

## Planning key to a successful deployment

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

For Citizen Airmen and families alike, preparing for a deployment can be stressful and overwhelming. The entire process may take as few as three months, or up to a year. In the 445th Airlift Wing, the Airman & Family Readiness (A&FR) office serves as a resource for all potential deployers.

"We provide a wide range of programs and services to support members before, during and after deployments," said Alvin Dennis, community readiness consultant.

The A&FR office provides a pre-deployment checklist which covers personal, financial, and medical topics, among others.

"If you have already obtained a pre-deployment checklist from the A&FR Office, you are far ahead of the process," Dennis said. "If not, please do so immediately."

Unit deployment managers also consolidate pre-deployment tasks in a checklist.

"The first thing an individual needs to do once slotted for a deployment is log in to the Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) Online," said Scotty Lykins, 445th Mission Support Group UDM. "The expeditionary readiness checklist spells out all the training required prior to deploying. Pre-deployment training is paramount."

A number of programs and resources are available to Citizen Airmen and their immediate families during a deployment. Some of these programs begin as much as six months prior to the deployment.

"TriCare Prime is one of the very important benefits relating to Reserve deployments," Lykins said. "It covers six months before the deployment and six months following, and that coverage extends to any dependents listed in DEERS."

Families are also invited to attend a Yellow Ribbon event both before and after the event, which are all-expenses paid.

"It's crucial to be proactive, not reactive," Lykins said. "Update your emergency contact data online,

tighten up your family affairs, and keep open lines of communication with your family and spouse throughout the preparation period so they know what to expect."

To successfully transition into a deployment, follow the below timeline while preparing to deploy, in conjunction with directives on the readiness checklists from the A&FR Office and your UDM.

### One year prior to deployment

- Obtain a pre-deployment checklist from the A&FR Office

### Six months prior to deployment

- Familiarize yourself with the Service Member's Civil Relief Act (SCRA), which ensures protection regarding issues like terminating lease agreements, eviction prevention, deferred income tax, and reduced interest rates on pre-existing debt

- Allow the A&FR Office to create a photo pillowcase for your child under the age of 12, at no cost to you

- Reach out to Dogs on

Deployment, a nonprofit that will connect you with volunteers to board your dog while you're deployed

- Notify your civilian employer of your upcoming deployment, and familiarize yourself with your reemployment rights under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)

### One month prior to deployment

- Connect your spouse with the Key Spouse Program
- Reach out to the Air Force Aid Society if you need an interest-free loan during the deployment

- Attend a Yellow Ribbon event (within 120 days of the start of deployment)

### During deployment

- Your spouse is entitled to up to four hours per month of free childcare at one of the child development centers on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base

- The auto hobby shop will perform an oil change and safety check on your spouse's vehicle, free of charge.

For assistance with an upcoming deployment, please call the A&FR office at 937-522-4607.



Photo illustration by Senior Airman Darrell Sydnor, II

# 445th warriors, thanks for another great year!

By Col. Adam Willis  
445th Airlift Wing Commander

We have come a long way this past year! On the heels of a great 2016, we...you, certainly ramped it up.

As we look back at our achievements in 2017, I would say that you deserve to pat yourself on the back...I would say that you deserve to be proud, I would say you are the BEST! Period.

Last year was a banner year for the 445th Airlift Wing. Our very own 445 Aircraft Maintenance Squadron won the Chief of Staff Team Excellence Award for the ENTIRE Air Force! Way to go AMXS! Maj. Gen. Randall Ogden stated he was proud and honored to present this lofty achievement to the men and women of the 445 AMXS.

If that wasn't enough, the Vice President of the United States, Michael Pence and his wife second lady Karen Pence paid us a visit for Armed Forces Day... what an honor is was to host the VP. Again, the men and women of the 445 AW stood proud and accomplished before the Vice President.

Additionally, Air Force Reserve Command Com-



mand Chief Erica Kelly visited the wing last year and met and talked with many of the Airmen in the 445th...a great opportunity to meet with the chief.

You, the Airmen of the 445th, were the first reserve unit to volunteer to provide much needed airlift for the nation as it recovered from three devastating hurricanes. We moved more than 600 people and nearly 2 million pounds of relief supplies. We sent Airmen from multiple disciplines

to many states to support their recovery.

We deployed more than 150 members for a total of 4,717 days last year. Our flying group flew more than 4,700 hours in support of a multitude of requirements for several Combatant Commands.

Our FSS really stood out last year by winning five awards ranging from best force support NCO, best senior force support NCO, best military personnel program and best education and training program...what a year for FSS! Not want to be left out, our very own Major Vance won the AFRC's General Gerrity award for outstanding work in the logistics field. The list goes on...this is normal operations for the outstanding men and women of the 445 AW.

The proud men and women of the 445 AW have a long heritage of being the best and I, for one, would not argue that fact. Since I have been here, the dedication to service, the excellence in all you do and your integrity is embodied in every wingman in the 445th Airlift Wing.

It manifests itself in both the concrete and the abstract. From enlisted development to awards banquets, from deployments to hurricane relief and HADR [humanitarian assistance/disaster relief], from aircraft generation to the warfighter training center...the vision of the 445 AW cannot be contained, nor will it. Let it spill out among the masses...let it permeate in all endeavors you can muster...let it be a testament to you, the heart of this great organization...the 445 Airlift Wing. Because it is your unbridled vision that will ensure your future...that will ensure the future of the 445 AW as the BEST!

As the 445 AW continues to mature and train its younger wingmen, I cannot express my gratitude to all the families whom entrust us with their loved ones. It cannot be overstated that the family makes a warrior a warrior! We simply train you, but your family gives you the strength to endure, to excel, to succeed, to grow, to respect...the family is at the heart of success and it is because of you and your family that the 445 AW will continue to be the BEST!

From my family to yours, Elyse and I wish you all, the 445 AW men and women, the very best in the upcoming year. Happy New Year!

Stay safe, Stay proud and Stay engaged...

Adam

## Buckeye Flyer

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# Airmen bring holiday cheer to Dayton area vets

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

Airman from the 445th Airlift participated in the annual Veteran Affairs Christmas party December 2, 2017, at the Dayton VA Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio.

The annual party is sponsored by the Air Force Sergeant's Association and the staff of the Dayton VA Hospital. The event aims to bring service members and veterans closer together while providing an extraordinary opportunity to fellowship.

During the festivities, food and beverages were provided; live holiday music from the 88th Air Base Wing's Band of Flight was played throughout the afternoon; and holiday gifts were distributed. Even Santa Claus found time to attend, despite his busy holiday schedule.

"We are thankful for everyone coming out and showing their support," said David I. McCoy, the president of the AFSA Chapter 751 and volunteer coordinator at the Christmas party. "We like to do whatever we can to help our service members, and this event is a great way to do something special for the veteran community. Our organization brings us into contact with so many amazing people, and events like this allow us to give back."

During the gathering, members of the 445th conversed with AFSA members and the veterans at the hospital while participating in the holiday cheer. Some Airmen collected gifts prior to the event to deliver to the veterans.

With all of the hustle and bustle surrounding the holiday season, the event at the Dayton VA hospital brought into perspective the fact that our nation's veterans deserve a chance to experience the best parts of the holidays and that nothing makes an impact more than being able to give for the sake of others.



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

**Master Sgt. Jay L. Swanson, 445th Force Support Squadron first sergeant, talks to a veteran during the Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center complex Christmas party luncheon December 2, 2017. Airmen from the 445th Airlift Wing and the 88th Air Base Wing visited the VA complex to show their support and to thank the veterans for their service to our country.**



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

**Area veterans and Airmen listen to a holiday performance by members of the Air Force Band of Flight during the Dayton VA Christmas party Dec. 2, 2017.**



**Rank/Name:**

SSgt Aubrey L. Booher

**Unit:**

445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

**Duty Title:**

Health Services Management Craftsman

**Hometown:**

Huber Heights, Ohio

**Civilian Job:**

Medical Records Technician

**Education:**

Currently a senior in college working on my bachelor's degree in science health services management. Once I complete my bachelor's degree, I would like to get my master's degree.

**Hobbies:**

I have a 3 month-old baby boy who I love spending time with, as

well as the rest of my family. I enjoy hiking, camping and canoeing.

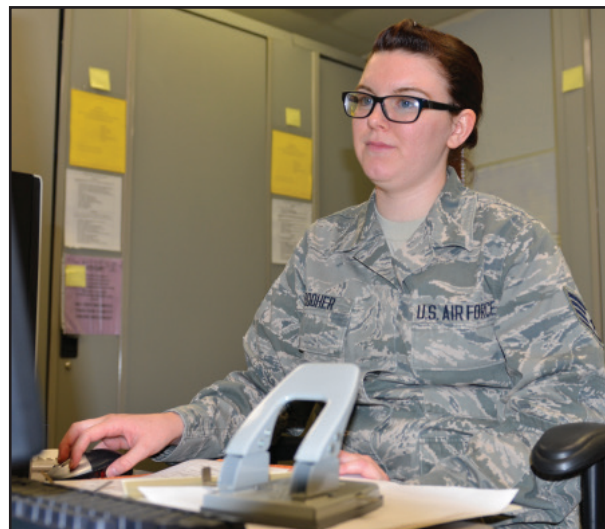
**Career Goal:**

On the civilian side, I hope to one day run a hospital. I would also like to open up a teen center that allows teenagers to have a place to find/practice talents in a positive environment. On the military side, I would like to become a first sergeant and out rank my father who retired back in 2005.

**What do you like about working at the 445th?:**

It feels like a family even though most of us only see each other once a month. When we come to work, we don't feel like strangers to

# SPOTLIGHT



Senior Airman Darrell Sydnor, II

each other.

**Why did you join the Air Force?:**

I joined the Air Force

to serve my country, be a part of something great and get a head start in my career.

## Around the wing . . .



Photos by Senior Airman Darrell Sydnor, II

(top left) Master Sergeants Sierra A. Cabungcal, 445th Operations Support Squadron first sergeant and Jay L. Swanson, 445th Force Support Squadron first sergeant, load toys in a Toys for Tots donation box before taking them to the drop off point Dec. 8, 2017. The 445th Airlift Wing collected 201 toys for the annual U.S. Marine Corps Reserve toy campaign.

(right) Staff Sgt. Jalen McMahan, right, looks on as Staff Sgt. Drew Brenner, middle, grades Staff Sgt. Kyle Altman disassembling his M240B heavy machine gun during 445th Security Forces Squadron heavy weapons familiarization training Dec. 17, 2017. Conducting weapons familiarization training ensures SFS members effectively use their weapons when needed.



# News Briefs

## Retirements

### December 2017

SMSGT Richard Burkheister, MXS

### January 2018

Lt Col Charles Huff, ASTS

Lt Col David Leist, AW  
SMSgt Kemberlee Scott, CES

MSgt Timothy Knight, MXS

## Newcomers

2Lt Tyler Trease, ASTS  
TSgt Andrew Rahke, MXS  
TSgt Zachary Stevens, MXS

SSgt Takela Callender, ASTS

SSgt Gregory Case, OSS  
SSgt Kody Hildebrand, SFS

SrA Jesiah Bergman, SFS  
SrA Latrice Blair, ASTS  
SrA Joshua Davis, APS  
SrA Ryan Hendrix, 14 IS  
SrA Darrell Sydnor, AW  
A1C Justin Parrett, 14 IS  
A1C Lauron Howard, AMXS

A1C Job Hunter, AES  
A1C Kelly Dean, MXG  
A1C Anthony Miller,

MXG

A1C Bryce Phelps, 87

APS

A1C Samson Taddese, FSS

A1C Conner Truvy, MXS

## Awards

### Meritorious Service Medal

Lt Col Thomas Fuhrman, 89 AS

Lt Col Charles Huff, AMDS

Col Barry Crane, 89 AS  
MSgt Linda Aleck, 89 AS  
MSgt Teresa Pitstick, 89 AS

MSgt Joseph Seaman, 655 IS

### Air Force

#### Commendation Medal

Capt Jeffrey Owen, 42 IS  
TSgt Steven Sherman, 89 AS

TSgt Dawn Skinner, 192 OG

### Air Force Achievement Medal

SrA Michael Tucci, 89 AS

## Promotions

### Airman

Collin Ballein, 64 IS

Dillon Dehn, 820 IS

### Airman First Class

Kiara Brothers, 87 APS  
Joseph Corbett, 63 IS  
Zehran Edwards, 16 IS  
Jerimiah Gregorio, CES  
Ann Henderson, 14 IS  
Alexis Prior, 512 IS

### Senior Airman

Jasmine Bakem, 16 IS  
Jasmine Baker, 16 IS  
Sherry Bland, FSS  
Kendra Drew, AMXS  
Thomas Drouillard, CES  
Kirk Eggleston, 49 IS  
Ryan Hendrix, 14 IS  
Andre Henry, 718 IS  
Nathan Rhodes, 38 IS  
Kelly Sloan, 87 APS  
Samson Taddesse, FSS

### Staff Sergeant

Jowanda Ayoub, MXG  
Ethan Bolton, LRS  
Steven Branham, AMDS  
Jeneca Kennedy, AMDS  
Jessica Lang, AMDS  
Christopher Morris, CES  
Brett Scindler, OSS  
Cherry Stefan, 50 IS  
Christian Terrill, AMDS  
Justin Weaver, 71 IS

### Technical Sergeant

Matthew Branham,

AMXS

Nicholas Guinther, 87 APS

Stephen Hall, FSS  
Robert Hessler, 87 APS  
David Johnson, 50 IS  
Aaron Kohlmorgen, 87 APS

Daniel La Salle, AMDS  
Shannym McKee, 820 IS  
Milton Moore, 718 IS  
Christopher Peterson, 87APS

Michael Poffenbarger, 87 APS

Carl Shircliff, 89 AS  
Amy Stanfield, OSS  
David Sylvester, 23 IS  
Francisco Vega Vazquez, 23 IS

Jermaine Wade, FSS  
Matthew White, 87 APS

### Master Sergeant

Jeffrey Finefrock, 71 IS  
Jennifer Godsey, FSS  
Adrienne Hood, MXG  
Bryan Pryor, 49 IS  
Patience Spence, 28 IS  
Michael Tungate, LRS

### Senior Master Sergeant

Franklin Williams, AMDS

## ARPC announces CY 17 colonel promotions

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio  
Air Reserve Personnel Center officials announced the results for the Calendar 2017 Air Force Reserve Line and Nonline Colonel Promotion Selection Boards Dec. 22, 2017.

The selection boards convened at the center Oct. 16-20 to determine those officers qualified to assume the next higher grade. Seven reservists from the 445th Airlift Wing and 655th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group were selected. Congratulations to the following promotees:



John Robinson, 445th Operations Group  
Jay Smeltzer, 445th Maintenance Group

Roberta Stemen, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Roberto Garcia, 38th Intelligence Squadron

Joseph Marcinek, 655th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group

Jennifer Mulder, 63rd Intelligence Squadron

Peter Tortorici, 23rd Intelligence Squadron



# 445th Airlift Wing reflects on 2017



**Annual awards banquet**

Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly



**Deployment welcome home**

Stacy Vaughn

(left) Col. Adam Willis, 445th Airlift Wing commander, greets a crowd of nearly 500 Airmen, family members and community leaders during the wing's Annual Awards Banquet April 1, 2017 at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force. (right) Staff Sgt. Zachary Webb, 89th Airlift Squadron, is greeted by his family at the Dayton International Airport March 3, 2017 after returning home from a 45-day deployment in Southwest Asia, supporting Operation Inherent Resolve.



**Winter challenge**

Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly



**Vice President visit**

Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

Vice President Michael Pence speaks to a crowd of approximately 250 Airmen and families in a 445th Airlift Wing hangar May 20, 2017. The vice president visited Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to commemorate Armed Forces Day.



**Chief Kelly visit**

Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

(top left) Senior Airman Daryn Weatherspoon, 445th Security Forces Squadron, participates in a drill to test his ability to quickly disassemble and reassemble the M4 carbine during the SFS Winter Challenge Feb. 12, 2017.

(left) Chief Master Sgt. Ericka Kelly, Command Chief Master Sergeant, Air Force Reserve Command, speaks with Airmen of the 445th Airlift Wing during her visit to the wing June 2 - 4, 2017.







**Mass re-enlistment**

Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly



**Patriot Warrior**

Courtesy photo

(left) Thirteen members of the 445th Airlift Wing recite the Oath of Enlistment at a mass re-enlistment ceremony July 16, 2017. Capt. Linda Reed, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, administered the oath. (right) Airmen from the 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron help transport a simulated casualty using a four-man litter off-loaded from a U.S. Army HH-60M MEDEVAC helicopter during exercise Patriot Warrior at Young Air Assault Strip, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin Aug. 12, 2017.



**Chief of Staff Trophy**

Staff Sgt. Joel McCullough



**Family Day**

Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

(left) Maj. Gen. Randall Ogden and Chief Master Sgt. Timothy White, 4th Air Force commander and command chief, present the Chief of Staff Team Excellence Award trophy to members of the 445th Maintenance Squadron Sept. 9, 2017.

(right) Airmen of the 445th Airlift Wing and their families enjoy a day of fun, food and fellowship at the wing's family day event Sept. 9, 2017.



**Hurricane Harvey**

Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

Airmen from the 89th Airlift Squadron load cargo and soldiers from the El Paso, Texas 127th Aviation Support Battalion for transport to aid in Hurricane Harvey relief efforts Aug. 30, 2017. Wing C-17s transported more than 600 passengers and nearly 2 million pounds of cargo from August – October 2017 in support of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria.





## 87 APS visit Dayton children's hospital



Photos by Senior Airman Darrell Sydnor, II

U.S. Air Force members from the 445th Airlift Wing's 87th Aerial Port Squadron at Wright Patterson Air Force Base visit the Dayton Children's Medical Center Dec. 15, 2017. The 18 Airmen spread joy and holiday cheer passing out donated toys to the patients. This is an annual venture for the squadron marking 26 years of smiles.

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