



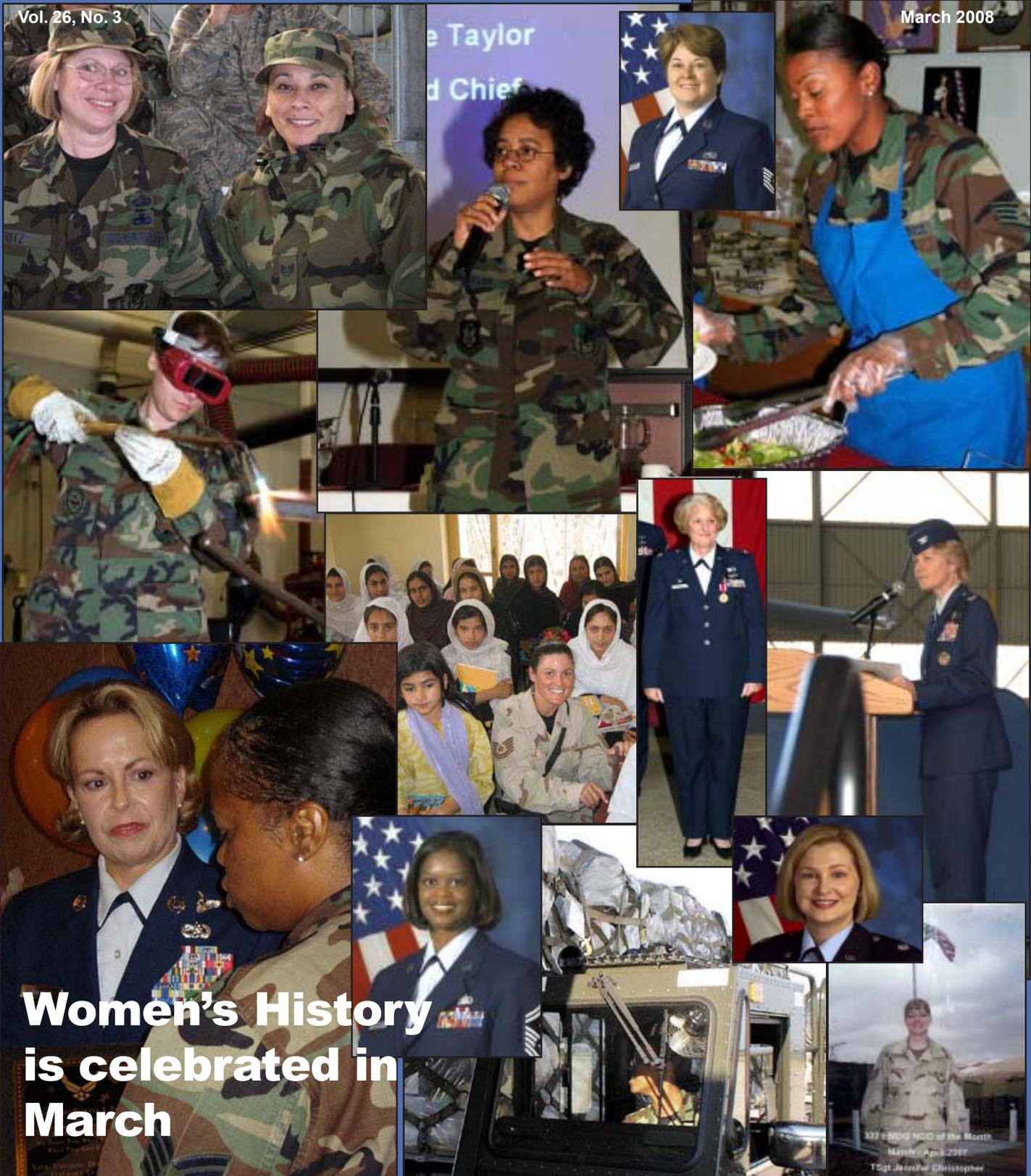
CONTACT



Magazine for and about Air Force Reserve members assigned to the 349th Air Mobility Wing, Travis Air Force Base, California

Vol. 26, No. 3

March 2008



**Women's History
is celebrated in
March**

337 E-MOD MCO of the North
March - April 2007
TSgt. Jennifer Christopher

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History Month: The 349th Air Mobility Wing has many hard working and history making women throughout the wing.

The cover photo this month is just a small representation of some of them.

Visit the 349th web page at www.349amw.afrc.af.mil and take a look at past issues of the *Contact* magazine to identify these highlighted members of the 349th AMW.



Cover photo compiled from photos submitted to the *Contact* over the past 12 months



349th Air Mobility Wing
Office of Public Affairs
520 Waldron Street
Travis AFB, CA 94535-2171
Office Hours:

Monday - Friday and UTAs
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Phone: (707) 424-3936
FAX: (707) 424-1672

Commander

Col. Maryanne Miller

Chief, Public Affairs

Vacant

Deputy Chief, Public Affairs

Ronald C. Lake

Editor

Patti Schwab-Holloway

Public Affairs Staff

Capt. Robin Jackson
Senior Master Sgt. Marvin Meek
Master Sgt. Wendy Weidenhamer
Technical Sgt. Mary Beth Bemis
Technical Sgt. Tony Castro
Staff Sgt. Meredith Mingledorff

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Strategic Agenda coming

The inspections are upon us and your start “out of the blocks” has been impressive. The Operations Group achieved “Excellent” results during their Aircrew Stan Eval Visit in late January. The AMC inspectors were very impressed and in some cases overcome by the incredible results. The rest of the wing will begin their Unit Compliance Inspection, Health Services Inspection, and LSEP inspection windows on the 3rd of March and I am confident you all will “shine.” I know you will be recognized for your commitment to the mission and for your excellence in the performance of your jobs. Thank you all

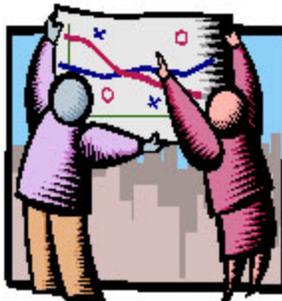


for caring to do “right things right” and keeping the 349th on the “leading edge.”

During the two UTAs in February, Col. Abel

Barrientes, 349th vice commander, Command Chief Master Sgt. Christine Taylor and I had breakfast with the Airmen, visited eight commanders’ calls, stopped in at the “Taste of Fitness,” had lunch with the first sergeants and LULAC and went to the first sergeants’ “Reblue” program. In the past month, I have been to nearly every unit and facility within the 349th Wing. I must say, I am impressed and overwhelmed with your unit pride, professionalism and commitment to the mission.

This month you will all receive the 349th Strategic Agenda in your email. This document was created by the Wing



By Col. Maryanne Miller

Executive Group to provide you a strategic view for the next 12 months. Its purpose is to help all 349th members plan for the next year and know what is expected. It identifies our priorities of PEOPLE and READINESS and lists our core competencies.

The Strategic Agenda is a working document that your leadership will use to guide the wing in a common vision. It is a responsibility of every member of the 349th AMW to contribute to our mission and people successes. I need your input so we can collectively move out with the same vision and direction for the future.

Lead on!

Love is in the air - or at least it should be

by Chaplain (1st Lt.) Andrew Edwards
349th Air Mobility Wing

Ah, love is in the air. Hopefully it will still be so when you read this article. Yes, I know, by the time this article ‘hits the press,’ Valentine’s Day will have already passed, but hopefully you will have continued to have loved many people regardless of the day of the year - especially your spouses and close family. I know that I will have, God willing, taken my wife out on several dates (as we do normally on a weekly basis) including a special date for V-Day; hopefully I’ll have taken my daughters on a special father/daughter date or two. Regardless of when you read this, remember that showing love must continue to be an integral and interlacing fabric of our nature and everyday lives and love can be given to an infinite number of people in our lives.

When we think of love we often think of romance (Peppy Le Pew probably comes to mind, or maybe not), Valentine’s Day, our spouses, walks on the beach, a candlelight

dinner for two, and our close family relationships. I love love! Love can be such a wonderful thing in the way that it impacts and affects things, situations, and people when based upon healthy relationships, boundaries, and mutual respect.

Love can mean different things to different people; generally speaking, I think most of us can agree that love means sacrificing our own pleasures, desires, and motivations for the sake of those we care about. Love also means intense dedication and commitment to the feelings and well being of others. Love means showing people that we care about them through the way we talk to them, touch them, and treat them on a regular basis.

If we say that we have love for someone and yet abuse them mentally, physically, or

emotionally, then our oral overtures are silenced by the fruit of our true motivations. Love to some people means “I enjoy, or love, how you make me feel or what you do for me.” This isn’t truly love,

instead it is selfishness!

Again, true love means laying down one’s own self for the well-being and edification of others.

Jesus said the two greatest commandments were these: “*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.*” Then He said, “*You shall love your neighbor as yourself...*” on

these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets” (Matthew 22:37-40, New King James Version.) Wow, loving someone means treating them the way you want to be treated! Can you imagine what would happen, how love would be revolutionized in our marriages and

(See Love on Page 4)



349th AMW welcomes new vice commander

by Technical Sgt. Mary Beth Bemis
349th Air Mobility Wing

The 349 Air Mobility Wing warmly welcomes the return of Col. Abel Barrientes to Team Travis. In January, Barrientes accepted the position as vice commander after serving as inspector general of 4th Air Force the past two years.

Team Travis is like coming home for the colonel, as he spent three years here on active duty from 1986 to 1989 flying the C-

5 for the 75th Military Airlift Squadron. In addition to that assignment, he served as a wing operations airlift director for the 60th Mobility Air Wing.

After a smooth transition to the Air Force Reserve in 1989, he was assigned to the 312th Airlift Squadron. Not only did Barrientes serve various positions within the squadron, he also mobilized twice for Desert Shield/Storm in 1990 and also for Operations Enduring/Iraqi Freedom in 2003 flying numerous combat and combat support missions.

With today's ops tempo, Colonel Barrientes will be a tremendous asset to the 349th AMW as vice commander. His vast combat experience and most recently his position as Senior Military Advisor to the Iraqi Air Force in 2006 can only enhance Team Travis

readiness.

Welcome home to the 349th Air Mobility Wing Colonel Barrientes!



photo by Master Sgt. Wendy Weidenhamer, 349th Public Affairs

A new member of senior leadership: The 349th Air Mobility Wing, Travis Air Force Base, has a new vice commander, Col. Abel Barrientes, whose previous position was Inspector General for 4th Air Force, March Air Reserve Base, Calif. The Colonel is not a stranger to Travis, however. He was stationed here from 1986-2006. During that time he was activated and flew combat and combat support missions in support of Operations Desert Shield/Storm and Operations Enduring/Iraqi Freedom. Col. Barrientes is a command pilot with more than 5,700 flying hours. And as a civilian, he is a commercial airline captain with more than 9,000 flying hours.

Awards and Medals

- Defense Meritorious Service Medal
- Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
- Air Medal
- Aerial Achievement Medal
- Air Force Commendation Medal
- Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters
- Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device and seven oak leaf clusters
- Combat Readiness Medal with eight oak leaf clusters
- National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
- Southwest Asia Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters
- Iraq Campaign Medal
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border and one oak leaf cluster
- Air Force Longevity Service Award with four oak leaf clusters
- Armed Forces Reserve Medal with three "M" devices
- Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with one oak leaf cluster
- Air Force Training Ribbon
- Kuwait Liberation Medal, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Kuwait Liberation Medal, Government of Kuwait

Love...

(Continued from Page 3)

relationships, if we treated people exactly the way we desired to be treated! Talk about romance, talk about joy and peace in our homes! This is why it is so important to communicate with our loved ones and ask them about how they feel about the way we love them, communication sure alleviates a lot of long term problems. Sometime take your spouse or loved one to dinner and ask them, "Do you know that I love you?" Also, "How can I show you that I love and care about you?" "Do my actions measure up to my words when I say that I love you?" It may be humbling to hear their replies, but it can also be enlightening to

find out what shows them that you love them.

I love the way the Bible describes love, or charity, as it translated in the King James Version: "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity (deliberate sin against another), but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, endures all things. Love never fails" (NKJV, 1 Corinthians 13:4-8).

I pray that each of you, as members of our Air Force family, will love one another, your coworkers, and spouses (even your enemies) and know what it like to be truly loved. AMEN!

National Women's History Month

Women's Art: Women's Vision

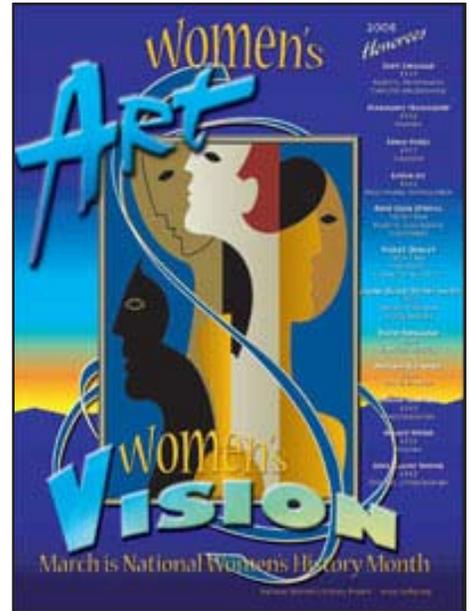
by Staff Sgt. Tamara Potier
349th Military Equal Opportunity

Since 1987 our great nation has celebrated women's history during the month of March. What started during the late 1970s in Sonoma County, California, as an educational outreach effort has evolved into a month long celebration of the distinguished accomplishments of women in America. To honor the originality, beauty, imagination and multiple dimensions of women's lives, the National Women's History Project has chosen Women's Art: Women's Vision as the 2008 theme for National Women's History Month.

Based on art, vision, art form and cultural background, honorees such as June Claire Wayne, Judy Chicago, Miriam Schapiro and Lorna Simpson are featured by the National Women's History Project

for recognition of significant contributions to the diversity of art. June Claire Wayne, renowned painter and lithographer, revitalized interest in printmaking art in 1960 through the founding of the Tamarind Institute of the University of New Mexico. Legendary feminist artists, Judy Chicago and Miriam Schapiro co-founded the CalArts feminist Art Program for the California Institute of the Arts. January through February 1972, Chicago and Schapiro organized and held the first feminist art exhibition, Womanhouse. As an artist and photographer, Lorna Simpson created artworks during the 1980s and 1990s such as Guarded Conditions and Square Deal to express ethnicity and sex within contemporary American society.

National Women's History Month is an opportunity for us all to celebrate the unique perspectives of women through art and acknowledge our heritage through the accomplishments of great women. For



more information on the Women's History Project organization and honorees, please visit www.nwhp.org.

Public Health - for your health, safety

by Maj. Alisa Martinelli
349th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

The Public Health section of the 349th Aerospace Medicine Squadron would like to take this opportunity to highlight its functions and services.

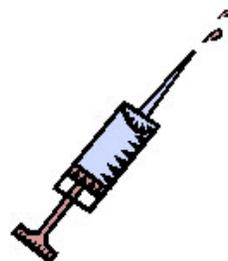
First and foremost our primary concern is for the health and safety of the 349th AMW members. The section is responsible for all Occupational Health examination monitoring. Occupational Physicals are given to those members that work in designated hazardous work environments. These physicals are mandatory and are given annually.

If you work in one of these environments and have not received an annually physical, please contact your supervisor or Unit Health Monitor in your orderly room immediately. For those receiving examinations, please remember that any follow-up action needs to be completed as soon as possible and preferably within one Unit Training Assembly.

One of the most important parts of

Occupational Health is the Reproduction Protection Program. This program is designed to ensure the safety of the unborn child as well as the mother to be. Expecting mothers must contact the 349th AMDS at (707) 424-3812 as soon as possible after pregnancy confirmation. Your workplace will then be evaluated by Public Health and Bioengineering. Pregnant members will also be placed on a physical profile. This is done in order to protect the military member and the unborn child. Also, keep in mind, the father's occupation may also have an impact on the pregnancy as well, so feel free to ask the Public Health technician if you have any questions or concerns.

Immunizations are very hot topic and another primary concern of the 349th Public Health office - the number one



issue: the flu shot. The flu shot is mandatory for military personnel receive an annual flu shot. Members may get a flu shot during their UTA or provide

proof of immunization from civilian sources to the 349th AMDS. Please remember especially during flu season, and as a general good rule, hand washing is the first and best defense against infectious diseases.

To wash your hands correctly use warm soapy water, vigorously rubbing your hands together for 15 seconds, (singing the "Happy Birthday" song inside your head twice is a good trick to washing for the correct amount of time) rinse and then dry. Hand sanitizers work well too but you must rub your hands together for a minimum of 18 seconds. The best way to protect yourself is to wash your hands before and after eating, before and after patient care, after coughing and or sneezing, when dirty, and often throughout the day.

Public Health also addresses concerns for food safety, ranging from the dining facilities to a squadron barbecues. If you have any questions or concerns about food safety don't hesitate to call.

For more information please contact the 349th Public Health office on UTA weekends at (707) 423-5464.

312th AS brings new meaning to ‘getting fired up’

by Master Sgt. Wendy Weidenhamer
349th Air Mobility Wing

Some members from the 312th Airlift Squadron recently had an opportunity to put their fire fighting skills to the test when an historic MiG-17 aircraft caught fire on the ramp at Nevada’s Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Nov. 12, the day after the Aviation Nation 2007 Air Show, celebrating the Air Force’s 60th Anniversary, closed there.

The Travis aircrew was just wrapping up their pre-flight inspection preparing to head home after configuring the C-5 Galaxy as a static display aircraft during the air show. Master Sgt. Ryan Senate, 312th AS loadmaster/examiner, noticed the aircraft parked next to them on the ramp. The Soviet-designed MiG-17 had fire coming from the bottom rear section of the aircraft and alerted his fellow crew members.

The available C-5 crew headed outside to quickly assess the situation and as Technical Sgt. Jason Matsuoka, another 312th AS loadmaster, scanned the MiG’s cockpit it appeared to him that the pilot was still in the aircraft.

“As I started to realize that it looked as though the pilot was still in the jet and the fire trucks still weren’t out there, I gained a real sense of urgency,” said Sergeant Matsuoka. “From that point on I just thought that we needed to get the pilot out.”

Sergeant Matsuoka knew he had to do something to help so he grabbed the nearest fire extinguisher with wheels and ran towards the burning MiG with the extinguisher in tow and Senior Master Sgt. Walter Witkowski, also a 312th AS

loadmaster, and Master Sgt. Ryan Senate running behind him. When Sergeant Matsuoka got to the aircraft Sergeant Witkowski helped him position the fire extinguisher and unwrap the fire hose. Sergeant Matsuoka then focused on putting the fire out, getting closer and closer to the aircraft as the fire receded into the fuselage. Meanwhile someone began spraying the fire from the other side of the aircraft which placed a large cloud of fire-suppressant in front of Sergeant Matsuoka. He held his breath and backed away from the fire and turned the job over to Sergeant Witkowski, who continued to put agent on the fire until the Nellis AFB firefighters arrived. In the end the MiG-17 sustained only minimal damage.

“Having been a volunteer firefighter in Texas,” said Thomas Bunce, a photographer who happened to be on the scene. “I know it had to be quite hot without bunker gear, but the quick action of the C-5 crew kept the fire from really damaging the MiG before the Nellis firefighters arrived.”

“I have nothing but great, great things to say about Technical Sgt. Matsuoka,” said Master Sgt. Senate. “He was really a



quick thinker that day and I think he was the hero of day, that day.”

“I think that in the Air Force we train for situations where our wingmen need to rely on our actions to keep them safe,” said Sergeant Matsuoka. “Having confidence in our training and emergency techniques allows us to keep a level head and safely accomplish our objectives.”

And then it was time to finish that preflight and go home—just another day in the Air Force Reserve.



courtesy photo by Thomas Bunce

The action never stops: The day after Nellis AFB’s action-packed Aviation Nation Air Show, Technical Sgt. Jason Matsuoka, from the 312th Airlift Squadron, Travis AFB, pulls a fire extinguisher with him as he runs to put out a fire on a MiG-17 fighter jet. Sergeant Matsuoka was part of the flight crew for the C-5 Galaxy from Travis AFB that was on the ramp next door to this historic aircraft. The C-5 had been on display during the air show, helping to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the United States Air Force.

349th members working with “RED HORSE”

by Master Sgt. Donald Mascardo
349th Civil Engineer Squadron

Last October, after completing 28 days of Combat Skills Training in Fort McCoy, Wis., nine of us from the 349th Civil Engineer Squadron were headed for different Areas of Responsibility in Iraq along with 550 other members of the 1st Expeditionary RED HORSE Group. The nine from Team Travis consisted of: seven heavy equipment operators, one structures craftsman, and me as an engineering assistant craftsman. We were mobilized in August as augmentees to the RED HORSE. Completing the CST was the first requirement on this six-month deployment.

While at CST, we learned from our orders that in supporting the RED HORSE, we would be known as “ILO,” or “In Lieu Of” the U.S. Army. In other words, we could provide combat support to the Army - to work outside the wire. Thus in CST we learned to speak the Army language and their communication and management style. We lived in an Army Garrison. We didn't completely abandon our Air Force

way of life; however, it enabled us to understand the Army in supporting their critical missions in the AOR. As we were trained by Army cadres, senior NCOs and some of the rising six attended leadership classes. Some went to Combat Life Saving classes, combat training, weapon's training, and other war critical life saving skills training in preparing for “ILO” tasking. Classes included Self-Aid Buddy Care, weapons crew familiarization, live fire training, Iraqi culture and familiarization, land navigation and map reading, foot patrol, convoy operations, how to identify Improvised Explosive Devices, base defense, how to enter and clear a room, how to handle a hostage detainee, ambush counter-attack training and more. We have gone to all these training courses in just 28 days. And more importantly, we have learned how to work together - All 550 of us.

The 1st ERHG is based at Balad Air Base and they support the many Forward Operating Bases - the “Travis Nine” are spread-out. At Sather AB/Baghdad International Airport (BIAP), I'm deployed with one of the heavy equipment

operators. There are a total of 55 of us here in our detachment – the 557th Expeditionary RED HORSE squadron.

With RED HORSE, we are the planners, the engineers, and the builders. The RED HORSE has had a strong tradition since the Vietnam War, that is to make things happen – rapidly and readily - no doubt about that, indeed a “can do, will do” attitude. Our projects here includes drainage improvements, such as excavating retention ponds and installing drainage pipes, building a concrete cargo pad, and building K-Spans structures from scratch.

I'm overseeing the Engineering Assistants Section – a diverse team of four with nearly 40 years of combined engineering and architectural experience. We provide assistance in planning and project development, design engineering, construction surveying, and construction materials testing. RED HORSE BIAP just opened a new facility that housed our materials testing laboratory. This new state-of-the-art facility was not even in existence before our arrival in October. This is the first in the BIAP area and I'm proud to be part of building this “house.” We provide AOR-wide support in construction quality assurance facility. We are equipped with materials testing equipment such as a concrete curing tank and a compression machine, a soil-strength and bearing-capacity apparatus, gradation composition equipments, etc.

My EA team is readily available and capable to handle any surveying job, from conventional to Global Positioning System (GPS) surveying methods. Computers are up-to-date with current engineering and surveying softwares.

Being deployed for the first time in my 19 years in the Reserve (with no active-duty service), my civilian experience proves to be valuable on this assignment. Since my ‘tech school days’ in 1989, I have been employed eight years with a couple of (geotechnical) consulting engineering firms specializing in construction materials testing, then went on to work for the San Joaquin County Public Works Department as a construction inspector and contracts manager for more than seven years. What I'm currently doing here is like a review of my past 16 years of employment. It's

(See RED HORSE on Page 9)



courtesy photo

By my calculations: Master Sgt. Donald Mascardo, 349th Civil Engineer Squadron, after completing 28 days of Combat Skills Training in Fort McCoy, Wis., was one of nine members from the 349th CES who headed out for different Areas of Responsibility in Iraq along with 550 other members of the 1st Expeditionary RED HORSE Group on this six-month deployment.

Surfboard to Tanker Control Center - Millmann continues to move forward

by **Technical Sgt. Mary Beth Bemis**
349th Air Mobility Wing

As vice commander of the 349th Air Mobility Wing, from May 2005 to January 2008, Col.

Robert K. Millmann, Jr., was a busy man.

Anyone meeting the colonel would describe him as personable, friendly and sincere. Regardless of his schedule, he would take a moment in time to make each interaction with the person in front of him count.

"The 349th AMW is not just about people and equipment. Rather men, women, and families with hopes and dreams for a better world and a better America," Colonel Millmann wrote to Col. Abel Barrientes, the new vice commander of the 349th AMW.

"Enjoy the job, and take it to the next level," he concluded his welcome note.

Heartfelt, meaningful words were a part of the ingratiating charm of Colonel Millmann. He was always first to thank the men and women of the 349th AMW, whom he referred to as 'great American heroes.'

"I look at our military folks as fellow American heroes in every sense of the word," said Colonel Millmann. "They volunteer to serve their nation when they don't have to - They are the guardians of freedom, which I believe in my heart is God's gift to humanity."

Colonel Millmann was inspired to join

"It is up to the young Citizen Airmen to remember that it is not about rank and promotion, but the need to preserve the ideals and freedoms that we have," he said. "Wear your rank in your heart and not on your sleeve or your collar"

--Col. Robert K. Millmann

the Air Force in the spring of 1979 while he was working as a marine biology intern in San Diego, Calif. He and his boss, an ex-Navy World War II pilot, would sit on the roof of their building at lunch and watch the Navy fighters fly up and down the beach. His boss was the one that planted the flying bug, said Colonel Millmann.

"I literally came off my surfboard one day, barefoot, covered with sand, and walked into the recruiter's office," Colonel Millmann laughingly reminisced. The recruiter, a technical sergeant, told him to go home, clean up his act and come back. So he went home, showered, changed, and went back.

"The rest is history," he said.

Colonel Millmann explained how his career has been filled with many unforgettable experiences.

"My most memorable experience was being mobilized for Desert Shield/Storm," Colonel Millmann said. "It was a very trying time in our nation's history."

"You'd train and you'd train," he said, "but then you were actually doing the real thing, fighting a war."

Colonel Millmann's career has also afforded him the opportunity to meet many of history's aviation greats, including Curtis LeMay, the founder of Strategic Air Command and the surviving members of WW II's Doolittle Raiders.

A big proponent of leading and motivating, mentoring and grooming, Colonel Millmann wants to leave the Air Force better than the way he found it.

"I want to know that the future guardians of freedom, will keep the world safe, and keep humanity safe," Colonel Millmann said.

"It is up to the young Citizen Airmen to remember that it is not about rank and promotion, but the need to preserve the ideals and freedoms that we have," he said. "Wear your rank in your heart and



photo by Master Sgt. Wendy Weidenhamer, 349th Public Affairs

Looking forward: Col. Robert K. Millmann, is shown above thanking the veterans for their service at a past "Operation Gratitude" brunch. This brunch is an annual 349th Wing sponsored event at the California Veteran's Home, Yountville, Calif. Colonel Millmann leaves Travis Air Force Base to assume his position as mobilization assistant to the commander of the 618th Tanker Airlift Control Center at Scott AFB, Ill.

not on your sleeve or your collar."

Continuing education is also of major importance to Colonel Millmann. Recently he completed his master's degree in military studies with a concentration in air warfare.

"At this point in my life I don't need a master's, but a couple of years ago, the Secretary of the Air Force came out and said you should get your master's, so I started mine in 2006," Colonel Millmann said "Haven't watched a football game or a basketball game in two years," he chuckled, "I've been reading and writing."

Well prepared by his time at Travis, Colonel Millmann leaves to assume his position as mobilization assistant to the commander of the 618th Tanker Airlift Control Center at Scott AFB, Ill.

"I'm humbled and honored to be selected and move on, but it is really the great work of the people that I've worked with that have helped me grow," Colonel Millmann said. "I'm really excited, it is a great opportunity and hopefully I can make it count at the next level."

Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service seeks new applicants

The Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service is now seeking applicants to fill recruiting positions in locations across the globe.

In addition to finding qualified applicants for careers in the Air Force Reserve, a recruiter interacts with the community and serves as a representative of the Reserve 24 hour a day.

"We're always looking for enthusiastic, qualified people. If you are motivated to excel, perform above the status quo, and are physically and morally fit this could be the career move you've been looking for," said Chief Master Sgt. Dave Schoch, chief of the AFRC Recruiting Service training branch.

The application process begins with a face-to-face interview with the local senior recruiter. "If you meet the qualifications you will be asked to complete a packet, to include a current physical," Chief Schoch said. "The packet will be sent to our headquarters at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., to the recruiter selection board for evaluation."

If selected, applicants attend an evaluation and selection course at the recruiting service headquarters here.

Applicants are evaluated on "potential to become a successful recruiter. The course is five-days long designed to introduce prospective candidates to reserve recruiting. During this course, candidates will undergo an open-ranks inspection, participate in physical training, give speeches, and complete memorization work. Challenges are progressive. The top candidates are afforded the opportunity to attend the recruiter class.

The recruiting course at Lackland AFB, Texas, is six-weeks long.

"This is one of the most challenging technical schools in the Air Force. These six weeks will prepare you to be a mission-ready recruiter," said Senior Master Sgt. Barry Kowald, an instructor at the school. "Standards here are high."

Instruction includes Air Force Reserve benefits and entitlements, program selection criteria, advertising, and promotion, community relations, speech, and salesmanship. Course emphasis is on student performance and practical

application.

Technical Sgt. James Dock, a reserve recruiter at Tampa, Fla., said he understands the importance of his job.

"As a recruiter you will help others make decisions that will affect them the rest of their lives," Sergeant Dock said. "We're the gateway to an amazing future as Citizen Airmen."

He's been a recruiter for two and half years, and formerly served as a medical administrator at MacDill AFB, Fla. He said there's been no more fulfilling job than the one he's had as a recruiter.

"As recruiter, it gives me an opportunity to provide people some guidance in their lives and help them reach a lifelong goal," he added.

An initial recruiting tour of extended active duty can last up to four years. Tour extensions are reserved for those who "meet or exceed the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, appearance, integrity, production, and acceptance of responsibility," according to Chief Schoch.

For more information, contact the 349th Air Mobility Wing Recruiting office at (707) 424-3111, or call Master Sgt. Briana Ontiveros, the training NCO at the headquarters, at DSN 497-0630 or commercial (478) 327-0630.



RED HORSE...

(Continued from Page 7)

refreshing.

With Team Travis, the closest experience I had with the 349th CES was in 2003 when we spent three-weeks of annual tour in Belize, Central America. During that tour, we supported the U.S. Army during a humanitarian mission. There we lived inside an army base. As the head of the EA section, my team was tasked to "go outside the wire" to a nearby village to do site engineering for a two-story, 16-classroom building. On that project, we performed topographic survey, prepared the site plan and designed the foundation plan for the school building way ahead of the time allotted to us. As I think about it, that experience practically has prepared me to be effective craftsman here at BIAP.

As we are scheduled to work 12 hours/six days week, I also

find time to volunteer teaching a college math course through our base education office for deployed Airmen wanting to take the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) test. It is a three-day refresher class that meets two hours each day. I teach both day session and evening sessions.

Six months is a long deployment not counting the one month we had spent at CST. We should be home in April. But that seems to so far away yet; however, by making the best of my deployment here, staying safe, combining my civilian skills with military skills, refreshing my engineering skills, mentoring EA and younger Airmen, and volunteering (as my commander here in BIAP said, a "noble cause") to teach CLEP class, all this and more should keep me busy until April.

(Editor's note: since mid January, Master Sgt. Donald Mascardo has redeployed to Contingency Operating Base Speicher near Tikrit, Iraq and is working as the NCOIC of Engineering Assistants Section providing engineering support to multi-million dollar base construction projects.)

PROMOTIONS



Senior Master Sergeant

Darlene G. Chaboude, 349th AMXS



Master Sergeant

Charles J. Butler, 82nd APS
Dale E. Carothers, 349th MDS



Technical Sergeant

Ramon T. Duenas, 82nd APS

Jacqueline Gonzales, 349th CS
Breezy-June C. Guerrero, 349th ASTS
Danilo D. Larios, Jr., 82nd APS
Matthew S. Steinhauer, 349th AES
Seth M. Thomas, 349th AMXS
Craig D. Waliser, 349th AMXS
Scott R. Zeller, 749th AMXS



Staff Sergeant

April G. Alvarez, 349th MDS
Michael F. Bob, 70th ARS
Kory J. Caulfield, 749th AMXS
Lucannus E. Cronquist, 349th EMS
Allen F. Lane, 749th AMXS
Jaron P. McAlister, 312th AS

(Promotions effective Feb. 1, 2008)



Senior Airman

Jesus M. Beltran, 349th CMS
Jayne Duda, 349th AMDS
John V. M. Vergara, 349th CES
Melvin G. Walker, 349th CES



Airman First Class

Ryan M. Giarmona, 349th OSF
Athene J. P. Santos, 349th AES
Lauren C. E. Wallace, 349th AES
Stephanie R. Worden, 55th APS

UNIT VACANCIES

AFSC	AFSC Title	Grade	#	AFSC	AFSC Title	Rank	#
11M3A	Mobility Pilot, C-5	Officer	2	3E051	Electrical Systems	SSgt	2
11M3K	Mobility Pilot, C-17	Officer	7	3E052	Electric Power Production	SSgt	3
12M3Y	Mobility Navigator	Officer	1	3E051	Electrical Systems	SSgt	2
1A151	Flight Engineer	SSgt	1	3E451	Utilities Sys	SSgt	1
1A271	Aircraft Loadmaster	SSgt/MSgt	8/1	3E452	Liquid Fuel Sys Maint	SSgt	1
1C072	Aviation Resource Mgnt	TSgt	1	3E851	Explosive Ord Disposal	SSgt	4
1C351	Command Post	SSgt	1	3E891	Explosive Ord Disposal	SM/CMSgt	1/1
1N071	Operations Intelligence	TSgt/SMSgt	2/1	3E951	Readiness	SSgt	1
1T071	Surv, Evas, Resist & Esp	TSgt	1	3P051	Security Police	SSgt	1
21R3	Logistics Readiness	Officer	2	3P051B	Security Frce/Combat Arms	SSgt	4
2A551J	Aerospace Maint, C-5	SSgt	16	3S051	Personnel	SSgt	3
2A551L	Aerospace Maint, KC-10	SSgt	1	3S251	Education & Training	SSgt	4
2A571	Aerospace Maintenance	TSgt	1	41A3	Health Services Admin	Officer	4
2A651A	Aerospace Propul, Jet Eng	SSgt	10	44M3	Internist	Officer	2
2A652	Aerospace Ground Equip	SSgt	5	44Y3	Critical Care Medicine	Officer	3
2A654	Aircraft Fuel System	SSgt	1	45A3	Anesthesiologist	Officer	1
2A655	Aircraft Hydraulic System	SSgt	1	45B3	Orthopedic Surgeon	Officer	1
2A656	Aircraft Elect & Envir Sys	SSgt	1	46F3	Flight Nurse	Officer	2
2A672	Aerospace Ground Equip	TSgt	1	46N3	Clinical Nurse	Officer	10
2A675	Aircraft Hydraulic Systems	TSgt	1	46N3E	Clinical Critical Nurse	Officer	6
2A751	Aircft Metals Technology	SSgt	2	47G3A	Dentist, Comprehensive	Officer	1
2E153	Ground Radio Comm	SSgt/TSgt	1/2	48A3	Aerospace Medicine	Officer	2
2E173	Ground Radio Comm	MSgt	1	48R3	Diagnostic Radiologist	Officer	3
2T251	Air Transportation	SrA/SSgt	15/13	4B051	Bioenvironmental Engrg	SSgt	1
2T351	Spec Veh & Equip Maint	SSgt	1	4N091	Aerospace Medical Svc	SMSgt	2
32E3G	General Civil Engineer	Officer	2	4T051	Medical Lab	SSgt	1
32E3H	EOD Engineer	Officer	1	51J3	Judge Advocate	Officer	2
3E051	Electrical Systems	SSgt	2	5J051	Paralegal	SSgt	1

For more information about these vacancies, go to <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/MainMenu.asp>.

349th Wing earns 13th Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

by Ron Lake

349th Air Mobility Wing

The 349th Air Mobility Wing has again distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious service by earning its 13th Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

“Congratulations to the men and women of the 349th Air Mobility Wing on winning the 2007 Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the 6th year in a row!” said Col. Maryanne Miller, commander of the 349th Air Mobility Wing.

“This is an incredible accomplishment that was achieved by the hard work and outstanding skill of each and every one of you. I am very proud to be your commander. You are truly the best!” Colonel Miller added.

This latest AFOUA is for the period from Aug. 18, 2006 to Aug. 17, 2007.

During this period, the 349th Air Mobility Wing accomplished its mission by participating in every major strategic operation this past year, in both hostile and peaceful environments. The wing achieved an unprecedented record providing strategic airlift, aerial refueling and support functions for America’s

Global War on Terrorism. The Wing continued its expansion of its three existing Weapon Systems C-17, C-5 and KC-10 with the aggressive conversion of the 301st Airlift Squadron who flies Team Travis’ eleven C-17s.

The Wing’s weapon systems played a dominant role in world events with the 312th Airlift Squadron (C-5) flying 160 missions, 424 sorties, 4,972 hours, transporting 9,682 passengers and moving 16,147 tons of cargo.

Its two KC-10 units, the 70th and 79th Air Refueling Squadrons, flew a total of 817 missions totaling 7,528 hours, 1,476 sorties, 12,602 passengers, offloaded more than 15.4 million pounds of fuel to 1,073 receivers and carried 9,850 tons of cargo.

Wing members serving on extended active-duty tours in support of contingency operations reached 500, while reserve volunteers to the war effort amassed 157,290 days totaling \$39.2 million. Humanitarian and community involvement focused on our Nation’s veterans in Operation Gratitude, serving Thanksgiving meals to the residents of the California Veterans’ Home in Yountville, and the East Bay Stand-Down, providing basic health care, financial and legal advice

to homeless and struggling veterans, and 131 Air Evacuation missions that airlifted 570 injured or sick patients. This past Christmas season, the Wing’s annual Operation Teddy Bear also provided stuffed animals, candy and other treats for more than 1,200 underprivileged children in elementary schools in Fairfield, Vacaville, Suisun City, Dixon, Vallejo and the David Grant Medical Center. And, the annual Wing Chaplains’ Humanitarian Project collected more than 4,300 pounds of food that was donated to the Mission Solano Food bank.

The 349th AMW’s heritage dates to World War II when it was organized as the 349th Troop Carrier Group at Sedalia Army Air Field (now Whiteman AFB), Mo. The Wing moved to Hamilton Field in Marin County in 1949 before it moved to Travis in 1969. It received its first AFOUA in 1965 for its efforts in support of the Vietnam War. Subsequent AFOUAs were earned in 1969, 1975, 1977, 1994, 1995, and 1998 before starting its current string in 2002.

349th AMW member assigned to the wing between Aug. 18, 2006 - Aug. 17, 2007 are authorized to add the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award ribbon to their uniforms or oak leaf cluster as appropriate.

NEWSBRIEFS

Postal Service offers discount to military

After March 3 the U.S. Postal Service will offer a new flat-rate box that is 50 percent larger and delivered for \$10.95 to an APO/FPO address — \$2 less than for domestic destinations.

The new priority mail large flat-rate box (12" x 12" x 5-1/2" or 800 cubic inches) will be available in post offices nationwide beginning March 3. Some of the new boxes are co-branded with the logo of “America Supports You,” which is a Department of Defense program that connects citizens offering support to the military and their families.

The \$2 discount is applied when the priority mail large flat-rate boxes are shipped to an APO/FPO destination. The two existing flat-rate boxes (11-7/8" x 3-3/8" x 13-5/8" and 11" x 8-1/2" x 5-1/2"), which currently retail for \$8.95 for U.S. addresses, are not available for the military discount. All flat-rate boxes can be used for international shipping.

The new flat-rate boxes will be available in Post Offices starting March 3. The America Supports You branded box will be available online, at select post offices near military bases, or by calling 800-610-8734.

For more information, please visit usps.com. (AFPN)

Final travel voucher guidance

Please remember to include all expenses from start to finish on your final travel voucher. Yes, when you do an interim voucher you have to include everything on your final as well.

Without including what you have already been paid will delay your payment. Without every detail, it will be returned as incomplete. For more information contact the 349th AMW Financial Management office at (707) 424-1675.

Aerospace Medicine changes hours

The 349th AMDS has reverted to its normal operating hours for A and B Flights. The new hours are: Saturday 9-11 a.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. - 12 noon and 1-3 p.m. For more information, please contact Capt. Antony Borzotra at the Immunization Clinic, (707) 423-5104 during these hours on UTA weekends only.

Billeting UTA checkout procedures

This is a reminder that everyone must checkout no later than 11 a.m. on Sunday morning by handing their room key to a front desk Guest Service Representative and clearing their record before leaving the lodging office. Members are not to leave their keys in the room, with a maid, or on the front counter. Members who do not checkout on time will be assessed a late checkout fee at the same rate of the room. In accordance with Air Force Instruction 34-246, A3.4.2.4., dated Nov. 9, 2007, late checkout fees must be paid prior to being assigned lodging for the following month’s Unit Training Assembly.

Please ensure you are in compliance to avoid these charges. If you have any questions, call Senior Master Sgt. Martin Walker, 349th Memorial Affairs Squadron at (707) 424-1800.



2008 Viking Challenge



- **Who:** eight-ten runners per relay team → Invitations to the 615th CRW, 60th AMW, 349th AMW, 9th RW and local ROTC and firefighting units
- **What:** 12 Hour relay race → one mile/runner at a time
- **When:** Saturday, April 19, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
- **Where:** Travis AFB Fitness Center Track
- **Why:** Raise funds for the Travis Fisher House, a home away from home for families that have members hospitalized at David Grant Medical Center
- **How:** Runners collect flat rate donations or per mile pledges

**Please contact SrA Billy Ancheta, 349th Mission Support Squadron,
at: 707-424-3792 for more information or to sign-up**

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Reserve Tax Tip

Military reservists' travel expenses. If you are a member of the National Guard or military reserve, you may deserve a deduction for travel expenses to drills or meetings. To qualify, you must travel more than 100 miles and be away from home overnight. If you qualify, you can deduct the cost of lodging and half the cost of your meals, plus 48.5 cents per mile (and any parking or toll fees) for driving your own car. You get this deduction whether or not you itemize.

