

# Fuel for Thought

October 2004

The 939th Air Refueling Wing, Portland, Ore.

Vol. 2, Issue 10

## Wing welcomes General Handy

by Roger Edwards

The men and women of the 939th Air Refueling Wing will have the opportunity October 13, to meet General John Handy, Commander, United States Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command. The general is scheduled to visit Portland and the wing to talk with wing members and hold a "Town Hall" type meeting in which he will answer questions. The time and place of the meeting will be announced.

In an introduction at the Air Warfare Symposium in Orlando earlier this year, General Handy was described as the single manager for global air, land and sea transportation for America's Department of Defense. The following is excerpted from his address to the Symposium in February 2004.

I want to talk just a little bit about mobility's contributions in the height of combat operations. Fifty-six percent of all Air Force sorties in CENTCOM were mobility. That's a source of pride for our Air Force. I'm even more proud of the fact that since major combat operations ended, over 38,000 of the more than 50,000 sorties were flown by mobility assets. That's over 70 percent of our airlift and tankers involved in what's going on over there now.



US Air Force Photo

As I speak, we are in the middle of the process of swapping out 250,000 troops between Iraq and Afghanistan and the continental United States and Europe. This week alone in three days we closed over 15,000 troops in the theater of operations.

On one day, 5,600. Those are numbers that heretofore we'd never been able to even contemplate outside of a Civil Reserve Air Fleet (CRAF) environment and today we're doing it in a non-CRAF environment. In fact, our Chairman referred to what we're about to do and are, in fact, in the middle of doing as "the greatest military logistics feat in history."

Now I think that's a bit of an overstatement, but it certainly characterizes the nature of the things that we're doing and we can't do this without the total team of active, Guard, Reserve, our military civilians and our commercial partners – air, land and sea.

...We need a modernized force. We need C-17s. They have been the weapons system of choice, but not any more than C-130s or C-5s.

We've got to look at the total

package of everything we do.

We can't forget tankers. Let me just kind of tell you about tankers... I think back to the previous fall when we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Flight, when the Wright Brothers flew down at Kitty Hawk. That's 100 years ago last fall. If you look at our tanker fleet ... if we had permission right now, today, to replace the tanker fleet ... at an industry rate of 15 aircraft a year, our best analyst tells us the age of the last tanker to be replaced would be somewhere between 80 and 100 years. That would be like walking out to any flight line around the Air Force today and seeing squadrons of Wright Flyers... We need to replace the tanker fleet. It's a practical matter. Our nation needs viable air refueling capability and we've just got to do it.

To see the text of General Handy's speech in full on the internet, please go to [http://www.afa.org/media/scripts/Handy\\_04aws.asp](http://www.afa.org/media/scripts/Handy_04aws.asp).

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## Chief's Corner

# Be a mentor

by CMSgt David Roberts  
939th Air Refueling Wing Performance Manager

advanced education and professional associations.

### WHAT IS A MENTOR?

A **MENTOR** is "a trusted counselor or guide." Mentoring, therefore, is a relationship by which a person with greater experience and wisdom guides another person to develop both personally and professionally.

**THE GOAL** of the mentoring program is to help our members reach their full potential.

**MENTORING** is a critical aspect of a full-fledged professional development program that provides open communication between senior and junior members of the organization about such topics as values, career development, performance, professional reading, professional and



photo by Roger Edwards

**WHY MENTOR?** A mentor can help a young member learn things he or she might not have learned well or might not have learned. Good leaders do a number of things. Good leaders communicate a clear vision and articulate a precise direction. Good leaders provide performance feedback, inspire and encourage and, when necessary, counsel. Good leaders also MENTOR. Mentoring is the part of a leader's role that has growth as its only outcome. If you out rank anyone within your organization, YOUR ARE A MENTOR AND ROLE MODEL.

References: AFD 36-34  
AFI 36-3401  
AFI 36-2406

*TSgt Gregory Gaunt, a KC-135 crew chief with the 939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, as class president of his graduating class at the Non-Commissioned Officer's Academy, Tyndall AFB, FL, is presented with the class diploma on September 9. Making the presentation are CMSgt Bradley Hitzeman, commandant of the academy, and SMSgt Stephen Mihal, the senior instructor.*



US Air Force Photo

## ***Fuel for Thought***

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939 ARW Commander

Col. William Flanigan

Chief of Public Affairs

Maj. Karen Magnus

Public Affairs Specialist/Editor/Admin

Roger A. Edwards

# Congratulations

## Civilian

<b>Promotions</b>		Jamie Conrad	939ARW
David Craig	939ARW		
<b>Welcome</b>		Cynthia Houston	304RQS
Donald Argo	939AMXS		

## Military

<b>Promotions</b>		TSgt Scott Anderson	939MSS
<b>To Lieutenant Colonel</b> (Effective 1 Oct, 2004)		TSgt Benjamin Ashment	939AMXS
Ronald Gschwend	939MDS	TSgt Nathan Brown	939AMXS
Mark Hildebrandt	939LGQ	PTSgt Joseph Phillips	939LRS
Sandra Knutson	939MDS	TSgt Richard Scott	939MXS
(Effective upon Presidential Approval)		SSgt Robert Davey	939LRS
Russell Muncy	64ARS	SSgt Eric Frye	939MXS
Nancy Ronan	939MDS	SSgt William Koenig	939AMXS
Aaron Vangelisti	64ARS	SSgt Terrance Lane	83APS

<b>To Major</b> (Effective upon Presidential Approval)		SrA James Cabrera	939OSF
Luan Tran	939ARW/HC	SrA Tara Evans	939CES

<b>To Captain</b>		SrA James Leahy	939CF
Lorna Zeigler	939MXS	SrA Jamie Peregoy	64ARS

<b>To Master Sergeant</b>		SrA Gregory Rachel	939MXS
Eric Ledwith	939CES	SrA Sean Sammis	939CF
Scott Light	304RQS	SrA Chimere Smith	939LRS

<b>To Technical Sergeant</b>		SrA Walker Thompson	939CF
Don Cole	304RQS	SrA Robert Tjomsland	939ARW
Rhodora Maher	939MSG	A1C Damon Berry	83APS

<b>To Staff Sergeant</b>		A1C Joseph Brissette	939AMXS
Jay Frances	939MSG	A1C Gloria Cannon	939CES
Jeff Murphy	939AMXS	A1C Jacob Cox	939AMXS

<b>To Senior Airman</b>		A1C David Edmiston	83APS
Kalene Kaplan	939MXS	A1C Justin Hall	939CES
Christopher Roebuck	939AMXS	A1C Jennifer Linn	939SVF
Andrew Stott	939MDS	A1C Jennifer Lister	939OSF
Andrew Young	939MSS	A1C Leslie Montgomery	83APS

<b>To Airman First Class</b>		A1C Aaron Ralph	939AMXS
Ryan Mack	939LRS	A1C Jamie Teryah	83APS

<b>Welcome</b>		AB Michael Porter	939CF
MSgt Daniel Sassen	939MXS		

## Awards

<b>Meritorious Service Medal</b>			
TSgt David Armstrong		304RQS	
TSgt James Eddings		304RQS	
TSgt Johnathan Lafferty		304RQS	
TSgt Scott Light		304RQS	

## Earned for Iraq Freedom support

# Moses presented three Air Medals

MSgt Allen Moses, 939 OG Career Advisor for about a year now, was an Airborne Radio Operator in the HC-130 for 14 years. On Sunday of the September UTA, he was presented with three Air Medals for his role during sustained combat operations while in Iraq. These three make a total of five of the Air Medals that Moses has earned in his career. This last time was spent in support of



US Air Force Photo

The sheer number and quantity of people and equipment moving out was incredible.” Even though he really misses the flying and the mission, he feels that as a career advisor he is able to help people in a whole new way. The other benefit to this job is that he no longer is gone from home for extended periods of time. As a traditional reservist Moses has a whole other career in the civilian world as an Aviation Security Inspector for the Transportation Security Administration where he has been since 2000.

Operation Iraqi Freedom for seven months. He was with a group that staged out of Kuwait. According to Moses the role over in Iraq was comprised of many things, but primarily “We were kind of the “911” for anything going on in the area. If an aircrew was shot down the AWACS called us.” In addition to providing communications with AWACs, the HC-130s he was on also provided air refueling to the HH-60s. During rescues, as the radio operator, he said, “I did the play by play for the AOR commander.” With regard to what he was able to see from the air, “It was amazing to see all the convoys and so on going forward.

**Turn Time Back!  
Daylight Savings Time  
Begins**



**2 a.m.  
October 31st**



MSgt Michael Rak

MSgt Cathy Chapman



MSgt Jerald Kohn

TSgt Christopher Soden



TSgt Mark Christiansen

SSgt Andrew Lyons



*The first four NCOs above were presented with the Air Force Commendation Medal by Maj Brett Duax, 939th Maintenance Operations Flight Commander, in a ceremony held during the September UTA. MSgt Rak, TSgt Christiansen and SSgt Lyons were presented with the NATO Medal.*



MSgt Scott Goodgion



MSgt Gregory Doss



SMSgt Michael Gorham



SrA Zachary Thiessen



TSgt Randy Loyer



TSgt Andrew Weaver



TSgt Darrell Smith



TSgt Ronald Rel



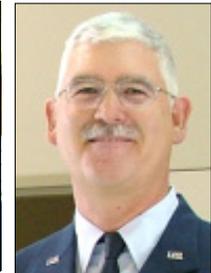
MSgt Robert Schuessler



MSgt John Phillips



SMSgt Jay Jahangiri



TSgt Roger Watson



TSgt Bradley Crow



TSgt John Brownfield



CMSgt Reuben Evans



TSgt Dennis Belkot



TSgt Paul Bade



MSgt George Chernishov

*All  
Maintenance  
Portraits  
taken by Maj  
Karen  
Magnus*



MSgt Robert Britton



TSgt Jackie Neale



TSgt Richard Held



MSgt Jasmes Gross



SSgt Jeff Murphy



TSgt Levi Ainslie



MSgt Carl Williams



Maj Brent Payton

*The individuals pictured in the four rows above all received the Air Force Commendation Medal from Maj Barbara Dobroth, 939th Maintenance Squadron Commander, in a ceremony held during the September UTA. Sergeants Ainslie and Williams and Major Payton (left) were awarded the NATO Medal as were Sergeants Goodgion, Doss, Gorham, Phillips and Britton. Maj Payton's NATO Medal was presented to him by wing commander, Col William Flanigan. In addition Jeff Murphy was presented with his staff sergeant chevron by Maj Dobronth.*



TSgt David Nelson



TSgt Wade Sullivan



SrA Robert Mayner



SMSgt Bruce Fontaine



TSgt Gregory Bartell



SMSgt Brian Alley



MSgt Keith Barber



MSgt Eric Berggren



TSgt Eric Anderston



MSgt Christopher Bonn



SSgt James Case



TSgt Stephen Breaux



MSgt Garth Didlick



TSgt James Castle



MSgt Norman Ellis



SSgt Robert Emmons



TSgt Larry Ferington



TSgt Gregory Gonnerman



MSgt Michael Green



SSgt Kristen Harper



SMSgt Jeffery Hauck



SSgt Michael Heckman



SrA Michael Gonzalez



SMSgt John Hollingsworth



MSgt Thomas Henderson



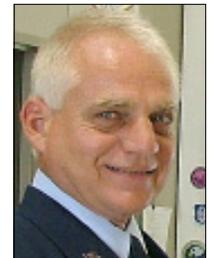
SMSgt Jerry Kaufman



SSgt William Kirk



TSgt Stewart Lyall



MSgt Claude Moreland



SSgt James Olsen



MSgt Ronnie Patterson



SrA David Riley



MSgt Mark Richards



TSgt Kevin Richardson



TSgt Kenneth Rochefort



SSgt Richard Slater



MSgt Perry Steinbrook



TSgt Daryl Stutzman



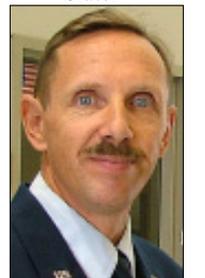
MSgt David Stover



MSgt Laval Sweat



MSgt April Wells



TSgt Stanley Wey



TSgt Michael Williams



MSgt Frank Lovejoy

*The NCOs (and soon to be NCOs) on the preceding page, the two rows above and the pictures to the left were all presented with the Air Force Commendation Medal by Maj Kirk Peddicord, 939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Commander, in a ceremony held during the September UTA. SMSgt Deron McMaster (near right)*



SMSgt Deron McMaster



SrA Christopher Roebuck

*was named Senior NCO of the Quarter in the same ceremony and Christopher Roebuck (far right) was promoted to Senior Airman. TSgt David Nelson (top row, preceding page) was named NCO of the Quarter during the ceremony, while TSgt Wade Sullivan and SrA Robert Mayner were presented with the 110% Award. In addition SMSgts Bruce Fontaine and Deron McMaster, and TSgt Gregory Bartell were presented with the NATO Medal.*



photo by MSgt Edward Angle

*Andrew Young, a member of the 939th Mission Support Squadron, was promoted to Senior Airman in a ceremony held during the September UTA. Here CMSgt Cathy Sevier, 939th Military Personnel Flight, and Capt Sher Gardner, MSS commander, tack on his new chevrons.*

# 939th Family Appreciation Day a hit





*photos by Maj Karen Magnus*



photo by Lt Col Brian Calkins

*Family Appreciation Day this year fell on September 11, and was a success with a big turnout for fun, food and contests. The Daughters of the American Revolution provided books for the children. Wing members cooked burgers and hot dogs, and Security Forces provided fingerprinting for childrens' safety kits. The Commanders' Trike Race was won by Capt Sher Gardner thanks to the stellar efforts of her team: MSgt Della Oglevie, TSgt William Cote and SSgt Rachel Grigsby.*



# When searching for work those in DoD face restrictions

by Roger Edwards

Men and women who have been in government service as a member of the military or as a civilian employee, have skills built and honed by that service which can make them valuable assets to a civilian employer. But they are not free to work wherever they may wish.

According to the "Rules on Job Hunting and Post-Government Employment Handbook," post government employees are governed by two federal laws; The Joint Ethics Regulations and the Procurement Integrity Act. The handbook, produced by the Defense Supply Center, Columbus, Ohio, says that these two laws limit an employee's liberty to discuss post government employment with, or send resumes or employment proposals to DoD contractors prior to leaving government service.

By federal law, military members and federal civilian employees may not personally and substantially "participate" in their governmental capacity in any matter in which they, their spouse, minor children or certain other persons, including persons with whom they are negotiating or has any arrangement concerning prospective employment, have a financial interest. A person may not "participate" through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, giving advice, investigation or otherwise.

The regulation is in place to ensure the prospect of future employment does not affect the performance of official duties; that DoD members do not communicate inside information to a prospective employer and that DoD members avoid any activity that would adversely affect the public's confidence in the integrity of the Federal Government, even if no actual violation of law is involved.

These regulations apply even if the DoD member is not an active participant but is only contacted by a contractor. Should this occur, the regulations require the contact be promptly reported and that the member promptly reject the employment opportunity or disqualify himself or herself from further participation with that contractor.



These are serious statutes that carry disciplinary and/or criminal penalties of up to five years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000.

There are other restrictions as well. Two of which are known as the lifetime representation law and the two-year representation law.

The first states that there is a lifetime ban on attempting to influence the government regarding a government contract or other matter that you participated personally and substantially in as a government employee. The second that there is a two-year ban on attempting to influence the government regarding a contract or other matter that you did not participate personally and substantially in as a government employee, but that was under your official responsibility during you last year in the government.

If you intend to leave government service and are looking for post government employment while still engaged in your government duties, be aware of the above. Save yourself some heartache.

For information on this and other post government employment restrictions, contact your Judge Advocate at 335-4610.

**TESTING TIMES AT THE  
EDUCATION CENTER bldg 370**



CLEP and DANTES testing is conducted on Tuesdays at 0800 and 1300 and occasionally on Saturday afternoon of the UTA.

CDC and PME testing is conducted every Thursday at 0800 and 1300 hrs  
And at 1300 on Friday prior to the main UTA  
And at 0800 and 1300 on Sunday of the UTA  
**NOT ON TUESDAYS**

AFQOT and ASVAB testing is conducted by appointment on Mondays or Wednesdays but limited to one per month.

Phone ahead appointments to 5-4596 preferred but walk-ins at the above schedule accepted.



photo by Maj Karen Magnus

The 939 CES is doing a community project for Fort Vancouver and the City of Vancouver. They are helping build a "Gate House". Pictured here are the members of Structures that are working on the project. They are (left to right) MSgt Jon Conway, TSgt Eric Ledwith, SrA David Powell, MSgt James Halsor, MSgt Frank Barns and TSgt Glen Rasmussen. Members of the utilities and electricians shops have also provided support on this project.



photo by MSgt Edward Angle

SSgt Rachel Grigsby, 939 Mission Support Squadron (right), was presented the Air Force Achievement Medal in a ceremony held during the September UTA. Capt Sher Gardner, MSS commander, presided at the ceremony.



photo by MSgt Edward Angle

Jay Frances, 939 Mission Support Squadron, was promoted to Staff Sergeant in a ceremony held during the September UTA. Here Capt Sher Gardner, MSS commander and CMSgt Cathy Sevier, 939 Military Personnel Flight, tack his new chevrons on.



# YOUR JOB IS SECURE!

**Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve**  
1-800-336-4590 \* [www.esgr.org](http://www.esgr.org)

As a uniformed service member, you have rights under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), Title 38, Chapter 43, United States Code.

## **Your Rights:**

- \* Military leave of absence (up to five years of voluntary service)
- \* Prompt reinstatement back into your job
- \* Accumulation of seniority, including pension plan benefits
- \* Reinstatement of health insurance, regardless of pre-existing conditions
- \* Training or retraining of job skills, including accommodations for disabled
- \* Protection against discrimination

## **Your Responsibilities:**

- \* Before Reporting for Duty: Provide prior notice to employer (preferably in writing)
- \* While Performing Duty: Serve under honorable conditions
- \* After Release from Duty: Return to work in a timely manner

## **Reemployment Timetable:**

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Less than 31 days of service | -Report next work day after safe travel home and 8 hours of rest    |
| 31-180 days of service       | -Apply for reinstatement within 14 days of release from active duty |
| Over 180 days of service     | -Apply for reinstatement within 90 days of release from active duty |

## **How to Resolve an Employment Issue:**

- \* Inform your unit/military chain of command
- \* Contact ESGR (1-800-336-4590, [ncesgr-ombud@osd.mil](mailto:ncesgr-ombud@osd.mil) or [www.esgr.org](http://www.esgr.org))
- \* If not resolved, contact the Department of Labor (1-866-4-usa-dol or [www.dol.gov](http://www.dol.gov))
- \* May consult a private attorney (at own expense, precludes ESGR assistance)

## **How to Recognize a Supportive Employer:**

- \* Nominate them for an award from ESGR
- \* Go to the ESGR web site at; [www.esgr.org](http://www.esgr.org)
- \* Click on 'Military Members' and then 'Patriot Award'
- \* Fill out and submit the Patriot Award nomination form right on line!

## **Other Helpful Web Sites:**

- \* [www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve), information on TRICARE coverage
- \* [www.sba.gov/vets](http://www.sba.gov/vets), information for small business owners
- \* [www.soc.aascu.org](http://www.soc.aascu.org), information for college students
- \* [www.usmilitary.about.com/od/sscra](http://www.usmilitary.about.com/od/sscra), Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA)
- \* [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com), on-line counseling, information and resources





US Air Force Photo

The Air Force Reserve announced on September 10 that reserve recruiters had exceeded their goal for the fourth straight year. Part of the credit for that success belongs right here in Portland where the 939th Recruiting Team ended the accounting year with 143 individuals in boots - 124 percent of their goal of 115. Team members pictured below are (left to right) TSgt Jon Hovda, SMSgt Greg Pliler - Senior Recruiter, SSgt Carl Nixon, MSgt Jon Rucker - now reassigned to California, TSgt John Kotek and TSgt Raymond Luke. Not pictured is the newest team member, SSgt Christian Jorg.

## Wing Space-A policy defined

by Roger Edwards

One of the benefits of being in uniform (or retired), is inexpensive travel via Space-Available transportation for the uniformed member and immediate family. But the key word in that phrase is "Available."

The wing released a policy letter on September 27, discussing local Space-A Transportation availability and eligibility. The letter follows:

The 939th Air Refueling Wing and Portland IAP possess no Space-A program. There is no formal Air Mobility Command approved passenger terminal with AFI applicable passenger processing equipment such as X-Ray machine, metal detector or explosive residue detection equipment. There are no personnel assigned to perform Space-A functions and the cost to establish and approve a Space-A passenger terminal and to employ appropriate personnel is prohibitive.

Due to the extremely limited capability to process passengers and their luggage, only 939ARW assigned members will be allowed to depart Portland IAP on a Space-A basis. Those members desiring Space-A travel must notify the 939ARW Command Post (x5-4718) at least 24 hours prior to scheduled departure. Members must be in a leave status to utilize Space-A travel. Space-A passengers must show at the passenger processing area (as

designated by the 939LRS) at least three hours prior to departure. It is recommended they verify flight status with the command post approximately four hours prior to departure in order to verify departure status. Space-A passengers and their baggage will be processed by 939ARW passenger processing personnel, if available, or by 939OG aircrew if necessary. Passengers will most likely be required to walk to and from the aircraft from the passenger processing area, and may be required to assist with moving their own equipment and baggage. Once departed from home station, all Space-A passengers will be required to follow all AMC/DoD regulations regarding travel, including leave status, eligibility, travel priority and processing through AMX passenger terminals.

If 939ARW members desire to return to Portland IAP in a Space-A status, they should coordinate with the deployed aircrew to determine departure times and potential seat availability. In all cases they must be prepared to return via personally secured commercial transportation. Space-A passengers returning to Portland IAP will receive minimal support. They may be required to carry their own baggage from the aircraft and will be escorted from the flight line. They should expect no transportation support.

Non-939ARW personnel are not authorized to fly into Portland IAP on Space-A status. 939ARW deployed aircrews are not authorized to release seats on return flights into Portland IAP.

## Five Reserve Airmen

# Exhibit “Service Before Self”

By Maj David Jeske  
939 LRS Commander

One was a mailroom clerk, one a factory worker, another an apartment manager, one a government services agent and the final individual a student. These were five Americans with seemingly nothing in common – until each stood up and volunteered to serve their country in Iraq.

Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in all we do – not only the Air Force Core Values, but also the values that make a wing successful. Service before self was never better exemplified than through the recent mobilization and deployment of Air Force Reserve Transportation personnel to support US Army convoy operations in Iraq.

In January of 2004, the US Army had sustained tremendous losses in the difficult and dangerous task of truck convoy operations in Iraq. In a first of its kind request, the Army requested support from the Air Force and the Air Force Reserve to perform this duty. Units from throughout the Air Force Reserve Command were contacted to determine if they could contribute personnel, and the number of personnel available. The 939th Air Refueling Wing accepted the challenge and volunteered to fill five of the requested positions.

When the tasking for five 2T1X1, Vehicle Operations specialists was received by the 939 LRS, eight hands were raised in the air. In addition to the five primary personnel designated for mobilization and deployment, three additional personnel volunteered and were processed as alternates. The personnel were prepared to deploy, their records reviewed by medical, personnel and the LRS orderly room for eligibility.

Each of the five had individual and unique reasons for volunteering. None described it better however than one, who prior to deployment commented, “I’ve served all these years to be ready if called. And now, my country has called. And now, I’ll answer that call.” This simple sentiment says more about Service Before Self than any manual or training class the Air Force could offer. Each of the members faced hardships with civilian employers and difficulties in explaining their choice to their families. One member requested only half-kidding, “Please don’t tell my Mom I volunteered, she’d never speak to me again.” But each did volunteer.

One of the most difficult experiences for military mem-

bers deployed to a combat zone is the realization that life goes on back home. While these members were deployed, children grew up, parents became ill and required hospitalization, mothers became accustomed to filling-in as the sole parent and families persevered. While these individuals knew they were missing out on important family and personal events, these citizen-airmen continued the hot, dusty and dangerous job of ensuring supplies and equipment made it safely to soldiers in the field.

The assignment was truly a life-changing, hazardous test of will. The members of the 939th took fire, returned fire and defended these convoys of freedom, never forgetting why they had volunteered, or why they served. These individuals accepted the hazards and tried to keep each other from harm’s way. They deployed safely, served safely and will return safely.

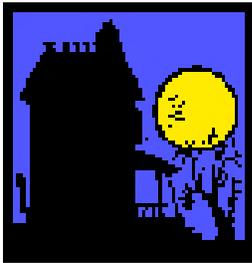
Each American can serve their country in a variety of ways. These five courageous Americans are now joined forever in their determination to place Service Before Self.



# Be safe: allow for fall weather

Michael J. Clarke  
939th Ground Safety Manager

Well, believe it or not it's already fall and I'm sure you've noticed we've been rapidly losing those precious hours of daylight. It's pretty dark out now between 6am and 7am. We do have some folks who like to get up early (don't ask me why) and do fitness on the base in the wee



hours of the morning. Now that it's staying dark longer, please be reminded the Base Safety Instruction (PIAI 91-207) asks those dedicated to their early morning fitness wear reflective material or garments during hours of darkness. Please drive with a little more caution during the hours of darkness so we don't create a new event called "Running with the Bumpers." I know, us safety geeks ruin all the fun!

The same goes for work areas around the wing (AFOSH 91-501 chapter 14) tells you that personnel exposed to a traffic environment or flight line operations during hours of darkness, periods of reduced visibility, or as part of construction or maintenance activities, will be provided and use reflective vests/accessories or will use organizational clothing with sewn-on reflective tape. Personnel transiting this environment, incidental to their assigned task(s), issue of reflective equipment should be at the discretion of the supervisor/commander).

Changes in the weather means some of you will be putting out fall and winter house equipment (storm windows, leaf blowers etc.) you have had stored until now. Be sure to check for damage and safe operations.

Also, we'll be entering our rainy period soon (October thru April) and the streets stay pretty wet. Remember to slow down when it's wet outside and allow yourself extra distance between you and the car in front of you. The falling leaves and changing colors of autumn are beautiful but those leaves can become real slick when they're wet. As the temperatures drop at night and you wake up with frost on your windshields, remember when there's frost on your windshield, there's frost on the road.



Lastly, for those of you with little people at home, please check out the wing web page [https://wwwmil.afrc.af.mil/939arw/wing%20staff%20offices/safety/DEFAULT\\_se2.htm](https://wwwmil.afrc.af.mil/939arw/wing%20staff%20offices/safety/DEFAULT_se2.htm) and view Halloween Safety for kids for some good safety reminders to protect your little ghosts and goblins.

Don't forget to look at the recalls on the Safety Website you may own something that needs to be returned. Check the CPSC website.

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## Home Depot hires military spouses

*(Editor's Note: The following article originated with the Associated Press.)*

ATLANTA - Home Depot is recruiting the spouses of military personnel in the latest hiring initiative between the nation's largest home improvement chain and the government.

Home Depot, which averages a new store opening every 48 hours, said its effort with the Defense Department also will involve hiring more veterans, active duty service members about to be discharged, National Guard members and reservists.

If a service member is relocated by the military, Home Depot will try to transfer the person's spouse to a store near the new community.

While the company does not guarantee a job in the new location, Home Depot believes the spouse transfer provision will help reduce attrition in the military because service members will be less worried about their spouse's ability to find work.

"It's very difficult for military spouses when the person in the military gets moved, the spouse has to uproot," said Dennis Donovan, Home Depot's human resources chief. "In some cases, it's a retention issue."

Lt. Col. Joe Richard, a Defense Department spokesman, said there are significant challenges that military couples face, especially when it comes to employment issues.

Home Depot will not create new jobs specifically for former military personnel and their spouses, but instead tap the roughly 20,000 jobs that will open up this year.

Store employees earn \$7 to \$20 hourly depending on experience, a company spokesman said. Full- and part-time employees are eligible for health coverage, but the company would not say what percentage it pays toward employees' coverage.

# Ask Sergeant Look Sharp

## Question of the month...

Would you please send out the reference for wearing of the Occupational Badges?

**Wear Procedures:** Refer to AFI 36-2903 for specific guidance on wearing badges.

**Aeronautical Badges:** Refer to AFI 11-402, Aviation and Parachutist Service, Aeronautical Ratings and Badges, for specific award criteria.

### Officers:

Wear the basic badge after graduating from technical school (or after attaining a fully qualified AFSC when technical school is not required). Wear the senior badge after 7 years in the specialty and the master badge after 15 years in the specialty.

**EXCEPTION:** Medical Service officers' time in specialty will include any constructive service credit awarded at the time of appointment.

**Enlisted:** Wear the basic badge after completing technical school. Wear the senior badge after award of the 7-skill level, and the master badge as a master sergeant or above with 5 years in the specialty from award of the 7-skill level.

**EXCEPTION:** Chief Master Sergeants crossflowed into a new CEM Code wear the basic badge of their new career field upon award of the CEM Code, the senior badge after 12 months, and the master badge after 5 years.

**Retrainees:** Credit toward new badges starts upon entry into new AFSC.

**EXCEPTION:** Officers who formerly served as enlisted

members may wear the awarded occupational badge for the career field in which they served as an enlisted member.

**Reference:** AFI36-2923

Paragraph 2 - 5.5 Pg 2

### Did you know...?

When Performing Special Duties or Attending Professional Military Education. Wear primary AFSC occupational badge. Upgrade to the next higher level badge is awarded in accordance with paragraph 5.3.

**Reference:** AFI36-2923

Paragraph 5.6 Pg 2

### Acronym of the month...

NLT—No Later Than

**Reference:** AFI36-2903 Attachment 1 - Pg 101

### Term of the month...

#### Advanced Tactical Fighter:

(ATF) Group of fighter prototypes that employ state-of-the-art design, materials, avionics, and weaponry to enhance combat performance. Term comes from the original name for the F-22

program.

**Reference:** Military Air Force Glossary

<<http://www.gruntsmilitary.com/airdic.shtml>>

Questions, Comments Suggestions,

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