

ALAMO WING

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U.S. Air Force Reserve Command

433rd Airlift Wing, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

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Reserve unit brings resources to Washoe Tribe

By Staff Sgt. Carlos Treviño

Wing Public Affairs

An aircrew from the 433rd Airlift Wing recently demonstrated a squadron t-shirt catch phrase “You Call, We Haul”. Eight vehicles, weighing 125,000 pounds, were carried from Kaneohe Bay MCAF, Hawaii to Reno, Nevada, by an Alamo Wing C-5, as part of Project TransAm.

TransAm is essentially a transportation project under the Air Force Reserve Innovative Readiness Training Program, according to Senior Master Sgt. Shawn Sexton, Assistant Deputy Chief for the IRT Branch.

“We transport excess medical supplies and equipment from various bases to the nearest base or IHS, Indian Health Service, facility,” said Sergeant Sexton. “IHS procures the items through the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office process and requests that we supply transport to the destination for them. The ultimate IHS customers are the Native-Americans,” he said.

On arrival at Reno, the keys to the eight pieces of construction equipment were given to representatives from the Washoe Indian Tribe of Nevada and California for infrastructure projects on their reservations. At market value, the vehicles are worth about \$1 million, according to Master Sgt. Gary Hochenberger, project manager. Sergeant Hochenberger’s job is to as-



Photo by Staff Sgt. Carlos Treviño
Staff Sgt. Shawna Warren, a loadmaster with the 68th Airlift Squadron, gives a thumbs up as a backhoe is loaded onto an Alamo Wing C-5A. Senior Airman Ionatana Sipili, also a 68th AS loadmaster, and Sergeant Warren loaded eight construction vehicles onto the C-5. The equipment is being transferred to the Washoe Tribe in Nevada for use in wildfire prevention, infrastructure repair and construction projects. Transporting machinery like this gives practical, realistic training to military members while meeting the needs of organizations around the country.

sess the quality of the equipment and determine if the training is worth a mission to retrieve the items. He said if the vehicles were new, they could be worth double. But the value received is not limited to the tribes.

“The benefit to the Air Force is training,” said Sergeant Hochenberger. “Each individual (aircrew member), involved in the process, is in upgrade or proficiency training. This program allows them to get realistic, real-world

training that is normally not available elsewhere. It is a win-win situation. The Air Force receives the training they need, and the IHS customers receive desperately needed assets,” he said.

Aircrew members are not the only ones who get extra experience through the TransAm program.

See the rest of this story, and more photos, on-line at
<http://www.433aw.afrc.af.mil/>

Alamo Wing

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www.433aw.afrc.af.mil

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Families share commitment

Brig. Gen. John C. Fobian

Wing Commander



As a member of the Alamo Wing, you must continually maintain that delicate balance between your family, employer or school, and military commitments. One especially important factor is the needs of your families whether that includes your spouse, children, parents, or other significant people in your lives.

With ongoing worldwide requirements, we recognize a strong connection between mission accomplishment and family support. Family choice plays an essential role in a member's decision to join, participate effectively, or leave the Reserve. Our families have a significant influence on the end strength of our organization. Most of our members are married and have children, each with their own needs to consider. There are also single parents with the challenge of providing child-care when they are away from home.

The military commitment Reservists make has a profound effect on their families. There is no denying the military lifestyle; the possibility of unexpected deployments, often into areas where there is unrest, can play havoc on a member's family.


Airman & Family Readiness programs

Bundles for Babies – A program designed to help welcome the newest members of the 433rd family. Education and resources are made available at the Airman and Family Readiness Office. The program is available to families from early pregnancy to birth. Allow yourself 30 minutes to view an informative presentation on caring for a child. After the presentation, participants receive a bundle of baby items.

Reservists Helping Reservists - Many of our members may be looking for a business, service or some sort of help and would rather use and benefit someone they know and trust. So those of you who have a business, special skill, talent or service can now offer your products, services or helps at a discounted or reasonable value to our reservists and their families. If you are interested in promoting your business to the 433rd members, getting an application or a copy of the directory, visit the Airman and Family Readiness Office in Bldg 909.

The Airman and Family Readiness office offers a variety of services to help our military families during these stressful times. These programs are ready-made for the unique demands of military life. Information and Referral is the cornerstone of the program. Each family's needs are matched with appropriate resources found either in the community or as a direct service. Ongoing dialog and coordination facilitate timely responses to new demands and situations. Crisis assistance offers short-term support. Deployment assistance ensures personal family support during periods of separation.

It's not just one person, but a team of professionals who must work together to ensure our members and their families are informed and prepared. That team is you, senior leaders, peers and families. We are all one Reserve family committed to excellence in all we do.

I do appreciate the sacrifices made by your families and your employers while allowing you to serve our nation. Thanks to your families and employers for their continued support. The most important asset and critical resource in the 433rd Airlift Wing are our members. 

To learn about services available through the 433rd Airman and Family Readiness Office, call (210) 925-3650.

A complete answer I Put on my uniform today.

By Chief Master Sgt. John Shroyer
Wing Command Chief

The excerpt below is part of a recent e-mail. The perspective of the unknown chief made me pause to rethink my perspective on Service before Self. The message is universal across the Air Reserve Technician and Traditional Reserve positions assigned to this Wing. Whether you're wearing a complete Air Force uniform or your civilian clothing, we sometimes have to make sacrifices for the mission of the Wing.

A Chief Master Sergeant sat behind his desk, just down the hall from his commander's office. As the Chief started on a second cup of coffee and finished the last of the morning messages, the commander stepped into the office.

"Chief," the Colonel said, "I hate to ask you this, but you are needed in Southwest Asia in six days for a 90-day rotation. Can you go?"

The Chief replied, "Ma'am, I put on

my uniform this morning."

As the commander looked puzzled, the Chief explained. "Ma'am, I made a promise to myself more than 20 years ago, that I would only put this uniform on as long as I'm available for duty."

That Chief's explanation made me realize what a complete answer he gave to his commander. It also made me wonder how many of us have lost sight of the significance of being truly, and completely, ready to serve. We are all ready to take that sweet TDY to Hawaii, Florida or Germany or anywhere else where the accommodations are four-star and the per-diem tops the scale.


There is nothing wrong with hoping for the sweet trips and trying to get a choice TDY, unless that is all you are willing to do. If putting on the uniform is only a personal symbol of what you get, then there is a problem.

The tape over the left pocket on your BDU top says U.S. Air Force. It is the name of the service you repre-

sent when you wear it. Service is the key word in Service before Self.

What statement are you making when you put your uniform on? Is it only an outer covering? If you show up to a UTA weekend looking ready, are you truly ready for whatever might be asked of you?

We each make a statement whenever we put on the uniform. Some are in Service and others are self serving. In today's what can you do for me world, it's easy to lose sight of what serving your country is all about. It's about being ready to defend your loved ones at a moment's notice, even if it means missing that birthday party.

Service to country is about treasuring and fighting for all the things that make this country great. Sometimes it means putting the country's needs before your desires. Remember it is sacrifice that allows those dreams to be realized. When it comes to defining service to our country, the answer is really just that simple. Did you put your uniform on today? 

Chaplain's Corner

Look to the Clouds
Chaplain Lyle Von Seggern
Alamo Wing Chaplain

*"The Lord says,
'I removed the burdens from their shoulders;
their hands were set free from the basket.
In your distress you called and I rescued you,
I answered you out of a thundercloud...'"*

Psalm 81: 6-7

Our dear Lord is not a "fair-weather" Friend. Yes, He is right there with you during all the good times, but He is also right there with you during the storms of life. Why?

Because of the words of Psalm 103:

"For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who respect Him. . . . from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who respect Him."

On the "cloudy" days, don't be afraid but rejoice! His help, His hope, His miracle might be coming from that thundercloud right above you! Maybe you will never look at the clouds the same again. Good for you! God bless you for respecting and trusting the Lord today!

Reserve Training Instructor gets top honors

By Airman Steven Jorgenson

Wing Public Affairs

Some people say if you don't use it, you lose it when it comes to professional skills. Some people don't know the Military Training Instructor of the Year, Reservist category, for 2007.

A lot of things can happen in nearly a decade. In fact, time can make life a whole lot sweeter. Take one basic military instructor who left the Air Force and returned, only to receive top honors his first two years back on the job.

Tech. Sgt. Hugo Gamarra, a 433rd Training Squadron military training instructor was recently recognized as the 2007 USAF Military Training Instructor of the Year, Reservist Category. Prior to receiving the 2007 Reserve MTI of the Year, Sergeant Gamarra received the 433rd TRS Blue Rope of the Year 2006, a prestigious in-house award given to the top blue rope within the 433rd TRS.

Sergeant Gamarra joined the active-duty Air Force in 1991 and worked as an MTI before separating in 1996.

Nine years later, Sergeant Gamarra joined the Air Force Reserve, becoming part of the 433rd TRS at Lackland AFB in 2005.

During the April 2007, 737th Training Group Standardization Evaluation Team inspection, MTIs were evaluated on MTI teaching and qualification. Sergeant Gamarra performed exceedingly well at several tasks performed. For example, Sergeant Gamarra was evaluated on his control of a marching flight and received an 'Outstanding' rating. The contributions Sergeant Gamarra provided during the inspection boosted the 433rd TRS's overall rating to an 'Outstanding'.

All his hard work contributed to his nomination and receipt of Reserve MTI of the Year.

Additionally, a year earlier, Sergeant Gamarra also received the 433rd TRS Blue Rope of the Year, a difficult goal to achieve, and something he is rightfully proud of.


"The board members review your accomplishments during the year and ask several questions about MTI duties and responsibilities as well as

opinionated questions," said Sergeant Gamarra. "Being nominated by itself is a great accomplishment, but actually winning it was just a dream come true."

"What makes these awards even better for me is the fact that I had left the military as an MTI back in 1996 and returned in 2005 after almost nine years as a civilian," continued Sergeant Gamarra.

According to Master Sgt. Julie Begley, a 433rd TRS basic military training instructor, "The experience level Technical Sgt. Gamarra has is something that many of the active duty basic military training squadrons desire ... he is a top notch NCO who can be counted on regardless of the request."

This thought is echoed by his colleague, Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Allen, also a 433rd MTI. "He is a true professional and always leads by example," said Sergeant Allen.

Sergeant Gamarra said he wishes to continue his Air Force career, remaining "an asset not only to the MTI corps but to the Air Force." 

Tuition assistance programs aid degree quest

By Airman Viola Hernandez

Wing Public Affairs

A new education program called the Air University Associate to Baccalaureate Cooperative, or AU-ABC, started in June. The program offers members of the Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard the opportunity to transfer all Community College of the Air Force credits towards the pursuit a Baccalaureate degree at participating universities.

After earning an associates degree in Applied Science from the CCAF, the participating college or university will credit the degree toward a program in which the student would then complete no more than 60 credit hours to complete a Bachelor's degree.

The program currently has 13 participating universities to choose from. Each school has a distance learning program for military members.

"The schools involved have agreed to accept 100 percent of all CCAF credits earned during military service, however, the student is required to sign a contract agreeing to accomplish all needed credit hours with the same institution," said Tino Gonzales, a military education programs specialist with the 433rd Airlift Wing.

The tuition costs can range from \$207 to \$250 per credit hour according to various participating institution websites. All of the schools involved are offering military students a discount on tuition.

Along with the new AU-ABC program, there are many local schools who accept CCAF and military education credits and will apply them towards a degree. To help pay the tuition for this and other such programs each Air Force Reservist has several tuition assistance options available.

One option is the Reserve Education Assistance Program. Signed into law in October 2004, REAP provides over \$28,000 worth of GI Bill benefits for activated Reservists. The program is available to Reservists who served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001 in support of a contingency

(See College Money, 9)

Reservist's account of AF Volleyball championship

By Staff Sgt. Bethaney Watson

Wing Public Affairs

Twenty-three women, seven days, two practices a day and one goal, to make the 2007 All-Air Force Women's Volleyball Team. Try-outs for the team were held in Hawaii, as if being chosen to try-out for the team wasn't exciting enough. The entire trip to Hawaii was surreal because I can remember the pride I felt playing and wearing the Air Force uniform in 2004 and couldn't believe I was being given this amazing opportunity again.

After arriving and meeting the 22 other female athletes I was about to compete against for one of the 10 spots on this year's roster. I was soon overwhelmed. It was as if we were all interviewing each other, "Did you play ball in college? What division? How long have you played? Have you made the Air Force team before?"

There were so many of us and the idea that only half of us were going to stay and the others were going to be sent home the day after cuts was unbelievable. If you were one of the lucky ones you were going to train two more weeks for the Armed Forces Volleyball Championships at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York.

The first week went by quickly and it was time for cuts. We were sitting in a line outside of the coach's office watching as the girls came out one at a time. We were watching for a white piece of paper in their hands like on the show, American Idol. If they had it, they made the team, if not, they were going home. I was the last one to sit in the hot seat. I came out with my eyes smiling with one of the coveted white pieces of paper in my left hand. That paper was the practice schedule for the rest of training camp. A sense of relief rushed through my entire body and a new goal was set for the 10 on the team, the one alternate, and two coaches - to win the gold.

After two weeks of training in



U.S. Air Force Courtesy Photo

Staff Sgt. Bethaney Watson, front, a Reservist with the 433rd Airlift Wing, and two of her teammates are set to sweep the Women's Air Force Volleyball Championships at the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. The Air Force Men's and Women's teams each took home the Gold in a tournament against Army, Navy and Marine teams.

Hawaii, a few days here and there for some fun in the sun and great memories made with new friends, we were on our way to New York to beat the Navy, Army and Marines and take the gold.


We were nervous the first day of the tournament and it showed when we lost to the Army in four games. We came back fighting that afternoon to beat the Marines in three. Our goal of gold was still in plain sight and we knew it was ours for the taking when we beat the Navy the second day in three, leaving us with a record of 2-1.

The third day of the tournament we won a very important game against none other than the Army in a clean sweep of three games, knocking them out of the running for gold. This meant so much to me because in 2004, my last time with the team, we took silver behind Army. Next, we also beat the Marines in three on the fourth day, giving us a record of 4 wins and 1 loss going into the final day of competition.

The Navy was also 4 and 1 making the upcoming match between us crucial. Whoever won would take home the gold. After a good night's rest, we were ready to play the most pivotal game in the entire tournament. As we warmed up we knew it wasn't going to be as easy to beat the Navy team this time, even though we'd swept them on

day two.

It was a brand new ball game because the gold was up for grabs. We lost the first game, won the next two and lost the fourth. This made the fifth game of the championship match very suspenseful because it was only to 15 points instead of to 25 points like the other four games. As the ref blew his whistle to award each point, we held our breaths while on our tiptoes to see which team it was going to be one more point closer to the gold. It all went by very fast, but I remember telling myself I had to make every serve over during the last couple of points, it was a necessity. The next thing I remember was winning 15-12 and jumping up and down in a huddle of blue, sweaty, exhilarated, athletes and coaches. We just won the gold medal and to top it off, the Air Force Men's team won their last match to take gold as well. The Air Force left the 2007 Armed Forces Volleyball Championship's with double gold.

The entire experience leaves me very proud to, not only wear a uniform of a different type, but to wear it representing my service while playing a sport that I am so passionate about. Bringing home the gold for the Air Force is a great feeling but it also feels incredible to bring home the gold for my home station. 

Reserve, civilian medical pros build bridge

By Airman Viola Hernandez
— Wing Public Affairs

It is possible to have the best of both worlds in the medical field. Patients in San Antonio's Southwest General Hospital know what that is.

A new program has 46 Reservists from the 433rd Airlift Wing's Medical Squadron completing annual 15-day training periods working with civilian providers at Southwest General Hospital.

The medical professionals represented specialties like; medical technicians, ward nurses, physical therapists, radiology, laboratory technicians and operating room technicians and nurses. Each Reserve provider is teamed with a civilian counterpart to work side by side on a daily basis throughout their annual tour.

The bridge, as the training program is unofficially called, is the first of its kind in the area and benefits the hospital as well as the Reservists.

"It has been a true gift for the 433rd to team with us," said Pamela Flentge, chief nursing officer at the hospital. "The additional help of already credentialed staff is appreciated."

This bridge between the civilian and military medical professions will allow patients and providers to experience and see the kind of care family and friends in the military receive, according to Colonel Rene G. Jaso, of the 433rd Medical Squadron Commander and surgeon at the hospital.

"Each patient here has stated that they are so honored to have been cared for by the 433rd staff," Ms. Flentge said.

"Dedication and kindness demonstrated by the 433rd staff, is greatly appreciated," said Carmen Uriegas, a



Photo by Airman Viola Hernandez

Maj. Janet Wickline, a nurse with the 433rd Medical Squadron, speaks with Carmen Uriegas, a patient at Southwest General Hospital. Major Wickline is one of several Alamo Wing medical professionals serving on annual tour at Southwest General Hospital. The combined military and civilian training time represents a medical bridge between the two medical communities. The military professionals bring trauma care experience from the front lines and learn about caring for the civilian community outside Lackland's gates.

patient at Southwest General.

"Major Wickline is a wonderful lady, I love her," Ms. Uriegas said as her Alamo Wing nurse, Maj. Janet Wickline, checked the comfort of her IV site. "She's so helpful. I think it's so great to have the military here."

The Reservists received a new sense of community, according to Lt. Col. Pamela Scott, 433rd MDS Chief Nurse and team chief. for this group.


"Besides meeting the mission of the tour, which was the ability to provide patient care and meet individual goals related to that experience, I believe each team member brought a sense of community away from the experience," said Colonel Scott. "This tour, unlike any other tours, gave us the opportunity to get to know the community and allow the community to get to know us and what we do. This being said, I believe we each feel a

great sense of pride gained from a very rewarding experience."

The patient care-giver relationship wasn't the only one to be strengthened during the annual tour.

"I believe the other providers feel that we delivered high quality care," said Colonel Scott. "The team pitched in from the start, whether working with patient assignments, assisting where needed, teaching advanced courses or on the spot training."

The civilian providers were pleased with the effort put forth by the Reservists.

"It is my understanding that the other providers very quickly gained trust in our abilities due to our diverse backgrounds and what they saw in our team on a daily basis," said Colonel Scott. "I believe being invited back by Southwest General for another annual tour says it all." 

ORE Reality Check

**Ready or not
The real question is can you do this?**



Photo by Master Sgt. Shane MacDonald, 433rd Disaster Preparedness technician
After an attack and the coast is clear, can you safely and correctly decontaminate yourself or your equipment? See page 175 of your Airman's Manual.



Photo by Airman Steven Jorgenson

Can you find, identify and clearly mark an area with an unexploded ordnance? See Page 128 of your Airman's Manual.



Photo by Airman Steven Jorgenson

Can you tell what type of chemical is present after an attack? See pages 134 and 137 of your Airman's Manual.

Remember the Alamo Wing

September 1988, the 32nd Aero-medical Evacuation Group and the 34th Aeromedical Evacuation Flight flew 225 patients out of Corpus Christi, Texas, before Hurricane Gilbert.

They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself.

— Andy Warhol (1928 - 1987)
The Philosophy of Andy Warhol

Note Worthy

Promotions



Albert Moreno, 68th AS
Stephen Sozanski, CF



Jesse Alderete Jr., 356th AS
Jeffery Brean, OSS
Richard Garcia, MSG
Leanne Lecroix, AW
Lacey Moss, IOS
Abel Ortega, CES



Chelsea Brite, MDS
John Drobiezewski, MXS
Jerry Gonzales, AES
Lisa Hassell, OG
Oscar Iruegas, MSG
Wayne Jenerou, AMX
Sylvia Martinez, AW
Carrie Ruby, 733rd TRS
Robert Winkler, 556th RHS



Timothy Aylesworth, AES
Bryan Birdsall, 74th APS
Servero Campos Jr., AMXS
Johnny Castilleja Jr., AMDS
Michael Galvan, OG
Vincent Garcia, OSS
Katrina Graham, 26th APS
Jonathan Hardee, MDS
Gloria Hofilena, 26th APS
Frank Leal III, LRG
Maurice Lujan, MXG
DeAndra Matthews, TRS
Alejandro Martinez, 74th APS
Dwight Medoff, MSG
Craig Miller, MDS
Daniel Pena, CES
Robert Pena, MSS
David Plemmons, AMXS
Roberto Ruiz Perez, MXG
David Werth, MXS



Markus Coleman, MXS

Erica Freeman, MDS
Sharon Gasiewski, 710th IOF
Raul Jacobo Jr., CES
Christopher Hernandez, TRS
Taylor Houston, MSS
Jeremy Johnson, AMDS
Courtney Laurell, ASTS
Kashon Mattocks, AMXS
Colby McCune, AGS
Steven Moore, 26th APS
Seth Moran, 556th RHS
Sarah O'Donnell, MXS
Rowland Ramos, ALCF
Angel Rosa, AES
Stephen Sutton, OSS
John Trevino, CES



Enoch Briscoe, 556th RHS
Leslie Colston Jr., ALCF
Natasha Daily, 556th RHS
Angelyn Groomes, MS
Ashley Guerrero, AMXS
Mitzi Holloway, AMXS
Kyle Ivy, CF
Jessica Langdon, AES
Amy Marques, 26th APS
Daniel Rodriguez, MXG
Lena Ray, AMXS
Jose Santana, AMXS
Ted Sibrian Jr., 26th APS
Lloyd White Jr., 74th APS



David Acosta, MSS
Marissa Barnhardt, 26th APS
John Garza, AMXS
Elisa Hernandez, AMDS
Jose Hernandez Jr., LRS
Jessica Joseph, MSS
Hansel Orozco, AMDS
Roberto Pina, 556th RHS
Maria Rodriguez, 556th RHS
Richard Schwing III, 556th RHS
Ashley Smith, AES
Casandra Stockstill, AMX
Pablo Trevino, 556th RHS
Constance Wells, AES



Jonathan Bannisteriarde, AMXS
Viola Hernandez, AW
Kenney Holden, MDS
Steven Jorgenson, AW
Michelle Nino, AMDS
Michael Pholers Jr, AMXS
Kyle Quagliato, AMDS
Ramiro Valle, CF

Reenlistments

Chief Master Sergeant
Victor Abundis, 356th AS

Senior Master Sergeant
Eryn Charles, 68th AS
Gail Boldt, SVF
Richard James, MXS

Master Sergeant
Joseph Astwood, AMDS
Tash Bowden, CES
Preston Curtis, 26th APS
Russell Dekrone, AMXS
Richard Garcia, 26th APS
Jose Garza, ASTS
Abelardo Gonzales, CES
Paul Harris Jr., MXS
Letasha Roberson, AES
James Setter, AES
Mathew Tabler, 356th AS
Russell Thompson, AES

Technical Sergeant
Scott Babb, MXS
Richard Breisch, MXS
Cristobal Carreon, 710th IOF
Roger Finley, ASTS
Longoria Flores, CES
Anthony Gutierrez, AMXS
Lawrence Juarez, AMXS
David Leal, 74th APS
Rafael Leza, CES
Edwina Marshall, AES
Jerome Middendorf, AMXS
Jose Morales, ASTS
Kelly Randall, MXS
Raymond Robinson, MXS
Roy Riojas, MXS
Michael Shedlock, CES
Stacy Sprowls, MOS
Terrance Taylor, AES

Nicholas Velaquez, MXG
William Winston, AMXS

Staff Sergeant
Georgios Anthanatos, LRS
Gregory Binford, AMXS
Juan Carlin, CES
Jose Castellanos, AMXS
Jeffrey Despain, LRS
Alma Ducharme, MDS
Danielle Dumes, AMDS
Richard Duval, 556th RHS
Terence Frankland, 710th IOF
Gloria Gallardo, 74th APS
Tryna Goins, AES
Antonio Gonzales, CES
William Gonzales, AMXS
Jason Hebert, CES
David Martinez, SFS
Robert Martinez, 68th AS
William Matthews, AMXS
Dustin Mitchell, OSS
Corey Murphy, MXS
Paula Naranjo, MXS
Megan Oneal, AMDS
Roger Perez, AMXS
Franco Russo, AMXS
Julia Sandoval, AMDS
Joe Valdez, 68th AS
Robert Weissman, AMXS
Anthony Whalen, TRS

Senior Airman
Anthony Gindratt, 74th APS
John Martinez, AES
Mark Nash Jr., 26th APS
Rudy Sandoval, 556th RH
Venetra Smith, ASTS

Airman First Class
Terry Allen Jr., MXS

433rd member receives Reservist of the Year

Congratulations to Master Sgt. Robert Kusterer, a 68th Airlift Squadron C-5 flight engineer, who was recently awarded the 2007 Air Force Association Reservist of the Year for the state of Texas. This is the second year in a row in which he received recognition.

To find out why, check online at <http://www.433aw.afrc.af.mil/>.



Hail, farewell to four Alamo Wing chiefs

By Capt. Bruce Hill

Wing Public Affairs

Some say life begins at retirement. If so, four Chief Master Sergeants from the 433rd Airlift Wing just started living on the August B Unit Training Assembly.

With 138 years of experience between them, Chiefs Ronald Csehil, Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, retires with nearly 42 years of service, Robert Hastie, 74th Aerial Port Squadron, almost 41 years, Tony Ortiz, Maintenance Squadron, 35 years and Reuben Knappe, Jr. Maintenance Squadron, 30 years.

Each chief was honored at retirement ceremonies during the UTA and each commander recognized them.

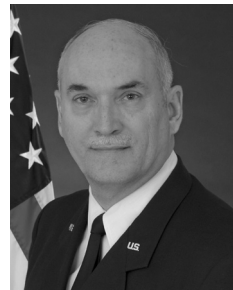


“He (Chief Csehil) is a rock and foundation...the rock that maintenance was built on,” said Colonel Richard Shelton, Jr., 433rd

Maintenance Group Commander. “He has passed on his knowledge...and has done exactly what an NCO leader should do.”



“Chief Hastie has had a big impact on all the squadrons where he worked because of his years of experience and knowledge he possessed,” said Major Luis Torres, 74th Aerial Port Squadron Commander.



“His heart has always been in the right place, which was about taking care of his troops.”

“I relied heavily on him (Chief Knappe) to get the job done,” said Lt. Colonel Cordel Bullock, 433rd Maintenance Squadron Commander. “All ranks of Airmen can be mentored

through his leadership.”

Colonel Shelton, who is losing three of his Chiefs to retirement this UTA, feels the loss but is anticipating a positive future because of the professionalism each Chief imparted.

“In poker, three of a kind is hard to beat, especially when they are all aces,” said Colonel Shelton.



“Chief Ortiz’ retirement sees the maintenance group lose one of its aces along with our other two,

Chiefs Csehil and Knappe. In the future the framework to draw, from the deck, future aces has already been set – the deck is not stacked, but it is a winning deck. We will miss all three of them.”

Chiefs Hastie and Csehil both leave the Alamo Wing family after serving here since 1986, Chief Knappe joined the Alamo Wing in 1979 and Chief Ortiz became a 433rd AW member in 1983. 🏠

College Money... continued from page 4

operation and served at least 90 consecutive days.

According to the Veteran’s Administration website, va.gov, the benefit amounts will vary according to the length of time served on continuous active duty. For Reservists who served at least 90 days, but less than one year, the amount available for full-time students per credit hour is \$430.

Reservists who served at least one year, but less than two years, are eligible for \$645 per credit hour, and those who served two years or more can receive up to \$860 per credit hour.

REAP benefits can not be used in conjunction with other VA educational benefits and the decision to use REAP is final. So those who decide use their REAP benefits must continue to use them until the benefit is exhausted or they have earned their degree.

Reservists interested in using their REAP benefits can apply using VA form 22-1990 available on the VA website.

Another option available to Reservists is the Air Force Reserve Command Tuition Assistance program. Eligibility requirements are simply to be a participating member in pay and points in good standing. The member’s retainability must extend past the course end date and the member must be eligible and intend to re-enlist.

One hundred percent tuition assistance is offered for undergraduate degree programs. The amount is not to exceed \$250 per semester hour or \$4,500 annually.

Reservists participating in graduate programs can receive 75 percent tuition assistance using this program. The limitation for graduate studies is

\$187.50 per hour and annually it is not to exceed \$3,500.

One other financial benefit for education assistance is the Hazelwood Act. This benefit is available to Texas veterans who have completed at least 181 days of military service, not counting training, and their dependants. Members must have entered the military while residing in Texas.

The Hazelwood Act entitles eligible veteran’s to a waiver of tuition and some fees at state colleges and universities. To check on Hazelwood Act eligibility go to the Texas Department of Veteran’s Affairs web site at www.tvc.state.tx.us/Hazlewood_Act.htm

Reservists interested in using available educational benefits should see the VA advisor at their college or the 433rd Airlift Wing Education Office.

Who's Who in the...



Alamo Wing



Photo by Staff Sgt. Carlos Trevino

Staff Sgt. Shawna Warren, a 68th Airlift Squadron C-5 loadmaster, has the Air Force in her blood, literally. Her father, Chief Master Sgt. Mark Warren, also is a part of the 433rd Airlift Wing “family” as an Operations Group flight engineer superintendent.

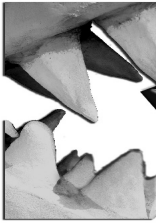


Photo by Airman Steven Jorgenson

Senior Airman Edward Dabbert, a hydraulic technician with the 433rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, is more than just a hardworking Alamo Wing member. Airman Dabbert is also employed at the 37th Civil Engineering Squadron as a civil service plumber. He has been with the 433rd Airlift Wing for 2 years now.



Photo by Chief Master Sgt. Philip Kekahu, 433rd Airlift Control Flight
Tech. Sgt. Larry Lopez, a C-5 loadmaster with the 433rd Airlift Control Flight, attached to the 68th Airlift Squadron for flying duties, is the newest Air Mobility Command Affiliation Training Instructor in the 433rd ALCF.



News Bites...

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON-LINE AT AF PORTAL

The 433rd Wing Advisory Council encourages Wing members to become familiar with their council representatives and understand how the council supports the mission. Each unit has designated council members to present member concerns and issues to the WAC.

The objective of the advisory council system is to help commanders work issues that impact their military personnel.

The 433rd AW Wing Advisory Council implemented an Air Force Knowledge Now (AFKN) Community of Practice (CoP) allowing members to see what projects are currently in the works. WAC meeting minutes are also available for viewing. This site is

available anywhere you have AF Portal access. Use the link below to access the site. You are not required to become a member but the free membership is necessary to add items. Check out the site at <https://rso.my.af.mil/afknprod/ASPs/CoP/OpenCoP.asp?Filter=OO-OT-RC-78>.

TRAINING TIME REDUCED

After examining how much time Airmen spend on annual ancillary training, Air Force leaders have decided that time should be allocated more efficiently.

In effect as of Oct. 1, ancillary training requirements will be reduced to 90 minutes, as opposed to almost nine hours per Airman spread throughout the year.

MEGAPUB OFFERS ONE-STOP ON AF DOCTRINE

The Air Force Doctrine Center has unveiled a new tool, making it easier to reference and search operational-level doctrine.

Known as MegaPub, the one-stop shopping solution offers easy access to the complete library of Air Force Doctrine Documents.

For more information or comments, contact the AFDC at afdc.dds2@maxwell.af.mil.

AN AIR FORCE STAR HONORED

Jimmy Stewart, arguably the Air Force Reserve's most famous Citizen Airman, received two tributes last month (August).

On Aug. 17 the U.S. Postal Service issued a 41-cent stamp bearing his image. The stamp is the 13th stamp in the "Legends of Hollywood" series. At Bolling Air Force Base across the Potomac River from the Pentagon, officials in the 11th Wing dedicated Building 52 as the Brigadier General Jimmy Stewart Theater.

In the 1940s, the facility served as the base theater. Today it is a technology center. Last year 37,000 people trained there. General Stewart retired from the Air Force Reserve in 1968 after 27 years of service.

AIRPORT WELCOME FOR RETURNING AIRMEN

San Antonio International Airport has initiated a program of volunteers to welcome home troops returning from deployment.

Tell the 433rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office as early as possible regarding returning troops so our Airmen can get the welcome they deserve. Notify PA by phone at 925-

5194 or e-mail 433aw.pa@lackland.af.mil

AIRMAN AND FAMILY READINESS SEEKING JACK

The Airman and Family Readiness Office is starting the 'Jack of All Trades' program to benefit families of the deployed in need of a helping hand with your talents, skills, specialties or abilities.

"We need Jacks" that are willing to offer their skills such as:

- PC Troubleshooting
- Car Repair
- Lawn Care
- Minor home repair
- Simple plumbing needs
- Simple electrical needs
- General appliance repair
- Assembly
- Other _____

If you are willing to be added as a Jack to our 'Jack of All Trades' program, come by for an application at our office in Bldg. 909.

UTA SCHEDULE

September

A UTA September 8-9
B UTA September 22-23

October

A UTA October 13-14
B UTA October 20-21

November

A UTA November 3-4
B UTA November 17-18

Radio Discipline

- DO
- Think before you talk
 - Be brief
 - Speak clearly and use proper call signs
 - Protect your radio
 - Be aware of OPSEC
 - Know your radio manager
- DO NOT
- Hang anything on antenna
 - Use ranks and names of supervisors or commanders
 - Discuss classified
 - Disclose specific locations
 - Use profanity

Alamo Cyclists

Tech. Sergeants Larry Gallo, a Maintenance Operations Center Controller, and Joseph Solomon, a Program Analyst, both with the 433rd Airlift Wing, ride with the Air Force Cycling Team. The two Alamo Wing members, along with 98 other Air Force cyclists, participated in the 500-mile, Register's Annual Great Ride Across Iowa, or RAGBAI, in July. The ride attracted almost 23,000 cyclists, including guest rider Lance Armstrong.

The event is broken into about 80-mile segments that riders must cover in about 12 hours. The riders are spread out during the grueling ride but the Air Force team, participants for the past 12 years, always begins and ends their ride together.

"The Air Force Cycling Team (at the start of the tour) leaves in rank, two by two, in a line," said Tech. Sergeant Solomon. "We remain as a group at the beginning and eventually separate as the tour progresses."

During the ride, another tradition has taken root within the team.

"Air Force riders are known for stopping and rendering aid to other riders, which people seem to appreciate," said Tech. Sergeant Gallo. "People notice

and acknowledge us for it, which is just something we do." After several days of heat and hills, the last day is the most exciting for the riders and the spectators.

"On the final day of the tour we'll meet up as a group and will ride across the finish line with a police escort," said Sergeant Solomon. "People come in from all around the world particularly for the last day to watch the teams come in," he said. "It's a great experience to hear the crowds shout, *Go Air Force!*"

For more information on the Air Force Cycling Team, visit their website at <http://www.airforce-cyclingteam.com/>.



Photo by Captain Bruce Hill

ORI



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