

ANGEL'S WINGS ONLINE

920TH RESCUE WING

OCTOBER 2018



Reserve Citizen Airmen from the 920th Rescue Wing were awarded with the Air Force Association Outstanding Unit Award Sept. 18, 2018 during the annual Air, Space & Cyberspace Conference opening and awards ceremony at the at the Gaylord Natonal Resort and Convention Center in National Harbour, Maryland. The wing was recognized for its outstanding rescue efforts and holistic award-winning accomplishments throughout the year, which include supporting multiple rocket launches, air shows, hurricane relief efforts while supporting a multitude of deployments and homecomings. (Courtesy photo) 

News & Features



U.S. AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE TO FINALIZE REVIEW PROCESS FOR NON-DEPLOYABLE AIRMEN

Until the updated policy guidance is complete in late 2018, Airmen who have been non-deployable for 12 consecutive months and their commanders will continue to follow existing procedures.



FLORIDA AIR FORCE RESERVE WING PREPARES FOR HURRICANE MICHAEL RESPONSE

Air Force Reservists with the 920th Rescue Wing started preparing to launch search-and-rescue missions in response to Hurricane Michael Oct. 10. The 920th RQW will remain on standby until called into action in the aftermath of the storm.



SCOBEE ASSUMES COMMAND OF AFRC

He is a command pilot with more than 3,800 flying hours in the F-16 Fighting Falcon, including 248 combat hours. Prior to his current assignment, General Scobee, was the Deputy Commander, Air Force Reserve Command.

Notes of Interest

OCT COMMANDERS CALL CANCELLED

Col. Kurt Matthews, 920th Rescue Wing commander, cancelled the October 14 Commander's Call due to the liberal reschedule in place for the drill weekend because of the impact Hurricane Michael may have on 920th Rescue Wing Airmen. The Commander's Call will be rescheduled to 4 November at 1430. Members are expected to be in place NLT 1415.

WINGMAN DAY - OCT 14

This year's theme will be "Breaking Barriers by Capitalizing on Strengths" with an emphasis on the importance of utilizing personal strengths to overcome barriers in a person's life.

The goals of "Capitalizing on Strengths" are to identify personal strengths, find opportunities to use those strengths, spot strengths in others and work through barriers capitalizing on strengths. When these goals are accomplished barriers are no longer an issue and the skill of identifying strengths in others support the AF mission-ready Airman.

CIVILIAN COMMANDER'S CALL OCT 24

Col. Kurt Matthews, 920th Rescue Wing commander, will be hosting a Civilian Commander's Call on October 24 at 1400 in the Base Theater.

CHILD CARE PROVIDERS NEEDED

The Family Child Care (FCC) Program is looking for individuals who wish to be child care professionals and to supplement their income. The FCC staff will train and help you provide responsible, safe, in-home care for children ages 2 weeks to 12 years old. For more information, contact the FCC Coordinator at 321-494-8381 or stop by the FCC office located in the Child Development Center on base.

AFRC ACCEPTING MANDATORY SEPARATION DATE AND HIGH YEAR OF TENURE EXTENSION REQUESTS

Currently, the Air Force Reserve MSD/HYT program limits participation for enlisted Traditional Reservists, Individual Mobilization Augmentees and Active Guard Reserve Airmen.

Officer MSDs are determined based on grade, while not to exceed 30 years of creditable service. Enlisted members HYT is established for 33 years or age 60, whichever date is earlier. In addition, members serving as Air Reserve Technicians are limited to 33 years of creditable service for military pay or the date eligible for an unreduced civil service retirement, whichever date is later - not to exceed age 60.

For more information, contact your servicing Force Support Squadron and visit the myPers website.

BOSS LIFT INFO & FORM - SEE PG 6, 7

FOLLOW THE
920TH RQW
ONLINE 



Rescue Wing Pararescuemen train University of Florida Men's Swim Team



Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Kelly Goonan

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – Pararescue Airmen from the 308th Rescue Squadron spent several hours with the University of Florida Men's Swim Team, Sept. 28, giving them a taste of what it takes to become one of the Air Force Reserve's elite Guardian Angel Airmen.

The Guardian Angel is a human weapons system made up of a three Air Force specialties that serve as the only operators specifically trained as rescue specialists in the DoD. They are the pararescueman, the SERE or survival specialist (Search, Evasion, Resist, Escape) and the Combat Rescue Officer (CRO).

Guardian Angels tested the swimmers endurance and teamwork skills while putting them through various rigorous physical activities to include litter carries, team push-ups, buddy carries, sprints and other drills, while their Air Force instructors shouted motivational commands.

Today's event marked the second time the men's swim team trained with the Patrick Pararesue team.

"There was a huge impact on our team the last time we were here," said Stephen Jungbluth, UF Men's Swim Team associate head coach. "You could see leaders developing into better and stronger leaders and the men coming together as one."

Jungbluth went on to say that the PJs (pararescuemen) know team leadership better than anybody on the planet and for his team to have the opportunity to come to the base and learn from them has been invaluable.



Anthony Nesty, UF Men's Swim Team head coach and former gold medal Olympian, explained that he wanted his team to come back for this training because of its impact on them the first time they trained with the PJs in 2013. After their training day with the PJs, the men's swim team went on to win their first South Eastern Conference title and hasn't lost since.

Coach Nesty won the gold in the 1988 Olympics in the 100-meter butterfly representing Suriname, which lies on the Atlantic coast of South America. He was the first male athlete from UF to win an Olympic gold medal and Suriname's first-ever Olympic medalist. He earned the bronze in the same race four years later at the Barcelona Olympic Games and many other accolades.

The 308th RQS is part of the 920th Rescue Wing, the only Air Force Reserve Rescue unit, which is comprised of approximately 2,000 Airmen and 3 geographically separated units—Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona; Portland, Ore; Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia.



'PJ Rodeo' Tests for the 'Best PJ'

By 2nd Lt. Robert Guest

SAN ANTONIO -- More than 400 current and former pararescuemen, or PJs, and spectators gathered Sept. 17 to 21 for the 10th biennial PJ Rodeo, a chance for active-duty, Reserve and retired PJs to gather and compete in two-man teams for the title of "Best PJ," here.

"It's a competition that everyone takes seriously, but more importantly it's about being together and networking with other PJs and hearing about what's happening across the career field," said Staff Sgt. Dan Fowler, 304th Rescue Squadron pararescueman from Portland, Oregon, and PJ Rodeo competitor.

PJs are the only Department of Defense elite combat force specifically trained and equipped to conduct full spectrum personnel recovery operations.

In addition to the PJ Rodeo itself, there were also PJ reunion events throughout the week. One person who attended the PJ Rodeo primarily for the reunion was Steve Vassar, who was an Air Force PJ from 1967 to 1969. Vassar was medically discharged in 1969 and lost touch with people in the PJ community until he attended the PJ Rodeos. "There are four or five people here I haven't seen since the sixties," Vassar said, "But, meeting them here, it's like I just saw them yesterday."

The event is organized by the Pararescue Association, a non-profit organization which strives to provide an extended community for PJs and their families, preserve the PJ heritage and spirit of the career field, and commemorate the memory of all service members across the career field who have given their lives in the defense of freedom.

Local Air Force members were brought in as volunteers and to help coordinate events. Competitors journeyed from across the Air Force to take part in the event.

The PJ Rodeo does more than provide camaraderie and networking opportunities. It also serves as a source of additional training for competitors.

"We've been shooting and jumping and practicing our tactical medicine. Every time you do that stuff, you get better at it," said Staff Sgt. John Ansley, Fowler's teammate. "Later we'll all talk about how we went through each of these medical scenarios. The other teams are going to have different ideas and different techniques. I think there will be a lot to learn."

Winners were announced during an award ceremony Friday.

First place, earning the title of "Best PJ", are Staff Sgts. Brock Thomas and Roman Ramirez, 68th Rescue Squadron, Davis Monthan Air Force Base.

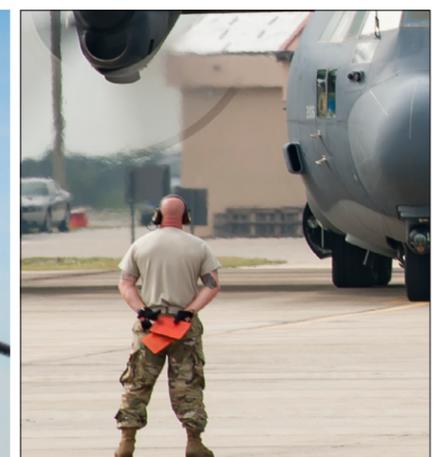
Second place are Staff Sgts. Daniel Fowl and Jonathan Ansley, 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland Oregon.

Third place are Tech. Sgt. Nicolas Robillard and Staff Sgt. Chris Sanders, 350th Battlefield Airmen Training Squadron, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

Team Rescue Ready for Hurricane Michael

Air Force Reservists with the 920th Rescue Wing sent out a surveillance team in order to launch search-and-rescue missions in response to Hurricane Michael Oct. 11.

The Air Force Reserve unit, which specializes in combat search and rescue, allocated aircraft, supplies and personnel in anticipation of Hurricane relief, but the need for the unit's capabilities was called off.



Photos by SrA Brandon Kalloo Sanes



Boss Flight Nomination December 1, 2018



Boss Flight Guidelines December 1, 2018



Use this form to nominate your civilian employer for a flight aboard a 920th RQW aircraft. All forms are due to the 920th Rescue Wing Public Affairs Office no later than **November 4, 2018**. **Employers should expect an all-day event** that will include meeting with base leadership, visiting the Reservist's work section, lunch on your own with your employer and an employer flight aboard a combat-search-and-rescue aircraft.

RESERVIST'S INFORMATION (Please type or print legibly)

Reservist's last name: _____ First name: _____

Rank: _____ Unit: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Most often checked Email Address:

EMPLOYER'S INFORMATION

Employer's full legal name as it appears on driver's license:
_____ Birthdate: _____

Driver's License number, issued state and expiration date ***If not a Florida license, please also provide social security number. All information is necessary for base access*):

Company Name: _____ Job title: _____

Company Address:

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Flown on military aircraft before? __ Yes __ No
If yes, what type(s)? _____

Aircraft preference (subject to availability): ____ HC-130P/N King **or** ____ HH-60G Pave Hawk
Choose only one aircraft

1. All flight nominations must be submitted on this form by **November 4, 2018**.
2. The day's activities will include a meet-and-greet with wing leadership, a wing briefing and mission video and a flight on either a HC-130P/N King or an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter. Only one aircraft flight per person. Open aircraft seats are based on flight availability. A flight time will be assigned. After the morning briefings, reservists will escort their civilian employer to their individual work center and have lunch on your own.
3. Although aircraft preference will be taken into account, placement will be based on aircraft availability.
4. Please email or bring the nomination form to the 920th Rescue Wing Public Affairs Office: **Headquarters Building - Bldg. 425, Rm. 1-201**
Email: **920rqwpa@us.af.mil**
5. Complete details on the day's event will be emailed once the final numbers are determined.
6. Only bona fide employers are congressionally approved to fly aboard military aircraft.
7. All communication regarding the day's itinerary will be sent via email correspondence. Please ensure to check your email and your employer check theirs. Since the emails will be sent in mass, be sure and check any spam filters which may automatically filter the emails.

Upcoming Yellow Ribbon Dates

Orlando, FL	December 14 - 16
Orlando, FL	January 11 - 13
Denver, CO	January 18 - 20
Orlando, FL	February 15 - 17
Costa Mesa, CA	March 22 - 24
Orlando, FL	March 29 - 31



Helping maintain resiliency during all stages of deployment is paramount to the morale and welfare of our Airmen and families. The Air Force Reserve Yellow Ribbon Program is a series of events designed to provide members and families with essential resources prior to departure (pre-deployment), a level of stability and support while deployed (during deployment), and successful re-integration techniques after the deployment cycle ends (post deployment).

Portland Pararescue **save two** from highest Washington Peak

Sept. 28, 2018—MT. RAINIER, Washington - At 10 a.m. Pacific Standard Time a mountain climbing guide leading an expedition to the state's highest summit, suffered a broken ankle in the vicinity of Disappointment Cleaver, which sits at approximately 13,000 feet, roughly 1,500 feet below the summit.

Within one hour, the National Park Service requested the advanced technical rescue capabilities of the 304th Rescue Squadron, a geographically separated unit of the 920th Rescue Wing, out of Portland, Ore.

A team of 3 Reserve Citizen Airmen from the 304th RQS traveled to Joint Base Lewis-McChord to join forces with the Army National Guard's 2d Battalion, 135th Aviation Regiment.

While enroute, the rescue team learned of a second person injured in the process of moving the guide to a clearing for evacuation.

An Army 135th CH-47 Chinook helicopter crew airlifted the rescue team toward the injured guides.

At 3:18 p.m. one combat rescue officer and 2 pararescuemen executed hoist operations from the CH-47 and evacuated both patients without incident.



Courtesy photos

“920th RQW wins best wing in AFRC 2017”

Each year the Air Force Association is proud to honor the outstanding achievements of men and women throughout the United States Air Force, government, academia and the aerospace industry. The Association presents the awards at local AFA chapter and regional forums and during the Air, Space & Cyber Conference in the Washington, D.C. area.

Nominations for AFA national aerospace awards are solicited from the United States Air Force, members and leaders of AFA, the aerospace industry, and U.S. citizens or organizations which have a deep interest in aerospace activities.

UNITED STATES  AIR FORCE RESERVE

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION UNIT AWARD

The 920th Rescue Wing at Patrick Air Force Base Florida, with geographically separated units 943rd Rescue Group at Davis Monthan, Arizona, the 304th Rescue Squadron at Portland, Oregon, and the 920th Aeromedical Squadron at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia led the Air Force Reserve Command in 2017 for mission focus and readiness. The wing exercised in KEEN SWORD, VIGILANT ACE, NEPTUNE FALCON, TRIDENT-17, MOBILITY GUARDIAN, and RED FLAG. Further, the wing hosted the fifth annual MEDBEACH joint medical exercise for Critical Care Aerial Transport which created the most realistic training scenarios for that mission. Working with STRATCOM Detachment Three, the wing's Guardian Angel units developed full mission profiles for Human Space Flight capsule rescue tactics, techniques and procedures validating C-17 open ocean pararescue employment. Meanwhile 261 Citizen Airmen from the wing deployed simultaneously to three Areas of Responsibility, providing 24/7 Combat Search and Rescue coverage in support of counter-extremism and counter-Islamic State of Iraq operations, logging over two thousand five hundred and eighty seven flying hours in the HH-60G Pavehawk helicopter and nine hundred and four hours in the HC-130H legacy King aircraft. Additionally, the wing deployed ninety five members and five aircraft after Hurricane Harvey decimated Texas and rescued 235 people and 26 pets. Immediately following Harvey, the wing evacuated Patrick Air Force Base from the path of Hurricane Irma while concurrently prepositioning 103 members and six aircraft for rescue efforts in the wake of the storm. The wing's rescue force accomplished multiple mountain top rescues on Mount Hood, Oregon while saving lives on two separate missions in the Atlantic Ocean more than five hundred nautical miles off shore. On 17 July 2017, the wing executed its first open-water paradrop to a sinking vessel in sixteen years, saving the lives of two German citizens and strengthening our international partnership with our ally. The 920th Rescue Wing truly embodies the rescue motto, “These Things We Do That Others May Live.”