

507th Air Refueling Wing and 513th Air Control Group, U.S. Air Force Reserve

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On-final



*507th ARW welcomes
new commander*

Inside:

Mustache March - An age old
Air Force tradition

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retires after 34 years



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The trees around the 507th Air Refueling Wing glisten as they are covered in a thick sheet of ice as winter drags on in Oklahoma even canceling some missions in Feb. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Senior Airman Mark Hybers)

On-final

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Cover Photo



Colonel Brian S. Davis, right, assumes command of the 507th Air Refueling Wing during a ceremony at Tinker Air Force Base Feb. 8, 2014. Brigadier General John C. Flournoy Jr., 4th Air Force commander presided over the proceedings. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Mark Hybers)

507th welcomes new commander

Colonel Davis takes command of Oklahoma's largest reserve flying unit



Story and photos by
Senior Airman Mark Hybers

Col. Brian S. Davis assumed command of the 507th Air Refueling Wing Feb. 8, 2014 at Tinker Air Force Base with a ceremony presided over by Brig. Gen. John C. Flournoy Jr., 4th Air Force commander.

Colonel Davis served as the 459th Operations Group commander, Joint Base Andrews, Md. He assumes command of the largest Air Force Reserve Command flying unit in the state of Oklahoma, a job which General Flournoy said Davis is more than capable of handling.

"Your incredible experience as a combat veteran, operations expert and team builder, leading warriors in associated units and experienced in three different weapons systems make you the perfect choice to lead the 507th Air Refueling Wing," General Flournoy said during the ceremony. "I can't think of a more qualified officer, aviator and family man that I'd rather have taking the helm."

The general also said Colonel Davis brings an uncommon level of operational experience to the wing.

"You're very lucky to have that - we (the Air Force) are very lucky to have that, and lucky to have him here," the general said.

After the publishing of the order, Colonel Davis said, "I'm very excited for the opportunity to lead the men and women of the 507th. It's a humbling experience to stand in front of you as the commander - walking into a unit that is steeped in history and success."

Col. William Mason, 459th Air Refueling Wing commander, said Colonel Davis is a level-headed officer with a unique ability to balance mission completion with the needs of his people.

"His down to earth personality

along with his vast experience made him a very successful Operations Group commander," Colonel Mason said. "These traits will serve him well as a wing commander."

Colonel Davis entered the Air Force after completing Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, in April 1986. He entered pilot training at Reese Air Force Base, Texas, earning his wings in April 1987. His first operational assignment was as a B-52G pilot in the 596th Bombardment Squadron, Barksdale Air Force Base, La.

After his initial assignment Colonel Davis was selected as part of the initial cadre for the B-1B bomber in December 1989 and was assigned to Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., as a member of the 77th Bomb Squadron. While stationed at Ellsworth, he served in various positions including Standardization/Evaluation and was selected as a member of the B-1B initial tactics development team.

In August 1993, Colonel Davis separated from active duty and began his career as a restaurant owner and airline pilot. In August 1995, he joined the Air Force Reserve as a KC-135R aircraft commander and in January 2001 accepted a position as an Air Reserve Technician with the 916th Air Refueling Wing. While at the 916th he was assigned to numerous positions - evaluator pilot, chief of current operations and mission development, chief pilot, director of operations and commander. He is a command pilot with more than 5500 flying hours in the KC-135R, B-1B, B-52G, T-38, and T-37.

"I like the phrase 'you can count on me,'" Colonel Davis said. "So if I stand up here as your wing commander



Col. Brian S. Davis
507th Air Refueling Wing Cmomander

and tell you that I am your ardent supporter, that I will work endless hours to make sure that you have all the tools that you need to be successful, that I will help you and your units to create a culture where you can thrive and become excellent -- you can count on me."

Mustache March, Air Force Heritage and you

Commentary by Maj. Jon Quinlan
507th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

So it's March and what's the first thing you think about in this glorious month...Mustache March of course. Maybe not, but this year Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh issued a challenge to the force for this March.

"I don't think we've ever had an all-in Mustache March, have we?"

heritage and honoring those Airmen that fought before us.

Three-time ace pilot Brig. Gen. Robin Olds was one of those legendary Airmen and he sported an equally legendary mustache. He was a "triple ace" with a combined total of 16 victories in World War II and the Vietnam War. Every March I see his picture with his handlebar "bulletproof" mustache which he flagrantly wore against military regulations. Some

One way for me and maybe you is to grow and be proud of your mustache, be proud to be an Airman and be proud of our heritage.

Yes your wives, significant others, co-workers and bosses may ridicule your sorry excuse for a mustache. That is what makes mustache march so great. We know mustaches are generally at a low point of acceptance in America but we can keep it real and proudly grow our disturbing facial hair in the name of tradition and in accordance with AFI 36-2903 of course. Maybe some of our units can even set up a fund raisers to raise money for a good cause while having some fun. Fights on, let's grow some mustaches.

In case you were wondering, here is an excerpt from AFI 36-2903.

3.1.2.2. Mustaches. Male Airmen may have mustaches; however they will be conservative (moderate, being within reasonable limits; not excessive or extreme) and will not extend downward beyond the lip line of the upper lip or extend sideways beyond a vertical line drawn upward from both corners of the mouth.

http://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/af_a1/publication/afi36-2903/afi36-2903.pdf

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Brigadier General Robin Olds, center. All other 'mustache' photos are prior 507th ARW Airmen. Photo illustration/Senior Airman Mark Hybers

Welsh said during his speech at the Air Force Association's Air Warfare Symposium. "I'm putting the smack-down on you guys. Air Force-wide Mustache March, MAJCOM competitions."

What's the deal with Mustache March and the Air Force? As some of you may know, it's about tradition,

say he was one of the greatest aerial warriors America ever produced, the fighter pilots fighter pilot.

This brings us to today and us. Sure there is plenty of frustrating news about lowered budgets, draw downs and Air Force reductions in force but we, as professional Airmen, should stay away from that noise.

Lieutenant Colonel Tremblett calls it a career after 34 years of service



Lieutenant Colonel Bonnie Tremblett receives the United States Flag during her retirement ceremony recently. Tremblett was known for a lot of things, but mostly the willingness to put aside her taskings to help those in need. See page 10 for the full story. (U.S. Air Force photo illustration/ Senior Airman Mark Hybers)



Chaplain's Corner



"Be Yourself...Just Like Everyone Else"
By Chaplain (Capt.) John C Weston

These days our culture prizes individuality, but more often than not this is a cover for convincing us to make choices that are consumer driven. "Decide what car reflects your lifestyle" they say, or "What clothes reflect the inner you?" Something tells me that a car manufactured in a facility before you even walked into a dealership cannot reflect you, and that clothing manufactured in Bangladesh cannot be a vision of your inner self.

In the Air Force, we give up a certain amount of individuality. Haircuts fall within a certain range, fitness scores must be of a certain level, uniforms are... well, uniform. Though there is an accommodation to individual taste from time to

time (Hello Kitty cell phone covers), for the most part individuality mostly seems to count when "racking and stacking." I am not knocking the system – we have to have some way to measure things, but I am saying that you need to be the best you that you can be. By that I mean you do not need to be as perfect as SMSgt Snuffy Smith. You can adopt some of his methods that work, but the Air Force employs you as you – a uniquely talented and thinking individual.

The blessing of your individual talents, personality and charm are yours alone, and cannot be determined by a company who wants to make money off of you. You need to be the person that you have been designed to be by your Creator. How do you begin to understand what that design

is? Your chaplains can help you in spiritual issues or curiosity. Your career advisor can help you understand choices that take you to new ways of serving you'd never imagined before. Your PEP package may lead to advancements you never dreamed. But none of this will happen without you being you, and that involves stepping out of your comfort zone. Talk to others outside your shop, outside your office. Get to know the wide world of the Air Force out there – we have more individuals and talents than anywhere in the world I'd bet. For you to take advantage of what you've been given, you will need to stretch your wings first. Ask for help, ask questions, and when you don't know, find out. God bless you, and have a great Air Force day.

Air Force Reserve Recruiting Team

For information give us a call or click on the photo to send an email (web version only).



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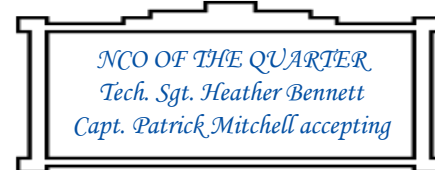
Reserve News

First Quarter Wing Award Winners

Photos by Staff Sgt. Charles Taylor



AIRMAN OF THE QUARTER
Senior Airman Kaleb Siah



NCO OF THE QUARTER
Tech. Sgt. Heather Bennett
Capt. Patrick Mitchell accepting



CGO OF THE QUARTER
1st Lt. Cristi Jordan



SNCO OF THE QUARTER
Master Sgt. Matthew Madison
Not pictured

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Wing News

Safety is not by chance

by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Allergies

What's the Problem?

Are you a writer or producer working on a current TV or film project? Contact the program for technical assistance.

Allergies are the 6th leading cause of chronic illness in the U.S. with an annual cost in excess of \$18 billion. More than 50 million Americans suffer from allergies each year.

Allergies are an over-reaction of the immune system to substances that generally do not affect other individuals. These substances, or allergens, can cause sneezing, coughing, and itching. Allergic reactions range from merely bothersome to life-threatening. Some allergies are seasonal, like hay fever. Allergies have also been associated with chronic conditions like sinusitis and asthma.

Who's at Risk?

Anyone may have or develop an allergy - from a baby born with an allergy

to cow's milk, to a child who gets poison ivy, to a senior citizen who develops hives after taking a new medication.

Can It Be Prevented?

Allergies can generally not be prevented but allergic reactions can be. Once a person knows they are allergic to a certain substance, they can avoid contact with the allergen. Strategies for doing this include being in an air-conditioned envi-

ronment during peak hay-fever season, avoiding certain foods, and eliminating dust mites and animal dander from the home. They can also control the allergy by reducing or eliminating the symptoms. Strategies include taking medication to

The Bottom Line

- The most common allergic diseases include: hay fever, asthma, conjunctivitis, hives, eczema, dermatitis and sinusitis.
- Food allergies are most prevalent in young children and are frequently outgrown.

- Latex allergies are a reaction to the proteins in latex rubber, a substance used in gloves, condoms and other products.

- Bees, hornets, wasps, yellow jackets, and fire ants can cause insect sting allergies.

- Allergies to drugs, like penicillin, can affect any tissue or organ in the body.

Anaphylaxis is the most severe allergic reaction. Symptoms include flush; tingling of the palms of the hands, soles of the feet or lips; light-headedness, and chest-tightness. If not treated, these can progress into seizures, cardiac arrhythmia, shock, and respiratory distress. Anaphylaxis can result in death. Food, latex, insect sting, and drug allergies can all result in anaphylaxis.



Around the Wing

Tremblett from page 7

by Senior Airman Cynthia Parker
507th Air Refueling Wing CCA

“What can I do for you today?” Lt. Col. Bonnie Tremblett would say when you walked into her office. She believes in helping Airmen out in any way, no matter if you’re a no striper or have stars on your shoulders.

“She was always caring and pushing people to obtain their goals,” said Mrs. Carol Reynolds, 507th Air Refueling Wing CCA.

After 34 years of service Tremblett has decided it’s time to relax, spend time with her mother and enjoy the rest of her life living in Arizona.

Lt. Col. Tremblett came to the 507th from Air Force Reserve Command, Robins AFB Ga., in Aug of 2006. She came on as the wing performance manager and said she was very excited to be at the 507th working with all the members in the unit.

According to Maj. Cody Whittington, 507th wing executive officer, Lt. Col. Tremblett had a vast amount of knowledge on awards and decora-

tions.

“She was the backbone behind the awards and decorations program for the entire wing. She had a direct impact to most everyone’s recognition during her time here,” he said. “There is NO replacing the amount of experience and knowledge she takes with her. She’ll be greatly missed.”

Lieutenant Colonel Tremblett joined the military with the rank of Airman Basic in June 1979. Tremblett decided to commission after hearing the comment “you are doing officer work for E-5 pay.” Taking the comment to heart, Tremblett commissioned in August 1989.

During her 34 years of service, she was stationed at nine different bases. Tremblett never had a favorite; she simply stated “all were splendid”.

Those who knew Lt. Col. Tremblett will remember her as the “what can I do for you?” person, never turning away a chance to help someone. When asked what piece of advice would give your fellow Airmen? She replied, “take care of one another; stay strong and ‘do one for the blue’.”



Colonel Thomas Smith presents Lt. Col. Bonnie Tremblett her retirement certificate at her retirement ceremony. Tremblett leaves the Air Force after 34 years of service. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Mark Hybers)

March 2014 Promotions: Congratulations to the following 507th Air Refueling Wing members

To Airman:

AB ELLIOT, DAVID, AMN 507 MDS
AB SWEENEY, ZACHERY T. AMN 72 APS



To Airman 1st Class:

AMN BLEVINS, JOSEPH A1C 72 APS
AMN LYNN, SIR WALTER, A1C 72 APS



To Senior Airman:

A1C COLES, SPENCER J. SRA 507 MXG
A1C OAKES, JENNIFER SRA 507 CES
A1C WILLIAMS, DANIEL SRA 465 ARS



To Staff Sergeant:

SRA FITZGERALD, BRITTANY SSG 507 CES
SRA FOSTER, JAMES SSG 507 CES
SRA MONTGOMERY, GABRIEL SSG 507 CES
SRA MORENO, CRISTINA SSG 507 LRS
SRA REICHARD, STEVEN SSG 35 CBCS
SRA WHITE, BENJAMIN SSG 507 MDS



To Technical Sergeant:

SSG CARTWRIGHT, GARY TSG 513 MXS
SSG KING, SHELBY TSG 507 CES
SSG LEDDY, ANGELA TSG 507 MDS
SSG MATUS, JASMINE TSG 35 CBCS
SSG MILLER, EDWARD TSG 513 MXS
SSG PARKER, CHRISTOPHER TSG 513 MXS
SSG STALDER, KRYSTAL TSG 513 AMXS



To Master Sergeant:

TSG CARTER THOMAS MSG 513 AMXS



To Chief Master Sergeant:

SMS AVERY, TAUNYA CMS 507 AMXS



Reserve News

Manas KC-135s complete final mission, leave Kyrgyzstan

by Staff Sgt. Travis Edwards

376th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

TRANSIT CENTER AT MANAS, Kyrgyzstan (AFNS) -- The Transit Center’s final aerial refueling mission over Afghanistan landed here Feb. 24, completing the end of an era.

After six hours of traveling, refueling A-10 Thunderbolt IIs, and F-16 Fighting Falcons, the KC-135 Stratotanker touched down to a fanfare of saluting Airmen.

Col. Mike Seiler, the 376th Expeditionary Operations Group commander, piloted the historical flight.

“It’s pretty special to be able to say that we were able to fly on the last sortie out of Manas,” Seiler said. “When (I) think about it, we flew our last sortie just like we did our first one--fighter support, troops in contact. ... I got chills rolling down the runway for the last time.”

Over the last 12.5 years here, KC-135s flew 33,500 sorties that led to 135,000 aircraft refueled with more than 12.2 billion gallons of fuel delivered, enough to fill 9,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

“I wish there was an honest way to track how many times a tanker mission has directly affected troops on the ground,” Seiler said.



A KC-135 Stratotanker taxis while members of the 376th Air Expeditionary Wing salute at Transit Center at Manas, Kyrgyzstan, Feb. 24, 2014. The KC-135 departed the after the final refueling mission over Afghanistan from the TCM. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Travis Edwards)

Senior Master Sgt. Jeffrey Bishop, the 22nd Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron superintendent, was the boom for the final mission.

“It all comes down to people ... Airmen with a big ‘A,’” Bishop said. “This team -- I would go to war with them anytime.”

Staff Sgt. Erik Cartwright, left uses a leaf blower to remove snow from the steep steps between the 507th Air Refueling Wing headquarters building and the 507th Logistics Readiness Squadron. The storm moved into the central Oklahoma area Thursday Feb. 6, 2014, dumping nearly three inches of light powdery snow on Tinker AFB. Members of the 507th spent limited time getting areas cleared up as wind chills were minus 15. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Mark Hybers)

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THE 507TH AIR REFUELING WING (FORMALLY 507TH FIGHTER TACTICAL GROUP) HAS SOME AMAZING HISTORY AND HERITAGE. IN AN EFFORT TO EMBRACE THAT HISTORY THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS GREAT PHOTOS AND INTERESTING TIDBITS ON THROWBACK THURSDAYS ON OUR 507TH ARW FACEBOOK SITE AT [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PAGES/507TH-AIR-REFUELING-WING/457927390281](https://www.facebook.com/pages/507th-Air-Refueling-Wing/457927390281) GO CHECK IT OUT.

