

445th Airman improves DOD e-health records system

By 1st Lt. Rachel Ingram
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

A 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron Airman received a Pentagon-level award after his paper, published in *Military Medicine* in September 2020, was deemed of great value to the Department of the Army.

Capt. Edward (Bill) W. Woody II, officer in charge of the commander's inspection program, 445th ASTS, works in a civilian capacity as a management support specialist in the 165th Infantry Brigade at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He was the 2020 recipient of the Nick Hoge Award, presented to only one civilian employee Army-wide each year. His paper was judged based on factors like originality, quality of writing, scope of the research, timeliness and relevance.

As part of his Doctorate of Business Management coursework through the University of Maryland, Woody researched theories of organizational change and developed implementation strategies for a new electronic health record system currently being rolled out by the Department of Defense.

The new EHR system, named Genesis, is gradually being introduced to bases across the globe using a



Courtesy Photo

Capt. Edward (Bill) W. Woody II, left, accepts the Nick Hoge Award from Brig. Gen. Milford Beagle Jr., Commanding General for the U.S. Army Training Center, Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

See AWARD, page 4

COVID protocols create new normal for 445th AES

By Tech. Sgt. Joel McCullough
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs



Tech. Sgt. Joel McCullough

Capt. Emily Perkins, a flight nurse with the 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, checks information on her tablet during a mission brief, Jan. 9, 2021.

Members of the 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron participated in a monthly training exercise during the Jan. 9 and 10, 2021 unit training assembly with COVID-19 protocols in place.

The virus has altered the way AES Airmen have to interact with each other. It's been a challenge for the Airmen but it hasn't stopped them from completing the tasks they need to stay mission ready.

"COVID definitely slowed us down when it first hit," said Capt. Emily Perkins, a flight nurse with the 445th AES and the medical clinical coordinator (MCC) for the

AE exercise. "But we adapted and learned how to make it work."

Pre-mission briefings are normally held in a conference room with everyone sitting around a table taking turns discussing the mission events as well as roles and responsibilities. But now, meetings are a bit different during this unique time in history. They are now held in a maintenance hangar with everyone properly spaced apart and at their own tables.

Other than the buzzing of the lights, it is almost completely silent

See AES, page 4

New 445th command chief uses experiences to mentor Airmen

By Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Williams
445th Airlift Wing Command Chief



Literally within just a few short minutes of the public release of my selection as your new command chief, I received a text message that simply read “Welcome home, chief!” That one message quickly turned to a few and then cascading into a variety of email, text and social media messages both initially greeting me and also welcoming me home. I was

flattered, maybe even a little surprised but mostly, I was very encouraged. Thank you to all who reached out.

Why did even I leave in the first place? Truth is, in late winter of 2016, then Senior Master Sgt. Williams, 87th Aerial Port Squadron first sergeant, stepped outside of his comfort zone to fill a staffing shortfall at a West Coast Yellow Ribbon event. While visiting a variety of provider and support tables, I interacted with someone at the Individual Mobilization Augmentee table, and what I thought was a casual conversation turned out to be a speed-mentoring styled interview. Weeks later, I was selected for a chief master sergeant position within the Individual Mobilization Augmentee program, and it was now time to leave home.

Since taking that leap of faith, I had the pleasure of leading a joint force under a two-star command at the combatant command level. This assignment gave me the opportunity to see firsthand that our reservists touch every military movement across planet earth. That means all materials or manpower regardless of the method is aircraft, over-the-road, railway, or sea power. Truth is, advising a U.S. Army major general on the intricacies of his command wasn't just force development, for me it was forced development.

My most recent experience was serving as the installation command chief at a stand-alone base, Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio.

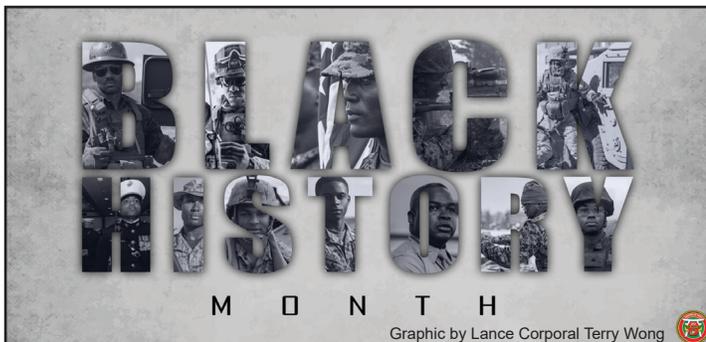
Just as our paths as fellow 445th members had crossed at USTRANSCOM (U.S. Transportation Command), so they did at the 910th Airlift Wing and as well at various developmental events throughout the command.

Whether serving on panels like command developmental training, functional developmental training or NAF (Numbered Air Force) Airman of the year, I was confident in my role because of the excellent professional foundation that was laid while “growing up” in the 445th. The best part of all is bringing those outside experiences back to our Airmen to build upon the foundations and prepare our next generation of Airmen for what the future holds.

Leaving home is what we all have in common. We all left home to go experience basic military and technical training. Many of us left home for the first time to serve full time. We leave home for in-residence PME (Professional Military Education) courses, annual tours, humanitarian work, and deployments into harm's way. On a monthly basis, many of us leave home to serve the Airmen of the world's greatest Air Force. In our hard work, far off travels and the carrying each other's heavy loads, we are doing what a very good chief master sergeant friend of mine simply refers to this as ‘family business.’

Five years ago, I left home for an opportunity to bloom where I was planted. I felt well prepared by my 445th mentors and was confident in stepping out for new experiences. While on that path, my spirit was renewed to see my 445th brothers and sisters that left home and were highly successful! For me, the best part of leaving home, is the experience of coming back home. We all know that great feeling. So I say to the Airmen of the 445th Airlift Wing, “My brothers and sisters, it's good to be home.”

February Observances



From playing football to flying planes, Teamwork makes it happen

By Lt. Col. Thomas Fuhrman
89th Airlift Squadron Commander



What does football have to do with flying C-17s or surviving a world turned upside down by a global pandemic? On the surface, not much. But dig a little deeper and it's not as crazy as it sounds.

Without a doubt, the previous 12 months have been unprecedented in our lifetimes. No one could have predicted the arrival of a global pandemic that would challenge not only our collective physical well-being and mental health, but affect the very fabric of our society as well. And while this microscopic virus has not yet been defeated, we can finally see the finish line approaching in the distance.

So, what does football have to do with any of this? Much like in life, there is a lot more happening during a football play than is readily apparent. To the casual viewer, Josh Allen throwing a touchdown pass to Stefon Diggs is a simple

pass completion worth six points (yes, shameless shout out to my Buffalo Bills from a long-suffering fan who is finally enjoying some playoff success; guilty as charged). Take a more detailed look, however, and you realize how much more went into that one play. The coaching staff had to design the play, put it in the play-book and run it countless times in practice; the players had to learn it, practice it, and execute it flawlessly; the offensive coordinator had to recognize a weakness in the opponent's defense and call the play at the right time; and all 11 players on the field had to do their individual jobs to make the play successful.

In short, it takes teamwork to make it happen. The QB (quarterback) may throw the pass, but if the receiver doesn't get open and make the catch or if the left guard doesn't hold his block long enough, the play won't work, and the pass will fall harmlessly incomplete.

Launching a C-17 mission holds many of the same characteristics. As aircrew, we may be the ones flying the jet and delivering the cargo, but it could never happen without a tremendous amount of teamwork behind the scenes. Long be-

fore we ever flip a switch, start an engine, or load a pallet, so much has already transpired to make the flight possible. The teamwork is everywhere if you know where to look. Maintenance ensures the jet is airworthy and loaded with fuel. Aerial port delivers the cargo on time and ensures it is properly secured. Medical personnel ensure that all crewmembers are healthy and ready to fly. Aircrew flight equipment makes sure the emergency equipment on board is ready--just in case. Intel and weather provide important pre-mission briefings. And that is just the tip of the iceberg. There is so much more.

I have long believed that life is the ultimate team sport. Just as a successful football play and launching an airplane takes a team, so too does navigating through life successfully. Life certainly has its ups and downs, and sometimes it throws challenges at us (I'm looking at you, 2020) that are so daunting that we need

the rest of our team to help us run the right play. Sometimes we must lean on others to help us score the touchdown that wins the game. Whether it is family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, or anyone else, sometimes we just need an assist from a teammate.

My challenge to you is to be that all-star teammate. At work, be a rock star that not only knows their job but also goes the extra mile. Learn your craft and share your experience with newcomers. Mentor your Airmen to help them develop into leaders and reach their full potential. Outside of work, be a championship person. Look out for your friends, family members, and coworkers. Be someone's rock when they need one and don't be afraid to lean on others when you can't carry the weight of the world on your shoulders.

In life, as in football or flying, when the individuals on a team succeed, the whole team does.



Courtesy Photo



AWARD, from page 1

phase system.

“This change has the potential to directly impact every Airman, every Soldier, every service member,” Woody said. “It will enhance the continuum of care.”

The goal is to streamline patient care, prevent redundant testing, and ensure that service members’ medical records remain fully intact, even if the individual transitions into another branch of service, retires, or is medically discharged.

Before becoming a medical service corps officer, Woody was an active duty Soldier in the Army and then in the Army Reserve. He then accepted a commission into the Air Force Reserve.

“Traditionally, service members have hand-carried records to the Veterans Affairs or to a sister

branch, hoping nothing got lost or was missed,” he said. “If it was, the individual might have to double back to the previous military treatment facility or attempt to dig up old records.”

The aim is that one consolidated system across the DOD, Genesis, will eliminate this burden.

In the paper, Woody discussed the challenges the DOD may face in trying to overhaul the entire military health system. After closely analyzing about 40 scholarly articles pertaining to organizational change theories and coding the major themes within those sources, Woody outlined three critical success factors (CSFs): process change champions, training and feedback. He also identified three critical barriers to implementation (CBIs):

technophobia, resistance from leaders/providers, and insufficient communication.

“The way an organization implements change is fascinating,” he said. “Leadership plays a proactive role in ensuring seamless transition, but the stakeholders must also buy in.”

Beyond electronic health records, the tenets of organizational change can be applied to other areas of life, he noted.

“Change happens everywhere, all the time. It’s one of those things that we have to deal with, but it’s also incredibly difficult,” Woody said. “There’s not just one way to do it—it’s about finding effective strategies. There will always be opportunities to continually research, adapt and improve.”

AES, from page 1

during the meetings. The Airmen used their internal radio systems, with headsets and microphones, to speak to each other.

“It (internal radio system) allows us to communicate effectively while maintaining distancing and wearing our masks,” said Maj. Joli Beasley, a flight nurse and the medical crew director for the exercise.

The Airmen used their electronic tablets to access products and documents without the need to hand out paper print outs.

The AES Airmen, along with the rest of world, have to be conscious to social distance and wear a mask at all times.

“While flying, we have to switch to the N-95 surgical masks,” said 1st Lt. Francis Slonkosky, a flight nurse with the squadron. “The N-95 is designed to protect the wearer from airborne particles and liquid droplets.”

The aircraft recirculates the air onboard so a mask that provides airborne protection is a necessity. Most individuals wear their N-95 mask with their personal masks over top just to add that extra layer of protection.

When asked how else the virus has affected the AES training routine, Beasley added, “We do our best to stay away from each other whenever possible. We always the proper masks. We also, just due to the



Tech.Sgt. Joel McCullough

Members of the 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, hold a mission brief in a maintenance bay at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, before heading out on a training flight, Jan. 9, 2021. The members socially distanced, wore masks and used their internal radio systems to communicate with each other.

distancing aspect, have to include less people in the training to minimize crowding.”

Despite having these new limitations, the AES has still managed to stay current on training and continue to hone their skills as flight nurses and medical technicians.



Wing announces 4th Quarter CY 2020 award winners

CGO



First Lt. Tyler Mohr, flight commander, air freight operations, 87th Aerial Port Squadron, is the 445th Airlift Wing Company Grade Officer of the Quarter. Mohr planned logistics for six joint exercises/60 airlift missions. He secured \$6 million of support contracts for 547 personnel --strengthening Southern Command's number one objective. He wrote a first-ever joint transportation standard operating procedures for 2,000 shipments worth \$17 million and helped slash cargo delays by 59 percent. The lieutenant led a President of the United States-directed medical equipment movement where he drove 50 ventilators from the United States to Honduras in less than six days. Mohr chartered a deployed prisoner of war/missing in action vigil, where he led 193 military members from four services across 210 miles, cultivating joint esprit de corps and camaraderie. Lieutenant Mohr organized a remote Honduran orphanage hike that involved 67 volunteers carrying 4,000 pounds of food and supplies, bolstering the quality of life for 84 children.

SNCO



Master Sgt. Sean McCaslin, squad leader, 445th Security Forces Squadron, is the 445th Airlift Wing Senior NCO of the Quarter. McCaslin orchestrated a joint shoot, move and communicate training event with members of a local National Guard Base; more than 50 security forces Defenders were trained on critical core tasks, increasing total force integration cohesion. McCaslin held professional development sessions, mentoring Airmen for future roles in the squadron. He was named to the unit's functional senior NCO key personnel list. During the COVID-19 pandemic, McCaslin led the squadron's unit readiness and goals, keeping Defenders 100 percent combat ready. The master sergeant is a selfless volunteer and assisted his local area Air Force Junior ROTC detachments with land navigation courses, a morale boost in a COVID-19 environment. McCaslin is education driven and has completed the Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education I and II courses in less than a month. The master sergeant is now ready for his next PME challenge.

NCO



Tech. Sgt. Kathleen Burden, aerospace medical service craftsman, 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, is the 445th Airlift Wing NCO of the Quarter. Burden executed the COVID-19 response by coordinating the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guideline implementation with 82.6 percent Airmen fully mission capable, averting exposure of the virus to 760 people. Burden championed readiness for more than 1,800 members and coordinated the scheduling of 760 people, ordering 316 labs. She managed the completion of 600 preventive health assessments; fulfilled 1,100 individual medical readiness and identified 425 occupational health requirements, garnering a 94.7 percent PHA compliance rate. Sergeant Burden completed Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education I, enhancing her skillset of sister services viewpoints. She attended a leadership and operations event, where she gained information on the command and control operations systems, enhancing medical communication throughout the leadership chain.

AMN



Senior Airman Jeanette Salgado, medical materiel journeyman, 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, is the 445th Airlift Wing Airman of the Quarter. Salgado assisted with the Critical Care Air Transport Team unit type code inventory; 604 items inventories were worth \$238,000. She developed tracking/ordering procedures, ensuring 100 percent operational readiness. She acquired Operational Camouflage Pattern fleeces and personal protective equipment for more than 120 Airmen. Salgado worked with the 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron to obtain and distribute more than 30 chemical warfare suits and masks for her unit. She has completed more than 50 percent of her doctorate degree in occupational therapy. Salgado volunteered more than 25 hours a week caring for a cerebral palsy patient. She created care plans and assisted with activities of daily living (a series of basic or routine activities performed by individuals on a daily basis in order to take care of ourselves, and assist with independent living at home or in the community) for the patient.



SPOTLIGHT



Staff Sgt. Darrell Sydnor

Rank/Name: Staff Sgt. Mariah Magtoto

Unit: 445th Force Support Squadron

Duty Title: Career Development Supervisor

Hometown: Columbus, Georgia

Civilian Job: Air Reserve Technician

Education: I'm currently working on a bachelor's degree in computer and information technology.

Hobbies: Spending time with my daughter, shopping and making people laugh.

Career Goal: Retire from the Air Force and obtain two bachelor's degrees: C&IT and human resources.

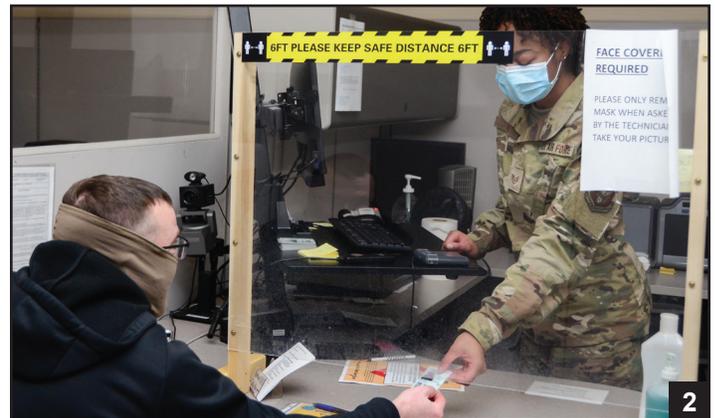
What you like about working at the 445th?: I love the team I work with in the career development office and meeting all the customers who come by. It is nice to have the extra connections within the wing at the 445th and 655th.

Why did you join the Air Force?: I was active duty first and joined because I wanted to see what the military was like since school wasn't for me at the time.

Around the wing...



Staff Sgt. Ethan Spickler



Staff Sgt. Darrell Sydnor



Staff Sgt. Ethan Spickler

1) Tech. Sgt. Douglas Lippert, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, installs a floor panel on a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, Jan. 9, 2021. The readiness of the aircraft's interior involves removing and inspecting up to several hundred floor panels on the C-17.

2) Staff Sgt. Oceania Mack, 445th Force Support Squadron customer service technician, issues an ID card to a retiree Jan. 9, 2021. Customer service Airmen ensure military members, retirees and dependents have proper identification cards, the correct credentials on their cards and that their benefits are up to date.

3) Tech. Sgt. Victor Peden, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, cleans the interior flight deck of a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, Jan. 9, 2021. The cleaning process involves the inspection and cleaning of the aircraft's interior.



News Briefs

Awards

Air Force Commendation Medal
Capt Alex Bilchak, AES
TSgt Nicholas Guinther, 87 APS

Air Force Achievement Medal
Capt Jason Provins, AES

Newcomers

Maj Jonathan Hall, 89 AS
TSgt Brittany Ritter, FSS
SSgt Weston Emanuelson, AMXS
SSgt Megan Snyder, AMXS
SrA Matthew Fahs, MXG
SrA Gabriela Grimes, ASTS
A1C Preson Sanders, AES
AB Frederick Gillenwater, AES

Retirements

Lt Col Lindsey Bullard, OSS
MSgt Mark Adams, 445 AW

Promotions

Chief Master Sergeant
Robert Barron, MXS

Master Sergeant
Rodney Bennett, 89 AS
Aubrey Booher, AMDS
Jeffrey Landis, MXS
Carl Shircliff, 89 AS
Andrew Wagner, 89 AS

Technical Sergeant
Samantha Chamberlain, MXG
Tyler Cupp, SFS
Joy Palmer, ASTS

Staff Sergeant
Jordan Besterman, AMXS
Valor Burkhead, LRS
Peter Moyer, LRS

Senior Airman
Armando Montes Hernandez, MXS
Joseph Poole, MXS
Lily Tendero, ASTS
Wyatt Woodyard, OSS

Airman 1st Class
Shaun Carson, AMXS
Matthew Dazen, AMXS
Jermaine Richards, AMXS

Annual Award

The 445th Airlift Wing will honor its annual award winners at an event April 10, 2021. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this year's event will be held on a much smaller scale on the 445th Campus. Nominees will be notified of details during the February Scarlet unit training assembly.

Nominations needed

445th Airmen and civilians employees are encouraged to nominate individuals for spouse, youth, field grade officer and civilian of the year. Nominations should be submitted on an Air Force Form 1206 and emailed to 445aw.pa2@us.af.mil and include a photograph. If a photo is needed, please contact the public affairs office at 937-257-5784.

Submissions are due no later than close of business Feb. 7, 2021.

Flight CCs Edge

The 445th Airlift Wing has developed a new program, Flight Commander's Edge, to aide in the leadership development of future squadron and flight leaders.

Ideal candidates are company grade officers and senior NCOs.

The program is slated to begin with the first course, May 3-5, 2021.

Course details include: members attending in military status (at unit's discretion); two to three hours of minor preparatory work for the member and the member's mentor/commander; a private tour of the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force; and key note speakers from outside of the 445th Airlift Wing.

Members who would like to participate should contact their supervisors.

Nominations for the first course are due Feb. 21, 2021.

COVID-19 VACCINE FACTS

Can a COVID-19 vaccine make me sick with COVID-19?

No. None of the authorized and recommended COVID-19 vaccines or COVID-19 vaccines currently in development in the United States contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

After getting a COVID-19 vaccine, will I test positive for COVID-19 on a viral test?

No. Neither the recently authorized and recommended vaccines nor the other COVID-19 vaccines currently in clinical trials in the United States can cause you to test positive on viral tests, which are used to see if you have a current infection.

If I have already had COVID-19 and recovered, do I still need to get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes. Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that re-infection with COVID-19 is possible, vaccine should be offered to you regardless of whether you already had COVID-19 infection. CDC is providing recommendations to federal, state, and local governments about who should be vaccinated first.

Will a COVID-19 vaccination protect me from getting sick with COVID-19?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccination works by teaching your immune system how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19, and this protects you from getting sick with COVID-19.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html>

Buckeye Flyer

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Wright-Patt USO spreads cheer to 445th Airmen

By Capt. Wilson Wise
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs



Karen Hunt, Wright-Patterson United Service Organizations (USO) volunteer, passes out chicken sandwiches to members of the 445th Airlift Wing, Jan. 9, 2021.

There's little doubt that the year 2020 presented challenges for members of the 445th Airlift Wing. As a small token of thanks, the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base United Service Organizations (USO) volunteers visited the wing to show their appreciation.

USO volunteer coordinator Gina Franz, her staff and Col. Raymond A. Smith, Jr., 445th Airlift Wing commander, visited 445th units Jan. 9, 2021, during the January unit training assembly, delivering chicken sandwiches and sodas to Airmen. The delivery was part of a New Year's tour intended to increase morale and say thanks.

Colonel Smith addressed each squadron with a message of hope

for the New Year. He acknowledged that 2020 was a challenging year and that he was proud of the work and sacrifices 445th Airmen were making to keep the mission going.

First sergeants from the wing coordinated the distribution of the meals. Senior Master Sgt. Joseph "Danny" Andrews, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron first sergeant, was pleased that the wing honored the hard work of his maintainers.

"These Airmen always appreciate food, but seriously, they have been working nonstop in dual shifts. Even though COVID-19 is here and has presented challenges to our work environment, the mission cannot stop," Andrews said.

Andrews and his fellow wing first sergeants appreciate the special efforts made to maintain standards through less-than-ideal conditions.

According to their website, the USO has continued to support the military and their families for more than seven decades, providing support to the country's servicemen and women as they perform their most challenging duties around the world. The reach of the USO's more than 250 centers extends to countries on every continent, operated by thousands of staff and volunteers whose goals are to match our service members' vigilance and provide best-in-class service to those

who sacrifice so much for America.

The Wright-Patterson USO is available on drill weekends from 3 to 9 p.m. for reservists.

"We've got food, table tennis, video games and a host of other things to say thank you and allow you to relax during the UTA," Franz said.

Additionally, the USO Airman's Attic has items available for free including winter coats and other outer wear on their Facebook site. <https://m.facebook.com/wpu-soairmansattic/>.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Ethan Spickler

Col. Ray Smith, 445th Airlift Wing commander, and Wright-Patterson United Service Organizations (USO) volunteers Gina Franz, center operations specialist; Tosca Hallock; and Karen Hunt pose for a photo, Jan. 9, 2021.

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