

On-final



U.S. AIR FORCE

507th Air Refueling Wing - 513th Air Control Group

Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

JUNE 2010 Vol. 30, No. 6



May UTA Fun Run, more on pages 4-5.

Mentorship: Our unwritten core responsibility

Commentary by Col. Don Bacon
3rd Air Force deputy commander

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFNS) — The Air Force grows its military leaders from within. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz started out as a lieutenant, and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy as an Airman. None of our leaders are hired directly from the corporate world into their current positions.

Thus, all Airmen need to embrace that mentoring other Airmen is one of our core responsibilities — the future of our service depends on it. Furthermore, Airmen will receive a great sense of satisfaction when they see the positive fruits of their investment in others.

To appreciate the impacts of being and having a mentor, consider how one mentor had a huge impact on a junior officer and how that investment eventually shaped the outcome of World War II, the Korean War, the birth of NATO and eight years of a presidency.

Dwight Eisenhower started World War II as a lieutenant colonel and within three and a half years was a five-star general, leading the Allied war effort in Western Europe. He later became the first commander of NATO and then sworn in as president of the United States in 1952.

What most don't know is years earlier, he was not considered competitive enough to get into the Army's Command and General Staff College, which is where the Army sent majors with the most potential for senior leadership.

When Eisenhower was assigned to Panama, he served as the executive officer to Brig. Gen. Fox Conner. The general saw potential in Eisenhower and invested significant time mentoring him.

He had the young Eisenhower read Carl Von Clausewitz's "On War" three times and also had him study Plato, Tacitus, Nietzsche, Polybius, Xenophon and Vegetius. He quizzed him on battles Napoleon and Caesar fought, as well as on the Greek and Roman wars. He also had him study the major campaigns of the Civil War, analyzing the strengths and weakness of the leaders and their decisions. He taught him how to develop strategy, to adapt tactics to different terrain and to write effective and concise orders.

After Eisenhower was not initially selected to attend the Army's CGSC, General Conner arranged for him to be assigned to the recruiting command, where they still had quota slots available for CGSC. With this, Eisenhower was selected to attend CGSC... and he aced the program as the top graduate of his class. Following school, General Conner helped Eisenhower get a job with Gen. John Pershing, which later led to working for

Gen. Douglas MacArthur and Gen. George Marshall.

General Conner had a tremendous impact on one of America's most important leaders in the 20th century. But don't let this story mislead you. You don't have to be a commander or a superintendent to be a great mentor.

I remember when I was a second lieutenant, Capt. Rick Donalson took me under his wings and helped me get a great start in the Air Force. What I didn't know was he was passed over for major and the Air Force was removing him from the service. But yet, Captain Donalson was selfless with his time and had a great impact on my early career. I admire his example.

We all have a responsibility to prepare future leaders—the quality of our future Air Force leaders depends on it. When we invest time in others we change the world for the better.



The Enlisted Perspective

By CMSAF James A. Roy

14 May 2010

Building partner nation capacity is critical

Last week, 370 senior enlisted leaders from around the world gathered to talk about the issues affecting the U.S. Air Force. Among those were representatives from 18 partner nations.

There was a two-fold benefit to having our international partners attend. For our partner nations, it reinforced their view that we are here to work with them. Second, it allowed us to learn from the unique perspectives they bring to the table.

Having the partner nations at the conference was critical to its success. Our Airmen operate in an increasingly joint and coalition atmosphere, so having those partnerships is crucial to the Air Force's mission of "fly, fight and win."

Across the globe, enlisted Airmen are building those relationships. In Canada, we've built a professional military education partnership. For years, we have had Canadian students and instructors at our Air Force Senior NCO Academy; we also have an instructor at the Canadian equivalent school. We've furthered that partnership by enrolling our first Airman into the Advanced Leadership Qualification Course that is scheduled to graduate in June.

We're also working closely with our South American partners. I saw this recently while touring the Inter-American Air Forces Academy (IAAFA) at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. IAAFA provides technical and military education training in Spanish for more than 600 students annually. These students come from 21 Latin America and Caribbean countries' military forces and governmental agencies.

In Africa, two senior master sergeants recently traveled to Ghana to visit the Air Force Recruit Training School. This was U.S. Air Forces in Europe's third visit to the country to build upon the growing relationship between 17th Air Force, the air component to U.S. Africa Command, and Ghana's Air Force.

Seventeenth Air Force is also actively involved in U.S. Africa Command's Theater Security Cooperation, or TSC. They are working to help our African partners develop security capacity and enhance professional capabilities of their armed forces. Military analysis has determined that small traveling teams are the most effective way to engage with our partner nations to help them achieve their goals. More information about TSC is available on the Air Force Portal.

Building partner nation capacity is critical to our continued success as a service, department and nation.



James A. Roy
 James A. Roy
 Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force

A new perspective on life and death, part 5

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

Last month I wrote on the importance of planning and preparing for your death. First, I suggested the importance of talking to your family about your wishes regarding emergency medical treatments and end-of-life care. Second, I encouraged the preparation of a Living Will and a Medical Power of Attorney.

A third way to prepare is to have a WILL made and review it every few years or after major life events (such as after the death of a family member or a divorce). This type of will is different from the living will mentioned above. This will is a legal document (usually prepared by a lawyer) that directs how your assets (property, possessions, and financial assets, etc.) are to be distributed after your death. If you don't take the time to make these decisions, then the courts will! And while you are updating your will, don't forget to update the benefi-

ciaries of your life insurance policies (including your SGLI), as well as any financial, investment and retirement accounts!

Fourth, research and make Funeral Arrangements. This may include purchasing pre-paid funeral plans, planning out a funeral service (if you want one), and purchasing cemetery plots and headstones. This kind of advanced planning can save your family from having to make quick and agonizing decisions and could protect them from making unnecessary and costly purchases at the funeral home.

Finally, prepare for your death Spiritually. No matter what your religious faith, whether Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, Christian or whatever, preparing your soul or spirit for the transition from life in this body to some other form of existence is important for your well being. It can be a source of great peace for both you and your loved ones. Of course, that preparation may differ depending on your personal beliefs, but the importance of those prepa-

rations can't be over emphasized. Whatever those forms of spiritual preparation may take for you, don't ignore them or put them off.

I know this subject is one most folks don't want to think about, much less talk about. But it is inevitable-you will die one day. The question is, do you love your family enough to plan and prepare now for what will surely come one day in the future? As a chaplain and in my own life, I've seen up close and personal what good planning and preparation can do for the benefit of the person and their family. I've also seen what staggering burdens are placed on loved ones in the absence of that preparation.

Through my work in hospice I've gained a new perspective on Life and Death. I hope through my words and thoughts, you have too.

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<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Tinker-Air-Force-Base-OK/507th-Air-Refueling-Wing/457927390281?ref=ts>

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.
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.



Wing members prepare for the May UTA Fun Run







513th ACG
Commander
By Col. John Trnka

A confession, a pledge and a request

Last week I started a Masters program, so you can probably figure out the confession part of this. Somehow I never got around to getting a Masters degree; it was something I've always wanted to do, but the time was never quite right, or I couldn't figure out what degree I wanted to pursue, or too much was going on, or I had just started a new job, or I was just being lazy. Some of those reasons may sound familiar. Maybe it's the CCAF degree you need to knock out. Maybe it's a Bachelors or PME, or a Masters.

Why does it matter? At some point in all of our careers, a degree, or PME, or some other training/schooling is necessary for the next step. At that point we have to make a decision. For some of you, the answer will be

“no” or “not now.” Not everyone has to follow the same path but think about where you want to go, and make a decision for good reasons. Don't self-eliminate without some serious thought.

So, why am I doing a Masters now? I won't lie; I'd at least like a shot at promotion, though that's not the primary reason, if I never see another promotion, I don't want the reason to be something over which I had control. The real reason is a Masters has been on my to-do list for years, something I've always thought I was missing. I enjoy learning, and I need to do something challenging once in a while.

I also can't ignore the fact I've been on many of you to complete CCAF, PME, etc., so I guess I need to put-up or shut-up.

So here's the pledge part: I will see this thing through to the end. Hopefully the finish line is in a year or so, but however long it takes, I will earn an MBA.

Here's the request part: Ask me about it. I've told many people I was working on this, in part so it's harder to quit. Nothing like the fear of having to tell someone, “I failed” to keep you motivated. So next time I ask you about PME or your schooling, turn it around on me: “Hey boss, how's your Masters going?”



Brig. Gen. Jimmy McMillian, center, the Air Force top policeman, poses with members of the 507th Security Forces Squadron members at a recent Security Forces Worldwide Symposium at Lackland. Pictured also are Master Sgt. James Courtney, Capt. Patrick Mitchell, Chief Master Sgt. Jason Garner and Tech Sgt. Danny Buettner.

Photo by Col. Allen Jamerson

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

HOT TOPICS :

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 10-11 UTA SCHEDULE

05-06 Jun 10	10-11 Jul 10
*24-25 Jul 10	11-12 Sep 10
02-03 Oct 10	06-07 Nov 10
04-05 Dec 10	08-09 Jan 11
05-06 Feb 11	05-06 Mar 11
02-03 Apr 11	14-15 May 11
05-06 Jun 11	09-10 Jul 11
06-07 Aug 11	10-11 Sep 11

As of May 26, 2010

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

Fri, 04 Jun 2010

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1400 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1500 Pre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1066, OG Conf Room
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1043, ATNRoom

Sat, 05 Jun 2010

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-1230 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203
0800-1600 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times
 0900-0930 6 Month Contact w/Col Glass Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined
 1300-1545 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office
 1300-1400 Wg. Career Advisor Trng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1400-1500 Training Mgr Meeting Wing CC Conf Room
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Sun, 06 Jun 2010

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 1200-1600 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times
 0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
 0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm
0750- by appt CDC testing
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 0900-1130 HazCom Trng for Supervisors Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
 1015-1115 Mandatory 3S0X1 Trng Bldg 1043, Rm 203
1300. by appt. CDC Testing
 1300-1600 First Duty Station Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT
 1400-1500 IG period w/Maj. Vardaro Bldg 1043, Room 5
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Fri, 09 Jul 2010

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1400 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1500 Pre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1066, OG Conf Room
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1043, ATNRoom

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Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
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 0900-0930 6 Month Contact w/Col Glass Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
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 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office
 1300-1400 Wg. Career Advisor Trng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1400-1500 Training Mgr Meeting Wing CC Conf Room
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Sun, 11 Jul 2010

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 1200-1600 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times
 0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
 0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm
0750- by appt CDC testing
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 0900-1130 HazCom Trng for Supervisors Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
 1015-1115 Mandatory 3S0X1 Trng Bldg 1043, Rm 203
1300. by appt. CDC Testing
 1300-1600 First Duty Station Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT
 1400-1500 IG period w/Maj. Vardaro Bldg 1043, Room 5
 1500- Wing Commander's Call Base Theater
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

OCCUPATIONAL SURVEYS

These surveys provide information essential for developing personnel programs, classifying occupations, and developing training 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**.

<u>Day</u>	<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 Briefing:

All reserve personnel are required to have the DOD Ethics Briefing within 90 days of reporting for duty. This briefing is held in conjunction with the UCMJ briefing during the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0830 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, 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.

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

Military Pay

<u>File for pay by:</u>	<u>Receive Direct Deposit by:</u>
08 Jun	15 Jun
10 Jun	18 Jun
15 Jun	23 Jun
17 Jun	25 Jun
21 Jun	29 Jun
23 Jun	01 Jul
29 Jun	07 Jul
01 Jul	09 Jul
06 Jul	13 Jul
08 Jul	15 Jul
12 Jul	19 Jul
15 Jul	23 Jul

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

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If Last Digit of SSAN is:	Then Forward Listing to Unit Commander in:	Recertification due in 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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Reservists join together to make a home safe and healthy



Mrs. Howard and her granddaughter and grandson pose with volunteers from the 507th ARW and 513th ACG who renovated almost every aspect of the Howard home as part of the Rebuilding Together community service project.

Photos by Tech Sgt. Melba Koch



Unit members work on making repairs for Mrs Howard's home during the May UTA weekend.

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More than 20 Airmen and civilians from the 507th Air Refueling Wing and 513th Air Control Group repaired and renovated the home of 81-year-old Mary Howard on May 1, 2010.

The volunteers worked with Rebuilding Together, a national non-profit organization that assists elderly and low-income homeowners with maintaining a safe and healthy home.

When Mrs. Howard was first approached by the organization, she had few expectations.

"I thought they'd give me a new kitchen and bathroom floor," she said, "and maybe a new bathroom sink."

But the repair team would do much more than the minimum to the 59-year-old Midwest City home.

Inside the house, the repair team put in new carpet and a fresh coat of paint in the living room, replaced unsafe electrical outlets in her bedroom and kitchen, and installed security locks on the front and back doors.

"The door locks made me feel the safest," said Howard.

The team gave her bathroom a major overhaul, including a new faucet, drain,



Col. Rodney Bryan and Senior Master Sgt. Dave Liszenski present Mrs. Howard with a 507th bear and Rebuilding Together t-shirt.

Reservists join together to make a home safe and healthy

toilet and tub surround. They also installed a new light above the vanity and painted the ceiling and walls.

When asked what her favorite part of the project was, she said, "The bathroom is what made me the happiest."

The repair team also tackled projects on the outside of the home. They installed new storm doors on the front and back entryways, put in new front porch lights, repaired the privacy and chain-link fences, and replaced the outside water faucet and shutoff valve.

To make the house feel more like a home, the team also put up new brass house numbers, a mailbox, and planted flowers in the back yard.

Howard said to the volunteers, "It would have taken me a million years to do what you've done." She added, "The people brought out the warmth in my heart. I have never seen anything like it."

But Howard wasn't the only one to get a warm and fuzzy feeling from the project. Senior Master Sgt. Scott Olsen, from the 507th Logistics Readiness Squadron and a skilled team captain of the project, said he enjoyed helping out a local resident.

"It gave me a sense of giving and accomplishment," said Olsen of participating on the project. "It was a fantastic feeling to get our people out together to help out."

In the end, Mary Howard was very pleased with the update to her house, and very grateful to the Tinker Reserve community for teaming together to help her out. She said she was very proud to be associated with the Air Force, but could hardly believe this many people cared enough to help.

"You don't see that that often."



Time for a little fun when the bathroom was finished.



Hail-damaged siding had to be removed and replaced.



A new security light above the garage gives Mrs. Howard peace of mind.

Nominations accepted now for ESGR flight in August

Members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing are invited to nominate their employers for the Employer Support Orientation Flight scheduled for Friday, August 20.

Employer support flights are traditionally sponsored to help better acquaint business leaders who employ members from the Air Force Reserve with their missions.

Leaders gain an understanding of how their support affects the overall defense of the nation. Reservists may nominate their employers by filling out the nomination form which will be sent out to everyone via e-mail and submitting it to the Public Affairs Office. Space is limited so Public Affairs requests members do not nominate employers for repeat flights and only one nomination per reservist.

“The Employer Support Orientation Flight has been a regular event for our units,” said Lt. Col Richard Curry, 507th ARW Public Affairs Director. “So if we are unable

to fly your employer on this mission, watch for future announcements and please try again. Also, in the past we’ve had problems contacting employers because people didn’t completely fill out their

nomination forms. We need accurate business phone numbers as well as a working e-mail address for all nominees.”

All nominations should be given to Public Affairs by the end of the July UTA so final selections can be made and employers contacted with flight information. For more information, contact Public Affairs at 734-3078.



Employer Orientation Flight Nomination form

Company Name _____

Employer’s Name / Title _____

Employer’s Phone / Fax / Email _____

Employer Address _____

Reservist’s Name/Rank _____

Reservist’s Business Phone _____

Reservist’s Home Phone _____

Reservist’s Unit _____

Airmen Work As Night-time ‘Guardians of the U.S. Mail’

Story by Tech. Sgt. Lindsey Maurice
386th Air Expeditionary Wing

Each night they don their uniform; a collared shirt, khaki pants or jeans and shoes, before heading downtown for another day of work in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

The team, covering all aspects of the U.S. Air Force - active duty, Reserve and Guard - isn't part of the Office of Special Investigations. This civilian-clothed team, better known as the "Guardians of the U.S. mail" has a special mission overseeing U.S. postal operations at a major international airport in Southwest Asia.

"One of the biggest morale-boosters for deployed members is receiving mail from loved ones," said Tech. Sgt. Cornelious Barnett of the 386th Expeditionary Communications Squadron mail control activity section, deployed from the 72nd Aerial Port Squadron, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. "It's our job to ensure the mail gets in country and to the neighboring military installations in this region in a safe and orderly manner."

Barnett, an Oklahoma City native, works the "graveyard shift" alongside Tech. Sgt. Monique Evans of the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina Air National Guard, and Senior Airman David Rudin of Detachment 2, Yokota Air Base, Japan, six days a week.

Each member of the team plays a critical role in the mail mission, but ultimately they ensure the mail gets to and from the airport's distribution center on time and undamaged.

"We monitor the weights and ensure the mail remains un-

damaged due to inclement weather," said Sergeant Barnett, a 17-year Air Force Reserve veteran. "In addition, we keep in close communication with the drivers who transport the mail from the [joint military mail terminal located at a nearby military installation to the airport] as well as provide adequate accommodations when entering the yard at the airport."

Rudin, the only team member assigned to the postal career field as Barnett and Evans are filling augmentee positions, said that while his job here is different from what he's used to doing at home station, he and the other team members picked up the process quickly, which runs pretty smooth.

Rudin said the team's mission usually starts when the truck drivers contact them prior to their arrival to inform them of the amount of mail the team will be shipping out that night.

"When they get here, we work with the mail agent and they unload the trucks for us with their forklift," he said. "We weigh it and the contractors then load it onto a dolly to be taken out to the aircraft."

From there, the team takes the weight and pallet numbers and creates documents to go out with the mail, much like a plane ticket.

"They pretty much take care of the rest until the plane comes and then we just wait on the incoming mail to be put back on the trucks to be processed and distributed to the various installations in the region," he said.

"Communication is critical in this job," said Barnett. "The communication barriers can be challenging at times working with people from other nations who speak different languages and are from different cultures. You really just have to be open-minded and get to know those who you work alongside. I'm pretty outgoing myself and somewhat of a people-person, so this experience is really great for me."

"Patience and attention to detail are important," he said. "There is a lot that goes on here, so you really need to stay on top of things."

With just a few weeks left in the AOR, the team said that while they have enjoyed their time downrange, they are excited about turning over the reins of the mail mission and getting back home.

"I think working away from an actual military installation and in civilian clothes might help a little with the culture shock they say comes with returning home," said Evans, a Fayetteville, N.C., native. "But no matter where you deploy or for how long, I think everyone looks forward to getting back home to their family and friends."



Tech Sgt. Cornelious Barnett is deployed from the 72nd Aerial Port Squadron.

Unit members compete in 'junkyard' type race

We Oklahomans embrace many different types of competitions here. And players and teams from within our borders perennially play on the national stage, and not just in the "big four" sports – football, baseball, basketball, and ice hockey.

Oklahoma is also home to the National Wrestling Hall of Fame; the women's collegiate and world softball championships; America's most decorated Olympic gymnast, Shannon Miller; and the greatest athlete of the first half of the 20th Century, Jim Thorpe.

Needless to say, nobody can doubt that the Sooner State is a hotbed of sports enthusiasts and participants.

And four Okies will take part in what has been called

America's fastest-growing sport, auto racing, in a new racing circuit next month in Texas.

The Rusty Nuts, as Mr. James Tomlins and Tech. Sgts. Erik Strawn, Ron Arredondo and Lewis Haller call themselves, are aircraft maintainers with the 507th Maintenance Group here on Tinker Air Force Base.

And the Rusty Nuts will race their car, a 1987 Jaguar XJ6 – a car they've dubbed the "Jaggernaut" – in the Aug. 28-29 race in Omaha, Neb. instead of the 24 Hours of LeMons North Dallas Hooptie on June 5th and 6th.

This is not your usual car race. The name LeMons itself – a sophisticated name for a slang word for junk cars – smacks of a gathering of cars which belong in a junkyard, rather than on a race track.

Strawn said the race takes a bit of creativity to enter, and that not just anybody can race in it. For instance, Strawn said the race organizers choose entries based on "short essays

the teams write promising cool car themes."

So, to fit the bill, Strawn said the Rusty Nuts gave the Jaggernaut a Union Jack paintjob, using painter's tape, rollers, and "leftover Rust-Oleum." They also plan to don some "British stereotype" costumes before the race. These and their choice of car, one "renowned for its lack of reliability," ensured acceptance to the race.

But once the Rusty Nuts were accepted to race, the real work began. They had an unlimited budget to make the car up to safety standards, but could spend no more than \$500 on the rest of the car.

So, Strawn said they took big steps to reduce the car's weight, increase fuel efficiency and boost reliability. They

gutted the interior, removed all windows, permanently closed the rear doors, replaced ball-joints and coolant hoses, cut the front springs and removed headlights.

For safety requirements, they installed a race seat, a roll cage, a racing harness, a fire extinguisher, and a fully fire-re-

sistant suit and helmet. They also bought shorter tires and high-performance brakes for better acceleration and braking – these were considered safety upgrades and did not count against their preparation budget.

And, to the outsider, this all might seem like too much money and sweat poured into a third-rate car that might not even last the duration of the race. But the Rusty Nuts are excited about participating in a unique race and vying for hardware, bragging rights and cash prizes up to \$1,500...paid in nickels.

For more information, call Tech Sgt. Erik Strawn at 405.921.3434.



Congress enacts new protections for mobilized students

By Capt. Samuel F. Wright, JAGC, USN (Ret.)

Congress has enacted legislation to protect the rights of college students who are called to duty, as members of the National Guard or Reserve. This important provision is included in section 487 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act, Public Law 110-315, 122 Stat. 3078. President Bush signed this bill into law on Aug. 14, 2008. This new law applies to all institutions of post-secondary education.

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) does not apply to the relationship between a student and an educational institution, because this is not an employee-employer relationship. Those who drafted this new law for students clearly modeled their law on USERRA. Indeed, whole sentences of USERRA are included almost word-for-word.

Josephine Smith, a member of the Army National Guard, is a college undergraduate. During a semester, she learns that she is being called to active duty for deployment to Afghanistan. Smith is required to provide advance verbal or written notice to the university, or an appropriate officer of Smith's service or an appropriate Department of Defense (DOD) official can notify the university on her behalf.

When giving notice to the university, Smith is not required to predict when or if she will be returning to resume the educational program. This new law keeps the educational program behind her as an unburned bridge. If she later meets the eligibility criteria, she has the right to resume the program, regardless of what she may have intended or said at the time she was called to the colors.

Smith is exempted from the requirement to provide advance notice to the university if providing such advance notice is "precluded by military necessity" (e.g., operational security considerations).

Smith's cumulative period or periods of uniformed service, with respect to the educational program for which she seeks reemployment, must not have exceeded five years; however, there are multiple exemptions from the five-year limit, borrowed directly from section 4312(c) of USERRA, 38 U.S.C. 4312(c). Thus, there are circumstances in which the individual can be away from school for service for substantially more than five years, and still have the right to reinstatement.

After release from the period of service, Smith has three years to apply for readmission at the university. This is substantially more generous than USERRA, which generally requires the returning veteran to submit his or her application for reemployment within 90 days after release. The deadline to apply for readmission can be extended an additional two years if the former student is hospitalized or convalescing from an injury or illness incurred or aggravated on active duty.

Upon meeting these criteria, the returning student is entitled to pick up where he or she left off in the educational program. The educational institution is required to make "reasonable efforts" to help the student succeed, including remedial courses.

In his or her first year back at school, the returning veteran is to be charged the tuition and fees that were in effect at the time he or she left school for service. After the first year, the tuition and fees revert to the standard rate charged all students.

May 2010 Promotions

<u>Name</u>	<u>Promoted to</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Leonard Spomer	SrA	513th AMXS
Frank Baker	AIC	507th MDS
Richard Stull	SMSGt	507th MXS
Robert Dean	SSgt	507th MSF
Roger Kubilis	SSgt	507th LRS
Adam Murray	SSgt	507th CES
Jacob Pollock	SSgt	507th AMXS
Matthew Smith	SSgt	507th MSF
Alexandra Swanson	SSgt	507th MDS
Chauntelle Wood	SSgt	507th MSF
Henri Gipson	TSgt	507th CES
Aaron Mallory	TSgt	507th CES
Brandon Randles	TSgt	72nd APS
James Bolling	MSgt	507th SFS
Jerry Caughman	MSgt	507th MDS
John Hankins	MSgt	507th AMXS
Timothy Hughes	MSgt	507th CES
Michael Lay	MSgt	507th OSF

June 2010 Promotions

<u>Name</u>	<u>Promoted to</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Christopher Gorman	SrA	507th AMXS
Jeremiah Johnson	TSgt	507th AMXS
Jonathan Ordonez	SrA	507th AMXS
Daniel Pierce	TSgt	507th AMXS
Richard Schaefer	SMSGt	507th AMXS
James Foster	SrA	507th CES
Trevor Dockery	SrA	507th CES
Daniel Glasco	SrA	507th CES
Gabriel Montgomery	SrA	507th CES
Peter Ramirez	SrA	507th CES
Terry Cooper	SrA	507th LRS
Merlin Garrett	TSgt	507th LRS
Brian Gunther	SSgt	507th LRS
Cristina Moreno	SrA	507th LRS
Blake Donaldson	TSgt	507th MDS
Rebecca Straily	SSgt	507th MDS
Fumiko Bowen	SSgt	507th MPF
Matthew Shea	SSgt	507th MSG
Jordan Pound	SrA	507th MXS
James Bailey	SSgt	507th SFS
Larry McKinney	SrA	507th SFS
David Morris	TSgt	507th SFS
Ronald Osborne	SSgt	507th SFS
Matthew Stark	SSgt	513th AMXS
Shamieka Jackson	SSgt	513th MXS
Chris Collins	AIC	72nd APS
Brandi Leland-Wells	TSgt	72nd APS
Joseph Lightner	SSgt	72nd APS



Glen Williams, activities director for the Oklahoma Veterans Center, Norman division, rings the Bell of Honor as names of veterans who died during the past year are called out on May 28, 2010. The Norman Veterans Center has held Memorial Day remembrance ceremonies since 1995. This past year, about 150 veterans passed away who were residents of the Center.

Photo by Tech Sgt. Zach Jacobs

On-final R-News

Change in DANTES re-testing policy

Effective Nov. 20, 2010, Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) will only fund a Service member's initial examination fee for each subject College Level Examination Program (CLEP), DSST (previously known as the DANTES Subject Standardized Tests) and Excelsior College Examinations (ECE) exams.

Due to the change, all Service members taking CLEP, DSST or EE exams on or after May 20 will be informed they will not be allowed to retest with DANTES funding, on that specific exam, if they do not obtain their desired passing score. However, retesting will continue to be available on a personally funded basis. Individuals that took a test prior to May 20 must retest prior to Dec. 11, 2010.

Reserve White Captures Second SFFL Title

Chris "Monty" Montalbano capped an incredible come-from-behind victory with a 35 yard field goal on the final play of overtime, to lift Reserve White to a 17 to 14 victory over the Gym Rats. Down 14 to 0 late in the third quarter, quarterback Brian VanCuren and tight end Brandon Thompson led the comeback, along with a stingy defense. Thompson also blocked a Gym Rat field goal in overtime. Sharing in the victory was Randy Schell, Mike Templeman, Chris Jackson, Ken Sarsycki, Jeremy Allen, Tom Carter and Joe Brown. The win was also impressive considering several starters were sidelined with injuries, including Floyd Conner, Jim Sherman, Jim Gasaway and Anthony Lee. Nick D'Aniello was also out of action the second half of the season. Also seeing action this season for White was Brian Finley and Adam Hawkins. Reserve White has won three base championships – Fall 2003, Spring 2008 and last nights' Spring 2010 title.

507th ARW recruiters

<http://get1now.us>

Tinker AFB, OK

(Senior Recruiter)
Senior Master Sgt.
Michael Seals
(405) 734-5331



Tinker AFB, OK

(In-Service Recruiter)
Master Sgt. Melissa Melichar
(405) 739-2980



Moore, Norman, OK

Tech. Sgt.
Jackie Harris-Sanchez
(405) 217-8311



Midwest City, OK

Tech Sgt. Adam Thomas
(405) 733-7639
Master Sgt. Marcel Jacques
(405) 733-9403



Altus, OK

Master. Sgt.
Ronald Gregory
(580) 481-5123



Vance AFB, OK

Master Sgt. Stephan
Kimbrough
(316) 759-3766



Tulsa, OK

Staff Sgt. Senecca Collins
(918) 250-3400



McConnell AFB, KS

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

