

## 445th Airlift Wing reflects on 2022

The 445th Airlift Wing wrapped up another successful year of flying operations, deployments, training and volunteer service.

The wing continues to be one of the most active Air Force Reserve Command C-17 wings, flying more missions in Fiscal Year 2022 than any other AFRC unit equipped C-17 organization. The 89th Airlift Squadron flew 1,340 sorties for a total of approximately 4,400 flying hours, consisting of 172 missions. The wing transported 6,883 passengers and delivered more than 19.9 million pounds of cargo.

In calendar year 2022, the 445th deployed over 160 Reserve Citizen Airmen throughout the United States and to countries that included Bahrain, Cuba, Djibouti, Germany, Honduras, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Niger, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Spain and the United Arab Emirates.

In March 2022, the 445th participated in a Unit Effectiveness Inspection, earning an overall effectiveness rating. The wing's Inspector General Inspections office garnered two highly effective ratings and joined nine other teams selected as superior performers.

To maintain operational readiness, over 180 Airmen from the 445th AW and members of the U.S. Ar-

my's 5th Battalion, 159th Regiment General Support Aviation Battalion, from Fort Knox, Kentucky, participated in an aeromedical patient movement exercise, Operation Merciful Valkyrie, from Sept. 11-14, 2022. Four C-17 Globemaster IIIs conducted eight launches.

Additionally this year, Airmen from 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron participated in Operation Walking Shield Innovative Readiness Training in Hoopa, California from August 2-15, 2022. The Hoopa community received more than \$500,000 in medical, dental, and vision care. The providers saw over 850 patients and provided more than 1,000 prescriptions.

In October 2022, three 87th Aerial Port Squadron Airmen deployed to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, used 3D printers to solve operational shortfalls in their spare time. They developed 3D-printed prototypes and brainstormed new ways to more efficiently accomplish tasks. They tackled a project that impacted over 120 Airmen on a daily basis. In one of the dorm buildings, six of the eight showers were unusable due to broken faucet knobs. After about 35 man-hours of designing, printing, testing and adjusting, the trio installed faucet handles on all six previously inoperable showers.

*(See year in review photo highlights on pages 2-3.)*

## 87th APS continues 38-year tradition with local hospital

*By Staff Sgt. Ethan Spickler*  
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

**Senior Master Sgt. Brian Anders, 87th Aerial Port Squadron assistant manager, delivers \$2,500 of toys and monetary gifts to Dayton Children's Hospital, Dec. 9, 2022.**

Airmen with the 87th Aerial Port Squadron at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, delivered \$1,525 in monetary donations and \$1,000 in toy donations to the Dayton Children's Hospital Dec. 9, 2022.

"It's actually really nice," said Senior Master Brian Anders, 87th APS assistant manager, as he dropped off the donations. "We used to come up to the hospital a lot and drop off gifts to the kids. To see their faces just light up, it's awesome, because they're sitting in a hospital room there; they're kind of segregated away from their friends and sometimes their families. So, whenever they see someone come in, especially in uniform, they're like '[wow],' and then they get presents and stuff, so that wakes them up a little bit more. They love it."

The squadron has had a unique connection to the hospital since 1981 when one of their Airmen, Tech. Sgt. Donald Newbauer and his wife Karen learned their son Vincent had been diagnosed with cancer.

*See GIVING, Page 8*



# Year in Review: 445th Airlift Wing relects on 2022



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly



Staff Sgt. Mikaley Kline

(left) Airmen from the 445th Airlift Wing sort food items at a mobile food bank delivery in Trotwood, Ohio, Jan. 19, 2022. (right) Airmen from the 445th Airlift Wing and 88th Air Base Wing, assigned to Task Force-Liberty, provide community-based learning to Afghan children at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, Feb. 1, 2022.



Tech. Sgt. Joel McCullough



Tech. Sgt. Joel McCullough

(left) Two 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Airmen de-ice a C-17 Globemaster III, March 13, 2022. (right) Col. Raymond Smith Jr., 445th Airlift Wing commander, presents the 445th Squadron of the Year Award to Lt. Col. Miranda Laubie, 445th Force Support Squadron commander, at the annual awards ceremony, April 2, 2022.



Tech. Sgt. Joel McCullough



Capt. Rachel Ingram

(left) Airmen from 445th Aeromedical Staging and Evacuation Squadrons, Army National Guard, and active-duty conduct medical training, May 14, 2022. (right) Chief Master Sgt. James Kirklin, 445th Security Forces Squadron, low crawls through a sand pit during a nine-part obstacle course at Camp Dawson, West Virginia, June 8, 2022.



# Year in Review: 445th Airlift Wing reflects on 2022



July

Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly



August

Staff Sgt. Ethan Spickler

(left) A fire truck headed to Belize is loaded onto a 445th Airlift Wing C-17 Globemaster III, July 5, 2022 as part of a Denton Program movement. (right) Staff Sgt. Daniel Harner, 445th Maintenance Squadron metals technology craftsman, measures equipment before fabricating a high-pressure manifold for a C-17, Aug. 7, 2022.



September

Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly



October

Staff Sgt. Dalton Williams

(left) Staff Sgts. Robert Gibson and Joshua Sweetman, 445th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters, extinguish an aircraft fire during training, Sept. 9, 2022. (right) Tech. Sgt. Mackenzie Logan (back center), 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron, and team play in the International Day of Peace volleyball tournament in Kuwait, Oct. 1, 2022.



November

Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly



December

Senior Airman Angela Jackson

(left) Employers of the 445th Airlift Wing board a C-17 as part of an all-day Employer Appreciation Day, Nov. 5, 2022. (right) Senior Airman Brooks Lyle, 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron medical services apprentice, administers a flu vaccine, Dec. 4, 2022. AMDS administered 1,050 flu shots during 2022, for a wing compliance rate of 93%.



# SPOTLIGHT



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

**Rank/Name:** Senior Airman  
Douglas J. Townsell

**Unit:** 445th Force Support Squadron

**Duty Title:** Personnel System Management Technician

**Hometown:** Cincinnati, Ohio

**Civilian Job:** Full-time college student

**Education:** Wright State University currently pursuing a computer science degree

**Hobbies:** I enjoy watching football. I'm a big Dallas Cowboys fan. I also enjoy watching NBA basketball.

**Career Goal:** I'm looking to get into the computer engineering field to do something like software engineering.

**What do you like about working at the 445th?:** I enjoy having a great supervisor and SEL (senior enlisted leader) around me who push me to reach new levels in my education and career goals.

**Why did you join the Air Force?:** I joined the Air Force because I wanted to follow in my family's footsteps, serve my country and further my education. I also joined to travel and make some extra money.

## Annual awards banquet details announced

The 445th Airlift Wing Annual Awards Banquet will be held March 11 at the National Museum of the United States Air Force. The reception is slated to begin at 6 p.m. and the program at 7 p.m.

A medallion ceremony will be held at 5 p.m. to recognize all nominees. Details will be emailed to nominees.

The awards banquet will recognize those selected for Airman, NCO, senior NCO, company grade officer, first sergeant, field grade officer, recruiter, honor guard member, civilian, spouse, youth and squadron of the year. The winner of each category will be announced during the banquet.

Reservations can be made at: <https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=714368&k=0560460A7D5F> with a credit or debit card. Reservations made using cash and check payments must be made in person in the Public Affairs office, building 4010, room 171. All reservations must be received by Feb. 13.

The cost is \$50 for adults and \$16 for children 10 and under.

To ease the check-in process, all attendees will have assigned tables. Unit tables will be designated. If you'd like to sit with someone who is not registered as your guest, please let us know via email at [445aw.pa2@us.af.mil](mailto:445aw.pa2@us.af.mil) no later than Feb. 19.

The dress for the evening is semi-formal or mess

dress for enlisted Airmen, mess dress for officers, and formal evening attire for civilians.

### Nominations needed/Package due date

Airmen and civilian employees are encouraged to submit nominations for spouse, youth, field grade officer and civilian of the year. Nominations should be submitted on an Air Force Form 1206 to [445aw.pa2@us.af.mil](mailto:445aw.pa2@us.af.mil) and include a photograph. If a photograph is needed, please contact the Public Affairs office at 937-257-5784. Submissions are due no later than close of business Feb. 4. Submissions for Squadron of the Year are also due Feb. 4.

Annual award packages for Airman, NCO, senior NCO and company grade officer of the year are due no later than close of business, Saturday, Feb. 4. Please contact the command chief's office for more details.

Official photos of wing quarterly award winners are needed as part of the annual awards package. All calendar year 2022 quarterly award winners are asked to come to the public affairs office on Saturday, Jan. 7 from 9 to 11 a.m. to have a photo taken. Members should be in full Service Dress. In addition, a full-length photo will be taken with short sleeve blue shirt with ribbons and bagdes.

Please contact the Public Affairs office at 937-257-5784 if you have question or concerns.





## 445th Airmen support local children through toy drives

*By Capt. Rachel Ingram  
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs*



Capt. Rachel Ingram

**Ms. Shanna King, director of the 445th Military and Family Readiness Center, places a gift by the Angel Tree in the M&FR center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, as donations are dropped off, Dec. 3, 2022.**

Throughout the holiday season, squadrons across the 445th Airlift Wing banded together to bring a little extra Christmas cheer to local children. The 445th campus served as a collection hub for new toys, clothing, gift cards, school supplies and more with wishlists and drop off points coordinated through three specific programs this year: Angel Tree, Dayton Children's Hospital toy drive and Toys for Tots.

The Military and Family Readiness center hosted its annual Angel Tree in their office, and a total of 46 children received toys from their wishlists through the program.

Each angel placed on the tree in the M&FR center is the child of a currently-serving 445th member, according to Ms. Shanna King, 445th Military and Family Readiness director. Each squadron's first sergeant plays an integral role in connecting the donated gifts with the families who requested them.

"Only the center staff and first sergeants know which families have angels on the tree," King explained. "The people who come and take a wishlist and adopt the angel only know that it represents a family here in the wing. They have no clue who, specifically, those gifts are going to."

About 30 people from squadrons across the wing contributed to Angel Tree this year, directly impacting dozens of other families in the 445th AW.

The M&FR center accepted applications during the October and November unit training assemblies, with volunteers beginning to pick up wishlists at the end of

the November UTA.

"By Thanksgiving, all the angels were adopted," she said.

Adoptees returned the new, wrapped gifts to the M&FR Center by Saturday of the December UTA, so first sergeants could discreetly hand out the gifts to participating members before they departed for home.

On the other side of the flight line, the 87th Aerial Port Squadron collected more than \$2,500 in gifts this year for children currently receiving care at Dayton Children's Hospital. In its 38th year, the squadron's toy drive typically generated about \$1,000 in toys and \$1,500 in monetary donations. Squadron members delivered the gifts to the hospital, Dec. 9, 2022.

The final toy drive hosted within the wing, Toys for Tots, benefited children around the greater Dayton community. In partnership with the 88th Air Base Wing, donation boxes popped up across the base, including eight placed on the 445th campus by Master Sgt. Holly Maser, 445th Security Forces Squadron first sergeant.

"Every donation makes a difference," Maser emphasized. "Just one toy is one additional child who is getting a gift this year."

Once the collection period ended, those items were handed off to Marines who coordinated their distribution in Ohio.

"We are such a large wing. There's no reason why we shouldn't be able to help fulfill these little dreams for kids at Christmas," Maser said.



Staff Sgt. Darrell Sydnor II

**Senior Airmen Royce Bridstrup (center) and Andrew Fultz (right), 445th Communications Element client system technicians, ring bells as volunteers at the annual Ring the Bell event for the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base First Sergeant Council's Operation Warm Heart at the base commissary, Dec. 3, 2022.**



# Airman graduates Army riggers course with honors

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

With aspirations of commissioning in the Air Force and rigging parachutes in the civilian sector, Staff Sgt. Sarah Maher, a 445th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment technician, gained her U.S. Army parachute riggers patch, and she did it with flying colors.

Maher passed the Army quartermaster's parachute rigger course, phase one for cargo, with an overall 99.8% passing score.

She attended the five-week course from September to October 2022 on the aerial delivery training section at Fort Lee, Virginia. While the course is hosted by the Army, Airmen and Marines can attend as well.

According to Maher, the course consisted of learning about G-11, G-11B and G-12E cargo parachutes that were designed for large loads of items like ammunition, water and anything else troops on the ground might need. The parachutes deploy and bring the load to the ground. She said they also learned about extraction chutes.

In addition, they learned nomenclatures of parachutes, how they work, how they function and how they deploy followed by practice with the rigs. Once they were done practicing, they would be graded and evaluated on every component.

Maher said she received 100% ratings on all her rigs except one.

Her class consisted of 24 servicemembers, consisting of a mix of Soldiers and Marines still in training, as well as AFE and aerial port Airmen.

"It was really cool, because operationally, we don't get to work with other branches," she said. "It was nice to learn more about other branches and get to work together. I think it promotes a better-rounded military when we are more familiar with each other."

Maher said her class was small compared to the regular 25-to-50-people-sized classes.

"It was super nice," she said. "The instructors had more one-on-one time with us, and we really go to know each other well."



Tech. Sgt. Joel McCullough

**Staff Sgt. Sarah Maher, 445th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment technician shows off her Army parachute riggers patch.**

In addition to the joint aspect, another factor Maher gave the most credit to for her stellar performance was her Air Force instructor the way he taught students. She credited his explanation about the rigs and system and the knowledge checks he routinely conducted helped everyone understand quickly.

"Our instructor was just so phenomenal at teaching; it was just profound really," she added. "He played a really big role in my success because he was such a great teacher."

Mahr stressed he did an amazing job of ensuring students felt there was no bias and was always there to provide assistance and an ear to listen.

The AFE Airman had nothing but praise about the entire course and staff.

"I can honestly say it was great," she said. "We had really good instructors, and the Army has a really good program."

She said most of the Air Force students in the course were from aerial port because they do most of the cargo rigging. This is true at the 445th Airlift Squadron as well.

Maher said even though she didn't work cargo, she said that the experience she does have helped, including her ejection seat training.

Maher said there are four different phases of rigger schools. Phase one, the one she attended, is all cargo. Phase two and three are both personnel chutes with the third being strictly a Marine course.

She added she already has her eyes set on the other phases.

Maher said she is very proud of her black and yellow riggers patch and there is only one other person in the unit who has one.

Up next for Maher is to get an FAA rigging certification.

"That's my next goal, because that translates more into the civilian world," Maher explained. "If it was a perfect world and everything went perfectly fine, if I could commission in the Reserve and then get full-time work with a company that would allow me to rig, that would be awesome."



# News Briefs

## Newcomers

Capt Danielle Dunlap, AMDS  
 Capt Ryan Graf, AMXS  
 TSgt Danetta Woods, LRS  
 SSgt Matthew Brumage, ASTS  
 SSgt Mason Disbennett, AMXS  
 SSgt Killian Gaipo, MXS  
 SSgt Jordan Speakman, CES  
 A1C Falirria Graggs, ASTS  
 A1C Collin Sherwood, AES

## Promotions

### Master Sergeant

Matthew Hallam, 87 APS  
 Matthew White, 87 APS

Aaron Williams, 87 APS

### Technical Sergeant

Codee Arthur, ASTS  
 Jeromy Bacher, ASTS  
 Jacob Burritt, AMXS  
 Casey Jones, AMXS  
 Jeffrey Mitsch, ASTS  
 Lucas Pickens, MXS  
 David Reed, CES  
 Alyssa Thacker, ASTS

### Staff Sergeant

Alayna Apolito, LRS  
 Luke Barnes, LRS  
 Tyler Bowling, ASTS  
 William Conley, FSS  
 Megan Hartley, CES  
 Zachary Loncosky, AMXS  
 Joseph O'Bryan, CES

### Senior Airman

Zai Albertson, ASTS

Jashaya Poindexter, 87 APS

Robert Potter, ASTS  
 Nathen Rosenbauer, MXS  
 Johnny York, CES

### Airman

Chibuzor Odife, CES  
 Samuel Shaffer, FSS

## Retirements

TSgt Mack Crabtree, LRS



## Buckeye Flyer

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# Set realistic goals for 2023

By Ms. Vera Ensalaco

445th Airlift Wing Director of Psychological Health

Last year, we ran an article on New Year's resolutions, and I believe it is worth repeating as we venture into 2023. Yearly, we start the new year with a clean slate, so to speak. We want better health, better relationships, better finances, possibly job changes or improvements. What is essential in whatever we do is to keep our goals realistic, achievable, sustainable and a good fit for us.

The New Year symbolizes a fresh start, a time to begin anew with a clean slate. Many of us make resolutions, take stock of their lives and set out to make positive changes. These are all great things. What could possibly go wrong?

Statistically, many resolutions fall by the wayside within the first two months for the aforementioned reasons. They aren't realistic, achievable or sustainable. I think that resolutions can be self-defeating. We set off with the best of intentions and if we take a small misstep, that could be enough for us to forsake it all. This can often set off an effect of guilt, failure and self-deprecation. Definitely not what we set out to do!

Setting realistic, achievable goals builds our confi-

dence. While doing this our self-perception is likely to improve, releasing those 'feel good' chemicals in our brain. One is dopamine which impacts the ability to think and plan. It engages the learning centers in our brain which allows us to be more motivated, resilient, and productive. Little changes can do that. Amazing, isn't it?

There does not have to be an extraordinary effort to yield some benefits. Small, daily focused changes in behavior for 21 consecutive days forms new habits. Change does not equal loss. Change can promote positive growth.

To quote Thomas Edison, "I have not failed. I have just found 10,000 ways that won't work." He also said, "Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up."

Truly failures, missteps, or however you want to term it, can be our road to our own personal success. And who knows, maybe along the way you'll find something that truly enriches your life.

Wishing you a wonderful 2023!



GIVING from page 1

They researched numerous facilities and treatment options before deciding Dayton Children's Hospital was where their son would be treated. Unfortunately, Vincent lost his battle with cancer that year.

In 1984, Sergeant Newbauer and Master Sgt. Paul Webb, former 87th APS first sergeant, decided they wanted to do something to both commemorate the memory of Vincent and say thank you to the hospital. Members of the 87th APS donned their dress blues and went room to room, presenting gifts to the children.

Additionally, Karen dressed up as Santa and entertained the children and families, doing so until she was no longer physically able due to her fight with diabetes.

What began as a small token of appreciation blossomed into a squadron mission that has continued over the years. Lately, the pandemic has limited the ability of Airmen to visit the families in person, but they have still collected countless toys and monetary donations to show Airmen are still thinking of the children.

They hope to be able to visit in person again soon, but until then, they won't stop doing what they can to brighten the holidays for the families at hospital.

"The awesome generosity from the community, to think of our kids and all the joy this brings," said Kristy Greer, Dayton Chil-



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

**Senior Master Sgt. Brian Anders, right, 87th Aerial Port Squadron assistant manager and Staff Sgt. Kelly Sloan, 87th APS special handling representative, collect donated toys for delivery to a local children's hospital.**

dren's Hospital child life specialist. "This is the gift that gives all year. It is during the holidays for Christmas, but these are things we use for birthdays when kids are in the hospital for their birthday or end of treatments for hematology or oncology patients, and it's just such generosity; it's really uplifting."

That sentiment is also felt at the squadron.

"The impact of having the privilege to care for these kids is evident," said Chief Master Sgt. Rob Haye, 87th APS squadron superintendent. "If you do it one time, you're hooked. We have so many young Airmen who step up and give, and it really makes me proud to see that legacy carry on."

No matter the circumstances, for the past 38 years, members of the 87th APS have proudly continued this tradition of giving.

"The giving is the most important thing," said Chief Master Sgt. Robert Rowe, 87th APS operations superintendent. "If we can give to the defenseless young people who are dealing with illness, fear and probably boredom; if we can put a smile on their faces, on their family's faces and help them, even just for a moment, to forget about their worries, then we have demonstrated the spirit of the holidays."

Their efforts have not only provided awareness and fostered healthy relationships with the community, but they have also set an example for the importance of bringing positivity and hope to those who need it the most. This impact is felt not only by the families but also by the squadron members themselves.

"We in the squadron benefit as well since this program demonstrates the heartfelt act of giving back to the most vulnerable in our community and shows our Airmen what it means to serve," Rowe continued. "We have always, in all my years with the squadron, had overwhelming support and buy-in from our Airmen. It's a sense of pride for me to see how much our Airmen care."

(Ms. Amanda Dick contributed to this article.)

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