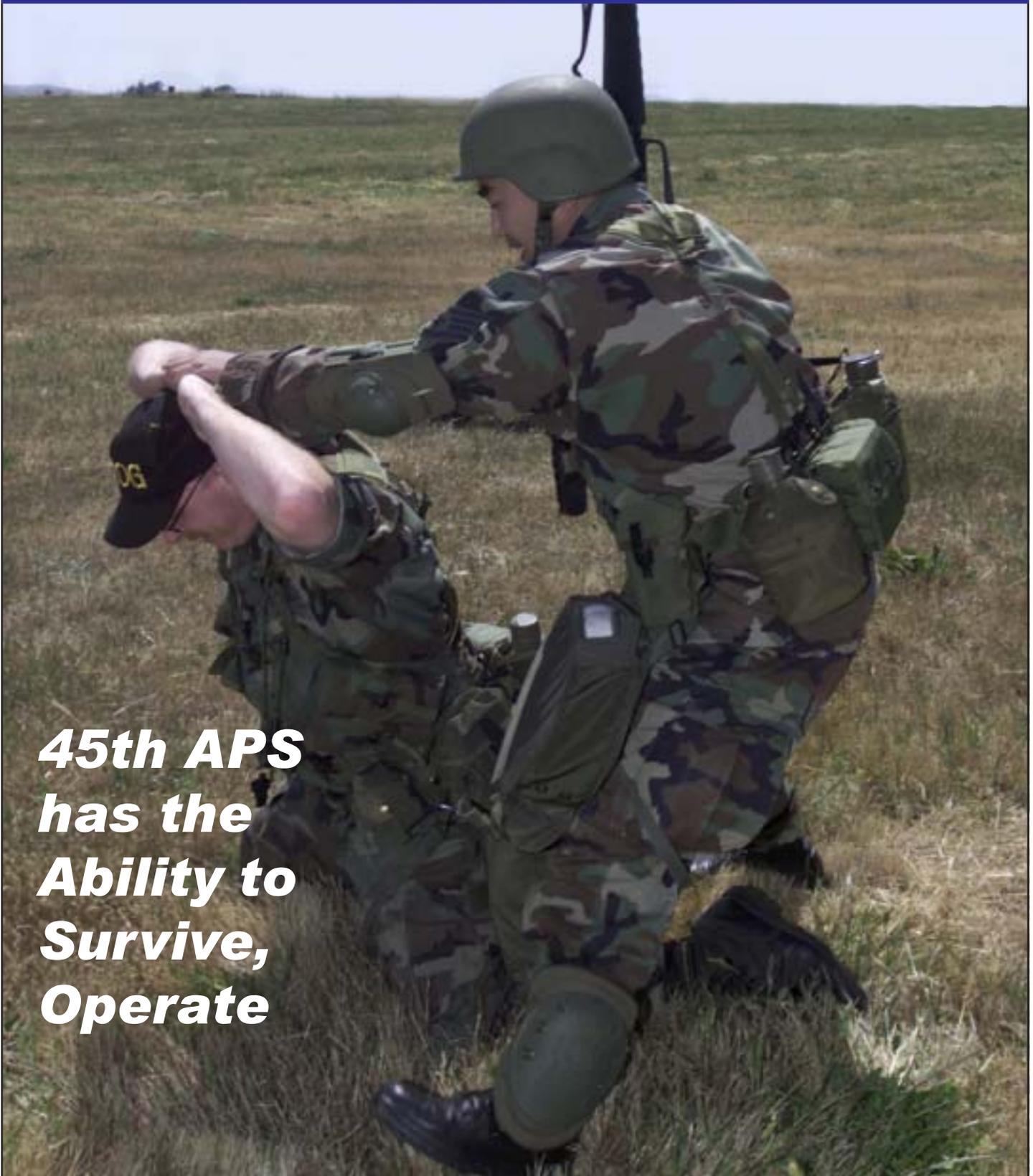


Contact

Magazine for and about members of the 349th Air Mobility Wing
Travis Air Force Base, California

Vol. 20, No. 7

July-August 2002



***45th APS
has the
Ability to
Survive,
Operate***

We are all ambassadors of the Air Force Reserve

I don't think I've ever been to a Squadron where the members didn't feel that they were part of a "family." This family feel is another of the great "American militia traditions."

Most of the Lexington militia who fired the "shot heard 'round the world" didn't just feel they like a family, they were literally related.

Of the 104 Minutemen that met on the Lexington common on the morning of April 19, 1775, there were twelve father-son combinations; therefore, 25 percent of the members were directly related. There were also a number of uncles, nephews, cousins, etc. Captain Parker, the commander, was related to many of the unit members. All three of his commissioned officers were kinsman and so was about one-third of his company.

Today, many in our wing are still related. I recently had the opportunity to administer the oath of office to Amy Wyant, whose father, Theodore, is a member of the 349th CES. Amy's brother, A1C Edward Wyant, is also a member of our CE squadron. MSgt. Harold Palmer, assigned to the 55th Aerial Port, has a son, TSgt. Dave Palmer, who's a boom operator in the 79th ARS. Capt. Shane Butler, a pilot in the 70th ARS, is the son of Lt. Col. Frank Butler, a retired pilot from the 79th ARS. I'm sure our wing has many more family

"connections."

Obviously, the militia-family tradition continues. Our "Get One" recruiting program is your opportunity to invite your friends and family at home to join our reserve family at Travis.

Our recruiters face some daunting challenges in the next few years. As the active duty Air Force has gotten smaller, the pool of prior-service members shrinks, so we must make a greater effort to welcome non-prior service members to the Air Force Reserve and the 349th. Compounding the problem, a smaller Air Force means the civilian community has less access to Air Force members. That's why we need your help. Each of us in uniform is an ambassador of the Air Force Reserve.

Spending for Air Force advertising last year reached \$10,000 per recruit. Despite a large advertising budget, any salesman will tell you "Referrals are the best lead." That's what the "Get One" program is all about. Last year, our wing had 350 "Get One" inputs, which is one percent of the wing population.

We need you to make those referrals. We'll never have enough recruiters to find all the leads we need. Actually, we need recruiters to process recruits who've made the decision to join. Our job is to provide recruiters those leads.

Everyone is a recruiter.

For example, the 349th AGS has a



Pass and Review

By Col. James Leli,
Wing Vice Commander

"School House Program" in which squadron members visit Northern California schools and talk about the Air Force from a reserve perspective. This is a very successful program. The students relate very well to reservists who they feel are just telling the facts, versus "trying to sell something."

Tell your friends all the reasons you belong to the Air Force Reserve. It's a great part time job. There's travel, adventure, challenge, responsibility, and camaraderie, and the money's good. Don't forget education benefits. The Air Force will provide money for college, and skills in learning a new career field.

The Reserve GI Bill now provides \$272.00 per month for full time college attendance. In addition, for personnel in AFSCs 1N, 2T, 2A, 4N and 3E you can get up to an additional \$350.00 added to your Basic GI Bill monthly payment. The Air Force Reserve also now provides tuition assistance that covers up to 75 percent of your tuition costs.

82nd is a leader in "Get One" efforts

Story by Staff. Sgt. Leonard Bonyeau
82nd Aerial Port Squadron

When Maj. Timothy O'Brien took over the 82nd Aerial Port Squadron in January, he set as a primary focus of his command to increase the number of recruits into the unit's air transportation specialties.

The 82nd has historically recruited a majority of new 2T2XX members from the active duty ranks. Since the Sept. 11th attacks on the Pentagon and New York City, Stop-Loss has limited the 82nd's ability to fill those slots.

As a countermeasure, Major O'Brien created a special recruiting team to help. The team consists of 1st Lt. Alan Tornay, SMSgt. Carlos Carrillo, SSgt. Leonard Bonyeau, SrA Oliver Gravador, and other volunteers on an 'as-needed' basis.

We are working with our Travis reserve recruiters to help us operate booths at local events with their experience, knowledge and materials. We need their help as much as they need the help of all reservists to help in the wing's recruiting efforts.

Over the recent Memorial Day holiday, SMSgt. Carrillo and SSgt. Ojeda and

Airman Gravador spent two days in a booth at Six Flags/Marine World amusement park in Vallejo, talking to the public about the Air Force Reserve and what the 82nd APS does. The trio got 60 'leads,' young men and women who expressed interest in joining the Air Force Reserve.

We have a lot of support here at the 82nd from our members who are providing us with leads under the 'Get One Program.'

Not only is the 82nd Recruiting Team making an effort, but so are unit members as individuals on a daily basis.



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CONTACT

Vol. 20, No. 7

July-August 2002

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4 Operation Gratitude and East Bay Stand Down

Operation Gratitude was a huge success dedicated to giving something back. East Bay Stand Down, at Camp Parks, is coming up September 5th through the 9th, don't miss this opportunity to meet with the custodians of military history!

4 Reserve your seat for the upcoming Enlisted Workshop

The third annual Enlisted Workshop is set for August 8th and 9th. The theme for this event is Warrior Spirit and will be focusing on retention and retention issues.

5 Honor Guard reaps more than it gives

The 349th Honor Guard members render honors to our fallen comrades and provide a most memorable, positive image to the general public. Read more on their mission and see if you have what it takes to join this elite group.

5 Why I stay in the Air Force

A 349th member gives a testimonial on why he serves in the Air Force Reserve.

6-7 45th Aerial Port Squadron ATSO training photo story

Check out this photo collage dedicated to the 45th Aerial Port Squadron's recent ATSO training - getting the training done and still having fun!

8 Anthrax post-exposure briefing coming

The Surgeon General of the Air Force has initiated this new program to protect aircrew members. The 349th has begun planning briefings to address questions on the anthrax post exposure testing program.

9 Looking to get promoted? - Promotion criteria layout

Reserve enlisted promotions program is different from active duty in many ways. Increase your chances of promotion by following these career progression tips.

11 SECAF reflects on the past and looks to the future

SECAF, Dr. James G. Roche, addresses the Air Force on operations issues.

On the Cover



Security First: The 45th Aerial Port Squadron completes a successful "Ability to Survive and Operate" exercise. Take a look on Pages 6-7 for additional photos.

(Cover photo by Nan Wylie, Base Multimedia Service Center)

Events honoring our colleagues

As members of the Air Force Reserve, we have had a long-standing tradition of honoring our veterans.

There are two 349th events dedicated to giving something back to our veterans. "Operation Gratitude," a Top Three Council event held at the California Veterans Home in Yountville on the 15th of June was a huge success, and coming up 5-8 September is the East Bay Stand-Down, held at Camp Parks in Dublin.

Like any military operation, these projects could not be done without the logistical support, input and guidance of so many talented and devoted people throughout our wing.

Those who have or are going to participate will have a golden opportunity to meet and listen to these veterans. You see, these veterans are still the best custodians of our military history. They love to tell of their experiences, which keeps the memory of service, sacrifice, honor and duty alive.

Their stories are filled with compassion, respect, brotherhood and love, especially love for one another. The love and reverence that veterans hold for each

other is second to none.

In many cases, the memory of a fallen comrade stays with them forever. And for many, the admiration that veterans share remains one of the most meaningful experiences of their life.

It has always been a great privilege to personally listen to their stories. The one constant theme I always hear from veterans is this: The time spent in service was one the best experiences of their lives, a time of camaraderie, of being in top physical condition and feeling the pride that comes with serving one's country.

This is why it has been such an honor for our people to support these events.

So while the United States celebrates 226 years of freedom this July 4th, let us not forget the caretakers of the freedom we cherish so dear. It is because of these men and women who have stood guard that the citizens of this great country can enjoy the fruits of their sacrifices.

Clearly, because of the great sacrifices made by our nation's finest citizens, our veterans, we are able to live in a time and a place where freedom is always precious. America is the land of the free and home of the brave.



Chief's Counsel

By Command Chief Master Sgt.
Anthony L. Maddux

So, if you want to join the 349th in helping with the East Bay Stand Down, contact CMSgt Wynn at (707) 424-3231 or visit website: www.eastbaystanddown.org to get addition information and the background and history of this event.

I salute all our warriors -- past, present, and future. God bless the USA!"

Volunteers needed for East Bay Stand Down

Camp Parks, Dublin, Calif., 5 - 8 September

Contact CMSgt. Wynn at (707) 424-3231

Third annual 349th Enlisted Workshop

by Senior Master Sgt. Jim Majors
Wing Workshop Coordinator

The 349th Air Mobility Wing is hosting it's third annual Wing Enlisted Workshop, 8 and 9 August and will be held in bldg. 921.

The theme of this year's workshop is Warrior Spirit. The workshop will also focus on retention and retention issues.

The 349th holds annual enlisted workshops, as a means of addressing many of the morale and quality of life issues plaguing our enlisted members who sacrifice much in support of the reserve mission. The mission, which we all realize is expanding exponentially as we move into the future's seemingly unstable world events. It is due to this mission, more is asked of our fellow

Airmen (as well as those members of our sister services), while the rewards or incentives are sometimes minimal or unrealized, or even unappreciated.

We plan on hosting several dignitaries, who have access to various echelons of government, and who will interact with our enlisted members and become our voices at these (many times) higher levels of government. Previous workshops have addressed many issues, which have indeed reached greater heights in minimum amounts of time, while also receiving the much needed attention and action from those who can assist our enlisted brothers-and-sisters-at-arms, and, in turn, effect necessary implementation of policies and laws to benefit our well deserved enlisted force.

Your attendance and input can be

helpful in prompting action that may benefit our fellow enlisted members. First, by providing insight into your challenge as a civilian and a reservist, who works to manage demanding roles of your dual life (military & civilian). Also, you can provide testimony that is representative of the countless unseen and unheard members of our enlisted men and women, equally possessing their own testimonies and challenges.

Attendance is limited therefore, be sure to contact your First Sergeant as early as possible, as these seats will fill up fast.

I hope that you can find the time to attend this year's workshop, and I look forward seeing you there. If you have question, I can be reached at (707) 424-4089, or at james.majors@travis.af.mil.

Honor Guard reaps more than it gives

“Now, at this time, we’ll have a rendering of military honors.”

Photo and Story by
Master Sgt. Jon Saunders
 Honor Guard Superintendent

With sharp, crisp and synchronized movements, the Travis Air Force Base Honor Guard steps into action.

The Honor Guard render honors to our fallen comrades and provide a most memorable, positive image to the public during other official ceremonies.

“In all my years of military service nothing has been more rewarding or exciting than being a part of the Travis AFB Honor Guard,” Master Sgt. Pamela L. Silas said.

Although military honors are given on behalf of the military person, they are really for the family and friends.

“Nothing is more moving than when you see the tears streaming down the face of loved ones as they squeeze your hand saying, ‘Thank you so very much, My son/husband/daughter etc., would have been so proud. We can never thank you enough.’ There is a sense of pride that swells inside you that cannot be



Proud to serve: Honor Guard member MSgt. Pamela Silas is shown here performing in a flag ceremony.

compared to anything else you’ve ever experienced,” said Silas.

Although rendering honors to fallen comrades are the primary and foremost mission of the Honor Guard, providing 400 funerals last year, it also includes other ceremonial duties. “I never dreamed I’d be on the same field with ‘Kenny G’ presenting colors to the

national anthem,” added Silas.

The Honor Guard also performs at such events as the Sacramento Kings games, San Francisco 49er games and a host of other exciting functions.

Being a part of the Honor Guard is truly exciting and is an occupation, which requires outstanding devotion and commitment to duty.

The 349th currently has 40 volunteer members, each member has devoted one or two days a month, in addition to their UTA and annual tour to training and performing in these ceremonies. “I am filling one of the eight positions on continuous orders,” said Silas.

In keeping with traditions and maintaining exceptionally high standards, the Honor Guard will continue to remain an icon of excellence. Every ceremonial honor guard member, at every ceremony demonstrates with pride the motto of the Honor Guard: “To Honor With Dignity.”

If anyone is interested in any of the positions on the 349th Honor Guard, please contact me, at (707) 424-5023, or stop by Bldg. 244.

Why I stay in the Air Force...

Story by Tech. Sgt. Allan Folsom
 349th Medical Squadron

Why I stay...I stay because as a young boy I looked at the face of determination, hard work and sacrifice reflected in my fathers eyes.

It inspired me. I stay because he, at age 86, is still haunted by those dreams, the dreams that seem all too real and compel him to awake early in the morning to calm his nerves with solitude and coffee.

I stay because his war, even though it is viewed now through the colored lens of time, is not over. He continues to fight it, every night, when he closes his eyes.

I stay because I look into the eyes of my sons and daughters and see that they

need to see that there are things larger than themselves, that require sacrifice and commitment.

I stay for my Grandfather who used to tell me when I sat upon his knee. “I slept and dreamed that life was a beauty, I awoke and realized that life was a duty”

My Family: Technical Sgt. Allen Folsom, 349th Medical Squadron, (right) with his father, Edgar Roy Folsom Jr., who served in the Marine Corps at locations such as Iwo Jima, Pellieu, Guadacal Canal and the Pacific Theater in World War II and was the recipient of the Navy Cross for Valor, Silver Star, Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.



45th Aerial Port Squadron shows-off ATSO skills



Scrapbook



**Photos by
Nan Wylie,
Multimedia
Service
Center**

Anthrax post-exposure briefings to begin

by Lt. Col. Tim Grennan
Chief, Aerospace Medicine

The Surgeon General of the Air Force has initiated a new program to protect aircrew members.

Since Sept. 11, terrorism has become a very real threat. Biological warfare agents are being used as tools for terrorism. As of the fall of 2001, there have been several dozen cases of anthrax reported in the United States.

USAF aircrew are at risk to be targeted by terrorists. If someone has a significant exposure to anthrax spores, the disease known as anthrax will develop within a few days to a week. Once the disease develops, without proper medical care, nine out of 10 people exposed will die.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has established guidelines for post exposure prophylaxis (PEP) with ciprofloxacin for people who have had a known exposure to anthrax spores. This program has also been approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

The Surgeon General of the Air Force has approved the use of ciprofloxacin for PEP for any aircrew who may have a significant exposure to anthrax spores.

He has directed that all aircrew be tested for possible side effects from ciprofloxacin prior to the use of ciprofloxacin for operational purposes.

This summer the 349th AMDS will begin the anthrax post exposure testing program as outlined by the surgeon general. Each flying squadron will be briefed by their flight surgeon. More details about the program will be provided during the briefings.

For this ground testing program, the dose is one ciprofloxacin, 500 mg. tablet, in the morning and a second tablet in the evening, about 12 hours later, for a total of two doses.

From an operational standpoint, a true exposure situation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends ciprofloxacin (or doxycycline) as initial therapy for post exposure prophylaxis against inhalation anthrax after intentional exposure. The optimal duration of prophylaxis is unknown.

The US Department of Health and Human Services provides three options: 1) 60 days of prophylaxis; 2) an additional 40 days of prophylaxis (100

days total); 3) an additional 40 days of prophylaxis (100 days total) plus 3 doses of the anthrax vaccine over a 4 week period.

In general, ciprofloxacin is a safe drug. However, any medication has the potential to cause an adverse or idiosyncratic reaction.

For example, ciprofloxacin can increase caffeine levels, causing anxiety, insomnia, and paranoia. Aircrew members will be asked to limit their caffeine consumption (coffee, tea, chocolate, cola, and others) while taking ciprofloxacin.

There are a number of excellent sources of information about bio-terrorism, anthrax, and post exposure prophylaxis for anthrax using antibiotics.

The CDC, has one of the best sources of credible information about the above topics. They represent the best source for up to date information and recommendations. The Air Force program is designed around the CDC recommendations. Their website at www.cdc.gov contains a wealth of information on bio-terrorism in general, anthrax in particular, and details about the ciprofloxacin PEP program.

Briefs

Career Program applicants must self-nominate for jobs

Civilians interested in applying for specific job positions must now self-nominate under the Air Force's Career Programs system.

The Career Programs office, which now uses the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System (DCPDS) provides a centralized merit promotion system used to fill mid-level and senior management positions throughout the Air Force.

Career Programs registration is no longer required to apply and compete for covered positions, say personnel officials.

People interested in a job must self-nominate via the AFPC's employment home page at www2.afpc.randolph.af.mil or call toll-free 1-800-997-2378.

Employees are encouraged to subscribe to CANS at their web site: www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afss.

Additional information can be found at: www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cp.

AGR office seeks applicants for full-time tours of duty

Opportunities for Air Force reservists to serve in full-time Active Guard Reserve positions have more than tripled since 1990, from 400 to more than 1,400 authorizations.

Members of the AGR Program serve under Title 10 of the U.S. Code and are entitled to most of the benefits received by the active force. They qualify for an active-duty retirement, provided they attain career status and can serve 20 years active federal military service.

Information and more details about the program is available on the AGR Management Office's web site at: www.re.hq.af.mil/agr/agrhome.html.

Thrift Savings Plan season

Civilian and military employees can sign up for or change their contributions during the Thrift Savings Plan's "open season" now - July 31.

"TSP is an easy, long-term retirement savings plan, that everyone should consider," said Lt. Col. David Zeh, chief of the contact center here. "It's a great supplement to military and civilian retirement plans. And you only contribute what you feel you want to."

TSP offers investors the chance for lower taxes each year they contribute while not having to pay taxes on earnings until they reach retirement.

For general TSP questions, call the AFPC Contact Center at (800) 558-1404 or visit their web site at www.tsp.gov.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

If you or your employer have any questions or concern on the rights of Reserve members, please contact the Northern California ESGR representative, Mr. Douglas Menard, by email address at dmenard@earthlink.net, or by telephone at (916) 726-2996, or visit the ESGR web site www.esgr.org for additional information.

Promotion criteria



To Airman:

- * 6 months time in grade as E-1
- * Time in grade begins when member enters IADT



To Airman 1st Class:

- * 6 months time in grade as E-2
- * Time in grade begins when member enters IADT



To Senior Airman:

- * 3-skill level in primary Air Force specialty code
- * 8 months time in grade as E-3
- * 1 year satisfactory service
- * Time in grade begins when member enters IADT
- * **EXCEPTION:** enlisting under Stripes for Education,

promoted upon successful completion of Basic Military Training and technical training



To Staff Sergeant:

- * 5-skill level in PAFSC or (3-skill level if no 5-level)
- * 12 months time in grade
- * 4 years satisfactory service and completion of

appropriate professional military education



To Technical Sergeant:

- * 7-skill level in PAFSC
- * 18 months time in grade
- * 5 years satisfactory service
- * Assigned to Technical Sergeant slot



To Master Sergeant:

- * 7-skill level in PAFSC
- * 24 months time in grade
- * 8 years enlisted service
- * 8 years satisfactory service
- * Assigned to Master Sergeant slot
- * Completion of NCO academy in residence or by

correspondence



To Senior Master Sergeant:

- * 7 or 9-skill level in PAFSC
- * 24 months time in grade
- * 10 years enlisted service
- * 11 years satisfactory service
- * Assigned to Senior Master Sergeant slot
- * Completion of Senior NCO Academy in residence or

by correspondence



To Chief Master Sergeant:

- * 9-skill level in PAFSC
- * 24 months time in grade
- * 10 years enlisted service
- * 14 years satisfactory service
- * Assigned to a Chief Master Sergeant slot

Looking to get promoted?

...know the steps involved

The Reserve enlisted promotion program is different from active duty in many ways and is of special concern to management for the Air Force reservist.

Reserve enlisted promotions are limited to the authorized grade the reservist holds after the grade of staff sergeant. Upward mobility is limited to the number of higher-grade positions available.

Listed below and in the box to the left are tips to follow along your career progression.

-- Airmen in retraining status: Cannot be promoted in the new AFSC until completion of technical school, if required, and the 3-skill level has been awarded in the new AFSC.

-- For promotion to all grades: The individual must be a satisfactory participant, be in compliance with weight and body standards, and be recommended by the supervisor and approved by the commander.

Enlisted promotions throughout the Reserve are made on the first day of January, March, May, July, September and November. Two months before each promotion month, the personnel data system generates a promotion eligibility roster.

This roster identifies all enlisted members eligible for promotion during the cycle. Exception to this rule is airman basic being promoted to airman. This is an automatic six months from the time the member enters IADT, regardless whether it is the first day of the month or not.

The Extended Promotion Program (EPP) authorizes a staff sergeant, who is in a SSgt slot, has no higher position to be placed in, has 16 years' satisfactory service and has all other criteria for technical sergeant to be eligible for promotion. The Promotion Enhancement Program (PEP) occurs twice a year, on April 1st and October 1st. PEP allows eligible members to be promoted one grade over their assigned position. A promotion board is conducted for selection of nominees the unit submits. Special guidelines apply.

As you climb the enlisted structure, you will be required to fulfill professional military education requirements.

To learn more about PME eligibility requirements for each grade level or to enroll in any of the courses, contact the wing unit education and training manager (707) 424-2931, or the Career Enhancement Office at (707) 424-3954.

Commanders Calls in July

July 14, 21, 28 in the Base Theater starting at 1030 hours.

For information, call the Public Affairs Office at (707) 424-3936

Log on to



ATWIND 2002

The ATWIND 2002 contest is under way and will continue through August 31st. All wing members and their families are entitled to enter this free game piece number, 9999-0033-333, at: www.atwind.com, to become eligible for many free prizes. For more information about ATWIND, go to: www.60thServices.com.



Photo by SMSgt. Joe Annon, 349 CES

349th Civil Engineers Deploy to Germany: The 349th Civil Engineering Squadron recently sent a team to construct a 6 meter x 6 meter prepackaged Gazebo for the 52nd Security Forces Squadron, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany. The project consisted of hauling, leveling and compacting 15 yards of fill material, forming, pouring and finishing the 6-inch thick concrete pad and then assembling the prepackaged wooden structure. The process includes operating the concrete chute, spreading the material from one side of the formed pad to the other. A large 'screed' is used to roughly level the material prior to the finishing process with a bull float and hand trowels. Members from almost all sections of the CE unit participated in the project at one time or another. Pictured left to right: SMSgts. Brian Vanstraten and Douglas Gilman, Master Sgt. Michael Pieraccini, Technical Sgts. Robert Mason and Floyd Thomason, Staff Sgt. Oscar Salazar and Senior Airman Matthew Gallagher.

AAFES offsets cost to combat shoplifting

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service can start demanding more compensation from those caught shoplifting thanks to a program written into the fiscal 2002 defense budget.

The Civil Recovery Act, which went into effect March 1, allows AAFES to collect a flat administrative cost of \$200 in addition to the value of the shoplifted items from those caught shoplifting in an AAFES store.

An AAFES news release explained the \$200 is meant to offset the expenses the service incurs because of shoplifting.

Military exchanges spend millions of dollars each year to foil shoplifters, including measures to deter and detect thefts, the release said. AAFES catches more than 11,000 shoplifters each year.

Under the terms of the new program, sponsors are responsible for their family members' actions. Parents of minors caught shoplifting will be billed for the costs, AAFES officials explained. They added that this administrative charge is separate from any criminal prosecution or military disciplinary action.

"The expenses related to shoplifting, theft prevention and detection reduce the dividends available for the AAFES mission," the release said. It added that the mission is "to give back 100 percent of its earnings to exchange customers through quality-of-life programs and modern and convenient facilities to shop."

(Special to the American Forces Press Service from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.)

SECAF reflects on past, looks to future

[Editor's Note: The following is a message from Secretary of the Air Force James G. Roche to all Air Force personnel.]

To the men and women of the U.S. Air Force:

One year ago this month, I was sworn in as your 20th secretary of the Air Force and became, on that day, a proud member of a magnificent team of active duty, Guard, Reserve, and civilian airmen. During this time, I've had the deep honor and pleasure to serve alongside Gens. Mike Ryan and John Jumper, and our chief master sergeant of the Air Force, Jim Finch. It is impossible to imagine three more dedicated and professional Air Force leaders.

As I reflect on the year gone by, my first thoughts are with the airmen of our force who made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of our nation and the freedoms we hold dear. Remember them and their families. Their supreme sacrifice, along with the countless heroes who have gone before them, is why we live free in this great nation.

Each of you should be extremely proud of your achievements and service this past year, from combat operations and homeland defense in the war against international terrorism to your admirable and noble daily endeavors that guarantee the readiness, health, security and morale of our fighting force. In my travels around our Air Force, I've been impressed and humbled by your ingenuity, commitment and willingness to serve. Thank you for everything you've done to make our Air Force the best the world has ever known.

Of utmost importance to me is our continued focus on warfighting, and honing the edge that enables us to remain expeditionary and responsive to the needs of our nation. The American people trust and admire what you do. They know that America's Air Force provides a full spectrum of air and space capabilities that deliver unprecedented firepower, mobility, awareness and deterrence to our joint forces. And, once again, they've witnessed first hand your truly remarkable performance during operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle.

Through your incredible efforts in this campaign, from deploying troops and building bases to coordinating fires and engaging targets, you've again demonstrated the unrivaled skill of airmen. Consider what we've done for just a moment.

In the first eight months of our war on terrorism, we flew more than 35,000 sorties, employing 78 percent of the total munitions used and damaging or destroying nearly three-quarters of the coalition targets. Our tanker force flew more than 10,000 refueling missions, supporting aircraft from all services.

Our intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets, manned and unmanned, have flown more than 2,000 missions and, when combined with our indispensable space systems, delivered unprecedented battlefield awareness as well as a vision of the exciting future in this evolving mission area. Our heavy-lifters (cargo aircraft) delivered more than 2.5 million humanitarian daily rations to the people of Afghanistan. Our combat support units have occupied, established, or rebuilt bases throughout Southwest and Central Asia.

And we accomplished all this despite the challenge of waging a combined campaign in a landlocked nation.

Through your efforts, you confirmed to our nation and the world the unmatched value, flexibility and promise of air and space power.

While we've achieved many of our objectives, there remains much work to be done. The fight continues, with many of you going into harm's way daily. Our ongoing missions and your unrelenting sacrifices testify to your commitment to eradicate this threat to our nation and freedom-loving people everywhere. Most important, we need to prepare and resolve ourselves to see this through to the finish, regardless of where the fight takes us.

Many of you are deployed around the world at remote and inhospitable settings, spending extended time away from your families. Many more are scheduled to deploy in the months ahead. Some of you no longer are benefiting from the air and space expeditionary force schedule and are facing more frequent deployments. We've asked many of you to put in long hours well beyond your normal schedules and we've stretched our force to cover expanded missions in new locations. Many of our people are affected by Stop-Loss.

We're working to mitigate the numbers affected as soon as possible, but until we do, our folks' lives will remain on hold until we complete this campaign. And we have

thousands of Air National Guardsmen, Air Force Reservists, and Individual Mobilization Augmentees who are serving for extended periods at great personal cost to their civilian jobs and their family lives. I recognize your sacrifice and commend you for your service.

Our nation needs its Air Force as never before, and your Air Force needs each and every one of you, your talents and your service as never before. Yet, regardless of these challenges, you continue to train, maintain and fight with a level of professionalism unmatched by any force ever assembled.

As I look to the journey ahead, I'm excited at the opportunities we have to serve our nation as we face the challenges posed by our evolving security environment. I look forward to continuing that journey with you.

I remain focused on developing new strategies for air and space power in this new millennium; delivering innovative and effective capabilities to the warfighters; improving Air Force retention, professional education and leadership development; eliminating the inefficiencies in how we do our business; and transforming our acquisition processes to ensure innovation and competitive vibrancy within our defense industrial base.

Most important, I want to ensure we care for our people and their families through these challenging times. Communication, engaged leadership at all levels, and a genuine concern for the value of our people and their daily sacrifices are vital to building and sustaining a motivated and capable force.

On that day one year ago, I committed myself to serve in a manner befitting of the great men and women of our Air Force and to serve just as each of you do every day all around the globe — with integrity, selflessness and in the earnest pursuit of excellence. Your entire leadership team — General Jumper; my talented undersecretary, Peter Teets; our vice chief of staff, Gen. Robert "Doc" Foglesong; and myself — is firmly committed to these values.

Your service and sacrifices the past year have been truly magnificent and have earned the justifiable admiration of our nation and the respect of the world.

Promotions



Senior Master Sergeant

Deborah A. Fowlston, 349th CS
Ian A. Palmer, 82nd APS



Master Sergeant

Stewart M. Balderman, 349th CES
Benjamin E. Beaubien III, 312th AS
Fe M. Felipe-Cubacha, 349th AES
Buford D. Hadley II, 55th APS
Nicholas C. Suarez, 55th APS
Larry E. Wible, 82nd APS



Technical Sergeant

Neri D. Acosta, 301st AS
Theodore K. Carnes, Jr., 349th EMS
Sean M. Decker, 349th AGS
Christopher J. Echevarria, 349th SFS
Mariano D. Garcia, Jr., 349th CES
William E. Nuttall, 349th AGS
Bruce K. Ronquillio, 312th AS
Leonel G. Sanchez, 349th SFS
Miguel Valdivia, 312th AS



Staff Sergeant

Henry J. Aguigui, 349th CES
Chad C. Bohren, 349th CS
Joshua A. Bryant, 349th AGS
Ronald E. Doon, 749th AGS
Jason M. Dorcy, 349th SFS
Russell P. Downie, 349th EMS
Ricky M. B. Dum Dumaya, 82nd APS
Brandy M. Hallman, 349th AES
Jessica E. Elejalde, 349th ASTS
Michael S. Miller, 301st AS
Noly E. Nito, 349th EMS
Michael L. Olson, 349th LSS
Charlie Pacheco, 349th LSS
Jennifer N. Redway, 349th AES
Joel O. Rivera, 349th MSS
Michael P. Thompson, 349th CES
David Trinh, 45th APS



Senior Airman

Luis J. Caragan, 312th AS
John P. Duquette, 749th AGS
Heaven L. Hodges, 749th AGS

Robert J. Katus, 749th AGS
Charles Marquez, 349th MSS
Bessie E. Sandoval, 349th ASTS
Erik J. Speaks, 349th SFS



Airman 1st Class

Kanitha Nguyen-Matoury, 349th MSS
Alicia P. Perryman, 349th SFS
Delicia R. Campos, 349th MAS



Airman

Jason R. Dikio, 349th MDS
(Eff: July 14, 2002)
Camie E. Gaudet, 349th ASTS
(Eff: June 28, 2002)
Donald W. McGovern, 349th ASTS
(Eff: July 14, 2002)
Pai Ming Ouyang, 349th MSS
(Eff: July 14, 2002)
Cameo M. Rockwell, 349th MDS
(Eff: July 14, 2002)
Lauren M. Shinn, 349th ASTS
Lisa M. Vanmeerten, 349th ASTS
(Eff: July 14, 2002)
Chieh Wang, 349th AMDS
(Eff: June 3, 2002)

(Except where noted, all promotions are effective July 1, 2002)

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Warrior of the Month
Senior Airman Ryan
W. Collette of the
312th Airlift Squadron.



Photo by SMSgt. Pete Briggs