



America's First Choice

CONTACT

Vol. 22, No. 09

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

October 2004



**Travis Team takes part in the 9/11
Healing Field Memorial in Vacaville**

A positive, can-do attitude helps conquer challenges

Welcome to the October UTA. The state of readiness among today's reserve-component forces is higher than it has been in the nation's history, and here in the 349th you have met these challenges and conquered them with a positive attitude and can-do spirit that makes this unit shine above the rest. You are what makes this wing tremendous. I know it takes effort to balance the responsibilities of your military commitment, family and civilian career, however you all have and I would like to take this time to thank your employers, your families and the local communities for all the support that is given to us. He said he's touched by how supportive Americans are of their troops, which is evident in heartfelt displays of support in our surrounding communities.

We have a few new taskings that are required of us. Have you registered in the Civilian Employment Information program yet? All reservists are required to register by Oct. 31. The collection of this information will open communications between the Department of Defense and the civilian employers of Guard and Reserve service members to inform service members and employers of their

rights, benefits, and obligations. The immediate goal is to increase the effectiveness of the Department of Defense's employer outreach programs by identifying employers directly affected by DoD policies and mobilizations. The Department will then be better able to assess actual employer needs and identify possible incentives to encourage employer support for Reserve participation. Take a minute or two this month and fill out this information. It will benefit everyone in the long run.

Hispanic Heritage Month kicked off Sept. 15 with a great luncheon and phenomenal guest speaker. Many activities are planned through Oct. 15 so check the schedule and take time to participate in these events.

The Main Gate is currently under construction and all in-bound traffic is being routed through the Hospital Gate. Upon entering the gate the far right and far left lanes are for visitors and those with automobile stickers and identification cards can proceed through the center lanes. The security forces and civil engineer squadron have worked on this process to make it as smooth as possible for all those coming to Travis and it has been working quite well.



Pass and Review
By Brig. Gen. Thomas M. Gisler, Jr.

Although the Main Gate is closed to in-bound traffic you may exit the base through this gate. This construction is anticipated to be complete in March 2005. So be conscious and take it slow when approaching the gate, changes in traffic flow can cause safety issues.

And finally, I would like to say "Kudos" to our recruiters for exceeding the command goal this year and for getting our wing over 99.7 percent manned. Good job! Keeping this wing manned is a tough job. The Get One program is still the best way to bring new members into our reserve family so remember, while you are ambassadors in you local communities look for people like you that want to serve their country. Bring them in and connect them up with our recruiters. They will do the rest and add excellent people to our wonderful family.

God bless each and everyone of you and have a great productive UTA.

Words to inspire, guide us

by Col. Fouad Yacoub
349th Vice Wing Commander

This month I have two quotations for you. The first is from Gen. Hal M. Hornburg commander of Air Combat Command, who spoke recently to a packed audience at the Air Force Association conference in Washington, D.C., where he outlined Air Force priorities, focusing his remarks on taking care of those in uniform:

"We need to claw and scratch," to keep the right people in the Air Force. Airmen need to be nurtured now so they will decide to stay in the service when their commitments are up."

Obviously he is an active duty commander, but his words do echo for us in the reserve as well.

The second is from Karl von Clausewitz (1780-1831). Most of us who finished ACSC or Air War College know him very well. But, for the rest of us, he was a famous Prussian military leader, and author whose writings and book, "On War," expanded the philosophy of war and had enormous effect on military strategy, and tactics in two World Wars. If you substitute "Airman" for leader, I think this applies to all of us.

"If the leader is filled with high ambition and if he pursues his aims with audacity and strength of will, he will reach them in spite of all obstacles."



Combined Federal Campaign

The 2004-2005 Combined Federal Campaign runs now through December 15.

Donors may designate which charity, or charities, receives their money by filling out a pledge card. Contributions can be in cash, check or by payroll deduction. For more information, please go to the CFC website at:

www.opm.gov/cfc.



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On the Cover



Cover photo by Patti Schwab-Holloway, 349th Public Affairs

Healing Field Memorial: Local residents gathered at Andrews Park, Vacaville, Calif., to remember those who perished as a result of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

The memorial opened with "God Bless America," followed by a presentation from the Travis Team honor guard and brief messages from local political leaders.

The Healing Field Memorial is made up of 3,031 American flags on 8-foot poles; Each bearing the name of one victim. The memorial was created by the Northern California Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 180 as "a memorial and tribute to the strength and unity of all Americans."

Although there are about 40 Healing Fields of flags across the nation, California's only such memorial was here at the Vacaville location.

Silence is golden, not impossible to achieve

The voice within - it tells us what is right and wrong, what we really want to do in life, what choice to make when presented with one, who's real, who's not; if we listen. Too often we can't hear that voice because it's drowned out by the noise of an over-scheduled, "no time for yourself" life.

As reservists, particularly with the present day tempo, we are in greater danger of ignoring this voice within as we juggle more facets of life than most. The liability of not listening or ignoring that voice, is often a seemingly unexplainable, overall malaise, which can manifest itself as dissatisfaction for everything and lead to choices later regretted.

So, with all this valuable information our inner voices are just waiting for us to appreciate and use to create a life we love, how do we access it? If it was a website, I'd call it www.silence-is-golden.com. Why that name? Because silence is what we need to listen to that voice. Let me qualify. Silence is not the impossible to achieve "absence of noise." It is the stillness of mind and spirit so that the voice within bubbles to the surface

and speaks. Getting to this place is different for each of us. For some it's playing sports; for others it's volunteering their time; for still others, it's playing a musical instrument or just listening to music; and for many, it's time for worship. Whatever it is for you, find the time to do it. We schedule everything



else, so respect yourself and schedule this. What we have to gain is living the life we want and ridding ourselves of doubts and fears.

Maybe you're wondering, "Hey Chief, what brought this on?" In the past few months, I've spoken with so many of you. A recurring theme has been, "I'm at a



Chief's Counsel

By Command Chief Master Sgt. Patricia A. Thornton

crossroads in my career and or life and I'm not sure what to do." Having worn those shoes a few times in my "half-century young" life, I can relate. Rather than making rushed, final career and life decisions while in this confused state, hold off. While waiting, why not set yourself up for success by regularly scheduling your own personal "silence"? Be patient with yourself. Be comfortable with being uncomfortable in that "limbo" status until your voice speaks and helps you shape the life you truly want. Remember, life is a road trip, a journey, and the side-view mirror of life has a WARNING that reads, "Success in the mirror may be nearer than it appears." Heed that warning. Be still. Be silent. Listen. Succeed.

Classes offer information on how to take your career to the next step, be prepared

The following Franklin Covey classes are being taught during fiscal year 2005: Focus, 7 Habits, and Covey and Beyond (Advanced Covey.)

These classes are open to reservists, civilians and spouses. Approvals from a supervisor and Senior Art or Unit Commander are required before signing up for any class. Class size is limited, therefore it is best to sign up early.

For more information or to sign up for a class, please contact 1st Lt. Michelle Bonilla or Kristi Johnson at 424-4783, DSN 837-4783, or by email at catherine.bonilla@travis.af.mil, or visit the Performance Management Office which is located in Bldg. 163, Room 125.

Covey Classes available in FY 05

- Oct 7-8, 2004 Focus
- Nov 18-19, 2004 Focus
- Dec 7-10, 2004 7 Habits
- Jan 6-7, 2005 Covey & Beyond
- Feb 10-11, 2005 Focus
- Mar 17-18, 2005 Focus
- Apr 5-8, 2005 7 Habits
- May 12-13, 2005 Covey & Beyond
- Jun 23-24, 2005 Focus
- Jul 12-15, 2005 7 Habits
- Aug 11-12, 2005 Covey & Beyond

1. Focus: Achieving Your Highest Priorities- Focus is the first course in our Covey series. This day-and-a-half course teaches productivity skills integrated with a powerful planning system that helps employees clarify,

focus on, and execute their highest priorities-personally and professionally.

2. 7 Habits of Highly Effective People - A four-day course that teaches how to develop habits of effective personal and interpersonal leadership. It illuminates the differences between effective and ineffective people. It contains key ideas and application exercises designed to enhance the use of the 7 habits.

3. Covey & Beyond (Advanced Covey) - Offered to anyone who has attended both of the above courses. It is a two-day course that reviews and fine tunes previous class material, then introduces you to additional tools which enhance life, productivity and leadership skills.

Still time to sign up to vote

In order to vote in California, you must be registered to vote at least 15 days prior to an election. You may now complete the registration form online, print it out and mail it. If you would like to register to vote, please review the information below:

- California residents, please go to www.ss.ca.gov This website does not currently work from military computers but will work from any other computer.
- Residents of a different states, may go to www.fvap.gov/links/statelinks.html.
- Activated reservists not residing at their home of record may register and request an absentee ballot at www.fvap.gov/pubs/onlinefpc.html. Specific instructions for completing and mailing the form in the Voting Assistance Guide are located at www.fvap.gov/pubs/vag/vagchapter3.html

If you need any assistance, contact your unit voting assistance counselor or 1st Lt. Michelle Bonilla, 349th Wing Voting Assistance Counselor, at (707) 424-4783.

Unit Voting Assistance Counselors:

- 301st AS** - Capt. Shawna Pavey, (707) 424-4357; shawna.pavey@travis.af.mil or Chief Master Sgt. Alan Arndt, (707) 424-2038; alan.arndt@travis.af.mil
- 312th AS** - Maj. Allan Davis, (707) 424-0908; allan.davis@travis.af.mil or Senior Master Sgt. Peter Briggs, (707) 424-4163; peter.briggs@travis.af.mil
- 349th AES** - Lt. Col. Marc Dubin, (707) 424-3865; marc.dubin@travis.af.mil
- 349th ALCF** - Senior Master Sgt. Jan Lambard, (707) 424-2895; janice.lambard@travis.af.mil
- 349th AMDS** - Chief Master Sgt. Edward Gloor, (707) 424-3814; edward.gloor@travis.af.mil
- 349th AMW** - 1st Lt. Catherine Bonilla, (707) 424-4783; catherine.bonilla@travis.af.mil
- 349th AMXS** - Senior Master Sgt. Kelly Norris, (707) 424-0776; kelly.norris@amc.af.mil
- 349th CES** - Senior Master Sgt. Joe Annon, (707) 424-4914; joe.annon@travis.af.mil
- 349th CES** - Senior Master Sgt.

- Geoffery Delaney, (707) 424-2423; geoffery.delaney@travis.af.mil
- 349th CMS** - Master Sgt. Christine Hartmann, (707) 424-2173; christine.hartmann@travis.af.mil or Senior Master Sgt. Baudelio Trujillo, (707) 424-3190; baudelio.trujillo@travis.af.mil
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- 349th OG** - Maj. Brendan Lewis, (707) 424-2327; brendan.lewis@travis.af.mil
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- 70th ARS** - Master Sgt. Edward Mull, (707) 424-7003; edward.mull@travis.af.mil or Senior Master Sgt. Ken McCutcheon, (707) 424-7017; kenneth.mccutcheon@travis.af.mil
- 749th AMXS** - Senior Master Sgt. James Blencowe, (707) 424-7493; james.blencowe@travis.af.mil
- 82nd APS** - Senior Master Sgt. Keith Wilson, (707) 424-2179; keith.wilson@travis.af.mil or Senior Master Sgt. Ed Caler, (707) 424-2179; ed.caler@travis.af.mil
- 604th MDS** - Master Sgt. Emiliana Harris, (509) 247-2993; emiliana.harris@fairchild.af.mil
- 704th MDS** - Master Sgt. Daniel Garcia, (505) 263-1252; daniel.garcia@kirtland.af.mil or Master Sgt. Rafael Acosta (505) 846-1252; rafael.acosta@kirkland.af.mil
- 45th APS** - Master Sgt. App Browning, (707) 424-7045; app.browning@travis.af.mil or Chief Master Sgt. Randall Wilson, (707) 424-7049; randall.wilson@travis.af.mil
- 55th APS** - Master Sgt. Ross Wood, (707) 424-3478; ross.wood@travis.af.mil

Upcoming Meetings

Top 3 Council

The Top 3 Council meeting begins at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday of each UTA in the Golden Hills dining facility.

Rising Six

The Rising Six meeting begins at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday of each UTA in the Golden Hills dining facility. This meeting is now separate from the Top 3 Council.

Operation TEDDY BEAR

The Operation TEDDY BEAR meeting begins at 1 p.m., Sunday of each UTA in the Wing Headquarters, Bldg. 112 Conference Room.

Wing Enlisted Workshop

The Wing Enlisted Workshop meeting begins in December at 2 p.m., Sunday of each UTA in the Wing Headquarters, Bldg. 112 Conference Room.

Future Wing events

The **Honor Guard Recognition Ceremony and Luncheon** is Saturday, Nov. 20., time to be announced. Point of contact for this event is Senior Master Sgt. Cathy Goff, 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, (707) 424-3406 or email her at catherine.goff@travis.af.mil

Thanksgiving Dinner for Yountville Veterans, **Operation GIVE THANKS**, is Nov. 25. Point of contact for this event is any member of the Rising Six.

Operation TEDDY BEAR begins in November and continues into December (dates and locations to be announced.) Points of contact for these events are Senior Master Sgt. Jan Lambard, 349 Airlift Control Flight, (707) 424-2895 or email at janice.lambard@travis.af.mil; Senior Master Sgt. Alice Munoz, 301st Airlift Squadron, (707) 424-2038 or email at alice.munoz@travis.af.mil; Master Sgt. Mike Lattanzi, 349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, (707) 424-0776 or email at michael.lattanzi@travis.af.mil.

Wing Enlisted Workshop will be Apr. 7-8, 2005. Points of contact for this event are Master Sgt. Terry Juran, 349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, (707) 424-2042, terry.juran@travis.af.mil and Technical Sgt. Connie Harris, 349th AMXS, (707) 424-0776 or email at connie.harris-02@travis.af.mil

The **Military Ball** is scheduled for April 8, 2005 at the Delta Breeze. Points of contact for this event to be determined.

Honor Guard - proud tradition, heritage

by Master Sgt. Timothy Carney
60th Air Mobility Wing

The mission of the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Colors element is to officially represent the Air Force at all public and official ceremonies in the National Capital Region and throughout the world as directed by the Military District of Washington or Headquarters, U.S. Air Force.

Their responsibilities are to provide color teams to those ceremonies that require the proper display of the United States and Air Force colors and other flags when required. It is no small tasking, and neither are their responsibilities.

The history of colors can be traced back to the very origins of armed warfare. The practice of carrying a colored banner was first a matter of simple necessity. Soldiers needed a symbol to indicate the positions of their armies when the lines and formations of troops became entangled in battle. Later, these banners became symbols of nations and kingdoms, and fostered pride and patriotism in the soldiers that fought for them.

Probably more acts of battlefield heroism and courage have been attributed to protecting or defending the colors of one's nation than any other act documented until recent times.

The colors were the symbol of one's country and were fiercely defended at all costs. It was considered disgraceful if an enemy force captured the colors, and soldiers often gave their lives in defending them. During the Civil War, Corporal Nathaniel M. Allen, the National Color bearer for Company B,

1st Massachusetts Infantry received the Medal of Honor at the Battle of Gettysburg. While his regiment was falling back, Allen advanced towards an approaching Confederate force totally alone and under fire to retrieve the regimental flag that was pinned under the body of its falling bearer. In doing so, he saved the flag from capture and brought both flags back to safety. Such was the importance that was bestowed upon the colors. Only the best and most honorable soldiers were ever given the privilege of carrying them.

Although colors are no longer carried into battle, they remain important symbols of national and unit pride during military ceremonies. This is where the Colors element comes into play.

A typical day begins at 6:45 a.m. when roll call is taken. This is followed up by up to six hours of ceremonial practice throughout the day that entails adherence to the proper sequences of events during a ceremony, proper courtesies paid to the colors, and a large amount of strength exercises consisting of push-ups and weight training. While carrying a flag doesn't sound too difficult, it quickly becomes apparent how difficult it really is.

The USAF flag bearer not only carries the flag itself, but also a vast assortment of battle streamers. These streamers are strips of silk that have hand-embroidered upon them every conflict and campaign that the Air Force has participated in since the birth of the U.S. Army Aeronautical Division in 1907 – 102 streamers in all. When attached to the top of the Air Force flag, this combination can weigh up to 40 pounds.

The color bearer is also responsible for rendering a salute to the National color by tilting the flag out at a 45-degree angle and holding it there during a wide assortment of salutes that can last anywhere from two to 10 minutes. Couple all this with a day when the wind is blowing at 20 to 25 m.p.h., and one can see where strength is definitely a necessity. In addition, service in a color team involves very long periods of standing motionless in ceremonies that can last two hours or more.

It takes a very special and motivated person to perform this honored duty. The Colors element is made up of 40 members, with the average height being six feet. This is important because height aids in the ability to control the colors during ceremonies; especially when national and international press and news media are focusing their attention on the centerpiece of any formation: the Colors.

Examples of high-profile ceremonies that the Colors element have participated in include the Inauguration of President Bush, the National Day of Prayer attended by President Bush and other national leaders conducted at the National Cathedral following the September 11th terrorist attacks, the retirement and change of command ceremony for the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and most recently the State Funeral for President Ronald Reagan.

The members of the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Colors element are very special individuals who proudly and properly carry the symbol of our nation in ceremonies ranging from funerals to ceremonies at the White House.

In doing so, they are charged with a solemn task that has existed since our nation was founded, to display and protect the National Colors that represent every citizen of the United States.



Stand tall: (Left to right) Senior Airman Alexander Putman, 349th Medical Squadron, Senior Airman Ismael Rodriguez, 60th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, Staff Sgt. Matthew Stohner and Senior Airman Dmitry Stupnikov, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron, are all members of the Travis Team Honor Guard.

Celebration of a 75-year legacy

LULAC festivities recognize success

by 1st Lt. Clarissa Tuttle
349th Military Equal Opportunity

The sounds of festivity could be heard from all avenues of downtown San Antonio, as the 75th anniversary of the League of United Latin American Citizens began the celebration of its legacy and embarked on the charge of defining its future. And it is particularly poignant this month, Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize this organization whose purpose is to advance the economic, political, educational, and civil rights of Hispanics. Themes at the July conference focused on issues from government reform and leadership development to community empowerment and implications of the “No Child Left Behind” Act.

But events surrounding the recognition of the Department of Defense were particularly meaningful as 11 Hispanic members of today’s Armed Forces were publicly recognized for their heroism while in support of the war on terrorism.

Members from all branches of the military, including guard and reserve, were recognized for meritorious service while assigned to various duties such as intelligence, security, and medical operations. The participation of Sergeant Mary J. Herrera, a member of the Army National Guard, was particularly moving.

Sergeant Herrera was struck by enemy gunfire when her convoy was ambushed during a transportation mission in Iraq. Making the occasion more momentous, event officials also formally recognized the gallant efforts of Hispanic Medal of Honor recipient Sergeant Jose S. Lopez who served during World War II. Sergeant Lopez was cited for gallantry

and awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor on June 18, 1945 by, president Harry S. Truman. Sergeant Lopez also earned two Silver Stars and a Bronze Star for valor on the battlefield. He turns 94 years old this year.

The participation of various Latin cultures, including a large group from Puerto Rico as well as the Cuban community, provided an excellent learning experience for conference goers. Among those in attendance were members of LULAC, Chapter 349: Senior Master Sgt. Angelo Montalvo, president; Technical Sgt. Robert Goslin, treasurer; Master Sgt. Raul Garcia, sergeant-at-arms and 1st Lt. Clarissa Tuttle, delegate.

Members not only took advantage of cultural events and seminars provided by

the Federal Training Institute, but as LULAC delegates, assisted in influencing the outlook of LULAC. Many vital issues affecting the Hispanic community were addressed including civil rights, education, economic development, immigration, and equal opportunity. Initiatives that were put forth emphasized the significance of each member’s contribution to the national mission of LULAC.

The mission focused on commitment to diversity, and working together toward a shared goal of improving our nation one community at a time. This goal can be achieved by encouraging the values of opportunity, growth and diversity. An appropriate goal as we celebrate another year of Hispanic heritage!



Courtesy photo

Proud to have served: Sergeant Jose S. Lopez, World War II Congressional Medal of Honor recipient is greeted by Senior Master Sgt. Angelo Montalvo, president of the Travis Chapter 349 League of United Latin American Citizens. Sergeant Lopez was a machine gunner near Krinklet, Belgium, on Dec. 17, 1944.

Twenty years is nothing to sneeze at

Story and photo by
Senior Master Sgt. Marvin Meek
349th Public Affairs

In July, the 349th Medical Squadron celebrated the 20-year anniversary of the unit being activated into the Air Force Reserve with a family picnic. Dozens of service members from the HQ 12th USAF Contingency Hospital, as it was called in 1983, returned to Travis Air Force Base to pay tribute to one of the 349th Air Mobility Wing's most unique organizations.

When it first arrived at Travis AFB in 1983, the HQ 12 USAF Contingency Hospital mission was to replace active duty members of David Grant Medical Center when they were required to deploy to other locations for as national emergency. Its presence here precluded the chance of the David Grant Medical Center being shorthanded during a national emergency. Before the contingency hospital, local civilian hospitals were contracted to support David Grant Medical Center by designating a certain number of beds to support such a disaster.

The unit was organized into a headquarters unit and four detachments located at Mather AFB, Calif., Kirtland

AFB, N.M., Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz., and Fairchild AFB, Wash. It had a good reputation for training and providing highly-trained doctors, nurses and medical technicians, operating in a wide variety of medical specialties. As time passed, the HQ 12 USAF Contingency Hospital soon earned greater recognition for its dedication to service and its flexibility.

When the HQ 12th USAF Contingency Hospital "stood up" in 1983, it was the only unit within the Wing without a mobilization mission. Yet as military needs and strategies changed, hundreds of the contingency hospital's members were activated and deployed to various locations. During Operation Desert Storm, it deployed more than 500 medical personnel. More recently, it has deployed members to various worldwide locations to support Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

No stranger to change, over the last 20 years the contingency hospital has



Please pass the potato salad: In July, the 349th Medical Squadron celebrated the 20-year anniversary of the unit being activated into the Air Force Reserve with a family picnic.

expanded and contracted in size to adapt to changing readiness scenarios. It has realigned its detachments three times, changed names twice, (becoming the 349th Contingency Hospital in 1994 and then 349th Medical Squadron in 2000) and even took on a new mission – the expeditionary Medical Support Mission, in 2000.

Despite all the changes, what remains constant is the high quality of the people serving in the 349th Medical Squadron and their willingness to give whatever it takes, whenever they are called upon.

Reserve Recruiters exceed goal, again

For the fourth year in a row, Air Force Reserve Command recruiters exceeded the command goal.

They brought in 9,636 new recruits by the end of August. Their goal was 9,600 by Sept. 30.

Besides making its goal early, the command had its highest percentage of successful recruiters. Of the 284 recruiters, more than 80 percent made their goal.

Last year's goal was 9,500 new recruits, and 79 percent of the recruiters made goal. The percentage of recruiters making goal has risen significantly in recent years — 50 percent in 2001 and 60 percent in 2002.

"Most impressive was your push to access more than 2,300 recruits during July and August alone, demonstrating your

urgency to man AFRC," wrote Lt. Gen. John Bradley, AFRC commander, in a message to the recruiters. "I know I can count on your continued aggressive recruiting efforts. You continue to lead the Department of Defense in accessions per production recruiter."

Col. Francis Mungavin, AFRC Recruiting Service commander, attributed the recruiters' success to several factors and said no one individual made it happen.

"It was a team effort; great recruiters, leadership, our training program, the support staff and infrastructure behind the recruiters," the colonel said.

Air Force Reserve Command has about 75,800 reservists who train and deploy regularly. The command hires new recruits with no prior military experience, as well as veterans.

(AFRC News Service)

349th Maintenance Group Quarterly Award Winners for 3rd Quarter 2004

Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter -
Senior Master Sgt.
Jeffrey W. Hammett,
349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter -
Tech. Sgt. Robert A. Goslin,
349th Component Maintenance Squadron

Airman of the Quarter -
Senior Airman Doane E. Arias,
749th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

604th MDS receives hands-on experience

Forty-three members of the 604th Medical Squadron participated in their annual exercise recently at Fairchild's Camp Airey to test the readiness of the Air Force Reserve squadron to perform its mission under deployed conditions.

"These activities are always important learning experiences," said Col. Olivia Stringer, 604th MDS commander. "We tested our own personal awareness during austere conditions and re-established the teamwork needed to be a top notch medical unit. We found some shortfalls and we are working to improve those issues."

During this exercise all members were introduced to the newly acquired mission as an emergency medical evacuation team.

Training included receiving hands-on experience in moving and caring for patients in low-light and no-light situations and gaining experience in caring for patients in austere conditions as part of a mass casualty activity. New members were incorporated into the team and also received training and were certified on different vehicles.

Several other organizations supported the exercise including the base security forces, services and civil engineering and the 141st Washington Air National Guard. Boy scouts from Mead, Wash., Air Force Junior ROTC cadets from Rogers High School in Spokane, and members of the 396th Combat Support Hospital, US Army Reserve, from Joe E. Mann Barracks volunteered to

play injured victims in the mass casualty activity.

Force protection, perimeter security and defense training was provided by security forces and responding to nuclear, biological and chemical activity was also included in the exercise.

"We learned that the cooperation level of the organizations on Fairchild was paramount and without any stretch of the imagination, quite professional and timely," said Master Sgt. Emiliana Harris, Air Reserve Technician, 604th MDS.

Even though the 604th is a small unit, they have a diverse and important mission.

They provide rapid-response manpower teams for emergency field surgery, air evacuation and combat medical support for forward-based and Special Operations Forces. The team staffs and operates a field critical care unit and a 10-bed medical and surgical ward. Provides biological agent identification, monitor food and water quality and disease vector control. In peacetime, the unit complies with Wing, Air Force Reserve Command and Air Force taskings, requirements and training.

"We, the 604th Medical Squadron, are ready, willing and able to meet the mission laid upon us, whenever and wherever," said Colonel Stringer. "We are not a part of the 92nd Medical Group, or the Washington Air National Guard, although we provide assistance to both those fine organizations when called upon. We are our own entity. We are the 604th Medical Squadron, United States Air Force Reserve."

(Courtesy of the Fairchild Connection, Fairchild AFB, Wash.)

Reserve end strength going 'back to the future'

The Department of Defense is turning back the clock, raising Air Force Reserve Command's end-strength ceiling to the fiscal 1996 level.

The change is the result of the fiscal 2005 Defense Appropriations Act. The president signed the bill into law Aug. 5.

Under the defense bill, AFRC may have up to 76,100 reservists in the Selected Reserve next year. The 1996 ceiling was 76,138.

After the Persian Gulf War, Air Force Reserve troop levels declined steadily from a high of 84,539 in 1991 to a low of 73,160 in 1997. Levels in the late '90s fluctuated but continued to rise as the Air Force relied more on reservists to shoulder worldwide missions.

This year's end-strength ceiling is 75,800. Next year's funds will pay for up to 74,200 traditional reservists and 1,900 full-time members of the Active Guard and Reserve. The funding will allow 60 more traditional reservists and 240 more AGRs compared this year's end-strength cap.

The ceiling for full-time air reserve technicians – people who serve as civil servants and reservists in the same job – will drop from 9,991 in 2004 to 9,954 in 2005.

Funding to train, pay and care for the force will increase from an appropriations budget of \$3.47 billion in 2004 to \$3.69 billion for 2005.

AFRC's funding is part of the \$417 billion defense appropriations bill. The bill will fund the Department of Defense from Oct. 1, 2004, to Sept. 30, 2005.

Provisions of the bill include a 3.5 percent across-the-board

pay raise for service members and elimination of out-of-pocket housing expenses.

In other pay matters, Congress agreed to increase permanently the family separation allowance from \$100 to \$250 and the imminent danger pay from \$150 to \$225 per month.

Under the new reserve personnel appropriation, the Air Force Reserve will receive \$1.45 billion to cover pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, travel and other related expenses.

Another \$2.24 billion will go to operation and maintenance funds to train, organize and administer the command. O&M money pays for flying hours, depot maintenance, repair of facilities and equipment, travel and transportation, civilian pay, recruiting, and communication, as well as procurement of services, supplies and equipment.

In 2004, the Reserve's RPA budget was nearly \$1.29 billion. Its O&M funding was \$2.18 billion.

The Air Force Reserve must wait for Congress to finalize two other defense bills for fiscal 2005.

House and Senate conferees must meet and reach agreement on the proposed fiscal 2005 National Defense Authorization Act before Congress can submit the bill to the president for signature.

The other pending defense bill is the fiscal 2005 Military Construction Appropriations Act, which will pay for military construction projects across the services, including the Air Force Reserve. In 2004, the Reserve received \$62 million for major new construction projects and upgrades, unspecified minor projects, and planning and design. *(AFRC News Service)*

Small things add to greater good of all

by Chaplain (Maj.) Labane Hall
349th Air Mobility Wing

Recently, I was standing with my family at the Grand Canyon. What an awesome sight! While we were there, I noticed that many of the people around me were not speaking English. I heard Spanish, Japanese, Portuguese, and a couple of languages that I could not pinpoint. People from every area of the world were in that one spot at that one time experiencing the incredible beauty of the Grand Canyon.

I was also at the "A" flight commanders call. As I looked around at the members of our flight, I noticed the different nationalities represented in both genders. I am from Kentucky and I bet that many of the people in our flight are from many different states of our country. When this is expanded to the wing, the differences become even greater. Yet, we are all working for a common goal, a common purpose, a common mission. Not everyone has a glamorous job, but all of us are important.

At my civilian job, we have stopped paying for our garbage to be removed from the trash cans. Five years ago, they told us to take our trash from our cubicles

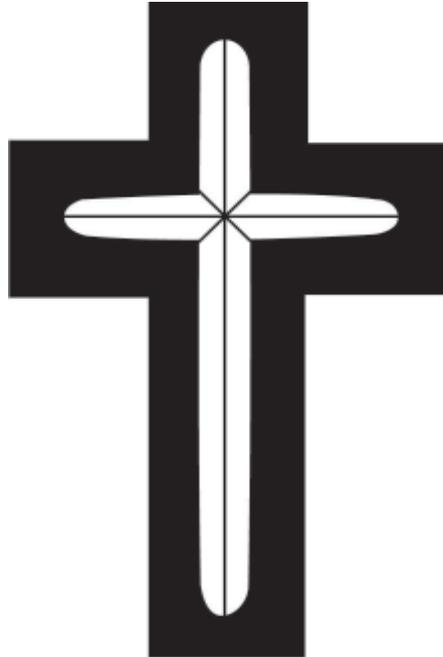
to one place at the end of the row to dump our garbage and that this would save a lot of money. Now, there is one place for the 65 people to take their garbage. It takes three times as long and everyone is grumbling and work production has suffered. The one guy who sits by the garbage collection area is upset as his cubicle begins to smell bad well before the garbage is picked up. I realized once

again how important garbage collectors are to me. Not a high profile, celebrity job, but one that is very important to my office and to the world.

Today, I hope that you can take a greater sense of pride in the job you do for this wing. A sense of accomplishment for when it is performed well. While at a picnic for an "A" flight squadron recently, I noticed that the same person who was at a previous unit function was busily doing set up and clean up work while many others were enjoying the day. I went to the airman and offered my thanks for the sacrifice and diligence to do the menial yet very important task. The response was that this was the airman's opportunity to serve as God wanted. I was blown away by the selfless attitude of the airman.

During the October UTA, I encourage you to do your duty with renewed diligence and a greater commitment than ever no matter how high or low profile it may be. As you do it, please know that I (shall I say we are?) am thankful for the hard work you do every time you step foot on this base. Every time an airplane from this base is successful in its mission, all of us from all over the world did an important part to accomplish that mission.

May God bless you and your families!



courtesy photo

Welcome home: Master Sgt. Eva Beckner, a 349th Chaplain Assistant, pictured with Chaplain (Capt.) Kenneth Valardi, 919th Special Operations Wing, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., recently returned from serving with the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, Balad Air Base, Iraq. The 332nd AEW is the unit of the historic Tuskegee airmen, hence, services were held in "the Tuskegee Chapel." In addition to religious services, memorial services were also provided for personnel killed in the region.

Travis Team steps up to give a hand up

by 2nd Lt. Lindsey Hahn
60th Public Affairs

From Aug 12-15, Travis Team participated in the fourth annual East Bay Stand Down for needy veterans in the San Francisco bay area at Camp Parks in Dublin, Calif.

Nationally, more than 250,000 veterans are left needy or homeless each year and more than 7,000 reside in the nine bay-area counties. The Concord Vet Center of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley and the Ladies Auxiliary VFW, Post 6435, Antioch organized the event.

The 349th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron from Travis served as the lead agent for after-hours medical support. In their fourth year of participation, the eight-member team worked more than 200 man-hours during the four-day event. They provided blood-sugar checks, insulin administration, over-the-counter pain medication for post-dental extraction, medical screening exams and intravenous administration along with emergency support and first aid.

"Mobility," an ensemble band from the USAF Band of the Golden West, performed at the event. The group performed songs from several different genres for two and a half hours during the dinner period of the event.

Also, the 349th Communications Squadron provided connectivity for telephone and data services to all agencies involved. Some other Travis personnel volunteered on a more singular basis assisting other specialties.

"Stand Down" is a term used during war to describe the removal of combat troops from the field and taking care of their basic needs in a safe area. Participating veterans were provided medical, dental and mental health attention along with food, shelter and entertainment at the event. A Stand Down court was also set up to adjudicate minor offenses with Superior Court judges from several participating counties.

Since the first Stand Down, held in San Diego in 1998, similar events have taken place in more than 200 cities nationwide. The objectives of the East Bay Stand Down are place the participants into residential programs, offer employment and provide follow-up programs of various types.

"One measure of the success is we had around 35 veterans immediately leave (the



photo by Senior Master Sgt. Marvin Meek, 349th Public Affairs (2002)

Step right up: This photo taken in front of one of the East Bay Stand Down service tents. It shows a couple of the important services provided.

East Bay Stand Down) to seek shelter and rehabilitation services," said Jimmy Yahiro, director of the event.

At this event, a "tent city" was constructed to house attending veterans and their families. They received food, clothing, shelter and haircuts while health providers literally came to their front door and assisted in providing for their physical and mental health needs.

Team Travis will also be working with the third annual North Bay Stand Down on Oct. 12-14 at the Dixon Fair Grounds.

(Information for this story was gathered from www.eastbaystanddown.org.)

Promotions

Twenty-five promoted to Lieutenant Colonel

The following majors were promoted pending Presidential approval:

Kim P. Dickie, 349th EMS
Dale A. Forman, 45th APS
George Z. Friedman, Jr., 349th ASTS
Catheleen A. Madge, 349th AES
Timothy E. O'Brien, 82nd APS
David P. Pavey, 312th AS
Jeffrey T. Pennington, 70th ARS
Jeffrey D. Salman, 349th AMDS
Eddie P. Sanchez, 349th ASTS
Marla A. Sandman, 55th APS
William R. Wickersham, 349th AMW



The following majors have been promoted to lieutenant colonel effective on the dates indicated:

Irma Castillon, 340th AES, Nov. 6, 2004
Janet A. Chelseth, 349th AES, Oct. 1, 2004
Joseph R. Collins, 301st AS, Oct. 1, 2004
Gary M. Dobbins, 312th AS, Oct. 1, 2004
Georgina N. Fong, 349th MDG, Oct. 1, 2004
Richard S. Kaney, 349th MDG, Oct. 1, 2004
Steven M. Lee, 301st AS, Oct. 1, 2004
Mercille Locke, 349th AES, Oct. 1, 2004
Brian J. Paddock, 349th OSF, Aug. 28, 2005
Stephen R. Rickert, 301st AS, Oct. 1, 2004
Linda T. Shiraishi, 349th AES, Feb. 15, 2005
Deborah A. Skalko, 349th MDS, Oct. 1, 2004
Paul E. Sprenkle, Jr., 70th ARS, Sept. 1, 2004
Donald L. Topp, 79th ARS, Nov. 1, 2004



Chief Master Sergeant
Keith Wilson, 45th APS



Senior Master Sergeant
David A. Runkle, 301st AS



Master Sergeant
Thomas Boylan III, 301st AS
Dean C. Canada, 301st AS
Richard M. Capa, 45th APS
Virgilio P. Cinco, 349th AMW
Asa C. Clark, Jr., 301st AS
Jimmy R. Del Rosario, 349th LRS
J. Alexaander Gonzales, 45th APS
Jeffrey S. McVane, 301st AS
Jay A. Miller, 349th OSF
Edward G. Pereira, 349th AMXS
David R. Satterfield, 349th AMXS
Randall L. Schroeder, 45th APS
Kari L. Sumner, 349th CMS
William R. Tucker III, 301st AS
Alexander V. Vidal, 82nd APS
Mark L. Wittkopp, 349th ASTS



Technical Sergeant
Raul B. Adonay, 55th APS
Michael C. Alcoriza, 349th AMDS
Michelle A. Austin, 82nd APS

Promotions

Donald A. Bauer, 70th ARS
Tony L. Bess, 349th MAS
Dennis Clark, 349th AMDS
Larry J. Dubuque, 349th EMS
Conrad S. Fromme, 349th CES
Anna M. Graves, 55th APS
Brian J. Huber, 301st AS
Loretta A. Kee, 704th MDS
Kelly L. Kjelstrom, 349th AES
Jesse R. Lawless, 349th EMS
Vincent V. Singh, 349th MDS
Liwliwa T. Talingdan, 301st AS
Laura E. Theis, 79th ARS
Jayson J. Watson, 82nd APS



Staff Sergeant
Lee S. Branson, 349th MAS
Sherman S. Collins, 55th APS
Amaquiel Domingo, 349th AMDS
Muberra Guvenc, 349th AMW
Ryan C. Lavender, 312th AS
Melanie L. Pascua, 349th MDS
Leonardo Rosa, 349th EMS
Tranada L. Ross, 349th AMDS
Willie E. Rucker, 349th CES
Ryan M. Sapp, 349th CS

Mark R. Stanga, 349th AMDS
Damien D. Stock, 349th AMXS
Robert A. Zumel, 45th APS



Senior Airman
Jonathan M. Aspling, 349th CES
Bradley E. Burrell, 349th SFS
Charles R. Cummings, 301st AS
Amari W. Gaffney, 301st AS
Joseph M. Hazlett, 349th LRS
Stacy L. Ivy, 349th AMDS
Eric Jason Pena, 349th SFS



Airman First Class
Jorge I. Contreras, 349th AMDS
Bichloan Thi Pham, 82nd APS



Airman
Raquel G. Avarca, 349th AMXS
A. J. Nikolas Bolding, 349th AMDS
Miako S. Green, 349th AMDS
Michelle E. Watkins, 349th AES
Willie I. Wilson, 349th CES

(Promotions effective Sept. 1, 2004)

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Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. Lee A. Archer Jr. Chapter



Lee A. Archer, Jr. was the Tuskegee Airmen's only Ace. Flying his P-51C tagged "The Macore Bull" named after his girlfriend and soon to be wife, he first Ace was scored on July 18, 1944 destroying a ME of 100. Two days later on July 20, 1944 he scored his second Ace on another ME of 100. On October 12, 1944 he got three more ME of 100 kills. Lee was the best in the 302nd Fighter Squadron. He and his lead pilot, Mandell O. Pruitt, were known as the "Gruesome Terosone". Although Lee had five aerial kills and six more ground kills, the war department changed one of his kills to a shared kill. Speculation was that the war department could not allow a Black pilot to be looked upon as an American Hero and known to the world as a Fighter Ace. However, Lee A. Archer Jr. was official declared as a World-War II ACE. Archer retired from the United States Air Force and now resides in New Rochelle, NY. His wife and life-long companion (to Archer) will always remain his inspirational for success God bless her soul!

The Executive Council and Members of the Lee A. Archer, Jr. Chapter of the
Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.
cordially invite you to their Fall Ball

Guest Speaker:

Lee A. Archer, Jr.

23 October 2004
6pm Social / 7pm Dinner
Delta Breeze Club
Travis AFB, CA

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