

31st ADA launches Spouse Tour

By: Capt Robertson 31st ADA PAO



Whether you are a first time mover or a seasoned military family, moving to a military post can be very disorienting and frustrating. Often times a building number is all you have as a guide to your on-post destination. 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade launched their pilot "Newcomers Spouse Tour" last week. The tour is part of the BDE's Sponsorship and Integration Program, and was suggested by Brigade Family Readiness Support Advisors and spouses as a way to welcome new spouses into the community and allow them a chance to tour the Brigade and the Fort Sill installation.

"We came up with this idea to make people feel more comfortable," said Cindy Morrissey, spouse of the 31st ADA commander. "We wanted to let them know all of the things that are available to them, because I truly believe that if you take care of your mind, your body, and your spirit, that those deployments and everything that families face are easier." The tour started at the 31st ADA Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, where spouses toured the buildings and spoke with the Brigade Chaplain, Military Family Life Counselor, and the Brigade Family Readiness Advisor.

The spouses then began their guided tour of Fort Sill, stopping and touring multiple agencies that can assist with military family readiness. "I like the Soldier's Closet; that was really nice," said Lupe Paulson. "I'm going to tell my husband about it so he can tell his Soldiers, and I'm going to donate a lot of stuff too." The tour ended with a stop at Garcia Dining Facility where the spouses were afforded the opportunity to dine in the DFAC.

Mrs. Morrissey added that she hopes the tour will help get Soldiers and their families more involved with the unit and the Lawton/Fort Sill community. "We started moving equipment and personnel."