

# KANZA SPIRIT

## 931ST AIR REFUELING GROUP



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PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. DAVID BRUMLEY



Tech. Sgt. James Yokom, 931st OSF, helps Terry January try on a parachute during the employer support day flight Nov. 5. Mr. January is the civilian employer of Master Sgt. David Lofton, 931st CES.

## Bosses day provides uplifting experience

TECH. SGT. DAVID BRUMLEY  
931ST ARG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Civilian employers from all over Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri got an up-close look at what their employees do when they aren't in the office, during the annual 931st ARG employer support day.

Held during the November unit training assembly, the event allows Reservists' civilian bosses to ride along on an air refueling mission and spend part of the day at their employees' military work centers.

The program received rave reviews from the 41 participants, many of whom were impressed with the dedication, professionalism and commitment to their country they

saw from the unit Reservists.

"It was awesome," said David Axtell, an aircraft painting supervisor for Paragon Services. "I got to talk to the pilots and boom operator to understand what they do for the Air Force."

It was also an opportunity for Mr. Axtell to see his handy work in action. "I paint many of these parts in my job and it was great to finally see them in a plane and how they are used."

"Everyone was real nice and answered our questions," said Bill Axtell, electronics technician for Sedgwick County's emergency communications department. "The best part of the visit was being in the back of the plane as it connected to the other aircraft."

## THIS UTA

### Induction Ceremony

The 931st NCO and Senior NCO induction ceremony will be held Sunday at 10 a.m. in the Base Theater. All unit members are invited and encouraged to attend.

### Christmas Party

The 931st annual Children's Christmas Party is scheduled for Sunday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Kanza Conference Room. All



unit members and their families are invited.

### Kanza Spirit news

Since the last issue of the Kanza Spirit, Tech. Sgt. Jason Schaap, our full-time editor, left for a job with a civilian paper in Indiana. Due to manning shortages, the Kanza Spirit will downsize to four pages until a new full-time editor is hired.

### Looking ahead

The next Group Commanders' Call is scheduled for 7:30 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 8 at the Robert J. Dole Community Center. Sign-in sheets will be located in the ballroom.

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931st Air Refueling  
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**Deadlines**

The deadline to submit articles and newsbriefs for publication is close of business of the UTA.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Kanza Spirit* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government of the Dept. of the Air Force. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 931st Public Affairs Office. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

The *Kanza Spirit* is mailed each month to all 931st ARG members on file with Personnel. Members not receiving their copy should check with their administration section to ensure their filed address is correct.

## Commander's Message

Welcome to the December UTA and Happy Holidays.

Let me start by offering my congratulations to our NCO inductees. We will honor their accomplishments in our annual NCO induction ceremony this weekend. The 4th AF Command Chief, Chief Mitchell, will be our guest speaker and will join us as we recognize each hard-earned increase in responsibility for our people. Please join us at this special event organized by NCOs for NCOs - the backbone of our force.

The December UTA is a good time for us to remember and appreciate our Reserve families before we go our separate ways for the holiday season. I would like to thank Maj. Mike Laughton for organizing our children's holiday party this year. The support of our families is absolutely critical for all of us. Please be sure and take this time to thank and support both your own family and your Reserve family - especially those who have family members deployed this holiday season.

The last few months have certainly been busy. We've had a CE BIVOUAC, a life support exercise at Whiteman, fitness testing, Bosses Day, and last, but not least, we achieved an EXCELLENT aircrew employment IG rating during a Guam deployment with Grissom ARB. This is an incredible list of accomplishments - we have worked hard and have much to be proud of.

Unfortunately, we can't afford to sit back and enjoy our success. In addition to our normal busy schedule, 2006 will bring numerous inspections - starting with an assistance visit in February. We also need to take time to remember that our country is committed to a long-term war on terrorism and our readiness and participation are critical. A long-term war takes its toll on families, the public, and the military. In the upcoming year, I encourage you to stay ready and to take the war to our enemies by deploying when and where you are able.

I would like to close by encouraging everyone to be safety conscious over the holidays. Holidays bring a lot of travel, and sometimes not the best road conditions. Be careful with your travel plans and celebrations - and remember that even if you are - there are other drivers out there that are not.

I look forward to serving with you all again in 2006. If I haven't said it lately - Thank you for all you do - for this unit and for your country.

Happy Holidays.



Clayton Childs, Colonel  
931st ARG Deputy Commander

## Fraud, Waste & Abuse

To file a fraud, waste or abuse complaint with the Air Force, call (316) 759-3192 or toll free (800) 424-9098.

## UTA SCHEDULE

Next UTA: Dec. 10-11

January 7-8

February 11-12

March 11-12

## Air Force sets physical training uniform wear date

The Air Force Uniform Board established an Oct. 1, 2006, mandatory wear date of the physical training uniform, or PTU, for unit fitness activities.

The board also released additional guidance for Airmen wearing the uniform for personal workouts.

Airmen may wear the PTU during personal workouts given the following conditions:

- T-shirts may be worn out or tucked in.
- Jackets may be zipped, unzipped and worn with civilian clothes.
- Black or navy blue leggings or stretch shorts may be worn under the uniform shorts.
- White socks of any length and small conservative trademarks are authorized.
- Any athletic shoes may be worn;
- Safety items such as reflective belts, camelbacks and fanny packs are authorized;
- Hats or knit caps are authorized provided they meet military image requirements;
- Headphones are still authorized;
- Bandanas and other similar head scarves are not authorized unless Airmen have a medical waiver; and
- Saluting is not required.

All Airmen must comply with tattoo and jewelry standards as stated in Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel.

Female Airmen exercising in the PTU may wear their hair free of pins or other accessories normally required to meet uniform

standards. Also, there is no mandated maternity uniform while participating in formations or unit activities. (AFPC News Service)

### Easy steps to getting the new PTU

931st enlisted members have three easy steps to receive their new physical training uniform, according to Tech. Sgt. Cyndi Hoffman, group clothing manager.

1. Contact your unit clothing monitor.
2. The clothing monitor will issue a clothing request form to the member. The form will have all of the appropriate boxes and signatures filled out.
3. The member can then take the form to clothing sales to pick out their new uniform.
  - a. If clothing sales doesn't have the member's size in stock they will put the uniform on order. When the new uniform comes in it will be given to the clothing monitors for distribution to the member.

- Uniform sales are currently being limited to one set per person until everyone has received a set. As with all uniform purchases, officers are required to purchase the PTU with their own funds.

## *SPIRIT SPOTLIGHT*

**Senior Airman Adam Keeter** is a Branson, Mo., native who joined the Air Force four and a half years ago.

**Job Title:** Crew Chief

**Civilian job:** College Student

**Favorite way to relax:** Fishing, camping, mountain biking

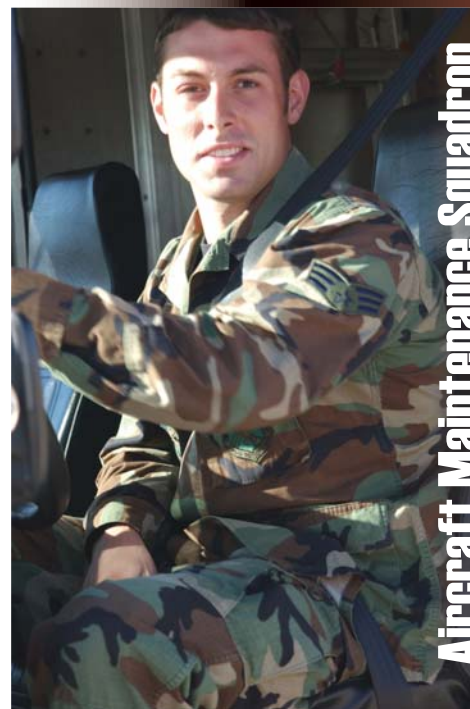
**What annoys me:** People who talk bad about the St. Louis Cardinals

**Most influential person in my life:** My parents

**What I'm listening to:** Jack Johnson

**What I'm reading:** My college school books

**If I won \$1 million, I would:** I wouldn't tell anyone and not change a thing



Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

## Bank change option online

Airmen can now use myPay to change the bank that receives the direct deposit of their pay. The option to change is available by choosing "Direct Deposit" under the "Pay Changes" list after logging in. A different financial institution's routing transit number, an account number and account type are also needed to make the change. The myPay Web address is:

[HTTPS://MYPAY.DFAS.MIL](https://mypay.dfas.mil)

## Floating checks not an option

Airmen are being reminded that "Check 21," the new law that permits instant check clearing, was applied to base exchanges in August. Checks can now clear instantly, even on weekends, increasing the risk that a check will bounce if funds are not in its corresponding account when the check was cashed.

## Club dues waived for deployers

Airmen deployed for 30 days or more are eligible to have their Air Force Club dues waived.

Airmen sent to a location without an Air Force club should bring a copy of their orders to the customer service area of their club before deploying.

## Request DD-214 online

Military veterans and their next of kin can now request copies of their DD-214 and other military records through a new Web site established by the National Personnel Record Center.

The center hopes to eliminate its mail-room processing time with the site and speed up responses to requests. By law, the center is required to obtain a written signature verification by fax or mail within 20 days of an online request. The new site is located at:

[HTTP://VETRECS.ARCHIVES.GOV](http://vetrecs.archives.gov)

## TRICARE Extended

The TRICARE Reserve Family Demonstration Benefit that was due to end Oct. 31, has been extended through Oct. 31, 2007.

The Department of Defense extended the benefit for an additional two years to ensure continuity of care for family members of Guard and Reserve members called to active duty for more than 30 days in support of Operation Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. More information is available at:

[WWW.TRICARE.OSD.MIL/RESERVE](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve)

## Headphone wear restricted

The wear of headphones is authorized

while wearing the Air Force's new official physical training uniform during personal fitness and other off-duty activities. However, running on McConnell AFB while wearing headphones is restricted to the base gymnasium and the new outdoor track located southwest of the Robert J. Dole Community Center.

## Virtual Commissary open

Defense Commissary Agency shoppers looking for a different kind of gift can let their fingers do the clicking as the new Virtual Commissary. Commissary officials said the Virtual Commissary will open up new options of Internet shopping for authorized users. To access Virtual Commissary, shoppers must pass through a secure portal found at:

[WWW.COMMISSARIES.COM](http://www.commissaries.com)

## One-Stop-Shopping

One-Stop-Shopping Experience! The Envision Xpress Store serves all of your office, janitorial, clothing, furniture and other day-to-day supplies. Their convenient on-base location offers a full line of products to help meet your mandatory source requirements. For research and pricing question please stop by Bldg 1090 or call EXT. 5528 or 5762. More information is available at:

[WWW.ENVISIONXPRESS.COM](http://www.envisionxpress.com)

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