

AIRLIFTER

March 2010

Airmen and families to be honored



Photos by Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Tucker

Schedule of Ceremonies

Saturday, March 6, 2010
Nose Dock Bldg. 1013

Group A	10:00-11:30 a.m.
JFHQ	MDG
ASOS	EIS
Group B	1:30-3:00 p.m.
FSS	SFS
CF	LRS
MSG	

Sunday, March 7, 2010
Nose Dock Bldg. 1013

Group C	10:00-11:30 a.m.
MXG	MOF
MXS	AMXS
Group D	1:30 -3:00 p.m.
AES	OG
ARW	ARS
ALCF	OSF

You're invited....

All units, individuals and family are invited to attend Oklahoma's Hometown Heroes Salute. This weekend begins the first of many ceremonies honoring service given by Airmen and their families.

Family and Center of Influence Awards will be distributed after the Airmen ceremony. Retirees will receive awards during Family Day in September.

Attendees are encouraged to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the ceremony. Parking is available in the Civil Engineering parking lot.

History of excellence fundamental to focus on future



By Col. Lloyd Coker,
137th Maintenance Group
Commander

Hello everybody and greetings from the Maintenance Group during this wonderful season of inspection preparation.

As you know, we have an incredible task ahead of us as a wing with respect to the multiple compliance evaluations scheduled in June and July. At the same time, the aggressive schedule of our KC-135 mission keeps rolling on as we prepare for those inspections.

137 MXG's test will come late July in the form of a Logistics Compliance Assessment Program combined with our 507 MXG partners.

The LCAP is a combination of the Air Force's former major command-level logistics and maintenance standardization and evaluation programs. It's designed to provide a unit with an objective evaluation of how to perform key logistical processes. With this in mind, we have just passed a milestone.

February 2010 was our "Boots on the Ground" two year anniversary for maintaining and operating at Tinker AFB.

An objective LCAP evaluation will give us a healthy look at the progress we have made with that move. It will also present areas of improvement to operate even better than before.

Our challenge has always been to improve effectiveness

and efficiency of the daily operations with regard to training, award programs, policies, instructions and personnel issues.

At some point in accepting that challenge, we must realize that an outside look is a good thing. It provides an opportunity to illustrate that our proper and safe focus on providing the refueling platform to the fight is being accomplished. Basically, it is assurance to our Air Force community that we are practicing the third core value daily: Excellence in All We Do!

In the preparation for July's inspection, we have faced down a few aches and pains along the way. Our best weapon has been a focused "Mind Over Matter" mentality.

General George S. Patton said, "Now if you are going to win any battle, you have to do one thing. You have to make the mind run the body. Never let the body tell the mind what to do. The body will always give up. It is always tired in the morning, noon and night. But the body is never tired if the mind is not tired."

Over the upcoming months, we need to be very focused and mindful on the business at hand even before that first cup of coffee on Saturday morning drill. Our collective and partnered efforts will get us through 2010s summer of inspections.

I appreciate each of you and your labors in providing this wing the continued proud history of excellence. Your sustained commitment and support to the mission is nothing short of phenomenal. Thank you and enjoy the spring.

The Guard Recruiting Assistance Program has ended immediately. Members already processing in the system will be paid, otherwise it is suspended for everyone.

137th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Staff

This funded Air Force Newspaper is an authorized publication for the U.S. Military Services. Contents of the Sooner Airlifter are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. The content is edited, prepared and provided by the 137th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Office, Will Rogers ANG Base, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Commander, 137 ARW: Col. Gregory L. Ferguson.

For consideration, all submissions must be provided to the Public Affairs office, at 137ARW.PA@ang.af.mil or in Bldg. 1046, 686-5227, no later than 10 a.m. Saturday of drill weekend. The Public Affairs office distributes the Airlifter monthly except for February and August.

Public affairs officers: 1st Lt. Cody Hawkins, 1st Lt. Jessica Chapa and 2nd Lt. Paul Blankenship; NCOIC: Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Tucker; public affairs specialist: Airman 1st Class Patricia Baker; information manager: Airman 1st Class Kaleena Higa; photographers: Master Sgt. Roberta Thompson and Senior Airman Caroline Hayworth; videographers: Master Sgt. Jun Kim and Staff Sgt. Ben Flint.

Airman 1st Class Charity Bowman Sallee

Unit/Position... 205th EIS Engineering Assistant

Entered the Air Guard... August 2007

Job duties... Create communication drawings from engineering sketches or team chief's mark-ups. I conduct site surveys of manholes and buildings for updating current drawings. I also create organizational charts in support of the sections and unit.

Time in this position... a little over a year

Career goals... to retire from the military and perhaps become a technician.

Hobbies... I love to read, shop and watch NCIS and Criminal Minds. I love learning about FBI profilers. One of my dreams is to become a FBI profiler and being in the military is one of the many steps to fulfilling my dream.

One of your most rewarding experiences... My most rewarding experience so far was to help other sections of the 205th during the UCI/ORI. I really liked learning about their jobs. While I was helping others, I felt like I belonged in the 205th. It also rewarded me in getting to know the technicians and what they expect of me for the next four years.

Advice for new Airmen... My advice would be to learn all you can before basic military training. Once you're back at Will Rogers, learn anything you can whether it relates to you or not. Knowledge is a key element in being in the military. Knowledge will help assist Airmen on their journey through the Air National Guard.

AIRMAN SPOTLIGHT



Photo by Senior Airman Caroline Hayworth

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Mar 6 | Blood drive sign-up information,
10:45-11:45 a.m. Bldg 1046, in front of
Eagle's Nest |
| Mar 6-7 | Hometown Heroes Salute, various times |
| Mar 9 | NGAOK Conference Registration
deadline |
| Mar 26-27 | NGAOK Conference, Military Ball,
Silent Auction |
| Apr 10 | Blood drive, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., LRS |
| Apr 24 | National Guard Appreciation Day at
OKC Zoo |
| Apr 25 | National Guard Appreciation Day at
Tulsa Zoo |

Antiterrorism Helpful Hints

Tips for the military family at home

By Lt. Col. David Snow

137th Security Forces Squadron Commander

The following antiterrorism tips can help keep members and their families from becoming a target:

- Restrict the possession of house keys
- Lock all entrances day and night, including the garage
- Remove name and rank from mailboxes
- Maintain friendly relations with your neighbors
- Do not draw attention to yourself

These tips can be found in CJCS Guide 5260-Antiterrorism Personal Protection Guide, available at <http://www.marines.mil/news/publications/Pages/CJCS%20GUIDE%205260.aspx>.

Military offered free income tax preparation

Joint Force Headquarters

The Oklahoma National Guard is offering free income tax preparation and electronic filing to all National Guard Members, their dependants, Federal Technicians, Oklahoma Military Department State Employees and Joint Forces Headquarters/United States Property and Fiscal Office contract personnel.

This service is offered through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance office located in the Internal Review Section of the USPFO Building at Joint Force Headquarters.

Volunteers are IRS trained to provide free tax advice, tax preparation and assistance to military members and their families with Oklahoma and federal income tax returns. They are trained and equipped to address military specific tax issues, such as combat zone tax benefits and the effect of the new Earned Income Tax Credit guidelines.

Due to limits imposed by the Internal Revenue Service, volunteers are not able to prepare tax returns for self-employed individuals, those with real estate rental income or those with complex stock/investment transactions. VITA is limited to completing tax returns for those individuals with income not exceeding \$75,000.

Tax preparation is available by ap-



pointment only from 7:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday.

To schedule an appointment, call Lt. Col. Tracy Spencer at 228-5114, Mrs. Kristina Higginbotham at 228-5020 or Master Sgt. Sylvia Loveless at 228-5611.

On-line Source

Military OneSource will provide free tax consultation and free on-line tax filing services to military service members and their families during tax season. Participants will have free

online access to the H&R Block At Home (formerly TaxCut) Basic tax product.

Program Overview:

- Participants log on to the site for access to the H&R BAH basic product. A separate logon for the H&R BAH site is required.

- Those eligible for the program include active duty, Guard and Reserve (regardless of activation status), spouses and dependent children (authorized in DEERS), family members handling the affairs of a deployed service member and severely injured service members or family members handling their affairs.

- Participants will have free access to the H&R BAH Basic product. Those with more complicated returns may incur charges if they upgrade to the H&R BAH Premium product.

- Participants can file up to three state resident returns for each federal return that they file with the H&R BAH basic product.

- Military OneSource Tax Consultants are available every day for participants using the H&R BAH basic product.

Find out more about the program by visiting the Military OneSource at www.militaryonesource.com and click on the Tax Filing Services icon.

Human trafficking is a crime, domestically and abroad

by Lt. Col. Tracey L. Hale
137 OGI Chief of Intelligence

On February 13, 2002, President George W. Bush signed the National Security Presidential Directive (NSPD 22), mandating a "zero tolerance" policy toward human trafficking. More specifically the directive stated that no U.S. Armed Forces member, DoD civilian or contractor could take part in any human trafficking act. This directive was to advance the United States government's fight against trafficking, a modern day form of slavery.

Trafficking is defined as actions, often including use of

force, fraud, or coercion, to compel someone into a situation in which he or she will be exploited for sexual purposes, which could include prostitution or pornography, or for labor without compensation, which could include forced or bonded labor.

The United States is committed to ending human trafficking both domestically and abroad. It is a crime.

This information comes from the DoD's Awareness Initiative, which can be found at http://www.dodig.mil/Inspections/IPO/TIP_17JUL2008.pdf.

Personnel Updates

Newcomers:

Staff Sgt. Shane Bohl
 Senior Airman Jacob Hanchett
 Senior Airman Chelsey Lindsey
 Senior Airman Amy Shultz
 Senior Airman Nicole Wasileski
 Airman 1st Class Justin Soucek
 Airman 1st Class Samuel Wilson

Promotions:

Lt. Col. Timothy Fuller
 Master Sgt. Wendy Haggard
 Master Sgt. David Henning
 Tech. Sgt. Gary Elliott
 Tech. Sgt. Gary Hopcus
 Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Martin
 Tech. Sgt. Jimmy McAnally
 Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Reis
 Senior Airman George Conley III

Retirements:

Staff Sgt. Marshall Stafford

Identification Cards

Customer Service offers ID cards weekly, Mon. - Thurs.

Member must provide two forms of unexpired ID: driver's license, passport, voter registration card, birth certificate, or SSAN. State or federal issued ID must have a photo.

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8-10 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m. *Appointments are preferred.*
 Contact MSgt Doug Gingerich at 686-5212 for more information.

2010 Drill Dates

March	6-7
April	10-11
May	1-2
June	5-6
July	24-25
August	14-15
September	11-12

Menu

Saturday (Lunch)

Box Lunches.

Ham or turkey sandwiches with chips and cookies

Sunday (Lunch)

Box Lunches.

Ham or turkey sandwiches with chips and cookies

Christian Worship Services

205th classroom, 10 a.m.

Saturday:

Catholic Mass

Sunday:

Protestant Worship



The National Guard Association of Oklahoma would like to invite you to attend the 53rd Annual Conference and Military Ball on March 26-27, 2010 at the Sheraton Hotel in Oklahoma City, Okla. All events will be held in

the Sheraton Hotel. Only 600 seats will be available, so purchase your tickets early. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS. The cutoff date is March 9, 2010.

The NGAOK Business Meeting will be held on Friday March 26, to be followed by a Costume & Karaoke Dance Party. Prizes will be given away to the top three costumes and karaoke singers. NGAOK would like to ask each MSC/Wing to sponsor one person from your MSC/Wing to compete for first prize in the costume contest and karaoke contest.

If you are a first prize MSC/Wing winner the MSC/Wing will receive one FREE NGAOK membership for an officer and enlisted to hand out at their discretion. You must have a ticket to participate and the winner will be determined by votes.

All members planning to attend any portion of the NGAOK event can complete their registration form online at www.ngaok.org. Registrations can also be mailed to NGAOK 6500 N. Kelley Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73111, or faxed at (405) 475-2183.

Air Force Services launches family fitness web site

by Maj. Belinda Petersen

Air Force Services Agency Public Affairs

In conjunction with the start of the FitFamily initiative, Air Force Services Agency officials launched a family fitness web site as part of the Year of the Air Force Family.

FitFamily is a goal-incentive program and is open to all active duty, Reserve and Guard members, Department of Defense and civilian families, retired military members, honorably discharged veterans with 100 percent service-connected disability, and former or surviving military spouses and their family members.

The FitFamily Web site provides resources, ideas and goal setting tools to help Air Force families be active, make healthy nutrition choices and have fun in an effort to promote overall wellness.

"The FitFamily program is more than just logging points, monitoring progress and earning incentives. It's about families spending quality time together and setting goals with each other," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy, the Air Force's top enlisted Airman. "Developing and caring for Airmen and their families is a top priority. We must continue taking time to care for and honor our commitment to our families."

One benefit to the FitFamily Web site is deployed mem-

bers can still participate with their family by working on their goals at the deployed location. "FitFamily can boost the morale of deployed Airmen by keeping them involved and working towards a common goal with their family," Mr. Brittain said.

"The site will have healthy recipes submitted by Air Force families as well as other resources. The goal of the FitFamily program is for families to begin thinking about family wellness, and ultimately incorporate healthy habits and lifestyles in all aspects of their lives," Mr. Brittain said.

The maximum number of points each family can log per day is 4,000 points. During bonus months (March, May and July), families can earn up to 8,000 points per day. Activities are based on a 60-minute activity guideline as recommended by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Families who reach goals receive incentives ranging from certificates, their family article posted on the FitFamily web site and a signed letter from Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force.

To enroll in the program, families can log on to www.USAFFitFamily.com and click on "Register My Family." The system will send a password to each family member's e-mail.

Census preparation is opportunity to practice OPSEC

by Lt. Col. Tracey L. Hale

137 OGI Chief of Intelligence

Courtesy of Better Business Bureau

Preparation for the 2010 Census is well underway nationwide as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country.

April 1, 2010 is "Census Day" however there is a lot of preparation and marketing that needs to be done between now and then to ensure that everyone is counted.

The Better Business Bureau offers the following advice to protect you and your family:

- Individuals should be cooperative, but cautious, to avoid becoming a victim of fraud or identity theft.
- If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.
- Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to

verify address information. Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census.

- The Census Bureau will not ask for Social Security, bank account or credit card numbers, nor will employees solicit donations. Anyone asking for that information is NOT with the Census Bureau.

- The Census Bureau has decided not to work with Acorn on gathering this information.

- Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail or in person at home. However, the Census Bureau will NOT contact you by e-mail, so be on the lookout for e-mail scams impersonating the Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an e-mail that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

For more advice on avoiding identity theft and fraud, visit www.bbb.org.

Frequently asked questions and other details regarding the 2010 Census can be found at www.census.gov.

Look toward God in the pursuit of happiness



**By Lt. Col. Timothy Fuller
137 ARW Chaplain**

Two hundred and thirty-four years ago the men who wrote our Declaration of Independence wanted to form a country where “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,” could be the building blocks of a new society. Unfortunately, many of us have found the pursuit of happiness and happiness itself are actually two different things. We have the freedom to pursue happiness, but finding it is another thing entirely. It seems many of us are coming up empty much of the time. Whether we are frustrated because we haven’t reached our goals in life or we are frustrated because we can’t do what we want or haven’t got what we want. Maybe we’re drowning in unhappiness in the very midst of all the things we have achieved.

All major religions talk about the importance of happiness, but they also say many people are not finding it because they are looking for it in the wrong places. So what we need to understand and recognize is what we’re really looking for isn’t temporary happiness, but long-term blessedness. Our common definition of happiness is usually tied to external circumstances. Did our team win the game? Did

we receive an unexpected honor? But that kind of happiness is just the artificial “caffeine high” of the human heart; they are not the substantial food of the soul.

The trouble with a happiness tied to externals is it never lasts very long. Often a steep downside is just waiting after the euphoria. Blessedness, however, is long-term well-being. It isn’t tied to external circumstances at all. Blessedness draws its source from the God who offers it. If you want to live a life of joy and contentment that is consistent day in and day out, regardless of what might happen in your life, seek God. Rest in his word. Tie your sense of peace and security and your self-esteem to him who calls you blessed, not in the performance of the stock market or your blood pressure or your social calendar.

If you are settled in your relationship with God, and draw your life from him, you will find those other things gradually lose their power over you. Realize also that blessedness is a gift, not a reward. You don’t possess it. It possesses you. It’s not available for those who think it can be had by hard work or aggressiveness. In fact, that only blocks the path to receiving the blessedness God wants for us. If we think happiness can be found in a pile of riches, lots of food, constant entertainment and a full social calendar, we will probably have little need for God when those are filled.

All God asks of any of us is that we come to him with openness and a willingness to receive. So receive that gift. Allow that truth to transform your desires, your pursuits and your sense of security. As you stop your frantic search and rest in God’s blessedness, you will find that the true happiness you have been looking for so hard in your life has been looking for you all along.

This month in Air National Guard History...

In March 1968, the Military Airlift Command began scheduling regular evacuation flights from Tan Son Nhut, Cam Ranh Bay and Da Nang for patients destined for the United States or Japan. Two distinct aeromedical services emerged within the Pacific theater of operation. They were the Tactical Aeromedical Evacuation System within the Vietnam combat zone serviced by the Pacific Air Force, and the Strategic Aeromedical Evacuation System serving the remainder of the Pacific by the MAC Pacific Aeromedical Evacuation System.

January through August of 1969, an average of almost 11,000 casualties per month were evacuated by MAC. On

March 7, 1969, a record high of 711 patients were moved out of Vietnam by MAC.

As aeromedical operations grew, it became clear that the rate of enlistment among the nurses would have to be accelerated. In 1969, Lt. Col. Bert Walkup, commander of the 137th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, spear-headed Operation Fledgling, which resulted in the enlistment of 22 female flight nurses into the ranks of the Oklahoma Air National Guard.

Information edited from the “50th Anniversary, Oklahoma Air National Guard” yearbook.



Photo by Master Sgt. Roberta A. Thompson

Staff Sgt. Jeremy Umphrey, Tech. Sgt. Stephanie Ritz and Senior Airman Rachelle Belflower, members of the Fatal Search and Recovery team, don their updated and improved protective gear Feb. 6 behind the base dining facility. The FSRT is an Air National Guard capability. The mission of its members is to carry out all reasonable steps necessary to recover and identify individuals of the Air Force and Department of Defense in the event of vehicle mishaps, aircraft mishaps, natural disasters, terrorist attacks and any other incidents resulting in death.

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.”

OKLAHOMA AIR NATIONAL GUARD
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To the family of: