

# RED TAIL REVIEW

Vol. 7 No. 3 March 2014  
477th Fighter Group



Experienced  
Airmen  
Wanted



# Commanders Comments



The March UTA is upon us. Thank you all for being here this weekend as we continue to mature the 477th Fighter Group.

We have two major challenges in the next six months to a year. The first is our upcoming inspection under the new Air Force Inspection System. The great challenge is that we are generating a new program with new methods of exercising, testing, evaluating and documenting our efforts toward being fully ready. This new system is a better way for us to go about doing the nation's business of being ready for our combat missions. It allows us to focus on training for our jobs instead of prepping just for an inspection. We have a lot of work to do, but we are making great progress.

The second challenge is filling our manning document. As you may recall our mission is to "Provide air dominance through mission ready Airmen." The training I mentioned above is critical to the course, but the most critical to that effort is the word "Airmen." We have vacancies in many career fields that we simply must fill. While recruiters focus on filling vacancies as a full time task, every Reservist

is a recruiter. When a unit member brings a person to the recruiting staff, 80% of the time that person joins the Reserve. This is over four times better than the gain rate of those people that don't have any connection to the unit. I ask you to keep our vacancies in mind as you go about your everyday lives. Let people know that if they want to serve, stay in Alaska, and earn the available benefits, we are here and have opportunities for people to do just that. We cannot be successful without people to perform our mission. As I have said before, you are the mission.

Thanks again for your service. Be safe and have a great UTA weekend.

Respectfully  
Col Otten



**Red Tail Review  
Editorial Staff**

Commander

**Col. Tyler Otten**

Public Affairs

**Capt. Ashley Conner**

**Tech. Sgt. Dana Rosso**



# Experienced Airmen wanted: continue to serve with the Reserve

By Master Sgt. Shawn J. Jones

Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service

## **JOINT BASE ELMENDORF RICHARDSON,**

**Alaska** -- Force management programs will push many Airmen out of their full-time active-duty positions, but that doesn't mean they have to give up the retirement plan or the other hard-earned benefits they had come to expect.

Transitioning into the Air Force Reserve allows Airmen to continue to serve their country while providing benefits such as tuition assistance, the Post 9-11 G.I. Bill, reduced-cost health insurance and the opportunity to continue working toward a military retirement plan.

Airmen with active-duty experience are especially valuable to Reserve units because they already understand the Air Force culture and don't require as much training as an inexperienced recruit.

Experienced Airmen do not repeat basic military training, and those who remain in the same career field do not require technical school training.

"When regular Air Force Airmen transition into the Reserve, everyone wins," said Lt. Gen. James F. Jackson, commander of Air Force Reserve Command. "We are doing our absolute best to retain as many of these fine Airmen and our investment in them."

"The Airmen retains the benefits of continued service, the Reserve gets experienced Airmen who can contribute immediately and the nation retains a valuable asset for national security," Jackson added.

Airmen who are ready to separate don't have to wait until their original enlistment or com-

mission is complete. The Palace Chase program enables Airmen to separate from their active enlistment or commission as long as they continue their service with the Reserve Component.

Airmen should be aware the recruiting process is somewhat different from when they joined the active-duty Air Force. Having experience is helpful, but Airmen must work with a recruiter to find the best positions.

"Reserve units love fully qualified Airmen who can hit the ground running," said Col. Steve Fulaytar, commander of the Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service. "But finding the best positions for new recruits takes time, so they can help themselves by contacting a Reserve recruiter as soon as possible."

The in-service recruiter at Joint Base Elmendorf/Richardson is Master Sgt. John Venable, who may be reached at (907)-552-3595. More information is available at [www.afreserve.com](http://www.afreserve.com) and [www.facebook.com/airforcere-serve](http://www.facebook.com/airforcere-serve).



# Fighter Group Highlights

## Newcomers

Welcome the following Airmen to the 477 FG Family

Senior Airman Karl Coulombe	477 MXS
Senior Airman William Egeberg	477 MXS
Senior Airman Jessica Mayer	477 FSS
Staff Sgt. Robert Bloom	477 CE
Staff Sgt. Sarah Goodman	477 FSS
Staff Sgt. Franz Martinez	477 FSS
Maj. Traci Wallace	477 SFS

## Promotions

Take a look at who is flashing new rank...

Senior Airman Amechia Ferguson	477 FSS
Tech. Sgt. Justin Woolverton	477 OSF
Tech. Sgt. James Martiny	477 AMXS
Master Sgt. Stephen Malanaphy	477 CES
Master Sgt. Chris Burgan	477 MXS

## ABOVE 90

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST SCORES

### 302nd FS

Maj. Chad Newkirk  
Lt. Col. Brett Paola

### 477th AMDF

Tech. Sgt. Amanda Barlow  
Tech. Sgt. Shaun Robison  
Maj. Bradford Allen

### 477th CES

Senior Airman Gregory Gallagher  
Maj. Jeffery Kreofsky

### 477th AMXS

Tech. Sgt. Andrew Eichorst  
Senior Airmen Jermaine James

The 477th Fighter Group Top III will be meeting on Sunday March 2, in the 90th Conference room at 1400.

See Senior Master Sgt. John McClain or one of the other board members for more details.

## A few Words from the Air Force Reserve Recruiters

The Active Duty FY 14 Force Management program is in full swing here at JBER. Please help out by referring any of the Active Duty Airmen in your workcenter, who might have questions about the Palace Chase/Palace Front or VSP programs to Master Sgt. John Venable, he can be reached at 552-3595.



Continue to make the 477th Fighter Group grow by referring the people you would like to work alongside. You know what it takes to be in the Air Force Reserve. Refer friends and family through the Get1Now program.

[www.get1now.us](http://www.get1now.us)

Contact Master Sgt. Michelle Shutler at 333-8723

# Fiscal Fitness

**DTS TRAVEL AUTHORIZATIONS:** 477 FG travelers must not create travel authorizations for themselves in the Defense Travel System. AFTER an order is published, AROWS-R exports information to DTS to create the travel authorization. DTS sends an email to the traveler with instructions for accessing DTS and completing the authorization to include making flight arrangements in DTS. This process is exclusive to all AF Reserve travelers, so our TDY travelers should ensure the email address posted in DTS is one they have access. Questions should be directed to unit Organizational Defense Travel Administrators.

**REPLACEMENT OF WORN OUT UNIFORM ITEMS:** Military members must not buy uniform items for themselves with the intent of getting reimbursed. Unit clothing purchasers are the only individuals authorized to purchase uniforms for members.

**TDY LODGING RECEIPTS:** When you return from TDY, submit a travel voucher within 5 days. Lodging receipts must show a zero balance as a final bill. If you prepay day before leaving lodging, that receipt may show a negative balance and the Air Force Financial Services Center will not recognize it as a valid receipt for reimbursement. Bottom line: get a lodging receipt on the day you check out, and attach it to your travel voucher.





# NEWS BRIEFS

## Fisher House

Members of the 477th SFS will be giving their time to help on 5 March to make dinners for guests at the Alaska Fisher House. There are dates available for your squadron to step up and help out too. We are looking to fill in the calendar, as of right now we still have July and August through December that we need to fill.

Please talk to your First Sgt. for information as to how you can help.

## FOOD DRIVE

The 477th Force Support Squadron is holding a Food Drive from March 1- May 5, to benefit the Alaska Food Bank.

Items needed include but are not limited to:  
Canned fruit, vegetables and soup; Pasta;  
Rice; Oatmeal; and Dried Beans.

All questions and donations shall be directed to Senior Airman Amechia Ferguson located in the Communications Flight. Please don't forget that every food donation helps in the fight against hunger – no matter how small or large!

## Chapel Schedule

9a.m. - Liturgical Service, Chapel 2

10:30 a.m.- Catholic Mass, Chapel 1

11:30 a.m. - Contemporary Christian Service, Chapel 2

Questions call Lt. Col. Pat Travers @ 551-7265

## PT TESTING

Members will complete all components of the PT test in Hangar 5. Wear official PT gear, hand carry workout shoes, bring your ID card and arrive 15 minutes before testing time.

## 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) e-mail your suggestions to: [477fg.pa@us.af.mil](mailto:477fg.pa@us.af.mil)



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