

# PATRIOT

439th Airlift Wing - Westover Air Reserve Base  
March 2005 - Vol. 32, No. 3



**BIG BRRRRRD** – A Westover C-5 is prepared for flight in January as Tech. Sgt. Michael Vogt, 439<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, de-ices the airlifter. The cold snap in January included snowstorms that piled more than a foot of snow on the base and forced the cancellation of part of the January B UTA. For more on the weather, turn to Page 3.

*-- photo by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe*

## Another busy year ahead for Westover

Savannah.

Warm spring breezes filled with the scent of magnolia blooms, Spanish moss reaching down from low hanging oak branches, good southern food, and ...

Oops, that's not the Savannah we'll be experiencing this month.

What we will experience is sweaty, uncomfortable chem suits, made worse by those warm spring breezes, large insects that hang out in the Spanish moss, and meals ready-to-eat.

All that said, we are going down to the Savannah Combat Readiness Training Center for a very important purpose. First, we have a requirement to conduct a major deployment exercise every couple of years, so this will meet that requirement. Second, with a big wing Operational Readiness Inspection scheduled for August 2006, now is the time to start getting ready.

I know many of you have deployed for the war recently and lots of you have worked hard getting them out the door. We still need to exercise our ability to operate as a wing and practice getting a large force off our base in a short time. We also have to practice our ability to survive and operate procedures from time to time. The Savannah exercise will accomplish all of that. I appreciate everyone's efforts to make it happen.

On a much more fun note, our Junior Enlisted Advisory Council is busy planning a major event for the 439<sup>th</sup> – this wing's first-ever combat dining-in. The JEAC members are putting a lot of time and effort into making this a fun, don't-miss occasion. They are putting together a great program including combat games and the famous "grog bowl."

Lt. Gen. John Bradley, commander of Air Force Reserve Command, is planning to attend and speak. The only ingredient needed to make it a complete success is YOU. So please get your tickets early and plan to have a great time!

Finally, as we start a very busy schedule of exercises, inspections, and the constant process of sending our folks off to Aerospace Expeditionary Force taskings and other deployments, I ask all of you to take care of each other. Look for signs of stress in your fellow reservists. Try to reduce or eliminate as much risk in our day-to-day and deployment activities as possible. Watch out for unsafe conditions or activities and do what it takes to make them safe. In short, take care of your wingman!



**Col. Wade Farris**

439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing commander

March 2005

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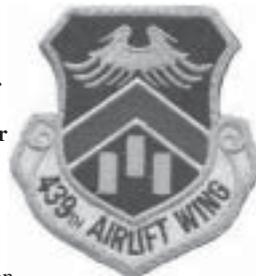
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## Briefs

### First quarter award recipients announced

Westover's Quarterly Awards Board has selected the following first quarter award winners for the fiscal 2005.

#### Airman:

Senior Airman Chelsey Joyce, 439<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

#### NCO:

Tech. Sgt. Thomas Evangelisto, 439<sup>th</sup> AMXS

#### Senior NCO:

Master Sgt. Scott Daigneault, 439<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron

#### Company Grade Officer:

Capt. Patricia Wong, 439<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

#### Civilian:

Albert G. Aldrich III, 439<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron

#### Civilian Supervisor:

No submissions

### Tricare information available at Hanscom

A Tricare representative is no longer available at Westover. Reservists should call or e-mail Kelly Cantu or Patricia House at Hanscom AFB, Mass., with any questions about Tricare and Health Net benefits. Their e-mail and phone numbers are:

[Kelly.Cantu@hanscom.af.mil](mailto:Kelly.Cantu@hanscom.af.mil);  
DSN: 478-4715; commercial: (781) 377-4715;

[Patricia.House@hanscom.af.mil](mailto:Patricia.House@hanscom.af.mil);  
DSN: 478-2120; or (781) 377-2120

### Alterations shop inside base exchange

The Westover Base Exchange Alterations and Dry Cleaning Shop staff offers the following services:

Patch sewing; tapes, stripes, and ranks; uniform and civilian alterations; dry cleaning and laundry.

Hours are: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on AUTA Sundays. The shop is closed Mondays and on all other Sundays.

For more information on the alterations shop, call (413) 593-0293. The BX may be reached at (413) 593-0232.

# AES captain earns Bronze Star for service

by Senior Airman Thomas Ouellette

A 439<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron officer was presented the Bronze Star for meritorious service at the Feb. 5 Commander's Call.

Capt. Mark J. Bialas, a flight nurse and emergency medical services coordinator for his unit, received the award for his steadfast actions while deployed from March to July 2004 in Iraq and Kuwait. Captain Bialas said he was honored to receive the award, but preferred the attention be placed elsewhere.

"It's really about the patients. That's what it's all about," he said. "And I know I'm recognized as an individual, but it was really a team effort. A lot of people supported me; the people I worked with there, my unit and my family. That's why I could do my job," he said.

The captain's mission was to medically stabilize and coordinate the aerial transport of injured, wounded or sick troops fighting in Iraq. Although skilled in his craft, one of his co-workers said many unexpected challenges threatened the success of his mission.

"He was deployed to a remote, bare area with no support, he came under missile fire, and still did his job," said Maj. Calvin A. Mellor, also of the 439<sup>th</sup> AES who deployed with Captain Bialas.

Among the difficulties the captain had



photo by Master Sgt. Anne Ward

**PROUD DAD - Walter Bialas, father of Capt. Mark J. Bialas, 439<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, takes a look at his son's newly-awarded Bronze Star at the February A UTA Commander's Call in the Base Hangar. Captain Bialas earned his Bronze Star for meritorious service while deployed in Iraq and Kuwait.**

to overcome was working with limited resources. Just before landing in Bashur, Iraq, he had a Humvee loaded with medical equipment necessary for the mission, but the equipment was forced to stay behind. The aircrew transporting him to Bashur explained they had limited cargo space and they couldn't bring his equipment.

"He worked with only the equipment he could carry on back," said Major Mellor. A tall order, considering Captain Bialas's workload. "There wasn't a day he didn't take care of patients, often working 20 hours per day, well into the middle of the night," said Major Mellor. There was a point where "Captain Bialas had the responsibility for treating every injured or sick troop north of Baghdad," Major Mellor explained.

The weather conditions created additional challenges. Often torrential rainstorms turned the field to mud, complicating the transport of patients. There were hot temperatures during the day and frigid temperatures at night. The weather, combined with the living arrangements, challenged all of the flight nurses, including Captain Bialas. "There were no latrines, no mess halls, and no laundry facilities. We washed our clothes in a bucket. Everyone got sick," Major Mellor said. None of it stopped Captain Bialas from completing his mission. "We did have patients that would have died if he wasn't there and didn't get them out of the country immediately," the major said.

The demand for Captain Bialas' skills bounced him between several locations throughout his deployment. His 110-day tour included work stops at Ali Al-Salem and Camp Wolf in Kuwait and Bashur and Irbil in Iraq.

Captain Bialas lives in Malden, Mass.

## 'Nor'easter' brings snow, below-zero wind chills



photo by Master Gunnery Sgt. Lee Forester, Marines Peacetime Wartime Support Team

**FREEZE FOOTBALL - Marines with TOW Platoon, 25<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment paid a visit to the Marines with MASS-6 and MWSS-472 Detachment Bravo, for a game of football in a field near Patriot Avenue in January. The cold temperatures, deep cover of crisp, white powdered snow, and freezing breeze did not deter the Westover Marines as they scrambled back and forth trying to keep control of the football.**

by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

The new year brought plenty of winter's elements that forced a "snow day" for the second half of Westover's first 2005 B UTA.

The Jan. 22 "Nor'easter" storm dumped nearly 13 inches of snow and included gusty winds and near blizzard conditions. Because of the Jan. 22 storm's intensity and duration, base officials cancelled the Sunday of the January B UTA.

Frigid weather continued into the following week when nearly seven more inches of snow fell.

While the cold weather was nothing unusual for New England, the January snowfall did pile up into the Westover history books, said Curt Osgood, chief of the base weather station.

"This snowfall was unusual," he said. "This was the fourth snowiest of all Januarys since 1946 here." The cold snap held temperatures below 32 degrees for two straight weeks in January.

Mr. Osgood said that 31.7 inches of snow had fallen by the end of the month. The average snowfall is 13.6 inches. The largest amount of snow that has fallen during January was in 1996, when a snowstorm blanketed the base with 38.8 inches of snow.

Other record-setting Januarys besides 1996 occurred back in 1948, when 37.1 inches of snow was recorded, and in 1987, with 33.5, Mr. Osgood said.

## NCO is top command junior enlisted education manager

by 439<sup>th</sup> AW staff and  
AFRC News Service

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** – An education and training specialist with the 58<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron took first place in her category in the 2004 Air Force Reserve Command mission support awards.

Tech. Sgt. Marian D. Therrien is the top junior enlisted education and training manager in AFRC. Sergeant Therrien has been assigned to the 58<sup>th</sup> APS since January 2004, and is an air reserve technician at Westover.

“I was very pleased and humbled when I was notified of my selection. It meant a great deal to me that my squadron commander nominated me,” Sergeant Therrien said. “As a unit training manager, I need to know that I can rely upon the wing training team to assist me in any aspect of this job. Training is a very diversified, challenging, and ever-changing career field. Having that kind of support is an integral part of being successful.”

Sergeant Therrien credited the assistance of Senior Master Sgt. Kristine Seney, 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Training Manager, and her staff. “Without the support and guidance of Sergeant Seney and the entire training staff of the military personnel flight, I would not be as effective in my position as I am now,” she said.

The NCO’s duties include overseeing, managing, tracking and assisting the 58<sup>th</sup> APS commander and supervisors in all aspects of the on-the-job training program for the Air Force Specialty Codes that make up the squadrons’s manning document.

“I also teach, instruct, advise, and assist in implementing any existing or new training programs and requirements that correlate to the Air Force Specialty Codes within the 58<sup>th</sup>,” Sergeant Therrien said.



photo by Senior Airman Tom Ouellette

**TOPS IN HER FIELD** - Tech. Sgt. Marian D. Therrien, 58<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron, left, talks with Tech. Sgt. Ken Hinckley about his training records. Sergeant Therrien won the command’s top education and training manager in the junior enlisted category.

Command officials announced the top units and individuals in January.

Sergeant Therrien will be among the AFRC individuals representing the command in the Air Force competition. She has been at Westover for almost four years and lives in Westfield, Mass.

## AFRC vice commander retires after nearly 39 years of military service

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** – Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr., Air Force Reserve Command vice commander, retired after nearly 39 years of military service in a ceremony Jan. 21 at the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins, Ga.

Retired Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, former Air Force Reserve chief and AFRC commander, officiated the ceremony. General Batbie’s retirement will take effect March 15.

Maj. Gen. David Tanzi, AFRC’s 10th Air Force commander, assumed responsibility for the daily operations of the command during a commander’s conference Jan. 21 following the retirement ceremony.

“Needless to say, the operations tempo for this command was near its peak when I returned to AFRC’s headquarters as the vice commander in November of 2001,” said General Batbie. “The credit for AFRC’s continued success goes to the more than 76,000 reservists and 4,000 civilians I had the privilege to work with.”

As the vice commander, General Batbie oversaw the day-to-day operations for the Air Force Reserve Command and its headquarters here. The command is composed of three numbered Air Forces divided into 36 wings, three flying groups, one space group, four space operations squadrons and 620 mission support units. General Batbie began his military career in 1966 as a U.S. Army armor officer and helicopter pilot.

He joined the Air Force Reserve in 1972 as a helicopter pilot and became a fixed wing pilot in 1979 after graduating from the Air Force Fixed Wing Qualification Course at Sheppard AFB, Texas. As a command pilot, he accumulated more than 5,000 flight hours in the A-10, A-37, KC-10, KC-135, AH-1G, HH-34J and CH-3E. (AFRC News Service)



**General  
Batbie**

## Change of command starts 2005 for 10th Air Force

by Master Sgt. Bill Goben  
10th Air Force Public Affairs

**FORT WORTH, Texas** – Maj. Gen. Allan R. Poulin assumed command of 10th Air Force during a change-of-command ceremony at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth Jan. 20.

Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, chief of Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command, officiated the ceremony. General Poulin replaced Maj. Gen. David E. Tanzi, who became the AFRC vice commander Jan 21.

As 10th Air Force commander, General Poulin oversees the operation of all AFRC fighter, bomber, rescue, airborne warning and control, special operations, flying training, combat air operations battle staff, and space units.

(AFRC News Service)

# Aerial porters load up for 120-day AEF

Article and photo  
by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

Fifteen 42<sup>nd</sup> Aerial Port Squadron members headed to the other side of the world Jan. 24 to support Operation Enduring Freedom.

The reservists – coming from Western Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York, answered questions from the local media about their deployment Jan. 21 at the passenger terminal. The news conference concluded nearly a week of out-processing for the four-month deployment to Central Asia.



**HEADING OUT - ABC 40 reporter Tom Parnell interviews Tech. Sgt. Kathleen M. Busch Jan. 21 at the Westover Passenger Terminal. Sergeant Busch, from Springfield, was among 15 42nd Aerial Port Squadrons who deployed to Central Asia Jan. 24. They met with local media Jan. 21 to discuss their outlook on the four-month deployment.**

The aerial porters are part of the 451<sup>st</sup> Air Expeditionary Group Air Terminal Operations Center. For security reasons, their exact location cannot be published.

“This is what I have trained for,” said Tech. Sgt. Kathleen M. Busch, from Springfield, Mass. “I’m ready to go do what the Air Force needs me to do.” This was her second deployment.

Once the aerial port members arrived, their team chief sent an e-mail back home.

“We’re in the middle of a sandstorm at the moment, it’s amazing how sand can find its way through things,” said Master Sgt. Louis C. Curto, who is from Wilbraham, Mass. “We live with the Air Force but work on Army property whose maintenance is handled by the civilian contractor KBR. We’re currently working with Air Force communications to bring in another phone line ... the team is performing quite well, we have very little personnel issues with our team ... most of the other units are more logistics than aerial port, however the talents are surfacing across all the units.

“Senior Airman (Nicholas) Park has really stepped up, he is cargo processing on nights and doing well. Load planning is a civilian contracted function so Tech. Sgt. (Thomas) Wilk is running cargo processing in days, Tech. Sgt. (Jeffrey) Green works with him ... As for needing anything aside from our communications shortfall, we’re in good shape at the moment.”



**Sergeant  
Curto**

## Aerial porters deployed to Central Asia

Master Sgts. Daniel C. Breckinridge, Rome, N.Y., and Louis C. Curto, Wilbraham, Mass. (team chief).

Tech Sgts. Kathleen M. Busch, Springfield, Mass.; Gerald Cote, East Hartford, Conn.; Paul Czupkiewicz, Westfield, Mass.; David J. Demers, Springfield; Dana A. Dupuis, East Longmeadow, Mass.; Jeffrey A. Green, Springfield; Amy J. Morin, Monson, Mass.; and Thomas M. Wilk, Charlton, Mass.

Staff Sgts. James J. Fitzell Jr., Springfield; and Daniel R. Reeve, Spencer, Mass.

Senior Airmen Jodi L. Habbinger, Menands N.Y.; Corey M. Schumacher, Clifton Park, N.Y.; and Nicholas Y. Park, Wilbraham.

## Final reminders for ‘Southern Comfort’ deployers

*EDITOR’S NOTE: This Patriot article is the last one to appear before hundreds of members deploy for the “Southern Comfort” exercise in March to Savannah, Ga., and Quonset Point, R.I. Look for more information in a newsletter to be produced by the 439th AW Public Affairs Office for exercise participants. It will be available in early March.*

### If you don’t know, look it up

Remember this is an “open book” test. If you don’t know the answer to a question you are posed by an evaluator, open up your *Airman’s Manual*, ask the people with you, or call your unit control center. The answer to any question is available from at least ONE of these sources.

### Ground Rules for Southern Comfort 05

- All personnel are restricted to the training site for the duration of the exercise
- No commercial food is permitted except from the tactical field exchange
- No alcohol is permitted during the exercise
- Cell phones may only be used in the dormitories (none in

the play area)

- BDU cap must be worn for the exercise (no unit caps permitted)

### Remember the following personal items

- Towels
- Lock
- Personal Hygiene Items (soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.)
- Flip Flops
- Laundry Detergent (there are laundry facilities in the dorms, but a limited supply of detergent at the Tactical Field Exchange)
- Iron (if desired)

### Important Notes

Everyone must have the new *Airman’s Manual* (June 1, 2004 edition) on their person during the exercise. Members should hand carry the manual during the plane ride to Savannah, and use the time to review it. Everyone deploying will receive a detailed deployment pamphlet during mobility processing. People with questions should contact their unit deployment monitors.

# Report chronicles wing achievements in 2004

by Col. Wade Farris  
439th AW commander

## Mission:

The 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing will actively support national objectives on a global scale with ready, mobility forces.

## Stakeholders:

Wing members and their families, Westover tenant units, Griffin Services Inc, Galaxy Community Council, State of Massachusetts, 22nd Air Force (22AF), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Tanker Airlift Control Center, Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC), Air Mobility Command (AMC), Air Combat Command (ACC), United States Transportation Command, Air Force Material Command, United States Strategic Command, United States Space Command, United States Southern Command, Air Force Electronic Systems Command, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Drug Enforcement Agency, United States Customs Service, Defense Accounting and Finance Services, Air National Guard, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and National Command Authorities.

## Milestones:

With more than 800 reservists mobilized, 141 volunteers on man days, and 120 wing members deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), the Patriot Wing rang in **January** with much pride. The 439<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (AMXS) earned the AFRC Maintenance Effectiveness Award and our 439<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron (CES) was recognized as best in AFRC. A 439<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron (SFS) Airman joined an elite brotherhood, earning the Bronze Star for exceptional performance. He was the first wing enlisted member in the War on Terror to earn the coveted medal. Twenty-four 42nd Aerial Port Squadron (APS) members augmented Dover AFB, Del., port operations for 30 days and 42 troops from the 439<sup>th</sup> AMXS deployed to Dover in support of the surge. At home, wing Airmen had breakfast with the wing commander in a new quarterly mentoring event. A ribbon was cut for a new \$10 million Marine Corps Reserve Training Center and 41 wing members attended the Cooper Institute's Physical Fitness Special Certification class as role models for physical activity and nutrition.

More than 500 Patriot Wing reservists, mostly from the 439<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Group (MXG), demobilized in **February**,

wrapping up two years of activations, deployments and a record-breaking C-5 surge. Our Military Personnel Flight was recognized as a benchmark by Air Staff for its mobilization/ demobilization process. Twenty-five 58<sup>th</sup> APS members deployed for one year, first to Al-Udeid for 90 days and then to Dover to perform Passenger Processing and cargo loading/ unloading. Two 439<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron (LRS) members deployed to Korea for 60 days to support an exercise.

A 337<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron (AS) C-5 crew was among the first to airlift cargo to Haiti in early **March** and 39 439<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (AES) members deployed with equipment, vehicles, and supplies to Fort Polk, La. and Little Rock AFB, Ark., to test unit readiness. Quick-thinking crew members saved a retiree when he had difficulty breathing in flight. Wing leadership helped a high school design an Aerospace Maintenance Academy to aid recruiting efforts. Our Public Affairs Office received three AFRC media awards, including best newspaper, plus an Air Force top photo award. The 22nd AF SAV team found a "Culture of Excellence" at Westover, citing many top benchmark programs validating the Patriot Wing's efforts to be the best.

Patriot Wing commanders, chiefs, first sergeants and wing staff led the charge for the new AF fitness test during a "Fit-to-Fight" Invitational in early **April**. More than 20 AES medical specialists rotated in 30-day deployments to Germany to give in-flight patient care. The 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Control Flight (ALCF) took honors in all five categories of the mobile command and control awards, including AFRC ALCF of the Year. The Wing Intel Shop was recognized as best in AMC and the 439<sup>th</sup> MXG earned an A+ from a Maintenance Standardization Evaluation Team as the first



File photo by Staff Sgt. Cohen Young, 332nd AEW PA  
**CHECKING UP - Deployed Chaplain (Capt.) Kenneth S. Valardi, right, talks with Senior Airman Trevor Cumings, a Montana Air National Guard F-16 crew chief, on the flight line at Balad Air Base, Iraq, summer 2004.**

group to have no major findings and the first in the 22nd Air Force to receive a rating of Outstanding! Celebrations continued when 27 Airmen received CCAF degrees and 75 volunteers were honored by wing leadership for their support. Space Available travel resumed for the first time since 9/11 and the Base Exchange added a clothing sales store to better serve our troops.

A Retiree Appreciation Day honored 18 retirees early in **May** and fallen comrades were remembered in Memorial Day ceremonies. More than 300 members of the New England military and civilian medical community, many of them tempered by war time experience, came together for the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Team Yankee mass casualty exercise. A 23-member medical team treated more than 5,000 patients, including optometry and dental exams, in a humanitarian mission in Peru. Thirteen 439<sup>th</sup> SFS troops deployed to Guantanamo Bay to guard prisoners, a first for AFRC. Twenty-one 439<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron (SVS) members backfilled active-duty troops at Ramstein AB, Germany, including mortuary affairs duties. With mixed emotions we retired our oldest C-5 to Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., to be replaced by a newer C-5A from Dover.

**June** saw many command level awards, including AFRC Outstanding Legal Civilian of the Year and three 439<sup>th</sup> Aerospace Medicine Squadron (AMDS) technicians won top AFRC awards. SVS took AFRC awards for the best bowling and sports fitness programs, and two individual awards. We dedicated the Patriot Trail, a 6/10 mile nature path near our new Family Camp. State of the art imaging cameras enhanced security throughout the base. Proving their versatility, a 337<sup>th</sup> AS crew carried dolphins from Norfolk, Va. to North Island, Calif.

Following an AF Climate Survey, wing leadership met off-base to tackle retention issues in **July**. The Key Family Member Program was introduced to ease the hardships of family separation, a program supported by volunteers, run by the Family Support Center and championed by the wing commander and his wife. Nine heavy equipment operators deployed to Alaska in support of a joint services effort to construct a 12-mile mountain road for a village, while 13 AMDS reservists treated 2,800 residents of 16 villages in a two-week tour to Chad. It was a first win for our ALCF who earned the AMC ALCF of the Year award! The Chiefs beat the "Eagles" in an annual ball game - another first.

About 330,000 spectators swarmed **STAKEHOLDERS continued on Page 7**

## STAKEHOLDERS from Page 6

the flight-line without incident in **August** during the Great New England Air Show. Community outreach continued when our Chaplain Staff coordinated computer donations to Head Start Centers. In a benchmark program, our AES radio section set up Joint Communication Training at MacDill AFB, Fla., using satellite communications to Westover. SVS members proved to an AMC inspection team they were mission-ready.

In **September**, 125 reservists filled critical Aerospace Expeditionary Force (AEF) slots in six countries for up to 120 days. Among them, 50 civil engineers deployed to the Persian Gulf. Our 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron (ASTS) deployed a 21-member team to Kuwait supporting an active duty Contingency Air Staging Facility for 120 days. Congressional and base officials broke ground for a new security forces building. Following hurricanes, aircrews transported helicopters to and from Patrick AFB, Fla. to Dobbins ARB, Ga.

A two-day mobility exercise in **October** processed 185 people and 100 tons of cargo and proved to be invaluable practice for our next big wing readiness inspection scheduled for 2006. A giant step towards re-energizing the Patriot Wing's Human Resources Development Council (HRDC) took place when four reservists attended an AFRC workshop.

More than 24 runners hit the pavement in the Patriot Wing's annual Turkey Trot in **November**. Westover led AFRC and AF in percentages of Fit-to-Fight members. Four COMM squadron members deployed to support OIF postal operations in Germany, Turkey, the United Kingdom and Belgium. Twenty-seven civic leaders got a close look at how Westover supports national defense during a two-day trip to Mississippi hosted by the wing commander. Our AES troops were recognized as the AFRC Outstanding AES Squadron of the Year.

Five Patriot members received Bronze Star Medals for OIF service at a **December** Commander's Call where an Airmen's Medal recognized an AMXS member's courage. Fueling the Pioneer Valley economic engine, the Patriot Wing put more than \$196 million into the New England economy. Putting their money where their hearts are, wing members donated more than \$400,000 to the Combined Federal Campaign.

With 121 members deployed, the local media covered a teleconferencing event between troops and families, bringing them "home" for the holidays.

## Outlook:

A look back at 2004 shows a year filled with many notable accomplishments for Westover and the 439<sup>th</sup> AW.



File photo by Senior Airman Tom Ouellette

**CROWDING IN -** Thousands of people gather on the flight line during the 2004 Great New England Air Show in August. The crowds totaled more than 330,000 during the two-day show.

The demands of 2005 will mean our wing has the opportunity for many more accomplishments. While we have the usual challenges of filling AEF taskings and requests for more of our outstanding troops around the world, we also have numerous inspections to accomplish. This year we are faced with a Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI), three Health Services Inspections (HSI), a flying standardization evaluation visit (ASEV), a maintenance standardization evaluation program (MSEP), and several other inspections of various scope and impact.

Westover has led the force in the last three years with deployments, activations, flying time, cargo and passenger handling, and most other events in which we participated. I know that our performance on these higher headquarters inspections will show that we also know how to get the paperwork done right as well, and better than anyone out there. Besides the inspections, we have other major events which give us chances to excel. The first event is the March fly-away to the Savannah Combat Readiness Training Center in Savannah, Ga., that involves many wing members. This will be our first shot at preparing for our Operational Readiness Inspection in 2006, so it's important we give it our best. In April, we will hold the first-ever Patriot Wing Combat Dining-In and host, for the first time in many years at Westover, the commander of the Air Force Reserve. This will be a fun event and give us a chance to get together in a setting that will blend formality with informality - as well as impressing the commander on what a quality organization the 439<sup>th</sup> is.

We head into another busy and challenging year for Westover. I know that all of you will do what you always do: meet those challenges in an outstanding manner.

## Conclusion:

Priorities for 2004 were Readiness,

Recruiting, Retention, Quality of Life and Infrastructure Improvement. With the high ops tempo, members from every unit were mobilized and/or deployed to foreign soil in support of the War on Terror. Accolades for individual and team accomplishments poured into the wing throughout the year, recognizing wing members talents, skills and proven **Readiness**.

Our **Recruiters** met their annual goal of 304 accessions, with one recruiter making Century Club (100 accessions) and two recognized as being in the top 50 recruiters in the nation. The local "Get One" program was kicked off to increase individual and unit awareness reminding us it is everyone's responsibility to recruit.

**Retention** concerns drove the need for a Retention Working Group and the revitalization of the wing's HRDC where Mentoring, Heritage, Recruiting and Retention of wing members is the focus.

**Quality of Life** was enhanced by the HRDC and the introduction of the Fit to Fight program, where Westover Patriots led the AF and AFRC in completion and results. Over \$18 million was spent and or awarded for **Infrastructure** projects this year, including completion of the Family Campground, repair of snow guards on the hangars, taxiway lighting, and various other small projects.

We value our stakeholders and were able to invite them to enjoy the Great New England Air Show where they played an important role in its success.

With nearly a third of the wing's senior leadership retiring or transferring, Westover people remained the best of the best with volumes of command-level individual, team and squadron awards.

These awards and the "Culture of Excellence" attested to by the 22AF SAV team continue to validate the fact that the Patriot Wing is the "TEAM of CHOICE"!

# 'How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Dining-In'

by Maj. Patrick Ryan  
wing executive officer

"What am I about to get myself into?"

This is a question likely on the minds of many people; especially among those young troops who have never experienced such an event as a combat dining-in. If you haven't heard the "horror" stories, they're often enough to make the most hardened combat veteran decline re-enlistment – naked carrier landings, blueberry pie food fights, water buffalo bronco busting – they are tall tales like Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster. We cannot absolutely prove they don't exist, but we're 90 percent sure.

Thus far I'm not selling a lot of tickets am I? Please bear with me.

The combat dining-in is tradition-based, but at the same time relaxed. Basically, it is a dinner with a guest speaker and 999 of your closest friends, but it is so much more than that. There will be what you would expect – toasting, standing at attention for the arrival of the official party, and ceremony based activities such as those to honor both attendees and those who came before us. There is also however, a lot more than that.

The grog. The rules of the mess. The obstacle course. I could define all of these terms, lay them out exactly as to their history and their meaning, but take it from someone who has been "grogged" more times than he could possibly count - it is better to only have an idea of what these things are then to have them so structured and laid out before you that the surprise and novelty are lost.

That is the very soul of a dining-in; the unexpected. Before I get much further I have to make a promise – you will have fun if you attend. You will feel regret if you miss it. This isn't speculation on my part – it is fact. Combat dining-in ceremonies are about attitude. For example, don't be afraid to push the envelope. There are rules of the mess, but they can be broken by those who are bold enough to dare to do so. There are creative members who will break the rules in



Major Ryan

ways you can't see; and brash exhibitionists who will flaunt their rule breaking ways with glorious disregard – like wearing that multicolored clown wig under their hat. They are willing to face the consequences – whether it be the grog, or push-ups, or just verbal abuse from the President and the Vice. This isn't to say we can totally ignore good taste and start throwing mashed potatoes at each other, but it does mean we can for one time in a military environment let our hair down just a little bit (what little hair we're allowed in the military that is).

So don't be afraid to throw a roll or two (no butter or gravy please). Be bold enough to let loose with a war cry just for fun. Make a point of order to Mr. Vice to send your fellow airman to the grog. Let loose. Have fun. Above all else – don't miss this event. You'll kick yourself afterwards if you do.

## Dining-In tickets on sale until March 20

Tickets are being sold until March 20 for the Patriot Wing Combat Dining-In scheduled for April 9 in the Base Hangar.

Tickets are available through first sergeants on the UTA and during the week through Chief Master Sgt. Kathy Wood or Tech. Sgt. Nadine Bates. Chief Wood works in the wing performance planning office in Bldg. 1850. Sergeant Bates works in the military personnel flight, Bldg. 1875.

The 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Junior Enlisted Advisory Council is coordinating, organizing, and running the dining-in, which begins at 6 p.m. Uniform for the event is BDUs, or desert BDUs, or flight suits.

Ticket prices are: E-1–E-4: \$5; E-5 –E-6, \$10; E-7-E-8, \$12; E-9: \$15; O-1–O-3, \$12; O4–O5, \$15; O-6, \$20

An article in the January *Patriot* included information about the visit of Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley at Westover during the combat dining-in.

The article stated that General Bradley would be the first AFRC commander to visit Westover in 30 years.

General Bradley will actually be the fifth AFRC commander to visit Westover. The others were Maj. Gen. Richard Bodycombe, Jay Clossner, Robert McIntosh and James L. Sherrard Jr., who visited Westover in the 1980s and 1990s.

## Assistance fund project officer sets goal for wing

Patriot Wing members are supporting the Air Force Assistance Fund with a goal of raising at least \$2,500 during the fund's annual fund raising campaign. The campaign to raise money to aid active-duty members and reservists kicked off in February and

will continue until May 6.

"Reservists and Air Guard members who are away from home station on extended active duty of 15 days or more are eligible to benefit from the Air Force Assistance Fund. Patriot Wing members have been among those who have gotten help from the Air Force Aid Society which is supported by the Air Force Assistance Fund," said Master Sgt. Gregory Libby, who is 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing project officer for the campaign.

The Air Force Aid Society helps eligible reservists in such circumstances as leave

due to a family emergency. Retired reservists and their families receive the same benefits as other Air Force retirees and may apply for residence in retirement communities.

Eligible reservists can make requests for aid through the Westover Family Support Center.

Donations are being collected by Sergeant Libby in the Military Personnel Flight building. For more information, call him at Ext. 3877.

## Inspector general hotlines available through higher levels

The Inspector General's office at Westover is responsible for the base fraud, waste and abuse program. The office of Lt. Col. Patricia Evans may be reached at Ext. 3137 or DSN 589-3137 (e-mail: patricia.evans@westover.af.mil).

If the issue warrants going up to a higher level of command: AFRC hotline: 1-800-223-1784, e-mail: afrc.igq@afrc.af.mil  
Air Force hotline: 800-538-8429, safigq@pentagon.af.mil

Department of Defense: 800-424-9098, hotline@dodig.osd.mil

Callers may remain anonymous if they wish and should provide as much information as possible when leaving a message. The IG does have a confidentiality policy with anyone that contacts the office. The Westover IG office is located in wing headquarters on Patriot Avenue (Bldg. 1850).

## Trio of Westover retirees discover old wing Provider

by Master Sgt. Tom Allocco

On any given day, the Patriot Wing has 16 C-5A Galaxies on call for worldwide airlift of heavy and outsized cargo. And serving overseas in more humble duty is one C-123K Provider displaying on the fuselage the faded but still clearly discernable shield and designation of the 439<sup>th</sup> Tactical Airlift Wing, forerunner of the 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing.

The almost intact former Patriot Wing cargo airplane was discovered by three retired Westover reservists last October tucked away on the side of a tar road overlooking the Pacific Ocean in Costa Rica.

"We couldn't believe it," said Senior Master Sgt. Marilyn Dube, who retired as transportation supervisor in 2003. "We just stood there in awe saying 'that's a Westover bird!' We were in total shock. To see that airplane in of all places, we couldn't believe it," she said.



File photo

**PARKED PROVIDER - A C-123K Provider sits on the ramp in front of the Base Hangar in a photo from the mid-1970s. Sixteen of the tactical airlifters were assigned to Westover from 1973 to 1982.**

to the beach. The aircraft fuselage appears to be intact. The props are missing, but the wings and engine cowlings are still in place.

Sharing the serendipitous experience with her was husband Chief Master Sgt. Leonard Dube, who retired as Air Transportation manager in 1992, and his brother Staff Sgt. Ronald Dube, who is a retired Patriot Wing maintainer.

Leonard and Marilyn Dube, who live in Torrington, Conn., were on vacation visiting Ronald Dube, who lives in Quepos, Costa Rica. The three chanced upon the wayward C-123K Provider while driving over a hill on their way



Courtesy photo

**LAST PATRIOT PROVIDER - Retired Senior Master Sgt. Marilyn Dube and Chief Master Sgt. Leonard Dube celebrate their discovery of a former Patriot Wing C-123K Provider on the side of a tar road at the top of a hill in Costa Rica. Their photo was taken by Leonard Dube's brother, retired Staff Sgt. Ronald Dube, while the Dubes were on vacation. The former cargo airplane serves as pub, restaurant and coffee store.**

The former 439<sup>th</sup> Tactical Airlift Wing Provider is now part of the El Avion pub, restaurant and coffee shop along a tar road at the top of a hill overlooking Manuel Antonio Beach. A canopy is hung between the airplane and the main building. Inside the Provider are tables and counters to serve pub customers.

The airplane was purchased by the pub in 2000 for \$3,000. To get it to the site, the C-123K was disassembled into seven parts and hauled piece by piece up the tar road to the top of the hill.

The 731<sup>st</sup> Tactical Airlift Squadron of the 439<sup>th</sup> Tactical Airlift Wing flew C-123K Providers until 1982 when the squadron transitioned to the C-130E and was reassigned to the 901<sup>st</sup> Tactical Airlift Group, Peterson AFB, Colo.

## myPay changes bring leave statements to web

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** - Jan. 1 was the deadline for Air Force reservists to start using myPay, the Internet method for managing pay.

If they didn't sign up, they may find it difficult to know how much they are getting paid. The Feb. 1 leave and earning statement is the last paper copy reservists will receive through the mail. The change for Air Force Reserve Command civilian employees depends on local bargaining obligations at their units, but eventually they too are to use myPay.

Under the myPay program, people view their LES online. If they don't have access to the Web at home or at work, they should contact their respective reserve or civilian pay offices.

To use their myPay account, reservists were supposed to activate their personal identification number by Dec. 31.

If reservists don't have a PIN or need a new one, they can obtain a temporary PIN through their reserve pay office or the local Air Force finance office, said Mike Bilbrey, chief of the management and finance branch at Headquarters AFRC. "These offices have 'trusted agent' access and can assign a PIN," he said.

Another way to obtain a temporary PIN is by going to the myPay Website at <https://mypay.dfas.mil> and selecting the "new pin" button on the homepage. It may take 10 business days from the date of the request for mail delivery of the new PIN.

In addition, reservists can ask for a new

PIN by fax. They need to sign their request and give their full name, social security account number, a copy of their military photo identification and a daytime telephone number. The fax number is (216) 522-5800 or DSN 580-5800.

The new temporary PIN will contain the last five digits of the person's social security account number.

People should wait at least two business days before using their PIN if they got it by fax and four days if by mail. They will not receive confirmation that their PIN has changed.

Reservists with questions about myPay may contact the Westover Finance Office at Exts. 2044 or 3880.

(AFRC News Service)



photo by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

## Jack Moriarty

### Environmental engineer wins command award

Westover's chief environmental engineer recently earned command-wide honors.

**Jack Moriarty** won the Gen. Thomas D. White Natural Resources Conservation Award for Individual/Team Excellence.

Mr. Moriarty's job responsibilities include monitoring airfield safety, habitat management, and grass and bird safety. He manages more the 2,500 acres that make Westover the largest Air Force Reserve base in the country. Last year, Mr. Moriarty led a controlled burn of 100 acres of grassland on the base to reduce undergrowth and improve habitat.

Mr. Moriarty has worked in civil engineering for nearly 15 years. He credited his office staff's efforts with his receiving the award.

"We've received at least a dozen types of these awards for our efforts with pollution prevention, cultural resources management, and natural resources management," he said. "And Drew Milroy - he has really kept things going in our section; he's real shot in the arm."

Mr. Moriarty lives in Amherst, Mass.

"Jack and Drew are always researching new ways to support the airlift mission safety programs such as the Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard with their 'grassland summits,'" said Myron S. Popowski, chief of resources for the 439th Mission Support Group Civil Engineer section.

"They call in experts throughout the country to advise on the best methods to discourage high strike threat bird species, while accommodating the more suitable state-listed endangered grassland birds well outside our safety zones with controlled burns and special surveys," he said.

"Jack consistently displays professional leadership qualities, exceptional personality and sincere concern for people on base and the base itself."

### Cold War veteran reports to his last UTA in January

A chief who started his military career at Westover nearly 40 years ago retired from service on the January A UTA.

Members of the 439<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Group and base enior staff honored **Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Smith**, 439<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, for his contributions to the Westover mission. Chief Smith's career spanned five decades here.

Chief Smith was among the few remaining military members of the wing who worked at Westover when it was a Strategic Air Command installation. He joined the Air Force in early 1966 and was assigned to Westover Air Force Base in July of that year. He was assigned as a jet engine mechanic with the 99<sup>th</sup> Field Maintenance Squadron until February 1970. Chief Smith worked on flagship SAC aircraft that included the B-52C Stratofortress and KC-135A Stratotanker. His tour at Westover included a deployment with Westover's 99<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing to Andersen AFB, Guam, from October 1967 to March 1968.

In August 1971, Chief Smith left active duty and was hired as an air reserve technician with the Air Force Reserve's 905<sup>th</sup> Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

He worked on the C-124 Globemaster and C-130 Hercules transports until August 1974. He joined the 901<sup>st</sup> Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron in September 1974 and worked on the C-123K Provider transports. From August 1975 until October 1987, he was a 905<sup>th</sup> CAMS member and 439<sup>th</sup> CAMS jet shop supervisor. He was among hundreds of maintenance workers faced with the challenge of the conversion to C-5s in October 1987.

Chief Smith moved up to quality assurance supervisor with the 439<sup>th</sup> Logistics Group, from November 1987 until No-



Courtesy photo

**MAJOR THANKS - Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Smith, right, shares a laugh during his retirement ceremony with Chief Master Sgt. Michael A. Major, 439th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron maintenance superintendent.**

vember 1993. From December 1993 until September 2004, he was a flight chief with the 439<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron and 439<sup>th</sup> AMXS, and was involved in the record-breaking launches of C-5s during the surge of early 2003.

In September 2004, he became a traditional reservist and continued as a flight chief. Besides his adjusting to many aircraft conversions, Chief Smith's career also included his involvement with numerous exercises and competitions, including those with SAC bomber units and with Air Mobility Command Rodeo units. Chief Smith was also involved with re-establishing the quality assurance program during the C-5 conversion. "Chief Smith was directly responsible for many of the successes that Westover has experienced over the years," said **Chief Master Sgt. Michael Major**, 439th AMXS maintenance superintendent. "His hard work and dedication, coupled with his vast knowledge contributed directly to Westover being the premier AFRC C-5 Base during Operation Desert Shield/Storm and Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom."

Chief Smith lives in Monson, Mass., and is an avid hunter and fisherman.

### Deployment discussion



File photo by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

**DEPLOYED MEMORIES - Senior Airman Christopher Harry, 42nd Aerial Port Squadron, is interviewed by ABC 40 reporter Michelle Brown following his deployment in 2003. The 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office is compiling a photo archive on each squadron's activities at Westover. Photos can be delivered or e-mailed to PA and will be placed on CDs to be made available. For more information, call PA at Ext. 2020.**

# Patriot People



photo by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

**Senior Airman Kenneth W. Gladding**

**Name:** Kenneth W. Gladding  
**Rank:** Senior airman  
**Age:** 35  
**Address:** Halfmoon, N.Y.  
**Unit:** 439th Airlift Wing Chaplain's Office  
**Position:** Chaplain assistant  
**Favorite food:** Turkey  
**Years of service:** Nine  
**Favorite sport:** Bowling  
**Favorite hobby:** Seeing new places in the wilderness  
**Ideal vacation:** Hawaii  
**Best way to relax:** Watching science fiction  
**Preferred entertainment:** Movies  
**Favorite hero:** Fr. Sullivan  
**Favorite music:** '50s and '60s  
**Favorite movie:** Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan  
**Favorite aircraft:** C-5  
**Pet peeve:** When I hold the door open for someone and I don't hear a "thank you"  
**What would I do if I won \$1 million:** Move to Montana, give some money to my mother and brothers, and take a road trip around the United States and to Alaska

## Patriot Praises

### Retired:

Chief Master Sgt. John M. Missale

Tech Sgt. Patrick M. Conway

### Newly assigned:

Maj. Colombe G. Cote

Capt. Christopher B. Swed

Technical sergeant:  
 Kevin M. Kennedy  
 Michael A. Kularski  
 Timothy P. Munley

Staff sergeant  
 Michael P. Bobbee  
 Autumn M. Brockway  
 Richard M. Ohrenberger  
 Madeline Herrera  
 Troy Mitchell  
 Edwin L. Wriston

Senior airman  
 Marcelo H. Adaos  
 Steven F. Audet  
 Angeleque T. Dove  
 Charles A. Fassl  
 Victoria K. Scalera  
 Eric D. Tift  
 Christopher J. Vanasse

Airman first class  
 Jessica H. Borona  
 Joseph D. Coffey  
 Stephen E. Fenoff  
 Amanda S. Fox  
 Josue Fred  
 Leann C. Gamber  
 Robert I. Gibson L. III  
 Evan N. Johnson

## Awards and Decorations

### Bronze Star

Capt. Mark J. Bialas

### Joint Service Commendation Medal

Tech. Sgt. Paul M. Foley

Senior Airman Kennedy C. Semedo

### Meritorious Service Medal

Lieutenant colonel  
 Forrest D. Price\*\*  
 Robert A. Sousa\*\*

Captain  
 Ari J. Fisher  
 Edward J. Peplinski

Second Lt. Michael J. Dibrindisi

Senior Master Sgt.  
 Ronald N. Beaulieu

Master sergeant  
 Laurie A. Carlson  
 Robert B. Cossaboom  
 Robert D. Karcz  
 Brian P. Major  
 Kenneth E. Schworm  
 Russell S. Shaw, Jr

Technical sergeant  
 Antonio Lebron  
 Brice E. Moseley

### Air Force Commendation Medal

Captain  
 Cheryl Duzant\*  
 Calvin A. Mellor\*\*\*  
 Edwin M. Morales\*

Master sergeant  
 Mitchell B. Skura\*  
 David W. Turner\*

Technical sergeant  
 Donald G. Durand  
 Jason M. Kennedy  
 Shane L. Newhart\*

George B. Tocher

Senior airman  
 Erin M. Cabral  
 Laura A. Tardif

### Air Force Achievement Medal

Capt. Edwin M. Morales\*

Technical sergeant  
 Michael A. Anderson\*  
 Jason L. Comeau  
 Dawn E. Scaff\*\*\*

Staff sergeant  
 Lisa E. Dewar  
 Andrew J. Merseth

Senior airman  
 Joseph M. Clinton  
 Nikolaus J. Schmitter

\* First oak leaf cluster  
 \*\* Second oak leaf cluster  
 \*\*\* Third oak leaf cluster

Karl D. Koenig  
 Megan M. Kuszewski  
 Richard Z. Leger

Michael A. Morris  
 Tashin K. Roberson  
 Richard E. Romero

Melissa L. Stewart  
 Airman Stephen E. Tyler

# Former recruiter still bringing new members to wing

by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

A former wing recruiter still keeps her former job in mind.

Tech. Sgt. Sirita L. Day was honored by Col. Wade Farris, 439th Airlift Wing commander, for her achievements with the Get One program, during the February Commander's Call held in the Base Hangar.

Sergeant Day, a former 439th AW recruiter, is assistant chief of career enhancement in the military personnel flight.

Sergeant Day provided the recruiting staff with five accessions - people whom she referred to Westover recruiters.



**Sergeant Day**

"I still felt the urge to recruit," she said. "It's still in my blood. This wing has such an excellent reputation throughout the Air Force. I am always telling people about the importance of our mission at Westover."

"Her consistent effort to bring new people into this wing has been remarkable," said Colonel Farris. "Sergeant Day's enthusiasm and dedication to this wing are appreciated. She is very busy with her regular duties but has still found time to refer folks to the unit."

Recruiters are pitching the 'Get One' program to reservists as a way to keep numbers up in the wing rosters.

## Get One referral information

In order to compete for the local incentives, 'Get One' referrals need to be sent to Patricia Simonds at the Westover recruiting office. There are three ways the information may be sent:

1. Call Mrs. Simonds at (413) 557-2125 or DSN 589-2125 let her know you have a 'Get One'
2. E-mail: Patricia.Simonds@Westover.af.mil
3. Or fax the information below to: 413-557-2126 or DSN 589-2126

### REFERRAL INFORMATION

First name, middle initial, last name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

### YOUR INFORMATION

First name, middle initial, last name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Status (Traditional reservist, air reserve technician, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

"Sergeant Day has managed to commit her time to this wing's recruiting efforts - while still holding down her tasks with the military personnel flight," said Chief Master Sgt. Robert R. Starkey, senior Westover recruiter. "Her assistance has greatly helped us to meet our goals. Her efforts have made a difference."

Chief Starkey reminds reservists that their enthusiasm for serving with the Patriot Wing can only engage potential recruits to check into opportunities within the wing. And that's all that is required. "We don't want them to qualify people - just refer them," he said.

The chief said the Get One program is

the number one program for sources of recruits.

Sergeant Day left the recruiting field for the military personnel flight in October 2003.

She received a plaque and a gift certificate from Army and Air Force Exchange Service Exchange Service for her effort at Commanders Call. She lives in Springfield, Mass.

For more information on Get One, call Master Sgt. Richard C. Roneree, wing recruiter. He may be reached at (781) 377-7883, cell (339) 223-0368, or e-mail, Richard.Roneree@Hanscom.af.mil.

**PATRIOT**

[www.afrc.af.mil/439aw](http://www.afrc.af.mil/439aw)

March UTA schedule  
 A UTA March 5-6  
 B UTA March 19-20



439th AW/PA  
 WESTOVER AIR RESERVE BASE  
 100 Lloyd Street  
 East Wing, Suite 103  
 CHICOPEE, MA 01022-1825

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Published monthly for Patriots like Master Sgt. Steven J. Forcum, Ludlow, Mass., and 2,374 reservists of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and the wing's geographically separated unit.