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512th Airlift Wing, Dover Air Force Base, Del.



U.S. Air Force photo by Roland Balik/Released

Col. Thomas C. Joyce accepts the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations Center guidon from Lt. Gen. Richard Y. Newton III, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Personnel, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C., during a Change of Command ceremony Oct. 7.

Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations Center welcomes new commander

Christin Michaud
AFMAO Public Affairs

Col. Thomas C. Joyce took command of the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations Center from Col. Robert H. Edmondson during a change of command ceremony Oct. 7 in which Lt. Gen. Richard Y. Newton III, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Personnel, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, presided.

Guests of the ceremony, held at the Charles C. Carson Center for Mortuary Affairs, included Charles E. Milam, Director of Air Force Services, Headquarters United States Air Force, the 436th Airlift Wing Commander, Col. Manson O. Morris, the 512th Airlift Wing Commander Col. Randal L. Bright as well as group commanders from Dover Air Force Base, Del.

The men and women of AFMAO also

welcomed the new commander and bid farewell to the old during the first event of this kind since the organization stood up in January 2008.

"I am humbled and privileged to be given the opportunity to command a unit with such a noble mission," said Colonel Joyce. "I stand here in awe of those who work here. The simplest and most heartfelt description I've heard about the work this unit does was given by Colonel Edmondson when he said, 'it's hard work, but it's not hard to do.' He's so right. I can think of nothing more important than taking care of America's fallen and their families."

Colonel Joyce comes to AFMAO from the Manas Transit Center, Kyrgyz Republic, where he served as the 376th Expeditionary Mission Support Group commander.

Wing announces third quarter award winners

The below people are the wing's selection for the third quarterly award winners.

- Airman of the Quarter: Senior Airman Harry Mackay, 512th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
 - NCO of the Quarter: Tech. Sgt. Richard Lewadowski, 512th AMXS
 - Senior NCO of the Quarter: Senior Master Sgt. Gerry LaChance, 512th AMXS
 - Company Grade Officer of the Quarter: Capt. Justin Botts, 512th Operations Support Flight
 - Civilian of the Quarter: Cynthia Farley, 512th AMXS
- Congratulations to all.

Mark calendar for new CCAF graduation date

The new Community College of the Air Force graduation for 512th Airlift Wing members is 3 p.m. Nov. 7 in the Airman Leadership Building's auditorium, located in Bldg 261. For more information, call John Young at (302) 677-3517.

AF&R "Adopt a Family" program underway

The Airman & Family Readiness "Adopt a Family" program is underway. First sergeants, commanders and supervisors are encouraged to nominate wing families who could use some assistance during the holidays.

Nominations are anonymous to the adopting unit. The only required information needed is a "wish list" sheet completed by the family. Individuals or small groups may also adopt a family or provide food items for the food baskets.

Please call 512th AF&R by Nov. 16 to adopt a family or nominate a family. For more information, call (302) 677-3566.