

EMPLOYER APPRECIATION

SILVER FLAG

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

FALCON

FLYER

Magazine of the 94th Airlift Wing
Vol. 6 No. 2

2nd Quarter 2015



Welcome Back!

Citizen Airmen return from deployment

FALCON FLYER

Magazine of the 94th Airlift Wing
Vol. 6, No. 1 1st Quarter 2015

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Submission deadline for the July 2015 issue is June 1. Articles must be submitted electronically to 94AW.PA@us.af.mil. For more information,



Port Dawg Memorial Run

Members of Dobbins Air Reserve Base lead the way during the Port Dawg Memorial Run at Dobbins ARB, Ga., May 3, 2015. Air transportation Airmen from the 94th Aerial Port Squadron, as well as members from other base units, participated in the run honoring fallen Airmen from their career field. The run was part of a coordinated event with other air transportation units from across the globe holding similar memorial runs. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Daniel Phelps)



ON THE
COVER

A returning deployer waves the American flag returning from a four-month long deployment to Southwest Asia at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga. May 18, 2015. More than 150 members from the 94th Airlift Wing deployed to support the Central Command Area of Responsibility earlier this year. (U.S. Air Force photo/Don Peek)

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Wing Commander's Hotline

Provides wing members with a direct link to the wing commander to relay kudos, concerns or suggestions on wing matters.

(678) 655-9422

Weather Emergency Hotline

(678) 655-2333



Throughout my Air Force career I can recall thousands of times where my squadron members unforeseen problems.

When stationed at Eglin Air Force Base, the unforeseen problems presented as hurricanes that forced us to evacuate all the aircraft while preparing our homes and families for the worst-case scenario. I remember smaller ones, which were more common, but still happened routinely.

For example, when an aircrew member called in sick and required me to find a last minute replacement, or possibly fly for them so the mission would be done. All these problems, or “fires”, required immediate attention. We were forced to stop and handle the “fires” despite whatever we had

planned.

If a unit is forced to deal with these every day, the unit could lose focus on the mission because it would only be dealing with what is “on fire.” After a period of time, it becomes a routine way to operate. Maybe you have been in a unit that experienced this, but it does not have to stay that way.

Change starts with you; every person in a uniform. It takes fortitude, from you, to break the chain of merely reacting to the days fires and being proactive about the processes that might contribute to the problems that cause the “fires.”

We are expected to be the expert in our AFSC, ready to deploy and execute our part of the Wing's mission. So, use your knowledge and leadership to help those around you do the same. Find ways to improve what you do for the mission. Do not be afraid to respectfully communicate barriers to success, or find a way to remove

the barrier and repair the process! Educate yourself and communicate with your fellow Airmen and leadership so things run smoothly and “fires” won’t slow down the mission. It applies to little things like DTS and to big things, like Tactical Airlift- the 94 AW’s mission.

In pilot training we trained to memorize three steps for emergencies that arise while flying the aircraft, but if modified these steps could handle any situation to arise for any Air Force job.

1. Maintain aircraft control (get the mission done)
2. Analyze the situation
3. Take the appropriate action

To perform at its best, a unit must be proactive, not reactive. If we strive to be proactive this memory aid will serve as “emergency only” use instead of as a daily routine. It takes an unfaltering standard of excellence and the guts to try!

EOD tries new training routine

The 94th Civil Engineer Squadron explosive ordnance disposal flight participated in a TRX Suspension Training program at the Human Performance Center here March 7.

The 94th Civil Engineer Squadron explosive ordnance disposal flight participated in a TRX Suspension Training program at the Human Performance Center here March 7.

The TRX program is a workout system developed by a U.S. Navy Seal and uses suspension straps and different movements to create a full-body workout .

TRX provides a practical way to prac-



tice dynamic strength. Users build strength through unique motions allowed by the suspension system, said John Mikula, an exercise physiologist with the 94th Force Support Squadron.

According to the TRX website, “TRX training uses versatile, scalable tools anyone, anywhere can use any time to perform exercises that improve movement on the field or in life.”

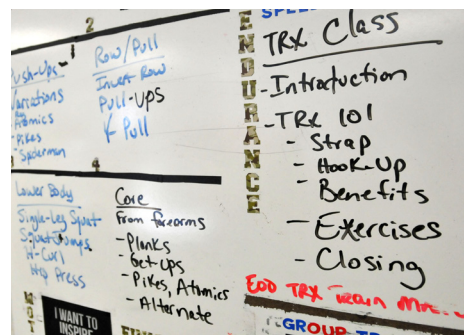
The ability to use the TRX system anywhere is one reason why it is issued to the EOD members at Dobbins. This way, they can use TRX at home and deployed locations.

TRX is simple to move around,said Mikula. It fits in a couple of bags and can be used anywhere.

Chief Master Sgt. Antoine L. Thomas, 94th Civil Engineer Squadron explosive ordnance disposal, adjusts TRX straps for the next set of exercises. EOD members are issued TRX kits to train for the physical demands of their job. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Andrew Park)



EOD Airmen perform push ups with their legs suspended to add a level of difficulty to the traditional push up. (Above) The TRX training routine on a board.(Below) (U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Andrew J. Park)



AROUND THE PATTERN



Members of Dobbins Air Reserve Base help 1st Lt. Banner Zimmerman, 94th Aeromedical Staging Squadron nurse, make it to the top of the Colossus during the Georgia Spring 2015 Savage Race in Dallas, Ga., April 18, 2015. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Daniel Phelps)



Senior Airman Gerald Jordan, 94th Security Forces Squadron member, watches the backs of his fellow Defenders during a training exercise April 23, 2015, at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga. The exercise was a follow-on to a table top exercise held in May last year. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Daniel Phelps)



Lockheed Martin Aeronautics provides information about their mission on Dobbins ARB to local area guests attending the AFRC Employer Appreciation event here, May 15, 2015. The AFRC event gave Reserve employers members an opportunity to see the diverse missions of Citizen Airmen. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Brad Fallin)



Capt. Dwayne L. Booker II and Brandon Jones, 14th Flying Training Wing instructor pilots, prepare their T-6 aircraft for takeoff from Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia, after attending the first-ever Morehouse College Joint-Service Military Crown Forum March 26 in Atlanta, Georgia. (U.S. Air Force photo/Don Peek)



Senior Airmen Dominic Maggs and Staff Sgt. Kelsey Ansen, both 911th Force Support Squadron, Pittsburgh, Pa., place pipes to build a tent during the Readiness Challenge for Force Support Silver Flag at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia, March 12, 2015. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Daniel Phelps)



Representatives from the United States Air Force Academy discuss enrollment opportunities with 2015 Academy Day attendees at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., May 9, 2015. The annual event provides high school students the opportunity to meet with representatives from each of the service academies. (U.S. Air Force photo/Brad Fallin)



WELCOME HOME!

Families and friends of deployed Citizen Airmen await the arrival of U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules to bring their loved ones home to Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., May 18, 2015. More than 150 members from the 94th Airlift Wing deployed to support the Central Command Area of Responsibility earlier this year. (U.S. Air Force photo/Brad Fallin)

By Senior Airman Daniel Phelps
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

A sea of people in patriotic colors waving signs and banners welcomed home more than 150 Citizen Airmen from a deployment in southwest Asia back to Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia May 18 and 19.

This was the second Aerospace Expeditionary Force deployment for the 94th AW since converting from a C-130 training mission to a combat coded wing in 2011.

Upon their return to Dobbins, the deployed Citizen Airmen were greeted to hugs and tears from their friends and family. Many spouses were up holding signs for their Airmen to see saying, "Are you gonna kiss me or not!"

Senior Airman James Bonilla, 94th Maintenance Squadron maintainer, was elated as he was greeted home to his new son.

"I almost cried when I saw him," Bonilla said. "I don't want to put him down. I know I'm going to have to at some point, but I don't want to."

When he first saw his wife Amanda waiting for him, she was dancing.

"There are no words to describe this," said Amanda. "It was surreal showing him our son. It's better than any poster, this is

the best gift."

After more than 30 years of service, Col. Brett Clark, 94th Airlift Wing commander, was still touched by the Citizen Airmen's homecoming.

"One of the greatest joys as a commander is seeing all of our guys return home from a deployment," Clark said. "I even see infants in our deployed Airmen's arms. There is no greater feeling than that."

During the deployment, the 94th Airlift Wing performed airlift or several distinguished visitors including John Boehner, U.S. Speaker of the House of Representatives, Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky, and Gen. Lloyd Austin, United States Central Command commander, according to Lt. Col. George Pelech, 94th Airlift Wing chief of safety.

The team also had the chance to partake in Exercise Eager Lion, an annual exercise held in Jordan to assure U.S. support in the Middle East.

Their role was to perform low-level tactical airlift operations delivering critical supplies for the warfighter, Pelech explained.

The maintainers were stand outs during this deployment, Pelech said. They held a 99.7 percent reliability rate over those four months.

According to officials in the 94th AW, a mission capable rate of 85 percent is usually what's expected for the C-130.

"These guys exceeded that," Pelech said. "They did a phenomenal job."

The crew had training opportunities with other air forces.

"We also supported the Iraqis by training them not only in the employment of C-130s, but also in air drops," he said. "We also trained them in the aerial rigging of air-drop loads. They had no program before we showed up."

Aerial rigging is the process of preparing for the next load for the next air drop while in flight, explained Pete Kowalski, a retired loadmaster.

The deployers had the pleasure of being treated to a hot meal of Georgia Bar-B-Que from a local Marietta restaurant when they stepped off the plane back home.

"It's so awesome being back," said Staff Sgt. David Garritson, 94th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron avionics technician. "Having BBQ waiting for us – it's very much like home. This is such a great welcome back."

The Citizen Airmen said they were happy to be home and ready for life to return to normal.

"I'm happy to be home," Garritson said.





Senior Airman Tyler Wright, 911th Force Support Squadron from Pittsburgh, Pa., guides a forklift during a Silver Flag exercise March 11, 2015, at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Daniel Phelps/Released)

SILVER FLAG TESTS READINESS

By Senior Airman Daniel Phelps
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

It was a foggy morning and daylight was beginning to break the horizon. All was silent but the crunching of the ground underneath combat boots and morning birds singing their song, when all of a sudden gun-fire pierced the serenity and the Airmen from the 911th Force Support Squadron took to the ground with their rifles at ready.

This was the first scenario during day one of the Force Support Silver Flag Readiness Challenge at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia for the 911th FSS. The challenge consisted of teams competing against each other in nine different events ranging from following a convoy, building tents, fixing Babington burners, cooking meals, planning lodging, building a base from scratch, driving a forklift, and conducting a scavenger hunt.

"The Readiness Challenge has been an active Civil Engineer/Services event dating as far back as 1986," said Senior Master Sgt. Shawn Davis, 622nd Civil Engineer Group Force Support Silver Flag commandant.

In this scenario, called OPERATION Everybody Panic, the Airmen were inserted into a camp and instructed to follow a convoy, said Davis.

Teams were tasked with engaging targets, providing care under fire, identifying unexploded ordnances and improvised explosive devices, describing and providing their location on a grid, low and high crawling, and transporting remains.

"Everybody Panic was hands down the best part of this exercise," said Senior Airman Tyler Wright, 911th FSS. "In some ways it was a lot like basic, only without the shock and freak out from being new to the military."

Everybody Panic also came as surprise to many of the Airmen.

"I didn't come here expecting to march, crawl, shoot or carry bodies under fire," Wright added.

The Readiness Challenge allowed a lot of Airmen to step outside the comfort zone of what they usually do at home station, described Tech. Sgt. Anthony Chavez, 911th FSS.

"You can't anticipate things here," Chavez explained. "We had to adapt and stay on our toes."

"I'm usually working in the office as a personnelist, so the tent building for me was a challenge," Chavez said. "I don't usually do that."

There are four Silver Flag schools in the Air Force – Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida; Dobbins ARB, Ramstein Air Base,

Germany and Anderson Air Base, Guam. Three of those four are CE schools.

"Dobbins is the only one specifically designed for Force Support career fields," said Davis. "In 2014, we provided over 70 percent of the available Force Support Silver Flag training in the Air Force. That year was record breaking year for this school-house. We provided training to over 836 Air Force students."

At the end of the exercise, scores were tallied together to crown the winner of the competition.

About 70 Airmen on teams from Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado; the 445th FSS from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio; the 908th FSS from Maxwell AFB, Alabama; the 910th FSS from Youngstown ARB, Ohio; the 911th FSS from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and the 934th FSS from Minneapolis – St. Paul, Minnesota competed in the event.

The overall winner of the Readiness Challenge was the 445th FSS.

"Silver Flag really brought us together and pushed us to work as a team," said Wright. "It showed us how prepared we were for deployments and we had to work together to identify potential problems."

"This is great for every unit," added Chavez. "It lets you realize your strengths and weaknesses."

COME FLY WITH ME



Members of the Employers Support of the Guard and Reserve took turns flying the C-130 Eastern Regional Flight Simulator at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., May 15, 2015. (U.S. Air Force photo/Brad Fallin)

By Senior Airman Daniel Phelps
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

More than 20 employers of Air Force Reservists from around the country arrived at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia May 15 to receive a tour of the base and learn about the capabilities of America's Citizen Airmen.

"You all were nominated by your Citizen Airmen," Lt. Gen. James Jackson, Chief of Air Force Reserve and AFRC commander, told the group. "They nominated you because you were outstanding employers. So, we want to show you what we do, why sometimes we have to utilize your employees, and what you are supporting."

The group first met at the 22nd Air Force headquarters for a short brief and question and answer session with the general.

Jackson thanked the employers for the sacrifices they make to support Reservists around the country.

The Air Force Reserve has about 70,000 Citizen Airmen and 78 percent of those are part-time employees, Jackson commented.

"They work for you all," Jackson added. "Without your support every single day, they couldn't participate to defend the nation like they do in our Air Force. That's why we are here today - to thank you."

After the brief, the employers were ushered out to the flightline where they got to meet and talk with members of the 94th Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit.

Officials from Dobbins explained EOD technicians continue to conduct operations in a dynamic and ever-changing combat

environment. EOD's toll in combat has been significant. In the past decade, more than 70 of them have received one or more Purple Hearts actions performed on the battlefield.

Several of the employers had questions regarding the risks EOD members face during deployments and the protective measures they take, while performing such a hazardous job.

The group also explored a C-130 Hercules, climbed into the cockpit, and spoke with a pilot and a loadmaster who shared stories of their time in the aircraft.

A local Atlanta-area employer who lives along Dobbins' flight path mentioned how he often sees the C-130 Hercules flying over his house and loved the sound of the four fans of freedom.

From the flightline, the group was transported to Lockheed-Martin, a highlight of the visit.

Chad Gibson, Lockheed-Martin communications and Air Force Reserve lieutenant

colonel for the 94th Airlift Wing, gave a tour of the maintenance shop at Lockheed-Martin and showed the group the assembly process for how the Hercules is built.

"The Hercules is the workhorse of the Air Force," Gibson said. "It is the world's most versatile aircraft."

At the end of the tour, the employers were also given the chance to see a U.S. Air Force F-22 Raptor, much to their elation.

After the Lockheed tour, the group was treated to a surf and turf lunch from the field kitchen at the Force Support Silver Flag site. The employers were given a brief rundown on the site and an explanation of what Services career field receive by the FS Silver Flag instructors.

Many of the employers were blown away by the quality and flavor of the food prepared by the Silver Flag team, releasing groans of pleasure as they bit into their steaks.

When the group finished their meal, the FS instructors showed the group around the site and various tents, explaining the purpose of each section, and what goes into the process of building and planning a base from scratch during deployments.

Once the Silver Flag tour was over, the employers were taken to the C-130 flight simulator where they experienced firsthand what it's like to fly the Hercules.

The AFR Employer Recognition Day proved to be an eye-opening experience for many in the group.

"This has been a really good experience," said Steve Boucher, employer for Humana in San Antonio, Texas. "It's nice to know what our Citizen Airmen are going through. It's very impressive."

Air Force Reserve Commander, Lt. Gen. James Jackson, briefs employers affiliated with Employers Support of the Guard and Reserve on the importance of their continued support and what they will see today at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., May 15, 2015. (U.S. Air Force photo/Brad Fallin)





Members of the 94th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga. prepare and load cargo required by deployed personnel Jan. 6, 2015. The inspectors observe all aspects of the loading process ensuring all proper procedures are followed. (U.S. Air Force photo/Don Peek)

By Senior Airman Daniel Phelps
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

In January, the 94th Airlift Wing deployed personnel and aircraft to support Air Expeditionary Function mission in Southwest Asia. As the Airmen prepared to leave, a new Air Force Inspection System took hold.

The AFIS and the commander's inspection program put the true inspections of the wing back in the hands of the wing commander, creating an Inspector General Inspections Division, said Senior Master Sgt. Jeffery Sickler, 94th Airlift Wing IG.

The new AFIS was created for a couple of reasons, Sickler explained. The focus is on the wing assessing itself because every wing is unique and an internal perspective is ideal. Under the legacy inspections, the Combined Unit Inspection and operational readiness inspections were about preparation.

"Now, the command inspection program is continuously looking at processes and developing exercises as needed," continued Chief Master Sgt. Lee Green, 80th Aerial Port Squadron superintendent. "However, actual events are the best measure of the unit's processes and effectiveness." The deployment provided an excellent opportunity to inspect the

SELF-INSPECTION

A new way of doing business across the enterprise.



Members of the 94th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga. prepare and load cargo required by deployed personnel Jan. 6, 2015. Personnel appointed as inspector observe all aspects of the loading process ensuring all proper procedures are followed. (U.S. Air Force photo/Don Peek)

squadrons' overall abilities to perform a real-world process in an effort to improve, Green added.

"We took advantage of the AEF deployment tasking by inspecting all aspects from deployment, employment and redeployment," said Sickler. "The team captured pre-deployment training, right quality, quantity and effectiveness." "We also have over a dozen wing inspection team members deployed who will continue to look at the process of proper training for this deployment and ensuring we have what we need to meet the combatant commander's requirements," added Green. "Upon redeployment, we will interview the members that were deployed and their family members to ensure we provided the right support to them and learn what areas we can improve on."

This approach enables the wing to be more efficient and effective in the mission, Green said.

The team also looked for potential areas of undetected non-compliance, which would allow commanders to correct and

fully assess any risks.

"This is a new way of doing business across our enterprise and requires a mindset change," Green exclaimed. "I highly encourage all Team Dobbins members to thoroughly learn their craft through their particular guidance. It's imperative to our overall success."

As the team filters through notes, they'll provide the wing commander a report of strengths, deficiencies and recommended improvements, Sickler said. Then commanders, program managers and process owners will answer the deficiencies and consider the areas noted.

"This is about us looking at ourselves and wanting to get better," Sickler concluded. "It will take some time to completely change the mindset from the way we use to do business. In the past, we would see an inspection team arrive, inspect and leave. Our inspection team lives, walks and works alongside the members of the wing. The 94 AW has a lot of talent in its ranks, I can not think of another wing that would be more successful."



Maj. Olga Westfall was born in Ukraine during the reign of the Soviet Union and made her way to the U.S. where she became a U.S. Air Force chaplain. (U.S. Air Force graphic/Senior Airman Daniel Phelps)

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

By Tech. Sgt. Karla Lehman
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Although Chaplain (Maj.) Olga Westfall, 94th Airlift Wing chaplain, provides spiritual services during unit training assemblies, it has not always been that way for her.

Westfall was born in Dnepropetrovsk, found in Eastern Ukraine in the late 60's. During her time as part of the Soviet Union, the thought of God was prohibited. The Bible was a prohibited book in the country because it contradicted the teaching of the communist party. Those believed in God or religion would be persecuted, killed or thrown in jail.

It discouraged Westfall to see so many people in pain and suffering. At one point, she felt like life had no meaning or purpose.

"These challenges she faced growing up in a hard country helped develop her into a great counselor," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) James Danford, 94th Airlift Wing chaplain. "She deeply cares for people."

Her path to become a chaplain did not come quickly or easily.

Searching for change in her country, she began to find answers to the life she was living in and God came into her life. She was desperate and contemplating suicide. Westfall said "God stopped me, turned things around, and knocked my heart so I opened it, and my amazing journey started."

She moved to the United States to attend seminary as a student and graduated in 2002. The opportunity to become a military chaplain came about through a meeting with her endorser who needed military chaplains at the time, due to the fact they were at war. Westfall said she "prayed and was excited to do it."

"If you were to ask me 30 years ago if I was going to be a military chaplain for the United States military, I would laugh and say it was impossible," Westfall said.

Yet throughout the process of becoming a military chaplain, she "kept her faith in God and let Him pave the way" for her.

In addition, this change brought many adjustments and sacrifices. She believed throughout all this she needed to "do her best where God placed her to be." She became a chaplain because she wanted to "serve God and do what He wanted me to do."

Nonetheless, over time Ukraine has accomplished the goal of religious freedom throughout the country, which Westfall said she believes is a great step forward for her country.

The chaplain said she struggles with insecurity because of her accent and wonders if people understand her. However, she feels she is doing God's will and strives in her duty towards Him.

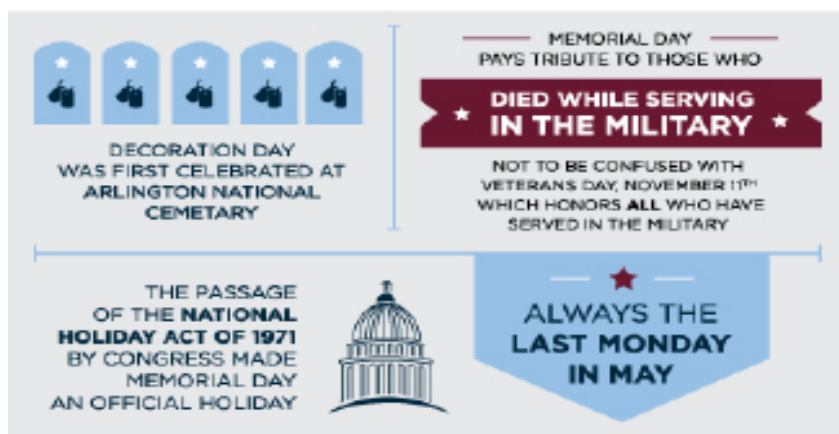
Overall, Westfall has overcome many struggles in her life to be where she is today. Through her hard work, dedication and faith in God, she has found a way to thrive in the military serving proudly for the United States. She enjoys helping people out in a positive way and putting smiles on people's faces.

TOUCH & GO's



MEMORIAL DAY, ORIGINALLY KNOWN AS DECORATION DAY, WAS ESTABLISHED BY UNION VETERANS AS A TIME FOR THE NATION TO DECORATE THE GRAVES OF THOSE THAT DIED DURING THE CIVIL WAR

1868



MORE THAN **4300** AIRMEN

HAVE PAID THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE IN DEFENSE OF THE FREEDOMS WE ENJOY WHILE SUPPORTING MILITARY OPERATIONS AND ARMED CONFLICTS FROM THE KOREAN WAR UNTIL TODAY

WAYS TO COMMEMORATE

1

TAKE PART IN THE NATIONAL MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE AT 3:00PM LOCAL TIME

ATTEND A MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY OR PARADE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

2

3

PARTICIPATE IN CLEANING AND DECORATING NATIONAL CEMETERIES

VOLUNTEER WITH ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT FAMILIES OF THE FALLEN

4

5

SPREAD AWARENESS OF MEMORIAL DAY BY SHARING THIS GRAPHIC WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY

HONOR A FALLEN SERVICE MEMBER BY SHARING THEIR STORY USING #iHonor AND #MemorialDay15 HASHTAGS TOGETHER ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM

6



Summer safety begins with risk management

Increased travel and leisure activities go hand-in-hand with the summer months require increased emphasis on risk management, said Air Force Chief of Ground Safety, Bill Parsons.

While Airmen and their families make the most of recreational opportunities during the summer, the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends is the most important time to incorporate risk management in off-duty leisure activities. This is accomplished by using the same safety processes as those used on duty, Parsons said.

Whether traveling, participating in water activities, sporting events or cookouts, Airmen should identify, assess and mitigate all risks to include: trip planning ensures enough rest and preparation for contingencies; no alcohol while driving or participating in recreational activities; and use of appropriate protective gear in all activities.

"Most mishaps are preventable," Parsons said, "and mishap prevention requires doing the right thing. Sometimes the right thing is as simple as stepping up and stepping in when we see something that doesn't look right. That alone can avert a potential disaster."

Recycling on Base

Did you know your used wrapping paper and boxes can be recycled on base? Bring your recyclable paper and cardboard to the base recycling center - open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. - located on Fourth Street in front of MWR services and the thrift shop.

For special pickups or requests for additional containers, call 678-655-4781 or -5264.

CHAPEL CORNER

What's your "why?"

By Senior Airman Nathan Parrow
94th Airlift Wing Chaplains Office



The month of May is Holocaust Remembrance Month. Few can imagine the horrors, wickedness and dismay of the Holocaust. While many who suffered

will never be known, we do have stories of some of the survivors and victims of the Holocaust.

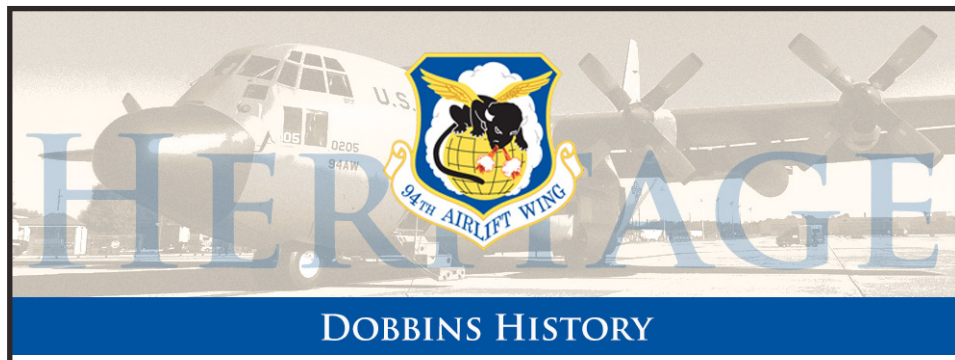
Viktor Frankl is one such survivor. He endured the horrors of this evil and found a way to overcome his surroundings. Frankl went on to become a counselor and provided help to many working through the horrors of life. He once said "Those who have a 'why' to live, can bear with almost any 'how'."

When thinking about the Holocaust and the tragic events, take a moment to reflect on the issues in your life. The survivors of the Holocaust did not make it through simply because they were lucky, but rather gave themselves a reason to live for, and dealt with their current situations.

I do not know what you are going through at the moment. However, if your situation seems overbearing and you feel you cannot make it through, look for the "why."

We can find the why in our faith, our family or our friends. For me, basic training was a time that I had to find the "why" so I could deal with the "how." Going through training in the summer when it was hot and continually had people yelling at me to do something different became tiring very quickly. I remembered how I was doing this to better myself, to serve my country, and honor my family. Remembering my reasons made completing the training easier. Once we can see the why, we can deal with the how.

Worship services are held every UTA Sunday at 7:15 a.m. in Heritage Hall and 8 a.m. at 80 APS. Contact the chaplain staff at 678-655-4995.



Dobbins dedicated in Marietta



A B-29 Superfortress soars through the air over Marietta, Ga. The Superfortress was a four-engine propeller-driven heavy bomber designed by Boeing that was flown primarily by the United States toward the end of World War II and during the Korean War. Marietta Army Airfield performed acceptance testing for the B-29s. (Courtesy photo)

Georgia History Archives

On April 29, 1950 what started out in 1941 as a small airstrip called Rickenbacker Field, as America prepared for World War II. Then, during the war, it became Marietta Army Air Field when the Bell Bomber plant was located there.

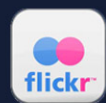
With more than 28,000 workers, the plant assembled the B-29 Superfortress. In 1948 the U.S. Air Force renamed it Marietta Air Force Base and two years later

changed it again to honor Marietta native Captain Charles Dobbins.

Dobbins was a Georgia Tech grad who flew C-47 troop transport planes in north Africa and Europe. In July 1943 Dobbins' plane was shot down over Sicily on his 88th combat mission of the war. The plane and crew were never found. Dobbins was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. His family was there when Dobbins Air Force Base was formally dedicated.

Dobbins Air Reserve Base

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(U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Daniel Phelps)

INTERVIEW

Airman Joshua Robertson

Job Title: Fuel Cell

Hometown: Acworth, Georgia

Years of service: 8 months

What does your job entail?

I work on the fuel lines of the C-130.

What was your biggest shock in basic?

How difficult it was being a 29 year old. Several of the MTIs would point how much older than them I was.

Why did you join?

I like the respect people get for serving. I have military family members and friends who serve. While joining the a branch of the armed forces was always in the back of my mind, as I settled down, bought a house and as I got older the thought of active duty air force crept further and further from my grasp. The Air Force reserves seemed to be the most logical choice.

What's your favorite part about being a Reservist?

My favorite part of being a Reservist is the ability to serve my country and still be a part of my community. I've lived in the Acworth area for my entire life and enjoy watching the city grow and flourish.

What is your favorite sports team?

Growing up around here, I'm all about the Atlanta teams - Braves and Falcons

Family?

My wife and I have dated since I was 15 and we have a son on the way!

What do you do for recreation?

I like working on cars, mountain biking and shooting

What's your favorite movie?

Shooter. I've probably seen that 10 to 12 times.

Do you have a guilty pleasure?

Pizza- I take it whenever I can get it

What advice would give someone interested in joining the Reserves?

I would let them know to never give up on their dreams. If joining the military is something that you really want to do, don't let anyone or anything stop you from obtaining your goal. It took me two years of hard work and dedication to even get a recruiter talk to me, but I knew if I did not give it my all then I would kick myself for the rest of my life.

Tell us anything else about you that we might like to know!

I once fell through the front of a vending machine. That was really hard trying to explain to my principle.