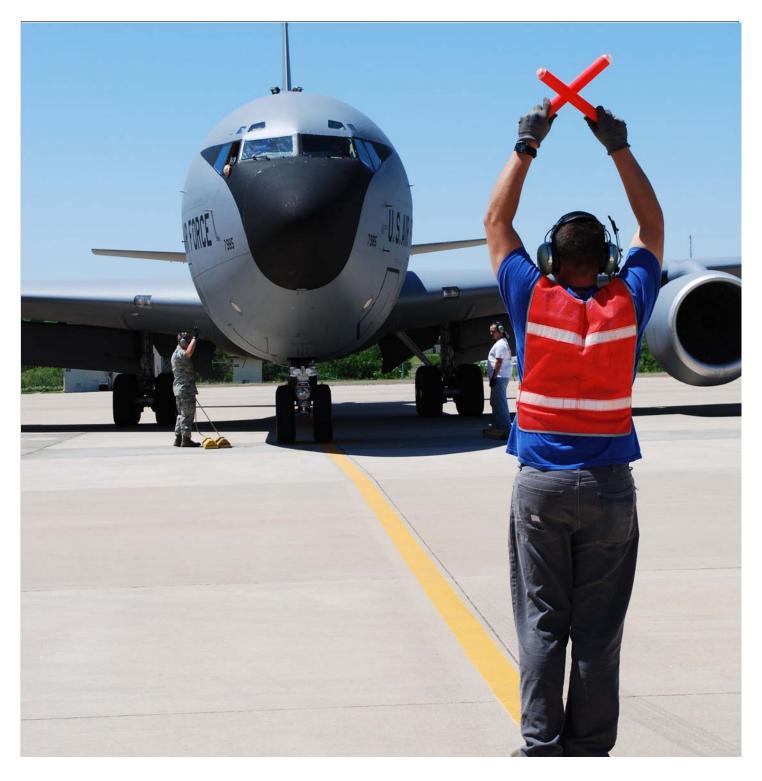




507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing - 513<sup>th</sup> Air Control Group Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma JUNE 2009 Vol. 29, No. 6



#### **On-final**

#### COMMENTARY

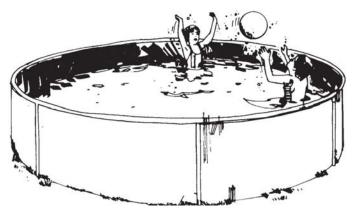


## 100 Critical Days of Summer have begun

We have started the 100 CRITICAL DAYS OF SUM-MER. You may ask why we put so much emphasis on these 100 days and not the other 265. Even though safety and ORM are critical throughout the year, these 100 days historically have the highest rates of safety-related incidents. Us older folks always seem to prove that our bodies are still in their 30's and those 30 and younger think they are invulnerable to death or injury. Let's face it, we do more outdoor-type events during the summer and with that comes the risk of injury. We all need to use ORM in both our work environments and while we are off-duty. Especially watch alcohol consumption. When it is hot, those beers or umbrella drinks seem to get finished a lot quicker and with it ORM goes out the window. Be smart in all you do. Remember, if it does not seem like the thing to do it probably is smart to not do it.

Kim and I want to see you all healthy at Family Day in September. The last year has been outstanding on the safety front, but we need everyone's help to continue the trend. REMEMBER TO BE A GREAT WINGMAN!

Speaking of Family Day, planning has begun. If you have not liked the event in the past or think you might have better ideas, please volunteer a little of your time to help in the planning and execution of this GREAT Wing DAY. The more planners and workers we have the better the event will be.



Never swim alone. Be a good Wingman and think safety at all times!

# Lodging 'Did You Know' Facts

Reservations are required to be made NLT five (5) calendar days prior to each UTA via the Automated Lodging Reservation System (ALRS). The ALRS will be shut down three (3) calendar days prior to each UTA.

Reservations, changes, and cancellations are the responsibility of the member and must be handled through the ALRS. Once the member chooses a desired hotel, no deviation is allowed. Cancel reservation before 1600 on the check-in day.

It is highly recommended that you call the reserved hotel, double check reservations, give credit card information, and request confirmation number.

Advise reserved hotel if any dependents/guests will accompany you during the stay. Member is responsible for all additional costs, damages and inappropriate behavior or misconduct incurred by family members per reserved hotel. If housed on base, minor dependents are not allowed. Temporary Lodging for Families (TLF) is not authorized for reserve members on inactive duty training (IDT) unless prior arrangements have been made with the Wing Lodging Representative (WLR).

You must comply with the established hotel check-out times and return key to the front desk on the date of departure unless prior arrangements have been made with hotel and lodging office, to include removal of all personal effects and/or family members. The member is responsible for all late checkout charges.

Member will provide a personal credit card at time of check-in to cover any additional room charges that may be incurred during the stay not covered by the unit, i.e., telephone, movie rental, etc. Member will coordinate with unit First Sergeant and squadron/flight ART if member does not have a personal credit card to provide to the hotel at time of check in. Only the WLR can authorize any arrangements with the hotels.

Unit members will not bring pets during tours of duty to Tinker. Member will kennel pets at own expense.

During the UTA, all eligible members will make reservations for the next UTA, IDT, scheduled within the next 30 days through ALRS. Advance reservations will ensure lodging staff has time to work out any conflicts which may arise from local events.

Members calling ALRS and choosing not to select the available accommodations by hanging up on the system are flagged and will be unable to make future reservations until they contact the WLR. Individuals repeatedly refusing available lodging accommodations will be reported to their First Sergeants and Commanders, and may be denied lodging privileges.

#### Chapel Corner

## **Long-distance Fathering**

#### by Chaplain, Lt. Col. Mike Jones

Father's Day is two weeks away and while it is a celebration, it is also a reminder of how important our job is as Dads. Especially when we are gone a lot during the year to work or on deployments. Truth is, like many of you, I've been gone a lot too. There was one stretch that I'd been away from home 15 out of 24 months on backfill tours. In that time I missed birthdays, an anniversary, and both a Thanksgiving and Christmas. So how can I be a "Dad" from so far away? Well I certainly don't have all of the answers but I'd like to share with you some of the things I did to stay active in my kids' lives.

I often called home to talk to the kids. Before leaving home, I also put a calling card by the home phone so the kids could call me anytime and talk for as long as they wanted. And I never let them say goodbye without telling them that I love them. I didn't assume they knew I loved them so I said it every chance I got!

I sent them cards just to let them know that I miss them, that I was thinking of them, and that I was praying for them. Since I have more than one child I would sometimes send a separate card to each one just to let them know that they are each special to me.

One of my ongoing concerns was the spiritual development and growth of my children while I was gone. While they were going to church and my wife did an excellent job of both modeling and teaching our faith, as their father it was my responsibility to be actively teaching them as well. One thing I did with my son was a study over the phone. We picked out a book to read on a spiritual topic he was interested in (that's important if you want to keep it going), read a chapter or two during the week and talked about it on the phone. I also ask how things were going at church, what they were doing in Bible classes, how the youth group was going, and are they doing anything special—all kinds of questions to show that I was interested...because I was! I also prayed with the kids over the phone.

Finally, there is the issue of long distance discipline. That's a tough one, but it can be done with a little creativity. Of course, my wife was really key to this working. Normally, she would handle all of the regular discipline needs that arose like when the kids didn't do their chores or got home late. She would always keep me up on what's happening and I would talk to the kids and reinforce whatever action she'd taken. They needed to know that I backed their mother 100 percent (and she needed to know that too), and that I took my responsibility as their father very seriously.

So be encouraged! With some effort and creativity you can still be an active and positive part in your children's lives, even when you're far from home.

(Note: a helpful resource for additional ideas is the Dads at a Distance website: www.fambooks.com/daads.htm - yes, it's spelled "daads")

# Happy Father's Day June 14, 2009



507th Air Refueling Wing Editorial Staff 507th ARW Commander-Col. Jeffery R. Glass Chief of Public Affairs-Lt. Col. Rich Curry Deputy Chief of Public Affairs -Maj. Bill Pierce On-final Editor -Tech Sgt. Melba Koch Volume 29, No. 6 JUNE 2009

#### Public Affairs Specialist -

Tech Sgt. Kristin Mack This funded Air Force Reserve Command magazine is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

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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. Call us at 734-3078.** 

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.

## **Veteran thanks Broken Arrow students for support**

#### By Emory Bryan The News On 6

BROKEN ARROW, OK—A veteran of the war in Afghanistan thanked some young people on Wednesday for staying in touch. It was the letters from home that an Airman says helped him make it through some tough times in the war.

Maj. Bob Baird went to Afghanistan as a military advisor.

"What I was sent over there to do as a military advisor, we were training the Afghan Army," said Maj. Bob Baird.

But, Major Baird came back to Broken Arrow as a pen pal.

"He sent some letters that answered a whole lot of questions and he answered one of mine," said 7th grader Zach Rowan.

Dr. Loretta Lafon's reading class sent letters to him while he was in Afghanistan. His visit to Haskell Middle School in Broken Arrow is a return on the favor.

"But, I wanted to come back and tell you face-to-face thank you for what you did. It made a difference. They came at a time that for me was really hard and



Baird brought back souvenirs like native hats to use as props while talking to students about Afghanistan.

knowing that some people back home are thinking of us, I passed them around to my roommates and it made a difference, so thank you," said Major Baird.



Baird says the young people helped him keep a connection with home.

Baird serves as a reservist out of Tinker Air Force Base. He came home in February and brought with him some souvenirs like native hats that make good props for a speech to young people.

He says the young people helped him keep a connection with home.

"The little things that come over mean the most. There were many packages I received anonymously from people; just some of the most beautiful, articulate letters you could ever read in your entire life," said Major Baird.

Baird took the flag with him on his tour and came back with letters he says he'll keep forever, reminders of Broken Arrow he got in Afghanistan.

Even with all the emails and webcams available to soldiers and their families today, Major Baird said it was those handmade and mailed cards and letters that meant the most.

Reprinted with permission from KOTV, The News on 6. See this story and video on www.newson6.com.

#### FAREWELL

## Once an Okie...Always an Okie

#### by 2nd Lt. Zachary L. Anderson 4th Air Force Public Affairs

Saying goodbye is never easy. It's even harder when you are saying goodbye to family. And that's exactly what I have to do.

In the last three years of working in the 507th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs office, I've had the opportunity to read several of this type of article. Funny thing is, you never realize how difficult the "goodbye" article is to write until you're actually trying to do it.

When I first enlisted with the 507th, I was a 26-year-old, fresh-off-the-street civilian with only a rudimentary under-



All in one week in April, Anderson received his commission, married his sweetheart, Renee, and moved to California to start a new chapter in his career. Pictured are Renee, 2nd Lt. Zach Anderson and Wing Chaplain, Maj. Dwight Magnus, who performed their wedding ceremony. Photo by Melba Koch

standing of the Air Force Reserve. All I really knew was that I wanted to serve my country, and I wanted to be like the men and women in uniform that I admired so much. Now, over three years later, I can say that I do understand what it means to serve. to sacrifice for this country. And as for those men and women in uniform, my admiration of them has only grown as I have worked alongside a group I consider to be the finest collection of Airmen there is

If I could, I would

write a personal thank



We all knew this smiling face as Zach. He's now on the road to fulfill his dream of being the best Public Affairs Officer in the Air Force Reserve. Good luck 2nd Lt. Anderson. You will be missed by the Okies.

you to each individual in the wing who has helped me, mentored me, taught me...but the simple fact is there aren't enough pages in the "On-Final" for me to do that. I do, however, want to say thank you. Thank you to each and every one of you. In my time with the 507th, I have been changed

and I have been improved for the better. I owe an incredible debt of gratitude to the Okies. Earning a commission has been a dream of mine from day one, and it's a dream that could never have been accomplished without the support of my commander and my supervisors. I'd like to give a special thank you to the individuals of the headquarters section who assisted me from start to finish, from putting my package together to helping me out-process. I would never be here without you.

Even though I was only with the 507th for a relatively short time, it was my first unit, my first home, and the place where I learned how to be an Airman. I'm going to miss the UTA weekends, the ORIs and OREs, the camaraderie of my fellow troops...all those things. Mostly, I'm going to miss the personalities and the people that make the 507th such an incredible unit.

As I said, it's never easy to say goodbye. Even though I've moved on, my home will always be Oklahoma and my family will always, always be the 507th. I've heard it said before: Once an Okie, always an Okie. It's definitely true.

Thank you, once again, to each of you.



## My hat's off to all

As commander of the 513th Maintenance Squadron, I was touring the squadron and was very impressed with the quality of the facilities but even more so, I was impressed with the quality of the personnel in the shops. So, how do we keep this culture going? People come and go through transfers, promotions, or retirements. How does an organization maintain the "edge" on quality and personal development for our most valuable assets...our people?

There are many personnel development programs that are on-going in the Air Force today, such as Career Development Course (CDC), Professional Military Education (PME), and Physical Fitness (PT). These programs have a huge impact on a member's professional development and success.

CDC's should be taken very serious! Through CDC's, the Airmen begin training to give them the technical skills needed to perform their career field specialties.

They are designed to teach each member the ins and outs of working on jets on the flight line. And really, isn't that why we are here! With this technical knowledge, we can complete our maintenance duties to ensure that the aircraft can perform the mission and return home safely. If a member fails to pass the end of the course test, they will be required to re-train into another work series or face possible discharge from the service. Bottom line....study and pass your CDC's!

PME has the same idea, but in a different area of the member's development. The mission of PME is to develop America's Airmen today....for tomorrow. It prepares our Airmen for more responsible positions as they progress through their careers. The courses emphasize supervisory duties and foster a commitment to the profession of arms. Airmen gain an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a noncommissioned officer. The bottom line is to complete your PME or you will not be promoted.

Physical fitness requirements can be a tool used to maintain one's good health and appearance. The PT requirements are now tougher and more focused on producing fit Airmen. Although technology has changed the nature of conflict over the years, physical fitness remains an important component of the effectiveness of every military service member. Furthermore, with these technological changes coupled with force reductions and continually changing world conditions, all personnel must be ready and fit at all times. Individual service members must possess the stamina and strength to perform successfully any potential mission. Bottom line, we must all pass our physical fitness test to be successful in our duties.

The pride and professionalism that is displayed by the members is well over the top of what is expected from maintenance technicians. Having spent several years on active duty as a Maintenance Officer, I have a good understanding of the Air Force Core Values and these Airmen are the epitome of these values; Integrity first, Service before self, and Excellence in all we do. These Airmen meet or exceed the expected standards. "My hat's off to all!"



Col. Rodney Bryan, 507th Mission Support Group commander, accepts the coveted Okie Pride Trophy for 2008 from Senior Master Sgt. Dave Liszeski, 2008 Tinker Reserve Top 3 President, as Vice President Senior Master Sgt. Robert Gaspar looks on. The 507th Mission Support raised the most memberships and funds for the Top 3. PAGE 6

# May 2009 promotions

Name Tubbs, Justin Corsette, Corinne Doty, Robert Dunning, Michael Hill, Lloyd Letterman, Rebekah 507th AMXS **Oglesby**, Darrin Lampe, Ryan **Owens**, Randy Deeter, Duane Nelson, Michael **Rogers**, Mark **DeSpain**, George Sandburg, Barbara 513th OSF Otzenberger, Mark 35th CBCS

Unit 507th CES 970th AACS 970th AACS 507th AMXS 507th AMXS 507th MDS 72nd APS 72nd APS 507th MOF 507th MOF 970th AACS 513th OSF

Promoted to Staff Sgt. Tech Sqt. Master Sqt. **Senior Airman** Staff Sqt. Tech Sgt. Master Sqt. Staff Sqt. Staff Sgt. Tech Sqt. Tech Sgt. Sr Master Sgt. Master Sqt. **Senior Airman** Master Sgt.

#### 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. For more information or to schedule testing, contact Chief Master Sgt. Sharlotte Epps in the MPF Education and Training Office at 734-7075.

#### FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY PAY (FLPP)

Reservists may apply for FLPP by submitting a written request for FLPP testing to his/her commander. FLPP I requires you to be on a tour of duty that requires the language. FLPP II for authorized languages will pay based on active duty days or IDT periods performed. If you are proficient at a foreign language and are interested in this program please contact Chief Master Sgt. Sharlotte Epps or Master Sgt. Sharon Lochman in the MPF Education Office at 734-7075 for instructions on how to apply for FLPP.

#### **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.** 

Payment occurs after satisfactory course completion. You must provide a paid receipt and your grade NLT 60 days after course completion. TA reimbursement amounts are set at 100 percent (\$4500) per FY (Masters) or 100 percent (\$4500) per FY (Bachelors). For more information contact Chief Master Sgt. Sharlotte Epps or Ms. Kim Silkwood 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. Next class is scheduled for Oct 19-31, 2009. See unit training manager for information.

#### 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. <u>Address Changes</u> - You no longer have to go to 4 different screens/areas to update your address!!!

2. <u>Point Summaries</u> - Point Summarys can also be viewed and printed.

**3.** <u>**Record Review RIPs</u>** - You will now be notified via e-mail, on your birthday, to log on to vMPF to review your RIP.</u>

**4.** <u>Awards and decorations</u> - You can also get a picture display of your awards and decorations.

## HOT TOPICS :

All testing (paper and computer) must be scheduled by sending an e-mail to 507.msf.dpmt@tinker.af.mil with the time and date that you would like to test and include the course number.

**Computer-based testing** on the UTA is available on Sunday at 0800 and 1300 in Bldg. 1043, ATN Room in the basement.

Please schedule all tests NLT 1500 on Friday before the UTA. If you are unable to keep the scheduled time please e-mail the training office or call 734-7075 prior to scheduled testing time. All testing is also available on Wednesdays at 0800 and 1300 and Thursdays at 1300.

**NOTE:** If you are retaking a test, you must bring the authorization letter with you or you will not be allowed to test.

#### **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: 0800 -1200 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)

## \* \* \* \* \* \*

FY 09-10 UTA SCHEDULE

11-12 July 0901-02 Aug 0912-13 Sep 0903-04 Oct 0907-08 Nov 0905-06 Dec 0909-10 Jan 1006-07 Feb 1006-07 Mar 1010-11 Apr 1001-02 May 1005-06 Jun 1010-11 Jul 1007-08 Aug 1011-12 Sep 10

As of May 22, 2009

\* \* \* \* \* \*

TRAINING PLANNER

Fri, 5 June 2009           1300         Pre-           1400         Pre-           1500         Pre-           1600         Top	<b>2009</b> Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff MtgBldg 1030, MSG Conf RmPre-UTA First Sgts MtgBldg 1066, OG Conf RoomPre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1066, OG Conf RoomTop 3 Executive Board MtgBldg 1043, ATN Room	Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room g Bldg. 1066, OG Conf Room Bldg 1043, ATN Room	Fri, 10 July 2009           1300         Pre-           1400         Pre-           1500         Pre-           1500         Pre-           1600         Top	Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff MtgBldg 1030, MSG Conf RmPre-UTA Cmdr Staff MtgBldg 1066, OG Conf RoomPre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1066, OG Conf RoomTop 3 Executive Board MtgBldg 1043, ATN Room	Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room g Bldg. 1066, OG Conf Room Bldg 1043, ATN Room
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### **OCCUPATIONAL SURVEYS**

These surveys provide information essential for developing personnel programs, classifying occupations, and developing trainning programs. The Wing Survey Control Monitor (SCM) works with the Unit Training Manager (UTM) to ensure surveys are completed. AFI 36-2623, paragraph 2.7 makes completion of these surveys mandatory for all Air Force Reserve members. It is extremely important these surveys are completed by the suspense date. If you have any questions, contact Ms. Kim Silkwood at 734-7075 or your UTM.

# **Newcomers Ancillary Training**

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II are conducted monthly in Bldg 1030, 507th MSG Conference Room. Unit/Ancillary Training Managers are responsible for ensuring their new personnel are scheduled to attend within 90 days of their first UTA. If you have questions, contact the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.

Day	<u>Time</u>	Subject	<u>OPR</u>
Saturday Saturday Sunday Sunday Sunday Sunday Sunday Sunday Sunday	1330-1415 1430-1500 1500-1530 0800-0815 0815-0830 0830-1000 1000-1030 1030-1100 1300-1600	Drug and Alcohol Local Conditions/ORM OPSEC Training Base Populace IG Briefing UCMJ/Ethics Counter Intel/Awareness Human Relations First Duty Station	SG SE OG CEX IG JA SF EO EO

#### **UCMJ Briefing:**

Article 137 of the UCMJ requires "articles (of the code) shall be explained again ... at the time when the membr reenlists." In an effort to ensure compliance with this requirement of the UCMJ, members who are selected for reenlistment must obtain their Article 137 briefing prior to their reenlistment. This briefing is presently being given at 0830 on Sunday of the UTA at Bldg. 1030, MSG conference room. Members who need the training must bring their reenlistment checklist so it can be annotated.

#### Ethics Briefina:

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 the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0830 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, Drug Testing: You must report within MSG Conference Room.

#### **Emergency Management:**

Unit Training Managers must schedule Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and incendiary Explosive devices (CBRNE) Survival Skills, by name, through ACES PR. All personnel must bring protective mask (inspected and sized) with C2 canister, protective glove inserts, overboots, mask spectacle inserts, canteen (1 quart) with M1 canteen cap, web belt, helmet, Airman's Manual AFMAN 10-100, CBRNE Awareness CBT certification. Wear of contacts is prohibited in all classes. Anyone arriving late, without all required equipment, or wearing contacts, will be released back to their unit and reported as a no-show. Classes will always be on Sunday at 0800 and noon. Students should make every effort to show up 15 minutes prior to the start of class. Walk-ins are not welcome. Any questions can be directed to your CBRNE Unit Scheduler.

two hours of notification.

## Military Pav

File for	Receive Direct
pay by:	Deposit by:
08 Jun	15 Jun
11 Jun	19 Jun
16 Jun	24 Jun
18 Jun	26 Jun
22 Jun	01 Jul
25 Jun	02 Jul
30 Jun	08 Jul
02 Jul	10 Jul
07 Jul	15 Jul
09 Jul	17 Jul

Military Pay (405) 734-5016

#### \*\*New MPF Hours\*\* **Closed Thursday afternoon** Saturday UTA

Open at 0800 - 1500, except for following closures:

1300-1330 - Employments/Relocations

1400-1430 - Career Enhancements 1500-1530 - Customer Service 1500-1600 - IDs only

Sunday UTA

#### Open at 1130 - 1600

#### **BAO Recertification Deadlines**

If Last Digit of	Then Forward R Listing to Unit	
SSAN is	: Commander 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

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 213.

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# JUNE TRAINING PLANNER

## **Air Force diversity**

#### By Rodney J. McKinley Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force

Diversity is the greatest strength of our Air Force. We have many capabilities that enable us to project airpower any time, any place. However, the real strength of our service comes from our Airmen who work hard to execute the mission. These Airmen come from diverse backgrounds and work together seamlessly to build an unstoppable team. This diversity enables successful action across the full spectrum of operations in cultures with different religious beliefs, laws and values. The knowledge and experience of our Airmen allows us to translate their diversity into organizational effectiveness, mission readiness and exacting execution.

The Air Force attracts men and women from all walks of life; we welcome these teammates and value their differences. Every Airman is important to our Air Force, and every Airman, combined with the background and support his or her family provides, strengthens our Service.

Whether officer, enlisted, civilian or contractor, young or old, male or female, and no matter their ethnicity, all Airmen share the core values of Integrity First, Service before Self, and Excellence in All We Do.

It is important Airmen are treated the same...as Airmen.

#### Throughout my career, I have seen Airmen reluctant to correct Airmen of a different ethnicity or gender. Instead, the Airman either does nothing or asks a co-worker to make the correction. This is wrong. Every Airman has a responsibility to uphold professional stan-



dards. Whether you're correcting uniform violations or addressing behavioral issues, we all have a duty to uphold our core values; regardless of an individual's gender or ethnic background. The reluctance to uphold standards could lead to situations where Airmen are allowed to progress down a misguided path until it's too late to help them. Small course corrections help Airmen become productive and valuable members of the Air Force team. As leaders, it is imperative we provide every Airman the right path to success.

Take a look around our Air Force. You will very soon notice Airmen from every corner of this great nation, and quite a few from around the world. I see in every Airman a desire and the potential to serve their country to the best of their abilities. The diversity of these great Americans fuels our power to fly, fight and win in air, space and cyberspace.

## Air Force leaders name next top enlisted leader

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton A. Schwartz and Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley have announced the Airman selected to be the service's next enlisted leader.

Chief Master Sergeant James A. Roy will become the 16th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force during an appointment ceremony on June 30, 2009, which will coincide with Chief McKinley's retirement.

"This is a good day for all Airmen," General Schwartz said. "While they will lose a tremendous leader and advocate in Chief McKinley, they gain a worthy successor in Chief Roy. Given his record and reputation, I am confident that Chief Roy will carry the best interests of our Air Force family forward to our nation's leaders as we support today's joint fight and rebalance our force for the challenges ahead." Chief Roy and his wife Paula will come to the Pentagon from Camp Smith, Hawaii, where the chief currently serves as the senior enlisted leader and advisor to the U.S. Pacific Command combatant commander, representing more than 200,000 Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines.

Chief Roy joined the Air Force in 1982. His career includes assignments as a heavy equipment operator in the civil engineer career field and then in leadership positions at the squadron, group, and numbered air force levels. He has served as the command chief master sergeant at wings in Air Education and Training Comand, Air Mobility Command and Air Combat Command. He was also deployed as the command chief master sergeant of the 386th Air Expeditionary Wing in Southwest Asia. Prior to assuming his current position he was the command chief master sergeant for U.S. Forces Japan and Fifth Air Force at Yokota Air Base, Japan.

C h i e f McKinley will

Chief Master Sgt. James A. Roy

retire this month after serving for 30 years. He has served as the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force since June 30, 2006.

"Chief McKinley has devoted his entire adult life to our Air Force and to taking care of Airmen and their families," General Schwartz said. "He has accomplished so much throughout his career, but as Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, he and his wife Paula have made monumental contributions."

# Effective feedback is key to successful mission accomplishment

#### By Master Sgt. Tracy House 72nd APS First Sergeant

"Amn Scruffy, you're doing a great job"!! Instant, on-thespot, positive feedback is critical to nurturing a healthy human psyche. But, if overused, it reduces credibility and meaning. Performance feedback is a tool used to modify behavior to ensure Airmen knows what is expected of them and to assess how they are performing.

The Air Force recognizes two types of feedback: formal and informal. According to Air Force Pamphlet 36-2627, informal feedback is a day-to-day communication with your subordinates. It helps keeps the one being rated on the road to improvement, increases motivation, and prevents new problems from developing. Informal feedback is not planned, but should be a part of your leadership routine.

Formal feedback is a critical link in the professional development of your Airmen. According to AFI 36-2406, chapter 2, it is a private, formal communication a rater uses to tell a ratee what is expected regarding duty performance and how well the ratee is meeting those expectations.

Use the feedback session to discuss objectives, behavior, and performance. This information should help the individual contribute to productive communication, improve performance, and grow professionally.

Performance feedback is documented on the Air Force Form 932 for master through chief master sergeants or Air Force Form 931 for airman basic through technical sergeant. The front side of the performance feedback worksheet is selfexplanatory. It is the vast white space on the back that seems to be the hardest part to fill in.

According to AFI 36-2406, paragraph 2.8.7, use the reverse side to discuss ratee's strengths, suggested goals, professional development, and additional comments. Raters should discuss with the ratee their performance and potential professional development plans. Highlight the individual's weakness and chal-



lenge him or her to turn weakness into strengths. Tie personal goals to the mission. Explain Air Force standards and core values. Be specific when giving your expectations.

As you can see, it is important to be specific when explaining performance expectations when explaining with those who you are rating. Explain the difference between "meets" expectations and "clearly exceeds" expectations.

If you are faced with substandard individuals, he or she will require more frequent formal feedback. Minimum requirements do not meet the needs of every Airman. Make sure your Airmen knows where they stand at all times, especially if they are not meeting your expectations. Tell them what they need to do and to give them the opportunity to do it.

I challenge you to allow them feedback on how well you are meeting their needs and expectations. It is important for us supervisors to modify our leadership style to meet the needs of our Airmen. They are not all alike, so we cannot lead them, teach them or mentor them as if they were. Open, honest, and continuous communication is critical – your involvement is critical.

# Good News for Airmen that need cash now!

#### Did You Know....

- You may be eligible to receive up to 50 percent off tuition, and may have your application fees waived at certain colleges?
- There is a way to significantly reduce your annual vehicle registration fee?
- The Post 9/11 GI Bill may be available as a money-saving educational benefit to you?
- You can travel to top vacation destinations and stay in high-quality resorts at a fraction of the normal price?
- Microsoft Office software is available to you at a deeply discounted rate?

To learn more about these and other exciting benefits you're entitled to by being in the United States Air Force Reserve register to attend the Human Relations and Development Council's (HRDC) 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Tinker Reserve Enlisted Workshop Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from 7 to 10:30 a.m. Contact your First Sergeant or Unit Career Assistance Advisor for more information, or Public Affairs at 734-3078.

#### UNIT NEWS

# Okie team gets mission done 'down under'

Eight members from the 507th Air Refueling Wing traveled down under from March 1 to 20th to support several Coronet missions and Australia's 2009 Avalon Airshow.

The team, consisted of Maj. Michael Remualdo, Maj. Clair Geishauser, 1st Lt. Blaine Dustin, Senior Master Sgt. Marty Lochman, Master Sgt. Steve Switzer (all from 465th Air Refueling Squadron), and maintenance's Tech Sgt. Eric Whitesel, A1C Shawn Shaw and A1C Justin Fox.

According to Major Remauldo, detachment commander for the trip, the team departed March 1 with one KC-135 and flew to Hickam AFB, Hawaii, for an overnight stop prior to proceeding to Darwin, Australia.

The team left Darwin to rendezvous with another tanker escorting three F-16s and one F-15 from Japan. They picked up the fighters two hours north of Australia and refueled them en route to Avalon, Australia for the airshow.

"The Avalon Airshow is one of the largest airshows in the Asia-Pacific region," the major said. The Australian International Airshow is held every two years at Avalon Airport, between Melbourne and Geelong, Victoria. It has been said by air show organizers to be the largest airshow in the southern hemisphere. It regularly features planes from the United States Navy and the United States Air Force.

"While at the airshow, Steve Switzer earned new call sign, 'Ambassador'," the major said. "He would talk to anyone who would listen, young, old, deaf or mute. It didn't matter. He even tried kissing a few babies but we stopped him just in time," he joked.

After the airshow ended, Major Remauldo said the team refueled the fighters en route back to Darwin. "After the last AR (and certainly not to any of our doing), the fighters managed to fly through a Thunderstorm and break two jets," he said. "We delayed our departure out of Darwin for a day in hopes of getting the jets fixed and then dragging them to Japan. The jets were still broke so we managed to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Darwin before starting our journey back to Hickam and Tinker. We arrived home at 9 a.m. on Friday the 20th."

"My hat goes off to the entire crew for their efforts. We certainly had some time to relax but when we had to work, it got busy. The maintenance folks did a great job keeping the jet flying and refueled under some difficult conditions. The trip was outstanding by all accounts; we got the mission done and had a great time while doing it," Remauldo said.

# Maintainers unveil new squadron patch

The 507th Air Refueling Wing added another page to its historical heraldry April 7th as the 507th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron received official approval for a new squadron patch.

The new patch is the result of several years of research and design refinement.

On Oct. 20, 2008, Maj. Eric Eggers, 507th AMXS commander, sent a letter to the Air Force Reserve Command Historian's Office requesting approval of the patch. The 507th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was established on October 1, 2002.

The new patch also brings its own unique heraldry. That heraldry reads: BLAZON

On a disc per fess Azure and Celeste, between in chief seven mullets as the Big Dipper Argent and in base a demi-sun rising Or, a Bald Eagle Proper, grasping in

dexter claw a wrench and in sinister claw a screwdriver all of the third; all within a narrow border Black.

Attached above the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a nar-

row Black border and inscribed "FOREVER READY AL-WAYS THERE" in Black letters.

Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "507TH AIRCRAFT MAIN-

TENANCE SQ" in Black letters.

SIGNIFICANCE

Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The divided background is significant of the day and night, twenty four hour, coverage provided by the 507th AMXS. The Big Dipper portrays space and the efforts of the unit to be prepared for future arenas. The sun indicates the excellence required of Air Force maintainers. The Bald Eagle is the sym-

bol of America's strength and represents the continual fight for freedom. The wrench and screwdriver symbolize the forever readiness of the maintainer.



# HRDC Diversity Training AFRC launches advanced training

"Take charge and prepare your Airmen for the 21st century" was the message presented to two local reservists during an AFRC Human Resource Development Council training course held May 7.

The Command launched its recently developed Diversity Champions training course, a 16-hour interactive class designed to equip AFRC Airmen with the knowledge and skills needed to act as catalysts for diversity initiatives.

Primary areas addressed in the training included Education, Awareness, Outreach, Monitoring Trends and Analysis, Partnerships, Maximum utilizing of existing programs, and Identifying and removing barriers.

Master Sgts. Taunya Avery of the 507th Air Refueling Wing and Barry George from the 513th Air Control Group were both Career Advisors attended the training. Avery said that the training assisted her in "understanding how to use my office to ensure that airmen are mentored, trained, and possess the skills required to be representative of the 21st Century Airman."

George stated that the command views diversity as a composite of individual characteristics, experiences, and abilities consistent with the Air Force values and mission. This perception allows the command to recruit, retain and train its people for dedicated career long service."

AFRC's seamless integration of diversity within its strategic, tactical, and operational plans has become an emerging success story for the Air Force and Department of Defense. In 1992, the Command recognized the need to develop a diverse team of Citizen Airmen to meet some of the many challenges the 21st Century warfighter would encounter.

To ensure the Command's plan for implementing diversity wasn't lost or blurred with the roles and responsibilities of the Military Equal Opportunity (MEO) or Civilian Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO); the Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) was organized and charged with the overarching goal of creating and maintaining a fully developed, skilled, motivated, enthusiastic, and diverse workforce, which facilitates the Command's Vision of "An Unrivaled Wingman."

The AFRC courses are offered at the AFRC Professional Development Center on a quarterly basis or upon request presented at the unit level.

Master Sgt. Rodney Hage, the course facilitator, stated that the training was an overwhelming success. He stated that diversity within the Command is getting better all the time and the training the 18 Chartered Diversity Champions received is definitely a step in accomplishing the Command's diversity vision.

Individuals interested in participating in the 507 ARW/513 ACG HRDC are encouraged to contact the HRDC Chair, Senior Master Sgt. David Liszeski at 734-7638.

## How to File an IG Complaint

1. If you believe you are unable to resolve your complaint in command channels, review AFI 90-301 Table 2.5 (Table 2.9 when the new version of 90-301 is published) to determine if the complaint should be filed with the IG. You may file a complaint if you reasonably believe inappropriate conduct has occurred or a violation of law, policy, procedure, or regulation has been committed.

2. Complete the personnel data information on an AF Form 102 (typed or printed legibly) (the preferred format for submitting complaints) so it may easily be reproduced. The AF From 102 can be found at: http://www.e-publishing.af.mil/shared/media/epubs/af102.xfd

3. Briefly outline the facts and relevant background information related to the issue or complaint on the AF Form 102.

4. List the allegations of wrongdoing BRIEFLY, in general terms and provide supporting narrative detail and documents later when interviewed. Allegations should be written as bullets and should answer:

\* Who committed the violation?

\* What violation was committed?

\* What law, regulation, procedure, or policy was violated?

\* When did the violation occur?

5. Submit the completed AF Form 102 to any Air Force IG and setup a follow-on meeting to discuss the complaint.

For questions, concerns, and 507th ARW/513th ACG, contact Maj Mark Vardaro at: 507th ARW/513th ACG FWA Hotline: (405) 556-1745 or Email: mark.vardaro@tinker.af.mil

Additional Contact Numbers:

AFRC FWA Hotline: (800) 223-1784 Ext. 7-1513 SAF/IGQ FWA Hotline: (800) 538-8429 DoD FWA Hotline: (800) 424-9098

#### **On-final**

**RECRUITER SPOTLIGHT** 



When was your PCS date? Jan. 20, 2009
 What is your new job within the 507th?

#### Line-recruiter

3. If you're in the field, what area are you responsible for? Placing non-prior applicants into the Air Force

Reserve or prior Air Force members into the Air Force Reserve. 4. What lead you to pursue this job? I had a good friend, Master Sgt. Bill Hose, who is an Air Force Reserve ART recruiter and he shared with me how rewarding this job is. He relayed his experiences and how they have affected him which encouraged me to pursue this career.

5. What base are you coming from?
Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska
6. What was your last job? Health
Service Management ART

7. How many total years do you have in Recruiting Service? **This is my first year.** 

8. How many total years do you have in the Air Force? 6 years active duty and 16 years Reserve
9. When did you enter the military? January 1984

10. What excites you the most about your job? Helping people better their life by finding part-time jobs

The best way to keep the Air Force Reserve strong is to recruit good people -- people like you. You can help by talking about the benefits of joining the Air Force Reserve with your family and friends, then submitting their names to Get One Now. The people you care about will benefit and so will you.

The Get One Now program will now



that allow them to find new rewarding careers with many benefits.

11. What goals have you established for yourself or would like yourself and your team to accomplish during your time here? I would like for my team to con-

tinue to do the best job we can by placing qualified applicants into the Air Force Reserve and exceeding our annual goal.

12. The Air Force is currently filling their recruiting goal year after year. Does this influence your process when interviewing applicants? Yes, I want to make sure I am placing the cream of the crop into the Air Force Reserve as they will eventually be future leaders. I want as many people who desire to partake of this rewarding career, within the Air Force Reserve, to have the opportunity.

13. What makes a potential applicant stand out? When they are willing to give their best at work and in their personal life.

14. Are there any additional words or plans you'd like to share? I would like to encourage everyone

to do the best they can do, in everything, as this will enhance satisfaction in your career.

Air Force Reserve within 24 months of your referral for you to qualify for a Get One Now award.

There is no limit to the number of referals that can be submitted. A referral must be submitted to Get1Now.us, to 877-786-2372, by on-line "chat," or by e-mail, to qualify for the Get One Now program.

Get 1 Nov

offer a selection of awards when a per-

son you refer joins the Air Force Re-

a commemorative coin for each refer-

ral you make. The person must join the

Under this program you will receive

serve.

#### UPCLOSE



The following question was asked of unit members during the MayUTA: "What precautions are you taking to prevent getting the H1N1 virus?"



Maj. Marv Ashbaker 507th OSF *"Washing my hands and going about my life."* 



Maj. Olin Lau 465th ARS pilot "Nothing actually. I'm not scared to travel."



Staff Sgt. Jason Brown 507th Command Post specialist *"I have been off work and haven't been keeping up on the news."* 



Maj. Joe Hagans 507th OSF "Use common sense -- don't overreact."



Maj. Tammy Place Chief, 507th Command Post "Trying not to cough on people (I have a cold). I don't want to pass (the cold) on to anyone."



Staff Sgt. Ruth Diaz 507th OSF Crew Comm "I'm taking better precaution. I wash my hands and carry hand sanitizer because I work with pre-k and around kids all of the time."

"Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority"



Wendy Whitt, 507th Assistant Staff Judge Advocate, receives her pin-on promotion to Major in May from Col. Jeffery Glass and Lt. Col. Susan D. Lehigh.



Chaplain, Capt. Kelly Stahl, said goodbye in May as he heads to an active duty assignment at Holloman AFB, New Mexico. Chaplain Stahl has been with the 507th since 2006.



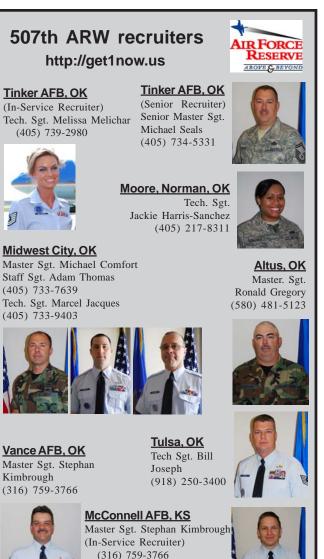
The VA opened its doors for accepting Post-9/ll GI Bill Applications May 1. All Airmen and former Airmen with at least 90 days of active duty service since Sept. 11, 2001, can choose to apply for education benefits, which begin Aug. 1 under the new GI Bill law. To apply or for details on what the Post-9/ll GI Bill offers, visit the VA's Web site, www.gibill.va.gov.

#### Retiree ID cards really do not expire

Some military retirees and others, including those who work in various offices on military installations, believe that the "EXP DATE" on the back of a retiree identification card means the card is no good after that date. That is not the case. That date reflects when that individual is eligible for Medicare, and therefore eligible for Tricare For Life medical coverage if enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B. It has nothing to do with the "Expiration Date" on the front of the ID card, which determines when a person needs a new card. A significant change in a person's physical appearance, or a damaged ID card, also means a new card may be necessary.

#### Vets welcomed home with new website

The VA has launched its new "Returning Veterans" website at www.oefoif.va.gov to welcome home Veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts with a social, Veteran-centric Web site focusing on their needs and questions. The website will feature videos, Veterans stories, and a blog where Veterans are encouraged to post feedback. The site also will restructure the traditional index-of-benefits format found on other VA pages into question-based, categorized, and easily navigated links by topic.



Staff Sgt. Jason Sommers (316) 681-2522





"Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority"

**JUNE 2009**