

ON-FINAL

OCTOBER 2018

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE 507TH AIR REFUELING WING

**A climb to
remember:**

**507th CES
firefighters
commemorate
victims of 9/11**



COVER

A CLIMB TO REMEMBER: 507TH CES COMMEMORATES 9/11

Tech. Sgt. Adam Murray, 507th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, carries a length of firehose during the 9/11 fire climb Sept. 9, 2018, at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. For the past nine years Reserve firefighters have commemorated the victims of 9/11 by climbing the fire tower for 56 minutes. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Grady Epperly)

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RESERVE

WINGS OF HERITAGE, SHAPING THE FUTURE

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LAYOUT BY TECH. SGT. SAMANTHA MATHISON

A climb to remember

Reserve firefighters with the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron honor the fallen during the 9/11 fire climb Sept. 9, 2018, at the Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, fire training tower.

Watch the video!



U.S. Air Force photos by
Master Sgt. Grady Epperly

4 // ON FINAL

THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF TEAMWORK

By Maj. Dustin Born, 507th Civil Engineer Squadron commander

In civil engineering we are a close knit community and like any family, it takes work to make us functional. I believe the focus of our work is in honesty, trust and support. These building blocks are what bring us together and help us thrive.

When I refer to honesty, I don't just mean being honest or telling the truth; although those are very important things and are the basis of one of our core values: 'integrity first.' I'm referring to being honest with each other. Honesty means having open conversations. It means giving expectations and holding each other accountable for those expectations. I have to be honest with my expectations of you and how well I expect things to be accomplished. We need to set standards together, which requires you to be honest with me about your capabilities.

I am going to ask for things at the edge of your capabilities. I will ask you to push yourself and do things that will expand your horizons. There will be times that I will ask you to step out of your comfort zone, but I'll do it in a way that will make you, our unit and the Air Force better. However, the relationship where we make each other better and push each other to new levels does not come without work. Once we've established this rapport, we'll start to build that next important block of trust.

You may have heard the saying that

trust is not something that is given, it is earned.

Trust is one of the unique things in this world that, once it's lost, it is almost impossible to recover. It allows us to work better as a unit and as a family. Trust gives us the confidence to step outside our comfort zones and do things that make us better.

Trust in each other to uphold standards and be excellent in all we do is the key building block of this foundation. However, it is important to remember; trust is not the endeavor, nor the reward. The endeavor is the

building of trust and the reward is what we are able to achieve by working together as a team and a family. Trust in self is a great thing, but the events that surround it make us great and give us the ability to support

each other better. Because the final building block of this family is support and, in some ways, it becomes the most important.

As a family we help each other and we support each other. Having honest communication and building trust leads us to the point where we're willing to do almost anything for each other. Support and teamwork is what will drive us to accomplish things we never thought we could before. Without support, a team is just a group of people, but with it the team becomes a family. Support drives our 'service before self'.

Often we associate the service in 'service before self' to mean putting the Air Force before ourselves, but I challenge you to look at service as more than just a branch of the military. It's also the group of people who are standing next to you today. Your 'service before self' does not have to be an organization without a face. It can be the group of people who made the same commitment as you and to the service of our country. The service in 'service before self' is both a noun and a verb and no one gets anywhere without having each other to make it through.

So this is what I charge you with today: Have the integrity to be honest and communicate with each other, trust each other to make our team better so we can be excellent in all we do and provide service to our comrades and support them.

To the men and women of the 507th Air Refueling Wing, I would like to thank you for inviting me into your family. As we build this honesty, trust and support, my goal is to bring us closer together and to make us a stronger team and family. I'm so proud to be a part of it.



(Graphic courtesy of 507th Civil Engineer Squadron)

NEW BEGINNINGS

SENIOR MASTER SGT. DONALD CANTRELL, CENTRAL RECRUITING SQUADRON TEAM TINKER ENLISTED ACCESSIONS FLIGHT CHIEF, **RETIREES** AFTER 30 YEARS IN THE AIR FORCE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!



Lt. Col. Sandra Zahradka, 442nd Fighter Wing mission support group deputy commander, and Senior Master Sgt. Donald Cantrell, Central Recruiting Squadron Team Tinker Enlisted Accessions Flight Chief, stand at attention during Cantrell's retirement ceremony Sept. 14, 2018, at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

U.S. Air Force photos by Maj. Jon Quinlan



Senior Master Sgt. Donald Cantrell, Central Recruiting Squadron Team Tinker Enlisted Accessions Flight Chief, smiles as his wife attaches a retirement pin to his lapel Sept. 14, 2018, at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma.



Senior Master Sgt. Donald Cantrell, Central Recruiting Squadron Team Tinker Enlisted Accessions Flight Chief, stands with his fellow recruiters after accepting a shadow box in honor of his retirement Sept. 14, 2018, at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

Once an Okie, Always an Okie

Story by Maj. Jon Quinlan



Most of us have our own personal reasons for serving in the Air Force Reserve. Many want to be part of something bigger than themselves. Some enjoy the travel and extra pay, while others appreciate the educational and medical benefits. However, a few reasons for serving as a Reserve Citizen Airmen have not changed in our distinguished history: the people, friendships and comradery.

'Once an Okie, always an Okie' is a mantra spoken by a group of several hundred former members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing. This group of Okies met at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, Sept. 9-10, for the biennial Okie Reunion. Realistically, there were over 1,000 years of experience in the hangar during social hour. While many generations of Okies were present at the gathering, the bulk of men and women there served in the 507th Tactical Fighter Group directly after the Vietnam War.

**"The stories they've got
just tell so much."**
~ Lt. Col. Kenneth Humphrey, 507th
Operations Group commander



(U.S. Air Force photo by Lauren Gleason)

Many of these retired Citizen Airmen spoke time and time again about the comradery of the unit. They may have been flying F-105 Thunderchiefs or F-4 Phantoms, but just like any day, it was all about people and relationships.

Maj. Gen. Louis 'Lou' Ferraro (retired), former 507th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander, was stationed here from 1974-1982. He spoke highly of all retired Okie Airmen and the reunion group.

"You will find a lot of proud people who worked here and they come back here because they made things happen. They were true professionals," he said.

Current Okie, Lt. Col. Kenneth Humphrey, 507th Operations Group commander, said it was fun and humbling to spend time with the retired Okies.

"You think you're one of the old guys, and you've got the experience; then you realize you've got folks that have twice or three times the amount of experience than you'll ever have in multiple different weapons systems," Humphrey said. "The stories they've got just tell so much... This is a special group of people."

The Okie Reunion group meets at Tinker AFB every two years to reflect on their service, catch up with old friends and meet new ones serving right here in the 507th Air Refueling Wing. The Okies encourage all active participating Reservists to join them in all future events.

20th ANNUAL HOLIDAY SPIRIT STEAK SUPPER

Friday, November 30, 2018

Del City American Legion/VFW Post - 5000 SE 24th Street

Time: 6:00 - 10:00 PM

Price: \$30.00



Tickets

Takesha Williams
Angi Vereb
Steve Rosebrook
Laura Santiago
Arlene Nilkumhang
Ralph Hawkins
Larry DeSalle
Beth Collins
Joe Wade
Stephanie Heath
Michelle Bonilla

Menu

Steak or chicken
Baked potato
Green beans
Salad
Cheesecake

Cash bar available
(No outside beverages, please)

Proceeds to benefit

Operation Holiday Spirit

VIDEO: 513TH ACG UNVEILS NEW FACILITY



Story by Master Sgt. Andy Stephens, 513th Air Control Group Public Affairs

The 513th Air Control Group – call sign 'Thumper' – has officially moved into its new home Sept. 7, after six years of planning, bringing the operations, support and headquarters elements together in the same building for the first time in twenty years.

With inclement weather in the forecast and last-minute maneuvering, the new structure was also the location for the Reserve unit's family day Sept. 9.

"The new facility offers amenities and capabilities far beyond what is currently available to our Airmen," said Col. Laurie Dickson, 513th ACG commander. "This new facility offers five times the area, improving the quality of training for all components of our operations elements while being in closer proximity to our active-duty partners at the 552nd Air Control Wing."

To read more, [CLICK HERE](#).



OCTOBER UTA OCT. 13-14

GREEN DOT TRAINING - OCT. 13
SFS TRAINING BLD. 1088 @ 0800 & 1300

GREEN DOT TRAINING - OCT. 14
HILL CONFERENCE CENTER @ 0900 & 1200

CIV OF QTR DUE - OCT. 15

NOVEMBER UTA NOV. 3-4

GLOBAL THUNDER

GREEN DOT TRAINING - NOV. 3
HILL CONFERENCE CENTER @ 1200

GREEN DOT TRAINING - NOV. 4
HILL CONFERENCE CENTER @ 0800

TINKER HONORARY CC FLIGHT - NOV. 19

HOLIDAY SPIRIT STEAK SUPPER - NOV. 30
DEL CITY AMERICAN LEGION/VFW @ 1800

DECEMBER UTA DEC. 1-2

GREEN DOT TRAINING - DEC. 2
HILL CONFERENCE CENTER @ 0800

CC CALL - DEC. 2
BASE THEATER @ 1400

JANUARY UTA JAN. 5-6

CIV OF QTR DUE - JAN. 15

FEBRUARY UTA FEB. 9-10

MARCH UTA MAR. 2-3

Do you have an event to add?

[Contact us at 507arw.pa2@us.af.mil](mailto:507arw.pa2@us.af.mil)

A CLOSER



Master Sgt. Samantha Judge

**507TH MISSION SUPPORT GROUP
CAREER ADVISOR**

WHAT IS A LITTLE KNOWN FACT ABOUT YOU?

I love horror movies! Fall is my favorite time of year. I just finished my master's degree in Forensic Science and once upon a time I designed websites for a living. I currently work full time as the Group Deployment Manager here at Tinker AFB.

WHEN AND WHY DID YOU JOIN THE MILITARY?

I joined back in 2008. I needed more structure in my life and really felt like I needed a new path. It was one of the best decisions I ever made.

WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF YOUR JOB?

I get to help other Airmen work on their career goals. I enjoy interacting with different people and facilitating information to them so they can make a decision for their own career path.

WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST PET PEEVE?

When someone doesn't ask questions. You don't learn if you don't ask.

AS A KID, WHAT WAS YOUR DREAM JOB?

I wanted to be an Egyptologist. I'm fascinated with the history of ancient Egyptians.

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR FUN?

I enjoy hanging out with my kids, reading, and working on our house.



Master Sgt. Samantha Judge stands for a photograph Oct. 3, 2018, at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Samantha Mathison)

507th cultivates relationships



Partners of the 507th Air Refueling Wing at Team Tinker joined the Okies for the annual Tinker Partnership KC-135R Stratotanker orientation flight on Sept. 10, 2018. Partners included members of the 72nd Air Base Wing, Air Logistics Center, Air Force Sustainment Center and more. *(U.S. Air Force photo by Andonis Bagby)*



Logistics and Program Management Interns at Tinker Air Force Base pose for a photo before their KC-135R Stratotanker orientation flight October 11, 2018. The Air Force Life Cycle Management Center manages the intern program, which focuses on recruiting and training high-caliber candidates to fill professional and wage-grade positions across the Air Force. The flight allowed a greater understanding of the AF Reserve mission and the 507th Air Refueling Wing as part of Team Tinker. *(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Samantha Mathison)*

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PROMOTIONS



SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

NATALIE KELLY, 507 FSS

CHRISTOPHER BRIGAN, 507 MXS



MASTER SERGEANT

JAMES HOFMAN, 507 MXS

CLARENCE WHITE, 507 MXS

SARAH LONG, 507 FSS



TECHNICAL SERGEANT

MICHAEL WALLACE, 507 CES

EMMANUEL BARRAZA, 513 AMXS

SHANE UPTON, 513 MXS

TALISA EDMUNDSON, 507 CES

JAMES LOPEZ, 513 MXS

RAQUEL MILLER, 970 AACs



STAFF SERGEANT

ALYSSA RAMIREZ, 513 MXS

WILLIAM ELLIOT, 507 CES

JACOB MATHEWS, 507 OG



SENIOR AIRMAN

YESENIA ANGUIANO, 507 SFS

507th Civil Engineer Squadron

Assumption of Command



The 507th Civil Engineer Squadron welcomed its new commander, Maj. Dustin Born, during an assumption of command ceremony Sept. 8, 2018, at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. During the ceremony, Col. Richard Ropac, 507th Mission Support Group commander, handed the squadron guidon to Born in a symbolic gesture of leadership. Welcome to the team, Maj. Born!



Left: Maj. Dustin Born, 507th Civil Engineer Squadron commander, accepts the 507th CES guidon from Col. Richard Ropac, 507th Mission Support Group commander, during the squadron assumption of command ceremony Sept. 8, 2018, at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. Right: Maj. Dustin Born, 507th Civil Engineer Squadron commander, and Col. Richard Ropac, 507th Mission Support Group commander, stand at attention after the passing of the guidon during the assumption of command ceremony Sept. 8, 2018, at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. (U.S. Air Force photos by Tech. Sgt. Samantha Mathison)



WING FAMILY DAY



Airmen and their families of the 507th Air Refueling Wing at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, came together on Sept. 8, 2018, for Family Day to enjoy food trucks, games, static displays of aircraft and vehicles, music and a military working dog demonstration.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Samantha Mathison)



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason)



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Samantha Mathison)



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Samantha Mathison)



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Samantha Mathison)



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason)

COMMANDER'S CALL QUESTIONS

ANSWERED!

Q: Is there an active duty associate with a 12 ship Primary Aircraft Assigned (PAA) in our future?

A: No firm guidance is available. A lot of that depends on KC-46 deliveries.

Q: Why is medical not processing commissioning physicals?

A: The short answer is manning. All commissioning physicals, IFC III, and other special exams take significantly more time than PHAs (about a 4:1 margin). With only one day per UTA to accomplish PHAs, profiles, walk-ins, and physicals, we have to balance that weight of effort that returns the most bang for the buck.

Q: What kind of changes/improvements are you looking to make to the ART program in order to increase retention and take better care of technicians?

A: ART retention bonuses for Critical Skills List AFSCs are in final stages of HQ approval and will be finalized in FY19.

Q: Is it possible to have the shoppette open at 0530 instead of 0600 for employees on the early shift?

A: The request has been socialized with the host installation Force Support Squadron who has to confer with their AAFES leadership to determine if it is a viable option.

Q: The E-finance paper voucher process is a hassle and an inconvenience. Is there a plan to get everyone on the same page and a simpler system in place?

A: Paper vouchers are here to stay per 72nd CPTS Commander. We are continuously attempting to improve processes and give visibility to management and members. Please have members provide feedback to their Resource Advisor (RA) who will work to address the issues. Additionally, there are finance specialists available on Sunday of the UTA from 0730 - 1130. Please schedule appointments on sharepoint.

Q: Any news about the 507th getting the KC-46?

A: We are not scheduled to receive the KC-46 at this time.

Reserve RECRUITERS

GET **1** NOW



Senior Master Sgt.
Neil Lambrecht
Flight Chief
Tinker AFB, OK
Office (405) 734-5331
Cell (405) 409-4784



Master Sgt.
Cody Newsom
In-service Recruiter
Tinker AFB, OK
Cell (719) 243-6709



Master Sgt.
Nickette Hunter
Line Recruiter
Oklahoma City
Cell (405) 409-6311



Master Sgt.
Adrian Randles
Line Recruiter
Tulsa, OK
Cell (918) 271-1677



Master Sgt.
Brandy Venson
Line/ In-service
Recruiter
Altus, OK
Cell (405) 409-5170



Tech. Sgt.
Joseph Salley
Line Recruiter
Midwest City, OK
Cell (405) 409-5811



Staff Sgt.
Marcus Walker
Line Recruiter
Moore, OK
Cell (405) 205-0149

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TO START EARNING
REWARDS.



IOS USERS



ANDROID USERS



For information on opportunities in the AF Reserve, give one of our team members a call today.



NATIONAL GUARD OR RESERVE MEMBERS

TRICARE benefits and health plan options are based on your military status, which can change multiple times throughout your career. This means that your TRICARE benefits will change as you activate or deactivate.

If You Are...

ACTIVATED

You're eligible for the same health and dental benefits as active duty service members if serving on active duty for more than 30 days.

Your coverage begins the first day of your active duty orders.

You'll enroll in one of the following plans based on your duty station:

- TRICARE Prime
- TRICARE Prime Overseas
- TRICARE Prime Remote
- TRICARE Prime Remote Overseas

If you are issued **delayed-effective-date orders in support of a contingency operation** or **12304b orders* per Title 10 USC**, you may become eligible for active duty benefits **up to 180 days** before the first day your active duty period begins.

continued on next page

**Pre-planned operations in support of a combatant commander*

DEACTIVATED

When you leave active duty after serving more than 30 days, you deactivate.
Further TRICARE coverage options depend on whether your active duty orders were in support of a contingency operation or for a pre-planned mission under 12340b orders*.

**Pre-planned operations in support of a combatant commander*

Activated but **NOT** in support of a **CONTINGENCY OPERATION:** or under 12340b orders

You may be eligible for the following TRICARE health plan options the day after your active duty period ends.

TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS)

You may purchase TRS if you qualify.

Continued Health Care Benefit Program (CHCBP)

If you don't qualify, or decide not to purchase TRS, you may purchase CHCBP.

Activated in support of a **CONTINGENCY OPERATION:** or under 12304b orders

If you are issued delayed-effective-date orders or 12304b orders per Title 10 USC, you may become eligible for active duty benefits up to 180 days before the first day your active duty period begins.

Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP)

You're covered by TRICARE for an additional 180 days under TAMP and lose eligibility for premium-free TRICARE on day 181.

When TAMP Coverage Ends:

You may purchase TRS to begin on day 181, if you qualify. If you don't qualify, or decide not to purchase TRS, you may purchase CHCBP.



If you are on Military Duty for 30 days or less...

You may qualify for **Line of Duty Care** and **TRICARE Reserve Select**

To learn more about TRICARE coverage when activating and deactivating, visit
www.tricare.mil/Plans/Eligibility/NGRMandFamilies/CoverageScenarios



Okies represent at the Never Forgotten 9/11 POW/MIA Memorial run/ruck/walk



(Courtesy photo)

“Our enemies have made the mistake that America’s enemies always make. They saw liberty and thought they saw weakness. And now, they see defeat.” ~George W. Bush

507th Air Refueling Wing Airmen, along with other members of Team Tinker at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, took part in the Never Forgotten 9/11 POW/MIA Memorial run/ruck/walk, Sept. 14, 2018. The Air Force Sergeants Association teamed up with the Chaplain Corps this year to run the event, which combines two campaigns; remembering the 9/11 terrorist attacks and military members who were prisoners of war or are missing in action. Events like this help to ensure we never forget the people who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country.



**Want to
make an
impact in
the world
around you?**

Give to a cause
you care about
through the CFC.
You can even
volunteer. It's that
simple.



Natasha Tyler

U.S. Department of Justice



Choose your cause and *Show Some Love* today.
oklahomanorthtexascfc.org



Happy
Halloween!



Whether you are staying home and watching scary movies, handing out candy to trick-or-treaters, or attending various festivities, the men and women of the 507th Air Refueling Wing hope you have a safe and enjoyable Halloween. If you are out partying to the monster mash, ensure you have a designated driver and be extra watchful for those little goblins as they make their way along their trick-or-treat routes. Let's keep everyone safe this Halloween. (U.S. Air Force graphic by Senior Airman Damon Kasberg)