

# On-final



**U.S. AIR FORCE**

**507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing - 513<sup>th</sup> Air Control Group**

Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

APRIL 2008 Vol. 28, No. 4

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**Master Sgts. Wendy Ellyson and James Young use the buddy system while donning their chem gear during the exercise in Gulfport. See more photos on pages 4-7.**

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Jodie Zollo



507th ARW  
Commander's Column  
By Col. Jeffery R. Glass

## Outstanding Gulfport deployment!

First of all let me say congratulations to everyone in the wing for the OUTSTANDING results from our recent deployment to Gulfport. A lot of hard work went into the last 18 months, but we proved what an outstanding wing we have here at the 507th. We still have a little work to go but those couple of units that will be tested later are well on their way and I expect great results from them also. We will not stop and let ourselves slide for another four years until our next inspection. The wing has developed an annual training plan that will ensure all units are ready to deploy in a 72-hour period. I expect each group and squadron to continue to emphasize readiness and ATSO, taking little "bites" all year long to keep ready. The deployment would not have been a success without the support from those that did not deploy and helped get us out the door and recover quickly and safely. This was

truly a wing event. Hopefully next year those that did not get to deploy can also have some fun.

Our safety record has been outstanding, but safety is a lifelong event. We are now in the spring thunderstorm months and as you all know they get as bad here as anywhere. Just this last week we had an airplane get hit with a lightning bolt which caused serious damage to the aircraft. Luckily no one was near the airplane. We had numerous maintainers that were within minutes of being near that airplane. At the time there were no warnings of lightning nearby, so the lesson is if it looks bad seek cover. Remember: better safe than sorry.

In the next month we will be making some changes at the senior leadership level. Col. Arlo Guthrie, our Vice Commander, will be moving to Maxwell AFB as an MA to the Doctrine Center. His replacement is Col. Clay Childs who should be around in April. Col. Archie Fyre, our Operations Group Commander, will be moving to McConnell AFB to take command of the 931st. His replacement is Col. Gregory "Happy" Gilmour. He will be here TDY on a few occasions between now and the Ops Group change of command. We all hate to see our great leaders leave but they are moving on to better jobs, just maybe not better places. Please make our newcomers feel that warm Oklahoma welcome.

### Chapel Corner

## We all have Tough Days

By Wing Chaplain  
(Maj.) Dwight Magnus

One of my favorite stories centers on an account that actually appeared on a company accident forms. Maybe you've had a day like this:

When I got to the building I found that the hurricane had knocked off some bricks around the top. So I rigged up a beam with a pulley at the top of the building and hoisted up a couple barrels full of bricks. When I had fixed the damaged area, there were a lot of bricks left over. Then I went to the bottom and began releasing the line. Unfortunately, the barrel of bricks was much heavier than I was – and before I

knew what was happening the barrel started coming down, jerking me up.

I decided to hang on since I was too far of the ground by then to jump, and halfway up I met the barrel of bricks coming down fast. I received a hard blow on my shoulder. I then continued to the top, banging my head against the beam and getting my fingers pinched and jammed in the pulley. When the barrel hit the ground hard, it burst its bottom, allowing the bricks to spill out.

I was now heavier than the barrel. So I started down again at high speed. Halfway down I met the barrel coming up fast and received sever injuries to my shins. When I hit the ground, I landed on a pile of spilled bricks, get-

ting several painful cuts and deep bruises. At this point I must have lost my presence of mind, because I let go of my grip on the line. The barrel came down fast – giving me another blow on my head and putting me in the hospital.

Ouch! We all have tough days. Now before you start thinking "Safety! ORM!," take a moment to gain some perspective. No matter how bad your day, someone's is worse. No matter how difficult your situation, someone's is more so. Above all, take your difficulties, problems, and disappointments to God. He understands. He cares. He will see you through.



## March 2008 Promotions

Name	Promotion to	Unit
<b><u>Master Sergeant</u></b>		
Allen G. Box		507th AMXS
Spencer Cluff		507th MDS
Justin Hopkins		465th ARS
<b><u>Tech Sergeant</u></b>		
Jeffery Odaniel		507th AMXS
Michelle Mendoza		507th MDS
Benjamin Brent		465th ARS
<b><u>Staff Sergeant</u></b>		
Christina Sanchez		507th AMXS
Aaron Mallory		507th CES
Jason Schaefer		507th CES
Joe Huizar Jr		507th CS
Jeffery Ingersoll		507th MDS
Joli Whitlow		507th MDS
Eric Walke		507th MSF
Kelly Moody		507th SVS
Ryan Belcher		507th OSF
Kim Humphrey		513th OSF
Gregory McAboy		513th AMXS
Thomas Carter		513th MXS
Bethany Giles		970th AACs
<b><u>Senior Airman</u></b>		
Lucas Simkins		507th MDS
Donna Kimmel		35th CBCS
Casey Chambers		513th MXS



### Letter to Airmen

Michael W. Wynne  
Secretary of the Air Force

10 March 2008

#### Support to Operations

Last month I wrote about my AOR trip and the outstanding impacts Airmen are making in OIF and OEF every day. This month I want to salute all those who provide support to operations around the globe. From the acquisition professionals whose rigorous analysis resulted in the selection of a new air refueling tanker to the numerous Air Force agencies that contributed to the recent satellite intercept, thank you for all you do to defend America. Your efforts ensure we maintain the Global Vigilance, Reach and Power required to defend our National interests.

I am continually amazed at the Air Force's ability to project combat power to any spot in the world from non-deployed locations. Every hour of every day, Airmen conduct network-enabled ISR missions from the United States and distributed locations around the world using Predators, Reapers and Global Hawk UAVs to support combat operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, or wherever the Joint team needs them. Air Force Distributed Ground Stations collect and analyze massive amounts of imagery and data resulting in actionable intelligence for Joint and Coalition operations and national decision makers. Meanwhile, mobility Airmen provide airlift, tanker and aeromedical bridges that deliver Joint personnel and equipment rapidly to, from and throughout the AOR. This combination of reachback and mobility decreases the number of Airmen deployed and saves lives by drastically reducing the number of ground force convoys required to travel on dangerous roads as well as getting the injured to medical facilities rapidly.

Recently, our knowledge enabled Airmen once again provided operational impact beyond the CENTCOM AOR by supplying critical expertise in support of a multi-agency effort. In this instance, Airmen played a pivotal role in destroying an uncontrollable NRO satellite on a trajectory to re-enter Earth's atmosphere with 1,000 pounds of toxic fuel onboard. This satellite posed an unacceptable threat. With the tracking and targeting information, weather analysis and space situational awareness provided by Airmen, the satellite was successfully destroyed and this transformational space event eliminated a risk to public safety. Although media attention focused on the missile launch and intercept phase, this amazing achievement would not have been possible without the diligence and expertise of the professional Total Force Airmen who brought Air Force space and cyberspace capabilities to bear. While Air Force missileers have provided disciplined nuclear strength for decades, this intercept demonstrates Airmen's contributions to the defensive side of our reachback missile team.

The world understands the many roles our Airmen have played in CENTCOM during the last 17 years of continuous combat operations, but these successes could not happen without reachback support. Last month's space operation highlights the unique contributions Airmen bring to air, space and cyberspace around the world. When America and her combatant commanders call, you consistently answer, delivering decisive effects as part of the Joint team. Thank you for safeguarding the public and for all you do for our country every day.

Michael W. Wynne  
Secretary of the Air Force

## On-final

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. **Copy deadline is NOON on UTA Sunday for the next month's edition. Call us at 734-3078.**

This is your news source. Take it home with you to share with family, friends, and employers.

**507th ARW Mission:** Man, train, equip, and sustain an Expeditionary Reserve Force in support of DoD peacetime and wartime taskings.

**513th ACG Mission:** Citizen-airmen extending America's Global Power operating the world's best airborne battle management, warning and control platform.

# 507th invades Gulfport to demonstrate



Unit members help load bags on the aircraft.

Photo by Senior Airman Zach Anderson



Personnel were evacuated and the fire department responded to a building fire.

As soon as they arrived, there was an attack and time to head to the bunker.





# capabilities of wing personnel



507th CES members (Staff Sgt. William Hunter, shown, and Senior Airman Timothy Williams, driver) take cover to protect themselves during an attack on the convoy. They were enroute to the airfield to do airfield damage repair.

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Jodie Zollo



Above: Capt. Jermaine Boyd, 465th ARS, demonstrates what to do when there's a lull in the action.



Guarding the KC-135 aircraft

Right: Airman First Class Shawn Sing, heavy equipment operator, performs airfield damage repair on the "mock" runway while trainer Master Sgt. Troy Siler watches.

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Jodie Zollo





# 507th operates successfully



Staff Sgt. Steven Palmer, chaplain assistant, updates status of wing members during the exercise. Photo by Capt. Polly Orcutt



The 'Giant Voice' messenger is evaluated.



Having a little fun while waiting on a ride to Gulfport, a unit member attempts to persuade a good rating on the exercise outcome.



'Breakfast of champions.' Deployed members were provided a delicious hot meal for breakfast, at 3:30 in the morning, and dinner, after 1830 hrs. MREs were available for lunch, served hot or cold. Fast-paced 12+ hour days made even cold MREs tasty at times.

Everyone, including 507th ARW Commander Col. Jeffery Glass, had a chance to enjoy the experience of Gulfport.





# and shows mission capability



Hydrate Hydrate Hydrate



72nd Aerial Port Squadron unloads the C-130 upon its arrival.



At the end of the exercise, the 72nd APS members load cargo back on the C-130, CODY 01 from Youngstown, Ohio, for the return trip.



Displaying a little 'Sooner' pride and having fun after hours



Alleged perpetrators, Maj. Robert Baird and Master Sgt. David Dickson of the 507th Security Forces Squadron, center, pose with 507th Maintenance Squadron members who successfully stopped an attempt to penetrate the flightline.



## ARC presents Civil Engineer Awards to 507th CES

The 507th Civil Engineer Squadron made its mark during the AFRC 2007 Civil Engineer Annual Award selections, winning in six of the categories.

Senior Master Sgt. Jodie Zollo received the 2007 Chief Master Sergeant Larry R. Daniels Award. Zollo deployed to Kirkuk Regional Air Base for four months in support of OIF. As senior controller she flawlessly tracked location and status of 184-person team, dispatched/controlled damage assessment sweeps, prioritized KRAB post-attack recovery efforts, tasked repair teams and tracked completion.

Chief Master Sgt. Gary Bourisaw received the 2007 Major General Joseph A Ahearn Enlisted Leadership Award. Bourisaw is a seasoned warrior who deployed 125 days to Kirkuk Regional Air Base. He served as the civil engineer manager for 185 troops from 23 units; molded into single superb Civil Engineer fighting team. He led a 94-person operations flight and completed 3,000

work orders. He supervised 75 percent of the sewage plant expansion and expertly managed/responsible for more than \$30 million in Air Force assets at Kirkuk; all secure and accounted for.

Wendy Ellyson received the 2007 Outstanding Civil Engineer Manager of the Year Award, in the ARC Civilian Technician Category. Wendy was an outstanding leader who stepped into the gap when 507th CES leadership deployed to Iraq for a four-month AEF tour. She assumed duties of the senior ART, seamlessly integrated both offices into one cohesive functional unit. She also developed a comprehensive squadron training plan, ensuring 300-plus training items and wing objectives were met timely.

Lt. Col. Ernest Goodman received the Major General L. Dean Fox Award. He served as commander of the AEF deployment in support of OIF, KRAB. Under his leadership, the 506 ECES completed base infrastructure projects

that enhanced mission capabilities. He designed/executed \$1.5M projects to relocate 506 AEG staff; critical step in transitioning KRAB back to IAF.

Tech. Sgt. Deric Nixon received the Major General Eugene A. Lupia Award in the Military Technician Category. Nixon also deployed to Kirkuk RAB, serving as NCOIC of the KRAB airfield lighting team; entrusted with \$660K in assets. He rewired 13 electrical panels in the Air Force modular quarters, eliminating a safety hazard for more than 900 KRAB Airmen. He was coined by the Command Chief for after hours KRAB support.

Mr. Joseph Wade received the Outstanding Civil Engineer Manager of the Year Award in the ARC Civilian Manager Category. He serves as the Wing Commander's right-hand man on all facility matters for the 507th ARW. He diligently directed all renovation and modernization projects for 40 aging and heavily used support facilities.



Pictured, from left: Joseph Wade, Lt. Col. Ernest Goodman, Senior Master Sgt. Jodie Zollo, Chief Master Sgt. Gary Bourisaw and Master Sgt. Wendy Ellyson. Not pictured, Tech. Sgt. Deric Nixon.



# Try this 'shirt' on for size

by Airman 1st Class Elliot Sprehe  
27th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs

CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, N.M (AFPN) — “We put out fires,” said Master Sgt. George Childers, 27th Special Operations Equipment Maintenance Squadron first sergeant.

Sergeant Childers was speaking of the day-to-day routine, or lackthereof, of a first sergeant, who also often is referred to as the “shirt,” “first shirt” or “diamond.”

“There’s no set routine from day to day. It really depends on the needs of the unit and the Airmen,” said Sergeant Childers.

Those needs can vary, as the job of a first sergeant is multi-layered, consisting of duties that include, but are not limited to, financial issues, marital problems, family deaths, disciplinary matters and even separation issues stemming from deployments.

Sergeant Childers and other first sergeants meet weekly at the Professional Enhancement Center to discuss issues involving their respective squadrons, Airmen and any other matters that may arise.

The qualifications for becoming a first sergeant include holding the rank of Master Sgt., passing the Air Force physical fitness test and completing the Senior NCO Academy Correspondence Course.

If an Airman meets these qualifications, the commander makes a recommendation and, if approved by the wing command chief, is sent to the Air Force Personnel Center.

There, the career-field manager releases the individual from his or her career and, once released, that individual would send a request to attend the First Sergeant Academy. Later the command chief and the individual are notified of the start date at the academy.

Some of the classes at the 3-week academy include legal issues, drill and ceremony and financial responsibility.

“When you’re coming into this career field you don’t know what this job is about until you actually start it,” said Master Sgt. George Jones, 27th Special Operations Logistics Readiness Squadron first sergeant. “And, in my opinion, this is the best job I’ve ever had in the Air Force in 20 years of service.”

“We have the commander’s ear and can get enlisted members’ thoughts and processes out there,” said Master Sgt. Eric

Butt, 27th Special Operations Communications Squadron first sergeant. “We actually have an impact on what goes on in the squadron.”

On top of having commanders’ ears, shirts work closely with others on base such as the wing command chief, chapel staff, mental health workers and the Airman and Family Readiness Center staff.

“If we need help and we need things done, they listen to us and work with us. They help us work the miracles that (Airmen) like to see,” said Sergeant Childers.

“We have a broad knowledge about the different agencies and personnel on the base, but the specific expertise lies with those individual places,” said Master Sgt. John Skaggs, 27th Special Operations Aircraft Maintenance Squadron first sergeant, referring to the liaison role that first sergeants often play.

When situations come up that might be different from an average event, first sergeants can discuss among themselves possible solutions to the problem since they look at one another as peers.

“If we have an issue we haven’t seen before, we can ask one of the other first sergeants,” said Sergeant Butt. “When you can tap into your

peers like that, it helps out a lot.”

A first sergeant is on call as well, said Sergeant Jones, but at the same time is not constrained to a set 7:30a.m. - 4:30 p.m. schedule.

“We’re allowed to float anywhere we need to go. Whatever we need to get our job done, that’s what we’re allowed to do,” said Sergeant Jones.

However, Sergeant Childers added that despite the demands of being a first sergeant, he and other shirts can still have healthy family lives.

“It really doesn’t interfere with our ability to spend quality time with our families,” said Sergeant Childers.

If a first sergeant takes leave or has any situation that requires him to be outside the local area, he can leave his duties in the hands of any number of senior NCOs who are fully qualified to perform the duties of a shirt.

Though their days are long and busy, the first sergeants agree that the pros associated with the job far outweigh the cons.

“It’s the greatest job in the Air Force for an enlisted troop,” said Sergeant Childers. “There is no job that even comes close.”

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**“It’s the greatest job in the Air Force for an enlisted troop,” said Sergeant Childers. “There is no job that even comes close.”**

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970th AACS  
Director of Operations  
By Lt. Col. Dell Robertson

## Heritage matters

A little over a week ago I found myself in a social setting (honoring the Patron Saint of Ireland, no less) attempting to determine if my personal pedigree—a mix of Brit, Scot, and Irishman was worthy of toast. As that discussion evolved it became more and more clear that one's heritage matters.

Regardless of how your ancestors arrived in this great country, we each have a heritage. Many components comprise our various heritages; some bind us together while other aspects may define us as unique. While many relate their heritage to a region or even a state, others would argue its more "generational" (Baby Boomers, Generation X, etc.). As Citizen Airmen, we are a special blend of backgrounds, skill sets, and historical references. While we're not all deemed "historians," by design our positions allow us to often measure careers in decades rather than merely years.

To take that thought a step further, that part of our lives comprising our military heritage is no less pervasive than the range of other significant elements that bind us. As an organization, the Air Force continues to field new equipment, develop new missions and evolve...change happens... that's a fact of life. Regardless of whether or not you believe in the "Paperless Air Force," "Fit to Fight," the F-22 or Airbus Tankers, if you're still here you obviously still believe in something. Maybe that above all else we're still Airmen at heart and

we're still each other's Wingman??? New terms and concepts will continue to take their place in our military reality and the ResAF (seen that one before?) will adapt to concepts of "Operational Reserve," "Battle Rhythm," and "Kill Chains" as Jargon Bingo runs at full speed. While our "company" must evolve, our heritage is timeless. It is our foundation and it matters.

If you've not perused the Airman's Creed lately, take a moment this UTA to do so. It serves us well, it applies across generations and components...as someone once said, "It's something you can hang your hat on". It's something you can stand for. It's more than a pledge to the Nation or to the Company, it's a pledge to each other and it matters.

I'd be remiss if I failed to mention the recent departure of a "fixture" on the Reserve Campus, particularly in a column dedicated to "Heritage." Lt. Col. Mike Tucker (Baby Tuck) certainly added much flavor and his legacy will take its place among the influences spanning (OK, "scarring") multiple generations. We appreciate his contributions and wish him well (and score cards < 70) upon the occasion of his retirement. While we'll miss him he knows we'll fall back on our Heritage and we'll continue the fight and that matters.

If you take nothing else away from this piece of prose, simply "Remember where you came from"... your Heritage—our Heritage makes us who/what we are—it matters.

I was able to finally get around to that toast, and for those that missed it:

*May you have all the  
Happiness and luck that life can hold  
And at the end of all your rainbows  
May you find pots of gold!  
Until next time, Cheers!*

## Unit members earn 2007 AFMC Services Awards

Winners of the 2007 AFMC Services awards were recently announced.

Master Sgt. Deborah G. Kidd, AFMC Services Air Reserve Component Senior Non-commissioned Officer of the Year, serves as superintendent of the 72nd MSG Services Squadron.

Tech. Sgt. Tyesha N. Francis the AFMC Services Air Reserve Component Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. She is the assistant NCOIC of the 72nd MSG Fitness and Sports Center. Senior

Airman Richard A. Shaw was named the AFMC Services Air Reserve Component Airman of the Year. He is the 72nd MSG Linen Exchange Manager.



**Pictured from left: Tech. Sgt. Tyesha Francis, Master Sgt. Deborah Kidd and Airman Richard Shaw.**



## FREE COLLEGE TESTING

Air Force Reserve members, spouses and civilian employees may take DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTs) or College-Level Examinations Program (CLEP) or Excelsior College Examinations (ECE) FREE! (Military Only for Excelsior examinations). These examinations test college-level knowledge you may have gained through your job, reading, travel, or hobbies. You must test at your Reserve DANTES approved test center. Testing at another DANTES test center will be on a case-by-case basis. The third Tuesday of each month at 0800 has been set aside for testing. You must call us four weeks prior to test date to ensure we will have your test. **For more information contact Chief Master Sgt. Charlotte Epps in the MPF Education and Training Office at 734-7075.**

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY PAY (FLPP)

Reservists may apply for FLPP by submitting a written request for FLPP testing to his/her commander. FLPP I requires you to be on a tour of duty that requires the language. FLPP II will pay based on active duty days or IDT periods performed. Spanish and Tagalog speakers are not entitled to FLPP II. If you are proficient at a foreign language and are interested in this program please contact Chief Master Sgt. Charlotte Epps or Master Sgt. Sharon Lochman in the MPF Education Office at 734-7075 for instructions on how to apply for FLPP.

## TUITION ASSISTANCE

Reserve members are eligible to apply for TA for Distance Learning and In-Residence courses to further their education up to a Master's Degree.

### The basic enrollment requirements are that you must:

Be a participating member in good standing (no UIF, Article 15, etc.).

**Retainability: Officers - two years; Enlisted - ETS after course completion.**

Enrollment form must show course number/title, credit hours and cost of tuition.

**Complete TA forms in our office PRIOR to class start date.**

Payment occurs after satisfactory course completion. **You must provide a paid receipt and your grade NLT 60 days after course completion.** TA reimbursement amounts are set at 75 percent (\$4500) per FY (Masters) or 100 percent (\$4500) per FY (Bachelors). **For more information contact Chief Master Sgt. Charlotte Epps or Ms. Kim Silkwood in the MPF Education and Training Office at 734-7075.**

## AFRC NCO LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COURSE

The success of the Air Force Reserve NCO corps depends on their ability to apply leadership and management skills learned primarily in a civilian setting to a military environment. Not all of today's mid-level NCOs have extensive first-hand supervisory experience in a reserve environment; therefore, the instruction in this course is intended to improve the students' military supervisor capabilities and understanding of their positions as related to the USAFR. We focus on individual improvement which is ultimately the real source of organizational excellence and success. **See your unit training manager for upcoming 9-20 June class.**

## FAMILY CARE

If you need to be on the Family Care Plan, notify your first sergeant ASAP - IAW AFI 36-2908. Single parents and dual military couples with children must have a Family Care Plan completed within 90 days of in-processing or family status change.

## VIRTUAL MPF

- Address Changes** - You no longer have to go to 4 different screens/areas to update your address!!!
- Point Summaries** - Point Summaries can also be viewed and printed.
- Record Review RIPs** - You will now be notified via e-mail, on your birthday, to log on to vMPF to review your RIP.
- Awards and decorations** - You can also get a picture display of your awards and decorations.

## HOT TOPICS :

All testing (paper and computer) must be scheduled by sending an e-mail to 507.msf.dpmt@tinker.af.mil with the time and date that you would like to test and include the course number.

**Paper testing** on the UTA is only available at 0750 on Sunday of the main UTA and is in Bldg. 1030 (Hangar) Room 214.

**Computer-based testing** on the UTA is available on Sunday at 0800 and 1300 in Bldg. 1030 (Hangar) in Room 214.

Please schedule all tests NLT 1500 on Friday before the UTA. If you are unable to keep the scheduled time please e-mail the training office or call 734-7075 prior to scheduled testing time. All testing is also available on Wednesdays at 0800 and 1300 and Thursdays at 1300.

**NOTE:** If you are retaking a test, you must bring the authorization letter with you or you will not be allowed to test.

## EDUCATION REMINDER:

This is just to remind everyone who wishes to update their Education Records, officer and enlisted, that we need OFFICIAL transcripts to send or accomplish any updates. This means that it CANNOT say "ISSUED TO STUDENT." You may have the college/university send it, we can request it, or you may bring it in as long as it is in a sealed envelope with a SEAL on the flap AND it does not say "ISSUED TO STUDENT."

**Pass and ID Hours of Operation: 0800 - 1200 on Saturdays of the UTA.**

**IEU open from 1200-1500 on Saturday of the main UTA.**

Nomination packages for AMN, NCO, or SNCO of the quarter are submitted quarterly. Packages are due by 1400, on Saturday of the UTA after the end of the quarter. (Apr, Jul, Oct, Jan)

## FY 2008 UTA SCHEDULE

05-06 Apr 08	03-04 May 08
07-08 Jun 08	12-13 Jul 08
02-03 Aug 08	06-07 Sept 08

As of 27 March 2008



**Fri, 4 April 2008**

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm  
 1400 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room  
 1500 Pre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1066, OG Conf Room  
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1056, 970th Conf Rm

**Sat, 5 April 2008**

**Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated**  
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203  
**0800-1500 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times**  
 0900-0930 6 Month Contact Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm  
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room  
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined  
 1300-1545 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room  
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office  
 1300-1400 Wg. Career Advisor Trng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room  
 1400-1500 Training Managers Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
**Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated**

**Sun, 6 April 2008**

**Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated**  
 1130-1500 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times  
 0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium  
 0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm  
**0750- by appt CDC testing**  
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room  
 0800-1030 Haz Comm Trng (Supvr) Bldg 1030, Room 204  
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm  
 1015-1115 Mandatory 3X0X1 Trng  
**1300. by appt. CDC Testing**  
 1300-1600 First Duty Station  
**1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT**  
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro  
 1500 Wing Commander's Call  
**Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated**

**Fri, 2 May 2008**

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm  
 1400 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room  
 1500 Pre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1066, OG Conf Room  
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1056, 970th Conf Rm

**Sat, 3 May 2008**

**Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated**  
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203  
**0800-1500 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times**  
 0900-0930 6 Month Contact Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm  
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room  
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined  
 1300-1545 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room  
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office  
 1300-1400 Wg. Career Advisor Trng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room  
 1400-1500 Training Managers Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
**Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated**

**Sun, 4 May 2008**

**Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated**  
 1130-1500 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times  
 0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium  
 0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm  
**0750- by appt CDC testing**  
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room  
 0800-1030 Unit Safety Rep Bldg 1030, Room 204  
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm  
 1015-1115 Mandatory 3X0X1 Trng  
**1300. by appt. CDC Testing**  
 1300-1600 First Duty Station  
**1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT**  
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro  
**Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated**

## OCCUPATIONAL SURVEYS

These surveys provide information essential for developing personnel programs, classifying occupations, and developing training programs. The Wing Survey Control Monitor (SCM) works with the Unit Training Manager (UTM) to ensure surveys are completed. AFI 36-2623, paragraph 2.7 makes completion of these surveys mandatory for all Air Force Reserve members. It is extremely important these surveys are completed by the suspense date. If you have any questions, contact Ms. Kim Silkwood or Tech Sgt. Jeremy Hudson at 734-7075 or your UTM.

## Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II are conducted **monthly** in **Bldg 1043, Wing Training Room in basement. Unit/Ancillary Training Managers are responsible for ensuring their new personnel are scheduled to attend** within 90 days of their first UTA. If you have questions, contact the MPF Education & Training Office at **734-7075**.

Day	Time	Subject	OPR
Saturday	1315-1430	Drug and Alcohol, Suicide/ Workplace Violence Prevention	SG
Saturday	1430-1500	Local Conditions/ORM	SE
Saturday	1500-1530	OPSEC Training	OG

Day	Time	Subject	OPR
Sunday	0800-0815	Base Populace	CEX
Sunday	0815-0830	IG Briefing	IG
Sunday	0830-1000	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
Sunday	1000-1030	Counter Intel/Awareness	SF
Sunday	1030-1100	Human Relations	ME

### UCMJ Briefing:

All enlisted personnel are required to have the UCMJ briefing within two UTAs of their first reenlistment. This briefing is held during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0830 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1043, Wing Training Room.

### Ethics Briefing:

All reserve personnel are required to have the DOD Ethics Briefing within 90 days of reporting for duty. This briefing is held in conjunction with the UCMJ briefing during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0830 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1043, Wing Training Room.

### Disaster Preparedness:

Unit Training Managers must schedule Chemical Warfare Training, by name, at least one UTA prior to the requested dates by calling CEX at 734-5249. All personnel must bring a complete training ground crew ensemble (GCE) including the mask and its hood to all classes. Those attending Initial must be prepared to process through a tear agent chamber. Wear of contacts is prohibited in all classes. Anyone arriving late, without a complete GCE with mask, or wearing contacts, will be released back to their unit and reported as a no-show.

**Drug Testing:** You must report within two hours of notification.

## Military Pay

File for pay by:	Receive Direct Deposit by:
01Apr	09Apr
03Apr	11Apr
08Apr	15Apr
10Apr	18Apr
15Apr	23Apr
17Apr	25Apr
21Apr	29Apr
23Apr	01May
29Apr	07May
01May	09May
06May	13May
08May	15May

**Military Pay (405) 734-5016**

### \*\*New MPF Hours\*\*

#### Saturday UTA

Open at 0800 - 1600, except for following closures:  
1300-1330 - Employments/Relocations  
1400-1430 - Career Enhancements  
1500-1530 - Customer Service

#### Sunday UTA

Open at 1130 - 1600

## BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If Last Digit of SSAN is:      Then Forward Listing to Unit Commander in:      Recertification due by end of month in:

1	November	January
2	December	February
3	January	March
4	February	April
5	March	May
6	April	June
7	May	July
8	June	August
9	July	September
0	August	October

**If you need assistance or have suggestions on how we can improve our service to you, please call us at (405) 734-7075, or stop by our office in Building 1043, Room 213.**

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Tech. Sgt. Stacy Morton, Education and Training Advisor

Senior Airman Elvira Munoz, Education and Training Advisor

Ms. Kimberley Silkwood, Testing and Education Advisor (Civilian)



# Postal Service offers first-time military discount

by **Debora Preitkis**  
U.S. Postal Service

WASHINGTON, DC (AFPN) — Planning to send a care package to a military service member serving abroad? A new flat-rate box from the Postal Service that is 50 percent larger and delivered for \$10.95 to an APO/FPO address — \$2 less than for domestic destinations became available March 3.

“This is the first time the Postal Service has offered a special price for our armed forces serving overseas,” said Postmaster Gen. John Potter. “We’re proud that family and friends will be able to use this new larger-sized box to send much appreciated packages from home to our dedicated troops overseas.”

The new priority mail large flat-rate box (12" x 12" x 5-1/2" or 800 cubic inches)

is available in post offices nationwide and customers can order them at [usps.com/](http://usps.com/)



supplies or by calling 800-610-8734. Some of the new boxes are co-branded with the logo of “America Supports You,” which is a Department of Defense program that connects citizens offering support to the military and their families.

“It’s terrific that the Postal Service continues to think of ways to help Americans support our troops and their families. Postage is always a concern when shipping care packages, and this new flat-rate box means our home front groups and supportive citizens can do more with their resources,” said Allison Barber, the deputy

assistant secretary of Defense. “We’re especially pleased that some of the boxes will bear the America Supports You logo reminding our service members that they have our nation’s support.”

The \$2 discount is applied when the priority mail large flat-rate boxes are shipped to an APO/FPO destination. The two existing flat-rate boxes (11-7/8" x 3-3/8" x 13-5/8" and 11" x 8-1/2" x 5-1/2"), which currently retail for \$8.95 for U.S. addresses, are not available for the military discount. All flat-rate boxes can be used for international shipping.

The new flat-rate boxes are available in Post Offices. The America Supports You branded box will be available online, at select post offices near military bases, or by calling 800-610-8734. For additional information, please visit [usps.com](http://usps.com).



Air Force members pictured above answered phones and took pledges on March 8th in support of the 2008 OETA Festival. About a dozen participants from the 507th ARW/513th ACG, base Honor Guard, active duty Services and Security Forces manned the phones for approximately five hours and raised more than \$28,600. Senior Airman Zachary Walker, back left, and his fiancée Lynette, have been volunteering for three years. “It is a great experience all the way around,” said Airman Walker, “It is always rewarding to help the local community.” The Reserves have been participating in the OETA Festival for more than 20 years.

# Government travel card Do's and Don'ts

by Takesha Williams  
507th ARW/FM

Some things to think about before using your travel charge card.

Information below is governed by DOD 7000.14-R, V9, Chap 3, and SAF/FM Ltr dated 12 Aug 2005, Revision to the Interim Guidelines, Procedures, and Responsibilities for the Air Force Travel Card Program (Individually Billed Accounts) dated 6 April 2004 along with SAF/AFAFO GTC Interim Guidelines August 2005.

## DOs

DO use your government travel charge card to pay for official travel expenses (lodging, rental cars, food, registration fees if authorized on the order).

DO track your expenses while on travel so you have accurate information for filing your travel claim.

DO keep your receipts for all transactions made on your travel card.

DO file your travel claim within five days after you complete your trip or every 30 days if you are on continuous travel (e.g. tours 45 days or greater).

a. It's always a good idea to keep an extra copy of your travel claim: copies of pertinent receipts until your claim is paid.

DO submit payment in full for each monthly bill.

a. Split Disbursement – MANDATORY

b. [myeasypayment.com](http://myeasypayment.com) – FREE!!

c. Local Bank of America branch – Be advised that not all locations will accept a payment to the GTC

d. Pay by phone - \$10.00 fee assessed by using this method

DO be aware that misuse of your charge card could result in disciplinary actions.

DO be aware that failure to pay your bill in a timely manner can result in suspension or cancellation of your card.

DO out process with your A/OPC if you retire, resign, or transfer to another

agency.

DO immediately report your lost or stolen card to your A/OPC and the card-issuing bank.

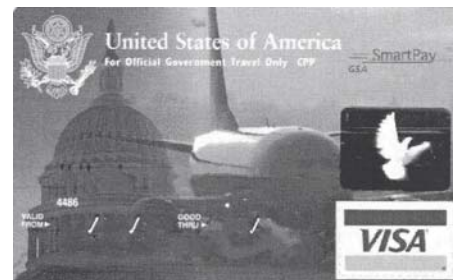
## DON'Ts

DON'T use your travel charge card for personal use such as (school supplies, cleaning supplies, uniforms, clothes from BX, clothing sales or department store, shoes, electronics, alcohol unless with a meal at a restaurant, cigarettes, car repairs, parts, oil changes, car washes even if POV is authorized).

DON'T use your card while on any orders at HOME STATION. A good rule of thumb is if you aren't in a per diem status you shouldn't be using your card.

DON'T obtain travel advances through the ATM unless you are in an AUTHORIZED PER DIEM status and will be on travel orders shortly.

DON'T allow your monthly bill to become overdue because this could result in



suspension or cancellation of your card.

DON'T wait for receipt of your monthly billing statement to file your travel claim.

DON'T forget that the card is issued in your name and liability for payment is your responsibility.

DON'T write your personal identification number (PIN) on your card or carry your PIN in your wallet.

Always use your best judgment before charging anything to this card. If you have any doubt in your mind that something you are about to charge may be illegal, DON'T put it on the GTC.

## A Brief Introduction to AFSO21

by: Capt. Mark Vardaro

Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century (AFSO21) is a continuous improvement program which utilizes a combination of process improvement methodologies and tools centering in Lean Manufacturing, the Theory of Constraints, Business Process Reengineering, and Six Sigma principles.

The Air Force is no different than civilian industry in that it must do more with less. Mandates have been established that will decrease our operating expense by the year 2010. To do this, AFSO21 will help us develop a culture that promotes the elimination of waste, sharing of best practices and the reduction of cycle times across all products and services. Resource constraints, aging equipment, an estimated 6 percent annual in-

crease in manpower costs, as well as major manpower reductions could have a significant impact on the 507th. AFSO21 will help the 507th build combat capability through continuous process improvement. A primary focus of the program is the development of a culture that promotes the elimination of waste, ensuring that all Airmen understand their role within saving resources and eliminating waste, as well as the continuous improvement of processes. The program embraces everyone (officers, enlisted, and civilians).

Over the weeks to come, we will be developing and deploying our wing AFSO21 program. You will see articles within the *On Final* designed to help keep you informed, educated, as well as solicit feedback and volunteers to assist with the program.



# AFA First Command Educational Foundation

AIR FORCE EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP 2008  
Scholarship Application

**Conditions of Eligibility:** U. S. Air Force service members, their spouses and dependent children (under the age of 23) of active duty and Air Force Reserve/Air National Guard personnel may apply for the AFA-FCEF Air Force Excellence Scholarship. Eligibility will be determined by using the DEERS database. Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are currently enrolled in the DEERS database and that they have a current military ID card.

Applicants must be enrolled or planning to enroll, full time or part time in the fall of 2008 in an undergraduate or graduate program of studies leading to an Associates, Bachelors or Masters Degree at an accredited college or university.

The awards are made without regard to race, creed, color, sex, religious belief, national origin, rank or length of service of the sponsor. These awards are made without regard to financial need.

This scholarship was created by the Air Force Association in partnership with the First Command Educational Foundation, who provided the funding for the award. Five (5) scholarships in the amount of \$3000 each will be awarded. These awards are made without regard to financial need.

**Program Administration:** The program is administered by the Air Force Association, an independent, nonprofit, civilian education organization promoting public understanding of aerospace power and the pivotal role it plays in the security of our nation. The Air Force Association is solely responsible for the selection of the scholarship recipients and its decisions are final. Please direct any questions or concerns to Ann Sagle at (800) 727-3337, ext. 4869.

Five (5) scholarships in the amount of \$3,000 each will be awarded. The First Command Educational Foundation will coordinate with the winners to assign the scholarship award to their selected school. Payment will be made directly to the school by the First Command Educational Foundation.

Applicants must submit the Scholarship Application Form and three essays to the Air Force Association no later than April 30, 2008. This is a receipt date, not a postmark date.

A copy of the application is located in J Drive: Wing Photographs, titled: AFA-FCEF Scholarship Application.

Please return this 2-page application and essays to Air Force Association Air Force Excellence Scholarship, 1501 Lee Highway Arlington, VA 22209-2298

Please do not fax or e-mail any portion of the application.

All materials must be received in our office by April 30, 2008. This is NOT a postmark deadline date.

## Airmen can submit dress, appearance ideas online

This week, top Air Force leaders came together for a two-day forum called CORONA. At the forum, Lt. Gen. Richard Newton III, deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services at the Pentagon, announced that Airmen will now be able to submit ideas for improving dress and appearance standards to the new Virtual Uniform Board. This program allows individuals to submit uniform change requests through the Air Force's IDEA Program.

Once an idea is submitted it is then routed through the same channels as other IDEA suggestions. Major commands will have the ability to coordinate on ideas from Airmen in their command, and uniform change requests that successfully make it to Air Force Headquarters level will be reviewed by the Air Force Uniform Board. The first

VUB will take place in early May.

This revolutionary process makes it easier for Airmen to submit suggestions and better define ideas. The Virtual Uniform Board will allow Air Force leadership to be more responsive to the field



and provide more flexibility to board members while saving time and money.

The AFUB is chaired by General Newton, and board members include the

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, and representatives from each MAJCOM and Air Staff Directorate. The AFUB reviews uniform change requests, then generates a list of recommendations to be forwarded to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force. Once the Chief of Staff makes a final decision, the results are announced and implementation plans are developed as required.

To submit a uniform change request, visit the IDEA Program website at <https://ipds.csd.disa.mil> (CAC required) and select "Submit a Uniform Change Request." Users must establish a username and password. Questions regarding dress and appearance standards should be directed to local leadership. For more information contact the Air Force Personnel Center Contact Center at (800) 616-3775 option 1, 1, 2.

## AAFES Rewards Academic Achievement

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is extending a host of straight “A” savings to military students who are demonstrating above-average academic achievement. As part of AAFES’ “You Made the Grade” effort, students who maintain a “B” average are eligible to receive a variety of complimentary exchange offers for every qualifying report card they bring home.

The current “You Made the Grade” booklet includes coupons for a free Burger King Hamburger Kids meal,

complimentary admission for two to the nearest Reel Time movie theater and a free magazine from the local BookMark. In addition to money saving offers, the booklet also contains an entry form for a quarterly savings bond drawing in which three winners are randomly awarded savings bonds of \$2,000, \$3,000 or \$5,000.

“‘You Made the Grade’ offers a practical learning experience for AAFES’ youngest shoppers,” said AAFES’ Commander Brig. Gen. Keith Thurgood. “The coupons and the sweepstakes are tangible

examples of how it pays to be smart and work hard in school.”

To receive the AAFES “You Made the Grade” booklet, students simply present a valid military ID card and proof of an overall “B” or better average to their local BX.

Students may receive one coupon package for every qualifying report card, but may enter the savings bond drawing only once per calendar quarter.

Contact the AAFES Main Store Manager or General Manager for more details.

## HRDC program to mentor new 5-level Airmen

One of your most valuable benefits in the Air Force Reserve is access to outstanding higher education opportunities.

One such opportunity, the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) is a fully accredited college headquartered at Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL. It is the world’s largest community college with an enrollment of over 300,000 active duty, guard and reserve members. CCAF offers 67 different associate degrees in five general areas of study. The student earns an associate degree after completing just 64 semester hours including 24 hours of technical training in his/her career field. Next, the student can use these credits at accredited four- year institutions to earn a baccalaureate degree either through a traditional campus setting or distance learning.

Additionally, Air University aligns CCAF degree programs with industry standards that lead to certification eligibility upon completion of an applicable degree giving you a competitive edge in the job market.

To further awareness of CCAF programs the 507th Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) has initiated a program to mentor all newly awarded journeyman (5-level qualification) on CCAF. The point of contact for this initiative will be the 507 wing training office who will set up appointments with each individual on a one-on-one basis. All airmen are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the knowledge and experience of our education specialists to maximize your educational experience.

## Five years of VA health care for combat Veterans

WASHINGTON - Military veterans who served in combat since Nov. 11, 1998, including veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, are now eligible for five years of free medical care for most conditions from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This measure increases a two-year limit that has been in effect nearly a decade.

“By their service and their sacrifice, America’s newest combat veterans have earned this special eligibility period for VA’s world-class health care,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake.

The five-year deadline has no effect upon veterans with medical conditions

related to their military service. Veterans may apply at any time after their discharge from the military — even decades later — for medical care for service-connected health problems.

The new provision, part of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 signed by President Bush on Jan. 28, 2008, applies to care in a VA hospital, outpatient clinic or nursing home. It also extends VA dental benefits — previously limited to 90 days after discharge for most veterans — to 180 days.

Combat veterans who were discharged between Nov. 11, 1998 and Jan. 16, 2003, and who never took advantage of VA’s health care system, have until Jan.

27, 2011 to qualify for free VA health care.

The five-year window is also open to activated Reservists and members of the National Guard, if they served in a theater of combat operations after Nov. 11, 1998 and were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.

Veterans who take advantage of this five-year window to receive VA health care can continue to receive care after five years, although they may have to pay copayments for medical problems unrelated to their military service. Copayments range from \$8 for a 30-day supply of prescription medicine to \$1,024 for the first 90 days of inpatient care each year.



# Development teams provide career opportunities

by Senior Master Sgt. Kelly Mazezka  
Air Reserve Personnel Center Public Affairs

DENVER — Ten to 15 minutes is all it takes to radically change an Air Force Reserve career - or not.

It's ultimately up to the members to decide if they want to move up, move on or just stay put. But in any case, completing a Reserve Officer Development Plan can help make it happen.

The R-ODP is Reserve officers' opportunity to communicate with their supervisors, commanders and career field leaders on what they want out of their careers - and learn how to get there. R-ODPs can be completed online at <https://arpc.afrc.af.mil/vPC-GR/rodp.asp>.

R-ODPs are studied by career-specific development teams that convene at the Air Reserve Personnel Center here. The 22 career fields that have met to date have provided more than 14,000 vectors, and have recommended many officers for continued education and 872 for command certification.

But does it work? Is it worth the effort? Ask Lt. Col. Judi Patton, a traditional reservist in the Medical Services Corps. A true traditional reservist with no prior active-duty experience, Colonel Patton spent her entire 20-year military career with the 911th Airlift Wing at Pittsburgh, Pa.

She completed her R-ODP for the June 2007 Medical Services Corps DT, and the DT decided she was command certified - they saw her leadership potential. Because of the DT, she was recommended, and subsequently chosen, for the position of the 926th Aerospace Medicine Flight commander at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

"Would I have had command opportunities at the 911th?" she asked. "Yes, probably. But they would have been limited."

Colonel Patton was one of five Air Force Reserve Medical Services Corps officers identified as command certified during the June DT who were then selected for command billets.

"Instead of looking at a small group of applicants, commanders can choose from a much larger pool of individu-

als identified by the DT," said Col. John Whitchurch, the Air Force Reserve Medical Services Corps career field manager, who leads the Medical Services Corps DTs. "They can choose the most qualified, rather than the most senior. We give them options.

"Through force development, the Air Force Reserve gets much better rounded officers, more able to support the mission because of their broader experiences," he said. "It increases the capabilities of the Air Force Reserve. I see force development as nothing but positive."

But traveling across the country to perform Reserve duty is not practical for many reservists. Not to worry, said Lt. Col. Vince Bugeja, Force Development Division chief. "We hold fast to the Citizen Airmen concept," he said. "We are Reservists: we have civilian careers and families. We don't all have the same flexibility. We understand and honor that."

The DTs can't know, however, if Airmen don't tell them. "Are you happy where you are? Do you have higher aspirations? Just open your heart," the colonel suggested. "Filling out an R-ODP is not an extensive process like completing an OPR. You don't have to use fancy words or worry about filling all the space available."

Once members complete their R-ODPs, Colonel Bugeja said it's critical to get their leaders' recommendation. He suggests Airmen contact their career field manager to decide who can sign the R-ODPs.

Continuing to develop its own force, the force development team recently hired Maj. Kurt Schuh and Lt. Col. Patti Pettine as the first assignment facilitators. A career intelligence officer, Major Schuh participated in the Jan. 21-25 intelligence DT, and will now help intelligence Airmen understand what opportunities are available and provide commanders a deeper candidate pool from which to choose. Colonel Pettine will facilitate the civil engineer officers, Colonel Bugeja said.

"Assignment facilitation will first encourage all officers to complete the R-ODP," he said. "When we come to the end of a DT, we provide counsel - we call them vectors - to the Airmen. Once the vector is out, we ask, 'Do you understand the counsel?' Finally, we try to identify members wanting to take action and help them make it happen."

For the latest force development information, visit <http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/library/developmentteams/index.asp>.

For more information, contact the Air Reserve Personnel Center Public Affairs office at 303-676-6515 or DSN 926-6515.



# Making the right choices

By Senior Airman Zach Anderson  
507th ARW Public Affairs

For a newly enlisted Airman, the first few months of service can be both exhilarating and baffling. From the initial explosion of frantic activity at basic training to the intense fast-paced instruction of technical school to the challenges of in-processing with a new unit, it's quite easy for a young Airman to become somewhat overwhelmed by the entire experience. With all of this going on, it's vital for Airmen to have some help in making the most of the Air Force career. That's where the role of the Career Assistance Advisor comes into play.

"Our primary goal is to assist our wing members in remaining in the Air Force Reserve by giving them whatever assistance is necessary to make an informed decision about their career," said Master Sgt. Mark Wilson,

Wing Career Assistance Advisor for the 507th Air Refueling Wing.

Wilson has been serving in the role of Wing Career Assistance Advisor for seven months. He said it is important that wing members maintain contact with their respective career assistance advisor.

"The career assistance advisor has the latest information on re-enlistment, extensions, cross training and bonuses," Wilson said.

The service provided by the career assistance advisors is not just for new Airmen. Wilson said all enlisted members can benefit from the guidance of an advisor. In fact, he said many times Airmen are not aware of the benefits and opportunities available to them. Once informed, he said Airmen are able to make better career decisions.

"We advertise to ensure our Airmen are aware of their opportunities



Master Sgt. Mark Wilson, Wing Career Assistance Advisor

## 507th ARW Career Assistance Advisors

### 507 MSG

Master Sgt. Marvin Wade

### 507 MXS

Master Sgt. Taunya Avery

### 507 OG

Senior Master Sgt. Shannon  
Fipps

### 513 ACG

Master Sgt. Michelle Macfarlane

### 507 MDS

Chief Master Sgt. Jennifer  
Blease

in the Air Force Reserve. Our career assistance advisors will sit down with them to discuss their options so that they make well informed decisions," Wilson said.

Wilson said another goal of career assistance advisors is to retain members within the Air Force Reserve. He said he believes that as Airmen become better informed about their opportunities, they will be more willing to re-enlist and continue their Air Force careers.

"We are willing to give them information so they can make decisions that are right for their situation," Wilson said. "The career assistance advisors are here to help them make informed choices about their careers in the Air Force Reserve."

Currently, Airmen seeking career assistance are encouraged to see their supervisor or first sergeant. In the future, Wilson said there will be a bulletin board in the Military Personnel Flight office on the second floor of building 1048 featuring pictures of the 507th wing and group career assistance advisors, as well as contact information for each.



# Parting shot



Col. James McDonnell, 507th Maintenance Group commander, recently pinned on his new rank with the help of his wife Wendy and Bill Freniere, former deputy commander for the 507th Maintenance Group.

Photo by Senior Airman Zach Anderson

## On-final

### R-News

#### Overdue fit tests affect OPR/EPRs

If a member is not current on their fit test (regardless if they passed the previous year) the performance report will be a referral report. Please make sure if someone is coming due for a performance report that they are current on their fit test.

#### Dining facility is under construction

Very limited seating will be available this month and next in the dining facility due to construction work to upgrade the HVAC system. The only dining area that will be open is the Route 66 area in the back.

The facility recommends personnel take advantage of the carry-out service; they **will not** do box lunches to replace the regular meal. The Vanwey should be back to normal during the June UTA.

#### OKC Marathon volunteers needed

The OKC Memorial Marathon will be held April 27. Volunteers are needed to man stations. Deadline to sign up is April 21.

If interested, visit [www.okcmarathon.com](http://www.okcmarathon.com) and click on the volunteer info tab. The sponsoring organization is 507 ARW-CM. If you have questions, contact Takesha Williams, Reserve Team Captain, at 734-7207, or email her.

### 507th ARW recruiters

<http://get1now.us>



#### Tinker AFB, OK

(In-Service Recruiter)  
Tech Sgt. Neil Lambrecht  
(405) 739-2980

#### Moore, Norman, OK

Staff Sgt. Jackie Harris  
(405) 217-8311

#### Midwest City, OK

Tech. Sgt. Melissa Melichar  
(405) 733-9403

#### Tulsa, OK

Tech Sgt. Bill Joseph  
(918) 250-3400

#### Altus, OK

Master. Sgt. Ronald Gregory  
(580) 481-5123

#### McConnell AFB, KS

Sr. Master Sgt. David McCormick  
(316) 759-3830  
Master Sgt. Stephan Kimbrough  
(In-Service Recruiter)  
(316) 759-3766  
Staff Sgt. Jason Sommers  
(316) 681-2522

#### Vance AFB, OK

Master Sgt. Stephan Kimbrough  
(316) 759-3766