

BUCKEYE FLYER

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Tech. Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

Thirteen members of the 445th Airlift Wing recite the Oath of Enlistment at a mass re-enlistment ceremony July 16, 2017 during the unit training assembly. Capt. Linda Reed, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, administered the oath. The event was planned by wing career advisors and recruiters.

Airmen selected for commissioning program

By Stacy Vaughn

445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 445th Airlift Wing held a Deserving Airman Commissioning Board July 15-16, 2017 during the unit training assembly for Airmen who want to become an officer in the Air Force Reserve. The board met with 15 candidates, six were selected with two alternates.

The Deserving Airman Commissioning Program, governed by Air Force Instruction 36-2005, is a path for enlisted members possessing a baccalaureate or higher degree to earn a commission in the Air Force Reserve. DACP boards are held to select candidates for vacant non-rated positions on the wing's unit manning document. If selected by the DACP Board, the Airman will attend Officer Training School for their commission then come back to the wing to fill the vacancy.

Congratulations to the following selectees:

-Commissioning into the 87th Aerial Port Squad-

ron are Tech. Sgts. Joel Russo, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and Jessica Shaughnessy, 445th Airlift Wing, and Staff Sgt. Kathryn Fradette, 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

-Commissioning into the 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron are Staff Sgts. Terra Stinnet, 445th Force Support Squadron and Libya Binford, 445th Maintenance Group.

-Commissioning into the 445th Operations Support Squadron is Senior Airman Caleb Smith, 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Alternates selected are Staff Sgt. Andrae Manuel, 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron and Senior Airman Celeste Mullings, 445th Force Support Squadron.

See *DESERVING*, page 4

Firm foundation supports pillars, key to success

By Lt. Col. Suzanne Dean
445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



Anyone who has seen the devastation from a hurricane, tornado or a flood has seen the picture when something has completely been ripped off its foundation.

Clean up can begin, but to rebuild you need to ensure that the foundation is fixed, secure and stable.

The Air Force has several programs that use pictures depicting a building with four pillars to support the roof to include promotion, resiliency, wellness and fitness. In each of these pictures, the pillars represent an important component to that program that must be considered when dealing with the entire structure.

When you look at these pictures, they all have something in

common that is essential, a foundation! The foundation of each of these programs is you, the Airman serving in uniform.

To ensure that the foundation doesn't crack and deteriorate, you must take care of it. Just as caring for a structure and neglecting the foundation can yield terrible results, so can caring for various parts of your Air Force career and forgetting about yourself as the foundation supporting your career.

For the promotion pillars there are different titles like NCR [National Capitol Region], joint, PME [professional military education], ODP [officer development plan], EDP [enlisted development plan], CCAF [Community College of the Air Force], and command. They all start with a firm solid foundation.

We need Airmen with a solid foundation in their primary job. We need troops who set the standard when it comes to launching aircraft, processing promotions,

loading cargo, building runways, flying aircraft, or caring for patients in flight.

If you have a solid foundation when the time is right, the pillars will get taken care of and fall into place.

You are always your best advocate when it comes to taking care of your career, but running all over the Air Force "checking boxes" makes you a box checker not a maintainer, nurse, engineer, pilot or personnelist.

The 445th Airlift Wing has numerous incredibly talented Airmen. Every year we have award winning Airmen, squadrons, groups and even the entire wing that come from right here at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. When you deliberately focus on learning your primary job at all stages of your career, you will become the excellent Airman that is the backbone of the United States Air Force.

Buckeye Flyer

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Tech. Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

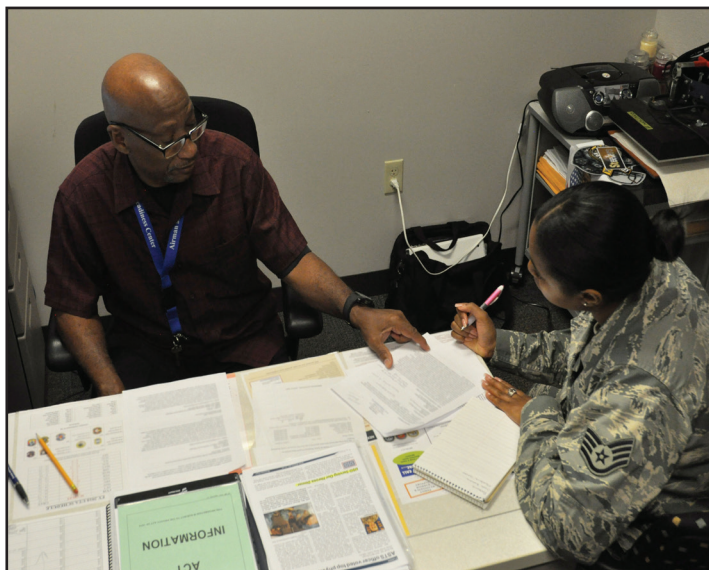
Wing welcomes new MSG commander

Col. Adam Willis, 445th Airlift Wing commander, passes the guidon to incoming 445th Mission Support Group commander, Col. Bryan Runion, during the 445th MSG appointment of command ceremony July 15, 2017. Colonel Runion served as the 446th Mission Support Group commander, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington before coming to the 445th.



A & FR center supports Airmen, their families

Helps eliminate life stressors



Airman 1st Class Ethan Spickler

Mr. Alvin Dennis, 445th Airlift Wing Airman and Family Readiness Center community readiness consultant, assists Staff Sgt. Taneisha Bush, 445 AW commander support staff administrative craftsman, with her resume July 20, 2017 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

*By Airman 1st Class Ethan Spickler
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs*

The Air Force lifestyle is often accompanied by a multitude of stressors, anticipated and unanticipated. It sometimes becomes difficult for service members to balance family life, recreation and work responsibilities while they serve our country.

In order to address the concerns of Airmen and their families, the Airman and Family Readiness Center was created to alleviate some of the burdens placed on service men and women.

The stated mission of the A&FRC is to provide targeted Airman and family support and services, contributing to the mission readiness, resiliency and well-being of the Air Force Reserve community.

"I don't take anybody walking in the door for granted," said Alvin Dennis, an Air Force retiree and the community readiness consultant at the 445th Airman and Family Readiness Center. "This is a way of life for me. I enjoy doing this. When someone walks into my office, and I can provide them with the support they need. I feel fulfilled everytime I help an Airman, I open doors to help other Airmen down the road."

One of the most important services offered by the Airman and Family Readiness Center is the distribu-

tion of information.

In the fast-paced, part-time environment of the Air Force Reserve, it is hard to pass information to thousands of Airmen during their unit training assembly weekends. The A&FRC acts as a hub where Airmen can receive information on benefits that they are entitled to and programs that focus on morale, welfare and readiness.

"We know that there are struggles in regards to finances and employment," said Dennis. "We know our members have student loans and family challenges as well, especially during deployment. We try to provide assistance by being here for them as a support element and providing them with the resources they need. Overall, I want to help our Airmen in every walk of life that we can assist them in."

The A&FRC offers extensive financial support services and employs certified financial planners to assist Airmen in achieving their financial goals. These services are offered free of charge and can save Airmen thousands of dollars when compared to their civilian equivalents. Staff at the A&FRC also provide assistance with resume building and career planning.

The Airman and Family Readiness Center not only provides knowledge, it also provides certain tangible benefits that can be provided to Airmen directly by A&FRC staff members. They work closely with the Air Force Aid Society to help relieve the distress of Air Force members and their families during financial emergencies. AFAS can assist with vehicle repairs, rent, basic living expenses and various other situations.

"The mission our Airmen have to do, they can't be tied up with financial, employment and education concerns," said Dennis. "If we can alleviate their worry while at home and while they are deployed, then we have done a good job. There is always someone here to provide support to service members and spouses. This is the place to go to whenever a situation arises that creates unnecessary stress."

The Airman and Family Readiness Center staff pride themselves on their ability to support the mission. Airmen of the 445th have access to one of the most extensive support networks available, and many choose to use the services provided to them. It is the kind of support one can only get from men and women who understand the military lifestyle, the challenges that accompany it and have a passion for keeping Airmen prepared for those challenges.

"I live for the opportunity to assist our service members," said Dennis. "This isn't just a job to me. If our Airmen receive what they came for, they are happy, and the happiness of our Airmen is my satisfaction."



Gettysburg site holds leadership legacies for 87 APS

By 2nd Lt. Rachel N. Ingram
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

More than a dozen senior leaders of the 87th Aerial Port Squadron participated in a Gettysburg National Battlefield staff ride last month as part of their annual tour training.

Staff ride is a historical term for a tactical journey which provides staff field training, typically for officers. The 87th opened this two-day tour to all senior and chief master sergeants, along with their officers.

"It was an important step toward unit cohesion since we've had several new officers and senior master sergeants join our squadron recently," said Chief Master Sgt. Jackie Larrison, squadron superintendent. "Going to Gettysburg provided us numerous mentoring opportunities."

Lt. Col. Barry Crane, squadron commander, facilitated the event, which included a battlefield tour by a

retired Air Force colonel certified as a National Guide.

"The historical events, decisions and actions of Gettysburg were woven into leadership concepts pertinent to today's Air Force," said Senior Master Sgt. Robert Rowe, unit program manager.

The Citizen Airmen had the opportunity to examine the leadership styles of military leaders of that time period.

"It was eye-opening to see how the military leaders performed in the face of battle and could just make changes on the fly," said Chief Master Sgt. Rob Haye, operations superintendent.

Maj. David Borden, operations officer and one of the newer members, agreed.

"It gave me an incredible perspective on the various leadership styles used during the battle at Gettysburg," he said. "It allowed me to reflect on my own style and how to better understand when changes can be valuable."

For unit members, the tour also provided the opportunity to grow closer as co-workers and leaders.

"One thing I noticed those troops at Gettysburg had over our Air Force today was their deep sense of camaraderie," Haye said.

The troops lived together, worked together, and often travelled as a marching formation. In today's Air Force Reserve, Hayes advised, squadrons can develop camaraderie through deployments, training events, or even dinner at a restaurant during a unit training assembly weekend.

"I would press on any unit to invest in time together outside of the uniform," he said. "Take a chance and get to know your brothers and sisters on a different level. They are more than a rank – they are a person."

The group also visited the historic Flight 93 National Memorial in Stoystown, Pennsylvania.



Courtesy photo

Members of the 87th Aerial Port Squadron pose for a photo at a Gettysburg Battlefield monument during their annual tour.

DESERVING, from page 1

In addition, two Airmen were selected for commissioning by the 445th Civil Engineer Squadron commander based on unit requirements and their qualifications and will be assigned to CES; Tech. Sgt. Michael Young, 87th Aerial Port Squadron and Senior Airman Benjamin Nkiko, 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Earlier this year, 2nd Lts. Rachel

Ingram, 445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs and Anthony Busellato, 87th Aerial Port Squadron, went through the Deserving Airman Commissioning Program and graduated from OTS June 16, 2017. Both are assigned to their respective units.

The two began their leadership path by working with their supervisor and the military personnel flight

to submit a package. Once their package was approved, it was sent to 4th Air Force then to Air Force Reserve Command for subsequent approvals. A slot was available in their applicable units and a date for OTS was given. After eight weeks at OTS, the two newly commissioned officers were back to work at the 445th in a leadership role.



Wing announces 2nd quarter CY17 award winners

Airman



Senior Airman Zachary Allen, 89th Airlift Squadron loadmaster, is the 445th Airlift Wing Airman of the Quarter, second quarter. Allen supported two humanitarian missions to Haiti, directly involved in delivering 100,000 pounds of food, clothing and furniture to the locals. He flew 39 sorties and delivered more than 520,000 pounds of cargo and moved more than 334 passengers on missions covering four continents. The Airman flew six Operation Freedom's Sentinel missions, directing the loading of 145 troops, 18 rolling stock and coordinated 50 ambulatory and three critical care patients. During his off-duty time, Allen collected 50 care packages with his church's military mission. He directed the collection of more than 100 toys with a civilian company for the local community. Allen is pursuing his bachelor's degree in aeronautical science at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

NCO



Tech. Sgt. Nicole Sturm, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron personnel apprentice, is the 445th Airlift Wing NCO of the Quarter, second quarter. Sturm aligned Air Force guidance and local procedures, resulting in 171 number one enlisted performance reviews. As the squadron unit fitness program manager, Sturm created a real-time fitness tracker to raise the unit's fitness rate. The sergeant coached failing Airmen by testing early and pacing wingmen to achieve a successful test result. During her off-duty time, Sturm ran daily and helped to raise more than \$300 for the Susan G. Komen charity organization to help fight breast cancer. She helped coordinate the 445th Maintenance Group holiday party attended by more than 200 family members. Sturm is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Exercise Science and Nutrition at the American Military University.

SNCO



Master Sgt. Jennifer Gerritsen, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron AE technician, is the 445th Airlift Wing Senior NCO of the Quarter, second quarter. Gerritsen deployed in support of Operations Inherent Resolve and Freedoms Sentinel, supporting 206 evacuated wounded warriors that were rendered astute care. She was part of a nine-person burn team involved in the recovery of five U.S. victims of the Brussels terror attack. Gerritsen prevented an imminent training shortfall by organizing a local emergency medical technician refresher course, saving the Air Force more than \$25,000 in temporary duty expenses. During her off-duty time, Gerritsen assembled care packages for more than 700 displaced Syrian refugees. Gerritsen is currently enrolled in a certified ambulatory peri-anesthesia nurse certification course, enhancing her AE patient care capabilities.

CGO



Capt. Stacey Blurton, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron flight nurse, is the 445th Airlift Wing Company Grade Officer of the Quarter, second quarter. Blurton serves as the ambassador for AES and met with Vice President Michael Pence and Gen. Ellen Pawlikowski, Commander, Air Force Materiel Command, to demonstrate aeromedical mission capabilities aboard the C-17 Globemaster III. She served as the Air Force representative at both the Toledo and Dayton Air Shows, fostering local, national, international and inter-service relationships on AE missions. Selected as temporary Operations Officer during absence, Blurton mentored an Airman in distress. Blurton was hand selected as instructor for Green Dot training. She was a volunteer for the 445th Airlift Wing command chief retirement and three AE retirements.



Rank/Name

1st Lt. Jonathan Charles

Unit

445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Duty Title

Medical Readiness officer-in-charge

Hometown

Zanesville, Ohio

Civilian Job

Administrative Contracting Officer for Defense Logistics Agency

Education

Associates of Arts degree and Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Ohio Valley University. Currently pursuing a master's degree in public administration from Central Michigan University.

Hobbies

Spending time with my immediate and church families. I also enjoy

history, gardening and bicycling.

Career Goal

In the military, I want to make major and work a year-long tour at Global Patient Movement Requirements Center, Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. In my civilian career I want to start my own business.

What do you like about working at the 445th?

The mission and location. I left active duty to be closer to and help care for my father, but I chose the 445th ASTS because of the mission. We care for, stage and evacuate Wounded Warriors; a job I fell in love with while stationed at the 779th Aeromedical Staging Facility, An-

SPOTLIGHT



Lt. Col. Cynthia Harris

draws AFB.

Why did you join the Air Force?

I went to college after 9/11 but was very vocal in my support for the Global War on Terror. However, that passion

turned to guilt for not volunteering myself. So, upon graduation I pursued a path of joining the Air Force to be a part of that worthy effort.

2017 Wing Family Day Field Games, Football, Tailgate



- 3-Legged Race
- Kids Zone
- QB Challenge
- Squadron Tug-Of-War



- Bouncy Houses
- Music/Food
- Field Goal Challenge
- Dunk Tank
- Flag Football



Date: Sat, Sept. 9
Time: 11 a.m.
Location: Kittyhawk Area



10th Annual AFSA Active Duty vs. Reserve Softball Challenge



Warm-Up: 1800
Championship Game: 1830



FREE!! Drinks, hot dogs, chips, and popcorn will be provided by AFSA Kittyhawk Chapter 751

Weather cancellation will be posted on AFSA751.org



News Briefs

Retirements

August 2017

Lt Col Matthew Smith, 89 AS
 SMSgt Paul Wright, 87 APS
 MSgt Scott Stein, AW
 MSgt Annette Jones, FSS
 MSgt Lessa Givens, FSS
 MSgt Eric Hobbs, MXS
 MSgt Michael Flannery, AMXS
 MSgt Jessica Wilson, 87 APS
 MSgt Gloria Johnson, 655 ISRG
 TSgt Seana Creech, ASTS
 SSgt Tammie Gorsuch, 87 APS

Awards

Meritorious Service Medal

Lt Col Ted Schiller, 89 AS
 Maj Clifford Erli, 89 AS
 SMSgt Janice Brooks, 28 IS
 SMSgt Stoni Warwick, AW
 SMSgt Amanda Wood, IS
 SMSgt Paul Wright, APS
 MSgt Brian Dawes, AS
 MSgt Charles Dyer, MXS
 MSgt Michael Flannery, AMXS
 MSgt James Hartsell, APS
 MSgt James Partlow, MXS
 MSgt Jessica Wilson, APS

Air Force

Commendation Medal

TSgt William Baez, 71 IS
 TSgt Francis Randazzo, 71 IS
 TSgt Douglas Simon, AMXS

Air Force Achievement Medal

SrA Jake McCollum, 50 IS

Promotions

Airman

Mickela Harris, CES
 Hayley Petitt, AMDS

Senior Airman

Robert Clevenger, 14 IS
 Morgan Stallard, 71 IS
 John Slonkosky, AMXS
 Kaitlyn Werling, 50 IS
 Aaron Malicdem, 63 IS
 Amber Bevans, 16 IS
 Lucas Corder, FSS

Staff Sergeant

Tyler Heath, SFS
 Matthew Card, MXS
 Jeff Cox, LRS
 Zachary Deatley, CES
 Felicia Esquivel, FSS
 Ianto Hill, LRS
 Donald Kavanagh, 50 IS
 Andrae Manuel, ASTS
 Sean Reese, AMDS
 Nancy Riggs, 718 IS
 Aaron Williams, APS

Technical Sergeant

Kellen Jacobs, DET 3
 Richard Riel, DET 3
 Shaun Loveless, DET 3
 Shane Rickert, CES
 Jason Rodriguez, DET 1
 Laura Soper, 64 IS
 Aaron Fritz, AMXS
 Jason Thomas, AMDS

Master Sergeant

Marta Holtz, DET 1
 Paul Downs, 64 IS
 Timothy Emberton Jr, AMXS
 Antoinn Kidd, LRS
 Chad Lorenz, MXS
 Nikolai Pascal, 38 IS

Newcomers

Maj Michael Snead, 87 APS
 Capt Lindon Steadman, MXG
 Capt Jarrod Begy, 71 IS
 Capt Taylor Dunlap, 71 IS

Capt Kyle Astle, AMDS
 1Lt Brent Black, AES
 CMSgt Paul Stewart, AW
 TSgt Theresa Manglona, AMDS
 SSgt Emily Sparnell, 64 IS
 SSgt Jose Gomez, AW
 SSgt Kevin Doran, CES
 SSgt Brandi Tschuor, AES
 SSgt Evan Scoskie, CES
 SSgt Nikki Dunsmore, 87 APS
 SrA Aaron Motley, SFS
 SrA Jamie Reardon, MXG

SrA Nicholas Hucke, CES
 SrA Cody Bone, SFS
 SrA Kathleen Marco, OSS
 A1C Kylin Williams, AMXS
 A1C Devin Crider, AMXS
 A1C Robert Clevenger, 14 IS
 Amn Oceania Mack, FSS
 AB Jeffrey Veness, AES
 AB Nautica Rendon, SFS
 AB Kyle Gilday, 87 APS
 AB Molly Hageman, MXS
 AB Jaylynn Francois, LRS

Visit us on the 445th Airlift Wing Facebook page or website.

We would love to hear from you!

Blended retirement system briefings

Airmen with less than 4,320 points as of Dec. 31, 2017 will have to decide if they wish to remain in the current retirement system or transfer to the new system.

Blended Retirement System briefings are being offered to help Airmen understand the new system. An extended question and answer session will follow the briefing. Briefings are not a substitute for the required BRS training. Members are encouraged to complete the training prior to attending a briefing.

Kim Colpitts, a Military and Family Life Counselor Program personal financial counselor and expert on the BRS, will conduct the briefings.

Briefing RSVP links and info are listed below:

Aug. 5, Bldg 4006, Witt Auditorium, 1 to 3 p.m.

<https://invitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=351673&k=0164430F7C54>

Oct. 15, Bldg 4006, Witt Auditorium 10 to 11:30 a.m.

<https://invitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=351675&k=0164430F7C52>

Nov. 5, Bldg 4010, Scarlet Room 10 to 11:30 a.m.

<https://invitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=351676&k=0164430F7C51>

Dec. 3, Bldg 4006, Witt Auditorium 10 to 11:30 a.m.

<https://invitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=351678&k=0164430F7C5F>

For more info, contact Senior Master Sgt. Glenda Marck at 937-257-6345 or 937-216-4103.





Photos by Tech. Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

Members of the 445th Maintenance Group Crash Damage or Disabled Aircraft Recovery (CDDAR) Team perform an exercise, simulating an aircraft wing lift. The CDDAR exercise is designed to give members of the crash team real world experience by performing an actual aircraft wing lift. During the exercise, members set the air manifold system to control inflation and deflation of CDDAR lift bags and construct cribbing for the simulated wing lift.

1. MXG CDDAR team members begin construction of cribbing for a simulated wing lift.
2. Members add final 4x4 lumber to cribbing. Once the cribbing is completed, lift bags are added to the top of the device and used to lift the wing.
3. CDDAR members uncrate lift bag container in preparation for exercise.
4. Tech. Sgt. Stacy Tompkins, 445th Maintenance Squadron home station check technician, sets the air manifold system to control inflation and deflation of CDDAR lift bags.

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