



America's First Choice

CONTACT

Vol. 22, No. 07

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

August 2004



349th Air Mobility Wing tallies assessment results

(For complete results see Pages 6-7)

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Continue working hard, striving for success

Welcome to the August UTA! First I would like to bid a fond farewell to the wing's highest-ranking enlisted member, Command Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Maddux, who will retire this month after 32 years of service. Before earning the wing's top enlisted spot, he served in six different career fields to include a squadron first sergeant, base career advisor, and numbered Air Force superintendent. During his tenure here he personally built the wing's Honor Guard Recognition Day, created the ReBlue program and established the annual Enlisted Workshops to promote leadership skills in our NCOs.

His professionalism, dedication and commitment to the Air Force Reserve and specifically this wing will be sorely missed. We are proud to have known and worked with him and we are sad to see him go, however the influence he has had on each and every one of us has made us a stronger military unit. I would like to say farewell and Godspeed. Chief Maddux's retirement ceremony is set for Aug. 22 at 3 p.m. in S-31. All are invited to attend.

Recently the wing participated in the Air Force Climate Survey. The survey was conducted to give members an opportunity to provide information and feedback to its leadership. When I think of this survey I use my pen analogy to

put it in perspective. I have a favorite pen and to me it is better than all other pens that I have used but I am sure if a team gets together to analyze the pen they would discover a way to improve upon it.

“When I think of this survey I use my pen analogy to put it in perspective. I have a favorite pen and to me it is better than all other pens that I have used but I am sure if a team gets together to analyze the pen they would discover a way to improve upon it.”

Brig. Gen. Thomas M. Gisler, Jr.,
Commander,
349th Air Mobility Wing

We, at the 349th, are doing an excellent job in all areas of the wing, however we can always strive to do better and the survey results will be used to improve on a good thing. Through this survey the



Pass and Review

By Brig. Gen. Thomas M. Gisler, Jr.

wing has heard your thoughts; we are now analyzing the responses and will respond to you with an action plan very soon. To see the overall survey perspective provided by each unit in the wing, turn to pages 6 and 7.

This month I also want to discuss a topic of concern throughout the Air Force: sexual assault. According to Michael Dominguez, the Air Force Director of Manpower and Reserve Affairs, sexual assault covers a broader range of behaviors than rape. Sexual assault by strangers does occur, but the larger sexual-assault problem involves young people who know each other and alcohol is frequently a factor.

The only way we will eliminate sexual assault is to create a climate and culture that does not tolerate those criminal behaviors by any person, at any time, in any place. We must promote an environment where our people will not only feel free to report sexual assaults and harassment, but also feel confident that perpetrators will be appropriately disciplined. Changing the culture will require effort by us all, but I know we will all be better off for it in the long run.

Summer is half over and safety is still a priority on my list. During the 4th of July holiday, the American River took two teenagers from their families. Neither was wearing a life jacket. I know kids think it's not "cool" to wear it, but we must always think safety first. Remember to buckle up when you get into a car and drive within the speed limits. Saving 30 seconds by speeding and risking death is not better than arriving late and alive. Also, remember to be a defensive driver as well. Others may be driving too fast and we have to be prepared to see what is coming before it hits us. Enjoy the rest of the summer and always remember safety first. Continue the good work, strive for success, and have a wonderful UTA!

Words to inspire, guide us

by Col. Fouad Yacoub
349th Vice Wing Commander

Alexander the Great, who only lived to be 33 years old (356 BC-323 BC), was one of the greatest generals of old.

By the time he died, he had forged the largest western empire of the ancient world from Greece to North India. He is credited with a very wise saying:

“I am indebted to my father for living, but to my teacher for living well.”

It is our duty to teach our young people, who are following in our footsteps, to do their jobs the best way they can. It is our experience as noncommissioned officers and officers that should guide the way for them, keep them from pitfalls and from learning the hard way, or worse, not learning at all.





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CONTACT

Vol. 22, No. 07

August 2004

Inside this issue

4 Command Chief Master Sgt. Maddux says farewell

Command Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Maddux bids farewell to the 349th Air Mobility Wing and the Air Force Reserve. His retirement ceremony is scheduled for Aug. 22nd, 3 p.m. in Bldg. 31. Everyone is invited to help celebrate.

5 Lessons learned over a thirty-two year career

Command Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Maddux shares his Air Force story and his wisdom by explaining that it isn't how or why you come into the Air Force, it is how you serve once you are here that counts.

6-7 349th Air Mobility Wing assessment results are in

The results of the Air Force Climate Survey have arrived. The survey was conducted to give members an opportunity to provide feedback to leadership anonymously and to allow the command to address members' concerns.

8 Operation: MOM delivers 'A Little Touch of Home'

Operation: MOM sends packages abroad and supports all military services. Each package has hygiene items or familiar brand snack items and a card of encouragement that will let a service person know people have not forgotten them.

9 Operation Teddy Bear needs volunteers

10 349th Medical Group brings in top honors

The 349th Medical Group recently garnered recognition by having three top winners in AFRC medical awards and the Aerospace Medicine Squadron earning an overall excellent rating on its Health Services Inspection in February 2004.

11 Take the time to make assessments in your life

Chaplain (Capt.) Herbert Hodde asks everyone to assess their own relationships.

11 Twenty-two in the 349th to pin on major in FY 2005

12 349th enlisted promotions

On the Cover



349th Air Mobility Wing tallies assessment results

(For full results see Pages 6-7)

A 3 4 9 T H R K T P E C V V F
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E I W D O Q P V T L J H K U R
L X O W X V C N H N S E G A P

Speak today, shape tomorrow:

The results of the Air Force Climate Survey have arrived. The survey was conducted to give members an opportunity to provide feedback to the leadership allowing them to address the members' concerns.

This is the first time the Air Force Reserve has participated in the survey. This assessment is the first "Total Force" climate survey provided to more than 700,000 members.

(See complete survey results on Pages 6-7)

Chief Maddux bids farewell

What a trip! I grew up as a military dependent and joined the Air Force early in my life, so my entire life was spent in and around the Air Force.

I was born in Japan and later went to Hawaii where my father was stationed at Hickam AFB for several years. This was long before Hawaii became a state. As a matter of fact, the first time I came to Travis was in a C-97 with my parents.

Therefore, my first step on American soil was right out on the flightline here at Travis, and that's one reason why Travis is such a special place for me.

I've had a wide variety of jobs in my life, but nothing so rewarding as serving in the United States Air Force. The 349th Air Mobility Wing has afforded me the best years of my career on three different occasions.

The first as a First Sergeant in the Mission Support Squadron; next, as Superintendent of the Memorial Affairs Squadron; and finally as your Command Chief Master Sergeant.

The reason why I feel so lucky is that I had the opportunity to meet and serve with so many great people. The defenders of America's freedom—you, our Citizen Airmen Warriors.

On my departure, I want to thank all of you for a super working relationship and your support over the years.

A special thanks to all our enlisted members, especially all the great Chiefs in this wing. Without your guidance, directions, comments (and there were plenty of those) but most of all friendship, it would have been impossible to do my job. I am indebted to each and every one of you.

To all our outstanding First Sergeants, thank you for all you do for our people. You are the best I have seen anywhere and I am proud of each and every one of you. You will always be number one in my book.

To our many enlisted forums and their members, the Top 3 Council, the Rising Six Council, the First Sergeants' Group and the Chiefs' Group, how can I tell you how much I appreciate what you do for our wing? Each and everything you touch turns into magic. Our Operation Teddy Bear for the local underprivileged school children, Operation Gratitude and Operation Give Thanks for our Yountville veterans, our Wing Enlisted Workshop,



Chief's Counsel

By Command Chief Master Sgt.
Anthony L. Maddux

Honor Guard Day, and so many other events. You have made things better for our community and our Air Force.

One of my most passionate goals was to ensure each and every enlisted member has an opportunity to be a part of a council or group. I believe this was the best way to serve and empower our enlisted members and being a good mentor to you. It's been an outstanding flight. This is because of the great people in my life—my many mentors, supervisors, peers, subordinates, friends and family.

Yes, there were some frustrations, uncertainty and concerns; but, I wouldn't trade my years in the Air Force for anything.

May God's richest blessings be with you all as you continue to serve this great country and its people. I look forward to the day our paths will again cross.

I salute you!



U.S. AIR FORCE



photo by 2nd Lt. Robin Jackson, 349th Public Affairs

'Iron Man' with a heart of gold: Senior Master Sgt. Terry Monges, 349th Air Mobility Wing, donates \$1,000 to the Travis Fisher House June 25.

Sergeant Monges, a KC-10 current operations boom operator, raised the funds he donated by participating in the Californiaman, an ironman distance event on May 22 at Folsom Lake near Sacramento, Calif.

Sergeant Monges completed the 2.5 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride and the 26.2 mile run event in 11 hours and 55 minutes. He placed 6th in his age group and 31st overall out of 250 competitors. Sergeant Monges wants to thank all those that gave emotional support and donations, especially the 70th and 79th ARS and the 349th OSF.

Command Chief retires after 32 years

by Senior Master Sgt. Marvin Meek
349th Public Affairs

One of the 349th Air Mobility Wing's most charismatic leaders gets all the motivation he needs from an old Air Force name tag that languishes in his top desk drawer. Whenever Command Chief Master Sergeant Anthony L. Maddux looks at that name tag, he is reminded that his father, a retired military man, did everything to dissuade him from joining the Air Force.

In August Chief Maddux will retire after 32 years of military service, including six years as the 349th AMW's highest ranking enlisted member. He now looks forward to the day he will return his father's name tag to its rightful place.

According to Chief Maddux, he took that name tag off of his father's old service dress uniform just before he left for Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, for basic training. He did not take it for sentimental reasons. He took it for motivation. He took it to be defiant. He took it to prove a point.

It was 1972 and the selective service (the draft) was still being used. Chief Maddux was attending college at the time, but about to lose his student deferment status due to poor grades. "In my mind, without my student deferment, my being drafted into the military was inevitable, so if I had to go in the military, I was going to decide where I was going to serve," said Chief Maddux.

His father, Jesse Maddux, had just recently retired from the Air Force. He began his military career after being

drafted in World War II where he became a radioman in the Army Air Corps. During his 26 year career, he fought in World War II, the Korean War and retired during the Vietnam War. When Chief Maddux told his father about his decision to join the Air Force, he did not get the reaction he was hoping for.

"He said, 'you're making a big mistake because you ain't gonna make it.' I was upset but I became very motivated at the same time because my Dad has always been my mentor and my hero. I took his name tag and stuck it in my pocket. I wanted it as a reminder of what he said," said Chief Maddux.

It worked too. Looking back, Chief Maddux has had an illustrious career. Before earning the wing's top enlisted spot, he served in six different career fields, including a squadron first sergeant, base career advisor, and numbered Air Force superintendent. He started his career seeking the lesser of two evils, but along the way he discovered that what he wanted most was to spend the rest of his military career serving the men and women he worked along side. And to prove it, he made sure that goal was spelled out in his personnel records so that it could follow him wherever he went, just like his father's name tag.

"Back when I was a Technical Sergeant, my supervisor, who was filling out my airman's performance report, wanted to know what my career aspirations were. I told him to write down that I wanted to become a senior enlisted advisor (The Air Force later changed its designation to command chief master sergeant). Ever

since then I have done everything I could to prepare for the job of command chief master sergeant. I volunteered for leadership positions and I talked with as many senior enlisted advisors as I could because I wanted to learn how to be successful in this job," he said.

Chief Maddux got his chance in 1998 when Brig. Gen. (then Colonel) Gerald A. Black, 349th Commander, interviewed him for the wing's top enlisted spot.

"When asked why I wanted the job I told him it has been a goal I set long ago and to look at my personnel records and read my airman's performance report from 1982. Once he saw that, he knew I had prepared for and wanted the job more than the others," said Chief Maddux.

Chief Maddux leaves an indelible mark on the wing. Because of him we expect our command chief to be in front of the desk instead of behind it. We expect the person in the top enlisted billet to treat all problems as opportunities to improve.

"How or why we came into the Air Force is not important. There are 1,001 reasons for joining the military. I am a prime example of that. What is important is how we serve once we are here," he said.

"People leave the military feeling a lot more patriotic than when they came in. That is especially true for me."

Thirty-two years ago Chief Maddux took a plain blue Air Force name tag from his father as an act of defiance. When he retires in August, it will become a symbol of a father and son's patriotic journey that has finally come to an end after fifty eight years serving our Air Force.

Thornton looking forward to challenges

by Patti Schwab-Holloway
349th Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. Patricia "Trish" Thornton will step into place on September 1, 2004, as the new 349th Air Mobility Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant. She replaces Command Chief Master Sergeant Anthony Maddux who retires from the Reserve this August.

"I have been with the 349th AMW for more than 12 years, working at the 312th Airlift and 70th Air Refueling Squadrons. I now look forward to getting out to all

the units and getting input from the hardworking men and women in this wing," began Chief Thornton.

"I have a well-rounded view of the wing, but I know I am going to need the enlisted force to help me, help them," she said.

Chief Thornton served as a flight engineer in the 312th AS and was the 70th ARS's additional duty first sergeant prior to being selected to the wing's top enlisted position. She was born in Mill Valley, California, and traveled extensively with her Active Duty Army

family before settling and growing up in Chesterfield, Va. She began her military career in 1983 at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas and was stationed at Norton Air Force Base, Calif. before coming to the 349th Air Mobility Wing here at Travis AFB in 1992.

"Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Maddux has done an outstanding job for the 349th and, although I could never replace him, I look forward to the challenge of being able to continue the strong leadership foundation that he created," she concluded.

349th Air Mobility Wing takes assessment

by 2nd Lt. Robin Jackson
349th Public Affairs

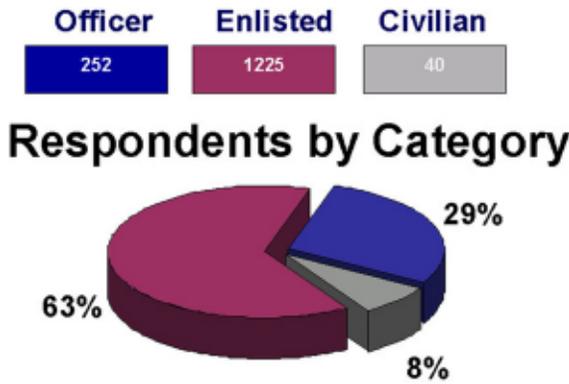
The results of this year's Air Force Climate Survey have arrived. The survey was conducted to give members an opportunity to provide information and feedback to the leadership anonymously therefore allowing the command to pinpoint areas of improvement and initiate an action plan to address the members concerns. The survey "taps the pulse" of the Air Force by soliciting feedback from those that make it work, including all Active Duty, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard; and appropriated and non-appropriated fund civilians. Since this is the first time the Air Force Reserve has participated in the

survey, this assessment is the first "Total Force" climate survey provided to over 700,000 members.

The survey included questions on organization climate, command unique questions, unit commander section, and demographics; all answered on a six-point "agree" scale with no midpoint; followed with the opportunity to write in comments on all sections.

The factors that impact your day-to-day environment, including leadership and the availability of resources, also impact your unit's success.

Below is the overall perspective provided by each unit in the wing. Action plans are being developed to address the members concerns and will be briefed at the September Wing Commander's Call.



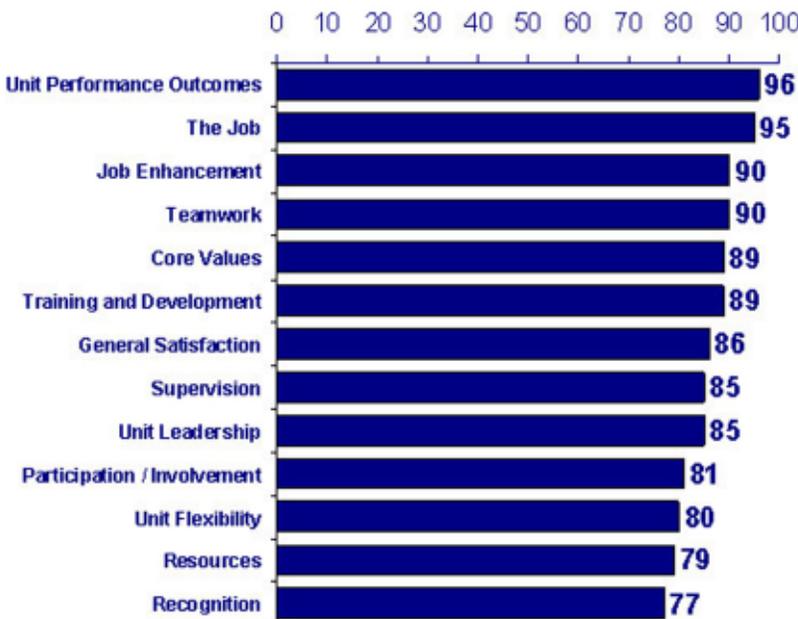
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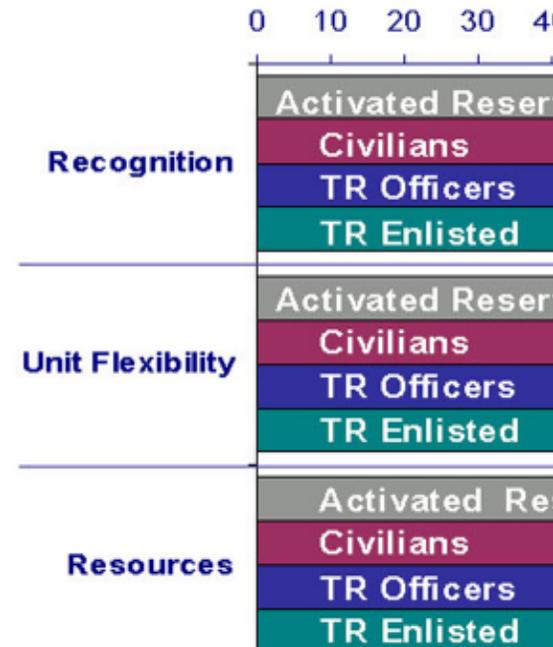
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Areas of Improvement

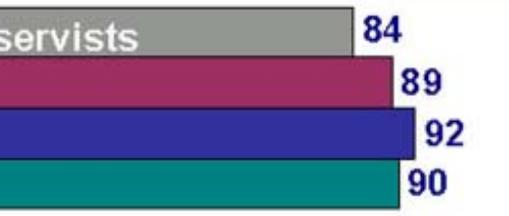
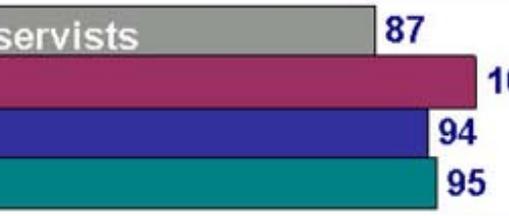
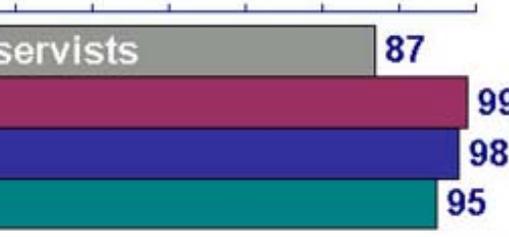
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ent - speak today, shape tomorrow

(% Agree + % Agree + % Strongly Agree)

40 50 60 70 80 90 100



■ Unit Performance Outcomes

- Personnel feel
 - the quality of the Wing's work is high
 - the Wing is known to get the job done
 - the Wing successfully completes its mission

■ The Job

- Personnel Feel
 - they are required to use a variety of skills
 - their job allows them to see finished product of their work
 - doing their job well affects others in an important way
 - they know when they have performed their job well
 - they have the freedom to work with minimum supervision

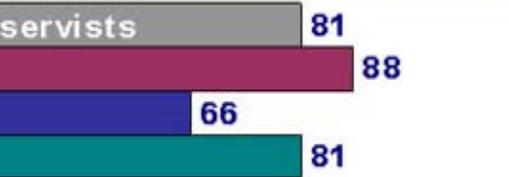
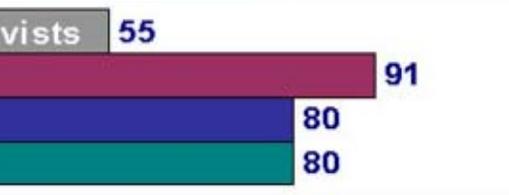
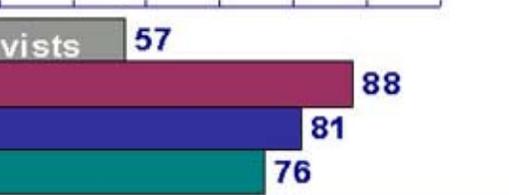
■ Job Enhancement

- Personnel feel that wing personnel
 - help each other out when they have heavy workloads
 - make innovative suggestions for improvement
 - willingly give of their time to help others with work-related problems
 - share their expertise with each other

ent

(% Agree + % Agree + % Strongly Agree)

0 50 60 70 80 90 100



■ Unit Flexibility

- Adapting to changes both quickly and well
- Encouraging risk taking
- Challenging the old ways of doing business

■ Resources

- Adequate time to do the job well
- Enough people in the work group to accomplish the job
- Having the right tools/equipment to accomplish the job
- Having enough time to accomplish the daily workload during normal duty hours

■ Recognition

- Rewarding team performance fairly
- Recognizing people in all grades and types of jobs
- Rewarding primarily job expertise more than additional duty performance

Operation: MOM delivers 'A Little Touch of Home' packages

by Master Sgt. Barbara B. Morse
349th Air Mobility Wing

Operation: MOM is going strong! From the beginning this nonprofit organization had one major goal - to bring smiles (and goodies) to the military men and women who have been deployed. Each "mom" would all bring an item to share and make care packages. This was not only good for the receiving military members but is also a way for parents, family, friends and community members to do something positive as a coping mechanism to deal with the distance between them.

"It broke our hearts to know that our sons were getting care packages, but what about those who didn't? Dotty Selmeczeki, cofounder of Operation: MOM said, 'We just want to give them a little



touch of home', and hence, our care package program, "A Little Touch of Home" exploded.

"A Little Touch of Home" packages are sent to ships, ground troops, and to U.S. bases, both home and abroad and support all military services. Each package has either hygiene items or familiar brand snack items. When possible, volunteers include playing cards, socks, toys, puzzle books, and a card of encouragement; just about anything that will let a service person know they are supported back home and that the people here at home have not forgotten them and are praying for them. Each package also has an informational brochure regarding Veteran's benefits. Families and friends provide the names and addresses of service personnel to receive packages.

It should be noted, that all names and addresses are kept confidential and that

each box is packed with issues of security in mind.

With the generosity and help of local communities, approximately 10,000 packages have been sent.

General operating funds come from individuals, service groups, an occasional grant and fund-raising. The largest expense comes from mailing "A Little Touch of Home" packages. Each package costs approximately \$10 each to mail.

If you would like to become a member of, give a donation to, learn how to start a support group in your area, or have a loved one of yours receive "A Little Touch of Home" package from Operation: MOM, please log in on their website: www.operationmom.org or you may call them at (925) 706-1736.



News Briefs

Air Force approves wear of GWOT Expeditionary Medal

The Air Force has authorized wear of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary medal.

The Department of Defense campaign medal applies to active-duty, Reserve and Guard personnel deployed abroad on or after Sept. 11, 2001, for Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom.

To qualify, an individual must have been assigned or attached to a unit in OEF/OIF and served 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days in: Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bulgaria (Bourgas), Crete, Cyprus, Diego Garcia, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Romania (Constanta), Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey (east of 35 degrees east longitude), Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Yemen, that portion of the Arabian Sea north of 10 degrees north latitude and west of 68 degrees longitude, Bab el



Mandeb, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Aqaba, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Suez, that portion of the Mediterranean Sea east of 28 degrees east longitude, Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Strait of Hormuz, and the Suez Canal.

The medal will only be awarded once. There are no service stars, or other devices authorized. However, battle stars may be authorized for personnel who engaged in actual combat.

The medal will be issued by local Military Personnel Flights when it becomes available. For more information, call (800) 616-3775. (AFPC)

FLTC Insurance still available

Active-duty Airmen, some Reservists, civilian employees, retirees and qualified family members can still apply for the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program.

FLTCIP is a benefit authorized by Congress to help employees defray the costs of in-home care, nursing home care, or assisted living facilities.

Health plans usually don't cover ongoing chronic care such as extended stays in assisted living facilities or continued need for a home health aid.

Disability income insurance does not pay for long-term care.

Enrollment is not tied to an open season and employees may enroll at any time under one of two application processes: Full underwriting application or Abbreviated underwriting application:

For more information and how to enroll, visit <http://www.ltcfeds.com>. Certified specialists are available to answer questions Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Eastern, by calling (800) 582-3337 or TTY (800) 843-3557. (AFPC)

'V' device approved on DFCs

Secretary of the Air Force has authorized use of the 'V' device, to represent valor, on Distinguished Flying Crosses awarded for heroism.

The decision is intended to clearly distinguish and denote a DFC awarded for heroism. It allows any current Airmen (active duty, Reserve or Guard) or Air Force veteran awarded the DFC for heroism on or after Sept. 18, 1947 to wear the 'V' device on the DFC.

The approval is effective immediately. For more information, contact MPF at (707) 424-3550 awards and decorations section for assistance. (AFPC)

Operation Gratitude gives thanks

by Senior Master Sgt. Kim Shelby
349th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

On June 19, 2004 at the Californian Veterans Home, Yountville, Calif. the 349th Air Mobility Wing Top 3 sponsored the 3rd Annual Operation Gratitude Pancake Breakfast to honor those who served before us.

More than 300 veterans and reservist were in attendance to enjoy the camaraderie and a great breakfast.

On behalf of the Top 3, I want to convey a huge “thank you” to all the members of the 349th Air Mobility Wing who participated in making this a successful event. Special kudos go out to the members of the 349th Memorial Affairs Squadron who provided all the food and the cooking which was headed up by Senior Master Sgt. Scott McMillan.

Senior Master Sgt. Caryl A Hathaway, 312th Airlift Squadron and Senior Master Sgt. Sherry Jensen, 349th Component Maintenance Squadron, were the spokespersons for the program in addition to leading the escort efforts of the veterans and their efforts were greatly needed and appreciated.

Also, a special thank you to Col. Dick Hum, Air Force (Retired) who was the



photo by Arielle Kohn, Base Multimedia Service Center

Making new friends: Master Sgt. Dionisio Abanilla, 349th Communication Squadron, shares breakfast and camaraderie with ‘Barry’ on June 14, during Operation Gratitude, at the California Veterans Home in Yountville, Calif.

point of contact at the veterans home. He was instrumental in helping us make this annual event one to remember.

And we cannot say “thank you” enough to the individuals and agencies who provided \$1,600 in donations to help sponsor the event. Dr. David Vik, Vik Chiropractic in Los Altos Calif., Mr. Stanley Davis, and the Travis Federal Credit Union. Their contributions are heartfelt knowing they too feel the need

to honor those who have served in the Armed Forces.

Last, but certainly not the least, our hats are off to Ms. Jenny Hillebert, a local volunteer and a charming young lady who entertained us all with her incredible singing voice.

If you would like to volunteer for next year or would like additional information on this event, contact Sergeant Hathaway at (707) 424-5469.

It's never too soon to 'bear' down

by Technical Sgt. Wendy Weidenhamer
349th Public Affairs

The 349th Air Mobility Wing Top 3 Council is once again “bearing” down on the task at hand—raising money for Operation Teddy Bear for Christmas 2004.

During this annual event that includes Air Force active duty and reservists, the Top 3 Council and many other volunteers distribute Teddy Bears, flags, gift bags and

assorted good cheer to especially deserving children in local area schools.

Meetings to plan fund-raisers are held on Sunday of the each UTA, at 1 p.m. in the Wing Conference



Room, Bldg. 112.

Fund-raising ideas have been coming fast and furious. Along with car washes, golf tournaments, tickets to see a Sacramento Monarch’s basketball game, volunteering at the Infineon Raceway, and several other funding raising ideas, they have added a new fund-raising effort that remembers military members overseas. It is called “Support the Troops Ribbon” which are magnets shaped like a ribbon.

The ribbons will be on sale for \$5 each. They are available in either yellow or red, white and blue magnets about 6 inches tall.

This effort not only contributes to funding Operation Teddy Bear, but a portion of the proceeds also goes to spouses of deployed military members who may be having financial difficulties.

Sergeant Lattanzi emphasized that

although making money for Operation Teddy Bear is the main goal of the ribbon sales, it is also important for people to display the ribbons to convey the message that, “We won’t take our magnets down until our military brothers and sisters come home.”



Anyone who would like to volunteer in making this event a huge success is encouraged to attend any or all of the meetings.

To volunteer or for additional information, please contact Senior Master Sgt. Janice Lambard, 349th Airlift Control Flight, at (707) 424-2895; Senior Master Sgt. Alice Munoz, 301 Airlift Squadron, at (707) 424-0097; or Master Sgt. Michael Lattanzi, 349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, at (707) 424-0776.

349th Medical Group brings in honors

by Technical Sgt. Jacqueline Murray
and Patti Schwab-Holloway
349th Public Affairs

The 349th Medical Group recently garnered some very noteworthy recognition. The 349th Aerospace Medicine Squadron earned an overall excellent rating on their Health Services Inspection conducted Feb. 19-22, 2004.

“The HSI is a report card to determine if the medical unit is meeting the needs of its members and the manner that it is accomplishing its mission. It is the medical equivalent of an Operational Readiness Inspection,” said Col. Alan I. Baskin, commander, 349th AMDS.

The group earned ratings of “Outstanding” in the following major categories: Medical Readiness Planning and Deployment Processing, Force Fitness, and Aerospace Medicine Management. Here are the activities that were evaluated in each category:

Medical Readiness Planning and Deployment:

Annual training plans, readiness reporting and aerospace expeditionary forces reporting tool, base support plans, predeployment preparation requirements; medical personnel, deployment and redeployment processing support and medical summary forms.

Force Fitness:

Monitoring the medical status of military personnel, worldwide duty medical evaluation and medical evaluation board program management, Reserve component periodic health assessment and individual medical readiness management, Reserve component periodic health assessment and physicals; clinical and administrative requirements for flying personnel, clinical follow-up of abnormal laboratory tests, vital signs and consults, immunization services and dental readiness classifications.

Aerospace Medicine Management:

Management of duty restrictions for flying and special operations personnel, flight medicine operational responsibilities and operational optometry.

“The 349th AMDS is doing a commendable job despite serving the

largest associate wing in the Air Force Reserve Command with 30 percent of the members being recent enlisted accessions awaiting training. Interaction and cooperation with both the 349th Air Mobility Wing and co-located David Grant Medical Center is among the best we’ve seen. Frequent large wing deployments have been supported flawlessly,” according to the HSI inspectors’ report.

The 349th AMDS was only two points away from receiving an overall inspection rating of outstanding.

“This was a team effort,” said Colonel Baskin. “There was not any one person that made this all happen, it took everyone working together to accomplish this goal.



This should assure our members that our medical support organization is highly capable of providing quality health care to meet mission requirements,” he added.

Additionally, Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command announced its medical awards on June 4, 2004, recognizing some of the Reserve commands top medical individuals for 2003. The 349th Medical Group had winners in three categories:

Deployable Medical Unit – Air Reserve Technician Noncommissioned Officer: Staff Sgt. Dawn M. Swick, 349th MDS.

Sergeant Dawn M. Swick, a health services support supervisor, was recognized as having “tremendous energy; superior intellect and overall good judgment.” While deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, she assumed role of administrative services training

manager, ensuring health service personnel were current in training requirements and were mission ready. She was also lauded for the officer performance report and enlisted performance report tracking database that she developed that enabled the unit’s senior leadership to retrieve real time statistics and information on their assigned personnel.

Traditional Reserve Officer: Capt. Constance Revore, 349th MDS.

Captain Revore was hand picked by the unit commander to take on field-grade leadership responsibility as acting unit administrator when both the unit’s commander and administrator were deployed. Captain Revore accomplished this, not only to a high level of success, while also simultaneously managing the 349th MDS medical readiness programs in the face of unit activation.

“It is fine Airmen like Sergeant Swick and Captain Ravore that set the example for others to follow,” said Chief Master Sgt. Michael McGillivray, Senior ART for the 349th Medical Squadron.

“We can always depend on these two when someone needs to pitch-in, they are there, when something needs to be done, they do it. We are proud to have them in the Medical Squadron,” he added.

Aeromedical Staging Squadron – Reserve NCO: Technical Sgt. Mark L. Wittkopp.

Sergeant Wittkopp, a cardiopulmonary technician was recognized for being one of the first of the unit’s enlisted personnel to complete both Cardiopulmonary Technician School and Critical Care Air Transport Team training. These two courses are extremely rigorous with highly advanced skill level content. Sergeant Wittkopp worked with all of the newly assigned cardiopulmonary technicians to accomplish training and his efforts in mentoring these Airmen greatly increased the unit’s retention. He deployed for more than three months and served as a member of the high profile Critical Care Air Transport Team as Ramstein Air Base, Germany, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During this time he was involved with nine high ops tempo missions transporting 20 critical patients, often requiring 16-18 hour days.

Take time to assess relationships

by **Chaplain (Capt.) Herbert Hodde III**
349th Air Mobility Wing

Last Unit Training Assembly I accomplished a necessary, yet sobering task. I completed my will. It didn't take very long and proved rather painless, which I attribute to the competent members of our Judge Advocate General office.

I was, however, confronted with some serious issues. Who will take care of my children in the event of my untimely demise? Will my wife be secure financially? Who gets my complete collection of McDonald land juice glasses? Sobering, yet critical questions.

King Solomon once stated there was a time for everything; a time to laugh, a time to cry, a time to speak, a time to be silent, a time for war, a time for peace, and yes, a time to be born and a time to die.

It's hard to fathom the sum of our existence can be summarized by a dash between two dates on a marble tombstone. However, it allows me to focus on a rather poignant question, "How am I spending my time here this side of

eternity?"

In my opinion, it focuses on relationships. In regards to my relationship with my God, do I spend enough time in prayer and meditation with Him? In regards to my relationship with my family and friends, do I spend quality time with them? Am I spending enough time on myself? Do I eat right, get enough sleep, and exercise regularly?

As I assess my own life, I would like to respond in the affirmative to all of the above questions. In reality I must profess a shortcoming in several venues. I get caught up in the politics of work, I confess a weakness for chocolate, and twice today my wife has had to repeat herself to me.

And yet for the first time today, my humble house is finally quiet. My two, freshly-bathed children are snuggled in their beds. As I look at my checkbook we will have finished in the black for the month of June. My wife and I will sit down and discuss our much needed vacation plans. As I take assessment of my life I will take the advice of King Solomon, sit down, relax, and take a time to enjoy.

Promotions

Twenty-two promoted to Major in FY 2005

Michael T. Arnold, 301st Airlift Squadron

Jeff A. Barklow, 704th Medical Squadron

Dwight E.D. Brenderbrandis,
312th Airlift Squadron

Linda L. Cowling, 349th Medical Squadron

Michael D. Dali, 79th Air Refueling
Squadron

Nelson C. Deguzman, 349th Medical
Squadron

Martin K. Dotson, 79th Air Refueling
Squadron

Erin D. Evans, 349th Aeromedical
Evacuation Squadron

Gregory A. Franklin, 349th Aircraft
Staging Squadron

Roderick T. Grunwald, 349th
Logistics Readiness Flight

Theresa L. Lauer, 349th Aerospace
Medicine Squadron

Gloria G. McCastle, 704th Medical
Squadron

Huey B. McDaniel, 349th Medical
Squadron

Lee E. Merkle, 312th Airlift Squadron

Rebecca A. Mosely, 349th Operation Group

Beatrice V. Pacheco, 704th Medical
Squadron

William J. Posanka,
79th Aircraft Refueling Squadron

Alice J. Quiroz, 349th Aircraft Staging
Squadron

Lawrence C. Suter, 312th Airlift Squadron

Derek W. Weller, 349th Aerospace
Medicine Squadron

Christopher F. Womick, 301st Airlift
Squadron

Yves M. Yarborox, 349th
Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron



Paralegal position

Are you interested in the legal field? Are you at ease talking to large groups? Comfortable talking to commanders? Looking for a position with hardly a dull moment? This opportunity could be for you.

The 349th Legal Office has an enlisted position open for an interested, qualified individual.

Those interested should be comfortable speaking in front of large groups, and should be interested in legal affairs.

In order to qualify you must be at least a 5-level with a score of 70 or better in the general category of the ASVB, type 20 words per minute and have three years retainability upon completion of the 6-week technical school held at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

Confidentiality is a must. For additional information or to apply, please contact Master Sgt. Barbara Morse at (707) 424-1334.

Intelligence office has openings to fill

The 349th Intelligence office has intel officer (14N1) and enlisted (1N0x1) positions open for interested, qualified individuals.

The primary responsibilities are to provide indications, warnings and assessments of enemy courses of action and force protection intelligence.

Those interested should be comfortable speaking in front of large groups, and should be interested in world affairs and current events.

The job requires mobility status. Deployments are readily available and have been fast-paced and interesting. Formal training at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas lasts approximately 30 weeks.

Contact Capt. Loren Hanks at (707) 424-5040 for more information.



Chief Master Sergeant

Vincent R. Billingham, 349th CES



Senior Master Sergeant

Buford D. Hadley II, 55th APS
Betty C. Maldonado, 45th APS
Manuel E. Ruiz, Jr., 82nd APS
Nicholas C. Suarez, 55th APS



Master Sergeant

Ronald J. Barger, 301st AS
Lawrence H. Blanco, 349th MDS
Kevin B. Brown, 55th APS
Shannon K. Donnelly, 45th APS
Edmundo A. Fontanilla, 55th APS
Crystal A. Grow, 55th APS
Deliah L. Mack, 82nd APS
John A. Magno, 45th APS
Edward C. Martinez, 349th AMXS
Jaudiel Medina, 349th EMS
Willie Medious, Jr., 301st AS
Robert L. Olmstead, 82nd APS
Gerald A. Ramos, 349th EMS
Lee C. Rodriguez, 349th AMXS
Kenneth E. Stansbury, 349th ASTS
Joey R. Wettach, 349th MDS

Promotions



Technical Sergeant

Angel R. Ang, 55th APS
Keith J. Barton, 349th AMDS
Charles J. Butler, 82nd APS
Daneen L. Chambers, 82nd APS
Susana M. Cuenca, 349th MDG
Ricky M.B. Dum Dumaya, 82nd APS
John H. Huffington, 749th AMXS
Russell P. Langley, 349th SFS
Michael F. Laxamana, 349th CES
Maureen O. Milligan, 349th AES
David J.D. Ozoa, 349th CES
James D. Ralls, 349th CES
Kevin P. Ray, 349th CS
Christopher G. Schoenwandt,
349th CES
Voke U. Uwedjojobwe, 349th CS



Staff Sergeant

Jason A. Brown, 349th CES
Barry S. Burkitt, 312th AS
Charles R. Bustos, 349th MDS
Mark D. Coffield, 82nd APS
Tammy K. Eichler, 349th AMDS

Shawn K. Harvey, 749th AMXS
Cassidy O. Ortiz-Nelsen, 349th CS
Carlos B. Pescador, 312th AS
Michael M. Quesada, 55th APS
Kelly M. Sheets, 349th CS
Theresa M. Surak, 349th MOF
Ross A. Wood, 55th APS



Senior Airman

Christina Deselva, 349th MAS
Joseph K. Hodges, 349th CES
Shereen Ken Joe, 349th MDS
Matthew F. McCoy, 349th CES
Carolina S. Melgar, 349th ASTS
Jessica L. Morrill, 349th CES
Samantha M. Prill, 349th MDS
Kevin A. Seigal, 349th MDS



Airman First Class

Imarogibe A. Devoe, 349th MSS
Dexter P. Ellorin, 349th MAS
Antoya N. Perkins, 349th CMS

(All enlisted promotions are effective July 1, 2004)

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Where did it go?

The Base Shoppette has moved to Bldg. 226 on the corner of Suisun Avenue and First Street.



photo by Technical Sgt. Wendy Weidenhamer, 349th Public Affairs