

FALCON

FLYER

Magazine of the 94th Airlift Wing
Vol. 3, No. 4 April 2012

FSS builds sweat equity

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Vol. 3, No. 4 April 2012



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ON THE COVER >> Airman 1st Class Darius Graham, 94th Force Support Squadron, attaches a canvas panel to a Single Pallet Expeditionary Kitchen frame, March 7. FSS Reservists performed annual tour training March 5-9, to stay proficient or upgrade their specialized Air Force skills. Some items covered were dress and appearance, family care, safety and Self Aid Buddy Care. (photo by Brad Fallin)



Maj. Lance G. Avery, 700th Airlift Squadron, explains the role of the C-130 simulator to guests from Niagara Falls, N.Y. March 23. The group was visiting Dobbins as part of the Air Force's civic leader tour program. (photo by Don Peek)



Why Family Care Plans are important

By Master Sgt. Stephen Winters
94th Force Support Squadron

Probably one of the most challenging aspects of being a Citizen Airman is balancing what has been described as the proverbial “three legged stool”. Reservists must work to balance their lives to provide equal attention to family, employer and country.

Preserving the viability of the Reserve Triad is one of Air Force Reserve Command’s top priorities.

Our families are the corner-stone of our existence. Neglect in this area of our lives can cause tremendous problems with everything else we do and knock us off that “stool”. One of the most important considerations of family readiness is to ensure that your family is taken care of during times of



Master Sgt. Stephen Winters

drills, annual training, mobilization and deployment. Since families come in all configurations and may include spouses, children, parents, grandparents, siblings or significant others, we must provide

them with the necessary support to keep all of these relationships happy and healthy.

A quality Family Care Plan not only provides for the needs of our family members when forward deployed, but under circumstances when we are “deployed in place” to cover home station missions or national emergencies.

A Family Care Plan is very important for all families, and is especially critical for single parents and dual military parents and under circumstances when there may be an adult in the household incapable of self-care.

A Family Care Plan should be developed whether you expect to be deployed or not; taking care of these considerations now will help you and your family be prepared for any period of separation.

ORE insures units are deployment-ready

By Senior Airman Spencer Gallien
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Members of the 94th Airlift Wing participated in a Phase I Operational Readiness Exercise March 2 to assess its ability to deploy Reservists and equipment on short notice.

As part of the exercise, Airmen processed through a personnel deployment function line. The line ensures the deploying servicemembers are adequately prepared for deployment. Equipment was palletized and loaded in preparation to be flown overseas as part of the base exercise.

This ORE had special significance for many Airmen who processed through the Personnel Deployment Function line during the exercise as the 700th AS will be one the first Dobbins units to deploy after the base transitioned from Air Education and Training Command to Air Mobility Command.

“This exercise is a trial-run for our upcoming deployment,” said Master Sgt. Richard Grady, 700th Airlift Squadron instructor loadmaster. “Going through the exercise has a direct impact on us, not only for training purposes, but it allows our Airmen to process a deployment line early on so they can be fully deployable.”

As the Airmen processed through the line, they met with medical staff for needed immunizations, chaplains for spiritual assistance, legal professionals and other organization representatives for advice and to be cleared to deploy.

“Going through this ORE while also preparing to deploy is really a great opportunity,” said Master Sgt. Houston Gilliland, 700th AS first sergeant. “This allows the base to prepare for upcoming ORIs, while our young Airmen get to experience what it will be like when it comes time for us to deploy.”

Senior Airman Andrew Alexandersen, 700th Airlift Squadron loadmaster, directs the positioning of a K loader from the back of a C-130H aircraft to unload cargo pallets during an Operational Readiness Exercise here March 2. Members of the 94th Airlift Wing participated in the ORE to test their ability to deploy personnel and equipment during the March Unit Training Assembly. (photo by Brad Fallin)

AROUND THE PATTERN



Col. Steven R. Clayton, 94th Operations Group commander, answers questions during a briefing for International Air Attaché members here as part of a three state tour of Little Rock, Arkansas, Atlanta, Georgia and San Antonio, Texas, March 26. (photo by Don Peek)



Col. Tim Tarchick, 94th Airlift Wing commander, and Airman 1st Class Cody McComber, youngest member of the 94th Maintenance Squadron, "pin" Colonel insignia on Col. Augusto Casado, 94th MXG commander, during his promotion ceremony March 4. (photo by Master Sgt. James Branch)



Base contractors sweep asphalt in preparation for repaving the parking lot at building 838, March 14. Various base locations received new parking surfaces this spring. (photo by Brad Fallin)



Col. Tim Tarchick, 94th Airlift Wing commander, meets with Congressman John Lewis, one of the members of Georgia's Congressional Delegation during his annual visit to Capitol Hill, March 28. Tarchick discussed the wing's mission and the impact recent force structure announcements will have on it in the future. Other topics discussed were Dobbins Air Reserve Base manpower, training and military construction projects. (photo by Lt. Col. James R. Wilson)



Col. Tim Tarchick, 94th Airlift Wing commander presents Harold Huddleston, civil engineer with his Commanders' coin March 21. Huddleston retired from the Dobbins Civil Engineer flight after serving since 1971. After serving eight years of active duty here, Huddleston left the military to pursue a second college degree, and joined to the Air Force Reserve. He retired from the Reserve at the rank of lieutenant colonel and continued to work as a civil servant until his March 2012 retirement. (photo by Brad Fallin)



Basketball teams participate in a tournament hosted by the 94th Force Support Squadron at the base gym March 22. Participates were Georgia Army National Guard Recruiters, Naval Reserve Depot Atlanta, 94th Maintenance Squadron, Navy Operations Support Center Atlanta, 122nd Regional Training Institute, Marine Corps, Old School and the 94th Security Forces Squadron. (photo by Priscilla Levister)

Dobbins DEP program gets a makeover

By Senior Airman Chelsea Smith
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The overhead projector displays the words of the Airman's Creed as approximately 40 Air Force Reserve recruits stand with chins raised and fists clinched.

"Hands like you're holding a role of quarters, thumbs along the seam of your pants, feet at a 45 degree angle," said Master Sgt. Robert Dunn, Air Force Reserve recruiter, as he explains how to properly stand at attention. "And don't lock your knees."

The flight recites the creed as they prepare for an upcoming visit from leadership and a long-term career in the Air Force Reserve.

Verhulst Hall played host to the group of recruits in the Delayed Enlistment Program, or DEP, who gathered for four hours during the March UTA.

Effective April 1, current "Deppers" and new recruits are scheduled to become a part of the Developmental and Training Flight, or D&TF, here under the leadership of Tech Sgt. Gregory Meghoo, NCOIC, 94th D&TF.

The D&TF, initiated by headquarters Air Force Reserve Command/A1 program, imposed the process to minimize DEP and Basic Military Training, or BMT losses, said Dunn.

Now led by a group of recruiters, the DEP program here prepares recruits for BMT, by teaching foundational skills including how to salute, say a reporting statement, maintain proper appearance and recite the Airman's Creed. Deppers are also encouraged to share their reason for joining the Air Force Reserve.

Generally, recruiters provide information essential to the success of the recruits once they ship to BMT. Arranged in an open forum atmosphere, topics can include what to pack, survival tips and remaining eligible before shipment.

Though a vast amount of information is dispersed, there are limits to the amount of involvement recruiters can have with their recruits, said Dunn.

"With Tech Sgt. Meghoo, they have a dedicated wingman to support them throughout the DEP," said Dunn. "Recruiters will be less visible once D&TF commences, so if they have any issues that arise, he'll be the main point of contact."

Meghoo's duties will expand to include conducting physical training sessions, teaching military customs and courtesies, Air Force core values, and marching and facing movements. With the new program in place, recruits are expected to participate the full UTA weekend, said Meghoo.

A 1984 Silver Olympic medalist and previous fitness instructor, Meghoo said physical fitness will be a key component in getting recruits up to BMT standards, but he promises to make it fun.

"The goal is to have these recruits get to BMT ahead of the game," said Meghoo. "I'm mentally and physically prepared to train this flight; and I'm willing to learn."

With a blueprint already

in place, Meghoo said he is studying an existing program at Youngstown Air Reserve Station and plans to replicate and build upon the program they have already established.

"I also plan to follow in the footsteps of the recruiters," said Meghoo. "They've got a great program going and I want to pattern some of the great leadership opportunities they've given to their recruits."

94th Airlift Wing leadership, and recruiters have high expectations of the group and Meghoo.

"I believe he's going to be an outstanding leader and mentor for these recruits," said Dunn. "He's sharp, well-qualified, and I think he's going to bring a lot to the program."

The DEP program started more than two years ago at Dobbins and has succeeded in preparing recruits for the challenges of BMT. The D&TF is an extension of the DEP program.

Visit www.dobbins.afrc.af.mil to read this complete article and for more photos.

CE does its part to protect base resources

By Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Gaston
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

In an effort to make the airfield more secure, Dobbins Air Reserve Base Civil Engineering recently completed construction and renovations of six vehicle gates and two pedestrian gates along the perimeter of the airfield area.

The new gates will increase security capabilities around the airfield helping to protect valuable Air Force Reserve assets, said Don Stamps from Dobbins ARB Civil Engineering.

This project included replacing four existing vehicle gates and one pedestrian gate, he said.

Also, installation of two new vehicle gates and one pedestrian gate was completed.

Five of the six vehicle gates included electric operators with

entry by remote controls, proximity cards or keypads. Also provided were approximately 1700 linear feet of chain link fence. Total cost of the project was \$362,000.

Dobbins ARB Civil Engineering is responsible for programming, design, and construction of projects, said Kenneth Williams, the Dobbins ARB Civil Engineer. Civil Engineering oversees construction, with the construction inspectors, and ensures that the command gets the products they pay for.

Locations for the new gates are: Seventh Street, east end of Hangar 5, east end of Hangar 555, east end of base operations, southeast corner of hangar 1011 and north end of Taxiway Alpha. The three methods of entry allow access and tracking capability for personnel on the airfield.



Keypads recently installed at base airfield entrance gates help increase security and accountability around Dobbins Air Reserve Base. (photo by Brad Fallin)



Airman 1st Class Darius Graham and Senior Airman Kenneth Beck serve lunch prepared in the 94th Force Support Squadron's Single Pallet Expeditionary Kitchen at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., Mar. 7. The SPEK is highly mobile and is used in remote and undeveloped areas; it fits on a single cargo pallet. In approximately two hours, the SPEK can be up and ready for service. (photo by Brad Fallin)

94TH FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON TESTS ITS METTLE DURING SPECIALIZED SKILLS TRAINING



94th Force Support Squadron members prepare to cover an equipment pallet with plastic sheeting during a pallet build-up exercise at base supply Mar. 8. Reservist with the 94th FSS performed and received annual tour training March 5-9 to stay proficient or upgrade their specialized Air Force skills. (photo by Brad Fallin)

By Senior Airman Christina Bozeman

94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The joining of two separate entities is never an easy or quick process. The 94th Services Squadron and Mission Support Services merged Dec. 1, 2010, creating the 94th Force Support Squadron.

Many challenges came about. Although change is difficult, the 94th FSS is now one unit and is moving forward.

"It's always challenging to take separate units and merge them together," said Lt. Col. David Dick, 94th Force Support Squadron commander.

"It's difficult to transition to take two different missions and cultures and rebuild them as one culture."

94th Services' mission was comprised of Morale, Welfare, and Recreation, Consolidated Club, Tickets & Tours, 94th Airlift Wing Honor Guard, mortuary affairs and installation readiness. 94th Mission Support Services' (Personnel) included manpower and personnel, services sustainment, force development and Airmen and family readiness.

"There were also structural changes that we put into effect in order to facilitate the merger," said Dick.



Oscar Chambers, 94th Logistics Readiness Squadron supply specialist, explains functions of a cargo top net to 94th Force Support Squadron members during pallet build-up training at base supply, Mar. 8. Reservists from the 94th FSS performed and received annual tour training as a unit to upgrade skill levels and foster unit cohesiveness. (photo by Brad Fallin)

Both units are “people oriented,” so for many, it was a logical choice merge them.

“We physically consolidated a lot of the 94th FSS personnel Aug. 11,” Dick stated.

Members of the squadron received and performed training during annual tour March 5-9 in order to continue and upgrade their specialized Air Force skills.

“The main point of the Annual Tour was to complete Annual Training and to foster unit morale and cohesion,” said Master Sgt. Mark K. Brown, 94th FSS chief of personnel systems.

94th FSS members trained on the assembly and set-up an Alaska personnel shelter, which provides protection for personnel, equipment and supplies in all types of extreme climate and terrain,

pallet build-up and transporting cargo on a C-130 aircraft and Self Aid and Buddy Care, which entails basic life support and limb-saving techniques to help wounded or injured personnel survive in medical emergencies.

Among the training, a Single Pallet Expeditionary Kitchen for a Troop Feeding was held at the Dobbins Lakeside softball field. The training is held quarterly.

“The SPEK set-up serves as training, as well as our troop-feeding,” said Capt. Bethany George, 94th FSS Services Officer.

The SPEK is highly mobile and is used in remote and undeveloped areas; it fits on a single cargo pallet. In the span of two hours, the SPEK can be up and ready for service.

Ultimately, the 94th FSS

trains to be capable and ready to deploy at a moment’s notice, to maintain a state of 100 percent readiness.

“Everyone did an exceptional job during annual training, and continues to work together as a cohesive unit,” said Dick.



Senior Airman Stephanie Athey simulates an injury as Tech. Sgt. Shavonne Cooper and Senior Airman Lamar McKnight prepare to transport her for treatment. Members of the 94th FSS performed the two-person carry in a Self-aid and Buddy Care class during their annual tour, March 7. (photo by Brad Fallin)

Remembering the Holocaust

By Senior Airman Christina Bozeman
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

If you don't know the history of the Holocaust, it's impossible to know the true story and accounts of what the Jewish people and other nationalities went through during World War II.

The Nazi regime came into power in Germany in January 1933 until May 1945 and persecuted the Jewish, Jehovah's Witnesses, homosexuals, blacks, the Polish, Roma and Sinti ("Gypsies"), persons with

disabilities and Soviet Prisoners of War.

During those eleven years, approximately 6 million Jews and other targeted groups were persecuted for just being who they were. It's hard to look back without harbored feelings of some sort of disgust and outrage at the kind of senseless hatred that was displayed towards them. However, the biggest obstacle is to get past the disturbing scenes and move towards the remembering.

Congress established the Days of Remembrance as the nation's annual commemora-

tion of the Holocaust and created the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as a permanent living memorial to the victims. Holocaust remembrance week is April 15–22, 2012. The theme designated by the Museum for the 2012 observance is Choosing to Act: Stories of Rescue.

There are so many ways to remember and discover Holocaust history. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is in Washington, DC where there are multiple exhibits, activities and films. The Hall of Remembrance in the

museum is the national memorial to victims of the Holocaust. The hall is simple space that is designated for public ceremonies and individual reflection. Not only is the content of the museum especially chosen, but the architecture and artwork was also handpicked by a jury and distinctly selected and embodies deep meaning.

Once you know about the Holocaust, it's impossible to remember without recalling the brutal past; however, through education and history, those who were lost will never be forgotten.

H2H helps Reservists find employment

By Senior Airman Danielle Campbell Purnell
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Two major challenges facing the nation are unemployment and underemployment.

These epidemics are especially severe for junior enlisted members of the National Guard and Reserve. A 2011 survey of them showed a 23 percent unemployment rate in pay grades E-1 through E-4.

In response to these issues, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs launched "Hero2Hired," better known as H2H, in December.

The Department of Defense wants reserve component people to have civilian jobs that provide stability while allowing them the time and resources to contribute to the nation's defense.

"Servicemembers and their families should not have to sacrifice economic security because they stepped forward to serve our country," said retired Army Maj. Gen. Ronald Young, director of Family and Employer Programs and Policy.

"Right now America's military members are returning to a challenging work environment," said Young, who also serves as executive director of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. "H2H.jobs (the program's website) aims to simplify the job search while reducing the number of unemployed reserve component service members."

According to the website, H2H.jobs isn't just another job site for military people. Instead, it's a Yellow Ribbon-funded, multi-faceted program for reservists. The program supports them through an electronic job and career web platform, mobile applications and Facebook integration and virtual and physical career fairs.

In addition to the interactive website with job listings, career exploration tools and networking opportunities, H2H offers a military skills translator, job-seeker profile builders, social networking and mobile offices.

"The military skills translator allows applicants to enter their military occupational code to get a list of career paths that fit their military training and experience," said Jim Strickland, ESGR-reserve component liaison for Air Force Reserve Command.

Likewise, the career assessment surveys an applicant's skills and interest to help determine what career types best fit the person's background.

All of these items together assist with making reserve component members mission ready.

"We see the high unemployment rate as a clear threat to the readiness of our force," Young said. "We view civilian employment as an important piece of a reserve component servicemember's

readiness."

In the past year, ESGR and H2H have assisted the National Chamber of Commerce in its hiring fairs across the country.

At more than 100 events in 45 states and the District of Columbia, more than 84,000 veterans, reserve component members and military spouses have been connected with nearly 5,000 different employers. As a result, more than 8,400 people have gained employment.

Georgia currently has two H2H kiosks that are being used at various events including yellow-ribbon, family days and career fairs, said Penelope Harbour, employer support specialist based out of Dobbins.

Harbour said the program has been huge for servicemembers in its streamlining of the job search process and cutting back on time spent searching for jobs.

"We encourage all reserve component members to contact the ESGR with personal success stories," said Harbour. "That would be a direct way for us to track the effectiveness of this tool."

This year H2H is sponsoring 40 "Hiring Our Heroes" job fairs in locations with high reserve component unemployment.

Reservists can find information about these job fairs at <https://h2h.jobs>.



Dobbins celebrates the life and service of management analyst

Cindy Ruth Ames, management analyst, was honored during a Celebration of Life Service at New Victoria Baptist Church, Woodstock, Ga., March 7.

Born in Flint, Mich., Ames served the Dobbins community since May 2005.

Her career as a civil servant lasted for 23 years. She died at age 57 March 4.

Ames was awarded the Air Force Reserve Command Cost Analyst of the Year in 2009. She was named Inspector General Professional Performer and one

of six members recognized as superior performers during last base Unit Compliance Inspection in 2008.

She received the Special Act or Service Award in 2005, and was awarded U.S. Air Force Non-Appropriated Fund Financial Supervisor of the Year in 1988.

Ames also received the Strategic Air Command Non-Appropriated Fund Financial Supervisor Award in 1986 and the SAC Outstanding Performance Award in 1983.



Airman 1st Class Kendra Chunn, 94th Force Support Squadron and guest speak with Senior Master Sgt. Bryan Schexnayder, 94th Recruiting Squadron, before attending a Daughtry concert at the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center, March 27. Participants of the Air Force Reserves Get 1 Now program attended the concert as a reward for referring qualified people to join the 94th Airlift Wing. Airmen who referred new members received two VIP tickets and backstage photos with the band. (photo by Staff Sgt. Lindsey Black)



Sexual Assault Awareness Month

By Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Gaston
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Nationally, Sexual Assault Awareness Month occurs in April and brings an annual opportunity to focus awareness on sexual violence and its prevention. This year's theme "Hurts one. Affects all... Preventing sexual assault is everyone's duty.

"This year's campaign focuses on the effects sexual assault has on the military's mission readiness," said Janine Bemis, 94th Airlift Wing sexual assault response coordinator

As is readily understood throughout

the military, mission readiness defines a unit's ability to deploy quickly and efficiently.

A sexual assault can reverberate throughout a unit and beyond, degrading readiness by harming the life of the victim, and the military's ability to work effectively as a team.

This theme provides SARC's the opportunity to speak with commanders and senior enlisted leaders about maintaining mission readiness and preventing this crime.

"Hurts one. Affects all" not only conveys that sexual assault affects the victim, it also affects bystanders," said Bemis.

"Preserving mission readiness can serve, then, as motivation for acts of bystander intervention."

DoD policies address sexual assault prevention and seek to establish a climate of confidence in which:

Education and training create an environment in which sexual assault and the attitudes that promote it are not tolerated

Victims of sexual assault receive the care and support that they need; and offenders are held accountable for their actions.

To report Sexual Assault, contact the Dobbins SARC at 678-758-5844.



Wing Family Day June 3

The 94th Airlift Wing Family Day is scheduled for Sunday, June 3. 94th AW and 22nd Air Force members and their families are welcomed to come a out and enjoy food, fun and demonstrations from various wing organizations. Parking will not be available at the lakeside facility. Buses will run continuously throughout the day from 10:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. to pick up and drop off attendees at the following locations:

- * Parking lot of Bldg 922 (ASTS)
- * Parking lot of Bldg 838 (HQ/OG/MXG)
- * Corner of Hercules Way & Atlantic Ave. (Billeting)
- * Parking lot Bldg 744/819 (AES/EOD)

Newcomers

The following Airmen were welcomed to the 94th Airlift Wing in March:

Maj. Prince Hall, 94 MXG
 Capt. Joseph Catalino, 94 ASTS
 Tech. Sgt. Charmone Newell, 94 FSS
 Staff Sgt. Douglas Bragg, 94 CES
 Staff Sgt. John Kim, 94 MXS
 Senior Airman Ronald Wright, 94 ASTS
 Airman 1st Class Angel Galarza, 94 AMXS
 Airman 1st Class John Perry, 94 MXS
 Airman 1st Class Cody McComber, 94 AMXS
 Airman 1st Class John McDermott, 80 APS
 Airman 1st Class Malik Newton, 94 MXS
 Airman 1st Class Keonna Shaw, 94 MXS
 Airman 1st Class Raven Wallace, 94 SFS
 Airman 1st Class Bradley Williams, 94 MXS
 Airman William Mack, 94 MXS
 Airman Emily Tucker, 94 AMXS
 Airman Basic Erik Semmelink, 94 AMXS
 Airman Basic Morrico Williams, 80 APS
 Airman Basic Kionte Stephens, 94 LRS

Retirements

The following retired in March:

Lt. Col. Johnny Ioayo
 Mr. Harold E. Huddleston

Promotions

The following Airmen were promoted in March:

- * Parking lot of Bldg 812 (TMO)
- * Parking lot of Bldg 732 (700th AS/Fuel Cell/80th APS)
- * Parking lot of Bldg 729 (22nd AF)
- * Parking lot of Bldg 727 (Services)
- * Parking lot of Bldg 501/516 (CE/LRS)

Agenda is as follows:

1100 Welcome by Col. Tim Tarchick
 1105 Spouse of the Year Award
 1100-1530 Info booths at Lakeside
 1100-1600 D.J. On the Deck
 1100-1500 Rock Wall & Games
 1145-1215 Sign-ups for Fire Muster
 1200 Lakeside Lounge Open
 1200-1430 Paddle boats Available
 1230 "Old Fashioned" Fire Muster
 1300 Live Mock Office Burn
 1530 Fire Muster Award

Master Sergeant:

Keith Bryson, 94 AMXS
 Graysen Walles, 94 MOF

Tech Sergeant:

Justin Ayers, 94 AMXS
 Krystal Carson, 94 LRS
 Chad Gibbs, 700 AS
 Andrew Gooden, 94 CES
 Derek Sanchez, 94 AMXS

Staff Sergeant:

Kathleen Welsch, 94 CS

Senior Airman:

Aaron Baggett, 94 AES
 De Jesus Carrasquillo, 94 MXS
 James Kendrick, 94 SFS
 Anthony Knox, 700 AS
 Tiffany Thomas, 700 AS
 Christina Valdez, 94 MXS
 Dennis Vashuk, 94 AMXS

Airman First Class:

Devin Cyr, 700 AS
 Joshua Deane, 94 MXS
 Samantha Dotson, 94 AES
 Joel Putnam, 94 AMXS
 Anthony Sigman, 94 MXS
 Brett Vrtachnik, 94 MXS

Airman:

Jorda Brady Johnson, 94 MXS

Employer Appreciation Day June 2

The 94th Airlift Wing 2012 Employer Appreciation day will be held Saturday, June 2.

Reservists are encouraged to invite their supervisor or employer to this year's event as we showcase the wing's mission and our role in supporting the Air Force and the Department of Defense.

The Employer Nomination Form is available at www.dobbins.afrc.af.mil.

Please complete in its entirety and return to the 94th AW Public Affairs office via email at 94aw.pa@us.af.mil, or fax it to (678) 655-5056 no later than Sunday, May 6.

Customer Support update

Customer Support is now open Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the 94th Support Squadron, 1342 Dobbins Place, Building 727, Room 1033.

To receive a military Common Access Card, dependent identification card, or retiree identification card, you must have two forms of identification. Each customer (over age 21) must have a valid/unexpired picture I.D. Both Dobbins Air Reserve base and Clay National Guard locations are experiencing a heavy volume of customers, which has resulted in two or more hour wait time. For a list of accepted forms of I.D and a list of other customer support locations, visit www.dobbins.afrc.af.mil or call (678) 655-3835.

Single Airman Initiative

Calling all single Airmen! Join the 94th Force Support Squadron for a free trip to historic Banning Mills, Ga. April 21, to take a ride on the Screaming Eagle Zip Line. There are 15 slots available. To qualify, you simply have to be an Airman, any rank, and not married. Sign up now at Outdoor Recreation or call (678) 655-3825. The bus will depart at 11:30 a.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. Don't miss out! Sign up now and reserve your spot. More activities are coming soon!

Base Visitor Access

Only personnel with proper government identification may sponsor visitors onto the installation. Sponsors must be enrolled in the Defense Biometric Defense System. (DBIDS).

Please review the Base Visitor Access information at www.dobbins.afrc.af.mil in the frequently asked questions section and complete the proper Visitor Access Request Form(s). Contact Grayling Livingston at 678-655-3956 or email grayling.livingston@us.af.mil for further information.

Want to save gas?

Are you interested in car pooling to the next UTA? Then join the Dobbins Ride Share Program. Contact the Airman and Family Readiness office at (678) 655-5004 for more details.

Calling all Airmen, E-1 through E-4



94th Airlift Wing junior enlisted Airmen are invited to attend an interest meeting for the Dobbins First 4, Sunday, April 15, 11:30 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. at building 838, room 2606 (ATN room) to enhance and maintain the camaraderie, esprit de corps and prestige of the junior enlisted Airmen and to promote mentorship, leadership and training.

For more details, contact Senior Master Sgt. Joyce Hughes, Dobbins Top 3 president at (678) 655-4000.

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Falcon Flyer submission deadline

The deadline for submissions to the Falcon Flyer is the 15th of the month prior to the following month's issue. Public Affairs welcomes articles and photos for the base website, www.dobbins.afrc.af.mil as well. For more information, call the editor at (678) 655-5055 or e-mail the PA office at 94aw.pa@us.af.mil.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

A way to new life: a Chaplain's life story

By Chaplain (Maj.) Olga Westfall
94th Airlift Wing Chaplain Office

Just after I start talking, someone will ask me where I am from. My accent betrays me. I can't get rid of it, and I have finally begun to accept that it will stay with me for the rest of my life. I think that God must have a sense of humor since he picked a woman from the former Soviet Union to become a Chaplain to the US military.

Many people ask me how I became a Chaplain and what my life was like behind the "iron curtain." I decided to share a few words about myself.

I was born in the 60s in the former Soviet Union. At that time, any form of religion or philosophy, other than Communist propaganda, was forbidden and persecuted. From an early age, we were told that there was no God.

"All there is to life is what you have here," was what our propaganda told us. "There is no God. After you die it is all over."

I was an only child to a single mother. She had to work very hard to provide for me and my grandmother, and as a result she permanently damaged her health. I still remember numerous times when she would fall on the floor and I, as a child,

would try for hours to pick her up. I would cry and wonder why my life is so unfair and why both of us had to suffer so much physically and emotionally.

That is when I began my search for meaning of life. The only thing that was available was propaganda on the principles and goals of the Communist Party. I was in a spiritual vacuum and had no way of getting out.

I went to school where I studied to be a quality inspector. I had a facial deformity and because of it I was bullied by my classmates. It was hard being an outcast in my class, and I felt like I could not take this life any more.

"If all there is to life is what I have now and there is no life after death as the leaders of our country taught us, then maybe it would be better to end this miserable existence and kill myself," I thought as I began to make plans and arrangements to commit suicide.

My mother died soon after I turned 19. When I found myself alone, I began planning my death.

Although religion was prohibited, someone at my job told me to visit a "white magic" fortune-teller who could predict my future.

Your life would be full of pain and

suffering and you will die suffering even more than your mother, she said. However, I operate through God and white magic and I will make your fortune in life happy.

She told me on my next visit to bring money. Each month she appointed a day when I had to come and to bring her more money. I found a second job as a janitor so I could take more money to her.

During those two years I ate the cheapest food, becoming very thin and depressed, again, to the point of suicide. I hated my life and thought it was so unfair.

Then, I was invited to attend church. When I first heard about God's love, I was bitter and hurting inside. After five months of inner struggle, I gave my whole life and heart to the Lord.

Little did I know at that time, that in a few years he would prompt me to learn English on my own, and prepare me for a future ministry as a chaplain for the Virginia Beach Correction Center, Army, Air Force and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

As I opened my life and heart to God's plan, he proved that he is real and able to break the chains of darkness and deception and bring a true meaning of happiness.

God has a plan and future for you. Don't give up!



Senior Airman DiAntre` Williams

Job title: Integrated Avionics Technician
Years of service: 2

What does your job entail? My job requires me to inspect, analyze, remove, maintain, install and troubleshoot communication and navigation systems to keep our aircraft mission capable.

Tell us a recent accomplishment you've made in your job. I was one of the 37 Reservists who recently had the opportunity to visit Washington D.C for the Air Force Headquarters Orientation Course. While there, I visited the Pentagon, the Arlington National Cemetery and the White House.

Tell us the most rewarding thing about being in the Air Force. The most rewarding things for me are the opportunities. With a little hard work and ambition in the Air Force, your possibilities seem endless.

What's the most difficult part about being in the Air Force Reserves? Even being a very confident individual, I have to say the expectations. "Striving for excellence motivates; striving for perfection discourages."

What do you do for recreation? I am a writer when I have free time, I write songs, poems, children's books and short stories.

What's your favorite movie? Forest Gump

Before coming to Dobbins, what was your previous assignment? I was in Technical School for seven months. I spent two of them at Keesler Air Force Base and five at Sheppard AFB.

What is your most memorable assignment? Basic Training... good times!

What advice would you give someone looking to join the Air Force? Do not to get discouraged when things become challenging. With a good attitude, your pros will always outweigh any cons.

Tell us an interesting fact about yourself. I have a pet chinchilla. lol

If you would like to nominate someone for the INNERview, please e-mail the editor at 94aw.pa@us.af.mil or call Public Affairs at (678) 655-5055.