ROBINS Rev Up

Vol. 48 No. 43 | Friday, October 31, 2003 | Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

What's Inside

Move'em in, move'em out

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News You can use

Halloween events

Robins trick or treat
The base's official trick or treat hours are 5:30 to 8:30 tonight.

Haunted House
The 8th annual 19th AMXS/MXS Haunted House is today and Saturday, 6 p.m. - midnight, at the American Legion on Watson Boulevard. Cost is $6 for adults and $4 for children under 12. Proceeds will benefit the Hospice of Houston County.

Bowling Center
Come dressed in a Halloween costume today for Thunder Alley glow-in-the-dark bowling and bowl for half price.

Civilian Recreation
Bingo participants who wear their scariest costume or something with a Halloween theme at the Halloween bingo with civilian recreation today at the base restaurant will receive a free jackpot card. Door prizes and higher payouts will be awarded.

Enlisted Club
The enlisted club will hold a Halloween party tonight from 7 to midnight with entertainment by DJ Bill. Activities will include a costume, karaoke and lip sync contests. Cash and other prizes will be given away.

Officers' Club
The Wellston is slated to have a Halloween party tonight from 6 - 9. Activities will include a costume contest and door prizes. Hors d' oeuvres will be served.

Force briefings Wednesday, Thursday

The Force Development briefing team is coming to Robins.

Total Force Development is helping to transform the Cold War structure into an Air and Space Expeditionary Force. Force Development links education, training, experiences, promotions and assignment policies and programs to force requirements and institutional needs.

The development briefings are Wednesday, 2 p.m. (AFMC, AFRC, AMC officers) and Thursday, 8 a.m. (ACC and all others) at the Base Theater.

It is mandatory for officers to attend the briefings, and their supervisors are encouraged to attend.

For more information about the Robins briefings, contact 2nd Lt. Ryan Stebbins at 327-7344 or Oya Harrison at 327-7317.

– From staff reports

Martin lauds Center's efforts

By Lanorris Askew
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Martin

During a two-day visit to Robins Air Force Base Oct. 28 and 29, Gen. Greg Martin, Air Force Materiel Command commander, learned a little bit about how the Center and its people operate. During his stay he met with senior leadership, received an update on the Center's journey through Lean, toured facilities and conducted a commander's call.

Q. Coming from USAFE, you saw the end result of the supply and logistics network provided by the Robins work force. How did this experience enhance your understanding of AFMC and in particular, Robins?

A. All of the major commands in the United States and overseas that are flying and conducting operational missions depend heavily every day on the products of Air Force Materiel Command. You know, whenever we

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INSIDE

Martin shares philosophy with Robins

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Corrosion controllers

U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Maj. Daniel Bullock, Air Force Corrosion Prevention and Control Office chief, holds up a piece of sheet metal to illustrate the effects of corrosion.

Taking a bite out of grime

By Lanorris Askew
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An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. But Maj. Daniel Bullock says that ounce may also be worth billions of dollars to the Department of Defense.

Heading the team that deals with this most vile enemy of the Air Force fleet, Bullock helps implement ways to defeat the silent stalker that costs the Air Force more than $1 billion a year - corrosion.

Bullock and his 13-member team in the Air Force Corrosion Prevention and Control Office are responsible for the corrosion maintenance program Air Force wide.

"While we aren't the researchers who invent the new technologies or develop the new materials, we are responsible for taking those materials and processes, evaluating them, incorporating them into the technical orders and getting them out into the field for the maintainers to use," said Bullock

Making sure this takes place is a team composed of government employees and contractors, materials and chemical engineers, technicians, and people with mechanical backgrounds.

"Many of our staff are prior enlisted who have retired," said Bullock. "We also have two senior NCO's who have spent their careers as corrosion and structural maintainers. Each of the people in the office has their own strengths and benefits."

Bullock said having chief and senior master sergeants on staff who have done the work and can speak the language of the enlisted troops at the field level gives an insight and a foot in the door with that community.

According to a recent study of the Air Force wide cost of corrosion maintenance a

Please see **GRIME, 2A**

What to know

Corrosion is the degradation of a material due to exposure to its environment.

A decidedly better message

Wetekam gives Center high marks in State of the Center Address

By Geoff Janes
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Wetekam

Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam, Center commander, gave Robins' fiscal year performance high marks when he delivered his State of the Center Address during seven sessions in Hangar 89 last week.

The commander outlined the same seven areas he discussed in last year's briefings, but the results were "decidedly better." Out of those seven areas, Wetekam rated five as green, or the best, while only rating two as yellow, and none as red - the lowest ranking.

Last year, he rated the base with three good scores, three middle scores and one poor rating.

Supporting the war effort

Before going into the seven rated areas, the general gave an overview of the Center's

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Inspections aim to keep kids safe

By Holly J. Logan
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Of the 40 child car seats inspected at the Car Seat Check here Oct. 24, only six were correctly installed - a statistic not surprising to Sharon Lowe.

The annual event, sponsored by Robins' Family Advocacy Office and the Houston County Coalition of Safe Kids, was held in the Child Development Center parking lot. Safe Kids is a local group dedicated to the prevention of unintentional injury of children.

According to Lowe, Family Advocacy program assistant and certified child passenger safety technician, 2003 National Safe Kids statistics show that four out of five child car seats are improperly installed - making

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What to know

Parents may contact the following people at these locations to have their child's car seats and booster seats checked for proper installation: Sharon Lowe or Yvonne Fisk at Robins' Family Advocacy Office in Building 700 at 327-8430, Fire Chief Frank Wadsworth at the Centerville Fire Department at 953-4050, or Melanie Elliott at the Extension Office in Perry at 987-2028.

U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Staff Sgt. Tiffany Trice gets 2-year-old Taylor's car seat checked at the Car Seat Check Oct. 24.

Robins 3-day forecast
Courtesy of 78th OSS/OSW

Today	Saturday	Sunday
Partly cloudy and warm	Partly cloudy and warm	Partly cloudy and warm
82/48	82/50	80/52

What's inside

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GRIME

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staggering figure emerged. Not including training costs, readiness and other intangible items, the cost for 2001 was $1.14 billion.

"That's the scope of the problem," said Bullock. "And anything we can do to address that problem by even a few percent would have a huge benefit cost wise to the Air Force."

Flying aircraft, some of which are 40 years old, makes corrosion a very real issue.

"Everything is corroding to some degree or another," said Bullock. "We have a number of very old airframes including B-52s and KC-135s that are about 40 years old. We are dealing with corrosion on aircraft that weren't ever intended to fly that long."

It's not always the age of an aircraft that causes corrosion to sneak in, sometimes it's location, location, location.

Forward deployed aircraft, which are mostly in dry environments like Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan or Iraq, are victims of their environment.

"What we found is the sand and dust penetrate the aircraft and can become a way of absorbing or retaining moisture," said Bullock.

He said while the corrosion may not be an immediate concern in the deployed environment, it becomes a concern later on in the lifecycle of the aircraft.

"Plus the erosion effects of the sand are a concern to us because it damages the paint system and the coatings."

Ultimately corrosion is not a concern just because it's unsightly or the huge cost.

"The ultimate reason we care about corrosion is its effect on the structural integrity of the aircraft or the other system, which not only becomes a mission readiness concern but a safety concern," Bullock said. "We don't want to hurt people we want to still be able to accomplish our mission and corrosion can damage that capability. We are trying to look out for Air Force interests but also help the DoD as a whole and be a part of that team."

MESSAGE

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performance during the past year, and commented strongly about performance during the war with Iraq.

"First and foremost, the most important thing we did this year was help the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. military fight and win a major conflict in Iraq," he said. "Everyone in here - by virtue of the fact that you are part of this Center - contributed in some way, shape or form to the accomplishment of that mission.

"That's why we're here at the Center," he continued. "We're part of the U.S. military operation, and we're part of the U.S. military infrastructure. Our job is to fight and win the nation's wars. That's what we do; that's why we exist."

Wetekam pointed out that Robins had surged 18 aircraft, filled more than 68,000 source of supply and source of repair items, made modifications to HH-60 helicopters and deployed more than 1,600 people to the Middle East.

"Everything that we were asked to do, every requisition that we were asked to fill on a priority basis, we came through," he said. "And it showed in the operation over there."

Robins processed more than 19,000 soldiers and airmen and more than 6,200 tons of equipment to and from the Middle East - including most of the Army's 3rd Infantry Division from Fort Stewart, Ga.

"We're not an aerial port here, but the (78th) Air Base Wing performed pretty much like we were," he said. "Even though we don't have the manning or the equipment to support that type of operation, they did it. They did it because it was their duty, and they did it extremely well."

Due date performance a concern

Wetekam said that of all the areas he was grading, due date performance was the only area that slipped back during the year. Even so, there were successes in the area.

"All total for the year, we were about 51 percent on time," he said. "That's not where we want to be, but there's some better news embedded. First off, C-5s improved this year, C-141s improved this year and C-17s had 100 percent on-time delivery. (The C-130 employees) pretty much held their own, but the issue for us really was in the F-15s."

The F-15 tends to drive due-date performance because it constitutes half of the work performed here.

F-15 due date performance was expected to be down because of changes to the production process.

"We got rid of 24 identical docks that used to all compete for the same parts and tools," he said. "We went to eight individual cells… We've had some starts and stops; we've had some setbacks, but overall we've made a lot of progress. You can see that in the last couple of months, due date has improved and it has improved because the F-15 (line) has improved considerably in that time. We've gotten most of the backlog out and I think we're in solid shape as we go into fiscal year 2004."

Most improved: Financial Performance

Financial performance had the greatest rate increase - it was rated as poor during last year's briefings.

Wetekam said the financial performance of the Center failed to reach its target for all of fiscal year 2002, finishing up $51 million shy of where it should have been. This year was a different story.

"The idea here is that you want your profit or loss to track on or above the target," he said. "Well you can say we reversed (last year's performance) 180 (degrees). We not only met our target, we exceeded it to the tune of $90 million. This is tied to a lot of things but it's tied first and foremost to productivity."

270,000 hours above target

"A year ago, we finished 110,000 hours below target," Wetekam said of the Center's production hours. "That is, we underachieved by 110,000 hours."

He continued, saying the Center started this year on target, and finished 270,000 hours above target.

"This, in my mind, is the number one factor that went into our financial performance turn around - our ability to achieve our production targets," he said. "This was not a case of one area propping up another area - in other words, avionics carrying aircraft or aircraft carrying software or anything like that. Every division exceeded their targets. And within aircraft every single production line in aircraft exceeded their targets."

Yielding more performance

Prior to this year, yield performance, or "output per worker," had shown a downward trend during the past 10 years. During that time, the Center came down 100 hours in terms of total yield and about 130 hours in direct yield.

"This year, we turned it around," Wetekam said. "We improved our yield by 5.5 percent or 6.6 percent depending on whether you're talking about total or direct yield. Think about where we were a year ago, and think about what that says to people who evaluate the Center. Now think about how that data looks today. Think about how that will look a year from now if we can tack on another 5 or 6 percent improvement. We're capable of that."

Keeping an eye on quality

Quality is assessed two ways - aircraft and components. Wetekam said that in both areas the goal is to stay below the target. The Center was able to do so in both areas.

"Quality counts," he said. "We're doing pretty well there, but we need to continue in this area. I think we're on solid ground but we need to keep our eye on the ball."

"A matter of human dignity"

"I've been fairly open and honest that I think this is a major problem that faces us," Wetekam said. "I, for one, am not happy, am not satisfied with the human relations climate in this Center. I hope that you're not satisfied with it either.

"We need to think about what type of environment we want to work in each and every day," he continued. "How do we want to be treated? And how do we treat each other? And that's what this is really all about. It's an indication of how much turmoil is in the work force. Turmoil robs us of our ability to do our mission, and that really is why this is important. It's a matter of human dignity."

Wetekam cited several partnering agreements the Center signed with the Local 987 American Federation of Government Employees in May along with the establishment of a center-wide diversity council as positive signs for the future. But at the same time he noted, "The hard work is still in front of us. We've laid the foundation, but the brick and mortar work is yet to come."

During last year's State of the Center Address, Wetekam pointed out that the ALC had more than 500 grievances. Based on the current rate, he said the base is expected to cut that number in half. He also said that unfair labor practice filings have been halved, and Equal Employment Opportunity complaints have shown significant reductions as well.

"This year, informal (EEO complaints) have been down a bit; that's good news," he said. "But formal complaints were down about 40 percent this year, and really it's the first downward trend we've had in five years. So, a lot of work to be done here, but there are some positive signs."

A word of thanks

Wetekam wrapped up his State of the Center Address with a simple message.

"As I walk around and talk to people, the one thing I hear a lot - too much - is, 'that's all well and good, but if someone could just tell me thanks once in a while...'" he said. "Well, I can't come out and shake every hand and tell you all thanks individually, but I do want to say we've had a good year. I appreciate your effort in that endeavor… Thank you for your efforts on behalf of our Center. Thank you on behalf of the United States Air Force, God bless you all."

> "First and foremost, the most important thing we did this year was help the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. military fight and win a major conflict in Iraq. Everyone in here - by virtue of the fact that you are part of this Center - contributed in some way, shape or form to the accomplishment of that mission."
>
> Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam
> Center commander

SAFE

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this year's turnout a success in her eyes.

"We had more people come out than we had expected," she said. "In fact, we stayed an extra 30 minutes to finish up. It was a great way for us to put a lot of concerned parents' minds at ease."

Child safety technicians were on hand to check car seats and to ensure children were properly secured in age-appropriate car seats.

"A lot of parents have improperly installed car seats and booster seats and don't even realize it," she said. "Eighty percent of car seats checked last year were installed incorrectly. As parents, it's our job to keep our kids safe. We're here to help parents."

Staff Sgt. Tiffany Trice, noncommissioned officer in charge for the 78th Civil Engineering Squadron's emergency work desk, said coming to the event put her mind at ease about her 2-year-old daughter, Taylor's, car seat.

"I think events like this are great for helping new parents like me," she said. "I don't ever want to be unsure about my baby's safety. I'm glad they have programs like this."

In addition to checking for proper installation, more than 10 new car seats were given to those whose car seats were damaged or recalled by manufacturing companies.

When used correctly, child restraints reduce the risk of infant deaths by 71 percent and 54 percent for children ages one to four, according to a National Safe Kids campaign study done from November 2001 through January 2002.

Lowe recommended that parents check their child's car seat periodically to make sure it's properly secured.

Michelle Martin, Houston County Health Department educator, echoed Lowe's remarks.

"Over the years, statistics show that children are less likely to be injured or killed if they're properly buckled up," she said. "Parents need to make sure they're getting the best car seats for their children. Make sure you read the car seat instructions and car manual. It should tell them how to secure it properly."

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U.S. Air Force photo by Phil Rhodes

Gen. Greg Martin addresses Robins' work force at a commander's call at the base theater Wednesday morning.

Martin shares philosophy with Robins' work force

Gen. Greg "Speedy" Martin said he's still learning the business of Air Force Material Command, but he is sure of one thing - how to lead and treat people.

The commander shared his philosophy in leadership with Robins' diverse work force during a standing-room-only commander's call at the base theater Wednesday morning.

Three things he learned from his squadron commander in 1978 have carried with him throughout his 33-plus year career.

"My commander told me as a new instructor pilot, 'you'll be teaching people to fly the finest fighter plane in the air - the F-15 Eagle.

"They don't know much about it. But I'm going to tell you as an instructor pilot there are three things you don't do. 1. Don't violate their sense of trust. 2. Don't violate their sense of dignity, and 3. Don't violate their sense of hope,'" Martin said to the military, civilian and contract employees gathered for the nearly two-hour session.

He covered a lot of ground, hoping to give Center employees an introspective look at the command's priorities. Among the items on Martin's initial focus list are the revised Program Executive Officer structure, science and technology integration, depot and supply management implications, attrition-based planning, force development and the command's role in Air Expeditionary Force deployment.

He ended the session by fielding a question on the new Air Force fitness plan, saying the Air Force is committed to make the facility investments necessary to allow more people to use fitness facilities.

He said the Air Force is working closely with the unions to find ways to allow civilians to achieve fitness goals as well.

In conclusion, he said his experience as a theater commander gave him first-hand knowledge of the impact that Robins and AFMC has on the war fighter.

He said people in the command haven't been given enough credit for the important role they play.

One of Martin's goals is to increase the Air Force's appreciation of the critical role this command has in achieving victory.

– From staff reports

Do you have a story idea? Contact the Rev-Up staff at 926-2137, or by e-mail at: *robins.rev-up@robins.af.mil*

Pharmacy institutes new dispensing system

Center Office of Public Affairs

A new automated dispensing system will be installed at Robins Nov. 17, completely changing the way prescriptions are filled at the 78th Medical Group pharmacy.

This change is taking place due to Department of Air Force efforts to standardize the prescription-filling process at all military pharmacies.

The new system, known as PharmASSIST, incorporates bar coding for all products.

According to 78th Medical Group officials, the system will reduce filling errors by requiring that each medication stock bottle be scanned before being added to the automated counting cell.

Prescription labels will also be scanned to release medication from the cell for dispensing into the patient's bottle.

The system makes a photocopy of each written prescription so that it may be brought to the computer screen at any time.

Quality assurance features provide multiple levels of security and maintain an electronic audit trail of all activity. Although these extra steps require a little more time to process each prescription, the procurement of this system will ensure the pharmacy maintains its high standard of care.

Another addition is the Pharmacy Data Transaction Service, which is a combined prescription database that monitors for interactions and overlaps of medications filled at military pharmacies, local TRICARE pharmacies, and the national mail-order pharmacy. This system also requires a little more time on each prescription to electronically check all of the other pharmacies.

Both of these new safety features require use of the base local area network computer system, therefore, LAN downtime will cause pharmacy downtime.

However, there is an alternative for refills if you have access to a government computer.

You are encouraged to visit the secure Web site for online refills of medications. Click on the refill icon and input your information, then check in at Window No.1 after 3 p.m. the next duty day. Active duty, retirees, and family members may use this system from a base computer. It will not work from home computers due to firewalls and security issues.

As these changes are being implemented to improve accuracy and patient safety, not speed, the pharmacy workers ask for patience.

Beyond the initial set-up and training on new equipment, a determination must be made on the best utilization of this new system. Other facilities have experienced wait time increases of up to two hours initially.

While your wait may be longer than you would like, accuracy is the most important factor.

Someone will be available in the pharmacy lobby during this transition phase to advise you of the current waiting time and provide any additional information needed.

MARTIN

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conduct a major operation such as Operation Allied Force or Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom, we expend an awful lot of our resources. Not only do we send a lot of people, we send a lot of things. And after an event like that, they are often not serviceable or require major refurbishment or procurement. Most of that activity comes though AFMC and our logistics centers such as Robins. We got first-rate support in everything we asked for. I am very proud of the F-15 force, but we have to remember it is a very old force. It first flew in 1972. I am very proud of our C-130s. In Europe we had among the oldest C-130s - some went back to 1963 - so, you can imagine the kinds of things that can go wrong with an airframe of that age.

Of course we also had the AMC aircraft coming through on a regular basis - the C-17s, C-5s and the C-141s. Our Air Force depended heavily on that airlift force and most of that force is sustained by the people here at Robins. Much of the bare-basing war reserve materiel that I was referring to is procured or refurbished here at Robins as well. Overall, I would tell you that as a user of the AFMC product I was a very satisfied customer.

Q. The C-17 depot repair mission comes at a time when there are more comprehensive public-private partnerships. Is there a blueprint or model that AFMC is using to keep the work force viable and the centers competitive in the bid for future workload?

A. I think the first and most important consideration is that we have found out in the last five years through three major wars is that we, in our organic depots, must have the ability to surge and handle a greater workload than is necessary during day-to-day operations. We've gone through a fairly significant series of studies over the years to develop what we call a core work force. In other words a work force that has special skills that we need under any circumstances and can't rely on outside help for. You might have it outside, you might be able to gain additional help but you need a core force to be able to do certain things that we can't necessarily depend on industry to provide.

Just a very simple example: There are an awful lot of engines similar to what we have on the KC-135 in the world, so there is a lot of technology and maintenance capability out there, but there aren't a lot of people who can maintain and do the engineering necessary for the F-100 engine, or for the F-110, or the new F-119 engine. So, there's a core capability that we in our organic depots must have available to work those problems in case there's a strike or some lay off plan in the civilian work sector. Additionally, we must have enough to be able to sustain a surge operation for a period of time before some of our civilian partners might be able to increase their workload. So, the first part of the question is do we have a good handle on what those requirements? I would say, "Yes we do." Now with respect to other workload, I think what you'll find is as you get into the partnerships, we will have capacity at places like Robins where other civilian workers could work, and therefore the work could be done, but it might not be done by Air Force civilians it could be done by our partner arrangements. And as long as we have our core force, and we keep them trained and vital, then the partnership arrangement will allow us to continue to use the capacity of our depots, but at the same time, not diminish our ability to respond in a serious contingency.

Q. A few years ago, Secretary of the Air Force James Roche said Robins was well on the way to becoming a world-class industrial complex. Since that time, the Center has made a tremendous investment in Lean and other process improvement initiatives. From your view, where is the Center in that journey to becoming world-class?

A. Anyone who can work on a C-5 that's 30 years old and get it back out flying is world-class already. But, that doesn't mean there isn't more that can be done to improve the processes and make them even more efficient. In the last year to take the C-5 flow days or the amount of time it takes to solve the C-5 issues during their visit to depot, from 330 days down to 176 days at the last count is certainly pursuing what I consider unprecedented levels of Lean improvements. And, it's an area that we should all be proud of. And the F-15, likewise, is in that process now that will be very exciting for the fighter force. So what Secretary Roche said was that we have the attitude, and we have the people, that we're on the route and doing the right things, and I think in the last year we have seen that. The first year ever to produce the number of C-5s that was required, a record year of 23. The avionics production has been magnificent, the F-15 line has been completely changed. They finished on their own, a Lean activity with respect to the C-141 even though they were on their way out. They still took it upon themselves to improve their processes and learn those techniques so they had prepared themselves to move into other parts of the Robins work force as fully qualified Lean engineers and Lean manufacturers. You'll never get 100 percent because there is always something you could do better, but I'd say anywhere over 50 percent is pretty important and Robins is probably near 80 percent along that journey.

Closing remarks - I haven't spent nearly enough time here – all in all, about a day – but, the attitude that I saw, the enthusiasm, the focus on trying to make their activities even more effective and productive, is most inspiring to me. I'd like the people at Robins to know that it was a great visit for me, an introduction of what they're doing for our Air Force that I am very proud of. The attitudes and dedication to producing the world's best aircraft is evident and obvious to the people who visit here and I am grateful for what they do.

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Robins takes health fair to flight line Monday

By Geoff Janes
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Ed Simms, a C-5 mechanic, was all smiles when his blood pressure screening results came up good to go during the Maintenance Directorate's flight line health fair in Hangar 81 Monday.

But as he made his way to the glaucoma screening table, he said it was his reason for coming that was making him smile more than anything.

"I came down here because it's free," he said. "That's the magic word isn't it? Free? This (glaucoma) test would cost me $45 downtown."

Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam, Center commander, said the health fair offered the employees a great opportunity.

"A healthy work force is essential," he said. "This health fair is a great way to get the word out to our people about how they can improve their health for themselves, for their families and for the Air Force. I'm very pleased with the way it was organized and with the turnout."

Donald Thompson, president of the Local 987, American Federation of Government Employees, said the health fair was significant because it offered employees a chance to "head off health issues" before they become problems.

U.S. Air Force photo by Geoff Janes

Ed Simms, flight line worker, gets his blood pressure checked at Monday's flight line health fair.

Michael Hubbard, C-5 flaps mechanic, who came to the health fair to have his blood pressure checked, agreed and said the event offered flight line employees a chance to take the guesswork out of their well-being.

"This is a great opportunity," he said. "It's preventive. Some of the guys down here don't always go to the doctor, so it's a chance for them to determine if they're well or not. You might have something wrong with you, and not even know it."

According to Steve Rogers, an F-15 hydraulic mechanic, it was good that the health fair was held on the flight line because in the past many of the employees haven't been able to go to the health fairs held in the Museum of Aviation. He also said that the health fair was in response to a mechanic who died as a result of high blood pressure earlier this year.

"We're trying to make sure (flight line employees) are healthy," he said. "We're expecting about 1,400 people to come down. If it saves one life, it's worth it."

Bridget Zimmerman, Robins Health and Wellness Center director, said that although the health fair was set up on a tight schedule, it was "a piece of cake."

"This one was easy to set up," she said. "We had to do it on real short notice, but all of the basics are there."

As for those basics, everything from back problems to blood pressure, glucose levels and foot problems were screened. Additionally, eye exams, cholesterol screenings and body fat analyses were conducted.

There were also informational booths concerning ergonomic work stations, smoking cessation and family insurance on display.

"I really enjoy doing health fairs on the flight line," Zimmerman said. "These guys are very receptive to what we tell them. It's effective."

Thompson said the health fair was effective in more than one way.

"This health fair is really important; it marks a new beginning in the relationship we have with MA to have a health fair right here on the flight line," Thompson said. "It's showing that management does care for the employees."

The health fair also had an added bonus - it allowed MA employees to get a jump start on their annual canned food drive. The directorate helps families during the holidays as well as contributing to other functions throughout the year.

By the numbers

- At least 25 percent of all those having their blood pressure taken had elevated readings. A few were very high.
- Two individuals needed to see a doctor.
- Numerous employees took the information on the base smoking cessation program.
- There were 10 occupational work station referrals.
- There were four who had high glucose readings and were encouraged to see their physician regarding further evaluations.
- 30 of the workers took advantage of having a Prostate Specific Antigen Test and their results will be sent directly to them.
- 25 percent of the employees had elevated cholesterol.
- More than 600 educational envelopes on prostate cancer and mammograms were distributed.

ROBINS BRIEFS

New number prefix

Along with the 926 and 327 telephone prefixes, Robins has added a new telephone prefix - 472.

MyPay news

Starting Feb. 1, leave and earning statements will not be printed and mailed for AFMC military members. MyPay PINs can be reset at the base Finance Customer Service window. Come by and get your account access if you don't have a PIN or need a PIN reset. Also, W-2s can be accessed from MyPay as soon as they are downloaded. This will enable you to file your taxes as soon as they are released by DFAS. MyPay currently has W-2s for the last five years for military and last two years for civilians.

It's TSP open season

Thrift Savings Plan Open Season is now through Dec. 31. Military members can increase base pay elections up to 9 percent. Come by Customer Service to sign up or increase your election online at http://mypay.dfas.mil. When members make elections using MyPay, the resulting changes don't process until the end of month. We suggest members make a print of the screen showing their election. If a member makes more than one election during any processing month, only the last transaction to process will affect the member's TSP election. We remind members that elections made now through Nov. 30 will begin with entitlements earned on and after Dec. 1, and elections made Dec. 1-31 will begin with Jan. 1 earnings.

Effective Jan. 1, we will no longer use cash collections when members miss contributions due to bonus elections not processing timely. All missed contributions must be considered make-up contributions. This means that the contributions will have to come from the member's monthly salary as a deduction, regardless of the amount missed. 5 CFR Part 1604 requires that the make-up contribution schedule not exceed four times the number of months it would take for the service member to earn basic pay equal to the dollar amount of the missed contribution.

For more information about MyPay, TSP or contribution changes, contact Annette Hankins at 926-3777.

Climate survey hits halfway point

By Scott Hopkins
Air Force Manpower and Innovation Agency

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) – Since its launch Oct. 1, more than 25 percent of Air Force people have taken advantage of the opportunity to speak to their leaders through the 2003 Air Force Climate Survey.

The survey's importance hinges on maximum participation, and the more people who participate, the better the results, officials said. The deadline is Nov. 23.

More than 65 percent of active-duty airmen and appropriated-fund civilians participated in the 2002 survey. For the first time, this year's survey includes the Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard and nonappropriated-fund civilians.

"Our goal is to make things better for our people and our organizations," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper. "This is a great opportunity for you to provide direct feedback about how well your leadership and organizations are functioning."

The survey gives leaders honest, identity-protected feedback about the organization from the people who make that organization work. It measures factors that influence people's behavior and factors that are relatively enduring over time, officials said. Leaders at all levels can use this information to improve an organization's climate and to ultimately improve its effectiveness and productivity.

As an integral communication link between leaders and enlisted airmen, the survey provides senior leaders insights into areas that need improving and areas that are doing well, officials said.

The survey also serves as an important link between senior leaders and civilians. Through the survey, civilians can voice their concerns and provide valuable information that can improve their organizations, officials said.

The 30-minute survey can be completed online at http://afclimatesurvey.af.mil anytime during the survey period from either a government or personal computer. People can also click on the Air Force Climate Survey link at Air Force Link, www.af.mil.

Robins voting leave policy

Employees who request time off to vote Tuesday can be excused, workload permitting, without charge to leave for the amount of time necessary to permit them to report to work two hours after the polls open or leave work two hours before the polls close, whichever requires the lesser amount of time off.

Employees who report to work at 9 a.m. or later or end their tour of duty at 5 p.m. or before will not receive voting leave.

Employees voting in Houston, Bibb or Peach counties who are authorized voting leave under these circumstances may use a maximum of 30 minutes voting leave. Flex-time employees are not normally granted voting leave unless they are required to report to work before 9 a.m. and remain on duty until after 5 p.m.

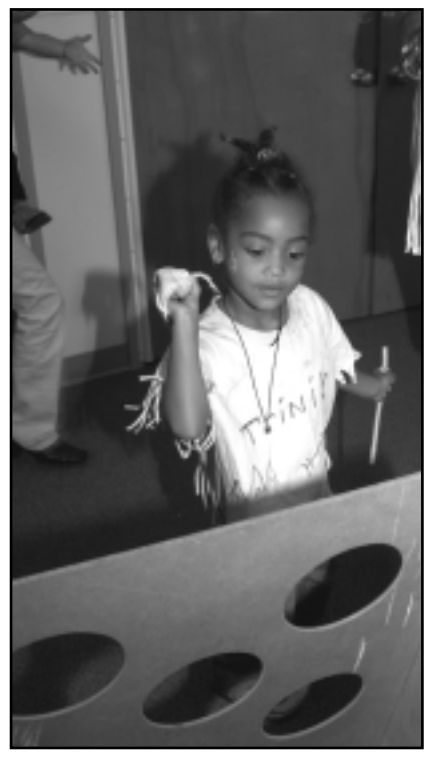
Under special circumstances, additional voting leave may be granted if the above will not permit sufficient time to vote.

Employees who use voting leave will obtain a certificate of voting from the polling place and turn it in to their supervisor.

For more information, call Sherry Josey at 926-5307.

CDC fall festival

U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp



The Child Development Center held its fall festival Oct. 24 in the Teen Center. Children participated in many activities, including face painting, fish pond, ring toss, pumkin bowling and more.

Above, Amy Beaulieu offers children an assortment of prizes.

Left, Trinity Fuller, 3, gets ready to toss a bean bag.

Environmental Management donates benches to Museum of Aviation

By Tonya L. McClure
Museum of Aviation

The Museum of Aviation received new benches and recycling containers for the newly opened Freedom Park, thanks to the efforts of Environmental Management.

When Paul Hibbitts, museum director, called on Steve Coyle, Environmental Management director, for assistance, EM gladly stepped up to help by offering several park benches for visitors to relax on while visiting Freedom Park - the museum's newly constructed picnic area.

"This is another great example of how we partner with Environmental Management," Hibbitts said. "The park functions as both a picnic area for visitors, as well as a playground where kids and their parents can come to enjoy their day."

EM delivered three park benches for use in the playground area of the park, and have ordered five more that should arrive in the next few months. EM also provided two Happy Hour recycling receptacles at the entrance to remind park goers of the importance of recycling.

"Environmental Management is happy to be able to assist the museum by providing these benches made of post-consumer recycled plastic," said Coyle. "It is only by using recycled materials that we close the circle and truly recycle."

EM was also able to assist the museum by providing weekend volunteers for the Heritage Building, the museum's first building and the home of the Windows to a Distant Past Indian exhibit, featuring realistic displays of the first inhabitants of Georgia and items uncovered during the excavation of what later became Robins Air Force Base.

If you are interested in volunteering at the museum, call Lillian Kurth, Museum of Aviation volunteer coordinator, at (478) 926-6870.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tonya L. McClure

From left to right, Museum Director Paul Hibbitts, Environmental Management Analyst and Public Affairs Coordinator Terri Thirlaway, EM Environmental Protections Specialist Linda Larson and EM Director Steve Coyle pose by the new park benches donated to the museum by EM at a special unveiling ceremony held in Freedom Park.

Quality isn't expensive, it's priceless

By Col. Gary S. Grabulis
Commander, AFPET
Fort Belvoir, Va.

Mention the Air Force Petroleum Office to most people, and they think of testing jet fuel.

If you mention Cape Canaveral, Fla. you get a knowing nod of recognition for the satellite launches and manned space missions.

Grabulis

Not immediately recognized is the connection between space launch and the AFPET. However, in addition to six aviation laboratories worldwide and a deployed laboratory in Qatar directly supporting operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, the AFPET also operates two space launch laboratories.

A team of AFPET scientists - chemists and technicians - man the Air Force's Aerospace Fuels Laboratory at Cape Canaveral. Housed in a non-descript but modern and functional laboratory, the lab itself traces its roots to the early 1950s at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., then later at both Patrick and the Cape, and finally at the Cape itself.

It goes without saying that rockets require fuel, and lots of it. High purity gases are needed to load this fuel into the rocket's fuel tanks. With no oxygen in space, the rocket must also carry its own oxidizer. There are also numerous hydraulic fluids and lubricating oils, used to power and smooth the motion of the booster and sustainer nozzles, assuring the correct trajectory of the rocket. All must be tested for quality prior to a launch. That's where the Aerospace Fuels Laboratory comes into the picture.

What to know

Detachment 3, Air Force Petroleum Office is assigned to the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center.

In addition to the Air Force, other customers include government agencies such as the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, NASA and contractors like Boeing and Lockheed Martin, to name a few.

As one of only two propellant laboratories (the other at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.), the Cape laboratory provides specialized analyses in the areas of hypergolic fuels and oxidizers. Those fuels are vital to the space launch and satellite programs, and require special handling due to their hypergolic nature (immediately combust upon contact with each other) and highly toxic properties.

Acceptance and quality testing of missile propellants, such as RP-1, and aviation fuel, such as JP-8, is conducted by the POL function of the laboratory. Through extensive physical and chemical testing of these product fuel samples, our chemists assure the subject sample meets its respective specification and is fit for use. It's all about risk mitigation.

Contamination control and the identification of unknowns are two functions that the laboratory's chemists perform that are crucial to the space launch program. Satellites, costing in excess of $100 million, require the leading state of the art clean rooms when being prepared for their launch missions. Any dirt, oil or other contamination hitchhiking a ride into space could cause numerous problems in the vacuum of space, inflicting damage or even destroying the satellite altogether. Technicians and chemists at the lab work together to assure the cleanliness of these clean rooms, and, on occasion, the satellites themselves.

It is impossible to calculate the missions not lost, the lives saved and the dollars not wasted because only on-specification propellants, gases and fuels were provided by the AFPET to our launch vehicles, aircraft and payloads. Quality is not expensive, it's priceless. Failure is not an option.

Airmen, what is the state of your ABCs?

By Tech. Sgt. Matthew Frickey
729th Air Control Squadron

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah – When I hear the letters "ABC," Sesame Street, kindergarten or some other fundamental learning tool of my youth comes to mind.

These letters are not always used in an alphabetic sense – in the military they can also stand for attitude, behavior and conduct. As adults in the Air Force, these letters should be used as a code for our actions, appearance and perceptions.

Several years ago when tennis star Andre Agassi was pitching cameras, he drove home the message that "Attitude is everything." It certainly is.

Attitude is the first element of the ABCs. Besides personal dress and appearance, it is the key to making a great first impression. Attitude can be either positive or negative.

Attitude is projected in degrees. Unfortunately, there are days when your car breaks down, the alarm doesn't ring or your spouse is screaming; these are the days when your attitude can be negative.

We may not like it, but presenting a negative attitude renders an improper military image and can damage our professional demeanor. This is where self-discipline and control help us deal with our attitude.

Either we become aware of our negative attitude or some outside source shows us the error of our ways. This should be a moment of self-realization where we take control and get rid of it.

If you have trouble getting rid of this negative attitude, you should solicit the help of a supervisor or use the chain of command where appropriate. In any case, a bad attitude is infectious; it can spoil the manner of younger, impressionable airmen.

Attitude is the easiest part of the ABCs to reciprocate, while behavior is more difficult.

A person with a bad attitude will let you know within several minutes of conversation. Behavior, on the other hand, is more elusive and a lot of times it is not until someone demonstrates bad behavior that we are able to identify a problem.

Writing bad checks, drinking and driving, lying and cheating on promotion tests are all examples of bad behavior. These acts are controllable by using self-discipline and making correct conscious decisions. Unfortunately we have things like peer pressure (and those who pressure us sometimes have bad ABC issues) that lead us down the wrong road and make being bad feel "cool."

The bottom line is we either conduct ourselves professionally with integrity or choose to use inappropriate behavior possibly affecting the Air Force mission.

The line between attitude, behavior and conduct is blurred and often fine. You could argue that they are one and the same. However your attitude and behavior basically sum up your conduct and should be treated as a package deal.

As airmen, all three can affect your career and personal development. The airmen in our Air Force are held to a higher standard for good reason and are expected to have a higher standard when it comes to our ABCs.

Conduct, like attitude and behavior, is a quality we can control. Good conduct is the result of a positive attitude and good behavior.

Whether you are in the Air Force 20 years or two years, you face conduct choices all the time. Choosing to do drugs is negative conduct. This is a conscious choice and is the perfect example of poor conduct.

The consequence of this decision affects the Air Force mission. Airmen are expected to fix multi-million dollar aircraft, provide security for billions of dollars in assets and make the United States of America a safer place to live. Poor choices and bad conduct won't be tolerated. Not following this letter in the ABC sequence could get you a one-way ticket out of the Air Force.

The only person who can control the fate of your career is you. Look around, and ask yourself these questions:

- If you show up at work with a really bad attitude, how does it affect your behavior and conduct?
- Can you trust yourself to have appropriate conduct and behavior if you cannot control your attitude?
- When you are guilty of bad behavior and conduct, what is your attitude like?

Good or positive ABCs are like an equation: A + B + C = success. If one of the variables is missing, the formula fails.

Airmen who positively follow their ABCs will likely receive better feedback and enlisted performance reports and see their names put on quarterly packages. Airmen who fail to follow these fundamentals will ultimately feel the drawbacks.

They might receive counseling, have problems with the law and ultimately, could find themselves facing charges under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

We are in control of our own ABCs, and this affects our outlook either positive or negative.

What is the state of your ABCs? If they aren't positive, what are you going to do about it? (Courtesy of Air Force Materiel Command News Service)

Commander's Action Line

Action Line is an open door program for Robins Air Force Base personnel to ask questions, make suggestions or give kudos to make Robins a better place to work and live.

Please remember that the most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes.

To contact the Action Line, call 926-2886 day or night, or for quickest response e-mail to one of the following addresses: If sending from a military e-mail system select, Robins Commanders Action Line from the Global Address List. If sending from a commercial e-mail account (AOL, AT+T, CompuServe, Earthlink, etc.), use action.line@robins.af.mil. Readers can also access Action Line by visiting the Robins AFB homepage at https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm. Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response. Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Rev-Up. Anonymous Action Lines will not be processed.

Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam
Commander,
Warner Robins Air Logistics Center

Col. Tom Smoot
Commander,
78th Air Base Wing

Security Forces.....327-3445
Services Division.....926-5491
EEO Office.....926-2131
Employee Relations...926-5802
Military Pay.....926-3777
IDEA.....926-2536
Base hospital.....327-7850
Civil engineering.....926-5657
Public Affairs.....926-2137
Safety Office.....926-6271
Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline.....926-2393
Housing Office.....926-3776

Shortcuts causing traffic delays on Highway 247

I apologize in advance for not going through the chain of command, but I feel that you are the only person who can help me and all of the other drivers who use Watson Boulevard and Gate 2 to come to work in the mornings. Some drivers coming north on Highway 247 are using Gate 2 to enter the base. On most mornings, this is creating a long line of traffic on Watson. These drivers clog the turn lane into the base, and only five or six cars can make it through the light from Watson onto 247. Before this problem started to occur, 15-20 cars could make it through each light. It would be greatly appreciated if you could remind these drivers that their actions are making what was once a smooth commute for Watson drivers into a nightmare.

Col. Smoot replies: Thank you for bringing this to our attention. All northbound traffic entering the installation from Ga. Highway 247 is directed to enter the installation through either the Russell Parkway or the Martin Luther King gates. Unfortunately Houston County Sheriff's Department can no longer afford the overtime pay to post deputies at the intersection of 247 and Watson. The red light at the intersection was adjusted allowing more time for traffic to enter from Watson. Security Forces will start setting up cones blocking the northbound lane of 247 leading into Gate 2. The designated traffic flow plan is: all northbound traffic on Highway 247 must use the Russell Parkway or MLK gates. Traffic southbound on 247 must use the Green Street gate. Watson traffic must use the Watson street gate and Russell parkway will use either the Russell or MLK Gate.

Where do we put cardboard boxes?

I work over in Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command and would like to know: What is the base policy on recycling cardboard boxes? Is there a place on base to bring the boxes to? Happy Hour will not take the boxes.

Col. Smoot replies: Thank you for your interest in participating in the recycling program. The Center commander's policy letter dated Nov. 18, 1998, does require organizations to recycle certain items, including cardboard. Cardboard dumpsters are located near all major buildings. Customers with cardboard boxes to be recycled must break the boxes down and place them in the proper dumpster for pickup and processing. Customers who have no cardboard dumpsters may call the recycling contractor, Happy Hour, at 929-6624 to schedule a pick up. If you routinely generate large quantities of cardboard, please have your facility manager contact the 78th Civil Engineer Squadron at 926-5820 ext 188 for a container to be placed at your location. We strongly encourage the use of the recycling program in order to be good stewards of resources. We apologize for the lack of information concerning this vital program and will make every effort to better inform the base population of its importance. Each directorate on Robins has a recycling monitor and their respective monitor also can help answer any of their recycling questions.

Robins Rev-Up

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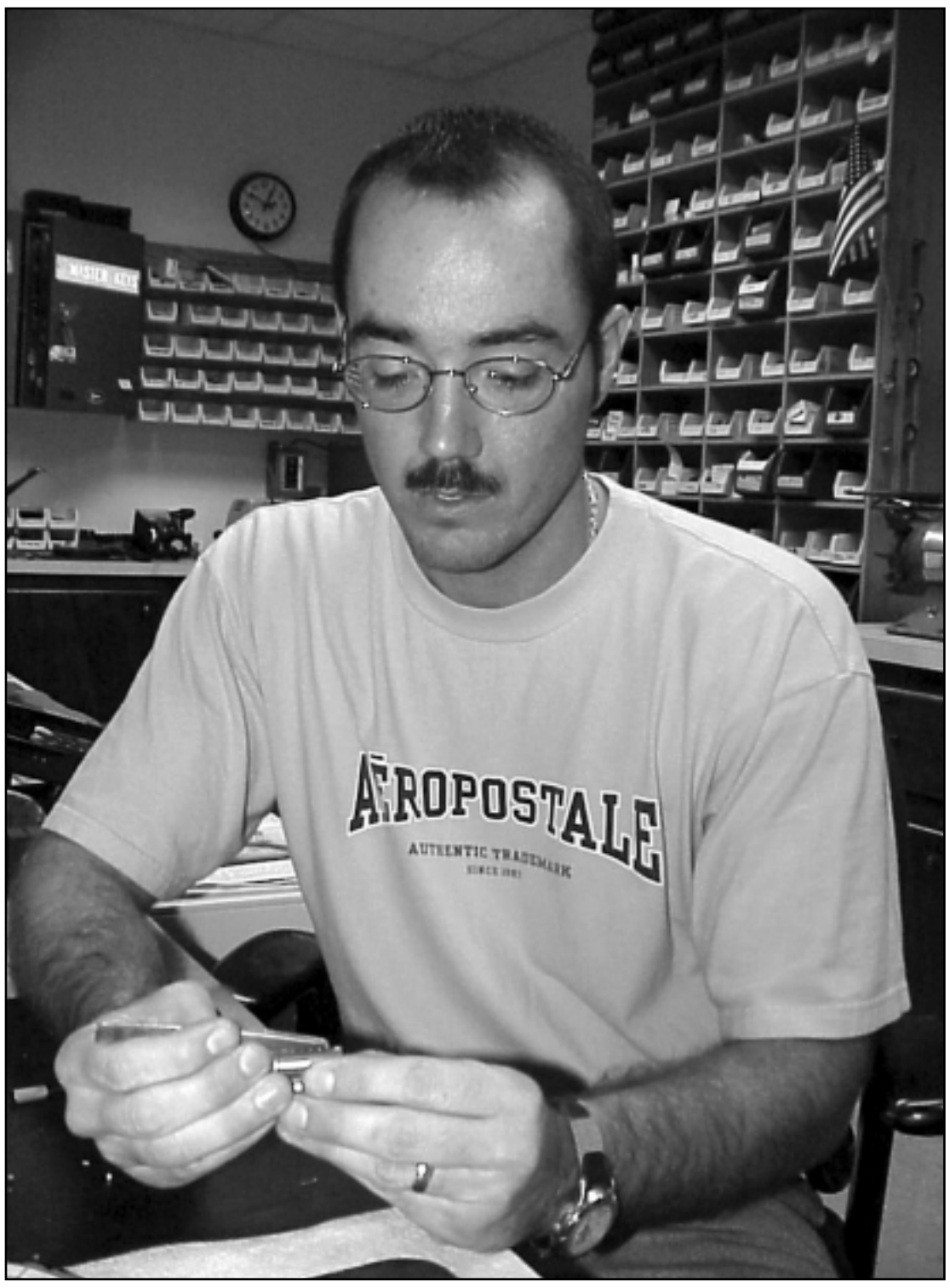
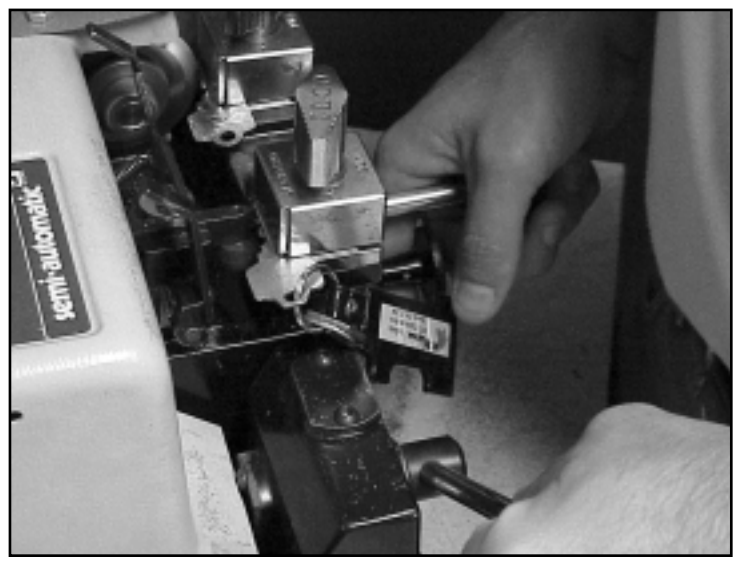
Lock Shop is 'Key' to Robins mission success

By Holly J. Logan
holly.logan@robins.af.mil





U.S. Air Force photos by Geoff Janes

Above, Russell Hunt, one of two locksmiths on base, makes a key. Left, Hunt files a lock in the 78th CEG's Lock Shop in Building 1555.

Making more than 5,000 keys a year, Russell Hunt is helping people open doors at Robins.

The BIG picture

The Lock Shop is one of five shops managed under the 78th Civil Engineering Group's Heavy Vertical Section.

Hunt, one of two locksmiths in the 78th CEG's Lock Shop in Building 1555, helps ensure the base's security by pinning the locks and cutting the keys to lock it up.

"It's a pretty busy job," he said. "It's more of a mental than physical job. You've got to know the formulas to punch the codes for the keys in the cutter, so the keys and locks make a perfect match. If the locks aren't pinned right and the keys aren't cut right, they won't work."

Each morning, the 28-year-old Elberton, Ga. native starts his day at 7:30 with a job sheet listing 16 to 18 work requests to be done all over Robins.

Jobs are classified according to urgency. Emergency calls, requiring service within 24 hours come first - with urgent calls to be handled within seven days and routine requests worked within 30 days.

"There's a lot of prioritizing I have to do in this job," he said. "A call may come in as urgent, but if I review it and it seems to be more of an emergency, I'll reclassify it, and move it up on the job list. We have to make sure our security is taken care of."

Robins' employees request keys by filling out Air Force Form 332, which are then input in the system as a work request.

According to Hunt, only half of his eight-hour workday is spent cutting new keys in the 10-foot-long, 20-foot-wide room, lined with more than 112 yellow bends of blank keys along its walls. Most afternoons, he and fellow locksmith, Doug Monahan, are working in the field maintaining locks, safes and vaults for the 78th Air Base Wing, the Center, and several tenant units on base.

"We maintain so many locks that you have to know exactly how each one works," he said. "You have to know what part functions and be able to visualize the inside of the lock so you know if something is missing or broken. You have to make sure the locks don't match locks to other offices (cross-keying), which could give some people unauthorized access to an office and possibly jeopardize security."

In addition to maintaining locks and other door security hardware, Hunt inspects vaults and safes on a routine basis to ensure classified information is protected.

"Every two years, the Air Force requires that a maintenance inspection be done on safes and vaults to prevent any mishaps we may see," he said. "We usually look for obvious signs of forced entry into these containers and any unauthorized repairs, openings and the lock itself."

Losing a key at Robins may mean losing a sense of security, said Hunt.

"A lot of people think, 'if I lose my key, it's no big deal'," he said. "But if you lose your key here, you've comprised the security of whatever that key fits."

While Hunt views his job as an important role in Robins' war fighting mission, he said everyone has a key role.

> "There's a lot of prioritizing I have to do in this job. A call may come in as urgent, but if I review it and it seems to be more of an emergency, I'll reclassify it, and move it up on the job list. We have to make sure our security is taken care of"
>
> Russell Hunt
> locksmith

What to know

Robins' Lock Shop is part of the 78th Civil Engineering Group's heavy vertical section. More than 5,000 keys are made per year in the lock shop to help maintain security at the base. The shop's operation hours are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. For more information, contact Russell Hunt at 926-5820 ext. 138.

AFRC spouses' auction Tuesday

AFRC Spouses' Auction will be 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Robins Officers' Club and will feature a traditional auction with auctioneer and also silent auction items.

Handmade craft and food items, gift baskets and gift certificates have all been offered in recent auctions.

The auction is open to anyone in the Robins family. Desserts, wine and other beverages will be served and the cost is $5 per person. Reservations can be made with Shawndell McKinnon at 929-3738 or Merlot4@cox.net.

houston
58566102

armed
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hienergy
58291901

Move 'em in, move 'em out

19th MXS prevents extended aircraft downtime

By Lanorris Askew
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

The Air Force was able to move an additional 84 million pounds of cargo to support the global war on terrorism last fiscal year because of the efforts of 77 airmen here. The airmen are members of the 19th Maintenance Squadron, a unique organization that exists solely to keep a steady stream of high-demand C-5 Galaxy's flowing to Air Mobility and Air Force Reserve command flying units.

Maj. Jonathan Claunch, 19th MXS commander, said his squadron's mission is to enhance America's global reach capability by delivering safe, reliable and mission-ready C-5 aircraft in conjunction with the C-5 Programmed Depot Maintenance team here.

"We all know that we have the greatest Air Force in the world and the reason for that is not only the training and the professional people we have, but our global presence," he said. "The leg that allows this global presence to occur is our mobility."

The 19th MXS is part of the 19th Air Refueling Group.

"Our role in the 19th MXS is to perform isochronal inspections on C-5s," said Master Sgt. Greg Porter, 19th MXS Maintenance Flight chief. "The isochronal inspection is a scheduled, recurring maintenance activity that we conduct on a non interference basis while it's going through PDM, so we work hand in hand with our depot and system program office counterparts."

Claunch

Why the mission is so important

Claunch said the reason the mission is so important, and how it applies directly to the combatant commander, is airframe availability.

"Before the 19th came into being, or before the concept of doing ISO inspections came into being, an aircraft would come into PDM and it would take 220-260 days to complete," he said.

"Many times ISO inspections would be due as soon as the airplane came out of PDM so the aircraft would be gone from the owning organization for 220-260 days, then it would come home and they would have to do a 30- or 40-day ISO inspection on it - grounding it for even longer."

Seeing this as a major roadblock in the area of airframe availability, the concept of the 19th MXS was born.

"Now that we are doing ISO inspections in conjunction with the PDM, we are averaging five to seven days before the first operational mission," said Claunch. "What this translates to on average is we are getting the aircraft back into the channel 24 days sooner.

"What we do is provide the airframe (the C-5) that gives the capability to move the assets, the cargo and the critical personnel the combatant commanders need," said Porter. Currently, there are 126 C-5s in the Air Force inventory and all come through Robins for program depot maintenance.

Giving a rough example of the difference the 19th MXS is making, Claunch said if you have a 260,000-pound max load capacity aircraft like the C-5 and you fly it for 24 days you would gain a 6,240,000-pound load value.

Senior Master Sgt. Antonio Baxter, 19th MXS maintenance superintendent, said during Operation Iraqi Freedom, about 48 percent of the strategic lift or inter-theater airlift that went in to support forces were lifted by C-5s.

"I think it's important that people understand that because we work here day-in and day-out," he said. "We don't launch airplanes, we don't recover airplanes, but we directly contribute to the airframe availability that moves whatever the combatant commander deems necessary. We enhance that airframe availability."

U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

Above, Senior Airman Adam Fisher works on a C-5 engine. Below, Senior Airman Leroy Harris works under a C-5 engine. Currently, there are 126 C-5s in the Air Force inventory and all come through Robins for program depot maintenance. To date, the 19th MXS has serviced 107 C-5s.

How it began

The 19th Maintenance Squadron is the only unit of its kind in the Air Force. The unit - previously known as the "Blue suiters," - works on C-5s from active duty Air Mobility Command units.

According to Baxter, the original concept for completing ISO inspections during PDM came from the C-141 camp in 1993.

Because they were having similar problems with extended aircraft downtime following PDM, a process action team from AMC and the Center assembled to propose a solution. The proposal was to install an active duty AMC maintenance unit at the Center to perform ISOs and field level repairs on C-141 aircraft undergoing PDM. With the success of the concept on the C-141s, a similar unit was established at Kelly Air Force Base, Texas, to perform field level maintenance on the C-5.

To date, the 19th MXS has serviced 107 C-5s.

"It's been an evolutionary process," Baxter said.

Staff Sgt. Steve Hesterman, C-5 crew chief lead, is one of those who gets his hands dirty in the ISO inspection. With flashlight in hand, he inspects the plane thoroughly.

"It feels great to be able to make a difference," he said. "I love this job. It's helping out the Air Force in the big picture and in the long term and making the airplanes fly better."

Completing ISO inspections and various other maintenance procedures, the unit identifies and corrects an average of 1,700 discrepancies per aircraft.

In fiscal 2002 the 19th MXS completed ISO inspections on 10 C-5 aircraft. Of these 10 aircraft approximately 17,000 discrepancies were identified and cleared.

The unit produced its 100th C-5 in fiscal 2003.

"This was a great accomplishment for the squadron, and signifies all the hard work unit members have put into the mission over the past 10 years," said Claunch.

When the work is done here, a maintenance team accompanies the aircraft back to home station to assist operational maintainers with acceptance inspections.

"This program is a great success because it not only provides a feedback vehicle for the owning units, but allows 19th MXS technicians to understand home station concerns and make the appropriate changes to their processes," said Claunch.

Twenty two Reservists will soon join the ranks of the 19th MXS to help perform field level maintenance and inspections on both AMC and AFRC C-5 aircraft. This seamless blending of Reserve and active duty is a part of the Air Force's "Total Force" policy.

From Dover to Baghdad and beyond

A 30-day diary of a C-5 after it leaves Robins following 19th MXS service.

July 31 - Aircraft returned to Dover Air Force Base.

Aug. 1 - Dover personnel started reconfiguring the aircraft for missions. They installed rafts and slides in the troop compartment. The seats were loaded on the aircraft, but weren't installed. Maintenance personnel started working all open discrepancies on the aircraft. Personnel started the aircraft's Acceptance and Home Station Check inspections.

Aug. 2 - Troop compartment seats were installed. The Home Station Check still ongoing. The Relief Crew compartment was reconfigured for flight. Technical data file inspected and installed.

Aug. 3 - Home Station Check completed. Maintenance personnel continued to complete open discrepancies such as lubing the Pitch Trim, removing and replacing the N1 Tach Generator component and hard lead. All aircraft accessories from Dover's Dash 21 shop were inspected and installed.

Aug. 4 - Annotated serial numbers from the nose landing gear, main landing gear, pitch trim actuator, and visor actuator. Acceptance Inspection completed.

Aug. 5 - Maintenance personnel removed and replaced two main landing gear tires due to loose brake key components and inertial navigation system batteries that were due capacity check.

Aug. 6 - Serviced the nose and main landing gear struts as required.

Aug. 7 - Maintenance personnel continued working open discrepancies on the aircraft.

Aug. 8 - Removed and replaced relief crew life raft ejection bottles that would not hold pressure. The aircraft weight and balance inspection completed and certified by Quality Assurance section. All defensive system operational checks, checked good.

Aug. 9 - Removed and replaced the lower negative pressure door due to delamination. Preflight inspection for upcoming mission completed.

Aug. 10 - Aircraft flew its first flight from Dover to Charleston, S.C. on a local training mission.

Aug. 14 - Flew from Dover to Moron, Spain.

Aug. 15 - Flew from Spain to Baghdad International Airport then on to Kuwait International Airport and finally back to Rota, Spain.

Aug. 16 - Departed Rota, Spain for Dover.

Aug. 18 - Flew from Dover to Charleston.

Aug. 20 - Departed Charleston for Dover, then on to Spain.

Aug. 21 - Flew from Spain to Baghdad International Airport.

Aug. 22 - Flew from Baghdad International Airport to Kuwait International Airport before flying back to Spain.

Aug. 23 - Flew from Spain to Incirlik Air Base, then on to Spain.

Aug. 25 - Returned to Dover.

Aug. 29 - Flew from Dover to Charleston, then on to Spain.

Aug. 30 - Flew to Baghdad International Airport then on to Kuwait International Airport.

Aug. 31 - Flew from Kuwait to Spain.

Sept. 1 - Returned to Dover.

LEAVE/TRANSFER

The following people have been approved as participants in the leave transfer program.

Donna L. Stewart, 78th MSG/DPCEB. The point of contact is Tina Miller at 926-0677, extension 159.

Carol Bales, WR-ALC/LGRA. The point of contact is Debbie Vallin, 926-2088.

Christine McLeod, WR-ALC/LGRC. The point of contact is Debbie Vallin, 926-2088.

Patti B. Alexander, WR-ALC/LGMTB. The point of contact is Debbie Vallin, 926-2088.

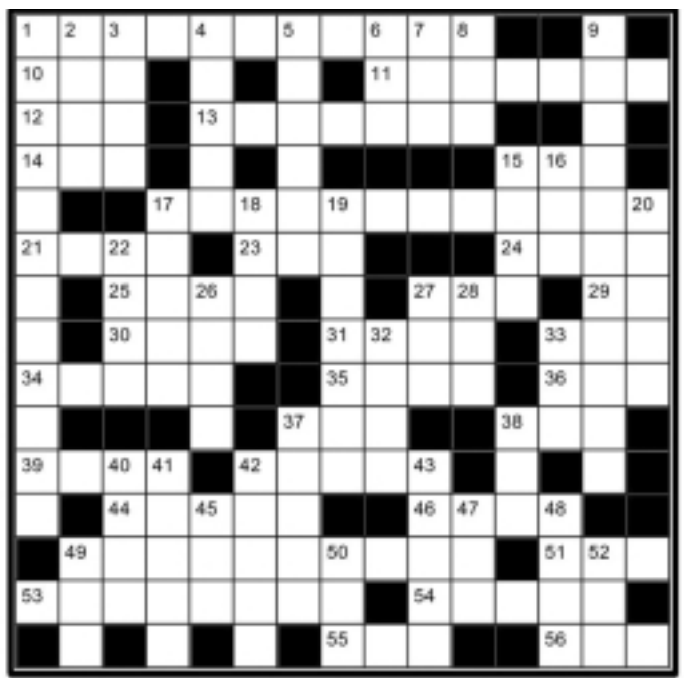
Ashlee Glover, WR-ALC/LGRC. The point of contact is Debbie Vallin, 926-2088.

Celia L. Vinterella, MAAAA. The point of contact is Kathy Fairfield at 926-5930.

Sally Scales, HQ AFRC/CEOG. The point of contact is Tina Beck at 327-1041.

Employee-relations specialists at 926-5307 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests to receive or donate annual leave. To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Rev-Up, directorates should send information to Angela Trunzo by fax at 926-9597, or e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil. Submissions run for two weeks.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Happy Halloween

By 1st Lt. Tony Wickman
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

ACROSS

1. Start of title of 1917 Washington Irving Halloween story
10. Tombstone letters
11. Male witch on Halloween
12. Supreme Allied commander in WWII informally
13. Former Simpson trial lawyer
14. Average grade
15. Wane
17. End of 1 ACROSS
21. Pig noise
23. Type of AF unit not associated with a MAJCOM
24. California town
25. Eerie emanation on Halloween
27. School org.
29. Tail marking for a/c assigned to 103rd FW
30. Thin
31. Appeal
33. Part of a circle
34. Kingdom
35. Football great Andy _____
36. Military pay entitlement (abbrev.)
37. Needle
38. Gallop
39. Computer maker
42. Items received from 1 DOWN
44. Item received during 1 DOWN
46. Major or Minor
49. Item for 20 DOWN
51. Item used to collect 1 DOWN items
53. Items for 1 DOWN
54. Gathering for 20 DOWN
55. Oklahoma city
56. Explosive

DOWN

1. Halloween night activity
2. Walk
3. Fencing tool
4. Ford faux pas
5. Schwarzennegger movie
6. Driving crime
7. Paddle
8. To's partner
9. Title character of 1 ACROSS
15. Singer Fitzgerald
16. Type of sucker received during 1 DOWN; ___-pop
17. Item found in Halloween haunted house
18. Type of cheese
19. A Jack-o-Lantern is carved from it
20. Halloween hag
22. Fed. space agency
26. Edges
27. Zip
28. Light touch
32. Bring an aircraft to rest?
33. Middle East country ___ Dhabi
37. Faded fad
38. Military recon info system (abbrev.)
40. Mistakes
41. 1977 TV miniseries on Haley novel
42. Military communication officer (acronym)
43. Joshua tree genus
45. Hulk's Ferrigno
47. 1929 picture studio
48. Help
49. Ghost's cry
50. Fed. agency concerned with transportation
52. Actress Penelope ___ Miller

For puzzle solution, see Nov. 7 edition of the Rev-Up

Puzzle solution for Oct. 24

R	A	M	S		S	P	A	R			A	D	D	S
A	L	E		T			M	O	S	E	L	E	Y	
J	U	M	P	E	R		M	C	A		T	E	E	S
A	M	O	R	E			O	H	M	S		S	S	N
	S		U	T	A	H		E	B	R	O			O
P		F	I	S	C	U	S		U	A	V	S		W
A			T		T	O	T		R		I	A	N	
R	O	U	T	E		T	E	D		L	E	V	I	S
		C		D	E		M	E	G	A	D	E	T	H
M	U	R	R	A	Y			E	R	G	O			E
E				M	E	L		R	O	E		F	O	R
E	B	B	S			A	S	S		R	O	O		R
T	O	L	E	R	A	T	E		U		U	R	S	A
	Z	E	T	T	L	E	R		P	O	T	T	E	R
B	O	D	I	E		R	B	I	S		S	E	E	D

CHAPEL SERVICES

Catholic Masses are celebrated at the chapel each Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:30 a.m., and on Holy Days of Obligation at noon and 5 p.m. and Monday through Friday at noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is on Saturday from 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Protestant General Services take place every Sunday at 11 a.m. This service includes some traditional and contemporary worship styles in music and in format.

Protestant Inspirational Services take place every Sunday at 8 a.m.

Protestant Contemporary Services take place 11 a.m. each Sunday at the Base Theater. This service is very informal, with a praise team assisting in singing and includes both traditional and contemporary styles of music and worship.

Jewish service time is each Friday at 6:15 p.m. at the synagogue in Macon.

Islamic Friday Prayer (Jumuah) is each Friday at 1:30 p.m. in the chapel annex Rooms 1 and 2.

The chapel helps with any spiritual needs that arise. For further information, call the chapel at 926-2821.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

Family Support Center sponsored classes, workshops and seminars are open to all Team Robins employees and their eligible family members. The FSC is located on Ninth Street in Building 794. For additional information, or to make a reservation, call 926-1256.

Applied suicide skills training

A workshop on Applied Suicide Skills Training will be conducted Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Base Chapel annex.

Base tour

The FSC is sponsoring a Base Tour for all Team Robins members and their eligible family members Wednesday, 1 - 3 p.m. Meet at the Enlisted Club.

TSP briefing

The Personal Financial Management program is offering a briefing on UNISERV Thrift Saving Plan Nov. 7, 1 - 2:30 p.m., Building 905, Room 127.

A new open-season period is underway and members may elect to initially participate in the plan or to increase their contributions.

To educate individuals, the Web site www.tsp.gov has the summary, forms, and a question and answer section to assist you, in addition to this class.

FSC transformation to the work/life consultant service delivery model

Family Support Center staff members have started their transformation to Work, Life professionals.

They are training every Thursday afternoon, and as Work, Life professionals, they'll continue to offer a full spectrum of services. Consulting services will include transition and employment assistance, relocation assistance, personal financial management, information and referral, individual and family readiness, family life education, and Air Force Aid. Each staff professional will be fully qualified to conduct needs assessments and consultations to offer the full range of services available through the center. Units also benefit since each unit will have a Work, Life professional assigned to their unit.

If you have concerns or questions, direct them to the Christine Parker, FSC director, at 926-1256. If you would like to meet with a Work, Life Consultant or Specialist, contact the Family Support Center at 926-1256.

SERVICES BRIEFS

Base Restau rant 926-6972

The base restaurant will offer a customer appreciation Thanksgiving meal Nov. 13 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Dine at the main restaurant or purchase a meal at one of the snack bars or mobile trucks. Meal includes turkey, cornbread dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, giblet gravy, roll, cranberry sauce and a 12 ounce tea for $2.50.

A carry-out special is available to include a 15 pounds turkey, 8 pounds of cornbread dressing, half-pan of mashed potatoes, half-pan of green beans, one quart of giblet gravy and one quart of cranberry sauce for $45.95 Orders will be taken Monday - Nov. 21. To place an order or for more information, call 926-3031 or 926-6972.

Civilian Recreation 922-4415

Watch the movie "The Lion King" at Robins Park Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. (or dark). Moviegoers are invited to bring lawn chairs and blankets to this free event. Concessions will be on sale. For more information, call Lynne Brackett at 922-4415.

Outdoor Recreation 926-4001

Lease any boat in stock for two weeks for the price of two days during the month of November.

New ATVs have arrived. Take a base safety course and rent an Artic Cat for $60 a day. Rent on a Friday and get the weekend for a one-day charge.

New weekend rates will be begin Saturday. To take advantage of the reduced weekend rates, check out the equipment any time after 10 a.m. on Fridays. For more information on the weekend rates, call 926-4001 or stop by Building 914.

Pizza Depot 926-0188/0189

National Men Make Dinner month is here. Order a large meat lovers for $10 from 6 - 9 p.m. For delivery only.

Skills Development Center 926-5282

Art demonstrations will be conducted at the Smith Community Center Nov. 12 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Leslie Hoops-Wallace and Allan Carey will be painting and answering questions about skills center classes.

Smith Community Center 926-2105

A Family and Teen Talent contest will be held in the Smith Community Center on Nov. 8 at 7 p.m. This event is open to the entire Robins community. Admission is free.

Youth Center 926-2110

Dance classes will be held by Elena Probeigolora-Werkheiser on Tuesdays from 4 - 7 p.m., Wednesdays from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 4 - 6 p.m. Cost is $30 per month and is open to ages 4 to adult.

Youth members receive special benefits from the Membership Matters program simply by showing their membership card. Each month different specials in various Services Division facilities will be offered to Youth program members. For more details call 926-2110 or visit the youth center, Building 1021.

Registration deadline Nov. 7 for next ACT test

College bound high school seniors who want to take the next ACT test for college admissions have two chances to register before the Dec. 13 national test date.

The postmark registration deadline is Nov. 7. There is also a late registration postmark deadline Nov. 20 - an additional fee is required. Students can get information from their high school counselor or register online at www.act.org

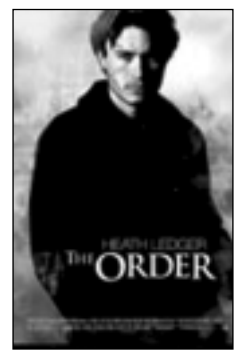
The test fee is $26.

– Staff reports

MOVIE SCHEDULE

Friday

7:30 p.m. – The Order – Heath Ledger and Shannyn Sossamon



A conflicted, rebellious priest travels to Rome to investigate the strange death of his mentor. The young priest, a troubled artist with whom he shares a turbulent past, and his closest friend and colleague discover the mysterious death may be the work of the Sin Eater, an ancient figure who plays God on earth by absolving the unforgivable of their sins outside the Church, allowing great evil to go unpunished. Rated R (violent images, sexuality and language) 102 minutes

Saturday

2 p.m. – Secondhand Lions – Michael Caine and Robert Duvall

Walter finds himself spending the summer with a pair of cranky, eccentric great-uncles. At first appalled by their gruff uncaring manner, over time he becomes enthralled with his uncles as the exotic tales and remembrances of their own youthful exploits introduce the boy to a world of imagination and wonder and re-ignites the old men's spirits. Rated PG (thematic material, language and action violence) 107 minutes

7:30 p.m. – Once Upon a Time in Mexico – Antonio Banderas and Salma Hayek

El Mariachi is forced out of hiding by Sands, a corrupt CIA agent. Sands recruits the reclusive hero to sabotage a plot by the evil cartel kingpin Barillo, who is planning to assassinate the president of Mexico. El Mariachi has his own reasons for returning retribution and revenge. Rated R (strong violence and language) 98 minutes

STREAMING VIDEO

FULL STREAM AHEAD*

To view streaming video, go to http://www.robins.af.mil/pa/stream/index.htm

- Flightline ceremony honors the last C-141 Starlifter to undergo depotmaintenance
- Robins office manages corrosion prevention program throughout the Air Force
- F-15 fuel cell workers find an ergonomic solution to install spark suppressing foam into fuel tanks

*** Videos are best viewed with the latest version of Windows Media Player (version 9).**

ROBINS REPORT

News from around the base –Watson and Cox Channel 15

Friday – 8 p.m.
Sunday – 1:30 p.m.
Monday – noon

U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

2nd Lt. Darren Sackett and Kristen Adcock attend the PK picnic at Friendship Park Oct. 24. They participated in a 'Survivor' game and were the winning tribe, Watchubomya.

Contracting employees applaud the successful closeout of fiscal 2003. Patsy Reeves, contracting director, said the picnic was a way to celebrate each person and each organization.

Contracting celebrates another closeout

By Lanorris Askew
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

As the budget closeout clock wound down for fiscal year 2003, workers in the Contracting Directorate were able to heave a sigh of relief Sept. 30.

But just seeing the financial slate wiped clean wasn't enough for management … they wanted more.

In celebration of another year's successful closeout, the entire contracting crew let their hair down for a day of fun and sun at Friendship Park, during the annual PK picnic Oct. 24.

With the theme of Survivor serving as their battle cry, PK workers divided into tribes and competed in various contests and games.

"Today was a way for management to thank their employees for all of the hard work they have done throughout the year," said Patsy Reeves, contracting director. "It's a way to pat them on the back for the excellence and unselfish, dedicated service they have given to the base and to the ALC all year long."

Reading off a list of accomplishments, which numbered in the double digits, Reeves said the picnic was to celebrate each person and each organization.

Some of the directorate's crowning achievements for the year included obligating $3.68 billion.

According to Reeves, that was $550 million more than last fiscal year. They also awarded the largest contract in the Center's history.

"The challenges presented this year were bigger than before, but this group continues to shine," said Reeves. I want to give a heartfelt thank you for all that you do often without recognition or thanks."

In addition to the usual picnic events Reeves, handed out plaques to teams and individuals who have been nominated for AFMC annual contracting awards for outstanding contributions to the command.

"It was a spectacular year and an outstanding performance by all," said Reeves.

AFMC annual contracting awards nominees

The following employees, military and civilian, have been nominated for the annual AFMC contracting awards for fiscal 2003.

Each of the nominees will compete with others in their categories at the command level, and the winners at the command level will go on to compete at the Air Force level.

The nominee for the Outstanding Contracting Team is the ICE2 Team.

The team members are: **Deb Hall, Sharon Gilmore, Michael Campbell, Darryl Turner, Oneida Sims, Franklin Holland, Judy Triplett, Gregory Custer, Doug Erwin, Lisa Corr, Brad Adams** and **Stephen Moss**.

The ICE2 Team is also this ALC's nominee for the Presidential Award for Management Excellence in Competitive Sourcing.

Other nominees:

PKO – Outstanding Operational Contracting Unit.

Capt. Jeff Lancour – Outstanding Company-Grade Officer in Contracting.

Maj. Geoffrey Ellazar – Outstanding Field-Grade Officer in Contracting.

Suzanne Cole. – Outstanding Civilian in Logistics Contracting in the GS-12 category.

Jimmy Katsekis – Outstanding Civilian in Operational Contracting in the GS-12 category.

Kathy Canady – Outstanding Civilian in Logistics Contracting in the GS11 category.

Lasonia Hart – Outstanding Contracting Support.

Lt. Joe Roberson – Outstanding Contingency Contracting Officer.

Staff Sgt. Scott Larson – Outstanding Contingency Contracting Enlisted Member.

Dale Channell – AFMC Award for Outstanding Contracting Information Technology.

Tech. Sgt. Billie Crockett – Outstanding Contracting NCO.

Oneida Sims – Outstanding Pricing.

Franklin Holland – Secretary of the Air Force Professionalism in Contracting Award in the Non-supervisory category.

Angie Thompson – The Secretary of the Air Force Professionalism in Contracting Award in the Supervisory category.

She has also won the F-15 System Program Office Excellence in Partnership Award.

Electronic Combat Systems Strategic Sourcing Team – the Contracting Special Recognition Award.

The team members are **Fran Botkin, Marsha Denning, Joe Burgan, Karen Batchelor, Linda Zavetz, Vicki Hutto, Doris Sciara, Janice Gillen, Margie Stanley** and **Maj. Alan Beasley**.

Lauren Ferrell – The AFMC Professional Development Award.

LMKS – Excellence in Classified Contracting Award.

Derwin Laster – the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Award.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Bowling Center
926-2112

A turkey shoot will be held Sunday through Nov. 22. During open bowling, roll three 9-pin no tap games and the participant with the highest score wins a turkey. Cost is $6. Participants can enter the turkey shoot during league bowling, using their league handicap score, for $2 per entry.

Veterans are invited to come out Nov. 11 and bowl for $1 per game and $1 shoe rental during open bowling.

Fitness Center
926-2128

A Free Motion clinic will be held Wednesday from noon - 1 p.m. This clinic will introduce proper usage of the Ground Zero machines along with a demonstration and questions following the orientation.

Football fitness is underway at the fitness center. Participants predict weekly winners of the National Football Leagues schedule games based on the type and amount of daily exercise they perform. Players who correctly predict the most number of winners will receive prizes. The scheduled football fitness training is as follows: cardiovascular exercise for three picks, strength training for two picks and flexibility for one pick.

Golf Course
926-4103

The new tee time calling procedures are as follows: active duty (annual green fees) Mondays from 8 - 9 a.m., AGF members Mondays from 9 a.m. to close of business Tuesdays, and any player Wednesdays at 8 a.m.

Everyone is welcome to the new greens grand opening ceremony and 78th Air Base Wing annual fall golf tournament Thursday. An opening ceremony at 10 a.m. will begin with a ceremonial opening shot and the tournament will begin with a shotgun start at noon. Cost for the tournament is $30 members and $35 nonmembers includes range balls, golf cart, green fee, refreshment, lunch and prizes. Register for the tournament by calling Kathy Cheshire, 78th ABW/XPRA at 926-2182 by today.

A base championship golf tournament is slated for Nov. 8 - 9. Cost is $30 AGF and $50 guests and does not include golf car. The format will include four divisions: championship, men's, senior and ladies. Gross and net place will be awarded in each division. For more information, call the pro shop at 926-4103.

Youth Center
926-2110

Registration for the inline winter hockey league will be conducted by the youth center from 3 - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1 - 6 p.m. on Saturday. For more details call Ron Hayes at 926-2110 or 926-1795.

The 6th annual Robins Commander's Cup Soccer tournament will be held Nov. 17 - 23. Teams wanting to participate must send a team roster to include all players, coaches and parents who will be attending by Nov. 8 to the Robins Youth Center, O.J. Wheeler, 755 Warner Robins St., Robins AFB, GA 31098. For more information and tournament prices call Louis Rigney at 328-1161 or O.J. Wheeler at 926-2110.

U.S. Air Force photo by Angela Trunzo

From left to right, Aero Club manager Dennis Peterson, 78th Air Base Wing Commander Col. Tom Smoot, 78th Mission Support Group Commander Col. Silvia Signars Anderson and Services Division Chief John Flood participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony Monday at the Aero Club.

Aero Club gets new Piper Warrior III

The Aero Club welcomed a new addition Monday - a Piper Warrior III.

"It has been 22 years since the Robins Aero Club has seen a new plane," said Dennis Peterson, Aero Club manager.

Among those on hand to celebrate were Col. Tom Smoot, 78th Air Base Wing commander, Col. Silvia Signars Anderson, 78th Mission Support Group commander, and many employees of the 78th MSG.

"For Robins and the Aero Club to get a new plane, it's a big deal," Smoot said after the ribbon cutting that kicked off an afternoon of plane rides for those at the ceremony.

The club has several other aircraft including four Piper Warriors, a Piper Arrow, a Cessna 172 T-41 and Beech Baron Twin, and sells pilot supplies and equipment.

Active duty, retired, reserve military and their family members, DoD civilians and contractors are eligible to join the club.

For more information, stop by the Robins Aero Club, Building 186, or call 926-4867.

– From staff reports

ROBINS CLUBS

Aerospace Toastmasters

Aerospace Toastmasters meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. in the Contracting Directorate conference room, Building 300, west wing. For more information, contact Keith Dierking, 926-0420.

Robins Top 3 Association

Robins Top 3 Association meets the third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m. in the Enlisted Club. For information call Master Sgt. Joyce Jones at 926-4997 or Master Sgt. Andrea Johnson at 327-7356.

Editor's Note: Information is provided by club members. To have your club or group's information included or updated, submit it to Angela Trunzo in the WR-ALC Public Affairs office, Bldg. 215, Room 106, by e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil or by fax at 926-9597.

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theater
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ROBINS BULLETIN BOARD

Enlisted Promotion Ceremony

The 78th Air Base Wing Enlisted Promotion Ceremony, hosted by Col. Tom Smoot, 78th ABW commander, is 3:30 p.m. today at the Smith Community Center Auditorium. Commanders, supervisors, coworkers, families and friends are encouraged to attend and congratulate the newly promoted airmen and soldiers. For more information, contact WR-ALC/CCC at 926-0792.

School board meeting

Robins Air Force Base school board will meet Tuesday at 4 p.m. at Robins Elementary School, Building 988. The public is invited to attend the meeting.

Finance Customer Service closing

WR-ALC Finance Customer Service will close at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday for a Director's Call. If you have any questions, you can e-mail us at wralc.fmfc.milpay@robins.af.mil.

OSC upcoming events

The Officers' Spouses Club announces the following upcoming events:

Tuesday: James Quality Jewelers will be at the Officers' Club from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Nov. 20: Mary Ingram, jewelry artist and owner of Peach State Gem & Mineral, will attend the OSC luncheon. She will be designing some jewelry and offering it to members.

Thank a Vet run Nov. 8

The Air Force Association "Thank-a-Vet" run and POW/MIA heroes memorial display will be Nov. 8 at the Museum of Aviation Robins Air Force Base Course. Check-in time is 7:30 a.m., and a picture identification is required. The run will begin at 8:30 a.m. Participants can either do a 5-kilometer run or a 1-mile run, walk. Pre-registration is $15, which includes the cost of a T-shirt and refreshments. Cost for registration the day of the event is $20. For more information, visit www.CV-AFA.org

Marine Corps 228th Birthday

The Devil Dogs at Robins are in the process of planning a luncheon Nov. 14 to celebrate the Marines Corps 228th birthday. If you are interested in helping plan this event or would like to attend, contact Brian Carroll, C-130 Engine Shop, at 997-1065 or brian.carroll@robins.af.mil or Richard Jones, C-130 Blue Straw, at 926-2993 or richard.jones@robins.af.mil.

Dental assistant volunteers needed

The 78th Dental Squadron is currently seeking trained Red Cross Dental Assistant volunteers to join our dental team. Individuals interested in updating their technical skills or just looking to volunteer need to contact Master Sgt. Randy Wehrung at 327-8084.

Boy Scout Troop 220

Boy Scout Troop 220 meets every Tuesday night from 7 to 8:30 at 1082 Hawkinsville St.

For more information, call Mary Pangborn at 929-5742 or Dennis Collier at 953-8124.

Girl Scouts leaders needed

Girl Scouts of Robins is in need of leaders and co-leaders. The troops meet on base. All interested persons should contact Alyson Dreer at 329-8099.

Robins Thrift Shop

The Robins Thrift Shop is taking donations on consignment. Everything from baby items to weight equipment can be sold. The shop is located on Page Road, Building 288, just inside gate 5. Store hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays and the shop will be open Saturday.

Also, the thrift shop is looking for volunteers to fill various positions. If you have any questions, call 923-1686.

New metallic name tag

The new metallic name tag for wear on the service dress uniform and pullover sweaters is available now. Mandatory wear date of the new metallic nametag is Jan. 1, 2004.

Contact your unit commander support staff for details on how to obtain one.

Museum volunteers

The Museum of Aviation is recruiting adult volunteers who enjoy meeting people.

For more information, call Lillian Kurth, volunteer coordinator, at 926-4242.

Veterans History Project

The American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress is honoring veterans through the Veterans History Project, a national initiative to collect individuals' wartime experiences. A free instruction kit is available by calling 1-888-371-5848, or by visiting the Web site at www.loc.gov/vets.

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Riding in style

U.S. Air Force photos by Sheila Clompton

Top, from left to right, Chrystanie Williams, Kira Wilson, Matt Towe, Kyle Mize, Matt Besemer, Edwin Vazquez, and Marko Magee enjoy a limousine ride.

Above, from left to right, Chrystanie Williams, Kira Wilson, Edwin Vazquez, Matt Besemer, Kyle Mize, Marko Magee and Matt Towe eat pizza at Stevi B's.

Robins Air Force Base Elementary School chorus members sold more than 1,500 discount cards to support the choral program and to provide some musical performances for the school this year. There are a few cards remaining for purchase. For more information, contact the school at 926-5003.

Eight chorus members who sold the most cards were treated to a ride out to dinner in a limousine Oct. 23. The top sellers were Kyle Mize, 145; Matt Towe, 117; Matt Besemer, 88; Kira Wilson, 72; Chrystanie Williams, 60; Marko Magee, 60; Edwin Vazquez, 50; and Brandon Shoulta, 50.

Following after school chorus rehearsal, a stretch limousine pulled up to Robins Elementary School. After a few minutes of congratulations and photos, the limousine whisked the top sellers of the Chorus Discount Card off to dinner with their director, Sheila Clopton. Following dinner, the limousine delivered each of the students to their home.

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