



City of Fairborn flies high on a C-5



Brig. Gen. Bruce Davis, 445th Airlift Wing commander, along with Fairborn Mayor Thomas Nagel, pull the string to unveil the emblem of the "City of Fairborn" on one of the wing's C-5 Galaxy aircraft. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Senior Airman Ken LaRock)

By Tech. Sgt. Charlie Miller
445th Public Affairs

In recognition of the City of Fairborn's rich history supporting the military community at Wright-Patterson and promoting aviation, the 445th Airlift Wing officially dedicated a C-5 Galaxy to the City of Fairborn Oct. 29, 2007. The flightline ceremony was held under a brilliant sky that, fittingly, was crystal clear.

With approval from the Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force, 445th Airlift Wing commander Brig. Gen. Bruce Davis and Fairborn Mayor Thomas Nagel dedicated aircraft 70-0457, the "City of Fairborn – First Schoolhouse of Aviation."

"It took two years and 23 days, but who's count-

ing," the general quipped about the process for the dedication.

The huge cargo plane's nose art (a painting or design on the nose of the aircraft) proudly displays a large red map of Ohio with the city's name and star marking its location. Accompanying the map is a drawing of the Wright brother's airplane and the words "First Schoolhouse of Aviation." Together the general and the mayor pulled a string that dropped a tarp to reveal the nose art.

"This is the home of firsts," said Amanda Wright-Lane, great grand niece of the Wright brothers about Wright-Patt. "It's my honor to be here to congratulate both the 445th and the City of Fairborn."

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Searching for Meaning

By Chaplain, Maj., Bill Dickens
445th Airlift Wing Chaplain

For many of us as we look back on 2007, it was a year of searching. We searched for the cheapest gas, lowest interest rate, closest parking space or best deal. Even in the weightier things of life, we searched for meaning, for purpose, for fulfillment. Often, because of our own bad choices, we searched for forgiveness and reconciliation.

I believe God has "hard-wired" us as "searchers" or "seekers." Numerous times in the New Testament people came to Jesus seeking answers to their questions. When they were truly seeking answers, He never turned them away. God never rebukes us for searching. We get into trouble when we quit short of truly finding what we are looking for. The "Rich Young Ruler" in Matthew 19 was seeking eternal life and "he went away sad," because he refused to listen to Jesus.

Let us be like the merchant in Matthew 13 when he found the most valuable pearl, he sold all he had so he could obtain it. As you search for meaning, forgiveness, purpose and eternal life, make sure you turn to your Creator for the answers.

I hope you experience a wonderful holiday season.



Maj. Bill Dickens

Looking back and ahead

By Chief Master Sgt. Aaron Mouser
445th Airlift Wing Command Chief

Another year is almost done and we have had a lot going on with many changes along the way.

Who remembers when General Davis told us in were going to start ORI training in Dec. 06? Remember that? He said it would take us a year to gear up for the ORI and it would be tough but we would be ready. We took that vision and are almost there with just four UTAs left until February and the start of the ORI. We were moderately successful at Volk Field and made adjustments for our ORE at Gulfport. With additional successes at Gulfport we are making minor adjustments. One point to note is on the combined exercises, 12 days of flying operations, maintenance folks provided **100 percent** of tasked mission aircraft—to the tune of 71 missions!

What an outstanding accomplishment that has probably never happened in the history of the C5A or B. Maintenance could not have done this without the combined efforts of all units being prepared and successful with their mission requirements.



We are fine tuning this well-oiled machine we call the 445th Airlift Wing for a successful 802 AEW ORI. The outcome of the ORI will be our stamp from AMC that we are fully capable and combat ready to perform our mission worldwide. Any Time, Any Place! Makes you want to push out your chest and scream HOAAH!

I need to mention two new programs coming on line that we need to engage in as we continue through the ORI and beyond; AFSO 21 (Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century). This is a process improvement principle the Air Force is implementing with an end result of saving man-hours. This is a look at the "we've always done it this way" mindset. AFRC is starting implementation of the AFSO21 process.

Next is OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP); a concept that promotes effective worksite-based safety and health through a cultural change within the work force. VPP compliments the environment, safety, and occupational health management system. Wright-Patt, to include the wing, is scheduled for an inspection by OSHA of our VPP processes and hopefully we can become certified in early fall of 2008. This has started and is headed up by the 445th Safety Office. It is the future of safety in the Air Force.

Thank you for all you do each day for this great nation we call America. One Air Force Same Fight - An Unrivaled Wingman.

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

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City of Fairborn

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Wright-Lane, one of the honored guests, spoke about the flying exhibition team her great uncles operated in 1910 just a short way from the ceremony's location. It was her great uncles first time setting up a team of acrobatic pilots.

It was a day of firsts. The wing dedicated the first of its C-5 Galaxy aircraft to arrive at Wright-Patterson AFB; and for the first time, a direct relative of Orville and Wilbur Wright visited the 445th Airlift Wing and boarded a C-5.

Mr. Nagel, an Air Force retiree, addressed the crowd about how he approached Gen. Davis on the idea of naming a plane for Fairborn.

"The general said 'Let's do it' and today, we do it," the mayor said. "We are very proud of these citizen airmen." The mayor said there is only one city named Fairborn in the world and with the plane bearing that unique name "Fairborn will be transported to many locations."

The 445th, with its global mission, frequently flies to Germany and many other countries so the nose art will be seen, literally, around the world.

The idea for a plane dedication came from Mr. John Dalton and Mayor Nagel.

"This is an aviation town," said Fairborn Area Chamber of Commerce executive director John Dalton, also an Air Force Retiree. "It's appropriate to have this done." The city is the home of dozens of active duty, reserve and retired Air Force members

Dalton said that photographs of the plane and its nose art will be prominently placed on the Chambers website and in their marketing brochures.

"We need to give credit to General Davis for allowing this and helping this dedication to happen," Dalton said. "We were sending correspondence in to the Air Force, writing proposals; it took about two years."

The 445th has ten C-5 cargo planes based at Wright-Patt. The newly dedicated plane was parked close to Building 4006, the 445th's new home of the 89th Airlift Squadron.



(Left to right) Brig. Gen. Bruce Davis, 445th Airlift Wing commander, Fairborn Mayor Thomas Nagel, Mrs. Amanda Wright-Lane, great grand niece of Wright Brothers, and Mr. John Dalton, Fairborn Chamber of Commerce, pose in front of the "City of Fairborn" emblem on a C-5. (U.S. Air Force Photos/Senior Airman Ken LaRock)



The 445th Airlift Wing Honor Guard presents the colors during the C-5 "City of Fairborn" Dedication Ceremony Oct. 29.

Amanda Wright-Lane, great grand niece of Orville and Wilbur Wright addresses the crowd at the C-5 "City of Fairborn" Dedication Ceremony.



Col. Colleen Ryan, 88th Air Base Wing commander, interacts with participants of the C-5 Dedication Ceremony at the 445th Airlift Wing flightline.

Four careers and counting

By Tech. Sgt. Charlie Miller
445th Public Affairs

Tech. Sgt. Julie Meintel is history. No joke! Sergeant Meintel is one of the 445th Airlift Wing Historians. Plus, she's a history major at the University of Cincinnati, so I guess you could say she's *really* history.

It wasn't always history for the sergeant; her current assignment is actually her fourth AFSC.

"I didn't think I would even cross train once but you never know what's going to happen. I have cross trained for the last time," she said while holding up both hands, palms forward, as if to indicate 'stop'.

Sergeant Meintel started her military career in 1991 with the 907th at Rickenbacker Air Force Base, near Columbus, Ohio, in the Command Post as a controller. She spent five years in that career field describing it as challenging and interesting.

"At Rickenbacker, the command post was in an upstairs office with the flying squadron occupying the first floor so I had many chances to talk to the aircrews. The flying world seemed kind of inaccessible, but it wasn't. The aircrews told me about the exciting missions they had and traveling around the world so I cross trained and got my wings in 1995 as a C-141 loadmaster."

While with the 356th Airlift Squadron, where she spent six years, the sergeant met her future husband, Matt, a C-130 pilot.

"My first supervisor in the command post, Senior Master Sgt. Craig Judd, told me early on 'Whatever you do, don't date the pilots.' Clearly, I didn't listen." The couple has been married over 11 years and have three children together.

The strains of having very young children and a husband who was a civilian and military pilot helped Sergeant Meintel make her third career move.

"I lucked into a ground job. Things just fell into place."

With the babies and her husband flying a lot with Delta and the 445th, becoming an aviation resource manager with the 356th was a perfect match.

"It kept me near all my friends, the flyers, but I didn't have to fly."

After three years there and 14 years total work in and around flying squadrons, Sergeant Meintel switched careers once again.

"The rumors were that, with the C-5s coming, jobs would be changing and mine might go away."



Tech. Sgt. Julie Meintel, 445th Airlift Wing History Office, dives in and organizes the office. Sergeant Meintel cross trained into the history office making it her fourth career move. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Tech. Sgt. Charlie Miller)

Master Sgt. Jane Gram was the 445th historian and was getting ready to retire. I had the additional duty at the 356th to write the squadron history and talked to her all the time. She suggested that I cross train."

She did and does not regret her fourth Air Force career.

"It's turned out to be better than I thought."

But wait! There's more! Well, maybe. Sergeant Meintel is a published author having more than 20 articles printed in *Mobility Forum* magazine, the official publication of the Air Mobility Command. Certainly, she loves to write.

"I have an idea percolating for a novel."

Maybe she'll have time for the novel between the three children, her husband, the term papers at college, the Operational Readiness Inspection and all the historian duties.

NEW DIGS

By Tech. Sgt. Charlie Miller
445th Public Affairs

The distinctive smell of new carpet meets you at the door. Inside, the paint is fresh, the floor tiles shine brightly and ample lighting floods the rooms and hallways. It's the new multi-million dollar home for the 89th Airlift Squadron, Intel and Life Support.

"They definitely spent some big bucks," said 445th Life Support member Tech. Sgt. Maurice Upshaw.

That they did; the new building cost over 5 million dollars. But it's a large building with 23,819 square feet of work space with closer access to the flightline. No longer will aircrews have to drive all the way from the loading dock of building 4014 to the flightline.

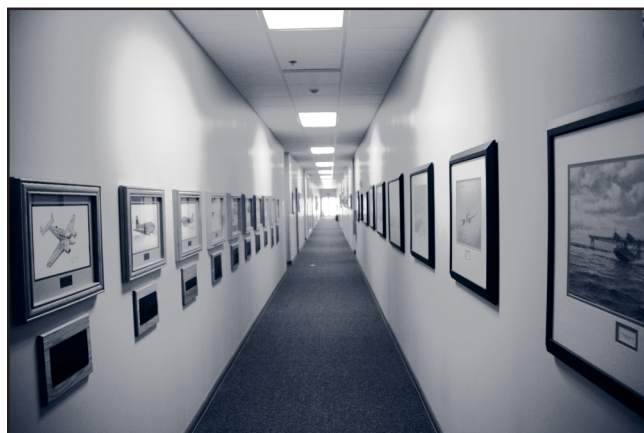
Once inside the new building, one can easily ascertain that the moving in process is well under way. There are some offices still being squared away, some storage areas still being organized, pretty much what you'd expect if dozens of Airmen packed up all their work gear and relocated.

"We are blessed," Sergeant Upshaw said. "We could be working out of tents. It's a nice set of facilities. Anything new is an improvement."

A member of the wing Intel office said that the new building is an improvement over 4014 and



Tech. Sgt. Maurice Upshaw, 445th Life Support Specialist, looks over equipment in his section inside the new building home to the 89th Airlift Squadron, 445th Airlift Wing Intel and Life Support. (U.S. Air Force Photos/Tech. Sgt. Charlie Miller)



Pictures are displayed throughout the hallways inside the new building. The building has 23,819 square feet of work space.

that he was happy with the new digs.

The interior of the new building includes some upgrades over the facilities at 4014. There are amenities to improve work efficiency, but not a lot of luxuries. Modern training areas, an auditorium, brighter class rooms and new furniture are a few of the improvements. The designers thought about the future, too. There is a decent amount of room for growth.

The finishing touch for the new building is the spacious 162-

space parking lot.

Aside from the new building for the 89th, Intel and Life Support, most 445th members have observed construction on the huge C-5 hangars and the other improvements that are under way. All the building is mission driven. The projects directly affect the wing's war time capabilities. When all the projects are completed, the wing will be able to enjoy over 60 million dollars worth of capital improvements.

Driven by technology, vPC-GR adding 'Dashboard'

By Senior Master Sgt. Kelly Mazezka
Air Reserve Personnel Center Public Affairs

An enhancement to the virtual Personnel Center - Guard and Reserve scheduled to launch in December will put Air National Guard and Reserve Airmen in the driver's seat of their personnel transactions.

The new vPC-GR Dashboard will streamline the way all Airmen manage their vPC-GR account profiles, submit new requests, check the status and coordinate on existing transactions.

"We're trying to make vPC-GR more efficient for everyone," said Lt. Col. Doug Ottinger, director of the Air Reserve Personnel Center's directorate of future operations and integration. "The Dashboard will allow you to complete all your coordination actions at once, with one log on."

Since 2006, vPC-GR has enabled more than 25,000 online transactions for retirements and decorations, to route through coordinators, reviewers or approving officials. In the past, coordinators would receive an e-mail for every transaction requiring their review and have to log in and log out for each.

The Dashboard, on the other hand, enables the coordinators, reviewers and approving officials to

process a transaction, monitor its progress, attach related documents, develop reports and initiate any additional transactions under one logon.

When an Airman sets up their vPC-GR account profile, the system will default to send a notification e-mail to the member when he or she has pending actions. Airmen who would rather not receive the e-mail notification can uncheck the appropriate box. Airmen who choose this option are responsible to check their Dashboard frequently for pending actions.

Another Dashboard feature allows specific Airmen to eliminate processing delays by delegating their responsibility or role to another member within their organization. If a primary member has delegated his or her role to another, it cannot be further delegated to someone else. The primary can release the delegated role by designating an expiration date or deleting it upon return to duty.

The Dashboard structure will affect coordination on existing vPC-GR retirements, and awards and decorations applications. Information about these changes and future applications can be found on the Air Reserve Personnel Center, Personnel Services Delivery Transformation page.a. (ARPC News Release)

Hot food for a good cause

Chili Cook-Off for CFC

The last day for the month of October was the Chili Cook-Off for the 445th Airlift Wing. The cook-off has been a staple event each year to raise money for the Combined Federal Campaign. Thirteen crock pots of chili was entered in the contest.

This year's winners were Tech. Sgt. Claire McDonald from 445th Maintenance Operations Flight; second place was won by Mr. Joe Tharp from 445th Finance Management; and third place was won by Master Sgt. Walter Bennett from 445th Security Forces Squadron.

Each of the winners won a \$25 gift certificate from Mimi's Cafe and a T-shirt. The total raised from the cook-off was \$335. The wing's goal for CFC is \$12,000. (445th AW/PA news story)

Judges (left to right) Brig. Gen. Bruce Davis, 445th Airlift Wing commander, Col. Anna Schulte, 445th Maintenance Group commander, and Col. Roger Gallet, 445th Operations Group commander, taste test and score different chilis during the wing's Chili Cook-Off for CFC. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Maj. Ted Theopolos)



Promotions

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



Senior Airman

Tameka Delcastillo, 445 AMDS
Robert Gibson, 445 MXS
Ashley Holcombe, 445 ASTS
Kortnee Widup, 445 OSS
Eddie Mulkey, 445 AES
Daniel Smith, 445 MXS
Mark Vickers, 445 AES
Marshae White, 445 ASTS



Staff Sergeant

Christopher Bridewell, 445 MOF
Cassandra Casul, 445 ASTS
Benjamin Fryman, 89 AS
Candice Green, 445 ASTS
Michael Harrington, 445 AMXS
Ricardo Mamuyac, 445 ASTS
Michael Pedraza, 445 CES
Mark Rauch, 445 CES

Adanna Roberts, 445 ASTS
Scott Schaffner, 89 AS
Leah Smith, 445 LRS



Technical Sergeant

Angela Beall, 445 SVF
Annamaria Davis, 445 MSF
Caroline McIntier, 445 OSS
David Miller, 445 CES
Timothy Osborne, 445 AMXS
Lisa Tyner, 445 AES



Master Sergeant

Bryan Bohn, 445 AW



Senior Master Sergeant

Timothy Emberton, 445 MOF
Garry Merrill, 445 MOF
Jon Nicholas, 445 ALCF

Newcomers

Welcome to the following reservists, recently assigned to the 445 AW:

TSgt Colin Boyer, 445 MXS
TSgt Allen Hall, 445 AMXS
SSgt Andrew Dipzinski, 445 CES
SSgt Oscar Handshoe, Jr., 445 AES
SSgt Sonny Hernandez, 445 SFS
SSgt Leif Olson, 445 MXS
SSgt Teresa Saunders, 87 APS

SSgt William Scott, 445 MSF
SSgt Robert Watson, 445 MXS
A1C Jason Gardiner, 87 APS
A1C Russ Hernandez, 87 APS
A1C Eric Ruth, 445 OSS
A1C Adam Sechrest, 445 ASTS
SrA George Goff, 445 MXS
AB Phillip Lett, 445 AMXS
AB Kyle Settles, 445 MXS

Awards

Congratulations to the following 445 AW members who recently earned an award.

Meritorious Service Medal

Lt Col Oliver Loyd, 445 ASTS
Maj William Dickens, 445 AW
MSgt Billy Pollard, 89 AS
MSgt Karl Reeves, 445 MXS
MSgt Patricia Watson, 445 MXS
MSgt Joseph Sellers, 445 MXS
TSgt Lawrence Deiters, 445 MXS
TSgt Michael Ferguson, 445 AMXS
TSgt James Siders, 445 AMXS

Air Force Commendation Medal

SSgt Beth Howard, 445 ASTS
SSgt Letroy Mays, 445 AMDS

Air Force Achievement Medal

SSgt Casey Collard, 445 ASTS



Security checks I.D.s but no longer vehicle decals

Security Forces Specialist Tech. Sgt. James Barnes from the 445th Security Force Squadron checks I.D.s as reservists drive up to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Gate 26C while the C-5 is present in the background. Sergeant Barnes checks for seatbelt usage as well, but is no longer required to check for vehicle decals. Keep in mind, talking on a cell phone requires a hands free device while driving on base. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Senior Airman Ken LaRock)

News Briefs

VA Christmas Party



The annual Dayton Veterans Nursing Home Christmas Party is scheduled

Dec. 8, 2007. For the party Master Sgt. Henry Harlow will be collecting donations for the veterans needs. These items range from socks to toothbrushes. For a complete list or for more information contact Sergeant Harlow at 257-3784.



Toys For Tots

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program for Christmas is now

underway. Let's ensure our most valued assets, our children, have a great Christmas. Bring your new and unwrapped toys to a drop off container located throughout the 445th Airlift Wing or contact your First Sergeant. For more information contact Chief Master Sgt. Aaron Mouser, 937-271-7955 or Senior Master Sgt. Brimmer at 937-360-3568. Thanks in advance and have a Merry Christmas!



Above, Brig. Gen. Bruce Davis, 445th Airlift Wing commander serves a hot sandwich to Airman First Class Eddie Sanchez, 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, at the Pitsenbarger Dining Facility Nov. 4. Left, Maj. Michael Brandenburg, 445th Communications Flight commander hands a plate of food to reservists during the scarlet UTA. (U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Ken LaRock)

Wing leaders serve good food to Airmen

By Maj. Ted Theopolos
445th Public Affairs

Commanders and First Sergeants served up lunch at the Pitsenbarger Dining facility during the scarlet UTA Nov. 4.

The wing's top brass served up roast turkey, roast beef, baked ham, shrimp cocktail, French Onion Soup and hot sandwiches.

"This is something that the

wings commanders and first sergeants have traditionally done during the months of November and December for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season." said Chief Master Sgt. Aaron Mouser, command chief.

"I think it's a good way for the Airmen in our units to see our senior leadership in a service mode and it's a small way we can serve them in return for their service."

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