

RABBIT TALES



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 513TH AIR CONTROL GROUP
APRIL 2023

RESERVISTS BID FAREWELL TO FIRST DIVESTED AWACS



MISSION: TO PROVIDE COMBAT-READY CITIZEN
AIRMEN TO GENERATE AND EMPLOY
AWACS ANYWHERE, ANYTIME



VISION: WE TAKE CARE OF OUR FAMILY OF
CITIZEN AIRMEN WHILE KEEPING WATCH OVER AMERICA!

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On the Cover: 513th ACG Command Team members Chief Master Sgt. Alphonzo Glover, Col. James Matthey and Col. Alison Schorr commemorate the occasion after signing the first E-3 Sentry AWACS to be divested from the Air Force inventory March 31, 2023 at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. (US Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Lauren Kelly)

Commander's Commentary

Col. James Matthey, 513th Air Control Group commander

Why?

Welcome to the April 2023 UTA weekend! I titled this article “Why?” to solicit your response about why you serve. Of course, we all have our reasons for putting on this uniform. For some, it’s about retirement or educational benefits. For others, it’s about travel, saving money, adventure, or job security. But, for most of us, it’s about purpose, being part of something larger than ourselves, serving fellow Americans, and defending our nation. For me, it’s the service to this nation and paying it forward. And as fourth-generation military, it’s almost a family business.

I’ve enjoyed a 29-year career and have seen our world transition from a polarized cold-war nuclear world to a mono-polar world led by the U.S. Today, the world is in arguably the most dangerous era I can remember. As a result, the need to defend our homes is greater now than at any other time in our history. Threats from China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran, combined with threats from other non-state and terrorist groups at home and abroad, pose a clear and present danger to our families and our way of life.

As recently as last week, Iranian-backed groups targeted and killed an American civilian and injured five American service members in Syria. During our joint exercise with South Korea, North Korea fired multiple ICBMs, SRBMs and strategic cruise missiles from submarines. Earlier, China sent a spy balloon over the U.S., and the U.S. is constantly bombarded by cyber-attacks focused on intellectual property, critical infrastructure, and espionage against national security networks.

Our ability to project power and secure sea lines of communication in the western Pacific is being aggressively challenged. Russia is committing genocide and is committed to invading other countries if it succeeds in Ukraine.



If we are to deter aggression and win should conflict occur, we must have the best technical and military hardware and, more importantly, the best educated, talented, and dedicated Americans to protect, defend the U.S., and, when necessary, destroy our adversaries. This is our purpose, and this is why I continue to serve.

YOU and your families are critical to our national defense. Your leadership team is committed to you and your families as we execute our mission to employ AWACS anywhere, anytime.

So, when you think about your “Why?” I hope you feel the same sense of pride and accomplishment as I do. You and I are part of the best Air Force in the world, and we are charged with a sacred duty, ensuring our national interests around the globe and, most importantly, protecting all Americans’ freedoms. And the best part of my job is knowing I stand shoulder-to-shoulder with you.

Serving is tough, BUT IT’S WORTH IT!
Push it up!!

Goodbye, old friend; First AWACS divested

Reservists with the 513th Air Control Group, family, friends and former members of the unit gather at Dock 2 to place their signatures on the first E-3 Sentry AWACS to be divested from the Air Force inventory March 31, 2023, at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. The E-3, tail number 0560, will take her final flight to the 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group, “the Boneyard,” April 6, 2023. (U.S. Air Force photos by Master Sgt. Lauren Kelly)



Goodbye, old friend

(continued)



COL. JIM MATTEY, 2023

STAFF SGT. JIM MATTEY, 1999



Key spouse volunteers needed

The 513th ACG is looking for a few spouses, family members or friends to volunteer to be a part of the 513 ACG Key Spouse Program!

Why is The Key Spouse Program Important?

- . Promotes individual, family, and unit readiness
- . Establishes continuous contact with spouses/families
- . Encourages peer-to-peer wingman support
- . Provides family links to leadership
- . Strengthens the leadership support team
- . Vital to building strong AF communities



Duties include:

- . Initial training with Military Family Resource Center
- . Meets with CC to establish expectations
- . Creates KSP implementation strategy according to CC program goals
- . Completes and signs a Department of Defense (DD) Form 2793
- . Recruits and encourages new unit spouses to attend Heart Link
- . Attends continuing education trainings to remain current on resources and installation trends

Contact your First Sergeant or SEL know if you have someone interested, and we can get them on board.

POC: MSgt Lindsay Newton, 513th OSS First Sgt.

Booster Club News



The booster club raised \$152 from selling OKC Dodgers baseball opening night tickets that will go toward our annual holiday party.

GARAGE SALE:

Please consider donating items to our garage sale. All proceeds will go toward our annual holiday party.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT FAMILY DAY MAY 6:

Please consider volunteering for a shift to sell booster club refreshments and swag at the 507 ARW/513 All-Star Family Day!

2023 Booster Club Exec Council:

President- MSgt Lauren Kelly

Vice President- MSgt Liz Staff

Secretary-MSgt Lisa McLean

POC: MSgt Lauren Kelly

SAVE THE DATE!

ACG HOLIDAY PARTY

SAT., DEC. 2

SHERATON DOWNTOWN OKC
TICKETS ON SALE SOON!

2022 ACG Outstanding Airmen of the Year announced

The 513th Air Control Group announced the group winners of the 2022 Outstanding Airmen of the Year Feb. 5, 2023. The 513th ACG's annual awards program recognizes individuals who excelled in performance and exemplified the qualities that best achieve mission success in the following areas: Executing the Mission, Leading People, Managing Resources, and Improving the Unit.

Airman of the Year

STAFF SGT. BOBBI KEARNS



NCO of the Year

MASTER SGT. CODY RITTER



1st Sgt. of the Year

MASTER SGT. LINDSAY NEWTON



SNCO of the Year

SENIOR MASTER SGT.
JACOB O'CONNOR



CGO of the Year

CAPT. SARA WEBB



Congratulations to our winners!

Deputy Chief ABM takes final flight; Logs 10,000 hours on E-3



Congratulations to Lt. Col. Wayne Polinski, 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron Deputy Chief Air Battle Manager, as he takes his final flight aboard the E-3 Sentry AWACS March 22, 2023, at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

Polinski logged 10,000 flight hours on the E-3 Sentry AWACS.



AF connect app - are you connected?

Perfect for Reservists, the AF connect app allows you to stay up to date on the 513 ACG from anywhere!

The "groups" feature allows you to create groups based on the needs of your unit and gives your team the ability to communicate in one place. Download it today!

Once you have the app installed, just add 513th Air Control Group to your favorites, and get connected!

An advertisement for the AF Connect app. On the left, the 513th Air Control Group logo is displayed above the text "DOWNLOAD AF CONNECT" in large white letters. Below this, it says "KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THINGS RELATED TO 513TH AIR CONTROL GROUP". At the bottom, there are buttons for "ANDROID APP ON Google play" and "Download on the App Store". On the right, a smartphone screen shows the app's interface, which includes a search bar, a list of icons for various features like COVID-19, Notifications, Video/Podcast/Talks, UTA Schedule, Fitness, Groups, Directory, Emergency, Links, News, and Guidebook, and a bottom navigation bar with icons for Home, CAC, PFT CALC, CONTACT, and FAVORITES.

507th MXS welcomes new SEL

Master Sgt. Lauren Kelly, 513th Air Control Group Public Affairs

Let's give a warm welcome (back) to Chief Master Sgt. (select) Wiley Warner, our new 513th Maintenance Squadron SEL.

Warner hails from the small town of Montpelier, Louisiana, and began his military career in the U.S. Army as a supply troop in 1999.

In 2012, he made the switch to the U.S. Air Force where he served as C-130 mechanic at the 403rd Wing at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi.

In 2013, he was assigned to the 513th AMXS and deployed in 2015.

As a civilian, he has worked in the KC-135 post dock in the 564th AMXS here at Tinker.

In 2017, Warner became a first sgt. at Little Rock Air Force Base. Warner then served in the 507th Air Refueling Wing at the MX ISO Dock Coordinator, the Maintenance Flight Chief, and then the 507th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron AMU superintendent.



"I'm very excited to be back in the 513th," Warner said. "The MXS side of the house has good integration with our active-duty counterparts in the 552nd Air Control Wing, but I'm excited to help foster a stronger relationship with them in the future."

Key spouse social to be held May 6

Key Spouse Coffee and Donut Social; Information Session

Saturday, May 6th
0830-0915
513 ACG Heritage Room

Information Session/
Commander's Call
0930-1030 Fannin Hall

All 513th members and their
spouses are invited!



Dress and appearance updates effective April 1

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

The Chief of Staff of the Air Force approved several initiatives submitted to the November 2022 Air Force Uniform Board for implementation in Department of the Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel. Authorized changes are effective April 1, 2023.

Child Development Centers (CDCs) no-hat, no-salute zones: This authorizes installation commanders to designate CDCs as a no-hat, no-salute zone. Additionally, in areas not designated, salutes are not required when either person is carrying children.

Authorizes the wear of cold weather headband:

This expands the current cold weather accessories to

Authorizes olive drab green authorized backpack color: This expands the current regulation to allow olive drab green in addition to black, brown, gray, and dark blue, as an authorized color for backpacks to wear with any uniform combination.

Authorizes any size logo on gym bags:

This removes the word 'small' from the DAFI, allowing any size logo on gym bags.

Authorizes the wear of parkas by characteristics:

This expands the current regulation to allow cold weather parkas to be commercially purchased, with certain exceptions. Parkas must be OCP pattern or Coyote Brown and have name tapes, service tape, rank and patches worn in the same authorized configuration.



add a headband in addition to scarves, earmuffs, watch cap and gloves.

Authorizes wear of a total of four badges on the Operational Camouflage Pattern (OCP) uniform above the USAF tape. This expands the current regulation which allows a maximum of two badges to four.

Authorizes the wear of additional headgear for the Flight Duty Uniform (FDU): This expands the current regulation to add OCP patrol cap and tactical OCP cap in addition to the flight cap.

Authorizes a "small logo" on purses and handbags:

The logo must not exceed one inch in diameter. USSF only: When wearing civilian attire or in uniform while carrying a backpack by hand, there are no color or logo restrictions.

Authorizes Friday morale shirts with logo on the front and back:

This expands the current morale shirt regulation by allowing logos to be worn at a larger diameter on the back of the shirt in addition to having a logo on the left side of the chest not to exceed five inches in diameter. Regardless of the logo, the shirt must be coyote brown.

Authorizes the wear of "heritage-like" morale patches on the FDU:

This removes the verbiage from the DAFI limiting current or past official organizational emblem or any variation for the FDU, like the OCPs and two-piece flight duty uniform.

If you have any questions, contact MSgt Chris Clark First Sergeant, 970th AACS or your first sgt.

All-Star Family Day to be held May 6

JOIN US
FOR THE
507 ARW & 513 ACG



LIVE MUSIC - STATICS- FOOD TRUCKS
HELPING AGENCIES - GAMES
FAMILY FUN



MAY 6, 2023
BEGINS AT 11 AM - HANGAR 1030

Upcoming Events (continued)

ATTENTION FAMILIES!! NOTHING TO DO ON SUNDAY AFTER
FAMILY DAY?

SUNDAY FAMILY FUNDAY!

When: 5/7/2023 1130-1600

Where: General Hill Conference
Center

ACTIVITIES WILL BE OFFERED FOR ADULTS &
CHILDREN AFTER CHECK OUT FROM YOUR
HOTEL!

INFO &
RESOURCES

YOGA

CRAFTS &
GAMES

PLAYGROUND

MUSIC

Snacks and refreshments will be provided during the event

Event POCs:

TSgt Jennifer Spear 806-676-2303

Jessica Ellison 210-392-0636

Upcoming Events (continued)

July 1-2, 2023

Featuring the U.S. Navy Blue Angels

For more info visit:

<https://tinkerairshow.org>



Air Force Assistance Fund goal announced

This year's fund-raising campaign for Team Tinker runs until June 16 2023, giving us all an opportunity to chip in. The 513 ACG's goal is \$4484, which is only 6% of our suggested giving potential. Please do not feel obligated to give. Only ask to give careful consideration if you are able to make a contribution.

POC: Capt. Tyler Farrell



- Text AFAF to 50155
- Scan To Give

Complete Now: TCCC Training Offered this UTA

Saturday:
1300-1530

Sunday:
0830-1100 and 1300-1530

POC: Tech Sgt. Leland Knight

Held in the 970th Conference Room

NCO Prof. Enhancement Seminar held April 11-13

Registration is open for NCOPES being held at the Professional Development Center April 11-13, and will reinforce supervisory skills, gain expectations from Tinker senior leaders, and obtain current resources to assist in taking care of Airmen. The course is targeted toward SSgts and TSgts who have not attended NCO Academy. To register: <https://teamup.com/event/show/id/k4VYJCezHLv59YNjczP4oeUE-E53QWY>

POC: Master Sgt. Brittany Torrence
Team Tinker Development Advisor

Tinker Top 3 LinkedIn training available



Tinker Top 3

Monthly Meeting: Friday April 7th @ 1400

Location: Tinker Events Center

Guest Speakers: Priscilla Wilks & Mike Tyson

Topic: How to enhance/use your LinkedIn

Not a member? No problem. Attend and sign up at the meeting.

Upcoming Events (continued)

Rising 6 Kickball Tournament to be held Sept. 9

WHEN: Sept. 9, 2023 @ 1630

WHERE: Tinker Softball Fields

Choose your own teams of 8-10 players & sign up to play or come support your fellow members!

Pizza & water will be provided to all, while it lasts!

Sign up now! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094CACA82CA4F8C61-507th>

POC: Senior Airman Jaimesha Alexander, 507 LRS

All-Star Family Day volunteers needed

This year, the 507 ARW and the 513 ACG are combining forces for an All-Star Family Day May 6.

The event is only FOUR WEEKS away, and we need support from the 513th ACG to attend weekly meetings until the event to ensure we are covering all the bases for our big family event.

Family Day Weekly Meeting

When: Thursdays @ 10:30

Where: 507 ARW Conference Room

POCs: Master Sgt. Lauren Kelly, 513 ACG/PA
Senior Airman Derek Gibb, 970th AACs

Ranger Assessment Course open to all AFSCs

This year the AF Security Forces Center will host the Ranger Assessment Course (RAC), 22 May - 9 June in Hawaii.

The RAC is open to all AFSCs.

POC: Lt Col Christopher Jackson, AFSFC/S3T,

christopher.jackson.6@us.af.mil

Mr. Gabriel Rodriguez, AFSFC/S3T,

gabriel.rodriguez.42@us.af.mil

Enlisted Development application window open; deadline July 17

The AY24 Air Force Reserve Enlisted Developmental Education Board (EDEB) will convene 5-8 September 2023 at the Air Reserve Personnel Center, Buckley Space Force Base, CO. As of 0800 MT, 31 March 2023, the Invitation to Apply, Applicant How to Guide, and Developmental Education FAQs are available in MyVector and the Air Reserve Personnel Center's Force Development page.

Applicants must submit a nomination package by the applicant deadline 17 July 2023. Applicants are urged to check with their units for local deadlines. For more information or questions please email the ARPC/DPAF EDEB org box at arpc.dpaf.edeb@us.af.mil. If you encounter problems while coordinating the application, please submit a MyVector Support Ticket using the 'Help' tab in the upper right -hand corner.

The invitation is on the SNCO channel under the 513 ACG All Team on Teams.

Q and A with the commander

Would you like ask the commander a question anonymously? Scan the QR code below to submit your question.



Have you visited our website? (click the photo for link)

13th Air Control Group (ACC)
513th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
513th Maintenance Squadron
513th Operations Support Squadron
970th Airborne Air Control Squadron



513TH ACG HEADLINES

RABBIT TALES MAGAZINE



513th ACG February Enlisted Promotions



513TH ACG
LEADERSHIP



Commander

RABBIT TALES

Would you like to submit a story or news/announcement to the Rabbit Tales? Please email us at: 513thpublicaffairs@gmail.com or 513ACG.PublicAffairs@us.af.mil