



## Building a new squadron from scratch

By Maj. Ted Theopolos  
445th Public Affairs

In an earth tone metal building surrounded by shrubs, located at Scott AFB, Ill., is the new home of the 775th Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (775 EAES). The building was vacant for some time and now is the home to aeromedical personnel who travel to Scott from around the country to work as a team.

The new squadron stood-up in September and is commanded by Col. Allen Gilbar from the 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. The colonel took a leave of absence to be the new commander at Scott until the end of February to help establish the new squadron.

"This is a tremendously important mission to the families of our soldiers and I am truly fortunate to have the best medical personnel that our nation has to offer to ensure its complete success everyday," Colonel Gilbar said.

Scott is home to the 375th Airlift Wing which supports several different tenants including U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command.

"The 375th Operations Group and 375th AES have provided us every possible assistance to ensure our mission capability," Colonel Gilbar said. "Their commitment to serving patients is evident in the help and truly tremendous support they have provided to the establishment of this new squadron."

What makes this new EAES unique is it's mostly staffed by Air Force aeromedical reservists from



Staff Sgt. Brandy Miller from the 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron checks on medical equipment used for patients on DoD aircraft. The sergeant is deployed to Scott AFB, Ill., to work in medical supply at the new 775th EAES. (U.S. Air Force courtesy photo)

around the country. Individuals are assigned from 60 to 120 days. Each member must be mobility qualified before being assigned to the all volunteer squadron.

"Predictability is the best thing for the squadron," Colonel Gilbar said. "Reservists can predict how long they will be gone and where they will be located. This is not only good for reservists and their families, but also for employers. Employers need to know for their planning also."

The new squadron has two detachments assigned. Det. 1 is on the east coast at Andrews

AFB, Md. Det. 2 is on the west coast at Travis AFB, Calif. The Scott AFB squadron is made up of crews and an aeromedical evacuation operations team along with the command element. Each detachment has a different number of AE crews assigned along with an Aeromedical Evacuation Operations Team (AEOT). Each AE crew consists of two nurses and three medical technicians.

Chief Master Sgt. Miriam Mitchell, an IMA from Buford, Ga., who drills with the 6th

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## Seeing hard times differently

By Chaplain (1st. Lt.) Jonathan Kollmann/445th AW Chaplain

I am going to ask you to do something bold. What I would like you to do is to start seeing your difficult circumstances differently. Many times we are so caught up in our own troubles or unpleasant situations; we miss what God may be teaching us *within* those present conditions. Now please do not misinterpret me. I do not think God purposefully hurls trouble our way saying, "Let's see what Jonathan does with this one, ha ha!" No. I do not believe God is "out to get us."

We know in the midst of life, trouble and pain will come. Unpleasant dilemmas we cannot control rush in front of us and we quickly find we cannot swerve. Sooner or later we know we have to go through it. These situations may be an unexpected deployment, a mistake we made, or finding out someone has deeply hurt us.

Dr. David Osborn once said, "*Too often we try to use God to change our circumstances, while he is using our circumstances to change us.*" I like this quote. It points to positive, solution-focused thinking. It suggests that we can learn deep truths even in those times of personal tribulation. It also shows us that God is in the business of being beside us to guide us and develop us into people of great character.

The Bible says, "*Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope*" (Romans 5: 3-4 NIV, New Testament Bible). The Apostle Paul, the writer of this passage knew first hand when he joyfully persevered through hard times he would change for the better. On the other side of the difficult circumstances he knew he would find unfailing hope and future strength when those rocky times come again. In all things never forget that God deeply cares for you even when he is teaching you.

# ORI preparation

By Brig. Gen. Bruce E. Davis  
445th AW Commander

We have an ORI scheduled for the last weeks of January 2008 or the first weeks of February 2008.



Brig. Gen. Bruce Davis

A few of you have done this before. The rest of you will find out that it is not particularly hard, but you better know what you are supposed to do or the ORI will become a disaster.... I just read about the history of the 445th Air Group flying B24s in WWII. On one particular mission they sent out a formation of 37 airplanes. One guy didn't do his job, no one in the entire formation corrected his mistake even though they noticed it and commented about it and as a result, they were attacked by about 100 German fighters. Only 2 of the original 37 B24s returned to home field. Hopefully, our ORI will insure you can do your job and will create the teamwork necessary so that if you make a mistake, others will catch it and it will not become a disaster.

First, it is not war! Many of you have been to war and the ORI we will go through is not what you have been through. It will be what AMC thinks is the worst possible war you can have. Short response times,

attacks all day long. Chemical and biological environment. I encourage you to pull out your Airman's manual and take a good look at it over the next year. You will have it with you for the ORI and just knowing where the information is that you need may be the difference between a passing grade and a failing grade (in a real war like this, between life and death).

I have appointed my combatant commander for this ORI and it is Col. Mary Henderhan. She is responsible for getting you ready for the ORI. I've also appointed my Combat Air Operations Center (CAOC) chief who is Maj. Alan Kendrick. He is responsible for assimilating all the information about the ORI and coordinating that information from AMC, our ORI partners and from my staff to you, the ORI participant.

I plan to use our best and brightest for the ORI. We will deploy about 500 people or about 1/3 of the wing. If you are chosen to be a participant, you will also have an alternate appointed in case you break a leg, get the flu, get run over by a steamroller. I expect you to train with your alternate as much as possible, so you both know what to do and how to do it.

We will start our exercises on the January UTA. We will get our warning order, run through a recall, pack our equipment and be ready to deploy. 1/3 of the participants will play in the first exercise in January's Scarlet UTA, 1/3 in February's Gray UTA and 1/3 in

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## Buckeye Flyer 445th Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve Command)

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March's Scarlet UTA. After we get the warning order, we will get a mobilization order, telling us what UTCs are needed for the war. Then an Air Operations Order telling us how to move you to the Forward Operating Location or FOL. Next comes the execute order that tells us to do everything. Finally we will get the spins which include the rules of engagement and the intel for what we can expect when we get there.

The staff will determine what order everyone goes in (typically called the TPPFD at the Air Staff). The equipment you will need will go to a marshalling yard to be inspected, weighed and put in the order that it will go on the airplanes.

You warriors will show up at your unit at the beginning of the UTA, gather your training and deployment folders and be bussed over to the deployment line, supply for chem. Equipment, or the armory to pick up your gun. You will sit down to get your briefings and finally be bussed out to the airplane. The airplane will take off, fly around and land and you will simulate that you are now in the FOL with gun, chemical gear and your personal bag ready to do your job. For the January exercise, we will deploy the ADVON team or the folks that I want at the FOL to greet the rest of you. In February, we will fly chalk one and in March we will fly chalk 2. Training will concentrate on getting your chem gear on (there is a time limit before you die), what to do if attacked, and how to set up different sectors should

there be unexploded ordinance or should you be in a chemical environment.

You will only practice on one of those UTAs. On the other two, I expect you to get your training, (chem., guns, physicals). I want you to work on your 623s, get your predeployment checklist ready, and get your personal duffle bag ready. Concentrate on how your airman's manual is laid out and you may want to tab some of the pages.

In April, May and June, we will do it all again, practicing a different part of the ORI.

Then in late July or early August we will have directed Annual Tour and UTA so that

we can have a fly away practice at Volk Field. The reason we chose Volk is that no one who has ever practiced at Volk has ever busted an ORI. This fly away will be the exercise for July, August and September. Then in October, I will again have directed Annual Tour combined with the UTA for a readiness assistance visit from 4th Air Force and they will watch us practice for the ORI (this practice will be at Gulfport MS, our probable site for the ORI). They will declare that we are ready to AMC. November, December and January will be spent fixing any of the items that 4th AF finds wrong.

On February 3 through February 10, we will take our ORI with March ARB's tankers and C17s. When it is all over, you will know that you can survive the worst possible scenario that our country can dream up and you will show AMC that this wing is a highly capable force ready to take on the tasks of our nation.

**New Squadron****Continued from cover**

Medical Group at MacDill AFB Hospital in Tampa, Fla., joined the squadron for three months. "It will be my job to keep the commander informed of all the personnel and where they're located."

Scott will have 29 people assigned which include AE crews, AEOT personnel and the command element.

"The stand-up happened to coincide with AEF rotation three and four," Maj. Michael Ayres said from 94th AES at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga. The major is assigned as the squadron's director of operations.

"One of our initiatives is to be able to transport patients that can travel to their home base or close to it within two-days after

arriving back from overseas," Major Ayers said. "We have about six flights a week to do this."

Staff Sgt. Brandy Miller from the 445th AES will work as medical logistic supply. "I order supplies for the medical aircrew and take care of their in-flight kits," Sergeant Miller said. "I have to get the money for the supplies first and then order the equipment and ensure all are up to date by Air Force standards. I also travel to the detachments to visit other "logies" to see how they're doing."

This is the second voluntary tour for Sergeant Miller. She did 120 days at Ramstein Air Base, Germany doing the same type duties. "This is great experience starting from scratch," Sergeant Miller said.

"Every member assigned is a highly trained health care professional in their civilian community and the Air Force Reserve or active



Col. Allen Gilbar stands in front of the new home of the new 775th EAES he helped stand-up. (U.S. Air Force photo/Maj. Ted Theopolos)

duty Air Force," Colonel Gilbar said. "Every member has volunteered to serve their nation to accomplish any mission required 24 hours a day 7 days a week."

# The Veteran Connection

## Could be a life changing experience

By Tech. Sgt. Charlie Miller  
445th Public Affairs

The main dining facility at the Veterans Administration Nursing Home on Gettysburg Drive in Dayton came alive Dec. 9. The young and the old, the uniformed and formerly uniformed along with two talented military musicians, all got together for a delightful holiday lunchtime party.

This is an event I always volunteer to cover for the Buckeye Flyer. My boss has to pry me away from the assignment. Yes, at the party there's a ton of good food, wonderful live music and dozens of brightly wrapped gifts, but for me the real attraction is hanging out with the veterans.

Over the years, I've met and talked with men and women of all ages and from all branches of the military that live there. Some have friends and family that visit, call or write. Other residents have literally no one. Somehow, somehow, my walking up to them in my uniform stirs something in both of us. Turns out that we both serve or served proudly.

"This lifts the veteran's spirits up," said resident and Army veteran Danny Sanford. "Some of us here don't have family and we appreciate this party."

Some of the veterans were physically unable to attend the party in the main dining facility so many of the volunteers took the party to the wards.

"It's wonderful going into their rooms and spreading joy and cheer," said Senior Master Sgt. George Broome, 88th Medical Group Resource Management Superintendent and Vice President of the Air Force Sergeants Association, Kitty-



Veteran resident Walter Shelhorn talks to Master Sgt. Jim Foy (left) and Senior Master Sgt. Mike Brimmer. (U.S. Air Force photos/Maj. Jose Cardenas)

Hawk Chapter. "We have to give it back, pay it back."

The AFSA once again led the way sponsoring the 12th annual party for the residents and patients at the VA center. About 25 AFSA members from Wright-Patterson, some with their spouses and children, some students from the Air Force Institute of Technology and a group Air Force reservists from the 445th Airlift Wing served food and good cheer to the veterans.

"It's a time to give and not receive," said Senior Master Sgt. Matt Preissler, an Air Force Institute of Technology staff member. "I just got back from six months in Iraq at the end of September but this is all about helping people out, that's what it comes down to."

Air Force reservists from the 445th, now in year 12 of participating, visited with the veterans, helping them get their lunch

and taking food to the veterans in their rooms that could not come to the party in the main dining facility.

Tech. Sgt. Steve Adams, 445th Civil Engineer Squadron, was, for the 7th year in a row, volunteering his barbering skills giving free haircuts to the residents. Sergeant Adams is part of a family hair care business located just outside Dayton in Northridge. One of the employees from his barbershop also cut hair for the veterans.

"Once you start doing something you realize that you get a lot more than you give," Sergeant Adams said. "This makes my holiday season. I look forward to this every year; it's my way of giving back to the veterans."

The AFSA has been sponsoring this party, a summer picnic, and other events at VA centers locally and around the



Tech. Sgt. Steve Adams, 445th Civil Engineer Squadron, cuts the hair of Air Force and Bay of Pigs Invasion veteran Ron Corron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Charlie Miller)



Col. Mary Henderhan, 445th Mission Support Group commander, helps veteran resident Howard Roberts.



Master Sgt. Cynthia Holland from the 445th Airlift Wing Headquarters talks with veteran resident Walter Hulus Hatch.

country for years now. Not a small task, or a cheap one, for that matter. I know the VFW nationally visits hundreds if not thousands of veterans and other organizations also have outreach programs in place.

"These are the true people who served before us," said Staff Sgt. Jennifer Keyes, an AFIT staff member. "It's an honor to be here, to learn about their past time in the military."

Master Sgt. Henry Harlow, 445th Maintenance Squadron, routinely told the veterans in years past that he was there to visit them and "to see where I'm going to be living" in the future. Needless to say, the vets always

got a kick out of Sergeant Harlow's line.

"Being here gives me a sense of giving," said Senior Airman Verna Sasao, a bioenvironmental technician with the 88th Aerospace Medicine Squadron. "They used to do what you do now."

"Systems Go," the light jazz duo from the Air Force Band of Flight, played holiday favorites and smooth jazz tunes. Their music set a comfortable and festive mood for the party.

For me, it's hard to visualize just what some of the guys went through. I love to hear their war stories, but for a traditional reservist such as myself, I can't really put myself in their shoes as

much as I try. And while it's easy, almost automatic actually, to say to the veterans "Happy Holidays" or "Merry Christmas" to say a real heart-felt and honest "thanks for serving", that's a different animal.

87th Aerial Port member Tech. Sgt. David Woods said that for him the party was a history lesson, learning where these folks have been and where they served. Sergeant Woods suggested that everyone in the wing should do this at least once. He was dead on, 100 percent correct. Next December, or at the summer picnic, come out and connect with the veterans. It could just be a life changing experience. It has been for me.

# Recruiters bring home national award

By 604th Reserve Recruiting Flight

**F**or the first time in the history of Wright-Patterson AFB, the 445th Airlift Wing was recognized with the “Outstanding Team Achievement Award” presented to the No. 1 operating location in Air Force Reserve Command at the command’s annual recruiting conference and awards banquet Nov. 3 in Washington, D.C.

The 445th Airlift Wing achieved this award by recruiting at 151 percent of the assigned goal.

The banquet spotlighted the many accomplishments during fiscal year 2006, achieved by members of the AFRC recruiters stationed worldwide.

In an unprecedented occurrence, every member of Team Wright-Patt walked away with individual honors or awards.

— Senior Master Sgt. Steve Perrault was selected as the most valuable senior recruiter for 604th Reserve Recruiting Flight.

— Master Sgt. David Drake was awarded with the top in-service recruiter award for both the reserve command and 604th RRF for achieving 206 percent of his assigned goal. He was also selected as the top individual mobilization augmentee recruiter for both the reserve command and 604th RRF,



Tech. Sgt. Doug Vaughan sits at his desk with the Outstanding Team Achievement Award displayed on the corner of his desk. (U.S. Air Force photo/Maj. Jose Cardenas)

selected as a member of the “Century Club,” the oldest and most coveted individual award in AFRC, for achieving 150 percent or better of assigned goal. He also received the 110 percent award.

— Master Sgt. Doug Vaughan was recognized as the top lead recruiter for 604th RRF for achieving 169 percent of his assigned goal, top lead recruiter silver award for reserve command, most valuable player for 604th RRF and received the 110 percent award, the fifth of his career as well as the award for superior achievement.

— Master Sgt. Tony Stillwell received the top non-prior service award for the 604th RRF. This was the second year in a row that Sergeant Stillwell received this honor. He also received the award for superior achievement, and the 110 percent award.

Tech. Sgt. Yvette Larson

was recognized as the rising star for 604th RRF.

— Master Sgt. Joe Principata and Tech. Sgts. Brian Burgin and Veronica White also received the 110 percent award.

— Staff Sgt. Todd Cook, noncommissioned officer in charge of employment at the 445th MSF, was also chosen to receive the personnel award for outstanding support to Air Force Reserve Recruiting Service.

“It was an outstanding job by Senior Master Sgt. Perrault and his staff of recruiters,” said Col. Brian Dominguez, the 445th AW vice commander who attended the award ceremony. “Their unbridled enthusiasm and energy resulted in a highly successful program. It was an honor to represent the 445th AW at this prestigious banquet.”

“It could not have gone any better,” Sergeant Drake said. “Every member of our team walked on stage and was recognized as the best team of recruiters in the world. We could not have done it without the support of folks like the 445th Military Personnel Flight, the 88th MPF and base Individual Mobilization Augmentee administrators and their program managers.”

The success that the recruiters achieved this year does not come without a price.

“I gave up a lot of evenings and weekends,” Sergeant Burgin said. “I am thankful that I have such a great family who understands how important my job is. They love the Air Force as much as I do and understand that it takes some extra time to find the right person for the right job.”

“We’re the best recruiting team in the Air Force Reserve,” Sergeant Drake said. “We proved that. We showed that we definitely have the ‘Wright’ stuff.”

## Air Force selects new C-5 ISO inspection sites

**A**ir Mobility Command and Air Force Reserve Command announced two sites selected for future C-5 cargo aircraft isochronal inspections (ISO).

The sites are Dover Air Force Base, Del., and Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass. According to AMC officials, these bases were selected because of facilities, maintenance support, base support, manpower requirements, and other supporting data. A third site, at an Air National Guard base, will be announced at a later date.

According to AMC officials, the Air Force is reducing C-5 ISO inspection sites from eight to three to increase the availability of C-5 aircraft and reduce supporting costs.

"C-5 availability will increase due to centrally scheduling the inspection from a fleet-wide perspective and reducing flow days (the number of days it takes to complete one C-5 ISO inspection) to a consistent number across the fleet," said Brig. Gen. Robert McMahon, AMC Director of Logistics.

According to AMC officials, this reduction in waiting time

will add an estimated average of 2.5 availability days to every C-5 in the fleet, which equates to about 300 more sorties per year, or 10,000 pallets.

AFRC officials also discussed affected reservists at the two AFRC C-5 ISO sites that were not selected for consolidation.

"We anticipate being able to realign affected reservists at Wright-Patterson AFB (Ohio) and Lackland AFB (Texas) into vacant positions," said Brig. Gen. Elizabeth A. Grote, AFRC director of logistics, Robins AFB, Ga.

"The impact on maintenance of not winning the C-5 ISO will be absorbed by the unit with minor personnel changes," said Col. Robert Hunter, commander of the 445th Maintenance Group. "We'll lose approximately 16 civilian ART slots and eight reserve billets. We have some openings with other maintenance areas and with projected calendar year 2007 retirements, we won't have to do a reduction in force." He also mentioned that some crew chief Air Reserve Technicians will be offered the opportunity to retrain into other maintenance disciplines.

AMC officials said in addition to increasing efficiency by streamlining the ISO inspection process, consolidating the inspection sites will save on manpower and resource requirements. *(AFRC news release localized)*

## News Briefs

### Sesame Street DVD

Free Sesame Street DVD kit for parents who are deploying that have kids ages



3-5 years old. You can pick-up one in the public affairs office Monday thru Friday 8:00-4:00.

The kit is designed to help military families with children cope with feelings, challenges and concerns experienced during various phases of deployment.

### USO needs volunteers

If you would like to volunteer for the USO visitors information center at Dayton Int. Airport for the upcoming quarter, please give Master Sgt. Izell Thomas a call at 257-0306. Dates below need to be filled. Times are 12:00 to 4:00 on the third Saturday of the Month: Jan. 20, Feb 17, and March 17, 2007.

## Promotions

*Congratulations to the following reservists recently promoted to the rank indicated.*



### Senior Master Sergeant

Pamela Brocklehurst, 89 AS  
Lisa Rodriguez, 445 MXS  
David Valentine, 445 MXS



### Second Lieutenant

Sean Donelan, 87 APS  
Jason Vance, 87 APS

## Awards

*Congratulations to the following 445th AW member who recently earned an award.*

### Meritorious Service Medal

TSgt Rickie Waldeck, 445 LRS

## 445th Wing Chapel exists for all members

Maj. (Chaplain) Bill Dickens welcomes reservists to the new Wing Chapel located in building 4010 during the Scarlet UTA in December. Chapel Services are held on Sundays during the UTAs at 8:30 a.m. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Doug Moore)





Senior Airman Steven Mauter

Master Sgt. Kathrine Barnes

Master Sgt. Scott Luff

Senior Master Sgt. Michael Brimmer

## Airman of the Year

Senior Airman Steven Mauter

Airman Steven D. Mauter is assigned to the 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. Airman Mauter achieved academic excellence by passing the National Registry Emergency Medical Technician Course-Intermediate. He voluntarily deployed to Andrews AFB, Md., for 120 day tour. As an aeromedical evacuation crewmember, he flew on more than 50 sorties. Airman Mauter also assisted with renovation of the squadron morale room saving the Air Force hundreds of dollars. He is also an active participant in the Boy Scouts of America as an Assistant Scoutmaster.

## NCO of the Year

Master Sgt. Kathrine Barnes

Master Sgt. Kathrine L. Barnes is assigned to the 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron. She has aggressively engineered remedies for chronic administrative issues with programs now at 100 percent. As a trainer she quickly developed training plans recovering eight months of lost time. During her annual tour at Ramstein AB, Germany she supported more than 60 members coordinating travel, billeting and logistics enabling assigned personnel to accomplish 100 percent of their assigned mission. Sergeant Barnes volunteers as a driver for the Airmen Against Drunk Drivers at the base and works with the elderly at the Senior Independent Community assisting with home health care.

## Senior NCO of the Year

Master Sgt. Scott Luff

Master Scott A. Luff is assigned to the 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron as an instructor. The sergeant has volunteered for numerous deployments both overseas and stateside where he did a one-year activation at Andrews AFB Md. Sgt. Luff flew stateside missions evacuating over 50 patients. On short notice Sgt. Luff volunteered to provide support for numerous aeromedical missions dedicated to the safe and timely operation support of more than 500 Hurricane Katrina and Rita evacuees. The sergeant is a strong supporter of the Air Force enlisted community and is a member of AFSA.

## First Sergeant of the Year

Senior Master Sgt. Michael Brimmer

Senior Master Sgt. Michael D. Brimmer is assigned to the 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron as their First Sergeant. He oversees 220 enlisted personnel assigned. The sergeant stood-up the squadron Unit Advisory Council and drafted its charter. He revitalized the unit administration and computer section to be more customer oriented which greatly enhanced the mission accomplishments. Sergeant Brimmer deployed to Balad AB, Iraq as First Sergeant for the 170 personnel assign to the 332nd ESFS. He is a Fisher Nightingale House executive board member and is the wing coordinator for the annual Thanksgiving baskets and the Adopt a Family program.



Happy New Year

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