



1948-1998

Vol. 20, No. 12/December 1998

# VIKING FLYER

934th Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve Command, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, Minn.

## Recruiting

*Big changes project wing's recruiting team throughout Minnesota, neighboring states*

► Pages 7-8

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Cherie Huntington

# VIKING FLYER

Vol. 20, No. 12  
December 1998

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## On the cover

Tech. Sgt.  
Helenka  
"Candy"

Sommers, wing  
recruiter, has  
started a new  
assignment at a  
satellite recruiting  
station. For  
recruiting news,  
see  
Pages 7-8.



Cherie Huntington

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## UTA schedule

1999

Jan. 9-10

Feb. 6-7

March 6-7

April 10-11

May 1-2

► UTA entrees:

Saturday, hot roast

beef/turkey

sandwiches; Sunday,

pork roast/chicken

breast.

► UTA pay date:

Dec. 15.

934th Airlift Wing on the Internet:

<http://www.afrc.af.mil/934aw/default.htm>

## Commentary

# Happy holidays

*Take time to reflect on busy year gone by*

Col. Richard Moss  
Wing Commander

**W**elcome to the December unit training assembly. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable

Thanksgiving holiday.

As we approach the end of the calendar year, it is time to reflect on what has been a very busy year. We have had people deployed supporting Southern Watch in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Currently, we have people in Bosnia supporting Operation Joint Forge. We have people returning on Saturday of the UTA from Panama, supporting the counterdrug effort and also humanitarian airlift of supplies to Central America following the

## Proud legacy

*New commander lauds reservists, sends holiday best*

Maj. Gen. James Sherrard III  
Chief, Air Force Reserve and  
Commander, Air Force Reserve Command

**I** am honored to be the commander

of Air Force Reserve Command. My predecessors have created an outstanding legacy, which I

plan to continue. I know I can count on each of you to assist me in reaching the goals that we will set and overcoming the challenges we will face.

Foremost on my agenda are you, the people of this great command. Our command has many highly skilled and experienced people and you are our greatest asset. In the coming weeks, I will address many issues to improve the quality of life of our reservists, including better facilities, a



Sherrard

aftermath of Hurricane Mitch. We have had numerous other people augmenting the active duty or completing their annual tour throughout the United States and the world.

In short, we have done our job whenever required, and we have done it well. This is a tribute to you, the members of the 934th Airlift Wing. Your dedication and willingness to serve is something you can be extremely proud of now and in the future. Keep up the good work.

My wife, Cathy, and I wish you all a safe and joyous holiday season. Enjoy the time with families and friends. But by all means, please be safe as celebrate. You and your families are a vital part of the success of this wing and the Air Force Reserve. □

more equitable promotion system and better long-range scheduling so your families and employers can adequately prepare for those times when you are called to duty. Because each of you is an important part of the command, I want you to be safe during the holiday season.

Many of you will visit friends and family. Give yourself plenty of time for travel. Winter is the time for inclement weather and, many times, bad weather shows up with little or no warning. Many holiday festivities include alcohol. Don't drink and drive. Use a designated driver and arrive at your destination safe and sound. Most importantly, spend quality time with your friends, families and loved ones. Thank them for all the support they've given you during the year.

Marsha and I wish each of you the happiest of holidays and a joyous New Year. We look forward to working with each of you to ensure our Air Force Reserve remains a premier force by every measure. □

Local

**Family event planned**

**Family appreciation:** The 934th Joint Family Readiness Center will sponsor the 3rd Annual Military Family Appreciation Day, Saturday, Dec. 5, 1 p.m., at the Army Reserve's 88th Readiness Support Command drill hall. The Army Reserve's front gate is near the Bishop Whipple Federal Building. Registration for free gifts must be deposited at the joint center by 11 a.m. that day.

☉For details, call the center, Ext. 3984 or 3985.

**Chapel hosts holiday celebration**

The base chapel staff will hold the Advent and Christmas sing-along on Saturday, Dec. 6, at 1 p.m. at the chapel, Bldg. 865. All are invited to come and sing - or just listen. Coffee, cider and holiday cookies will be served.

**Books needed for vets' home**

The Reserve Officers Association is collecting books, hard or soft cover, to help stock a new library in the Veteran's Home in South Minneapolis. Reader's Digest condensed books are especially desired. National Geographic is the only magazine that will be accepted. The deadline for donations is Sunday, Dec. 6. Magazines cannot be accepted except for National Geographic. Donation slips for tax purposes are available upon request.

☉Give donated books to your unit ROA representative, or call any of these chapter members: **Capt. David Mattson**, project chair, Ext. 3705; **Maj. Doug Kveene**, Ext. 1202; or **Capt. Dan Anderson**, Ext. 3571.

**Commissary cards 'double up'**

Commissary privileges for reservists have been changed from 12 to 24 visits annually. However, the DD Form 2529,

Commissary Card, only has 12 blocks to be signed off. Until the form is revised, commissary officials will annotate two visits in each block. Reservists may still use current orders for commissary visits.

The closest commissary for reservists in the Twin Cities area is at Fort McCoy, Wis., northeast of La Crosse, near Tomah. It is closed Sunday, Monday and holidays. Hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday.

☉For more information, call the commissary, (608) 388-3542.

**Campaign raises record donations**

The 934th Airlift Wing achieved its highest amount in contributions ever in the recent Combined Federal Campaign drive. Wing members, mostly federal civilians and air reserve technicians, donated \$20,815, according to the project officer, **Capt. Bonnie Tremblett**, chief of the 934th Mission Enhancement Office.

"I cannot thank each of you enough for your kindness and generosity," she said. "Once again, when our community called, we responded — and we can be proud of that."

**Aviation art contest open to youth**

The Minnesota Department of Transportation Office of Aeronautics has information for the 1999 International Aviation Art Contest for children. The theme is "Flying is Fun."

Entries are judged in three age classes: ages 6 to 9, 10 to 13 and 14 to 17. Each winner, along with a parent or guardian, will receive a 30-minute airplane ride at their local airport and a gift certificate for art supplies. The first-place entry in each age group will be forwarded for national competition. Entries must be postmarked by Feb. 5.

☉For more information, call **Geri Lambach**, (651) 297-1600. □

**Leaders salute performance in crisis**

**'You showcased our readiness and capabilities — sending a powerful message'**

**F. Whitten Peters,**  
Acting Secretary of the Air Force, and  
**Gen. Michael Ryan,**  
Air Force Chief of Staff

**D**uring the second week of November, world events again caused America's leaders to call on you to protect our nation's interests abroad. As expected, our total force responded magnificently, with enthusiasm and professionalism. We were extremely proud as you showcased our readiness and capabilities — sending a powerful message to friends and adversaries alike.

Faced with tough challenges, you

once again showed the remarkable versatility of our expeditionary aerospace force. On extremely short notice, we responded to the latest crisis in Iraq. At the same time, we helped our Central American neighbors cope with the catastrophic devastation of Hurricane Mitch (*local story, Page 5*) and provided airlift support to our nation's senior leaders.

Setting up the air bridges to Southwest Asia in both eastward and westward streams was a real test, made even more difficult by simultaneously performing the other missions. The rapid deployment of forces was a critical factor in resolving

the current crisis and a great demonstration of our capacity to project aerospace power whenever and wherever needed.

No other air force in the world could do what you just did. This is a real success story and a tribute to the total force.

We salute your superb performance, which exemplifies our core values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do. As the Iraqi crisis recedes, we will keep faith with our commitment to you and quickly draw down forces no longer required. Thanks! (*Air Force Print News "must run"*) □

# 'State of the Air Force'

## **Acting secretary addresses members' concerns, promises sweeping changes**

*Editor's note: Acting Secretary of the Air Force F. Whitten Peters visited the 934th Airlift Wing Sept. 1.*

### **F. Whitten Peters**

Acting Secretary of the Air Force

**A**s your acting secretary, I am acutely aware of the strains that life in today's Air Force puts on you and your family. In recent months, I've visited many stateside and overseas bases to assess the readiness of our forces, and I've seen firsthand the effects of our high operations tempo.

My primary objective on these trips was to listen to your concerns; at each stop, I engaged in frank question-answer sessions with enlisted folks and officers alike. After each visit, I discussed your concerns with senior Air Force leaders to find solutions. Now, I want to share my impressions with you and discuss the things we're doing to improve life in the Air Force.

### **Observing triumph over challenges**

What stands out most is the remarkable reservoir of energy, teamwork, talent and positive attitude I see in you and your loved ones. Despite the exhaustion of deployments and long hours of work at home, you have set aside personal ambitions and opportunities for greater financial rewards, faced separation from your family and placed yourself in harm's way. I am extremely proud of what you're doing for America, especially at this time when you must perform heroically with aging equipment and insufficient supplies.

It's also clear to me that many of you are deployed too often. Or you are overworked when at your home base because you're doing both your job and the jobs of those deployed. Our increased operations tempo — the result of reducing forces by 33 percent while increasing deployments fourfold — has put heavy strains on you and your family.

As Chief of Staff **General Mike Ryan** and I said in August, you've done everything we've asked — and more — but we've been asking too much. This needs to stop, and it will, with our reorganization into an Expeditionary Aerospace Force, or EAF, over the next 12 months.

### **Eased strain expected in 2000**

The EAF will significantly reduce the strains of the operations tempo by spreading the load of deployments across the Total Force and by increasing the number of airmen assigned to specialties that frequently deploy.

This organizational reform will provide you predictability and stability and, at the same time, will provide our warfighting commanders in chief more flexible, tailored and better-trained forces.

You'll begin to see the benefits of the EAF in early 2000, when our first Aerospace Expeditionary Forces are established and operating. At that point, operations tempo demands on our people will drop dramatically. And the situation will improve even more over the next several years as we add 5,000 people to high-deployment career fields like security forces, civil engineering and communications.

### **Addressing family needs**

The EAF will help us manage your operations tempo, but we know your family also needs help. We've worked hard to provide a wide array of information and services to help families deal with the strains of high operations tempo. Our family support centers seem to be working well but many families are not aware of the services available.

We must do a better job spreading the word on how to get help. I've discussed this issue with commanders, senior enlisted advisors, chaplains and first sergeants, and I believe you'll see more emphasis on getting information to your family.

### **Maintenance situation 'unacceptable'**

While operations tempo is definitely on your mind, it's only the tip of the iceberg. I've also heard about how the lack of spare parts is driving our maintainers to 12-hour days as the norm.

This situation is unacceptable and must be changed. To keep parts available, we've added about \$1 billion to spares and depot repair accounts since 1997, and we're working hard to improve depot productivity. We've put spares and repairs high on the list of items for which we seek additional funding in fiscal years 1999 and 2000. It takes 18 to 24 months to turn money into spares, so our sustained emphasis on spares and depot maintenance funding should start to pay off soon.

### **Retention rates cause concern**

What concerns me most — and what I'm tracking most closely — is retention. Our retention rates are alarmingly low, and the reason seems clear. Many of you have told me that "erosion of benefits" is causing you to leave the Air Force. Whatever the reason, it's clear that our success depends on being able to retain good people to operate and support our high-tech machines. We must make Air Force life more appealing than it currently is.

Think about this: between now and 2001, 90 percent of our enlisted people — more than 265,000 airmen — will face a reenlistment decision. If you're one of them, or if you're an officer about to make a career decision, please consider the following facts about benefits:

*(Continued on Page 12)*

# Relief-206, cleared to land

## Wing supports humanitarian missions for Hurricane Mitch survivors

Cherie Huntington

Public Affairs

**T**hirteen wing members provided more than flyovers or flag bearers on Nov. 11, Veterans Day — they flew to Central America to airlift food and medicine to survivors of Hurricane Mitch.

The hurricane, which hit the northern coast of Honduras the first week of November, killed more than 12,000 people, left millions homeless and caused several billion dollars worth of damage, according to Air Force Print News reports.

A 934th aircrew of six, two maintenance crew chiefs and five aerial port members participated.

"We never got out of our flight suits," said **Capt. Bruce Wiskus**, pilot. "We averaged eight and a half hours of flying each day, then had an hour or more on the ground at each stop." The crew logged 42 flying hours.

Wiskus and fellow pilot **Capt. Drew Hansen** said their crew, with call sign "Relief-206," played a behind-the-scenes role in the relief effort, so they had no contact with survivors of the disaster.

"From the air, we could see big ravines where there used to be streams," said Hansen. "Along the coast, huge

trees were washed down on the beach. We could also see houses along the beach that sustained a lot of damage."

One 934th aircraft and crew of eight flew a total of four missions out of Gulfport Combined Readiness Training Center, Miss., to La Ceiba, Honduras, a nearly four-hour flight. Eighty-six tons of goods, four to six pallets per flight, were airlifted, including flour, sugar, beans, corn, rice, pasta, oatmeal, baby food, coffee, bottled water and medicine.

On their first flight, Nov. 12, the crew had to unload the pallets by hand because no K-loaders were available at the busy field. "The plastic was a hot commodity," said Wiskus, referring to the heavy, clear plastic used to cover each pallet, useful in temporarily repairing damaged buildings.

After delivering the load, the aircraft would then continue to Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras, for refueling to head back to Mississippi. On the return trip, the crew handled opportune airlift missions back to the states, such as airlifting an Army medical team and Special Forces members.

Members of the 27th Aerial Port Squadron were based at Gulfport, according to **Senior Master Sgt. Mike Dressen**.

"I discovered no aerial port personnel

would be in place at Gulfport for several more days," said Dressen, "and there was an immediate need for manpower there." The 934th aircraft and members deployed the next day, airlifting humanitarian cargo from Kansas en route.

Dressen said the aerial porters, initially alone until additional reservists arrived later, loaded various types of aircraft daily. "On Sunday prior to returning to Minneapolis, four of our members also flew with the crew to La Ceiba and Soto Cano to assist loadmasters with cargo handling," he added.

Other flying participants included: **Maj. Mark Blalock**, navigator; **Master Sgt. John Watts**, flight engineer; **Senior Master Sgt. Mike Gilbert** and **Master Sgt. Jim Schmidt**, loadmasters; and **Tech. Sgt. Gene Olsen** and **Staff Sgt. Curt Hochstetler**, maintenance crew chiefs. Other aerial port members participating were: **Tech. Sgt. Larry O'Connell** and **Staff Sgts. Greg Kuhn, Dale Place** and **Richard Rowcliffe**.

The president approved \$75 million in defense equipment and services to cover relief efforts. The current estimation of total U.S. emergency assistance now tops \$250 million, according to Air Force Print News. □

## Medical units 'go mobile'

### Facility addition, renovation scatters functions around base

Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly

Public Affairs

**T**aking care of immunizations and physicals may require a little more leg work during the first quarter of 1999, as both medical squadrons will be temporarily relocated while Bldg. 740 is renovated.

"We will conduct physicals in the Air National Guard medical facility, Bldg. 642," said **2nd Lieutenant Gail Gregor**, director of medical logistics and project

officer for the 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron. "We will have a shuttle bus leaving every half hour, beginning at 8 a.m., from in front of Bldg. 852."

Physicals will start one half hour later than usual, with flying physicals starting at 8:30 a.m. and non-flying physicals at 9 a.m., Gregor said.

Immunizations will be held in life support, Bldg. 830, Room 111, and will also start later than usual, beginning at 8:30 a.m., she said.

"The shuttle will pick up at the clinic

at 15 after and 45 after the hour, with a stop at life support for those who need immunizations," she said, noting that parking is limited at the clinic.

Medical records will be maintained in Bldg. 852, Room 236, said Gregor.

Many offices from both the ASTS and the 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron will be located in Bldg. 852, on the second floor, she noted, adding that the regular phone numbers will work, regardless of where that office may have its temporary location. □

# Wing roundup

## 27th Aerial Port Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Mark Pierson*  
During the November unit training assembly, humanitarian cargo was processed and palletized for KC-135 airlift to Haiti, Nov. 13. Earlier in November, two KC-135s and a C-141 were loaded with goods also bound for Haiti. On Sunday of the December drill, the unit will load an AN-124 Russian airlifter in support of Operation Christmas Child for the second year in a row. This humanitarian airlift ships donated gifts in shoe boxes to needy children.

## 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

*Master Sgt. Bernadette Koehle*  
Though the unit combined the October and November drills for the Readiness Exercise, November drill was still busy. Eighteen members left for San Antonio on Saturday to attend the country's largest annual military medical convention. Two flight nurses volunteered to support Operation Joint Forge and spent the weekend organizing their deployment to Bosnia. Our building will be under renovation through April, and plans are being finalized to relocate to Air National Guard facilities on the base for the first three drills of 1999 to minimize disruption of training.

## 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

*Staff Sgt. Michael Sanford*  
A total of 46 physicals and 18 drug tests were

completed. Training was completed in areas including social actions, weapons firing and "deuce-and-a-half" driving training. Eight members left for the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States conference in San Antonio.

## 96th Airlift Squadron

*Airman 1st Class Jess Lind*  
Squadron aircrews performed troop drops in Hawaii, Oct. 18-25. One aircraft and crew provided airlift support for Hurricane Mitch humanitarian relief, Nov. 11-15 (*story, Page 5.*)

## 934th Civil Engineer Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Randy Matthews*  
Twenty-one members completed the "train the trainer" course last month. **Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Emberland** and **Master Sgt. Gene Kirk** provided generator and power support for the Air Force Reserve Command Band's "Drug Free Way to Be" performances during visits to local schools in October. **Senior Master Sgt. Jerry Belle-Isle** also assisted public affairs with logistical support. Members were scheduled to repair and resurface the NCO Club and dining hall roof, Nov. 14-15.

## 934th Communications Flight

*Staff Sgt. Robert Walz*  
The unit successfully completed its communications security assessment, performed by a Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command team.



**Taking care of business**

*Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly*

**Senior Airman Doug Swanson, engine mechanic with the 934th Maintenance Squadron, provided routine propeller maintenance last drill.**

## 934th Logistics Support Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Alma De La Garza*  
Transportation and supply planned for their 1999 annual tours. The unit's expired chemical warfare gear was replaced. Three retirees will return in December to receive medals and flags.

## 934th Maintenance Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Steven Lerbakken*  
Unit members prepared for the last Panama rotation. Nine people returned from an enroute support mission in Germany. Aircraft 2848 is under modification now for an electrical system upgrade.

## 934th Operations Support Flight

*Tech. Sgt. Cara Utecht*  
The flight was busy last month preparing for the Panama rotation, especially members in intelligence.

## 934th Security Forces Squadron

*Staff Sgt. Niklas Hammarberg*  
The squadron held classroom training on

various subjects, including clear buildings, cover and concealment, self-aid and buddy care, antirobbery procedures, military authority and jurisdiction, and hazardous communications.

## 934th Services Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Pamela Peck*  
The unit received funding for remodeling the dining facility, with plans completed and bids in progress. The Meals Accountability Processing System started, enabling patrons to use an identification card instead of signing for a meal.

## Wing Headquarters/ 934th Mission Support Flight

*Senior Master Sgt. Patricia Boettner*  
Both units are working aggressively toward improving the status of ancillary training programs. A new tracking system is being developed allowing "at a glance" identification of people requiring training. □

# Rockin' recruiting

Dynamic changes take wing team 'above and beyond' . . .

**Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly**  
Public Affairs

**A** zone approach to dividing leads has base recruiting asking potential recruits a new question: "What's your zip code?"

"It's something relatively new," said **Senior Master Sgt. Kay Martin**, senior recruiter for the 934th Recruiting Office. "As of Nov. 1, each recruiter has a territory."

Recruiters will be responsible for a territory and the leads associated with it, rather than being handed leads because it was their "turn" as was done in the past. A new computer system for recruiting is behind the change, according to Martin.

"It's an ownership kind of thing," she said. "Now the recruiters have control over their work. They can concentrate on the schools in their area."

Martin said the recruiters will be assigned as follows:

► **Master Sgt. Mark Jones** will cover the west metro area and the northwestern part of Minnesota.

► **Tech. Sgt. Mark Kosht** will concentrate on south Minneapolis and the whole southern part of

## . . . including a satellite office in Maplewood, Minnesota

► **Rookie recruiter moves to handy location high in potential enlistees**

**Cherie Huntington**  
Public Affairs

**T**he wing's first Air Force Reserve satellite recruiting station opened its doors in Maplewood, Minn., Nov. 15.

Located at 2950 White Bear Avenue in a shopping center across from Maplewood Mall, the station promises to be a convenient place for potential recruits to "shop" for a Reserve career.

"A lot of our leads are coming out of this area," said **Tech. Sgt. Helenka "Candy" Sommers**, rookie recruiter for the 934th and office manager for the new station. "We decided to open here to make it more convenient for Wisconsin applicants, too."

Though the station is shared currently with Army recruiters, the Navy, Marines and Air Force will soon move in, both active duty and reserves.

► **New zone approach divides state and outlying areas into recruiting territories**

Minnesota, including northern Iowa, as well as eastern South Dakota.

► **Tech. Sgt. Helenka "Candy" Sommers'** territory includes Ramsey County and the east metro area extending into western Wisconsin, as well as the northeastern part of Minnesota.

Each recruiter will mail letters of introduction to the high schools, colleges and vocational schools in their area.

"It's a benefit to the wing," said Martin. "Unit members will get more individual attention. There's more continuity and the recruiter gets to know the area and the people."

The recruiters are excited about the change, according to Martin.

"I think the zone areas are going to work out great," said Sommers. "I'll be in the Maplewood office (*story below*) and that makes it more convenient for the applicants in my area. I'm also looking forward to getting to know unit members in my area." □

A grand opening celebration is being planned for January.

Though her office relocated to Maplewood, Sommers plans to stay busy with the same type of recruiting activities as the "home station."

"I'll visit the schools, malls and community events focused on that area," she said. She should be back at the 934th each drill weekend, however. Callers should continue calling the 934th recruiting listings.

"I'll miss everybody at the base," Sommers said, "but this gives me a chance to spread my wings!" □

## New medical recruiter selected

**MINNEAPOLIS** — **Master Sgt. James Tannheimer** is the new health professions recruiter for the 934th. Tannheimer will recruit physicians, oral surgeons, optometrists and dentists.

◉ Based at General Mitchell International Airport Air Reserve Station, Wis., he can be reached at (414)482-5135 or DSN 950-5135. □

**Wing  
recruiters**



**Senior  
Master  
Sgt. Kay  
Martin,  
senior  
recruiter**



**Master  
Sgt.  
Mark  
Jones,  
office  
manager,  
line  
recruiter**

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page)►



Call the  
934th  
Airlift  
Wing  
recruiters:  
(612)  
713-1456  
or  
(800)  
257-1212

## Wing recruiters

(Continued  
from  
previous  
page)



**Tech.  
Sgt.  
Mark  
Kosht,  
line  
recruiter**



**Tech.  
Sgt.  
Helenka  
"Candy"  
Sommers,  
line  
recruiter,  
satellite  
station**

**Members  
interested  
in  
becoming  
Reserve  
recruiters  
are  
always  
needed —  
call wing  
recruiters  
for  
details!**

# Security forces gain positions

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** — The 934th Security Forces Squadron could peg a "We're hiring" sign on the front gate with the Oct. 1 gain of 11 new air reserve technician positions.

The positions reflect a move to bolster force protection throughout Air Force Reserve Command, with 34 units gaining a total of 186 full-time slots. ARTs are civil service employees who serve in the same position as Air Force reservists.

The most sweeping changes occur at Carswell Air Reserve Station, Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base, Texas, where the 610th SFS adds 25 full-time Active Guard and Reserve positions and 21 traditional reservist slots. These people will form the command's portion of the Air Force's recently established force protection unit.

March Air Reserve Base, Calif., and Homestead ARS, Fla., will gain the most ARTs under the change — 28 for March and 20 for Homestead.

Squadrons at Westover ARB, Mass., and Willow Grove ARS, Pa., both add 17 ARTs. Along with the 934th, units at Gen. Mitchell

## ► Local squadron receives 11 new slots for air reserve technicians

International Airport ARS, Wis.; Niagara Falls IAP ARS, N.Y.; Pittsburgh IAP ARS, Pa.; and Youngstown-Warren Regional Airport ARS, Ohio, add 11. The security forces squadron at Dobbins ARB, Ga., will add 10 ARTs. Also, 21 tenant units will gain a second ART, and three flying units without security forces squadrons will gain one position.

Information on the positions are available in the 934th Civilian Personnel Office, Bldg. 760, Room 250A. The application kit titled "How to Become an ART" is in the magazine rack.

Also, details are found on the Air Force Reserve home page at:

<http://www.afres.af.mil/>

Click on "Job Openings" and then "ART Job Opportunities." The current announcement dated Oct. 1 provides application guidance.

Any additional questions can be directed to **Beverly Foster**, Ext. 1483. (AFRC News Service) □

## 'Member recruiters' need eligibility info

**Cherie Huntington**  
Public Affairs

**W**hen referring friends, family and colleagues to wing recruiters, it helps to be informed on enlistment eligibility rules.

According to **Master Sgt. Mark Jones**, office manager and line recruiter, there are also a few recent changes affecting enlistments.

"Our best recruiters are unit members," said Jones, "so we want to help you become more knowledgeable for those interested in joining. We don't want you to disqualify them in your mind based on wrong or old information."

Jones listed some of the most useful information to know for referral purposes:

► Non-prior service people must enlist prior to their 35th birthday.

► Prior-service members must enlist prior to the "calculated age" of their 40th birthday. Years of active duty and reserve time are subtracted from the age. For example, a 50-year-old with 11 years of prior service, no matter how long the break in service, is eligible at the calculated age of 39. The enlistee starts at last rank held.

► Non-prior service members with 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of college may receive the

## ► Knowing current rules helps in referring potential enlistees

rank of senior airman upon completion of technical training, with approval of the unit commander.

► Single parents may be eligible to enlist upon presenting proof of adequate family care arrangements and upon wing commander approval. Also, this opportunity extends to "both parents in the military" situations.

► People with a high school equivalency diploma, or GED, are eligible to join.

► Effective last Oct. 1, Montgomery GI Bill monthly payments were boosted 20 percent. Reservists may receive a monthly increase up to \$251, up to a maximum total of \$9,036.

► Normally, at least 20-30 different jobs are open, many offering bonuses.

► Students should be able to schedule basic training during the summer if they enlist early enough, ideally by January or February.

Jones said the recruiting staff appreciates opportunities to provide literature and incentive items to high school and college alumni groups and community events.

"We get strong results from member referrals," said Jones. "We continue to encourage this!" □

# Services establishes new emblem

## Heraldic tradition continues via special process with historians

Master Sgt. David Hammer

Wing Historian

The use of emblems dates back to the earliest biblical period. Effective Sept. 28, the 934th Services Squadron's new emblem has been approved and joins that long-honored tradition.

Approval was granted after about six months of work by unit members — Master Sgt. Ron Knutson and Tech. Sgts. Doug Johnson and Dewayne Schneider, with approval by the unit commander.

### Emblem process

The process to get an emblem starts by contacting the 934th Historian's Office. Unit members are provided with basic information on what an emblem can and cannot contain and other facts. The unit then creates a design that is approved by the unit commander and then forwarded to the Air Force Reserve Command History Office for review.

The design of an emblem cannot duplicate an existing emblem. Negotiations are done between the unit and the command historian to meet requirements for emblems on design, description and significance.

The Air Force Historical Research Agency at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., performs the final step in approval. When they approve the emblem, they contact The Institute of Heraldry, U.S. Army. The TIOH standardizes designs for correct sizes; improves elements as necessary; provides blazon or description and manufacturing notes, including cable numbers for full or subdued patches; ensures heraldic correctness; and prepares paintings for patches and drawings for flags.

### Heraldic meaning

The significance statement for an emblem is just as important as the



design, since it describes the meaning of colors and elements used.

In the new emblem for services, blue represents the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow signifies the sun and the excellence required of all Air Force members. The red upper half of the circle on the blue background denotes the rising sun, while the yellow bottom half of the circle on a field of black signifies the moon in the evening sky. This represents the unit's diverse role and commitment to military members, around the clock. The silver star symbolizes the North Star and the goal of high standards of excellence. All elements reflect the unit's motto: "Service Before Self."

### To learn more

To read more about Air Force heraldry, visit the Air Force Historical Research Agency Web site at:

<http://www.au.af.mil/au/afhra/>

Select the topics of Air Force heraldry or unit lineage, honors and emblems. To view other 934th emblems, visit the wing's Web site at:

<http://afrc.af.mil/units/934aw/default.htm>

Select the topic of unit emblems. Though the services emblem is not on-line yet, all other wing emblems are listed, with the exception of the 934th Logistics Squadron and 934th Operations Support Flight, as they have not yet designed an emblem. □

## Wing emblem trivia

► **Oldest continually-used emblem:** 934th Airlift Wing, approved Oct. 23, 1964.

► **Oldest emblem:** The original 96th Airlift Squadron emblem, approved July 28, 1960, and superceded by the Viking emblem, June 18, 1997.

► **Number of emblems with a Viking element:** Six. 934th Airlift Wing, 96th Airlift Squadron, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, 934th Maintenance Squadron, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron and 934th Communications Flight.

► **Emblem with outline of Minnesota:** 934th Security Forces Squadron.

► **Only unit with two emblems:** 96th Airlift Squadron.

► **Only units not allowed distinct emblems:** The three groups use the wing emblem with the wording changed on the bottom. □

# People

## Medals

### Meritorious Service Medal

Capt. Cheryl Bowser-Antonich, AES,  
first oak leaf cluster, retired  
Lt. Col. Thomas Kieffaber, AS, retired

### Air Force Commendation Medal

Tech. Sgt. Dennis Dodge, MSF, retired  
Tech. Sgt. David Ziesmer, MSF, retired

## Promotions

Tech. Sgt. Robert Arkulary, AS  
Tech. Sgt. Michael Bauch, MXS  
Tech. Sgt. Tamera Besser, CES  
Staff Sgt. Thomas Daigle, CES  
Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Dean, AW  
Tech. Sgt. Alvin Greener, SVS  
Master Sgt. Curtis Henke, AS  
Airman 1st Class Brian Hill, MSF  
Master Sgt. John Hoffman, AS  
Tech. Sgt. Stephen Hutchinson, MXS  
Tech. Sgt. Thomas Kim, AS  
Tech. Sgt. Josef Kneisz, CF  
Master Sgt. Stephen Korolenko, ASTS  
Tech. Sgt. John Kresbach, APS  
Staff Sgt. Gregory Kuhn, APS  
Airman 1st Class Jessica Lind, AS  
Staff Sgt. Scott Lindell, APS

Tech. Sgt. Michael McGuire, CES  
Staff Sgt. Christopher Mitchell, AW  
Tech. Sgt. Lynette Petsinger, AS  
Tech. Sgt. Pamela Russell, AW  
Staff Sgt. Joshua Smith, SFS  
Amn. Sara Webb, CF  
Tech. Sgt. Richard Welter, MXS  
Tech. Sgt. Scott Wilson, MXS

## Newcomers

► Senior Airman James Bayard, MXS,  
*Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D.*  
► Staff Sgt. Kathy Carter, APS,  
*Individual Mobilization Augmentee*  
► Staff Sgt. Wayne Grudnoske, AS,  
*Travis AFB, Calif.*  
► Senior Airman Zachary Johnson,  
APS, *Anderson AFB, Guam*  
► Senior Airman Dennis Kersting,  
ASTS, *Grand Forks*  
► Senior Airman Raymond Rosenbach,  
SFS, *Robins AFB, Ga.*  
► Maj. James Treurel, AS, *Gen.*  
*Mitchell International Airport Air*  
*Reserve Station, Wis.*

## Achievements

► **Tech. Sgt. Alma DeLaGarza**, LSS,  
earned her bachelor's in chemical

engineering, University of Illinois,  
Chicago.

► **1st Lt. Michael Lucore Jr.**, AES,  
was selected as Member of the Month  
for November.

► **Staff Sgt. Tom Reinardy**, AS,  
completed his associate's in aircrew  
technology from the Community  
College of the Air Force.

► **Master Sgt. Adan Sylva**, APS, was  
awarded the "Best of the Best" award  
by the cadre of the Air Mobility  
Warfare Center's Phoenix Readiness  
Combat Support Operations Course  
99-01, Fort Dix, N.J., in October. He  
and five other students out of 180  
were recognized for their outstanding  
performance during the 13-day  
course. Silva served as first sergeant  
and noncommissioned officer in  
charge of the deployed aerial port and  
tactical airlift control element.

► **Senior Master Sgt. Karen Wilson**,  
CF, completed her bachelor's at  
Metropolitan State University, St. Paul,  
Minn., with the graduation ceremony  
set for January 1999.

(Continued on next page)►



Staff Sgt. Robert Walz

► **Tech. Sgt. Christopher Sayre**,  
freight specialist

## Viking Search:

# Traffic management

**C**lip this for a colleague or  
family member and assist  
recruiters in their search for  
new reservists.

**Specialty code/unit:** 2T051,  
934th Logistics Support Squadron.

**Job description:** Job involves  
handling transportation requests like a  
travel agent, and warehouse shipping  
and receiving tasks. Activities include  
making arrangements for shipping of  
freight, preparing bills of loading,  
quality control, and record keeping.  
Loading and unloading of shipments  
may include use of forklifts, pallet  
trucks and hand trucks.

**Civilian job equivalent:** Travel  
agent and warehouse shipping/  
receiving clerk.

**Training:** Thirteen weeks,  
Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

**Recent travel locations:**  
California, Florida, Kuwait, Texas.

### What's great about the job:

► Wide variety of tasks, from  
building crates and warehouse  
work to computer data entry.  
► Opportunities for additional  
travel/duty.  
► Get to work with the public.  
► Important part of mobility  
operations.  
► Great camaraderie within a  
small office environment.

**Contact:** 934th Recruiting  
Office, (612) 713-1456. □

**Viking Victors:**

**Lt. Col. Kristin Rudin**

**New position:** Commander, 934th Mission Support Flight.  
**Previous position:** Director, 934th Public Affairs Office.  
**Education:** Master's in human resource management, Golden Gate University, San Francisco, Calif.; bachelor's in social work, Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio.  
**Hobbies:** Jogging, skiing, playing with the kids.  
**Civilian career:** Mom.  
**Professional organizations:**

Lifetime member, Reserve Officers Association; Sunday school teacher.  
**Goals:** "Assist the unit during this time of transition, helping them be a great customer service organization and prepare for the next century."  
**Family:** Husband, **John**, lieutenant colonel and commander, 96th Airlift Squadron; son, **Sean**, and daughter, **Shannon**; live in Woodbury, Minn.; stepdaughter, **Jenny**, in River Falls, Wis.; and stepson, **Chris**, a naval aviator. □



Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly

(Continued from previous page)

- ▶ **Senior Airman Robert Zak**, CF, earned honor graduate status with a 95 percent final average at the computer systems operations apprentice course, Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., Oct. 13.
- ▶ The Air Force Association's Gen. E.W. Rawlings Chapter held its annual awards banquet Nov. 19 at the Fort Snelling Employees Club, Minneapolis, Minn., recognizing four 934th members:
- Senior Airman Jeremy Bethke**, CES, 934th Airman of the Year
- Tech. Sgt. Ronald Woolery**, CES, 934th Noncommissioned Officer of the Year
- Senior Master Sgt. Leslie Canarr**, CES, 934th Company Grade Officer of the Year
- Mark Davidson**, AW, 934th Ambassador Award

**Reenlistments**

- Senior Airman Kermit Anstine, MXS
- Senior Airman Jason Blanchard, MXS
- Tech. Sgt. Edwin Grant, CES
- Master Sgt. David Hammer, AW
- Staff Sgt. Michael Jelinek, MXS
- Staff Sgt. Lawrence Koland, AS
- Staff Sgt. Scott Lindell, APS
- Master Sgt. Robert Linder, CES
- Staff Sgt. Patrick Mattson, SVS
- Senior Master Sgt. Dennis McLean, SVS

- Senior Airman James Mills Jr., MXS
- Staff Sgt. Mark Patrick, ASTS
- Staff Sgt. Steven Pittman, MXS
- Staff Sgt. John Sadlovsky, MXS
- Tech. Sgt. Patricia Sahr, APS
- Tech. Sgt. Mark Sidla, MXS
- Tech. Sgt. John Steffen, SVS
- Staff Sgt. Wayne Stenberg, ASTS
- Senior Master Sgt. Timothy Tamlyn, CES

**Births**

- ▶ **Don Fletcher**, MXS, and his wife, **Julie**, have a new son, **William Alexander**, born Oct. 13, weighing 8 pounds, 11 ounces.
- ▶ **Brian Howard**, ASTS, and his wife, **Janice**, have a new son, **Andrew James**, born Oct. 28, weighing 9 pounds, 1 ounce.
- ▶ **Conrad Kluck**, MXS, and his wife, **Nancy**, have a new daughter, **Samantha Jean**, born Sept. 25, weighing 7 pounds, 12 ounces.
- ▶ **Rob Mattern**, AS, and his wife, **Jody**, have a new son, **Taylor Robert**, born Nov. 5, weighing 6 pounds, 15 ounces.

**Taps**

**Earl Wayne Dieltz**, 57, a former technical sergeant with APS, lost his battle with cancer, Nov. 2. He was a resident of New Richmond, Wis., and is survived by his wife, **Marianne**; sons, **Michael** and **Scott**; and grandson, **Jonathan**. □



**Wing around the world:  
December**

- 27th APS:** Virginia
- 934th AES:** Bosnia, Germany, Louisiana, Nebraska, Texas
- 934th ASTS:** Georgia, Texas
- 96th AS:** California, Colorado, Florida, Germany, Illinois, Louisiana, Oregon, Wisconsin
- 934th AW HQ/MSF:** No travel
- 934th CES:** Florida, Texas
- 934th CF:** Mississippi
- 934th LSS:** California, Germany, Panama
- 934th MXS:** California, Florida, Germany, Louisiana, Panama
- 934th OSF:** Panama
- 934th SFS:** Nebraska
- 934th SVS:** No travel

*This list shows official travel destinations for wing members, via commercial or military transportation. For space-available travel information, call the 96th Airlift Squadron at 713-1741 or the local Air National Guard wing at 713-2450.*

## 'State of the Air Force' . . .

(Continued from Page 4)

▶ First, we know military pay has lagged behind civilian pay. But change is in the air. The president, secretary of defense and Congress have committed to substantial pay increases over the next few years.

▶ Second, we're working the retirement issue. General Ryan, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and I are pushing for retirement reform to ensure every military retiree will receive adequate and equitable benefits. Congress has already begun to debate a reversal of the 1986 "Redux" retirement cuts.

▶ Third, we're working to improve TRICARE [health care program for active-duty members and retirees]. I know the new system has had a rocky start, but I believe it's getting better as it matures. To make sure this is the case, I've asked the inspector general to conduct an independent survey of TRICARE users in areas where the program has been established for several years. I should have the results of this survey by early next year and will take prompt action if needed.

### Considering your career

My point is we don't want to lose you. If you are considering separating, please get all the facts — pay, benefits, job challenges and responsibility, future initiatives — and discuss your options with your families and other members of our Air Force team — coworkers, supervisors and commanders.

I use the word "team" for a good reason. I worked in the private sector for more than 25 years, and I guarantee you will not find in most private-sector jobs the teamwork, high-quality coworkers, trust and camaraderie you enjoy in your unit.

You owe it to yourself to "look before you leap." Ask yourself these questions as you look: Do I enjoy the

people I work with? Do I enjoy what I'm doing? Do I feel good serving my country?

Our goal is to help you answer those questions so you, your family, our Air Force and America all win. If you can't answer "yes," tell us why. I know we won't be able to resolve all your concerns, but we'll do our best to focus resources where they have the greatest positive impact on our people and on national security.

We have the best people in the world, and thanks to you, our Air Force remains ready to perform its critical mission. But for too long, you've been forced to choose between your own needs — and those of your family — and the needs of our Air Force. General Ryan, **Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Eric Benken** and I will do all we can to ensure we develop and implement policies that help rather than hinder you in accomplishing the missions you perform so well.

I am honored to serve as your acting secretary. As I look to the future, I know it will be a team effort that will sustain our success. I'm counting on leaders at all levels to help our people overcome the significant challenges we face, but I'll need the help of the entire Air Force team. I hope I can count on you! (*Air Force Print News "must run"*)□

For too long, you've been forced to choose between your needs — and those of your family — and the needs of our Air Force.



— Acting Secretary of the Air Force F. Whitten Peters

## Services Briefs

### NCO Club

▶ **A New Year's Eve Bash** will offer an evening of dinner and dancing. Call for reservations.

▶ **Get a 10 percent discount** on lunch or dinner throughout December when you bring in a toy for the Toys for Tots drive.

☎Call Ext. 1655 for details on NCO Club activities.

### North Country Inn

▶ **New Year's Eve** — want to go celebrate at the NCO Club but prefer not to drive? Call the North Country Inn lodging facility and make a reservation for the evening.

▶ The renovation is nearly complete, and an open

house with cake, punch and rooms open for viewing is planned for early December.

☎For reservations or information, call the front desk lines, Ext. 1983 or 1984.

### Recreation services

▶ **Toys for Tots** boxes are out, so donate new, unwrapped toys during the December drill. Cash donations can be made through each unit first sergeant.

▶ **The fitness center grand opening** should be in late January or early February. Thanks go to everyone who completed the recent fitness center survey — it will help us provide a facility to meet your needs.

☎Call recreation services, Ext. 1128.□