



THE EAGLE

FEBRUARY 2018

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As Wise as Yoda; Congratulations Master Sergeant Mclane

The man, the myth, the legend, Master Sergeant Mclane. One of Detachment 027's outstanding cadre member and possibly the most comical guy you would ever talk to. Previously

known as Technical Sergeant, he has recently earned the promotion to Master Sergeant and for this, Detachment 027 commemorates him. His promotion is rightfully given but the road was entirely a cake walk. Coming from the man himself,

“Yes it was a surprise. I had to really dedicate some serious study time in the middle of a PSC. Pretty stressful.”

Know it or not, his promotion was just as much of a shock to him as it was to the rest of us. Though even with the massive amount of happiness and pride



that came with this very rewarding surprise, MSgt Mclane knows not to get too big of a head about it.

“I’ve learned that each promotion comes with new challenges. I have to expect change in order to grow and develop, but now it’s more so that I grow and develop those around me.”

And when I asked him about his desire to go up in rank even further or not, he replied with,

“I’ve grown to understand that “status quo is no go”. Opportunities to progress personally and professionally are always going to be out there.”

It was clear to see why MSgt Mclane was chosen to be promoted purely off his answers alone. While being a very professional and focused individual, he also knows how to have some fun.

The rest of the interview was quite hilarious. Questions that one would expect long, deep, thought out answers to, MSgt Mclane managed to turn into short comical responses. Here is the play-by-play.

Q: What was the easiest part of your career up to now?

A: Showing up.

Q: What was the hardest point in your career/a moment where you possibly doubted yourself?

A: Doing this interview.

Q: What brought you back from that moment and up to your feet?

A: Cadet Drachman gave me a suspense.

With that short span of humorous answers, MSgt Mclane was able to bring it all back and end the last questions with real honest answers. I asked him who he believed inspired him the most to get this far. His answer was,

“I do it all for my God and family. And absolutely, all my past/present brother and sisters.”

And when I gave him the ultimatum of if he could do it all over again, would he take the path of becoming an officer or enlistment again, he gave me one of my favorite answers.

“I’d rather be fishing.”

Detachment 027 is greatly honored to have this Master Sergeant and I’m not completely sure where we would be right now without him. Congratulations on your promotion, Master Sergeant Mclane.

Article By: C/Baxter

Bigger and Better Things: In Honor of Staff Sergeant Gooch

As a cadet, you will meet all kinds of people. But the kinds of people you will never forget are the ones who impact you the most. The news that Sgt. Gooch was leaving Detachment 027 brought on a wave of mixed emotions.

Deciding to leave his enlisted life, Sgt. Gooch now pursues a degree in Criminal Justice at the University of West Florida in Pensacola, FL. He hopes to do field training next summer to allow himself the time to study his warrior knowledge and prepare for leadership. “Now it’s my time to get yelled at,” he jokes. “Gonna get a taste of my own medicine!” Even with his experience in basic training, Sgt. Gooch doesn’t know what to expect next summer. One thing he knows for sure, though, is that he will miss being a Highlander.

The sergeant says he will miss being an enlisted mentor to the cadets. Every day, he enjoyed leaving work knowing he was sharing his experience and watching the new leaders of the Air Force grow under his wing. “It’s the most rewarding thing about this job,” he says smiling, “I feel like I’ve accomplished something.”

His last piece of advice? To pick yourself up when times are toughest. “They’re going to struggle. But it’s how you get up, and how you react to adversity, that’s really going to distinguish them.”

Sgt. Gooch leaves his championship belt in honor of his partner, MSgt. McLane, in hopes that it will inspire people to do their best, just as he will.

Article By: C/McCarthy

Cadet Aubrey’s Experience Abroad



Fresh out of Australia, Cadet Aubrey has been welcomed back to the detachment this semester. From July to November 2017, he decided to veer off the normal path and study abroad at the University of Wollongong in New South Wales, Australia, for almost six months. Cadet Aubrey originally applied and interviewed for a CIA Internship, a highly rigorous application process. When that did not work out and his schedule for the Fall 2017 semester was already

cleared, he decided to take the opportunity to study abroad. This is something he had always wanted to do and in a country he had always wanted to go to.

As an Electrical Engineering major, Cadet Aubrey was able to take many engineering courses, and the University of Wollongong has a good program. Cadet Aubrey wanted to take this opportunity not so much as a learning experience in the classroom, but rather a learning experience in the outside world on the other side of the planet. He decided to take on a light workload and explore as much as possible, with the program being designed to give you lots of time to explore.

He made friends from all over the world and traveled with them to Melbourne, Tasmania (his favorite place visited), New South Wales, New Zealand, and even to Thailand and Malaysia! Cadet Aubrey was able to hit the big city of Sydney almost every weekend, only an hour and a half away. He explored the many museums Sydney has to offer, the world-famous Opera House, and even chocolate festivals! When he wasn't exploring the cities, Cadet Aubrey was enjoying the outdoors and seeing many animals, which is one of the main reasons he chose Australia. "The animals are so easy to see in Australia. You don't even have to go too far to see kangaroos. One even stole our food while camping!" said Cadet Aubrey.

The things that surprised him most, however, were not the incredible cities or wildlife, but the small differences that are seen everywhere. "It was a huge culture shock," he said. "The language is slightly different, everyone has a different accent, the currency is different, and pedestrians don't even get the right of way!" I was intrigued to find out how studying abroad works as a cadet. Cadet Aubrey shared that as a five-year cadet, it was much easier to get Lt. Col. Pruitt's permission. However, if any cadets have the ability and interest in studying abroad, Cadet Aubrey definitely recommends it. It is an experience of a lifetime that you will never forget. If you are indecisive about which country to study abroad in, Australia is highly recommended by Cadet Aubrey!



Article By: C/Rowins

What AAS Can Do for You, and What You Can Do for AAS: Personal Experience from a Candidate



Arnold Air Society (AAS) is a professional, honorary, service-oriented organization with which I have had the privilege of taking a candidate class. Since joining the candidate class, I have noticed marked improvement in my leadership skills, warrior knowledge, bearing, and the habits that support these positive behaviors. I have found that when I sit down to do my homework or I'm planning to put on my uniform, I always take a little extra time to do it right. I have learned to enjoy self-motivated work. Sitting down and shining shoes for even a couple of hours (I don't usually need that much time), and writing out proofs on my homework. These used to feel like chores, but now they're relaxing and pleasing, and I really do thank Arnold Air Society for this.

In many ways, what you can do for Arnold Air Society and what Arnold Air Society can do for you are the same thing. Arnold Air Society seeks to instill the Air Force values, and that includes "Service before Self." One of the greatest lessons you can learn in Arnold Air Society is to take joy or satisfaction in service. Whether this service is to Arnold Air Society, to the Air Force, to your community, or to your country, Arnold Air Society will teach you to serve well.

It's not all that easy though. Hard work won't just magically become leisurely to you because you sign up for a candidate class. There are two fundamental ways, that I understand, to reinforce the virtues I talked about above by making it easier and by making yourself more dedicated. The trick is that "easier" is largely in your perception; so, if you experience something far more difficult than what you're currently doing, it will become "easier". What this adds up to is that if you want to be able to do things well or "easily", you must first do something very difficult. When you've recited the Airman's Creed, with perfect bearing, while planking, while under other forms of stress, simply reciting the airman's creed with good bearing is easy.

Another method is to make you understand the consequences of poor work. Nobody likes negative consequences. I mentioned that to do something right you have to dedicate yourself to doing it right. It's natural



that when you are repulsed by the consequences of doing it wrong, you'll be more motivated to do it right. In Arnold Air Society you don't get to swipe your mistakes under the carpet. Every mistake and poor decision is corrected. If this mistake or poor decision was caused by something lacking on the candidate's part, there are consequences for it. I can't explain too thoroughly what the "consequences" are (wouldn't want to spoil the surprise) but I can promise that they are designed to bring out motivation from within you.

Arnold Air Society can make you better. All it asks in return is that you stick to the candidate program. That is what Arnold Air Society can do for you and it comes highly recommended.

Article By: C/Tatum

Congratulations!

Be sure to congratulate the 300 Cadets who received Rated Slots! They worked hard to be able to get this opportunity and we are all very proud! Congratulations 300s!

