

# RABBIT TALES



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*All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.*

## From the Top

by Col. Richard S. Wright  
Deputy Commander, 513 ACG



It is a pleasure to be back at Tinker and assigned to the 513th Air Control Group! I left the unit 8 1/2 years ago just as we finished the last activation, and cannot believe that members of the unit are being mobilized and prepared to deploy in support of operations in the AOR. It's like déjà vu (all over again!).

That said, I know that all of the Thumpers heading down range will represent the squadron and group well as they accomplish the very important mission ahead of them. This is when the unit is at its best...with Reservists reinforcing the knowledge that citizen Airmen are a critical part of the USAF, prepared to deliver combat capability to the Joint Force when needed. I stand with Colonel McGalliard and salute each and every one of you for your continued service. Godspeed!

## This UTA in History

April 14, 1865 — John Wilkes Booth, an actor and Confederate sympathizer, fatally shoots President Abraham Lincoln at a play at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. The attack came only five days after Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered his massive army at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, effectively ending the American Civil War.

The president, mortally wounded, was carried to a lodging house opposite Ford's Theater. About 7:22 a.m. the next morning, Lincoln, age 56, died—the first U.S. president to be assassinated.

April 15, 1912 — At 2:20 a.m., the British ocean liner Titanic sinks into the North Atlantic Ocean about 400 miles south of Newfoundland, Canada. The massive ship, which carried 2,200 passengers and crew, had struck an iceberg two and half hours before.

On April 10, the RMS Titanic, one of the largest and most luxurious ocean liners ever built, departed Southampton, England, on its maiden voyage across the Atlantic Ocean. The Titanic was designed by the Irish shipbuilder William Pirrie and built in Belfast.

## Upcoming Events

Recurring Events:

Monday Nights – 1700 – Monday Night Volleyball

Tuesday Nights – 1700 – Spring Flag Football League

Thursday Nights – 1700 – CoEd Softball League

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17 April – TBD – Ops Wingman Day

19 April – 1400 – Tinker Golf Course Opening and Spring Demo Day

6 May – TBD – MXS Wingman Day

## Version 2 of Volunteer Reserve System Released

The newest release of the Volunteer Reserve System (VRS) makes searching for and volunteering for deployment opportunities easier than ever before. Located within ARCNet, VRS 2.0 lists available volunteer opportunities. It replaces the SIPR-only vacancies listing in use for the last 3 years with a CAC-enabled application with an unclassified vacancies list.

The system also includes a centralized approval process and makes tracking the request simple. The approval routing remains the same for traditional reservists and air reserve technicians.

You can check out VRS with the following link: <https://www.my.af.mil/reservenetprod/ARC-Net2011/VRS/Home/>.

Training slides for volunteers are available on the home page.



Volunteer Reserve System



# Award Winners

Congratulations to all of our award winners from the March UTA Commander's Call!



SrA Nicole Singh from the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron won the 2011 ACG Airman of the Year award.



MSgt Jim Gasaway from the 513th Maintenance Squadron won the 2011 ACG Senior Non-commissioned Officer of the Year award.



SSgt Emily Courts from the 513th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron won the 2011 ACG Non-commissioned Officer of the Year Award.



Maj. David Cavazos from the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron won the 2010 AFRC Safety Officer of the Year award.



AIC Kevin Harris from the 513th Maintenance Squadron won the 552 MXG Knucklebuster Award for 2011.



MSgt Mike Lay and TSgt Dusin Fillmore from the 513th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron won the 2011 552 MXG Knucklebuster award.



The aircrew of Scout 11 – Maj. David Cavazos, Capt. Rob Muther, Capt. Matt Portno and SMSgt Bill Gates – won the 2011 AFRC safety award.



## Where Are They Now?

Lt. Col. Chuck Diven (Ret.)



*How long did you serve with the 513th?*

I was a Thumper from 1997-2005, and was the 970th ADOM for a few years in the late 90s.

*What is your current position?*

I'm currently a defense contractor, specifically working as an Instructional Designer, Technical Writer, and Command and Control Subject Matter Expert for SAIC. I'm also a small business owner, and I teach professional writing/performance reporting workshops around the Air Force.

*What was one of the biggest challenges you faced while assigned to the 513 ACG?*

The biggest challenge I faced personally at the 513th

was learning to take responsibility for my own feelings and actions. Hard to believe, but most of my struggles at the 513th involved learning that my feelings were my responsibility, and had nothing to do with the choices of the people around me. The

biggest challenge professionally was the 17 months of continuous deployment starting December, 2001.

*What is your favorite memory of the 513th?*

My favorite memory of the 513th also happens to be the 17 months of continuous deployment starting in December, 2001. I got to go to war with people that I trusted and respected, and we formed lifelong bonds of friendship and mutual support. Just recently I met with some of those esteemed colleagues at a promotion event in Las Vegas, and was reminded again of the priceless value of those hard-won and deep-rooted friendships.

*Do you have any advice for current members?*

My best advice for current 513th members is don't wait as long I did to learn the lesson in #3. Life is too short.

*Where are you now?*

We live in Fullerton, CA, this year after more than 5 years in Las Vegas. Still have a paid-for house in Moore, America, so we're Okies at heart.

## 513th Get-together



*513th get-together at the McGalliard house in Warner-Robins, Georgia on Sunday, 18 March. Mrs. McGalliard was the hostess. A good time was had by all.*

## AF Expands Drug Testing

by Jon Stock

*Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs*

The Air Force and other military services will expand their drug testing to include testing for commonly abused prescription drugs beginning May 1, 2012.

On Jan. 31, 2012, the Secretary of Defense gave a 90-day advance notice of the drug testing expansion which aims to counter the nation's growing epidemic and encourage those abusing prescription medications to seek treatment before official testing begins.

"Abuse of prescription drugs is the fastest growing drug problem in the United States, and unfortunately, this trend is reflected in the military services," said Maj. Gen. Thomas W. Travis, Deputy Air Force Surgeon General. "While pain medications are highly effective in alleviating suffering from injuries, they are dangerous and potentially addictive when used outside medical supervision."

Taking controlled medications in a manner other than how they were prescribed poses a risk to the person's health and safety and can put others at risk as well.



Prescription medications should be taken only for the purposes for which they were prescribed and at the dose and frequency prescribed. Additionally, Airmen are reminded never to take a medication prescribed to someone else.

"Members who need help discontinuing use of these drugs are encouraged to seek care at a military treatment facility immediately," said Maj. Gen. Travis.

The policy being addressed is not new to Air Force personnel. In accordance with Air Force guidance and existing law, the knowing use of any prescription or over-the-counter medications in a manner contrary to their intended medical purpose or in excess of the prescribed dosage may have negative health consequences and may also violate the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

AFI 44-121, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment (ADAPT) Program provides limited protections under certain circumstances for voluntary disclosure of prior drug use or possession to unit commanders, first sergeants, a substance abuse evaluator, or a military medical professional. Once an Airman has been ordered to provide a urine sample as part of the drug testing program, any disclosure is not considered to be voluntary.



## In The Spotlight



**Senior Airman Jenna Goodall**

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**Unit:** 513th ACG

**Job title:** Soon to be... Chief, Group Military Personnel.

**Hometown:** Hermitage, Pa.

**Place I'd like to visit:** Everywhere possible. Right now my next BIG vacation plan on the list is either Greece or Ireland. I'm undecided.

**Favorite part of my job:** COWBELL! No, just kidding. I've always been in Personnel Readiness and since coming to the 513th my favorite part is learning all of the other areas of the MPF. My goal is to eventually be an expert in them all.

**Biggest pet peeve:** When people don't use turn signals.

**If I had a superhero ability, it would be:** The ability to teleport. It would cut down the cost of traveling and I could also go home to see friends and family whenever I want.



**Lieutenant Colonel Steven England**

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**Unit:** 513th ACG

**Job title:** Combat Readiness OIC

**Hometown:** Denver, Colo.

**Place I'd like to visit:** Italy

**Favorite part of my job:** Meeting new people.

**Biggest pet peeve:** Getting wrapped up in minutiae.

**Little known fact about you:** If it were in this paper, it wouldn't be little known. :)

**If I had a superhero ability, it would be:** Foreseeing the mega millions jackpot numbers a day early.

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*To suggest someone to be featured in the next issue, email [513acg.publicaffairs@tinker.af.mil](mailto:513acg.publicaffairs@tinker.af.mil).*