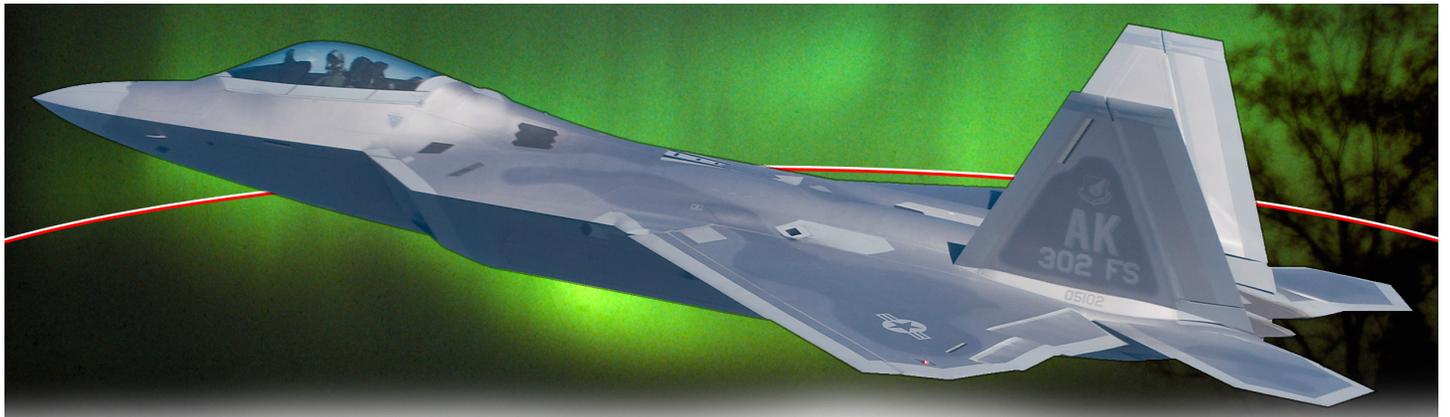


February 2012  
Vol. 5 No. 2

# **RED TAIL** **REVIEW**

477th FIGHTER GROUP - JB ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, AK - AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND



## **Proudly celebrating African American History Month**

*"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."*

- Martin Luther King Jr.

Aug. 28 1963, at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington D.C.

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# COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Col. Bryan Radliff  
477th Fighter Group commander

Word of the month: productivity - defined as 'the rate at which a company produces goods or services, in relation to the amount of materials and number of employees needed'.

There aren't many of us, so we need to be as productive as possible during

UTA weekends or our eight hour days. We have some house cleaning to do, but I am supremely confident in each of you and your ability to exceed any challenge.

Special Interest Items - SII - let's you know what I want to you to pay particular attention to.

These will be updated monthly.

1. Privacy Act/PII compliance
2. Records management
3. Readiness reporting
4. MICT completion/compliance

Please take a moment to review the articles and help me welcome two important new members to our FG.

You have already met our new Honorary Commander, Mr. Behnke, a VP at GCI and long-time Anchorage resident. Lt. Col. Tyler Otten has arrived to be our new Deputy Commander. He will primarily be responsible for Operations and will assist me in daily ADCON duties. He is a long time TR and will be a tremendous asset. Please take a moment to read about each of these men and the value they bring.

Keep your focus and look out for one another. You will hear more about being good Wingmen and being resilient.

Appreciate your family, thank your employer and maintain our core values.

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## 477th FG welcomes new deputy commander

**JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska** -- The 477th FG welcomed its new deputy group commander here Jan. 10.

Lt. Col. Tyler Otten comes to the 477th FG after relinquishing command of the 466th FS at Hill AFB, Utah.

He began his military career after graduating and commissioning from the United States Air Force academy in 1988. He served on active duty for nearly 10 years as an F-16 pilot before joining the Reserves.

When he was not serving as a Traditional Reservist over the last 14 years, Otten works as a pilot for Delta Airlines.

"I am very happy to be here," said Otten. "This is a great opportunity for me to learn and to serve. It is a new location, a new airplane, a lot of new people and a new set of challenges. All of those things stand to make this a very interesting

time for me and my family."

He is scheduled to attend F-22 training at Tyn dall AFB, Fla. in May 2012. *(Story and photo by Capt. Ashley Conner, 477th FG Public Affairs)*



## GCI Senior Vice President named 477th Honorary Commander

During the Jan. 2012 commanders call Col. Bryan Radliff, 477th FG commander welcomed the group's new Honorary Commander, Mr. William Behnke GCI Senior Vice President of Strategic Initiatives.

"I take my role as Honorary very seriously," said Behnke. "I intend to make my tenure as a "honorary commander" meaningful for both my family, GCI and most importantly the 477th FG."

Since 1994 Behnke has served his current position as the Senior Vice President of Strategic Initiatives of General Communications Incorporated. Better known to most Alaskans as GCI, Alaska's largest telecommunications company providing voice, data video and wireless communication services.

Before taking his current position he held the position as president of GCI Network Systems, Senior Vice president of new sales and marketing and Senior Vice president and manager of marketing and sales for Transalaska Data sys-



tems.

Behnke will serve the unit as Honorary Commander for two years.

The Honorary Commanders program is an Air Force program designed to pair civic leaders with military leaders. The intent is for civic leaders to learn about the Air Force and the unit's mission while also providing insight about the community to the military leaders. *(Story and photo by Capt. Ashley Conner, 477th FG Public Affairs)*

## Tuskegee Airman laid to rest at Arlington

by Tech. Sgt. Mareshah Haynes  
Defense Media Activity

Family members, friends and fellow service members gathered Jan. 20 here to honor the life and contributions of an original Tuskegee Airman.

Retired Lt. Col. Luke Weathers, 90, a member of the 302nd Fighter Squadron during World War II, received full military honors including an F-16 Fighting Falcon flyover by 113th Wing, an Air National Guard unit of Washington, D.C. The ceremony coincided with the release of "Red Tails," a full-length feature film chronicling the challenges and victories of the Tuskegee Airmen.

"The Tuskegee Airmen were dedicated heroes who gave so much for this country," said Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Johnson, the 113th Wing commander. "It is an honor to perform a flyover for this brave American."

With World War II veterans like the Tuskegee Airmen entering their 90s, the numbers of these

living history makers are dwindling.

During a time of racial segregation in America, the Tuskegee Airmen, the U.S. Army Air Corps' first black fliers, proved they were just as qualified as their white counterparts to fly in combat.

"Along with serving their country, they changed America," said retired Chief Master Sgt. John Patterson, the national 1st vice president of Tuskegee Airmen Inc. "They made it easier for me, when I came along many years later, to come into the military and have opportunities."

Weathers, a P-51 Mustang and P-39 Airacobra pilot, shot down two German planes in November 1944 and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his actions. Later, in 2007, he and 300 original Tuskegee Airmen were presented with the Congressional Gold Medal. It is one of the highest awards in the United States.

# How To: Volunteer for a deployment

By Dominic McElhinney  
477th Force Support Squadron

Making the decision to volunteer for a deployment is a big one. There are a few things you should do and must do before you will head downrange.

The first is discuss deploying with your family. Having a parent or spouse gone for an extended period can have an impact on the family. Ensure that everyone is prepared for an extended absence by contacting Family Readiness for programs available to families of deployed members. You need to make sure your family fully understands what you are volunteering for.

The next step is to obtain approval from your supervisor, unit deployment manager and commander. If approved your UDM will have you fill out a Deployment Volunteer Form.

Once the DVR is vetted, your UDM will then get in touch with the Reserve Deployment Readiness Cell, to begin searching for any available TDY's.

Air Force Reserve Command publishes deployment opportunities under the "opportunities" tab within ARCNet. You are encouraged to review this spreadsheet to get an idea of what deployment opportunities are available.

Your Career Field Functional Area Manger also has information on deployment opportunities. Work through your supervisor to contact your FAM.

If you are selected for a deployment ensure you maintain contact with your UDM at all times. Your UDM should be the first person you contact for any questions or problems related to your deployment.

If you feel you are no longer eligible to deploy because of a profile, health issues, skill level or clearance revocation, you must notify your UDM and supervisor immediately.

If you have any questions about deployment volunteering contact your squadron UDM.

## INSPECTOR GENERAL

Once an IG complaint has been made to the appropriate office it goes through the Complaints Resolution Process.

There are three phases to the CRP, all of which must be completed within 180 days of the initial complaint. Phase 1 of the CRP includes first contact and taking the complainant's information. The IG who took the complaint then has 20 days to conduct an initial analysis of the complaint and will make a decision to proceed in one of five ways. The IG may:

**Transfer the case to another IG.** This will happen if the subject of the complaint is in a different command than the IG receiving the complaint. This could also be the outcome here in the 477th, with the transfer going to AFRC/IG, due to the absence of a full-

time local 477th IG.

**Assist the complainant.** This simply means the IG may be able to help the individual resolve the issue.

**Refer the complaint to a more appropriate agency.** This may include the members chain of command, EO, or JA.

**Dismiss the complaint.** If the complaint is without merit or more than 60 days after the alleged wrongdoing.

**Investigate the complaint.** The complaint will proceed into phase 2 (Investigation) and phase 3 (Quality Review) for this option only.

Phase 2 is limited to 64 days, and phase 3 may take up to 87 days.

To make an IG complaint contact Lt. Col. Steve Johnson at 551-5477 or in room 222 of the 477 FG HQ building during UTA weekends.





## 477th FG Night at the Aces

Mark your calendars, Saturday March 10 will be the 477th night at the Alaska Aces hockey game!

Tech Sgt. Heidi Dickinson, 477th FSS, will be singing the national anthem and Lt. Col. David Piffarerio, 302nd FS commander, will be dropping the puck.

Come out to support the unit and the Alaska Aces against the Colorado Eagles.

Game starts at 7:15 p.m. at the Sullivan Arena



## Things Aren't Always As They Appear

Who's asking questions about your critical information?



You "DO" OPSEC  
[www.opsecprofessionals.org](http://www.opsecprofessionals.org)

## "... and now a note from our financial sponsors"

by 477th FG Financial Management Office

### AROWS-R Access

All users are reminded that once CAC access to the Air Force Reserve Orders Writing System is established, accounts cannot be switched back to the user name and password methodology. For those that are CAC-enabled, please choose the DOD CA-## certificate, and not the DOD EMAIL CA-## certificate.

**Controlled spend account:** CSA is a new travel card concept to replace the existing government travel card. The CSA program is being implemented by the regular Air Force. AFRC units will not use CSA until AFRC and SAF complete a test and implementation plan. Specific dates for AFRC implementation have not been set. Till then, AFRC units will continue to use the GTC. CSA cardholders who join reserve units will use their CSA cards and cannot revert to GTC.

**Leave on non-duty days:** For leave starting on a non-duty day, the day of departure shall be charged as a day of leave. For leave ending on a non-duty day, the day of return shall not be charged as a day of leave.

# Award Winners

## 2011 Fourth Quarter Award winners

Airman of the Quarter  
Senior Airman Marren D. Clay, 477th AMXS

Non-Commissioned Officer of the Quarter  
Tech. Sgt. James D. Scott, 477th MXS

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Quarter  
Master Sgt. Joseph M. Ruiz, 477th AMXS

Civilian of the Quarter Category II  
GS-9 Kanya Briner, 477th FSS

Company Grade Officer of the Quarter  
Capt. Ashley E. Conner, 477th FG

## 2011 Annual Award Winner

Airman of the Year  
Senior Airman Scott H. McKinnis, 477th MXS

Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year  
\*Master Sgt. Shanna N. Perry, 477th FSS

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year  
Master Sgt. Hiram E. Gunter Jr., 477th FSS

Civilian of the Year Category II  
GS-9 Kanya Briner, 477th FSS

Armed Services YMCA Reservist of the Year  
Senior Airman Nathan Barnett, 477th CES

Company Grade Officer of the Year  
Capt. Christopher B. Castaneda, 477th FSS

\* Editors note: Master Sgt. Shanna Perry was recently promoted from technical sergeant to master sergeant

# Re-enlistments

Tech. Sgt. Ryan Dillon 477th CES

Staff Sgt. James Kukuk 477th MXS

# Promotions

From A1C to Senior Airman Shelby Loop, 477th MXS

From Master Sgt. to Senior Master Sgt. Robert Braesch, 477th MXS

From Airman 1st Class to Senior Airman Jonathan Capua, 477th CES

From Airman 1st Class to Senior Airman Noel Magcalas, 477th FSS

From Airman Basic to Airman Courtney Higley, 477th AMDF

From Senior Airman to Staff Sgt. James Martiny, 477th AMXS

From Senior Airman to Staff Sgt. Cody Watson, 477th AMXS

From Airman 1st Class to Senior Airman Joshua Baker, 477th AMXS

From Staff Sgt. to Tech. Sgt. Klickatat Clark, 477th AMXS



# NEWS BRIEFS

## Dining Facilities Re-opened

The Iditarod Dining Facility has reopened and the Kenai is the flight line dining facility once again.

### Iditarod Dining Facility Hours:

Monday - Friday 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday, & Holidays 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Midnight Meal 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.

If you have any questions contact Master Sgt. Bryan Nicolos at 551-7269.

## HERO 2 HIRED

Searching for a new job is a big undertaking. H2H makes it quick and easy for all Reserve Component members to find jobs with military-friendly companies. H2H has the tools and resources you need to find job -- all in one place, all free. Visit [www.H2H.jobs](http://www.H2H.jobs) today and find your next job!

## Marriage Maintenance Class

You tune up your car every 30,000 miles, why not your relationship? Marriage PREP classes run for six weeks from 6-8 p.m.

May class: 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24

Sept. class: 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27

With just a little "elbow grease" you can improve your communication and enjoy a closer relationship with your partner! To register call 552-4943 or 580-2181.

## DBIDS registration

Every individual possessing an ID card must get registered in the DBIDS systems by either visiting the Pass and ID office in the People Center or the Visitors Center outside the Boniface gate. Those of you who have not registered will be directed to the Visitors Center to register. This includes dependent ID cardholders as well.



Do you have a supportive civilian boss? Nominate them for the **Patriot Award!**

To submit an application visit: <http://www.esgr.org/forms.asp?p=patriot>

## Chapel Schedule

9 a.m. - Liturgical Service  
10:15 a.m. - Catholic Service  
11:30 a.m. - Contemporary Christian Service

Questions call Maj. Travers @ 551-7265

## Fur Rondy

Are you interested in participating in Fur Rondy events like the Grand Parade, Outhouse Race or Running with the Reindeer? Contact Chief Master Sgt. Tim Zellar at 551-2980 to sign up to be on a 477th FG team

## Redtail Review Feedback

The Redtail Review is the newsletter of the 477th FG. As a member of the unit you have a say in what goes in it! If there are things you would like to see more (or less of) email your suggestions to: [477fg.pa@elmendorf.af.mil](mailto:477fg.pa@elmendorf.af.mil)