

On-final

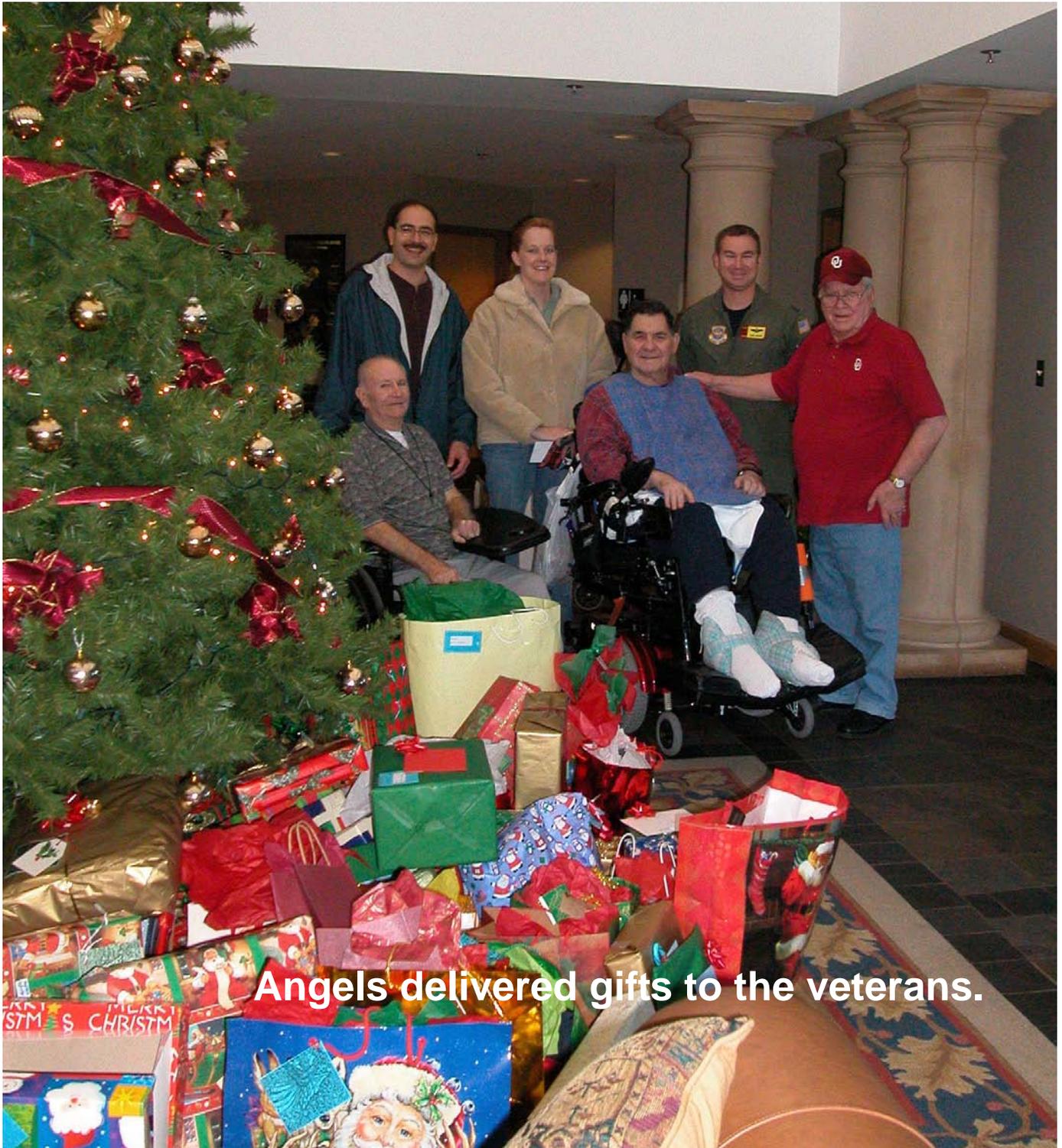


U.S. AIR FORCE

January 2005

Vol. 25, No. 1

507th Air Refueling Wing - 513th Air Control Group
Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma



Angels delivered gifts to the veterans.

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

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

I'm glad to become an Okie

As you may know, I was fortunate enough to be selected as the new Ops Group Commander for the 507th. I've been an Air Reserve Technician (ART) since 1982 and this is the most excited I've ever been about a new assignment. I have long wished to be a part of your organization since my A-10 days when I supported your F-16 jocks, and more so when I met people like Master Sgt. Steve Switzer and Maj. Cliff Vaughn at allocation conferences. You folks have a visible pride in your membership that isn't found anywhere else. When you're asked where you're stationed, you guys simply reply, "I'm an Okie." Believe me, everyone knows you mean Tinker, but to you, being an Okie has more meaning than simply being based at Tinker. It also reflects the pride in your unit and yourself for your personal contribution to the best unit in the USAF worldwide. That title is no secret.

I'm extremely humbled to have ascended from an airman basic to the group commander of such a truly extraordinary unit. That's a testament to the opportunities and effective mentorship that each of us have an opportunity to benefit from in the Air Force Reserve. During a visit in November, I was impressed with the folks I had a chance to meet. I felt at home and appreciate the warm welcome. I try to leave every unit better than I found it. I'm not sure that's going to be possible this time. You guys are, to steal your calling card, "Siera Hotel!!!"

I hope by now you all know how good I feel about a chance to become an Okie. So I'll give you some 411 on me. I enlisted at age 17 in 1976 and served as a crew chief, phase inspector, flight engineer, and as an ART repair and reclamation mechanic at

Barksdale starting in 1982. I went to pilot training in 1986 after a 10-year enlisted career where I proved I couldn't keep a job. My ART pilot career went like this: A-10 Barksdale, B-52H Barksdale, KC-135R Seymour Johnson, A-10 Barksdale, C-141C Andrews, KC-135R Andrews, and now, luckily, KC-135R as an Okie. I'm still having a problem keeping a job, but somehow keep getting promoted. My ultimate goal is to fly a broom stick.

Being prior enlisted, I've been diagnosed with an unhealthy love for enlisted people. Don't expect a change; it's incurable. I believe in quality of life and in the care and maintenance of a strong family. I am as concerned about your children's well-being as you are. I believe in watching out for and taking care of each other. Never underestimate the value of a good wingman. See Maj. Richard Peterson for an explanation. I believe in giving someone else the ball to score and letting them take the interview. I strongly believe that no one wakes up to screw up, and that humans make mistakes. We'll address them, correct them. We'll move on expecting to learn and be better from the experience. I don't believe in politics, but understand protocol has a place. I believe in the chain of command to defuse problems and misunderstandings and empowering those down the chain to act in a fair and reasonable manner. I'm not a micro manager, but will execute oversight to ensure we all keep our jobs. You'll find that I want you to develop your education, personal, and professional life. If you aren't working on your CCAF degree, PME, a Masters Degree, or something you're passionate about, either



Lt. Col. Edsel A. Frye, Jr.
507th OG Commander

personally and/or professionally, you'll know me as a hound dog! I don't hold grudges or keep scores. I'm not a fan of gossips, tattletales, and will absolutely not tolerate arrogance or intimidation. Everyone has a right to work in an emotional stress-free environment. I believe in apologies. Finally, I believe in large celebrations after we win, and in hard work to get the W.

Yes, I do have an agenda; to lead by example, never abuse my authority or undermine my superiors or subordinates, be open, understanding, and approachable, to develop leaders, empower everyone to think and contribute, help those in need, be strong but compassionate, and never do anything to tarnish the great reputation that you people have earned. I am proud to have this honor and look forward to the day that I can proudly say to everyone that will listen, "I'm an OKIE!" Thank you.

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

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

On The Cover



'Angels' (Bob Gaspar, Colleen Rehm and Jimmy Wolfe) pose with veterans of the Norman VA Center and some of the 179 gifts given to the vets from Wing members.



507 ARW



513 ACG

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507th AIR REFUELING WING
and
513th AIR CONTROL GROUP

TINKER AFB OKLAHOMA



www.afrc.af.mil/507arw

Stressed Airmen: Who's your Wingman?

By Gen. John P. Jumper
Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force

Stress is nothing new to military life and there are many factors that contribute to this. But lately, stress has been taking its toll on our Airmen. Our suicide rate is skyrocketing while accidental deaths are more than 36 percent above what they were four years ago. We lost 57 people to suicide in the past year – a dramatic, and tragic, increase from last year. We lost another 99 Airmen to accidents. Combined, that's an order of magnitude greater than our combat losses in both Iraq and Afghanistan since September 11, 2001. We're causing ourselves more harm than the enemy. We must do a better job of looking after one another – be better wingmen.

Our jobs are inherently stressful. This is a fact of our profession. We have over 30,000 Airmen deployed across the globe, with over 7,000 of them in a combat environment. Many Airmen are now on their sixth deployment in ten years. Those at home face increased work hours, inconsistent manning, and a continuous workload. More stress comes from uncertainty. In addition, increased AEF deployment periods, force restructuring, Non-Commissioned Officer retraining, and OSD's BRAC assessments and potential base closures may suggest an ambiguous or unstable future to some Airmen. This can often lead to other stress factors, like family or relationship problems, financial or legal problems, and substance abuse. We are taking steps to mitigate some of these factors, but stress will always be a concern. Stress is a problem we can manage.

The Air Force leadership is confront-

ing this problem. We cannot relieve the tempo of deployment. When our nation calls, we must respond. However, we can and will work to provide our Airmen with the support they need to carry their load. We are reinvigorating our suicide prevention program that had dramatically dropped the number of suicides over the past seven years. The program worked, but it needs a shot in the arm. Along with suicide prevention, we're continuing to focus on safety and risk management, with zero



mishaps as our goal.

This is a time of holiday celebration, but also a time when stress rises. Our Major Commands will be placing special emphasis on stress-related issues. We will: reemphasize the support services available; review the signs of stress; and remind all Airmen what it means to look out for each other – to be good wingmen.

However, this problem cannot be solved through programs and training sessions alone. It's going to take an effort from the whole force, from our commanders and supervisors to every Airman in the force. It will take your total commitment.

Commanders – you bear the respon-

sibility for the total welfare of our greatest asset – Airmen. You are responsible for their physical, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being. Use your base resources. You should know when your Airmen need help, and where to send them to get it.

Supervisors – you are our first line of defense. Like commanders, you are responsible for the well-being of the people you supervise. It is you who look every Airman in the eye every day. It is you who can spot the first signs of trouble, and you who are in the best position to listen and engage.

Airmen – be good wingmen.

Take care of yourself and those around you. Step in when your wingman needs help. Signs of stress and suicide should not be dismissed. Neither should senseless risks to life and limb because of improper safety and irresponsible behavior.

In today's expeditionary Air Force, commanders and supervisors are often deployed. We rely on those who

remain behind as acting commanders and supervisors to be familiar with the stresses confronting their Airmen and to be familiar with all the tools necessary to deal with these stresses.

I need everyone's help on this. Take care of your wingmen on the ground so we can continue to confront America's enemies from air and space. Stress is not going away; it is a reality we must accept and manage. We are the world's greatest Air and Space Power because of you, America's Airmen. The needless loss of one Airman is one loss too many. Look out for each other – look out for your wingman.

General Tanzi selected as AFRC Vice Commander

by 1st Lt. Lance Patterson
Air Force Reserve Command
Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. David E. Tanzi will return to Robins Air Force Base this month to serve as vice commander of Air Force Reserve Command.

He will replace Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr., who will retire after he relinquishes his post to General Tanzi Jan. 21.

General Tanzi currently commands 10th Air Force, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas.

Before that assignment, he was director of plans and programs at Headquarters AFRC at Robins, from February 1999 to March 2002.

Other assignments include:

Commander of the 419th Fighter Wing, Hill AFB, Utah, from July 1993 to February 1999.

Commander of the 906th Fighter Group, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, from July 1987 to July 1993.

Deputy commander for operations and later commander of the 917th Tactical Fighter Group, Barksdale AFB, La., from December 1985 to July 1987.

As the vice commander of the Air Force Reserve, General Tanzi will oversee AFRC daily operations.

General Tanzi is a native of Hanover, N.H. He entered the Air Force through the Ohio Air National Guard in 1968 and earned his wings in 1970. As a fighter weapons school graduate, he has held several supervisory and command positions to include serving as a squadron, group and wing commander.

General Tanzi is a command pilot with more than 4,500 flying hours in several fighter aircraft. He flew combat missions over northern Iraq in support of Operation Provide



Maj. Gen. David E. Tanzi

Comfort II. The general retired from civil service Dec. 3. He is now a full-time reservist in the Active Guard and Reserve program. (AFRC News Service)

Mandatory Wingman briefings scheduled this month

After suffering higher than average loss of life from accidents and increased suicide rates, the Air Force is moving to educate its force to help Airmen look out for each other.

Each unit reservist will receive a two-hour "Wingman" briefing this month.

According to Col. Bob Colyer, 507th Mission Support Group commander and one of three scheduled Wingman briefers, "The mandatory briefing is designed to be both informative and entertaining. The topics include violence in the workplace, substance abuse, suicide, stress, personal health care and all other manners of personal support."

"We have already presented this program to our Civil Engineer Squadron," Colyer said. Ask them how they felt about it. The reports were that they enjoyed and learned from it. Most felt they left with some valuable tools that apply on-base, at home, and at their civilian positions.

Continuing, the colonel added, "The information we're providing is vital. We have folks needing assistance in many areas. While this might not be you, it is probably the person sitting next to you. What do you do when that person shows signs of needing help? What do you say to that person? What help is available? Or, how do you respond when someone tells you that you look like you are in some form of stress? This briefing will provide all of us the ability to be better friends, relatives, spouses and parents. "

During both days of the January drill weekend, continuous courses will be taught to groups of 60 people or less. The colonel stressed the high priority this briefing has throughout the Air Force and stressed that everyone has a personal responsibility to attend. Members are advised to see your first sergeant, supervisor or commander for additional details for times and date for your scheduled briefing.

Fourth quarter award winners announced

Master Sgt. David Phillips, Tech. Sgt. James Moore and Senior Airman Tessa Stevens are the winners of the fourth quarter for fiscal year 2004.

Phillips is an aircraft mechanic with the 507th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. He patriotically volunteered for every



Master Sgt. David Phillips

major deployment this quarter and is a versatile crew chief that is willing to assist where and when needed. Phillips is the resource manager, shouldering huge responsibility for over \$100M in assets as expeditor. He never rests; he consistently maintains cutting-edge skills and knowledge of a wide variety of military aircraft hydraulic, pneumatic and electrical systems; and works with the Tinker AFB active duty Transient Alert team.

Phillips is an expert troubleshooter. He was chosen to lead a deployed Tinker maintenance team repairing nose gear uplock actuator malfunction. They cleared the discrepancy in record time.

"David Phillips is truly dedicated, not only talks the talk, but walks the walk and lives the 'service before self' ethic in all endeavors," said Maj. Sandra Brooks, squadron commander.

Phillips has a self-motivated approach to life, creating an optimal balance between work, home, community and per-

sonal time. He is enrolled in the Community College of the Air Force and is two courses short of an associate's degree in Aircraft Maintenance Technology. He is a volunteer usher for his church and a multi-talented craftsman, sharing wood-working skills, tools and labor on unit self-help improvement projects.

Moore is an Aerospace Ground Equipment craftsman with the 507th Maintenance Squadron.

He is said to be an excellent training monitor for the 16-person AGE flight, keeping all shop personnel qualified. He



Tech. Sgt. James Moore

assigns all tasks to be accomplished on UTA weekends and is directly responsible for maintenance production. He is the primary equipment custodian for AGE equipment worth more than \$4M.

"James Moore is a dynamic noncommissioned officer and mechanic whose vast knowledge, mechanical abilities and exceptional troubleshooting skills make him a tremendous asset to the United States Air Force Reserve," said Maj. Brian Eddy, squadron commander.

Moore is currently enrolled in the Community College of the Air Force and

studying Aerospace Ground Equipment Technology pursuing an associate's degree in Applied Science.

Stevens is a Services apprentice with the 507th Services Flight.

"A top value-added reservist who totally exemplifies the Air Force's core value of 'excellence in all we do,'" says Capt. Mechille Braden of Stevens. She took the lead in re-vamping all unit training programs for the 507th Services Flight personnel, voluntarily becoming the new unit training monitor and attended a three day training manager workshop at Dobbins AFB.

Stevens is aggressively pursuing a nursing degree, having completed two full-time semesters at Rose State College with a high grade point average. She is focused on enhancing her professional skills/military contributions by voluntarily undertaking additional responsibilities in the areas of training, lodging and fitness.

Stevens is an active member in the Harrah Elementary Parent Teacher Association. She assisted teachers as a chaperone during field trips to the Oklahoma City Zoo and museums. She also assisted with the 465th ARS annual golf tourney, supported the Salvation Army stocking drive, blood drives and countless other events.



Senior Airman Tessa Stevens

First Quarter Award winners selected

Master Sgt. Thanh Hoang, Tech. Sgt. Michael McWater, and Senior Airman Gabriel Padilla were recently selected as Senior NCO, NCO, and Airman of the Quarter for October – December 2004.

Master Sgt. Thanh Hoang is an Aircraft Structural Craftsman with the 507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron. A distinguished leader, he was chosen over four other senior noncommissioned officers for his capabilities. He stepped up to offer leadership as the interim assistant noncommissioned officer in charge.

Hoang is a fully qualified 7-level



Master Sgt. Thanh Hoang

Structural Maintenance Specialists with extensive civilian and military experience. Using his superior organizational skills, Hoang monitors ancillary training requirements, ensuring no members are overdue. Hoang is an exemplary performer who earned his supervisor's confidence; he was immediately assigned increasing responsibilities. He also ensured team members were notified of pending readiness requirements, maintaining 100-percent mobility ready status.

Hoang routinely seeks further education to enhance his job knowledge and management performance. He reduced the average depot level flow days from 190 to 148 for interior restoration of the KC-135 aircraft.

Tech. Sgt. Michael McWater is an air-

craft structural maintenance specialist with the 507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron.

McWater serves as NCOIC of the Aircraft Battle Damage Repair sec-



Tech. Sgt. Michael McWater

tion, normally a master sergeant job. He instructs, supervises, and trains personnel via classroom instruction and on-the-job training. He is a tireless worker who spearheaded, planned, and coordinated the entire ABDR wartime exercise in October. His exercise was so realistic it made it possible for the participants to demonstrate a true sense of urgency.

He is the only individual qualified as a CPR instructor in the unit. He trains individuals and instructors for certification.

McWater was selected by the commander for an additional duty of Squadron Career Advisor. He developed an in-processing checklist, a newcomers sponsor program, and a reenlistment tracking program.

McWater actively supports professional enlistment organizations as a member of the Air Force Sergeants Association. He submitted a suggestion to the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center for a Serviceable Material

Request (SMR) code change from procurement to the Depot Manufacturer of an N1 tachometer wire bundle assembly. This suggestion resulted in a tangible savings to the United States Air Force of more than \$10,611.

Senior Airman Gabriel Padilla is a Combat Crew Communications specialist with the 507th Operations Support Flight.

Padilla is a superb Airman with outstanding job knowledge and initiative, setting the standard for his peers. He managed the Combat Crew Communications office in the absence



Senior Airman Gabriel Padilla

of the shop superintendent, performing 7-level master sergeant duties flawlessly, ensuring 100 percent mission accomplishment. Padilla is responsible for the construction of Aircrew Communication Kits for day-to-day peace-time missions, real world contingencies and unit's SIOP wartime taskings.

Padilla attends Rose State College, pursuing a degree in Business Administration. He completed 12 credit hours, maintaining a 3.8 grade-point average.

Padilla serves as a youth group counselor for Little Flower Catholic Church. He teaches Sunday School, coordinating youth conferences, outings, and activities.



**513th ACG
Commander's Column**
By Col. Gregory "Farb" Phillips

Living the Wingman life

Hello and welcome to 2005! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and I'm proud of all the members of this unit who stood up to help friends and neighbors to make their holidays brighter as well. That was one of the many deeds accomplished by ACG personnel in 2004.

I would like to recognize a few of those deeds.

While seasonal charity for those in need speaks well of yourselves as compassionate people with traditional values, your unit's record also stands apart from your peers in the Air Force Reserve Command.

I can only speak of what I've witnessed since I came onboard as your commander in June of last year, but even before that day, I knew the 970th AACS, 513th MXS and MS, and 513th OSF were units that proven themselves in wartime. There's more to that truth than just words. Of all the people who stood up to fight after Sept. 11th, the 513th ACG was chosen. When you do the same job every day, you may not think you're anything special, but your training combined with motivation and American perseverance says otherwise. Many people were glad you were there, even if they never said it to your face. You did a great job then, and you're doing a great job now.

That isn't false praise. The Operational Readiness Inspection team saw that as well in October. They speak with a moneylender's exactitude: they say what they mean. We had several outstanding performers who dazzled the team with their knowledge of the system they use, its strengths and limitations, and — most importantly of all — their sense of teamwork. At the end of the day, in the uniform and out of it, that sense of community and dedication to the spirit of family is what pulls you through the dark days when you're tested by cruel circumstance and random error. Your family may not be able to help you climb your way to the stars, but they catch you when you fall. And we are your family too.

People often talk about the camaraderie of soldiers and airmen, of how the man sharing your foxhole is closer to you than your brother or the woman flying alongside you at the radar displays is your sister. For some of us, we can relate. To others, especially those new to our service, it's a concept that takes a bit of getting used to. In 2004, we were encouraged to have Wingman Day, a time when we could build those ties between our brothers and sisters in uniform as well as restore our ties to our natural families.

In the end, everything in our world is connected through each other. We stand together as a professional fighting force, the omnipresent eyes of the eagle. We also stand together as a second family with common loyalties when we're away from our natural family. There is much here to be proud of.

You're professionals. You're family. You're winners. You're survivors. You're the best. You're the 513th Air Control Group and I'm proud to work alongside all of you in 2005.

2005 Reserve Pay for Four Drills

	Years of Service															
	Under 2	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 20	Over 22	Over 24	Over 26	
O-7	888.80	930.08	949.20	964.40	991.88	1,019.00	1,050.44	1,081.80	1,113.20	1,211.92	1,295.28	1,295.28	1,295.28	1,295.28	1,301.84	
O-6	658.76	723.72	771.20	771.20	774.12	807.32	811.72	811.72	857.84	939.40	987.28	1,035.12	1,062.36	1,089.88	1,143.40	
O-5	549.16	618.64	661.48	669.52	696.20	712.24	747.40	773.20	806.48	857.48	881.76	905.76	933.00	933.00	933.00	
O-4	473.84	548.52	585.12	593.28	627.24	663.68	709.00	744.36	768.88	782.96	791.16	791.16	791.16	791.16	791.16	
O-3	416.60	472.28	509.76	555.76	582.36	611.56	630.48	661.60	677.76	677.76	677.76	677.76	677.76	677.76	677.76	
O-2	359.92	409.96	472.16	488.12	498.16	498.16	498.16	498.16	498.16	498.16	498.16	498.16	498.16	498.16	498.16	
O-1	312.48	325.20	393.08	393.08	393.08	393.08	393.08	393.08	393.08	393.08	393.08	393.08	393.08	393.08	393.08	
O-3E	0	0	0	555.76	582.36	611.56	630.48	661.60	687.80	702.80	723.28	0	0	0	0	
O-2E	0	0	0	488.12	498.16	514.04	540.76	561.48	576.88	576.88	576.88	0	0	0	0	
O-1E	0	0	0	393.08	419.84	435.32	451.16	466.76	488.12	488.12	488.12	0	0	0	0	
E-9	0	0	0	0	0	0	520.16	531.96	546.80	564.32	581.88	610.12	634.00	659.16	697.56	
E-8	0	0	0	0	0	425.80	444.64	456.28	470.28	485.40	512.72	526.56	550.12	563.20	595.36	
E-7	296.00	323.08	335.44	351.84	364.60	386.60	398.96	411.28	433.28	444.32	454.76	461.16	482.72	496.68	532.00	
E-6	256.04	281.68	294.12	306.20	318.80	347.24	358.28	370.56	381.32	385.16	387.76	387.76	387.76	387.76	387.76	
E-5	234.60	250.28	262.36	274.76	294.04	310.64	322.88	326.76	326.76	326.76	326.76	326.76	326.76	326.76	326.76	
E-4	215.04	226.08	238.28	250.36	261.04	261.04	261.04	261.04	261.04	261.04	261.04	261.04	261.04	261.04	261.04	
E-3	194.16	206.36	218.80	218.80	218.80	218.80	218.80	218.80	218.80	218.80	218.80	218.80	218.80	218.80	218.80	
E-2	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	184.60	

FREE COLLEGE TESTING

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

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

Become a certified professional in a field related to your military training. DANTES and AFRC funded certification examinations are available for certain career fields. Go to <http://www.dantes.doded.mil> and click on certification programs, MOS matching and USAF Matrix which identifies the eligible AFSCs, certification exams available and internet addresses for more info. If you desire to take an exam, **contact Chief Master Sgt. Sharlotte Epps in the MPF Education and Training Office at 734-7075.**

TUITION ASSISTANCE

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

The basic enrollment requirements are that you must:

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

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

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

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

HQ AFRC will approve/disapprove based on funding.

Payment occurs after satisfactory course completion. TA reimbursement amounts are set at 75 percent (\$3500) per FY (Masters) or 100 percent (\$4500) per FY (Bachelors). **For more information contact Chief Master Sgt. Sharlotte Epps in the MPF Education and Training Office at 734-7075.**

AFRC NCO LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COURSE

The success of the Air Force Reserve NCO corps depends on their ability to apply leadership and management skills learned primarily in a civilian setting to a military environment. Not all of today's mid-level NCOs have extensive first-hand supervisory experience in a reserve environment; therefore, the instruction in this course is intended to improve the students' military supervisor capabilities and understanding of their positions as related to the USAFR. We focus on individual improvement which is ultimately the real source of organizational excellence and success. The next class is scheduled for 13-17 and 20-24 June 05.

FAMILY CARE

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

VIRTUAL MPF

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

HOT TOPICS :

CDC Testing is accomplished at 0750 on Sundays of the (main) UTA. You do not have to schedule it, just be there NLT 0750 at Bldg 460 (the active duty HQ), Room 215. You need to enter through the MPF main door (in the back near the ramps), turn right and take the stairs. If you cannot make it, our Education office also tests on Wednesdays at 0800 and 1300. You DO need to schedule this one 24 hours in advance. Important note: If you are retaking a test, make sure you bring the Commander's evaluation/authorization letter with you or you will not be allowed to test.

If you are taking computer-based tests, call DPMT at 734-7075 at least two days prior to the UTA. Computer-based tests are also given Tues at 0800, Wed at 0800 & 1300, and Thurs at 1300. Call for appointment.

EDUCATION REMINDER:

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

Pass and ID Hours of Operation: 1200-1600 on Saturdays of the UTA.

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

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

CAREER ENHANCEMENT OFFICE:

The next **Decoration Board** will be held during the Feb 05 UTA. All packages are due to the Career Enhancement office by Jan. 9. **PEP** packages are due by Jan. 4, 2005. For more details, call 734-7491.

FY2004/2005 UTA SCHEDULE

05-06 Feb 05	05-06 Mar 05
02-03 Apr 05	14-15 May 05
04-05 Jun 05	09-10 Jul 05
06-07 Aug 05	10-11 Sept 05

As of Dec. 29, 2004

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

JANUARY TRAINING PLANNER

Fri, 07 January 2005

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1430 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg 513th ACG Auditorium
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

Sat, 08 January 2005

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
0730-0930 Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 201C
0730-0930 Customer Service Section Open to Newcomers ONLY
 0730-0900 Wing Training Office Closed Bldg 1043, Room 206
 0830-0900 6 Month Contact Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined
 1000-1130 Career Advisors Meeting Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1300-1530 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office
 1400-1500 Training Managers Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Sun, 09 January 2005

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg 1030 MSG Conf Rm
 0730-0930 MPF Closed for In-House Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0750-1115 CDC/PME Course Exams Bldg 460, (AD Hq) Rm 215
 0800-1115 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1030, Room 214
 0800-1030 Haz Comm Tng (non-supr) Bldg 1030, Room 104
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Room
 1245-1545 First Duty Station Bldg 1030, Room 214
1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro To Be Determined
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Fri, 04 February 2005

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1430 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg 513th ACG Auditorium
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

Sat, 05 February 2005

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
0730-0930 Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 201C
0730-0930 Customer Service Section Open to Newcomers ONLY
 0730-0900 Wing Training Office Closed Bldg 1043, Room 206
 0830-0900 6 Month Contact Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
 1000-1100 Unit Career Advisors Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined
 1300-1600 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office
 1400-1500 Training Managers Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Sun, 06 February 2005

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1030 MSG Conf Rm
 0730-0930 MPF Closed for In-House Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
0750-1115 CDC/PME Course Exams Bldg 460, (AD Hq) Rm 215
 0800-1115 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1030, Room 214
 0800-1030 Sfty Council Mtg/Sfty Rep Tng Bldg 1030, Room 104
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1066, Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1245-1545 First Duty Station Bldg 1030, Room 214
1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro To Be Determined
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

ATTENTION

Tinker was scheduled for mass implementation Vred DD93's 14 Apr 2003 through 20 Apr 2003. Of course this date has already passed and we have received updates from 97% of our members. This is Air Force wide and everyone who has not updated their DD Form 93 on the Virtual MPF needs to do so ASAP. It can be accomplished from any computer with internet access by going to www.afpc.randolph.afmil. You will need to know your pay date in order to sign on. Then click on the VMPF icon and follow instructions. Questions should be directed to Customer Service at 734-7492.

Military Pay

File for **Receive Direct**
pay by: **Deposit by:**

Military Pay (405) 734-5016

29 Dec	07 Jan
04 Jan	12 Jan
06 Jan	14 Jan
11 Jan	18 Jan
13 Jan	21 Jan
18 Jan	26 Jan
20 Jan	28 Jan
24 Jan	01 Feb
27 Jan	04 Feb
01 Feb	09 Feb
03 Feb	11 Feb

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II are conducted **monthly** in **Bldg 1030, Room 214**. **Unit training managers are responsible for ensuring their new personnel are scheduled to attend** within 90 days of their first UTA. If you have any questions, contact the MPF Education & Training Office at **734-7075**.

Day	Time	Subject	OPR
Phase I			
Saturday	1300-1315	Air Force Fitness	SVF
Saturday	1315-1400	Information Assurance	CF
Saturday	1400-1500	Drug and Alcohol, Suicide/ Workplace Violence Prevention	SG
Saturday	1500-1530	Local Conditions-Traffic	SE
Saturday	1530-1600	Family Support Services	DPAF
Phase II			
Sunday	0800-0830	Base Populace	CEX
Sunday	0830-0845	IG Briefing	IG
Sunday	0845-1015	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
Sunday	1015-1045	Counter Intel/Awareness	SF
Sunday	1045-1115	Human Relations	ME
Sunday	1245-1545	First Duty Station	ME

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

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

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

UCMJ Briefing:

All enlisted personnel are required to have the UCMJ briefing within two UTAs of their first reenlistment. This briefing is held during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0845 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, Room 214.

Ethics Briefing:

All reserve personnel are required to have the DOD Ethics Briefing within 90 days of reporting for duty. This briefing is held in conjunction with the UCMJ briefing during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0845 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, Room 214.

Disaster Preparedness:

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

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

If you need assistance or have suggestions on how we can improve our service to you, please call us at (405) 734-7075, or stop by our office in Building 1043, Room 206.

Editor:	CMSgt. Charlotte A. Epps, Chief, Education & Training (ART)
Assistant Editor:	MSgt. Sharon Lochman, Asst. Chief, Education & Training (ART)
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	TSgt. Jimmy Talley, Education and Training Advisor
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Entire family dons BDUs in support of CAP missions

**By Capt. Bill Pierce
Public Affairs Officer**

Technical Sgt. Jimmy Thompson's entire family has taken up the mission of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) program.

For the last few months the Thompson family has participated in the CAP program Cleveland County Composite Squadron, Westheimer Airpark, Norman, Oklahoma. "We wanted to spend more quality time together so now we all participate," said Thompson.

For nearly three years at least one member of the Thompson family has been involved in the CAP program. According to Thompson, "our youngest daughter Rebecca has been in the longest with about three years. I joined about two years ago and my wife Kimberly and our oldest daughter Heather joined a few months ago."

The Thompsons take something away from the program weekly. "Rebecca, the family's only cadet, joined because she wants to attend one of the military academies and CAP is a big stepping stone for entry into an academy. After she joined I went to a couple of meetings with her and thought that it might be kind-of fun to work with the cadets, so I joined about a year later. Kimberly and Heather both saw how much Rebecca and I enjoyed what we do and wanted to spend more quality time with us, so they recently joined and are having a blast," smiled Thompson.

Thompson trades his chevrons in for bars during his service to the CAP. He is the Deputy Commander for Cadets. In addition to his service in the CAP program he is a civil servant and member of the 507th AMXS.

Kimberly Thompson, Senior CAP member, serves as the Aerospace Education Officer. Kimberly is no stranger to volunteering. People may know her from the Family Support Cell during the 507th Air Refueling Wing's deployment in 2003. Kimberly served in numerous capacities reaching many families of deployed members. Her most notable service may have been the creation of the Operation Iraqi and Enduring Freedom T-shirts commemorating the efforts of the 507th Air Refueling Wing.

Heather Thompson serves as the CAP Public Affairs officer.

According to Thompson, as a family we do it to spend time together. Others may want to participate because cadets can learn to fly, volunteers and cadets participate in real-world search and rescue missions, it's an opportunity to give back to your community through various events and it is a chance to shape the life of a child.

The CAP has three main taskings. According to Thompson, "The most visible is the Search and Rescue mission also known as Emergency Services.

"The second mission we have is Cadet Programs. This mission involves both Senior Members and Cadets. Both gain leadership skills, learn survival and rescue skills among other things."

The third mission is Aerospace Education. This resource was established to educate both the CAP membership and the community. It provides support for collegiate workshops nationwide each year. Aerospace Education provides classroom materials, teacher training and other educational aids at no cost to America's teachers. These resources have enabled instructors at all levels the ability to use the education curricula provided through CAP.



**The Thompson family
Jimmy, Heather, Kimberly, and Rebecca**

The CAP program was founded in December 1941, just before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. It was started by over 150,000 citizens concerned about United State's coastline defense. Flying under the jurisdiction of the Army Air Forces, CAP pilots flew over one-half million hours, were credited with sinking two enemy submarines and rescued hundreds of crash survivors during World War II.

On July 1, 1946, President Truman established CAP as a federally chartered benevolent civilian corporation and Congress passed Public Law 557 on May 26, 1948. This law made CAP the auxiliary of the newly established U.S. Air Force.

CAP was charged with three primary missions: Aerospace Education, Cadet Programs and Emergency Services.

For more information or to learn how you and your family can join the CAP, please visit www.cap.gov.

Split Training Option Flight

They're not a forgotten force

**By Maj. Rich Curry
507th Air Refueling Wing
Public Affairs**

Two years ago, Air Force Reserve Command initiated a new program for non-prior service recruits entering military service.

That program, called the Split Training Option, evolved as a result of the lack of available technical school training positions for recruits coming out of basic training.

According to Chief Master Sgt. Alfonso Garza, 507th Senior Recruiter, "A major factor facing us is that there are fewer fully qualified prior service people available to recruit. All the reserve component services are faced with a larger percentage of new enlistments being non-prior individuals. Currently, we're averaging roughly 30 to 40 percent of new recruits who are non-prior service. And that puts an increased workload on all the military tech schools."

"Prior to the STO program," Chief Garza said, "our recruiters worked to 'time' a recruit's entry date to basic training to ensure there was an immediate follow opening at a technical school afterwards. This caused us to recruit people with longer and longer delayed enlistment dates. It's much more difficult to get a recruit to join in the Reserve if they know they have to wait months before they can start."

"The Reserve's STO program changed that," Chief Garza said. "Now we can keep the people coming to fill unit vacancies."

But for those participating in the STO program, military service back at the unit after basic training presents unique challenges. According to Capt.

Jeffrey White, STO Program Manager, most of those awaiting tech schools only have a one to two month wait. "However, we do have people who are faced with a six month or longer wait for a tech school opening."

"The question becomes: 'What do STO flight members do during drill weekends while they're waiting?' he said.

Without technical training, STO members may not work in their primary career field, but rather are assigned to the wing's STO Flight. "We can't allow untrained people to work on military equipment or in their primary career fields," Captain White said. To date, roughly 10 people have gone through the unit STO process in the past two years.

"Because we're now seeing people with longer delay times, we realized there was a need to take a more formalized approach for our STO training program," Captain White said.

"The Air Force Reserve provides some generalized guidance and recommendations on how to conduct a local STO program, but we saw there were some gaps that we could fill," he said.

"Today, the focus on the unit's STO program is to keep the participants 'blued.' We focus on providing continuing training. STO members receive discussions on topics such as Core Values and how they impact our daily lives. They are helped to set up personal Air Force Computer Based Training accounts for continuous education. They also receive the annual mandatory training and briefings such as Law of Armed Conflict, Suicide Prevention, or Self Aid Buddy Care.

"Every STO participant has differ-

ent needs, depending on how long they have to wait for their follow-on training," Captain White said. "What we've done is to incorporate Air Force Reserve Command guidance and then set up individual training paths for each STO participant." White identified the mandatory requirements and "good to have" training needs and incorporated those into an STO handbook and an informational web-based CD, which is given to each participant as they enter the program. A 507th ARW Operating Instruction governing the STO program is also currently being staffed.

"No two training programs will be the same," he said. "We identified those requirements that are mandatory and try to accomplish those first. If a member has to stay with us for a longer period, we try to help them accomplish other training we feel will be beneficial to them and their eventual supervisors."

"We wanted to make sure the STO members kept their focus on their careers and at the same time to eventually provide a better member for the unit," he said. Now, the captain said, as the STO members exit the unit program for their technical school, they will receive a copy of an Air Force Form 623a, on-the-job training record supplemental sheet, that they will be able to present to their future supervisors when they return to the unit.

"I think we all realize how important that first impression of our unit really is to these newcomers. Potentially each of these people may become future leaders and we'd like to give them a good start in that direction and make sure they didn't become a forgotten force," Captain White said.

Master Sgt. Nicky Stewart retires

Master Sgt. Nicky Stewart of the 507th Communications Flight is retiring this month with 33 years of service, 29 of those years with the 507th Air Refueling Wing.

Sergeant Stewart was born in Wichita, Kansas and, after graduating from high school, enlisted in the Air Force on Nov. 9, 1965. After basic training and completion of Communication Specialist training at Hunter AFB, Georgia, he was assigned to Karamasel AFS, Turkey, until December of 1968. He was reassigned to the 6590th Special Activity Squadron, Los Angeles AFS, California, for 11 months and left active duty service in 1969.

He attended Butter County Community Junior College in Kansas

from 1970 to 1972, pursuing a Business Management degree. Following a six-year break, Sergeant Stewart reenlisted in the Air Force Reserve on Sept. 13, 1975 and joined the 507th Communications Flight. During his career with the unit, Sergeant Stewart has served as a communications specialist, administrative specialist, field switchboard operator trainer, superintendent of operations and first sergeant.

His decorations include the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Small Arms Expert Ribbon with one device, Air Force Medal, Air Force Longevity Ribbon



with six devices, Air Force Overseas Service Ribbon, and Air Force Training Ribbon.

Married with seven children, Stewart will retire in Lawton, Oklahoma, where he and his wife currently live.

A reluctant Airman

**By Chief Master Sgt. Leon Walker
507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron**

It is fall 1971, hundreds of thousands, if not millions of 19-year-old male Americans along with myself were sitting around the television set watching the big cage full of balls rolling around and around. It was the annual lottery used to determine in what order we would be called up to serve our country during the Vietnam War. You could say this was the first reality show. In the years past my number was always in the high two hundreds or low three hundreds, but not this year. On the 44th pull, April 19th came out of the basket and shortly thereafter I received my notice to report to my nearest classification center for evaluation. I had no desire to be in the military, but I knew it was inevitable. Knowing this I researched all of the services to see which was the most suited to my personality and lest likely to get my feet wet in the rice fields of Vietnam. So reluctantly I joined the Air Force and headed into the unknown abyss.

There was no way for me to know the impact the Air Force would have on my life and its goals. Being a leader was never a desire of mine but I always seemed to find myself in a leadership roll of some sort. It started in cub scouts when we had to have a cub leader in order to have

our own cub. No one else would take the position so reluctantly I took it. This trend seemed to follow me all the way through my life. In junior high and high school I was constantly finding myself in charge of everything from fundraisers and plays to serving as president of my class or captain of my basketball team. In basic training I served as a squad leader, a red rope in tech school and a long list of other positions over the next 33 years. I never volunteered for any of the positions that I served in nor did I ever refuse the opportunities my supervisors afforded me. Every additional duty and supervisor position was performed to the best of my ability and in the best interest of my section, squadron or USAF.

Now it is time for me to leave something that I have grown to love and cherish. Twenty three years of my service was spent in the 507th Combat Logistic Support Squadron and I will miss each and every member of the unit, present and past. But I say to my fellow airmen (active and reserve): Whether you supervise one or 101, treat them with respect, disperse disciple, evenly and fairly, keep your standards high, and embrace our core values. So it is with great reluctance that I say goodbye. I wish each and everyone well. Remember, your people are the key to your and the mission's success. Take care of them and they will keep us all strong.

Pay, benefits increase for reservists

WASHINGTON – Military people will receive a pay hike. If they qualify, they'll get larger re-up bonuses.

Reservists activated for 90 days or more can apply for extra money for college and continuing family health care.

These and other benefits are in the fiscal 2005 National Defense Authorization Act. The president signed the \$421 billion defense bill into law Oct. 28.

The bill OK'd \$2.24 billion for Air Force Reserve Command to train reservists and run the command.

A 3.5 percent across-the-board pay raise starts Jan. 1.

Bonus authority goes up for people to enlist and re-enlist in the Reserve. For example, people with no previous military service who qualify for a 6-year enlistment bonus may receive up to a maximum of \$10,000. The same bonus in 2004 was \$8,000. Other examples of the changes are available in the Selected Reserve 2005 Enlistment/Reenlistment Bonuses chart. Reservists can take a lump sum payment or installments.

People who go to college full time using the current Selected Reserve Montgomery GI Bill draw a max of \$288 a month. That's equal to 29 percent of the active-duty program's \$1,004 per month.

Reservists activated to fight the war on terror can get more. Full-time students draw \$402 a month for 90 days to a year of service, \$602 for 1-2 years and \$803 for more than 2 years.

The act makes early and transitional health care permanent for reservists activated for contingency support. People called up for more than 90 days can earn eligibility for Tricare standard family health care. For each 90 days of contingency support since Sept. 11, 2001, they are eligible for a full year of coverage if they stay in the Selected Reserve.

"We welcome these new Tricare provisions as a

means to improve active and reserve component force readiness, and to enhance family member access to care," said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

Some programs won't begin immediately. For example, Congress wants the new Tricare standard enrollment program to start by April 25, 2005.

Dr. Winkenwerder said his people are working on these provisions to ensure they start on time.

Another change permanently sets family separation pay at \$250 per month. Also fixed is the increase in hostile fire and imminent danger pay to \$225 per month.

Air reserve technicians who perform the same job as civilians and reservists can take up to 44 days of military leave for overseas duty. The old law limited the leave to peacetime work. The new law permits the use of the leave to fight the war on terror.

Reservists no longer need to serve their last six years in the Air Force Reserve to qualify for a non-regular (reserve) retirement. Although reserve retirees can shop at the commissary and base exchange as soon as they retire, they don't start drawing retirement pay until age 60.

Also, the act speeds up concurrent-receipt payments for retirees rated 100 percent disabled. In the past, retirees had their pay docked dollar for dollar by the amount of disability payments the Department of Veterans Affairs paid them. Last year, Congress authorized a phase-in process that would eliminate the concurrent-receipt prohibition over a decade. (AFRC News Service)

**PAY
RAISE**





Building 1095, Security Forces Squadron

Security Forces at home in new 8,740 square foot facility

After six years, the 507th Security Forces Squadron members now have a place to call home.

During a 10 a.m. ribbon cutting ceremony Dec. 3, 507th ARW Commander Col. Dean Despinoy dedicated a new 8,740 square foot facility, building 1095, stating “We are very happy for the support from Tinker Air Force Base officials and everyone involved to help us make this new facility a reality.”

For the Air Force reservists, the long exodus to their new work center began in 1999 after a second major flood wreaked havoc to their previous building on base.

“Our original building was in the middle of the Reserve campus on base and unfortunately was located in what’s called a 100-year flood zone,” said Master Sgt. David Dickson, 507th SFS Air Reserve Technician. The term “100-year flood zone” is used to describe an area that may, under the right conditions, encounter major flooding once every 100 years.

“Our squadron got hit with two major floods virtually back to back,” Dickson said.

The second flood, which produced a 4 foot high crest throughout the entire squadron building, destroyed a major portion of the squadron’s office equipment and deployable assets, including night vision goggles, two All Terrain Vehicles and personal chemical gear.

“It was a terrible event,” Dickson said. Immediately afterwards, the squadron took roost for four months in the maintenance complex before moving to office facilities with the 513th Air Control Group in building 240. In April of 2000, the squadron moved once again to the 38th EIG complex off Douglas Blvd. where they remained for the next four

years.

The new \$1.2 million facility is designed to provide space for 50 Air Force Reserve Security Forces personnel with offices, two training classrooms, and attached warehouse storage for the squadron’s deployable wartime assets.

“Our security forces are a vital resource to the Air Force,” Colonel Despinoy stated during the building dedication. “The support we have received from Base Civil Engineering and others here on base was critical to our being able to stand here today and mark a new beginning for our reservists.”



Col. Dean Despinoy, 507th ARW commander, assists Maj. Dennis Sivert, 507th Security Forces Squadron commander, with the new building ribbon-cutting in December.

HRDC initiative supports area school

By Maj. Rich Curry
507th ARW Public Affairs

The hands-on involvement of unit reservists has helped a local metro area school achieve a national scholastic award.

The reservists, operating under a 507th Air Refueling Wing and 513th Air Control Group Human Resource Development Council community outreach effort supported the 8th grade Math and Science class of Belle Isle Enterprise Middle School providing guest lecturers for the students.

Capt. Roslynn Rayford, the class's teacher, and 507th ARW Military Equal Opportunity Officer, had requested guest speakers for her students to provide them with examples of how math helps individuals in their daily careers.

"I received a great response from other reservists," she said. What she didn't know at the time was how her individual initiative and unit response would become a portion of the school's national award nomination submission.

Belle Isle was one of only four Oklahoma schools and 286 schools nationally to receive the Federal "Blue Ribbon" award for outstanding achievement for improved test scores from the Department of Education. Belle Isle was nominated as a result of students scoring in the top 10 percent of the state on state-mandated tests.

The program is part of the 2004 "No Child Left Behind Blue

Ribbon Schools Program." Captain Rayford traveled along with her school's principal and another teacher to a national conference in November where they received their award from then Secretary of Education Rodney Page.

"The blue ribbon award is based primarily on Math and Reading scores," Rayford said. "Our school had to demonstrate three years of progress plus the scores had to be outstanding for the fourth year. In the fourth, the school year that just passed, the unit HRDC helped sponsor my class's Math and Leadership program. Capt. Mark Vardaro, 507th Air Refueling Wing Inspector General, held personalized Six Sigma (continuous improvement) training project which helped to ensure the students scores for descriptive statistics were high. Others like Capt. Mechille Braden, 507th Services Flight commander, and Lt. Col. Pete Peterson, 35th Combat Communications Squadron commander, provided motivation and connections to math in their jobs for the kids during their briefings," she said.

According to Belle Isle principal, Ms. Lynn Kellert, "I was able to watch some of the classrooms while the training sessions were going on. The instruction provided by your reservists was terrific."

November provided an added surprise to Captain Rayford who learned Nov. 19 that she had received her National Board certification. "Our school achieving the National Blue Ribbon Award was greatly helped this past school year by our reservists participating in this Math and Leadership program," Captain Rayford said.



A large pumper truck is used to place the final grade beam concrete for the expansion of the 507th Civil Engineer Building. Approximately 150 cubic yards of concrete were used in the construction of the grade beam foundation system. The next step will be the concrete floor slab. Completion date for the entire project is scheduled for Spring 2005.

Pregnancy and the workplace

**By Tech. Sgt. Patricia Todd
507th Medical Squadron**

Wow!! You have so many things to do and learn with the knowledge that you are pregnant. Find an obstetrician, schedule appointments and accomplish lab tests. Is Public Health on our TO DO list? Are you considering your military duties?

Did you know chemicals can harm the baby before you know you are pregnant? If you are planning a pregnancy, it would not be inappropriate for Public Health to review your work duties with you.

However, as soon as you are preg-

nant, it is the responsibility of the member, supervisor, and commander to report the pregnancy to Public Health. The Air Force as any large company, is required by law to protect the member and baby from harm.

Public Health completes an interview which includes comments from the supervisor indicating duties performed by the member. The questionnaire also reviews civilian and off duty activities. Once the interview process is complete the questionnaire is forwarded to Bioenvironmental Engineering if any hazards are identified. Bio completes an investigation and

duty appropriate restrictions are identified that provide protection for mother and child. Duty restrictions should be reviewed by Public Health if the member's duty or work environment changes. Remember even Morale and Welfare changes can adversely impact pregnancy, such as painting the hallway.

In the end members, supervisors and commanders each have a responsibility to protect the member and child's health.

Please contact Public Health with the 507th Medical Squadron at 734-2571; we are located on the third floor of the hospital, Room A335.

'Phishing' scams proliferate on AF networks

"Phishing" is the term applied to the scam of luring unsuspecting users into providing personal or financial information by opening what appears to be email from a legitimate commercial institution but is in fact a hoax.

Once the email is opened, the recipient is directed to a

link that sends them to the scammer's website. The "victim" is then prompted to enter personal information including SSN, credit card or bank account numbers.

All the information supplied to the bogus website is then passed to the scammer. This information is then used by the scammer for malicious purposes including identity theft.

Mark Scoles, director of the 507th ARW Financial Office, advises all unit members to note that "legitimate commercial companies, banks, and public utilities will not normally ask for customer information over the Internet or phone." He said that amongst the estimated 6,700 recent scams of this nature are some that have the appearance of originating from Citizens Bank, US Bank, Sun Trust Bank, and Microsoft.

Scoles passed on the following advice for unit members:

1. Never open suspicious looking email attachments.
2. Confirm the legitimacy of electronic correspondence and never supply information if you are suspicious of the intent of the email/website.
3. Report incidents of anything suspicious.

Reunion Group sets meetings for new year

The 507th Silver Sq. has scheduled two meetings for its members during 2005. The reunion group also includes members of the 305th Transportation Carrier Squadron as well as members of the 513th Air Control Group.

The meetings for next year are scheduled for 7:30 a.m., Saturday, May 21, and Saturday, Nov. 5th at the Golden Corral in Midwest City.

This can go one of two ways

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Come fly with us

All 507th Air Refueling Wing (ARW) and 513th Air Control Group reservists are invited to nominate their employers for an upcoming Employer Support Orientation Flight, scheduled for Friday, April 1, 2005.

Employer support flights are sponsored to help better acquaint business leaders who employ reservists with the mission of the Air Force Reserve.

According to Maj. Richard Curry, 507th ARW Public Affairs Officer and unit representative for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) activities, "The April orientation flight will involve at least one of the 507th ARW's KC-135R 'Stratotanker' aircraft. We are looking to fly employers on a 2-3 hour mission."



Reservists may nominate their employers by filling out the nomination form appearing on this page and presenting it to their commander. Because of space limitations, reservists may also provide additional information to their commander

to tell them why their boss should be selected for this flight. Public Affairs is requesting that reservists do not nominate employers for repeat flights.

"In the past, this activity has been a regular event for our units," Curry said. "So if we are unable to fly your employer on this mission, watch for future announcements and please try again."

All nominations should be given to an individual's commander before March 6, 2005 so final selections can be made and employers contacted with flight information.

Employer Orientation Flight Nomination form

Company Name _____

Employer's Name / Title _____

Employer's Phone / Fax / Email _____

Employer Address _____

Reservist's Name/Rank _____

Reservist's Business Phone _____

Reservist's Home Phone _____

Reservist's Unit _____

Parting Shots



Col. Joan M. Cunningham, 72nd Air Base Wing commander, presents the 2004 Tinker Air Force Base Athlete of the Year award to Tech. Sgt. Brian Finley at the November UTA commander's call. Finley, an aircraft mechanic with the 507th MXS, participates in three intramural sports on base: flag football since 1998; softball since 1993; and volleyball since 1998. Finley was one of the main founders involved in getting the Reserve program in the base programs.



The Air Force Reserve flag football team had another successful season in 2004, with a regular season record of 6-2, and winning their first three playoff games handily before losing their final two games in the semi-finals. The team was hampered during the season with two season-ending injuries for key players (Branon Matthews and Joe Brown), but had two players come out of retirement to help the cause (Jimmy Wolfe and Andy Clarke). Returning veterans were player-coach Ralph Hawkins, Brian Finley (Tinker AFB Athlete of the Year), Ben Yoder, Ken Sarsycki, Anthony Lee, Wes Updegraff, Joe Huizar, Tim Milliken, Bob Atkins, Lauch McMillan, Lloyd Palmer and rookies Travis Newton and Mark McMillan. Not pictured were Wolfe, Brown, Newton, M. McMillan and Palmer.

On-final

R-News

HRDC report-writing workshop set

A second report writing workshop will be held during the February drill weekend.

The workshop, "Effective Bullet Writing" will return by popular demand, said Master Sgt. Takesha Williams, enlisted co-chair of the 507th ARW and 513th ACG Human Resource Development Council.

The class will be once again be taught by Senior Master Sgt. Karen Perkins, 507th MOF First Sergeant.

"The critiques and comments we received after the first workshop showed us that a lot of people who couldn't attend the first class wanted us to offer a second one," Sergeant Williams said.

Sergeant Perkins' workshop helps

participants preparing either performance reports, award packages and other forms or reports requiring bullet format statements to creatively develop their craft comments to paper. During the workshop, Sergeant Perkins discusses practical methods of gathering information and how to turn raw data into products that dazzle. Perkins stressed the workshop is for current as well as future supervisors.

"Eventually everyone faces the challenge of writing performance reports or an awards package. Knowing how to get the job done right the first time can save you time and energy," she said.

The workshop will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 6, at the 513th ACG auditorium. The maximum class size will be 25 participants. Lunch is provided.

Members interested in attending this workshop are encouraged to reserve a place by contacting Sergeant Williams via e-mail at takesha.williams@tinker.af.mil.

507th ARW Recruiters

Tinker AFB, OK

(In-Service Recruiter)
Master Sgt. Nathan Bickle
(405) 739-2980



Moore, Norman, OK

Master Sgt. Gene Higgins
(405) 217-8311

Midwest City, OK

Tech. Sgt. Marvin Greene (SE)
Staff Sgt. Sharon McQuitty (NW)
(405) 733-9403

Tulsa, OK

Tech. Sgt. Richard D. Kozik (NE)
(918) 665-2300

Lawton, OK

Staff Sgt. Kamala Thigpen
(580) 357-2784

McConnell AFB, KS

Master Sgt. David McCormick
(In-Service Recruiter)
(316) 681-2522

Vance AFB, OK

Master Sgt. David McCormick
(316) 759-3766