

A **SOONER** AIRLIFTER

December 2010

New Air Force motto receives mixed reactions

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Incorporating extensive inputs from all ranks and career fields in the development effort, Airmen have selected "Aim High ... Fly-Fight-Win" as the service's motto.

An enduring statement of Airmen's pride in their service, the motto is a two-part expression -- a call to action, with a response of commitment.

"The call and the response are two sides of the same coin," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz. "Airmen indicated 'Aim High' and the response 'Fly-Fight-Win' as indicative of their enduring commitment to do just that in defense of our nation."

When the Air Force motto team embarked on the project, they committed to Airmen buy-in in an inclusive, well-researched effort, rooted in Air Force culture and identity.

"Airmen recognize a motto should represent something enduring," Gen. Schwartz said. "It must be bigger than any single person, something that gives voice to the pride of service of all who've worn this nation's Air Force uniform -- past, present and future."

"We took the time to try to get this right," Gen. Schwartz said. "A service motto belongs to those who serve, and we've done our best to

give voice to how Airmen feel about serving this nation."

The chief master sergeant of the Air Force, the director of Air Force Public Affairs, the Air Force director of force management policy, and the commander of Air Force Recruiting Service provided the leadership oversight for the motto team research experts.



U.S. AIR FORCE

In early 2010, the motto team engaged in almost nine months of hands-on research that began with extensive face-to-face meetings with nearly 300 total force Airmen from all job specialties and in every major command. Airmen described to the team what they thought it means to be an Airman, to serve and what is unique about the Air Force.

"The exhaustive research process showed that Airmen share a core set of identity concepts that serve as a basis for an Air Force motto," said Gen. Stephen Lorenz, Air Education

and Training Command commander.

"No matter what career field they serve in, Airmen consistently told us they see themselves, and they see the heritage of the Air Force, as those entrusted by the nation to defend the modern, complex security domains -- first air, then space and now cyberspace," Gen. Lorenz added. "Airmen take this sense of mission very seriously."

An Air Force-wide survey to validate and quantify input from discussions indicated Airmen have a shared pride in their abilities to adapt to meet any threat, and they feel empowered to bring innovation and excellence to the mission of national defense.

After understanding the shared identity, the motto team began transforming words and concepts into a unifying, enduring and credible motto, said Lt. Col. Clark Groves, Ph.D., the lead scientist for the project.

"The research team held more meetings with nearly 250 Airmen on bases in each major command, discussing scores of identifying words and concepts tied to the core Airman identity," he added.

"These discussions, information from Air Force historical archives, and input from total force Airmen, Air Force civilians, retired Airmen,

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Ferguson's final comments as wing commander



**By Col. Gregory Ferguson,
137th Wing Commander**

During the month of December, we celebrate holiday traditions, reflect on another year past and look forward to the hopes, plans and excitement of a new year. We measure how we did in accomplishing goals of the past year and contemplate a strategy on how to do better in the future. For me personally, not only am I reflecting on the past year but also the past three years and three months I have been your commander. The time has passed so fast and we have done so much it is difficult to capture everything in this, my last Airlifter article as your leader.

The 137 ARW has a tradition of excellence! Tradition does not belong to an individual or start and stop with an event in time. The word tradition comes from the Latin word *traditio* which means "handing over, passing on." We inherited our tradition and have enjoyed a proud reputation known across the globe. One of my goals was to pass on this tradition and to be found worthy of advancing our reputation to the next level in spite of the unprecedented amount of change we faced. It has been an incredible experience to be a part of the history we have made together in our endeavors. In the beginning, I challenged each of you to consider what role you would personally play and how you would choose to leave your mark on this journey of excellence and tradition. Not only have you embraced that challenge, you excelled in everything we faced and accomplished unparalleled results.

We recognized personal discipline is at the very core of accomplishing our mission. Also, the care, support and advancement of our members using the wingman concept was critical. We learned strong leadership and personal accountability to be properly organized, trained and ready to execute our mission would ensure success. Today, our deployment readiness statistics are among the best in the Air Force, our continuing education and professional military education (PME) participation is on the rise, and our career development course (CDC) pass rate is over 90 percent. You should be proud of accepting the challenge of personal accountability and for challenging yourself to invest precious time and energy in your own future.

Many of the things accomplished over the past three years are not just a first for the 137th but, in many cases, a first in the Air Force. Obviously, our association with the 507 ARW received the lion share of our attention and effort. With very little guidance, directives or programming plans, your diligent attention to details and positive attitude has made this directed action a success. We now receive inquiries about our lessons learned in the process of establishing this unique Total Force association. The "can do attitude" of our wing is routinely recognized by senior leaders. They often express their appreciation for the capability we provide to the Global Reach mission of the Air Mobility Command.

So, when we consider the achievements of a complete transition in mission, the care and feeding requirements of a geographically separated maintenance and operations package, the endless amount of time required to collaboratively establish the Air Force's first ARC Association; the outstanding results of an ASEV, HSI, LCAP and UCI along with the deployment of 895 of our members for a total of 69,783 man-days over the past three years, you have to ask, "how did that happen?" I believe the answer is simple; it's a tradition of excellence. A tradition that today you own and tomorrow will pass on. It has been an honor to work with you as your commander. Thank you for the support, hard work and most of all for being the lifelong friends that I consider each of you to be. Best wishes in your continued pursuit of excellence!

137th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Staff

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Scholarships available to Airmen, family

By Staff Sgt. Jessica Chapa
137 ARW Public Affairs

Two popular scholarship programs are offering grant opportunities for the 2011 school year.

The National Guard Association of Oklahoma is accepting grant applications through Feb. 1, 2011.

Each year, 20-25 scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$500. Membership in the association is required of the applicant or their sponsor if they are a dependent.

Assets are managed by the NGAOK Scholarship Foundation and are dispensed through grants for members and retired members of the NGAOK and their dependents.

The grants are intended to help part-time/full-time students fund their undergraduate or post-graduate degrees. Grant recipients receive a check once the foundation obtains a copy of college enrollment.

More information along with grant

applications can be found at www.ngaok.org/scholarship.

The Scholarships for Military Children Program offers applicants the opportunity to receive a \$1,500 scholarship, one of which will be awarded at each commissary.

Dependents, unmarried children of active-duty personnel Reserve/Guard and retired military members or survivors of service members who died while on active duty, or survivors of individuals who died while receiving retired pay from the military, may apply.

Applicants must be under 23 years of age.

Applicants, as well as sponsors, must be enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database and have a current ID card.

Scholarships are offered to applicants enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time undergraduate initial

bachelor degree program at an accredited college or university during the 2011 school year.

A minimum 3.0 GPA is also required. Students enrolled in a community or junior college program qualify if their studies transfer directly to a four-year program.

Applicants who have received a full scholarship to any accredited higher education program are not eligible.

Applications are slated to open December 2010. They may not be emailed or faxed. Only one submission is allowed. Submissions at multiple commissaries result in disqualification.

Applications are available at each commissary as well as www.militaryscholar.org. Further information can also be found at this site. A complete list of commissaries, along with phone numbers, can be found at www.commissaries.com.

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and the public provided the basis for identifying the ideal motto candidates," the colonel said.

That led to an Air Force-wide survey.

Five potential mottos emerged and were presented at CORONA for final consideration.

"We went Air Force wide four times, including face-to-face discussions at bases in every major command twice, and in two Air Force-wide surveys" said Col. Graves.

"The data provided quality information on everything from accessions and retention, to diversity and broader Air Force cultural initiatives," said Gen. Lorenz.

Airmen can expect to gradually hear and see more of the motto as it is included in Air Force presentations, correspondence and products.

"This motto encompasses what Airmen say about what it means to serve in this great Air Force," said

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy. "'Aim High ... Fly-Fight-Win' gives our service a new and lasting tradition for voicing our pride."

So what do Will Rogers Air National Guard Base members think about the slogan?

"I think it's great," said Master Sgt. Doug Gingerich.

Tech. Sgt. Richard Rogers said, "It sounds like something you would hear from a cheer squad at a High School football game."

"It's lame, just taking the Creed and the old motto and pasting them together. Either keep the old or come up with something original," said Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Ericson.

Master Sgt Lorie Stephens offers a simple correction to the motto, preferring it to read, "Aim High... Fly, Fight AND Win."

See many other comments made by military and non-military members at <http://www.af.mil/news/story>.

'Tis the season... to mark your calendars

Compiled by Staff Sgt. Lindsay Roe
137 ARW Public Affairs

Toys for Tots

Whether you drop money off, an unwrapped gift or give your time at the Oklahoma City Toys for Tots distribution facility, you can make a difference in a child's holiday season! Donations can be dropped off at the activity center until Thursday, Dec. 9.

All donations will go towards the purchase of toys through a major retailer, who give significant discounts on the bulk purchased items.

Last year, the project raised about \$2,000 to purchase toys, which were donated to children and families living in surrounding Oklahoma City areas and throughout the state. This year, the base members hope to exceed those donations.

Operation Holiday Spirit

The Del City Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) is scheduled to host a fundraising dinner from 6 to 10 p.m on Friday, Dec. 3. Proceeds go toward helping the 137th Guard members. Every Christmas, First Sergeants nominate Guard and Reserve members based on need.

Those selected get gift cards to use toward both food and gifts for their families. It is a great program and a way to build bridges with the Reserve. Last year, more than \$18,000 was raised and helped 20 Airmen (about half were Guard.)

Tickets are \$25 and the menu consists of your choice of steak or chicken, baked potato, green beans, salad and cheesecake. Please contact Maj. LeeAnn Tumbelson at 686-5039 for tickets or to make a donation by Nov. 29.

Chili Cook-off

The Annual Chili Cook-off will be Thursday, Dec. 16, from 10:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Eagles Nest. Tickets are \$5 and covers chili, cornbread, dessert and a drink. Last year, participants enjoyed 14 different kinds of chili and raised \$1,360 for the City Rescue Mission in Oklahoma.

The mission is the largest shelter in Oklahoma, and it provides various resources including more than 165,000 beds a year to homeless men, women and children.

Contact Master Sgt. LaNou at 686-5221 for competition registration.



Photo by Master Sgt. Kevin Tucker

December 2009, Airmen based here donate toys and money to the Toys for Tots campaign held on base. All money donations for 2010 should go to the activity center.

Dollar Scholarship Fund

The \$1 per member fund drive for the Oklahoma National Guard Association Scholarship foundation has begun for the 2011/2012 school year. For much less than the cost of a gallon of gas, you can continue our commitment to support a program helping some of Oklahoma's best and brightest.

In the past eight years, your NGAOK Scholarship Foundation sponsored more than 167 scholarships for Guard members and dependents.

Scholarship recipients are chosen by an Oklahoma College or University's scholarship committee, thus eliminating any possibility of bias. Last year, 20 received scholarships through the efforts of individual Guardsmen/women and friends and corporate sponsors.

One hundred percent of every dollar received by the Foundation is applied to benefit Guardsmen/women and their dependents through scholarships.

Lt. Col. Tracey Hale will collect donations through December drill. For more information email tracey.hale@ang.af.mil or call (405) 686-5256.

Personnel Updates

Newcomers:

Airman Basic Christy Morgan
 Airman 1st Class Austin Allsbury
 Airman 1st Class Leah Bayones
 Airman 1st Class Lisa Blackburn
 Airman 1st Class Levi Ferrell
 Airman 1st Class Travis Hilgenberg
 Airman 1st Class Matthew Lewis
 Airman 1st Class Emily Lovings
 Airman 1st Class Isabelle Stewart
 Airman 1st Class Travis Quintanilla
 Senior Airman Matthew Miller
 Staff Sgt. Leslie Morton
 Tech. Sgt. Bethany Horgan
 Tech. Sgt. Edgar Rodriguez

Promotions:

Senior Airman Abby Emerson
 Senior Airman Annie Emerson
 Senior Airman Geoffrey Hatcher
 Senior Airman Jessica Rosser
 Senior Airman Haley Womack
 Staff Sgt. Robert Bahan
 Staff Sgt. Shawn Bass
 Staff Sgt. Christopher Edwards
 Staff Sgt. John Hernandez
 Staff Sgt. John Knutson
 Staff Sgt. James Lawler
 Staff Sgt. Brittany Miller
 Staff Sgt. Davis Netterville
 Staff Sgt. David Stephens
 Tech. Sgt. Micah Campbell
 Tech. Sgt. Brian Dempsey
 Tech. Sgt. Kathryn Hannafon
 Tech. Sgt. John Hernandez
 Tech. Sgt. Homer Reynolds
 Tech. Sgt. Darrin Worley
 Master Sgt. Kevin Owen
 Master Sgt. Jeremy Scoles
 Master Sgt. Terrance Smith
 Master Sgt. Marianne Staton
 Senior Master Sgt. Timothy Lytle
 Senior Master Sgt. Brian Veazey

Chief Master Sgt. Dan Slater
 Capt. Casey Patton

Retirements:

Lt. Col. William Kilmer
 Lt. Col. Steven Watson
 Tech. Sgt. Michelle Blanton
 Master Sgt. Ronald Lytle
 Col. Gwendolyn Bates
 Staff Sgt. Marvin Hubbard
 Master Sgt. Deborah Cass

Church worship services
 Wing conference room, 10 a.m.
Saturday: Catholic mass
Sunday: No Protestant service for December

Connect to the **137th Air Refueling Wing** on Facebook or visit us on the web at www.137arw.ang.af.mil

2010 Drill Dates

December 11-12

2011 Drill Dates

January 8-9
 February 5-6
 March 5-6
 April 9-10
 May 14-15
 June 11-12
 July 9-10
 August 6-7
 September 10-11
 October 1-2
 November 5-6
 December 10-11

December Menu

Saturday Lunch:

Sirloin steak, cornish hens, mashed potatoes, broccoli and cheese, rolls, dessert

Sunday Breakfast:

Scrambled eggs, sausage patty, bacon, hash browns, bisquits and gravy, oatmeal

Job Announcement:

.First Sergeants: There are several opportunities available for NCOs interested in becoming first shirts. (Reference AFI 36-2113) Interested members should submit a resume, RIP and current FIT test to Chief Master Sgt. Geberth. Packets are due by COB of January 2011 UTA. For more information, contact Chief Geberth at Pamela.Geberth@ang.af.mil, 405-686-5777 or 405-517-7999.

Volunteer opportunities

What can you do that makes a difference in your life today, in your office tomorrow, in your community in the future?

Become a mentor/mentee through the base mentorship program. Contact Senior Master Sgt. James Ergenbright at (405) 686-5719 or james.ergenbright@ang.af.mil.

Numbers to know...

(Area code 405)

Emergencies: 911 then 686-5117
ID card appointments: 686-5212
Medical appointments: 686-5245
Help desk: 686-5000
Security forces: 686-5301
Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Hotline: 686-5564 or 550-2971
Mishap reporting: 686-5555
Chaplain's office: 686-5145
Base information line: 686-5627

AIRMAN SPOTLIGHT



Staff Sgt. Jason Roe

Unit/position... 137LRS/SAT/ Air Transportation Craftsman

In the Air Guard... 7 years

Job Duties... During drill weekends I stay busy preparing classes, maintaining mission readiness, processing passengers for arriving and departing flights, preparing cargo for shipment, loading and unloading cargo for flights and training new troops.

In this position... I have been an Air Transportation Craftsman for a year and a half.

Career goals... I am pursuing a pilot position with the 185th and look forward to becoming the future leadership of our base.

What is the rest of the month like?

I currently work at Wal-Mart and will start my MBA at UCO shortly. I spend most of my free time working on our new house and serving at Lifechurch.tv.

Hobbies... I love flying, riding motorcycles, fishing, reading and most outdoor sports.

Advice to new Airmen... I advise new Airmen to not sell themselves short on anything. Dream big, be confident and continually strive to achieve their goals. Always know what their next step is and constantly work toward it.

Most rewarding experience while serving in the Guard...

My most rewarding experience thus far was getting to work the honor flight for the WWII vets last May. It was a great privilege on my behalf to help make that day possible.

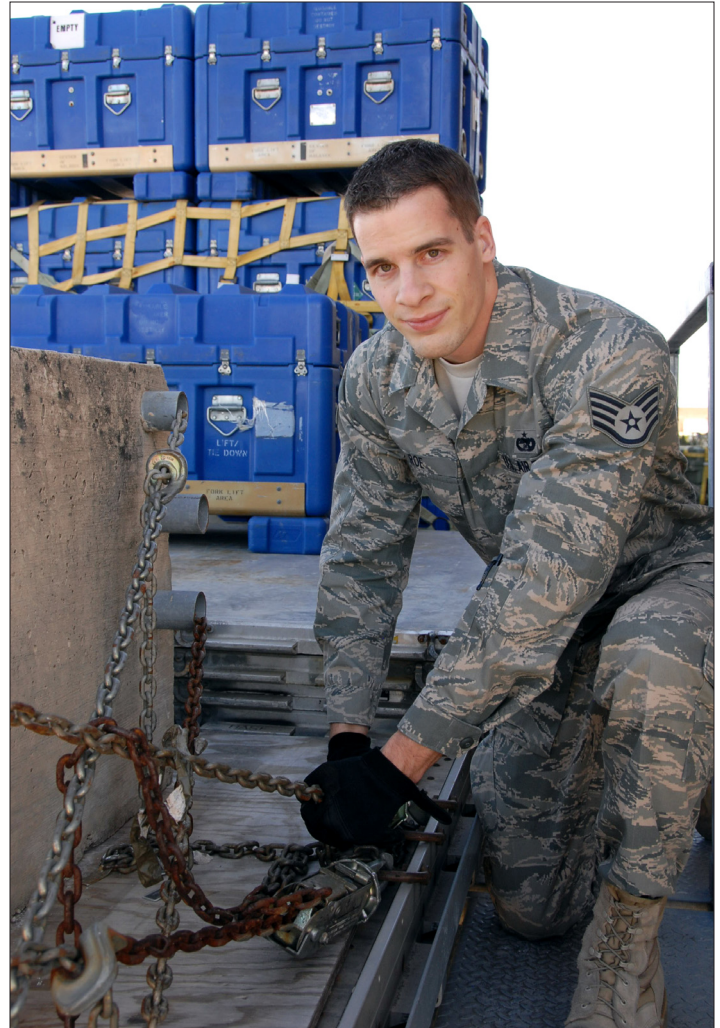


Photo by Staff Sgt. Caroline Hayworth

Staff Sgt. Jason Roe secures a tie down restraint on a type five ballast pallet used for air cabin weight on check rides.

WRANGB campaigning for safe winter

**By Senior Master Sgt Adam Cline
137 ARW Safety Office**

From now until January 3, the Air Force Safety Center (AFSC) is promoting its Holiday Safety Campaign.

Why the need for a winter safety campaign? Since 1990, over 200 Air Force and Air National Guard members have died in this time frame.

Most of the deaths were the result of traffic accidents. With many of

those killed heading home to see family for the holidays.

This year's campaign comes with a vision that ensures all Airmen have an injury-free holiday season, minimize traffic mishaps, travel safely and most importantly stay alive.

From Thanksgiving to New Year's in 2009, the Air Force had its safest year on record. For the first time in 13 years the AF didn't have

a single active-duty death due to any type of safety mishap. The AF and ANG hope to have the same outcome this season!

For more information on the Holiday Safety Campaign, visit the AF Portal, the ANG GROUND SAFETY CoP, and the AFSC CoP.

Making time for fitness during holidays



**By Master Sgt. Tim Zackery
1st Sgt 137th Aeromedical
Evacuation Squadron**

“There are only two options regarding commitment. You’re either in or you’re out. There is no life in between.” -Pat Riley

The U.S. Air Force is pushing for higher levels of fitness in its Airmen. We’ve all said something like, “Boy, am I out of shape” or “I really need to get moving, find more energy and do something more active, but, I just don’t have time.” Until now you may not have considered needing to exercise or maybe you’ve been one who starts and stops a fitness program frequently, only to blame a lack of time as your problem.

With the Air Force’s current fitness vision, the choice to not exercise regularly is no longer an option. We all have the same 168 hours a week to work with. It’s just a matter of how you choose to manage those hours.

Time management is one of the most important disciplines a person can practice. If most of your day feels unproductive, maybe it’s time take a hard look at how you’re spending your time. I’m certainly not exempt from this truth. As a First Sergeant, a manager of a fitness center, a personal trainer, husband and father of two young boys, I often find myself being pulled in several

directions. The reality is, the distractions of life are here to stay but we don’t have to be subject to those distractions.

Being a personal trainer is a lot like being a First Sergeant. A person comes to me with a challenge or goal they need help with, and I guide them in the right direction and keep them moving to get things done. When I start working with a new member or client, we spend a significant amount of time going over their time management skills. Knowing how well a person manages their time will give me an indicator of how successful they will be in achieving their goals.

Whatever your goal, if you don’t give it the time it needs, it will be converted to an inconvenience.

Envision time management as a stereo equalizer. It sounds the best when everything’s in balance. But push all of the knobs up and not only does it sound horrible, but you’ll likely fry a speaker. Our lives are similar. Each of the knobs represents an item in my life that requires time. All the knobs are important to me, but some are more important than others. These are the knobs that are pushed to a higher level/priority. Things like: God, family, friends, work, and exercise. Lower priorities like TV, hobbies, leisure time, are lowered. It takes work and the decisions are not all easy but when you find balance, life flows beautifully.

If you are struggling to negotiate a balance in your life or have a desire to help others create balance in their lives, now is the time to get involved with the 137th ARW, HRA Mentorship Program by contacting Senior Master Sgt. James Ergenbright at 686-5719 and Master Sgt. Roosevelt McClemore at 686-5814.

This month in Air National Guard History...

The Air Force reactivated the historic 1st Air Force at Langley Air Force Base, Va., and assigned it to the Tactical Air Command Dec. 6, 1985.

Since that time, its mission has been to provide, train and equip combat ready forces for the air defense of the North American continent.

Upon its reactivation, 1st Air Force was composed of units of the active Air Force and the Air National Guard. Because of its unique mission and its bi-national responsibilities, 1st Air Force works closely with the Canadian Forces.

Visit <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/agency/usaf/1af.htm> for more information.



Photo by Senior Airman Patricia Baker

Vietnam War veterans are honored with a 21-gun salute prepared by the 160th Field Artillery Brigade from Shawnee, Okla., during Operation Oklahoma held in Norman, Okla., Nov. 6. The event was held at Reeves Park where veterans from Oklahoma along with family members, Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen celebrated those who served in Vietnam. The ceremony included guest speakers, live choir performances, live symphony performances, a 21-gun salute and a grand finale 30-minute fireworks display.

Air Force Core Values

Integrity First
 Service Before Self
 Excellence In All We Do

WILL ROGERS MISSION STATEMENT

“To enhance global reach by serving our nation, state and community through the unique capabilities of the 137th Air Refueling Wing, the 205th Engineering Installation Squadron, and the 146th Air Support Operations Squadron.”

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To the family of: