

Williamsburg Veterans' Day Ceremony

November 11, 2021

- **Call to order at 1:00 P.M. – Master of Ceremony Steve Connor**
- **Invocation – Father Richard Bondi**
- **Pledge of Allegiance – Master of Ceremony (all participate)**
- **National Anthem – Patrick Callinan**
- **Welcome – Dave Mathers – Williamsburg Select Board**
- **Introduction of Speaker – Robert Vigneault**
- **Speaker – Colonel Karen L. Magnus USAF AFRC AW**
- **Song Selection – Patrick Callinan**
- **Closing Remarks – Denise Banister – Williamsburg Select Board**
- **Benediction – Reverend Worth Noyes**

COLONEL KAREN L. MAGNUS

Colonel Karen Magnus retired in April 2020 from commander of the 439th Mission Support Group, Westover Air Reserve Base, Massachusetts. Over 1,000 military and civilian employees of the 439th Mission Support Group provide support services for some 4,000 people that comprise the 439th Airlift Wing, the host unit at Westover. Support is also provided to approximately 680 full time staff in the 15 tenant organizations at the base. The mission support group provides functions required to manage and support all of the base infrastructures. This includes civil engineering, civilian and military personnel, security forces, communications, morale, welfare and recreation; base readiness, logistics readiness, supply, transportation, aerial ports, and bioenvironmental engineering.

Colonel Magnus graduated from the University of Portland in Portland, Oregon, with a Bachelors of Business Administration in Marketing and Management and at the same time received her commission into the Air Force through the University's ROTC program. She was assigned to Sheppard Air Force Base as a Cost Analyst. Her next assignment was to Carswell Air Force Base as a Financial Analyst, where she participated in transitioning the base from the Active Component to the Reserve as a result of BRAC. At that time she also left active duty to join the Reserve as a Services Officer and later as the Services Commander. Colonel Magnus went on to become a Public Affairs Officer at 10th Air Force, the 939th Air Refueling Wing, and 22nd Air Force. While at 22nd Air Force, she went to the desert twice, once traveling with media throughout every AOR, and the second time providing logistical support for movement of celebrities providing entertainment for troops in Southwest Asia. After her time at 22nd Air Force she went to the Pentagon as Chief of Communication Execution Management and after two years transitioned to Chief of Full-Time Support for Total Force Policy. Her next assignment was to March Air Reserve Base as a deputy to the mission support group commander for one year followed by her first group command at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base for two years before coming to Westover.

Assignments

1988 - 1991, Chief, Cost Analysis, 3750th Comptroller Squadron, Sheppard AFB, TX
1991 - 1993, Chief, Financial Analysis, 7th Bomb Wing, Carswell AFB, TX
1993 - 1995, Deputy, Services, 301st Mission Support Group, NAS Ft Worth JRB, TX
1995 - 1998, Commander, Services, 301st Mission Support Group, NAS Ft Worth JRB, TX
1998 - 2003, Deputy Director, Public Affairs, 10th Air Force, NAS Ft Worth JRB, TX
2003 - 2005, Chief, Public Affairs, 939th Air Refueling Wing, Portland IAP, OR
2005 - 2008, Director, Public Affairs, 22nd Air Force, Dobbins ARB, GA
2008 - 2010, Chief, Communication Execution Management, Headquarters Air Force, Pentagon, D.C.
2010 - 2012, Chief, Full-Time Support, Total Force Policy, Headquarters Air Force, Pentagon, D.C.
2012 - 2013, Deputy Commander, 452d Mission Support Group, March ARB, CA
2013 - 2015, Commander, 916th Mission Support Group, Seymour Johnson AFB, NC
2015 - 2020, Commander, 439th Mission Support Group, Westover ARB, MA

Major Awards and Decorations

Legion of Merit Officer Medal
Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters
Air Force Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters
Air Force Achievement Medal
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one oak leaf cluster
National Defense Service Medal
Iraq Campaign Medal with bronze star
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
Air Force Nuclear Deterrence Operations Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Air Force Longevity Service Award with six oak leaf clusters
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with device
Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with bronze star
Air Force Training Ribbon

Effective Dates of Promotions

Second Lieutenant, 1987
First Lieutenant, 1989
Captain, 1991
Major, 2000
Lieutenant Colonel, 2006
Colonel, 2013