



507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing - 513<sup>th</sup> Air Control Group Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma APRIL 2010 Vol. 30, No. 4



# It is important to understand and respect the mission and do your best

### by Col. Michael Mahon 507th ARW Vice Commander

Having recently returned from a deployment, I would like to personally thank each and every member of the 507th Air Refueling Wing, your families, and your civilian employers. I am inspired by the dedication and continued volunteerism that our reservists demonstrate day-in and day-out. While deployed, I had the honor and privilege to serve the Airmen of today's total force and the pleasure to serve with members of the 507th ARW from the 72nd APS and 465th ARS, in particular.

What I brought home from this was the importance of understanding and respecting a wing's mission, and always working to deliver our best. Regardless of the assigned weapon system or base function: air refueling, air lift, bomber, fighter, space or any combination, we must appreciate and acknowledge the importance of every AFSC in ensuring overall success.

We must understand how every drop of fuel transferred to an aircraft, every piece of cargo or passenger moved, every security patrol, every services activity, every meal served, every war fighter processed, every project that brings light, heat or air, and every human remains that is solemnly transferred, directly impacts a wing's ability to properly function. For the men and women of the 507th, all of your hard work and dedication is to ensure that we are equipped, trained, and ready and that Okie Booms are on-time and on-altitude, able to convert jet fuel to bombs on target, directly supporting the war-fighter on the ground.

## **AFRC commander tours Tinker facilities**

### by Maj. Bill Pierce 507th ARW Public Affairs

Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr., Air Force Reserve Command commander, visited with Reserve members March 6 and 7 during a two-day trip to Tinker AFB.

During his trip, General Stenner was the guest speaker at the Reserve Officer's Association Annual State of Oklahoma convention. While here, he also toured and met with several Reserve members from around the 507th Air Refueling Wing. Speaking to a multi-services ROA crowd, the general highlighted several key points facing service members today. He made it a point to highlight the many accomplishments of the 507th ARW. "You have a solid wing and a solid mission here at Tinker and I congratulate you," he said.

The general went on to discuss the wing's mission and its unique association with the 137th ARW, an Oklahoma Air National Guard unit. "This is a first, a Reserve/National Guard association.

From the beginning you made it your own, you made it work. The commanders and senior enlisted leadership from both sides came together and figured it out," said General Stenner. He went on to say, "The challenge from here is for you to leverage all the good things that came from this association."

Speaking to the same leadership, he emphasized the need to pursue a balance between family, the military and a member's civilian job. "Eighty percent of the folks in the Air Force Reserve are traditional reservists and are willing to serve," he said.

"In order for members to continue their service a balance between military career, civilian job and family is extremely important and critical to maintain. A good balance makes for a ready reservist, an informed employer and a supported family."

According to Col. Jeffery Glass, 507th ARW commander, anywhere from 400 to 500 wing members are serving on orders, at any given time. "To sustain this tempo and maintain readiness, everyone from the individual member to leadership must protect this mission critical balance," said Colonel Glass.

To conclude his trip General Stenner answered questions from Airmen at a Town Hall Commander's Call. Many of the questions referred to readiness issues. He addressed each question assuring each member that senior leadership was either aware of, working, or looking for ways to address the issues. He encouraged everyone to read his eNotes.

Before departing the auditorium he smiled and thanked the wing for their hospitality and all their hard work.



Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr, center, visits with Col. Jeffery Glass, 507th ARW commander and Col. Greg Ferguson, 137th ARW commander, as he takes a tour of the Reserve

### NEWS

## A new perspective on life and death, part 3

## by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Mike Jones Wing Chaplain

Last month I wrote about the importance of family relationships. Now I want to point out the obvious: Decisions you make in life can and will affect you at the end of your life. Life truly is a circle-"what goes around, comes around."

I've spent time with hospice patients or their family who tell of regrets for decisions made such as divorce, infidelity, or issues of personal integrity. Those decisions, made in the moment or for pleasure, power, wealth, career, revenge, or happiness often cause great anguish as one nears the end of their life. Their decisions caused others deep pain and sorrow and now the person who made those decisions must struggle with their own awareness of how much they've hurt others, especially those they love. So be wise in your decisions. Don't believe the lie that "what happens on TDYs stays on TDYs" or that the life-changing decision you are about to make "won't hurt anyone else." It will...and in the end, it will hurt you worst of all.



Maj. Robert F. "Bobby" Loher, right, became the commander of the **1st Aviation Standards** Flight during the March UTA change of command ceremony. Major Loher spent the last 10 years teaching/ training for the T-1A **PIT Program at** Randolph AFB, Texas. Outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Randall Peterson, is on the left.

Photos by Master Sgt. Deborah Loveland



Col. Gregory "Happy" Gilmour, left, poses with Lt. Col. Randall Peterson during his retirement ceremony last month. Peterson had been commander of the 1st ASF since 1998 and was the first commander for the Flight.



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 30, No. 4 APRIL 2010

Public Affairs Specialist -

Tech Sgt. Zach Jacobs This funded Air Force Reserve Com-

mand magazine is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

Contents of **On-final** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department tographs unless otherwise indicated. of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, pre-

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pared, and provided by the 507th Air Refueling Wing's Public Affairs Office, 7435 Reserve Road, Suite 9, Tinker AFB, OK., 73145-8726

All photographs are Air Force pho-Copy deadline is NOON on Sunday of the UTA.

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.

## **Reservist saves a life using AED**

## by Lt. Col. Richard Curry 507th ARW Public Affairs

Maj. Todd Haifley, a pilot with the 507th ARW's 1st Aviation's Standards Flight, has developed a new-found respect for the automated external defibrillator, or AED, after using one to save a friend's life.

An AED is a small, user-friendly electronic device which is able to diagnose potential heart attacks and treat a patient through defibrillation (electrical therapy) which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to re-establish an effective rhythm.

Major Haifley experience began on a Sunday evening, Feb. 28. "I coach and play on a men's hockey league in Kalamazoo, Michigan," he said. "While we were getting dressed for our game, one of my players collapsed right next to me in the locker room." The major said it initially appeared the player was having a seizure, but it very rapidly deteriorated into something much worse.

"He stopped breathing and I could not feel a pulse," Major Haifley said. "I had already told somebody to call 911 and to go find an AED. Shortly after I performed the first round of CPR, the AED arrived and the guy handed it



Maj. Todd Haifley

to me and asked if I knew how to use it."

Fortunately, Major Haifley had received the training provided at his civilian job and training at Oklahoma City in the past year. "I took it seriously but never thought that I would have to use it 'for real.' It worked as advertised in this situation to a 'T'," he said.



AEDs, like this one located in the basement of Building 1043, are available throughout the Reserve campus.

Haifley said he applied the pads just as the

diagram showed and followed the instructions. "I administered the first shock after the AED advised and continued CPR. After a couple more rounds of CPR the AED once again analyzed and advised another shock which I gave. He then regained a rhythmic heart beat and regained consciousness," he said.

Later, Major Haifley said he went to visit the player in the hospital. "He had no history of heart condition, and was in OK shape for a 52-year-old," he said. "The cardiologist did a heart cath and said that he had two complete blockages. The doctor added that he had never seen blockages in this area and to have the patient live after the attack. The doctor put in two stints and expected a full recovery. He said all the stars were lined up for him that day and that the swift action and the use of the AED without a doubt saved his life. He called this kind of heart attack the "sudden death syndrome" type that, until now, he has never seen anybody live through."

The major stressed the importance of the AED and encouraged others to take advantages of AED and CPR training opportunities. "These devices are extremely important. I can't thank these individual enough for the very informative training I received on this equipment and for my CPR certification," he said.

## Wing member receives honors at AF level

by Lt. Col. Richard Curry 507th ARW Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Ricky D. Buettner, a Security Forces Journeyman with the 507th Air Refueling Wing's Security Forces Squadron, has been selected as the Air Force's Outstanding Security Forces Air Reserve Component NCO for the year.

Buettner will officially receive his award during the Security Forces Symposium Award Banquet at Lackland AFB, Tex. April 30.

"Sergeant Buettner is an outstanding young NCO who is highly motivated and dedicated to the mission of protecting the assets of the 507th Air Refueling Wing," said Col. Jeffery R. Glass, 507th ARW commander. "We are extremely pleased he was selected for this award."

In his nomination package, Sergeant Buettner was cited for many personal accomplishments during the past year. The sergeant was chosen to conduct a flyaway security mission at New Orleans NAS where he secured over \$1.2 billion in Air Force assets. He performed labor-intensive, preventive maintenance on over 40 sets of his squadron's night vision goggles. He managed and reor-



Staff Sgt. Ricky Buettner

RUN TO REMEMBER

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LET'S MARATHON!

APRIL 25, 2010

MARATHON RELAY 5K WALK

ganized his unit's supply section, inventorying and inspecting assets totaling \$1.5 million. He deployed to Yokota AB, Japan supporting the Friendship Festival Open House, which was attended by 100,000+ locals, with zero security infractions.

His community involvement is highlighted by his efforts as an active participant in 'Meals on Wheels' to deliver meals to elderly in Oklahoma City, leading a unit fund raiser bake sale, donating winter clothing during severe cold weather and actively supported a base beautification project.

Personally, Sergeant Buettner worked toward completion of a Criminal Justice degree at Rose State University, receiving 24 credit hours completed this year, earning a 3.25 GPA. He completed his 7-level upgrade training in less than six months and engaged in a personal marathon training regime leading up to participation in the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon this month.

## **Volunteers needed for OKC Memorial Marathon**

by Master Sgt. Takesha Williams OKC Memorial Marathon Tinker Reserve Team Captain

The Tinker Reserve has volunteered again to work at the

Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon, which will be held Sunday, April 25th. Registration deadline for volunteering is April 16th.

Volunteering for the Memorial Marathon is a rewarding and special experience. Being a part of the event in a way that enables the participants to complete their goals is in every way as honoring to the memory of the fallen as running the marathon.

So, with that I am asking for those that would be interested in working the event to please sign up via the marathon website at http://volunteers.marathonguide.com/ volunteerregistration/okcmarathon.cfm.

Please register on this page. After you fill out the basic registration information, you will see many areas in which we need volunteers, but our main focus is on the course itself. Please make sure that in the section where it asks "Are you with an

organization sponsoring a volunteer station" to select: CM-507 ARW. Ensure that you scroll down to the RACE-DAY Opportunity section and select -- Course Marshall (CM).

This volunteer opportunity is open to members, family and friends (age 18 and up) and guaranteed to be a race to remember.

If you would like more information, please select one of the follow-

ing links: http://okcmarathon.com/

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at 734-7207 during the week and 734-3269 on UTA weekends. I will continue to provide information as it becomes available.

## 513TH ACG

## UCI ... united we stand, divided we fail

#### by Col. Steve Seaman 513th OSF commander

No one can say that the AWACS community has an easy job, but everyone can say that we're the best there is at what we do.

This is the mindset I'm seeing in many of you as we head into this Unit Compliance Inspection and why we are known worldwide for our professionalism and dedication. As many of you wonder about how ready you are for the inspectors, let me reassure you by saying: Yes, WE are! You're never alone on an inspection because all of us are in this together. United we stand, divided we fail.

For those of you who've served in this organization for years, you know firsthand how we have come together in the face of adversity. For those who are new, be assured that we are all family here and no one ever gets left behind – figuratively or literally. But you should always keep in mind that this wonderful group of ours cannot help you as an individual unless you have the courage to ask for advice. If we see an Airman struggling and someone offers him or her an extra pair of hands to go over an engine, a second read-through on a file plan, or a third opinion for an administrative matter, it is because some of us have gone through this before and sincerely wants to make sure you are ready – but in more ways than you realize.

If someone offers you help in a check of your area, it isn't because people don't trust you to do your job; it's because we've been where you are and know how the pressure can feel when you think you're on your own. A Unit Compliance Inspection comes down to how familiar each of us is with the regulations that guide our decision-making on the job and many of us can offer experience. I was a lieutenant once, just as the Chief was a staff sergeant. No one is walking in unfamiliar territory and you're never alone when you're a part of a family. This is a strength many of us have held onto for years because many of us have been HERE for years and there's no place else we'd rather be! For those who've walked this road with the 513th ACG for years, you know from whence I speak. But for those of you who are new and plan to stay with us for a while, you'll understand the value of these words sooner instead of later. If you look at the track record of the 513th ACG, you'll see that we've always done incredibly well on our UCIs. After this UCI has passed, you'll see how we always succeed too. We succeed as a group. Some of our people at the 513th ACG may come out shining, but that could be any of you. Never forget that the success of one is owed to the effort of all.

Because you're never alone. You are appreciated for what you do and you wouldn't be here if we didn't believe in you. We are a family and, if no one ever told, welcome home!

## **April 2010 promotions**

#### **Promoted to** Name Promoted to Name Squadron Squadron 507th AMXS Allen, Terry Staff Sgt 465th ARS Pearsall, Matthew Senior Airman Porter, Michael Adamo, Robert Tech Sgt 507th MXS Master Sgt 35th CBCS Bartee, Joseph Master Sgt 513th OSF Robinson, Makeshia Tech Sgt 507th SFS Blochowiak, Robert Master Sgt Romero, Ross Staff Sgt 507th ARW 507th CES Charles, Wilmer Staff Sgt Sanders, John Tech Sgt 507th AMXS 507th SFS Simkins, Lucas Staff Sgt 507th MDS Clayton, Benjamin Staff Sgt 970th AACS Dunseath. Rachel Staff Sgt Thomas, Latonya Senior Airman 970th AACS 507th AMXS Gunther, Austin Senior Airman 970th AACS Tubbs, Nicole Staff Sgt 513th MXS Hogue, Shawn Tech Sgt Underwood, Jeffery Tech Sgt 72nd APS 970th AACS Williams, Bradley Staff Sgt Lee, Felicia Staff Sgt 970th AACS 72nd APS Staff Sgt Kim, Siyong Staff Sgt 507th MDS Miller, Michael 35th CBCS Folsumcampos, Monica Tech Sgt Myers, Benjamin Staff Sgt 507th SFS 507th LRS Neely, Jason Staff Sgt 72nd APS

## 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.

For more information, 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 June 14-25, 2010. 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.

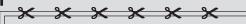
**NOTE:** If you are retaking a test, you must bring the authorization letter with you or you will not be allowed to test.

#### **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

10-11 Apr 10	01-02 May 10
05-06 Jun 10	10-11 Jul 10
*24-25 Jul 10	11-12 Sep 10

As ot April 5, 2010

August UTA has been moved to \*24-25 Jul to accommodate UCI inspection.

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## TRAINING PLANNER

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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>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>OPR</u>
Saturday	1330-1400	Drug and Alcohol	SG
Saturday	1400-1430	Local Conditions/ORM	SE
Saturday	1445-1515	OPSEC Training	OG
Sunday	0800-0815	Base Populace	CEX
Sunday	0815-0830	IG Briefing	IG
Sunday	0830-0930	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
Sunday	0945-1015	Counter Intel/Awareness	SF
Sunday	1015-1045	Human Relations	EO
Sunday	1300-1600	First Duty Station (dates TBD)	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

<b>Receive Direct</b> <b>Deposit by:</b>
21 Apr
23 Apr
28Apr
30 Apr
05 May
<b>07 May</b>
12 May
14 May
17 May

Military Pay (405) 734-5016

## \*\*New MPF Hours\*\* Open Mon-Fri 7:30 a.m. - noon

## Saturday UTA

Open 0800 - 1600 Newcomers have priority until noon DEERS/CAC/DEP IDs/F(SGLI) will be processed at Bldg. 460 for newcomers until noon. Other services will be filtered in between newcomers. NOTE: Your wait could be long during newcomer processing.

> Sunday UTA Open noon - 1600

### **BAO Recertification Deadlines**

If Last	Then Forward R	
Digit of	Listing to Unit	tion due in
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.

> Editor: Chief Master Sgt. Sharlotte A. Epps, Chief, Education & Training (ART) Assistant Editor: Master Sgt. Sharon Lochman, Asst. Chief, Education & Training (ART)

> > Contributing Editors:

Staff Sqt. Jamie Pander, Education and Training Advisor Ms. Kimberley Silkwood, Testing and Education Advisor (Civilian)

## APRIL TRAINING PLANNER

## <u>Oklahoma twisters</u> In the path of a tornado

## by Sr. Master Sgt. Gary A. Bristol 507th ARW Safety Office

A tornado is one of nature's most destructive storms. The National Weather Service documents about a thousand tornadoes touching down in the United States each year. The destructive power generated by tornadoes has been classified on the Fujita scale. The Fujita scale associates the probable maximum wind speed by the damage associated with a tornado. The Fujita scale, F0 through F5, classifies F0-F1 as weak, F2-F3 as strong, and F4-F5 as violent tornadoes. You can probably guess that Oklahoma sees more F4 and F5 tornadoes develop per square mile than any other state. As the May 3, 1999 killer tornado flattened the city of Moore, wind speed readings taken by Doppler radar reached 318 mph, the strongest tornado wind speed ever measured. This is the highest wind speed on a Fujita F5 scale. Had the wind speed been 1 mph faster, it would have entered the non-existent and what is considered the inconceivable F6 realm. which has never before been recorded in history.

In 1870, the U. S. Army Signal Corps established a weather forecast service. Weather observers gathered data and created charts for forecasters to make daily weather reports. As a result of tornado studies in March 1884, Sgt. John Finley made the first tornado predictions. Unfortunately, the official policy on the use of the word "tornado" in forecasts was banned, supposedly to prevent undue panic within the public.

Even after the establishment of the Weather Bureau in 1891, there were no significant advancements in fore-

casting techniques for the next fifty years. On March 20, 1948, a tornado struck Tinker Air Force Base, destroying 32 aircraft and causing \$10,000,000 in damage. Five days later Major Ernest Fawbush and Captain Robert Miller, members of the Tinker Air Force Base Air Weather Service, noticed weather patterns similar to the March 20th storm were developing. They came to the conclusion that central Oklahoma would be under the threat of tornadic weather by late afternoon. Reluctantly, they informed Fred S. Borum, the Commanding General of the Oklahoma City Air Material Command of their conclusions. After all, what were the chances that two tornados could hit Tinker Air Force Base only five days apart, not mention no one had ever issued an operational tornado forecast? The decision was made and the first ever tornado forecast was issued. Shortly after 6 p.m. a tornado touched down at Tinker, and Miller and Fawbush became famous for issuing the first tornado forecast.

Forty-eight people lost their lives in the May 3, 1999 tornado, but it has been estimated that as many as 700 people would have died had it not been for the warnings and the community's response to them. The key point here is to heed the tornado warnings and be prepared as to what to do. The General Motors plant is a great example of how being prepared can save lives. On May 8, 2003 at 5:08 p.m., the GM plant's response group made the decision to activate the emergency system and direct all employees to the tornado shelters. By 5:18 p.m. all employees were sheltered. At 5:30 p.m. an F4 tornado ripped through the GM plant causing tremendous damage. However, none of the 1,200 GM workers were injured by the storm. Through preparation and practice, GM was able to ensure the safety of its workers.

The chances you will ever see a real Oklahoma twister up close are very small; however, if you do, you can greatly reduce the chance of injury by doing a few simple things.

**Before the storm:** Develop a plan for you and your family when at home. Practice your plan. Listen to radio or television for the latest information.

**Indoors:** Move to an interior hallway on the lowest floor. The best types of shelters are basements or storm cellars. If no basement or storm cellar is available, take cover in the center of the structure. Go to a hallway, hall closet, or get into a bathtub. Use a mattress for cover. Stay away from all glass windows. The idea is to put as many walls as possible between you and the tornado.

In a car: Do not try to outrun an approaching tornado. Exit the vehicle and move away from the approaching tornado at a right angle. If no building is available, take shelter in a ditch or ravine. Do not take shelter under an overpass or concrete bridge. Taking shelter under bridges and overpasses has proven to be a bad idea.

**Outdoors:** If caught outside in open countryside, take shelter in a ditch or ravine or lie flat on the ground.

Reference: Historical Essays on Meteorology; Edited by Roger Fleming. Chapter 10, Severe Convective Storms: A Brief History of Science and Practice; Kenneth C. Crawford and Edwin Kessler, Pgs. 307-319

## Two unit personnel recognized at AFRC

Two members of the 507th Mission Personnel Flight have recently been recognized by the Air Force Reserve Command as Personnel NCO and Personnel Airman of the Year.

Recognized were Tech Sgt. Bobbie-Jean Johnson and Senior Airman Fumiko Bowen.

As 507th MPF Chief of Career Enhancement, Sergeant Johnson was lauded as a highly motivated, goal-oriented NCO. "She is an outstanding program manager for both the 507th Air Refueling Wing and 513th Air Control Group Enlisted Evaluations and Enlisted Promotion programs," said Lt.. Col. Donald Satterlee, 507th Mission Support Squadron Commander. The 4th Air Force Staff Assistance Visit team recognized her and her team for their superior programs during their Au-

gust 2009 visit.

While directly overseeing the wing enlisted and officer performance report programs, Sergeant Johnson reduced the huge wing overdue EPR/OPR rates through constant personal interactions with commanders and their staff. She worked personally with one supervisor with nine late EPRs and OPRs, some overdue by more than three years, and cleared them off the books in one month.



Bobbie-Jean Johnson

Her efforts produced a 75 percent reduction in OPRs and 30 percent in EPRs, the lowest rates in 4th AF.

A highly reliable NCO, she uploaded more than 1,500 personnel information shells in less than two weeks into the vPC-GR system helping the wing maintain crucial ontime rates. She discovered more than 40 incorrect service dates on reserve members, computed and corrected these errors to ensure data integrity. Devoted to her subordinates, she developed a training plan for her troops with visible goals and clear milestones.

Setting the example for others, she completed NCO Academy in record time, completed Community College of the Air Force degree in Human Resources, and holds a 3.98 GPA in Organizational Management bachelor program through Asford University with 12 classes left.

Johnson is engaged with the community through her volunteer efforts at the Ronald McDonald House where she cooked and cleaned for families with sick children in local hospitals and through her participation in a 3 day Tulsa Firefighters Annual Burn Camp for severely burned children. Satterlee said Johnson "promotes only the highest standards."

Senior Airman Bowen is the 507th MPF Assistant Chief of Career Enhancement. During the award period, she managed all enlisted promotions for the 507th ARW and 513th ACG, reviewing and processing more than 70 promotions.

> Airman Bowen personally uploaded more than 1,000 overdue enlisted performance report information shells in vPC-GR to suspense unit, resulting in a decrease of wing overdue rates by 20 percent. As the wing program manager overseeing submissions to the Command and Numbered Air Force Promotion Enhancement Boards she produced the fantastic results of helping six technical sergeants., two master sergeants and one senior master sergeants being promoted.

> A pivotal Personnel Support for Contingency Operations (PERSCO) team member, she actively participated in three group exercises developing critical skills for deployments. She diligently worked two real-world deployment lines for the 513th ACG, processing 50 members with no write-ups and everyone deployed ontime.

An excellent briefer, Airman Bowen briefed more than 500 wing personnel on a new evaluation process to ensure smooth transition. She helped in-process more than 240 Airmen into the wing, briefing them on promotion, EPR, and participation policies.

Airman Bowen served as a base point of contact to gather escorts for the 2009 Tinker AF Ball be recruiting and leading 15 active duty and reserve volunteers. She is actively involved with her local church where she has volunteered and supported several food drives. She helped collect and donate more than 100 clothing items to Salvation Army and Goodwill organizations and is actively involved in the Air Force community, attending the 2009 Woman's in Aviation Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

## Wasting time? What can you do to eliminate it?

### by Brig. Gen. Robert Otto 9TH RECONNAISSANCE WING COMMANDER

Since 1956, the traditional punishment for rule infractions at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., has been "the tour."

The tour is one hour spent in service dress, carrying a rifle at right shoulder arms, while marching in a single-file line around in a square. This isn't a particularly arduous task; however, what makes this punishment so obnoxious is that the whole process is intended to be a colossal waste of time.

Officers who graduate from the Academy gain a unique perspective on the value of their time, while contemplating the things they could be doing while marching to nowhere around a square.

Whether it's the 30 minutes waiting for a new identification card or five days spent at a transient air base waiting for a flight, much of military life involves hurrying to get somewhere and then waiting for permission to do what comes next. We rely on other people doing their jobs as efficiently as possible to help us complete our objective.

There are very few daily tasks where we control the entire process, whether it is working all night fixing open write-ups for maintenance, weather forecasters preparing the briefing, controllers processing the flight plan and sequencing air traffic, life support personnel ensuring essential equipment is ready for the aircrew, or the pilot preparing for the mission. Each individual in this process is supported by many others. Anyone who fails to accomplish their piece could delay or cancel the entire mission.

I challenge commanders to focus on the value of time.

It can be something small like bringing immunizations out to the flightline to administer flu shots, rather than sending 100 Airmen on the 20-minute round trip to the clinic. It could also be something as large as rebuilding and automating a squadron training program.

Look at the things each day that hamper your progress and give some critical thought to the underlying cause. If it's something you can fix; fix it. If an Air Force instruction prevents it; research it and understand why. Many of our instructions were written to apply to older technologies and processes.

If a new program or technique works better without sacrificing safety, then maybe that instruction needs to be changed. AFIs aren't written in stone. They were written by human beings, and there is a process in place to amend them. Of course, this process takes time, but the end result could be a substantial increase in efficiency for generations of Airmen who will follow.

Not only could your idea be good for your job and the Air Force, but also you might be financially rewarded for it. The IDEA Program is Air Force Innovative Development through Employee Awareness and is implemented through AFI 38-401. Anyone in the Air Force can submit an idea, and if the idea is adopted that individual could receive 10 percent of the estimated savings to the Air Force up to \$10,000. For more information, people can call their IDEA program manager.

In this era of "do more with less," where many of our offices are undermanned, we must be more efficient. I challenge you to look for ways to save time. Doing this will probably mean an improved process, and we will all be the better for it.

## **Sports Shorts**

The base Spring Flag Football League (SFFL) has launched its' fourth season, with two of the nine teams representing the Tinker Reserve campus.

Reserve WHITE and Reserve GOLD boast a combination of players from the 507th and 513th. The regular season lasts from March 2nd to April 27th, with the playoffs being held the first three Tuesday nights in May. Both teams finished in the top five in the fall league ..... The ninth year of the Monday Night Volleyball League (MNVL) opened its' outdoor sand season on April 5th and goes six months, ending on Monday night Sept. 27th ..... The 507th Okie and 513th Thumper softball teams will once again represent the Reserve campus on Thursday nights this summer in the base intramural league. The Thumpers are the defending base military champions, while the Okies are nipping at their heals with their playoffcaliber squad. The Reserve campus

is also trying to put together a combined CoEd softball team which will also play on Thursday evenings. If anyone is interested in participating, contact Tech Sgt. Joe Brown (513th/ 734-6447), Tech Sgt. Brian Finley (507th/734-7848) or Capt. Shawn Kilbourne (CoEd/734-6420) ..... The Thumper softball team is hosting its' Second Annual Thumper Ironman softball tournament at the Tinker softball complex on Saturday May 22nd.

## **Commander addresses Oklahoma ROA convention**

### by Maj. Bill Pierce 507th ARW Public Affairs

Col. Jeffery R. Glass, 507th Air Refueling Wing Commander, addressed the annual convention of the Oklahoma Department of the Reserve Officer's Association March 5.

Addressing the gathering which included the national ROA president Rear Admiral Paul T. Kayye, USAN (Ret.), the colonel discussed how the ROA has "really helped my organization."

Among those initiatives listed were TriCare Select and Early Retirement for reservists performing extended active duty during the War on Terror. "Our wing has averaged 400 to 500 deployers per year and for them this is a huge benefit. The ROA has also fought hard to ensure pay parity with active duty for our reservists. You guys at the ROA are truly one of my champions."

The colonel went on to discuss the 507th ARW's mission and its new relationship with the Oklahoma Air National Guard Associate wing the 137th ARW. He discussed the Impact of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decision upon both the 137th and 507th and the multiple construction projects currently ongoing at Tinker AFB to support the new associate mission.

Colonel Glass then discussed the mission of the 507th saying, "The 507th has been involved with pretty much every major operation since 1994 and we are now heavily involved in Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, which is now called Operation New Dawn." He discussed the aggressive tempo which has become the daily life within the wing saying the 507th currently flies 2,600

flying hours per year and the 137th flies 1955.7 hours per year. "We fly an average of four to seven missions daily, we operate a 24hour, seven day as week command post and our people are deployed at a consistently high rate. We are not a force in reserve anymore. We are an operational force with a tempo that rivals any active duty unit."



**Col. Jeffery Glass** 

Despite the high tempo, the colonel described the high quality caliber of personnel within the wing and the enthusiasm they display towards the mission. He bragged on the efforts of the maintenance team in maintaining the 50- year- old KC-135R Stratotankers assigned to the wing. "Because of our Air Force Smart Operations 21 (AFSO 21) initiatives and since the ANG has started working with us (allowing the wing to extend maintenance evening shifts) we have not cancelled any mission because of aircraft maintenance in the past 3 years."

"We are working hard to recognize and reward our members for their hard work and I again thank the ROA for their hard work on our behalf," he said.

## **Baird presented Lifesaving Award**

Maj. Robert Baird, 507th SFS commander and a police officer with the Broken Arrow Police Department, was presented a Lifesaving Award in January. The award read:

On December 30, 2009, this officer responded to the Community Center to assist the Fire Department for an "unconscious person." This officer was close and arrived to find a thirtynine year old male unconscious on the basketball court. The subject was not breathing and had a "weak" pulse. Although there were close to one hundred people standing around only one citizen had stepped forward to render **APRIL 2010**  assistance. This officer completed a quick assessment of the subject and immediately started CPR. This officer continued to administer CPR for over two minutes until Fire Department Personnel had arrived. Medical personnel verified the subject was in cardiac arrest and shocked him with a defibrillator. This officer remained with subject until Fire Department Personnel transported the patient to a hospital.

Al- According to the attending phy-lighted sician, Dr. Reusser, "The actions of parties the first responders certainly saved L er this man's life. It is not often some- R "Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority"

one who c o l l a p s e s with this type of cardiac c o n d i tion even survived u n l e s s



CPR is administered immediately."

For your actions in saving the life, the Broken Arrow Police Department is proud to present this Lifesaving Award to you, Officer Robert Baird.

## Command names best in comm and info

### by Lt. Col. Richard Curry 507th ARW Public Affairs

Four Airmen from the 35th Combat Communications Squadron have earned top honors in this year's Air Force Reserve Command's 2009 Communications and Information Awards program.

Receiving recognition were Senior Airman Michelle Patterson, Master Sgt. Michael Meek, Senior Airman Bronwyn Cooper and Tech. Sgt. Aaron Smith.

Lt. Col. Pete Peterson, 35th CBCS commander, praised the squadron Airmen receiving awards. "They are sharp people. Their recognition stems from their outstanding efforts during our recent Operational Readiness Inspection," he said adding their individual initiative provided the material to prepare their award packages.



**Senior Airman Michelle** 

Airman Michelle Patterson, an Infrastructure Technician, received the Airman of the Year award in the Communications Electronic Systems category. A resident of Choctaw, Oklahoma, Airman Patterson entered the Air Force and Air Force Reserve in 2005.

Since her entry she has consistently provided solid technical expertise and served as a driving force supporting her squadron, leading up to its receiving the first combat communications team 'Excellent' ORI rating. She demonstrated superior responsibility and dedication through volunteering to serve 70 duty days to inventory and maintain critical assets.

Airman Patterson aggressively pursued each and all training opportunity presented to her. She engaged in cutting-edge tactical deployable communications training, becoming the first in her squadron to train on Initial Communications Element (ICE) equipment, devoting 80 hours to manufacturer's initial training class. She cross-trained on satellite communication equipment, filling an unexpected squadron shortage, to become 100 perent qualified in two weeks. She also received certification as a hazardous cargo monitor by attending a 16 hour class. During the ORI she was responsible for certifying 44 pallets and 61 items.

Her leaders describe her as a highly dedicated individual. Not only did she enroll in Airman Leadership School correspondence course during last year's high ORI ops tempo, she also mentored and sponsored new Airmen to orientate them into the squadron and developed a career development course (CDC) review program. Her personal self-improvement efforts include her graduating a 40 hour security and network certification class, receiving a special experience duty identifier and earning 61 credit hours toward her Community College of the Air Force Electronic Systems Technology Associate degree. She was also lauded and coined by Air Force Space Command and Air Combat Command Inspector General cadre for her knowledge and abilities.

Master Sgt. Michael Meek, a radio frequency transmission systems craftsman, received the Senior NCO of the Year award in the Communications Electronic Systems category. Sergeant Meek is a resident of Moore, Oklahoma.

As the Noncommissioned Officer In Charge of the squadron's Satellite Communications, wideband and ground radio work center, he directly supervises and manages 17 Airmen and \$4 million dollars in equipment assets. He also serves the squadron as the training manager. According to Colonel Peterson, Meek is the "main reason for rapid training in the squadron when it grew from 30 to 80 personnel. His oversight on the squadron's CDC program is exemplary — 12 personnel tested in calendar year 2009 with 100 percent pass rate." Additionally, Meek trained 20 personnel in maintenance data documentation procedures allowing for the smooth repair of equipment to maintain a 100 percent operational state.

Sergeant Meek was hand-picked to



Master Sgt. Michael Meek

spearhead his unit's 2009 ORI effort by his squadron commander. He acted as communications engineer, normally an officer position, to coordinate communication equipment installations, receiving an "OUTSTANDING" score for his efforts. During the inspection, he expertly balanced the duties of Communications Engineer, Emergency Manager, Safety NCO, Unit Training Manager while providing expert liaison between ACC/AFSPC IG cadre.

He created the squadron's ORI manpower model, preventing eight potential deployment requirement manning document shortfalls with a developed contingency plan. Additionally, he volunteered as deployed emergency management representative, posturing ORI location site for inspection simulated chemical threats, resulting in full recovery after

## Command names best in comm and info

every attack. He designated and trained post attack reconnaissance teams in responsibilities allowing completion of PAR sweeps in less than 20 minutes. He also directed recovery during post attack and coordinated all contamination marking and equipment repair actions.

Senior Airman Bronwyn Cooper, a network integration journeyman, received the Air Force Communications and Information Annual Individual Award for 3/C Airman. Cooper is a resident of Atoka, Oklahoma.

Cooper enlisted in the Air Force Reserve in 2006 and, according to Colonel Peterson, has become a "top Airman" in the squadron who "possesses problemsolving abilities only previously seen in seasoned NCOs." She is currently enrolled in the CCAF's Electronic Systems Technology program.

Cooper was lauded as a main contributor to the unit's "Excellent" ORI rating as well as for her "exuberant attitude, sense of urgency, persistence," Peterson said.

Cooper contributed a maximum effort for both Phase I and Phase II pallet buildup and deployed site set-up for three unit Operational Readiness Exercises. She prepped over \$1.4 million dollars worth of



Senior Airman Bronwyn Cooper

communications equipment for deployment, completing this 24 hours ahead of schedule.

She was praised for her abilities as a Junior Airman when she brilliantly analyzed and corrected failed radio frequency module shortly after cross training. She assisted with RF MOD setup and link up 8 hours faster to enable extension of data/voice services to remote site. She expertly and successfully performed while under direct evaluation of AFSPC IG team member.

Her supervisors praise her as an ace technician citing her abilities to troubleshoot and correct systems while producing a minimal impact on service availability. Thinking outside the box, she proved test equipment is not always accurate by identifying problems with a test unit.

As one who doesn't hesitate to take charge, Airman Cooper immediately administered first aid when an individual almost completely severed his thumb. Her quick reaction and use of first aid skills resulted in treating the member for shock, minimal blood loss and saving the thumb. She has been awarded the 507th ARW/ CC's Coin of Excellence and the 35th CBCS Commander's coin!

Tech Sgt. Aaron M. Smith, a cyber systems surety craftsman and NCOIC of the Network Control Center, received the Air Force Communications and Information Annual Individual Award for 3C NCO. Sergeant Smith lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Sergeant Smith received his CCAF Associate Degree in Information Systems Management and completed Airman's Leadership School in 2005 and NCO Academy in 2009.

Colonel Peterson describes Sergeant Smith as a "Stellar NCO" and a main contributor to the unit's "Excellent" ORI rating. "Smith took charge and within the first 48 hours of the ORI, his team successfully configured, upgraded and palletized critical network control center systems, provided extended services to four wing organizations and 196 customers within 12 hours under adverse conditions and established secure and non-secure network with e-mail and file sharing to 194 user accounts



Tech Sgt. Aaron Smith

at four sites.

Peterson stated the 35th CBCS was the first CBCS to deploy a communications network using the Block 50 upgrade. "Sergeant Smith identified configuration problems identified to the Electronics Systems Center Project Management Office and to Air Force Engineering & Technical Services. This field testing resulted in Air Force-wide corrective actions and other multiple fixes for Theater Deployable Communications deployable servers.

He promptly directed responses and reporting of detected network faults, security incidents and user-reported outages. He quickly and successfully restored two servers after two separate failures with hardly visible downtimes.

Sergeant Smith was cited for his leadership and foresight which directly impacted the unit's ability to extend services and install required equipment. He readily assists in the development of effective crew position training and certification. He continuously mentors squadron Airmen to include all flight newcomers, overseeing the development of future NCOs.

## Families greet troops with a Welcome Home in March



## **On-fing R-News**

#### Two maintenance members retirement Saturday

Chief Master Sgt. Doyl Garrison and Master Sgt. John Hansen retire on Saturday, April 10th.

Sergeant Hansen's retirement will be held at 9 a.m. in the Maintenance Hangar, Building 1082 and Chief Garrison's retirement will be held at 2 p.m. in the same building.

Uniform of the day is the attire.

#### Volunteers needed for Community Outreach event

If you are interested in being a part of our annual HRDC campaign, click on link below and forward the information to Senior Master Sgt. David Liszeski.

You will be contacted prior to the event with project details. The goal is to change into civilian work clothes, work two hours following May's Saturday drill to help a disadvantaged homeowner near tinker. http://www.rebuildingtogetherokc.org/volunteer/docs/VOLUNTEER\_PROFILE.doc.

For more information, contact Sergeant Liszeski at 734-7638 or by cell phone at 226-7401.

### Tax deadline is April 15th

With the start to the new year behind us, it is time to once again plan ahead for tax season. With the exception of those serving in combat zones or stationed outside the U.S., most military personnel and their families must file taxes by the traditional April 15th deadline.

As usual, there are a number of unique credits and deductions available to service members. For further clarification or for additional deductions, as well as information on available tax credits, you should refer to this document: http://www.irs.gov/ pub/irs-pdf/p3.pdf.

## 507th ARW recruiters http://get1now.us

Tinker AFB, OK (In-Service Recruiter) Master Sgt. Melissa Melichar (405) 734-5331 (405) 739-2980

## **Tinker AFB, OK** (Senior Recruiter) Senior Master Sgt. Michael Seals





Midwest City, OK Tech Sgt. Adam Thomas (405) 733-7639 Master Sgt. Marcel Jacques (405) 733-9403



Tulsa, OK Staff Sgt. Senecca Collins Master Sgt. Stephan (918) 250-3400



Vance AFB, OK

Kimbrough (316) 759-3766

McConnell AFB, KS Master Sgt. Stephan Kimbrough (In-Service Recruiter) (316) 759-3766 Tech Sgt. Jason Sommers (316) 681-2522



Altus, OK Master. Sgt. Ronald Gregory (580) 481-5123







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**APRIL 2010**