193rd Special Operations Wing (Air National Guard)  
Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.  
Home of Record: Oklahoma City

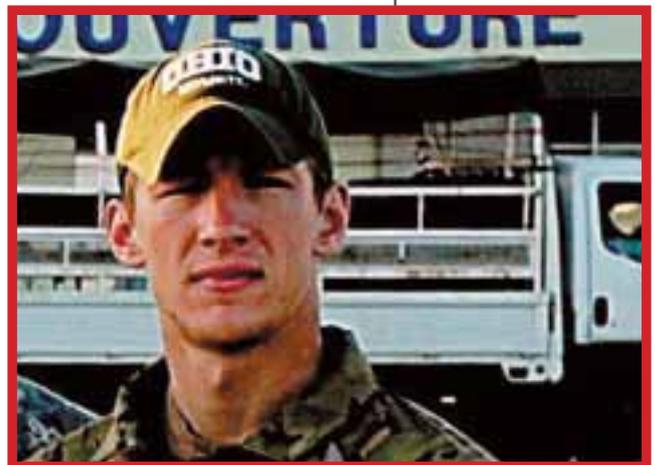
Norris served as a tactical air control party member on three deployments before leaving active duty to enroll full-time in college and join the Air National Guard. Before a recent deployment to Afghanistan, he created realistic training scenarios that increased TACP situational awareness and response times and successfully indoctrinated inexperienced airmen for combat operations. On deployment, he charged into enemy fire, rescuing two wounded soldiers, and then directed lethal fire from two Apache helicopters while ordering evacuation of the wounded. His Army commander has nominated him for a Bronze Star Medal with Valor Device. He also controlled 120 close air support strikes and conducted more than 100 combat patrols, receiving the Army Commendation Medal with Valor Device.



**SRA. DANIEL T. SKIDMORE**

Combat Control Journeyman, 21st Special Tactics Squadron  
720th Special Tactics Group (Air Force Special Operations Command)  
Pope Field, N.C.  
Home of Record: Houghton, Mich.

Skidmore was among the first airmen in Haiti, deploying just 26 hours after the earthquake struck and quickly working to set up airfield operations. He and five other combat controllers ran the international airport out of rucksacks, averaging takeoffs and landings every five minutes for more than 4,100 sorties with no mishaps. Skidmore personally marshaled more than 100 aircraft and worked with Haiti air traffic personnel and Miami Center. He also helped rescue several American citizens. At his home base, he briefed a Senate delegation on ground operations in Haiti. In a recent deployment to Afghanistan, he participated in 60 combat missions and three firefights. In one ambush with his team pinned down, he returned fire while calling in close air support, successfully directing USAF F-15E fighters and Army AH-64 helicopters on precision strikes. He also organized and led CAS training for Army Special Forces.



**SRA. ULLA B. STROMBERG**

Medical Technician Journeyman, 99th Medical Operations Squadron  
99th Air Base Wing (Air Combat Command)  
Nellis AFB, Nev.  
Home of Record: Manhattan, Kan.

Stromberg was selected for below-the-zone promotion and is a recipient of the Nellis Air Force Base Chief's "excellence in action" award. At Nellis, she provided care to 400 patients per month, attaining 111 percent of her goal, and assisted with 161 readiness reviews, helping assure wing medical readiness at more than 97 percent and achieve an excellent rating on the wing operational readiness inspection. She also was an Honor Guard trainer and ACC's Honor Guardsman of the Year. On deployment to Afghanistan, she aided 1,200 patients and 500 aeromedical evacuations—earning an "excellent care" comment and coin from an Army commander and an Army Achievement Medal. She also performed CPR on a Taliban officer in cardiac arrest, saving his life and preserving an intelligence source.



**SRA. RAVEN S. TAYLOR**

Medical Technician Journeyman, 354th Medical Operations Squadron  
354th Fighter Wing (Pacific Air Forces)  
Eielson AFB, Alaska  
Home of Record: Waycross, Ga.

Taylor has often been called to fill in for more senior NCOs. She trained three sections in instrument sterilization procedures, ensuring wartime skills certification. She saved valuable time for nurses by contacting 600 patients about lab results. Taylor also revamped the infection control program, ensuring zero acquired infections over 18,000 patient visits. She oversaw 650 preventive health assessments during a 50 percent manning shortage to sustain the wing's medical readiness. She assisted with 20 minor surgeries, averting costly referrals. She led the medical screenings process, personally handling 2,000 patients, and achieved overall a 98 percent access rate. She also built minor surgical kits, enabling 60 new procedures and decreasing appointment times by 20 percent.



**TSGT. BRADLEY A. WILLIAMS**

Vehicle Operations Supervisor, 5th Logistics Readiness Squadron  
5th Bomb Wing (Air Force Global Strike Command)  
Minot AFB, N.D.  
Home of Record: Elkhart, Ind.

Serving with an Army medium truck detachment on deployment, Williams participated in 200 missions, encountering 300 insurgent attacks. He led 17 convoys, providing critical supplies to 23 forward operating bases. He protected six convoys by rerouting them and coordinating with a quick reaction force after identifying vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices. He thwarted a small-arms attack. He conducted in-theater training, leading 25 permission convoy briefs and reinforcing combat skills for dozens of airmen and soldiers. He was among first responders on a major accident and coordinated life-saving medical evacuation. His feedback at the career field manager deployment after-action conference prompted USAF to change its convoy training standards. He received a Bronze Star Medal for his efforts while deployed. At Minot, as acting first sergeant, he personally counseled airmen on numerous financial and family problems.

