

PATRIOT

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER ARB

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Bosses' Day a return trip for employer

**AWARD-WINNING
DESIGNER REVISITS BASE
AFTER NEARLY 50 YEARS:**

**Employer Appreciation Day
hosts employers from the
region in October**

By Capt. James Bishop

In 1954, 12-year-old Guy Prendergast of Springfield received an all-day base tour and a free aviator's jacket—making him the envy of every boy at Sacred Heart School in Springfield—for designing an impressive model of an underground runway and hangar system.

On Oct. 2, Prendergast returned, joining 43 other area employers for a base tour and a C-5 flight during the annual Employer Appreciation Day on the A-UTA. Another 35 employers assembled for the flight and tour on Oct. 16 during the B-UTA.

Prendergast said he and a friend took more than two weeks to build the model, responding to post-World War II concerns about aircraft safety.

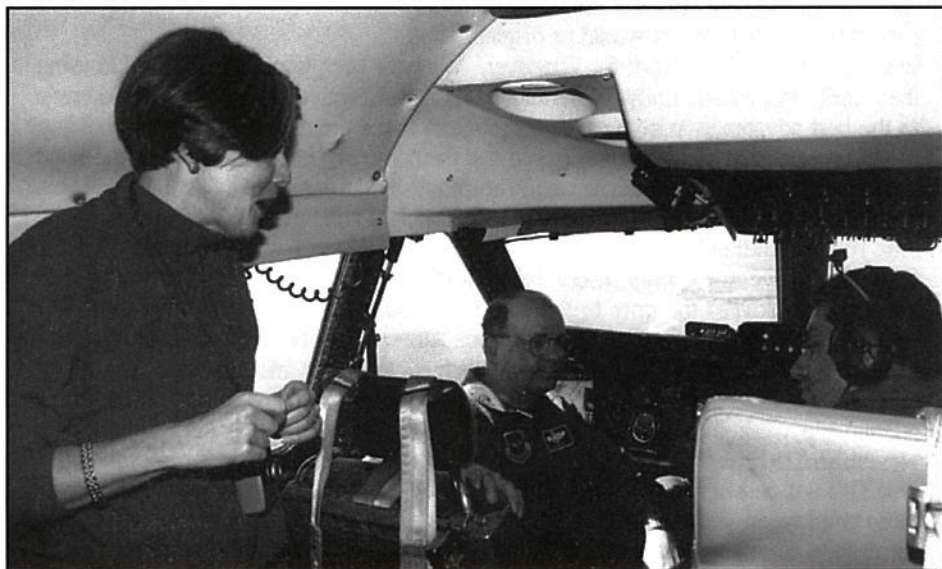
When Desert Storm began, Prendergast said he was surprised to see that Iraq had a similar setup. "I was reading up on Iraq, saw their design, and said, son of a gun, that's the same thing I did," he said.

Prendergast, a master die-maker for Chicopee-based company, Rock-Tenn, was invited by his employee, SSgt. Steve Perreault, a vehicle operator in the Logistics Squadron here, and an assistant laminator operator at Rock-Tenn.

Pilot and aircraft commander for the day's flight, Lt. Col. Jim Hosey, welcomed the employers to "the largest reserve base in the world."

Later, he took them on a low-altitude flight (under 10,000 feet) over Cape Cod,

continued on page 6



**OFF-THE-JOB
TRAINING —**
Employers of Westover reservists took advantage of Employer Appreciation Day in October to learn more about their employee's reserve jobs. In top photo, employers spend time on the flight deck during a C-5 flight over Cape Cod. At left, employers exit the C-5, all smiles, following the flight.

—photos by A1C Amber Ryals

An update

This month I want to pass on the latest update of what is happening with our privatization efforts here at Westover. Headquarters AFRC has issued the final decision that the performance of our Base Operating Support (BOS) functions of real property maintenance, base supply, airfield management, transient aircraft maintenance services, meteorological services, motor vehicle management and traffic management would be awarded to Griffin Services of Atlanta, Ga. effective 1 March 2000. We are the fourth AFRC base to privatize these services. All AFRC bases are under review.

This decision resulted in the establishment of two priorities to deal with the transition: 1) taking care of the 149 people that would be displaced and 2) making the contract work for Westover. We have been working very hard in using the Priority Placement, Early Retirement Authority, Incentive Separation Pay Programs to the best advantage in helping our employees make the transition. We are holding resume preparation classes; job fairs and had the contractor here to address us and hand out job applications. As much as we are accomplishing it is apparent that there will be a Reduction in Force (RIF) that will take place. Notices will have been distributed by the time you are reading this. The RIF is such a dynamic process with time that some folks final offer may come shortly before the contractor takes over. We have encouraged all impacted employees to apply to the contractor and it appears that we may not have enough displaced employees to fill all the contractors needs. I am encouraged by our first meeting with Griffin Services. I have pledged to make this transition and future relationship a team effort and Mr. Griffin has pledged his company's energy to make this relationship work the best for Westover. They plan to hold job interviews during November/December and make job offers in the Mid-December/January timeframe.

This will be a new adventure for all of us. It will be a difficult time of uncertainty for those employees who are issued RIF notices. We will continue to work to take care of them, they are a part of our team. Hopefully many will transition to work for Griffin Services and continue to be part of Westover's team. We will embark on establishing the working relationship with Griffin Services and build it into a strong one. Our goal of maximum mission readiness for Westover has not changed as we welcome a new partner. Thanks for all you do!

by Col. Martin M. Mazick
439th AW Commander

COMMENTARY

Briefs

Civilian employees, Reservists honored

Four reservists and two civilian employees have been honored with annual awards for their outstanding contributions to their respective units and the 439th Airlift Wing.

Receiving awards are:

Airman of the Year:

A1C Cornelia Babcock, 439th ASTS;

NCO of the Year:

MSgt. William C. Pope, 439th AW;

Senior NCO of the Year:

MSgt. Bruce L. Wescott, 439th LSS;

Officer of the Year:

1st Lt. Deresa D. Helms, 439 ASTS

Civilian of the Year:

Kathleen M. Kies, 439th AW/JA;

Civilian Supervisor of the Year:

Edward M. Sierzego, 439th MSS.

Correction

SSgt. Timothy Cullen was incorrectly identified as a member of the 85th Aerial Port Squadron in a listing of Community College of the Air Force graduates that appear in the October issue of the PATRIOT. He is actually a member of the 42nd Aerial Support Squadron.

Westover Club hosts NFL football frenzy

Members of the Westover Club can watch National Football League games Sunday afternoons between noon and 7 p.m. and win prizes to boot.

Prizes include sport shirts, mini footballs, lunch coolers, sports apparel certificates, tickets to the Atlanta Falcons-San Francisco 49ers game in San Francisco, tickets to the Super Bowl in Atlanta and tickets to the Pro Bowl in Hawaii. Each trip includes round-trip tickets, hotel accommodations and a rental car for two.

Snacks will be available during games.

December UTA
A UTA Dec. 4-5
B UTA Dec. 11-12

PATRIOT

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Former POW receives medal 56 years after capture

By Capt. James G. Bishop
photo courtesy of Frank Galligan

Just a month before troops took the Philippine island of Corregidor. It was May 6, 1942. One of the prisoners who marched off that day was a 21-year-old from Taunton, Mass., Francis Galligan.

Galligan, who retired from federal service at Westover last year, spent three and a half years as a prisoner of war at a series of Japanese camps, witnessing deprivation and horror. He and the surviving POWs were finally released Sept. 12, 1945, nearly a month after Japan agreed to surrender.

But over half a century went by before he received the Prisoner of War medal.

Galligan, who worked as a civilian at Westover from 1971, was telling war stories one day with the first sergeant at the 439th Operations Support Squadron, MSgt. Robert Andreoli. He asked Galligan if he'd ever received the medal. Galligan said no. He had received a Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation Letter, and the World War II Victory Medal, among others, but he'd never received the POW medal.

Andreoli began looking into the possibility of obtaining the long overdue award.

The process took more than two years of phone calls and letters to various government

agencies. One big obstacle was that his time as a POW had not been listed on his separation papers, Andreoli said. So a researcher at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis had to independently verify the claim.

Finally, on Saturday, Oct. 2, retired CMSgt. Galligan pinned on the POW medal—more than 56 years after his capture.

During the Philippine attack, on the day of their surrender, Galligan's commander received a message through the switchboard: Lay down your arms. You will be marched by your own troops to the lower end of Corregidor Island. Surrender to the Japanese.

"We pulled pieces off our rifles and threw them in the woods so the Japanese couldn't use them," he recalled. He felt uncertain about how he would be treated.

Andreoli said Galligan doesn't talk a lot about the atrocities he saw as a prisoner of war, but he remembers one time hearing about a pair of twins who were fellow POWs. One twin escaped but was later captured. The Japanese in charge of the camp beheaded the escapee in front of his twin, and put the severed head on a pole. The prisoners had to march by the grisly sight daily until the head decomposed.

After what he'd been through as a POW, nothing could get him upset, said Andreoli, who worked with Galligan for three years. Before joining the 439th OSS, Galligan worked at Base Operations for nearly 25 years.

Galligan and his fellow prisoners were shipped from the Philippine island of Palawan to Manila, then on a 20-ship

convoy—eight of which were sunk by Admiral Nimitz's navy—to Formosa for six months. "They kept moving us north," he said. At



Galligan in 1942.

Formosa, the group of 300 was split in two. One group went to Japan, and all but nine were burned alive, he said. The captors had the prisoners dig a large trench down the center of the compound. Then they called a false air raid. While the POWs were in the trench, guards poured gasoline from 55-gallon drums into the ditch and set it afire. Those who scrambled out of the ditch were shot or bayoneted, he said. Galligan was in the other group of 150 prisoners.

They were sent to northern Japan to work in an underground lead and zinc mine. There they stayed until six U.S. Army paratroopers came to the compound on Sept. 12, 1945, and told their former guards to march them to the train station.

Galligan, who went through Army basic training in 1940, retired from federal service last year, at age 76, after 30 years of active duty and another 27 years of federal service. His active duty service spanned three wars and the start of a new service: the United States Air Force.

Col. Martin Mazick, 439th Airlift Wing commander, presented Galligan with the Prisoner of War medal in a ceremony on Oct. 2. Congress authorized the Prisoner of War Medal for the estimated 142,000 U.S. Service members who were held as prisoners after April 5, 1917, the day before the U.S. formally entered World War I.

The front of the medal is an eagle, standing with dignity, though surrounded by barbed wire and bayonet points. The reverse is an inscription, "For honorable service while prisoner of war."

Lt. Col. Mike Kohut told the audience that after being repatriated in 1945, it took great courage and great humility for Galligan to return to the service of his beloved country.

To Galligan, it was his duty — and his pleasure — to serve.



DELAYED HONOR — Col. Martin M. Mazick, 439th AW commander, pins the POW medal on Francis Galligan, 56 years after his capture. — photo by MSgt. Gordon Newell

Unit of the month

439th ALCF: Airlift Control Flight

By MSgt. Sandi Michon

When you condense and package the Westover mission to send it on the road, the little package has a big label: ALCF: Airlift Control Flight.

The little package with a big mission is Westover's 18-member 439th ALCF unit. When deployed, the unit functions as a headquarters element, coordinating all aspects of a flying mission.

To accomplish this, the unit packs a powerhouse of experience, with expertise in airfield operations, communication, administration, loadmaster section and maintenance. Once deployed, the unit oversees other support functions such as aerial port, security police, services and fire protection.

"The reason we deploy is to provide on-site command and control — to sort out all the details so the mission can happen," explained Lt. Col. Tom Mauzaka, 439th ALCF commander. "If one detail falls through the cracks, it can have a snowball effect on the entire mission."

To support a mission, they monitor all flights going through their location, coordinate all cargo movement and loading, timely departures and maintenance coordination, when needed. To accomplish this, the unit may be deployed to a fully operational base, or to a bare-bones base with a working runway and a tent. "Give us four walls, a desk and a runway, and we can run a mission," said Mauzaka. Even their communications can be set up through satellite transmissions.

To stay trained and ready, the 439th ALCF unit spends a lot of time on the road. "Our reservists average a month of extra duty days beyond their normal reserve commitment," said MSgt. Bob Seaton, 439th ALCF operations specialist. Training opportunities include airlift exercises and Operational Readiness Inspections (both Westover's and supporting other bases). They also share their

high level of training by providing affiliation training. "There are a dozen sister units in the Northeast that need to know how to 'package' their personnel and equipment for airlift. We teach them," said Seaton.

They also provide airfield surveys for different sites to evaluate the condition of an airfield for possible use. A typical airfield

very highly of his talented cadre. "They are ready to do the job. They've proven themselves," he said. Mauzaka said the job requires a lot of responsibility and a large commitment, but said that job satisfaction carries its own reward. "There is a real sense of satisfaction at the end of long hours and hard work to see your efforts pay off in a mission accomplished," he said.

ALCF members not only represent many military career fields, but their civilian expertise also helps the mission. SMSgt. Greg Morin and MSgt. Jason Smith are computer technicians in their civilian jobs. "Their knowledge really saved our necks out in the field," said Maj. Jay Learned, referring to their set up of complicated communication equipment.

The unit motto is: *Rigid Flexibility*. According to Mauzaka, the "rigid" refers to adherence to directives, and the "flexibility" refers to being innovative and making adjustments to meet mission requirements. He gave an example from a wing deployment in February of this year to Savannah, Ga. Because of nearby construction, the airfield manager wanted them to shut down the airfield. To get around the problem and to keep missions on schedule, they tasked reservists to per-

form extensive inspection walks for every departure and arrival to insure there were no foreign objects or debris on the runways.

When deployed, the ALCF becomes the TALCE, or Tanker Airlift Control Element supporting the Tanker Airlift Control Center at Scott AFB, Ill. which commands all worldwide Air Mobility Command tanker missions.

According to Mauzaka, the Guard and Reserve airlift control units now perform 50 percent of available missions, compared to 25 percent just 10 years ago.

With all that experience, it would seem that good things do come in small packages.



survey can run 30 pages outlining runways, taxiways, existing physical support for aircraft and personnel and other criteria such as availability of drinking water, medical support, etc.

According to Seaton, the unit narrowly missed activation to support U.S. involvement in Kosovo. "We were next on the list, but didn't get called," he said. Individuals in the unit are regularly called upon to serve real time events. When the 104th Fighter Group was deployed to Italy last summer in support of the Kosovo crisis, ALCF members coordinated the Guard unit's upload of personnel and equipment.

As their commander, Mauzaka speaks

Capped landfill welcomes Westover wildlife

By Capt. Mike Franco
Photos by MSgt. W.C. Pope

Westover's 1600-acre grassland is home to unique populations of animal and plant life that base environmental engineers care for with extraordinary vigor.

Some of these species are on the State's list of "special concern" and are intensively monitored by Massachusetts Audubon and the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife such as two grassland birds — the Upland sandpiper and Grasshopper sparrow.

"It's no small task maintaining these expansive public lands," said Jack Moriarty, Chief, Base Environmental Engineering Office. This is evident with the construction work at Landfill B, one of many conservation programs taking place on base to protect wildlife habitat and ground water.

The work involves building a "cap" over the landfill to allow methane gas, built up from the natural decay of waste and debris, to escape, said Joe Wasiuk, site engineer for Roy F. Weston Inc., the general contractor.

When Weston began construction last May, the land was flat and wooded with sparsely vegetated sandy soil, Wasiuk said. The landfill was used from 1960 to 1974 for the disposal of refuse from base industrial operations.

The capping project began with tree and stump removal performed by Cotton Tree Service of Northampton. Weston then erected a perimeter fence and modified the land for erosion control preparing the way for heavy equipment engineers from Local 98 to move debris from an adjacent wetland to the landfill. The land was then compacted and shaped to facilitate adequate drainage.

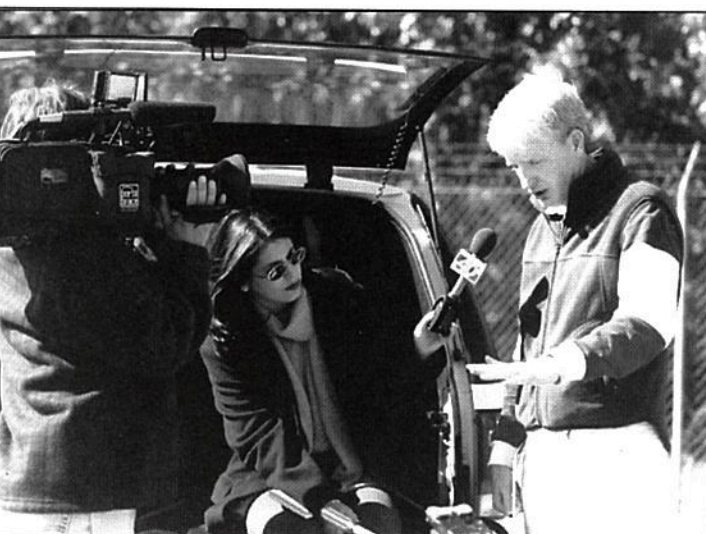
The operating engineers and R & B Enterprises, Palmer, Mass. spread gas-venting

sand and assembled an elaborate system of perforated PVC pipe to venting wells, he said. A layer of special polyethylene was unrolled over the area to help trap and direct rising gas through the maze of PVC. The polyethylene sections were heat bonded and anchored along the landfill's edges to form an impervious barrier.

Atlantic Linning Co., of New Jersey installed the polyethylene technology, a specialty not offered by local contractors. However, Weston and the base have done their best to support the local economy by hiring other contractors like Cover Technologies of Springfield to supply topsoil and Valley Environmental Services from Greenfield to seed the wetland for growth of unique plant life this November.

In the final phase of the project, Weston applied seed and mulch with a hydroseeding machine, and set gas-monitoring wells required by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Base Environmental, a section of Civil Engineering, operates under the guidance of the DEP, according to Moriarty. They also work closely with local and regional agencies, and community groups to foster good "environmental relations."



NEWS COVERAGE — Jack Moriarty, base environmental engineer, right, is interviewed about the landfill by Channel 40 reporter Susan Goodman and filmed by cameraman Tom Mortimer.

develop awareness among units that train near habitat, he said. They do this by providing field cards that show unit members how to protect our natural resources. The 13-acre landfill is located adjacent to the small arms firing range and directly under the flight path of runway 15-33.

Base Environmental maintains grassland vegetation at a density that encourages habitat for smaller endangered birds, and a less favorable setting for birds like geese and gulls that may create operational hazards, he said. The habitat is monitored and given special attention during nesting and breeding seasons.

They also implement animal damage control with the help of the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture), culling overabundant populations of coyotes, deer and wild turkey, he said.

Westover's diverse habitat provides homes for other creatures to include the Brown thrush, Red-breasted grosbeak, Great Blue heron, mallard ducks, spotted turtles, and blue-spotted and four-toed salamanders.

Special plant communities also flourish here like the Hartford or climbing fern, a vine-like plant that grows in forested wetlands, and the wild lupine.

"Our base was declared a 'Tree City USA' by the National Arbor Day Foundation," Moriarty said. In addition, Westover won the AFRC, Gen. Thomas D. White Award for Natural Resource Management for four consecutive years.



GREEN PIECE — Weston employees hydro-seed the landfill cap area with a mixture of seed and mulch.

"The challenge is to find the right balance between the military mission and the environment," Moriarty said. "We look for ways to protect our grass- and wetland habitat without risking our mission."

One way is to

SHOW AND TELL — Reservists' bosses view a C-5 being worked on at the DC hangar as part of Employer Appreciation Day held at the base on Oct. 2.3

— photos by
A1C Amber Ryals



Bosses' Day... from page 1

Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket and Provincetown on that sunny day. The employers took turns walking from the troop compartment to the flight deck to view the scenery and ask the pilots questions.

Before the flight, Col. Martin Mazick, 439th Airlift Wing commander, emphasized how important a role the employers played in the wing's mission. Sketching a three-legged stool, he said the legs symbolize a reservist's family, employer, and squadron. "Each leg is necessary to keep the Reserve balanced and functioning," he said.

The gathered employers represented a variety of workplaces, from multinational corporations to small, independent businesses.

Richard Klaus supervises the maintenance section of Space Systems, International in Windsor Locks, Conn. SSI makes high-tech environmental controls, cooling devices for space stations and shuttle missions, even space backpacks. Klaus said his firm works directly with NASA to make and test parts, which sometimes cost millions of dollars.

His employee, TSgt. Rudy Sandoval, tests how well the intricate and expensive pieces of equipment stand up against the gravitational forces in rocket launches. The machine he runs weighs 14 tons, with most of the mass designed to concentrate the energy on the equipment being tested. Sandoval works with security forces here.

Klaus said he has no problems with Sandoval's military duties taking time away from his civilian job. "He's very reliable, and very sharp," Klaus said.

Nearly every day he works, Joel Camp watches C-5s take off from Westover. Last



month, for the first time, he got to fly in one. As the administrator for Chapin Center nursing home in Springfield, Camp recently made reservist SSgt. Jerry Sedelow the housekeeping and laundry supervisor. "The military skills—discipline, management, even knowing what 'clean' means—transfer to his civilian job," he said.

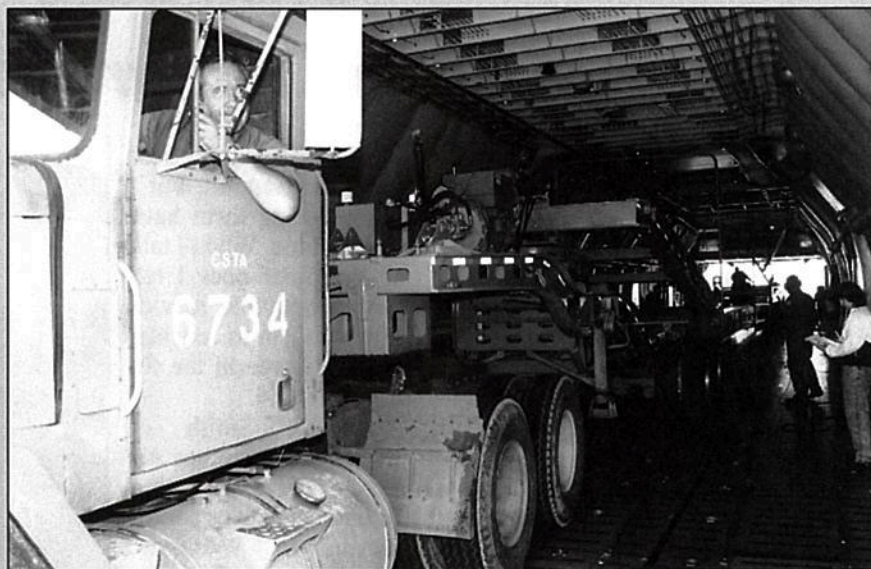
Before the C-5 flight, Mazick told the employers of a "fundamental change" in the Reserve. No longer a one-weekend-a-month operation to train for the big war, the National Guard and Reserve are now "peacetime, augmenting forces"—forces which supply 50 percent of the total military airlift capacity, 65 percent of the air refueling, and 95 percent of the aeromedical evacuation.

"It means the world to us to have you come out today," he told employers.

INSIDE AND OUT — Employers tour the top of the C-5 and the galley section of the flight deck on Bosses' Day in October.



**For
really big
jobs, call:
1-800-C-5**



WESTOVER HERE, HOW CAN WE HELP YOU? — When Navy personnel had to move a mini-sub carrier, Westover's C-5 was the aircraft of choice. On Oct. 8, a 337th AS aircrew flew down to Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland to try the trailer on for size. The 104-foot long trailer and tractor fit with minimal room to spare (top photo). In photo above, Loadmaster MSgt. Frank Domenichella appears dwarfed by the trailer tire on the loading ramp, as he guides the onload.

— photos by MSgt. Tom Allocco

Volunteers are an integral part of Westover

By MSgt. Tom Allocco
Photos by MSgt. W.C. Pope

When you turn 50 third graders loose from their classroom, bus them to the Westover flightline and set them free in a C-5 you have the ultimate recipe for chaos. That's what makes it a challenge for retired CMSgt. Vince Viglione when he volunteers to lead Westover tours for area scouts and school children.

Conducting Galaxy tours is just one of the numerous jobs that gets done every day on base because there are volunteers, many of them Westover retirees, who are willing to step forward and ask what is needed to be done. Without their enthusiasm and energy the quality of life would not be the same in the Westover family.

After 40 years in the military, Viglione isn't about to stay away following retirement as 439th MXS maintenance superintendent last year. When the wing Public Affairs Office needs help escorting tours, Viglione is only a phone call away. During peak times, he will be called upon several times a week.

"When I retired I said I had been in the Air Force since graduating from high school and that I owed a lot to the Air Force. This gives me a chance to pay back and at the same time see some old friends," he said.

"Sometimes the kids can be a handful, but I enjoy seeing them have a good time. When I talk to the older ones I tell them about the service and get them to consider the Air Force in the future," he said.

Frank Smith of Chicopee is another Air Force retiree who continues to make his contribution to Westover. Anyone who's flown on a mission in or out of Westover, day or night, appreciates Smith and the other USO Council of Pioneer Valley volunteers who make life a little easier with a friendly greeting, hot coffee and snacks.

Smith stepped forward during Desert Storm and was among the volunteers in the Base Hangar who welcomed home returning troops. He currently helps staff the USO center on Seawolf Avenue, which includes a food pantry for military members.



TOUR GUIDE — Vince Viglione, retired chief master sergeant, explains C-5 statistics to a tour group at the base in September.

On most days of the week Smith drives to Willimansett to pick up donuts and distribute them to workplaces around base. Along with every donut, Smith offers a ready smile and a willingness to swap stories going back to his World War II days as a P-40 mechanic in Panama.

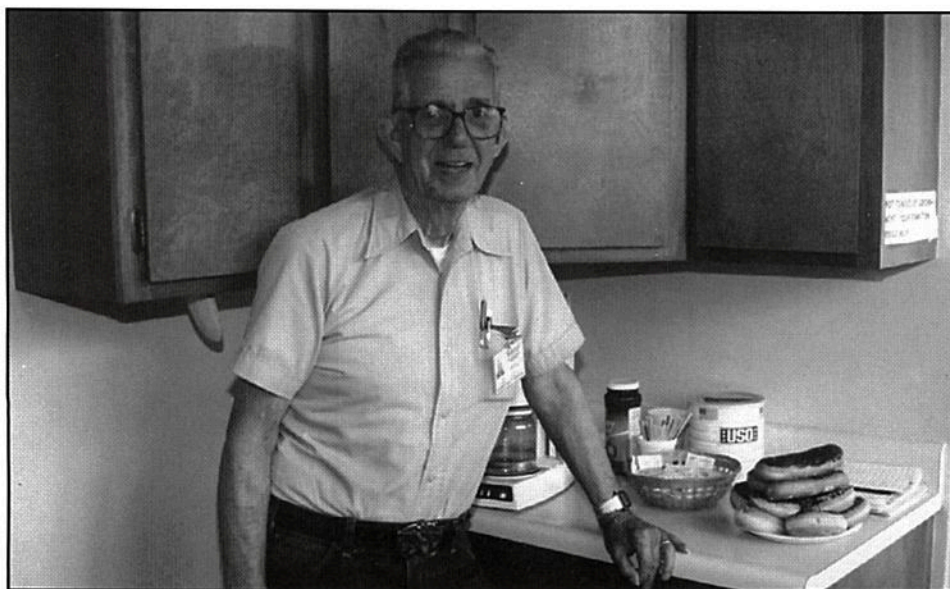
Sometimes being a USO volunteer means waiting long hours in a cold, drafty hangar for a late arriving or departing aircraft. But the unpaid job has its rewards.

"It makes me feel good to be present to help welcome the guys and gals home," he said.

"I used the USO during World War II. When Desert Storm started I knew what the USO was and said to myself that here's my chance to do a little pay-back," Smith said.

Among Smith's recent rewards at the USO center was seeing the look on children's faces when he distributed stuffed animals donated by his sister.

One of the best bargains at Westover is the passenger terminal in Hangar 3 and



AN APPETITE FOR SERVING — Frank Smith sets out breakfast fare as part of his volunteer role at the base USO center.

Volunteers...

(continued from previous page)

the Space A travel program, organized and operated by volunteers.

On a recent afternoon Gino Cortesi and Phil Knowles were busy in the passenger terminal. After helping to book Space A passengers for a flight to Shearwater, Nova Scotia, they stayed in the office to answer phones and advise prospective passengers.

Cortesi, a retired Army warrant officer who lives in Westfield, flew as a B-24 ball turret gunner in World War II and an Army pilot in Vietnam. He can draw on a wealth of experience to help others.

"I've made trips to Germany, Australia and Hawaii. I've gotten to know the procedures. If someone needs to know how to get from Stuttgart to Frankfurt, I can help them," he said.

It's a job he enjoys.

"It's a social thing. I meet people out here coming and going. There's also the satisfaction of helping, like when an Army retiree asked 'how can I get to Germany to visit my son on active duty.' We were able to tell him what he needed to do," Cortesi said.

Knowles, of Lenox, retired as a commander in the Navy Reserve. He's impressed with what the volunteer spirit has accomplished in the passenger terminal.

"Everything here is because of volunteers; everything from the furniture to the bulletin boards was assembled and painted by volunteers. That's quite a testimony," he said.

"I enjoy being back among military people. It's a good lifestyle, especially the camaraderie with other people here," Knowles said.

When the phone rings we are able to help people. Even though I'm a little part of it, that's what makes it a lot of fun," he said.

Sandy Wakefield, executive director of the USO Council of Pioneer Valley, had the final word on what the volunteer spirit means for the USO.

"If it wasn't for the volunteers this organization [the USO] wouldn't be here," she said.

Lt. Col. Vinsky captures the flag



CHANGE OF COMMAND – Lt. Col. Mike Vinsky, new commander of the 337th Airlift Squadron, prepares to take over the squadron flag from Col. Dave McCarthy, 439th Operations Group commander. Vinsky is replacing Lt. Col. Bill Bradford (at right). Bradford leaves the Reserve program for a position with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in New Hampshire. Vinsky, who is also a pilot with United Airlines, took command of the 225-member squadron during the A UTA in October. Squadron aircrews flew 17 missions during Operation Allied Force in the Balkans. — photo by MSgt. Gordon A. Newell



439th Airlift Wing retreat ceremony

Retreat ceremonies are scheduled for each A UTA Saturday at 1600 hours. Assembly times and required uniform combinations will be communicated through squadron commanders and their orderly room staff.

In the event of inclement weather, the Wing Commander will determine if the ceremony will be performed. The designated squadron's commander will be contacted no later than 1500 hours by the Honor Guard NCOIC or OIC. Retreats will not normally be rescheduled.

Any reserve member that hears the music playing for retreat is expected to stop and show proper courtesy toward the retiring of the colors.

Fiscal Year	Month	Squadron
FY 2000	October	Wing Staff
	November	MXS
	December	HG ONLY
	January	HG ONLY
	February	HG ONLY
	March	AGS
	April	LSS
	May	AES
	June	58 th APS/42 nd APS
	July	337 th AS
	August	OSS
	September	CES
FY 2001	October	CS
	November	MSS
	December	HG ONLY
	January	HG ONLY
	February	HG ONLY
	March	SVS
	April	Wing Staff
	May	MXS
	June	AGS
	July	LSS
	August	AES
	September	58 th APS/42 nd APS
FY 2002	October	337 th AS
	November	OSS
	December	HG ONLY
	January	HG ONLY
	February	HG ONLY
	March	CES
	April	CS
	May	MSS
	June	SVS
	July	Wing Staff
	August	MXS
	September	AGS

FY 2000 budget has funds for new base tower

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Westover will receive \$4.25 to construct a new control tower as part of the \$8.4 billion FY 2000 Military Construction Appropriations Act.

Signed into law by the president on Aug. 17, the act took effect for the fiscal year, which started Oct. 1, 1999.

In all, the Air Force Reserve Command receives \$64.4 million to include funding for 11 major construction projects. By comparison, funding for AFRC "milcon" projects in FY 1999 was \$34.4 million.

Westover's new tower will replace a 1962-vintage control tower. The existing tower has limited equipment space and training areas, and outdated mechanical systems. The new 123-foot tower will enhance the observation of taxiways and air traffic.

Under the president's FY budget 2000, announced Feb. 1, 1999, the Reserve was to get \$12.2 million to pay for part of five major construction projects with another \$16.4 million to follow in FY 2001 to complete the projects.

The rest of the \$64.4 million was to follow in later years to pay for other projects, but Congress decided to move up the timetable.

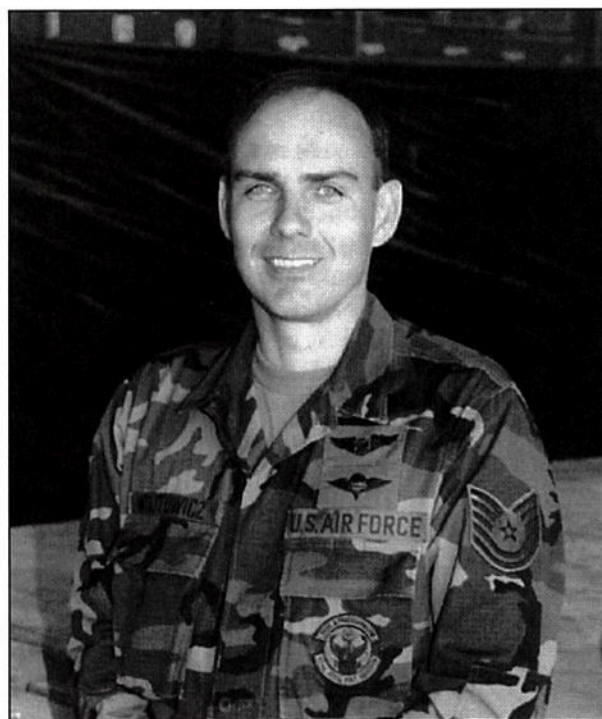
The biggest ticket item for the Reserve is altering and adding to part of Headquarters AFRC at Robins AFB, Ga. The project will renovate some 123,350 square feet of Building 210. The east wing annex of the building will get a third floor of 8,770 square feet.

The third floor will house the Alternate Tanker Airlift Control Center, which is a new reserve mission, that will serve as a backup to the TACC at Scott AFB, Ill.

The four other projects contained in the president's budget, are: Little Rock AFB, Ark.—\$800,000 renovation to provide Aerial port training facility. Homestead ARS, Fla.—\$2 million to construct a new fire training facility. Dobbins ARB, Ga. — \$2.13 million to add to and alter existing squadron operations and maintenance facilities. McChord AFB, Wash.—\$3.3 million to renovate an existing facility to revamp a C-17 operations building that will house three Reserve associate squadrons and the operations group.

Patriot People

Name: Rick Wojtowicz
Rank: TSgt.
Age: 43
Address: Wells, Maine.
Unit: 42 APS
Position: Air Cargo Crew Chief
Civilian position: U.S. Post Office
Favorite food: Chinese
Years of service: 25
Favorite sport: Baseball
Favorite hobby: Water skiing
Ideal vacation: Hawaii
Best way to relax: On the beach in Hawaii
Preferred entertainment: Movies
Favorite hero: George Bush
Favorite music: Rock (Beatles)
Favorite movie: Patton
Favorite aircraft: C-123
Pet peeve: "Not having fly-aways"
What I would do if I won \$1 million: Move to Hawaii



MSgt. W.C. Pope

TSgt. Rick Wojtowicz

Patriot Praises

PEP promotions:

CMSgt. Drouin, Claude G.
 SMSgt. Cincotta, Paul M.
 SMSgt. Pirog, David M.
 MSgt. Meltzer, Steven M.
 MSgt. Menard, Martha J. M.
 MSgt. Pope, William C.
 MSgt. Zakrzewski, Gregory

TSgt. Becker, Gregory
 TSgt. Boyer, Timothy
 TSgt. Briggs, Laurie
 TSgt. Cody, Melissa A.
 TSgt. Girard, Ronald R., Jr.
 TSgt. Guerin, Michael
 TSgt. Laroche, James B.
 TSgt. Lebreton, Ronald J.

Enlistments:

SSgt. Lamay, Bruce R., Jr.
 SSgt. MacKenzie, Malcolm K., III
 SSgt. Pasternak, Seth L.
 SSgt. Sullivan, Daniel J.
 SSgt. Trieb, David J.
 SSgt. Westervelt, Patrick D.
 SrA. Grasso, Mary E.
 SrA. Kirkby, James L.
 SrA. Wilson, David A., Jr.
 A1C Carlin, Patrick J.
 A1C English, Richard B.
 A1C Gleason, Michael D.
 A1C Greene, Michelle A.
 A1C Grossman, David M.
 A1C Grossman, Joel T.
 A1C Pitt, Barbara A.
 A1C Ros, Vasina

MSgt. Carroccia, Paul A.
 MSgt. Dapaixao, Airton D.
 MSgt. James, David H., Jr.
 MSgt. Merchant, Robert D.
 MSgt. Szeplak, Bruce W.
 TSgt. Bebeau, Eugene, III
 TSgt. Coughlin, Peter A.
 TSgt. Ferriter, Mary P.
 TSgt. Gilbert, Mark D.
 TSgt. Hillman, Helen M.
 TSgt. Kenyon, Mark A.
 TSgt. Leisenfelder, Robert J.
 TSgt. Marshall, Felicia M.
 TSgt. Martinez, Lori J.
 TSgt. Nalesnik, George J.
 TSgt. Shea, Michael L.
 SSgt. Baral, Samuel A.
 SSgt. Bergemann, Tyler H.
 SSgt. Berne Allen, Dawn M.
 SSgt. Blaisdell, Donald K.
 SSgt. Doyle, Doran P.
 SSgt. Germain, Henry E.
 SSgt. Iannuzzi, Michael

SSgt. Kukawka, Tracy L.
 SSgt. Martin, Julie L.
 SSgt. Maxwell, Erin L.
 SSgt. Murdza, Michael D.
 SSgt. Riley, Arthur H., Jr.
 SSgt. Rivet, Andrew T.
 SSgt. Smithers, Timothy R.
 SSgt. Zahm, Thomas W.
 SrA. Diaz, Gregory D.
 SrA. Howard, Robert A.
 SrA. Mailloux, Jessica
 SrA. Rose, Christopher R.
 SrA. Shelton Cynthia J.

Retirements:

1st Lt. Gasaway, Kathy G.
 MSgt. DeGrace, Ricardo T.
 SSgt. Davis, Blair, J. E.
 TSgt. Roueche, Arthur B.
 TSgt. Russell, Lillian M. R.

Reenlistments:

MSgt. Andreoli, Robert J.

Awards and Decorations

Meritorious Service Medal

Maj. Daniel E. Clearweater 337 AS
 Lt. Col. Charles R. Needles** 439 AW

Air Force Commendation Medal

MSgt. Paul J. Beauregard 439 CES
 MSgt. Nicholas S. Demko, Sr. 439 CES
 MSgt. Thomas G. Durkin, Jr.** 337 AS
 MSgt. Robert L. Stawasz 337 AS
 SSgt. Scott C. Daigneault 439 SFS

Air Force Achievement Medal

MSgt. David A. Mottor 439 CES
 SSgt. Edward J. Majersky** 439 SFS

**second award

Community leaders attend Y2K symposium

By MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

Representatives from 19 area businesses, communities and civic and emergency organizations met here Oct. 5 to discuss Y2K concerns.

The consensus is that most are well prepared and that their systems are compliant and that Jan. 1, 2000 will be a normal business day.

Col. Martin M. Mazick, commander of Westover's 439th Airlift Wing hosted the gathering to open a dialogue with concerned groups and to assure them that the base will be capable of performing its mission when the rollover takes place.

"We wanted to get these folks together to share their views on Y2K and see if any problem areas were overlooked," he said. "We also want to assure communities surrounding the base that we are prepared."

"I am extremely pleased by the turnout here today. I think it shows that everyone has taken this matter very seriously and has taken proper measures to ensure that Y2K will be a non-event," he added.

Area utility companies and emergency caregivers said they would have people on duty during the

rollover period in case of emergencies but few are anticipated.

Jean Hobbie, representative of the Pioneer Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross said that though the effect of the Y2K technology problem is unknown, people can prepare for the event.

"We are treating this like any other emergency. We ask people to prepare as they would for a winter storm," Mazick said that if the involved agencies see a need for further dialogue, Westover is willing and able to host further events.

Organizations represented were:

Massachusetts Army National Guard, American Red Cross, Bell Atlantic, South Hadley selectmen, Mayor Richard Kos of Chicopee, Bay State Gas, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, Chicopee Chamber of Commerce, Omnipoint Communications, Chicopee Electric, Chicopee Fire Department, Chicopee Police Department, Ludlow Emergency Management, Westover Metropolitan Development Corporation, and the Westover Y2K Tiger Team.

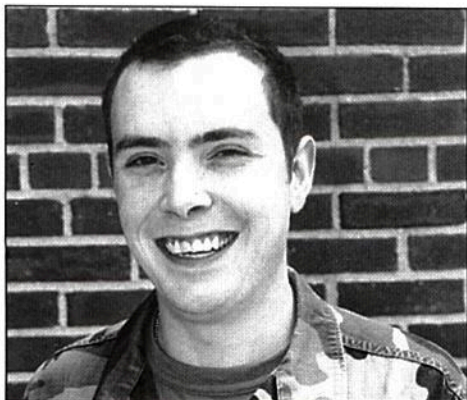


"We wanted to get these folks together to share their views on Y2K and to see if any problem areas were overlooked."

- Col. Martin M. Mazick

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PATRIOT online: <http://www.AFRC.AF.MIL/UNITS/439AW/Default.html>



Published monthly for Patriots like SSgt. Eric Wilson, of Rochester, N.H., and 2,421 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.

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