

Tops in Blue picks 2 from Robins for 2009 tour

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
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Members of the 78th Communications Group got an encore performance of Tops in Blue on Monday, and one Airman got a big surprise.

A day after the group announced at its show here that Robins Airman 1st Class Jennifer Frost had been tapped as a performer for the coming year, Airman 1st Class Scott Robinson, a radio maintainer in the 78th Communications Squadron, learned he had also been selected.

The 27-member crew of active-duty Airmen travels the globe performing a variety show of dance, music and comedy. They stopped by the 78th CG the morning after a performance at the Warner Robins Civic Center before a near-capacity crowd.

Their encore performance was their way of thanking the 78th CG for loaning one of its own, Senior Airman Thomas Henderson. In March Airman Henderson will finish his one-year tour as stage director for Tops in Blue.

Tour director Edward Jones said the units that provide the crew members for Tops in Blue have to cover for those positions.

"We wanted to make sure we see the people who the impact is made upon," he said. "I've been with Tops in Blue on and off for 19 years, and I can say he is one of the best Airmen we have had on the road."

After the crew sang tunes from its show, including "It's All Right" and "Proud Mary," Mr. Jones presented a plaque to Tena Dominy, deputy director of the 78th CG, thanking the squadron for Airman Henderson's service.

Col. Debra Bean, vice commander of the 78th Air Base Wing, then made an announcement that drew a roar of applause and rendered Airman Robinson speechless.

She noted that with Airman Henderson's tour ending in March, Tops in Blue will be in need of another stage director. That's when she revealed that for the second year in a row, a 78th CS Airman will fill that position. She then revealed that Airman Robinson will be taking over that job. He was so stunned he could barely talk.

he could barely talk. "Wow," was the only word Airman Robinson could utter as he stepped forward to accept Colonel Bean's congratulations.

He wasn't the only Robins Airman to get a big surprise from Tops in Blue. On Sunday night at the group's performance, Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, commander of Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, and Mr. Jones announced that Airman Frost had been selected for the show. She had tears in her eyes as she came to the stage.

She said later she had no idea she had been selected until she heard her name called at the show.

"My heart dropped and my whole body started shaking," she said of her reaction in hearing the announcement. "It was just crazy. I've wanted this ever since I joined the Air Force."



Airman 1st Class Scott Robinson, 78th Communications Squadron, was speechless when he learned of his selection to Tops in Blue.

► see TOPS IN BLUE, 2A



Airman 1st Class Jennifer Frost (right) receives a surprise announcement from Maj. Gen. Polly A. Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, at the Tops in Blue performance Jan. 25 at the Civic Center. Airman Frost was told she was selected as a vocalist for the 2009 Tops in Blue tour.

U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON

Product recall impacts Commissary

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
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Shoppers at the Commissary will find signs in place of a few snack items that contain peanut butter.

The signs indicate that the items are out of stock. That's because those items contain peanut butter from a Georgia plant traced to a salmonella outbreak in 43 states.

Store Administrator Chris Milligan said just a few items sold at the store are impacted by the recall. Most of those items are snack foods – not any peanut butter itself. The items include Keebler cracker packs and Austin cracker packs that contain peanut butter that came from a Peanut Corp. of America plant in Blakely.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report 501 cases of salmonella in 43 states caused by contaminated peanut butter. The bacteria may have contributed to eight deaths.

The CDC traced the outbreak to a 5-pound container of peanut butter produced at the plant. The peanut butter is sold in bulk and not sold in retail as just peanut butter.

Ms. Milligan said anyone who purchased any of the recalled items from the store can return the products for a

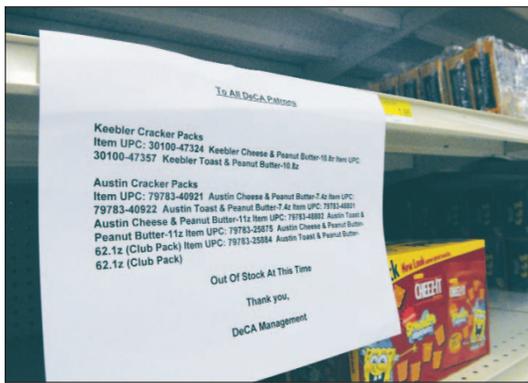
refund. She wasn't sure when the products might be restocked.

Salmonella is one of the most common intestinal infections in the United States. Salmonellosis, the disease caused by the bacteria is the second most common form of bacterial foodborne illness.

It is estimated that 1.4 million cases of salmonellosis occur each year in the U.S.; 95 percent of those cases are foodborne-related.

About 220 of each 1000 cases result in hospitalization and eight of every 1000 cases result in death.

About 500 to 1,000 or 31 percent of all food-related deaths are caused by Salmonella infections each year. Salmonellosis is more common in the warmer months of the year.



A sign on an empty shelf at the commissary tells consumers certain products are out of stock. The out of stock items are due to some companies' recalls on peanut butter products.

U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Base prepares for migration to Windows Vista

BY KENDAHL JOHNSON
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By the end of 2009, all computers at Robins will be running on Microsoft's Windows Vista operating system.

The migration from Windows XP to Vista is mandated by the federal government, in part to stay current – Microsoft has said it will stop supporting XP by the end of this year. Primarily, however, the migration will increase security.

"The need to migrate to Vista is driven by the need to ensure we have a secure processing environment," said Tena Dominy, 78th Communications Group deputy director. "Vista brings some additional layers of security that safeguard us here at the base."

She said in order to be compliant with the federal mandate by the December deadline, teams are approaching the implementation aggressively. "We hope to get this accomplished early so we are not challenged at the end of the year," Ms. Dominy said.

Converting all systems to Vista will involve a complete "wipe and load," meaning hard drives of current systems will be wiped clean and the new operating system will be installed. More than 16,000 computers will be converted with this initiative.

"When you have a large project like this, it becomes very difficult to accomplish," said Jonathan Kaupp, co-project manager for Vista implementation. "We are accomplishing a major rollout which would normally take an industry two years, and we are trying to accomplish it in the next six to eight months."

He said if the tasking was a simple wipe and load, it would not be that difficult. What makes it so problematic is the need to make sure all software on current machines is authorized, licensed and compatible with Vista.

Keith Council, co-project manager for the implementation, said the first step is to look at hardware compatibility.

"We will go through and identify what will actually be compatible with Vista," Mr. Council said.

He said through normal life cycle replacements, computers that could not meet the demands of Vista and have already lived their life expectancy will be replaced with computers that have Vista preloaded. About 4,500 systems will need to be replaced. Other computers will receive hardware upgrades to ensure they meet optimal Vista specifications.

In order to make a smooth transition, the 78th CG will rely on users' involvement.

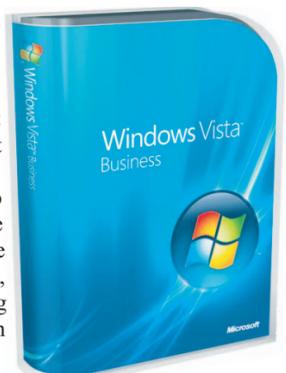
"We'll be looking to our customers to support us in this deployment. We cannot do it without them," Ms. Dominy said. "We need for them to ensure their data is stored in the standard location, their My Documents folder, to enable us to locate it for transfer to their new computer."

They should validate that all the software on their computer is needed for their job and has a valid license. Prior to the upgrade, customers may become familiar with Vista through online training available via the IT Central icon on their desktops.

Although the requirement to migrate to Vista has received some opposition, many who have made the jump to Vista are happy.

"The users who have gone through the testing and have been working with Vista are very pleased," Mr. Council said. "There has been a lot of positive feedback."

Ms. Dominy said because no unauthorized or unlicensed software will be allowed on a Vista desktop, the opportunity exists to do a self-inspection for compliance to software regulations. She also said because the migration will further standardize desktop configurations, the Communication Group's service to base customers will improve.



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THE TWO-MINUTEREV

78th ABW Quarterly Awards

Col. Debra Bean, 78th Air Base Wing vice commander, will host the 78th ABW 4th Quarter Awards Ceremony today at 9 a.m. at the Heritage Club. Outstanding civilian and military performers from the Wing will be recognized. Commanders, supervisors, family members and friends are encouraged to attend. Show your unit's pride and spirit; come and join us in congratulating the troops for their stellar achievements. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Gregory Brown at 222-3098.

DEVELOPMENT

Reading lists

Base leaders share their recommendations of good reading material, 1B

HEALTH

Dental hygiene

February is National Children's Dental Health Month, 6A

SPORTS

Winter Sports Day

78th ABW takes time out for a little friendly competition, 3B

WEATHER

FRIDAY 55/28

SATURDAY 57/29

SUNDAY 61/37

402nd EMXG employees benefit from ITEP course

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

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Efforts to improve education levels in the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group culminated Jan. 24 with the first graduating class of the Institute for Innovative Technologies in Educational Programs.

In a ceremony held at the Museum of Aviation, 32 employees in the 402nd EMXG received associate's degrees through the program. Ernest Ford, the training manager for the 402nd EMXG, said the program began about a year and a half ago to increase the education level in the group.

"We think this is going to be a big program," he said. "Hopefully we can educate not just the 402nd, but this will be a program the whole base can take advantage of."

The primary benefits of the program, he said, are that classes are done online and the school accepts prior credits from technical schools as college credits. There is an

option for on-site classes if students desire.

Also, he noted, the program is not just about college-level classes. Some employees have taken reading and writing classes through ITEP, which is a school in Columbus. A total of 80 employees participated in the program.

Col. Jerry Whitley, commander of the 402nd EMXG, said it's an important program not only for the group, but for the entire base.

"It has generated energy for our future as our folks broaden their educational horizon," he said. "It creates a broader perspective for what you can do. For me, it's energy in the organization."

Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, commander of the 402nd Maintenance Wing, attended the graduation ceremony.

"This first graduation ceremony cements another great partnership between the community and the Air Logistics Center," he said. "I'm proud of the graduates for all their hard work, and I'm proud of

their managers for supporting them every step of the way. These types of programs help us develop and sustain a competent and capable workforce for Robins Air Force Base."

Also attending the ceremony was Donna Frazier, the deputy director of the 402 EMXG.

Mr. Ford, who was also one of the graduates, said many in the group are already making plans to pursue a bachelor's degree.

Although all of the graduates were civilians employed in the 402nd EMXG, he said the program is open to all military and civilian personnel throughout the base. Those interested can contact their training manager or they can call Mr. Ford. Students pay 25 percent of the tuition, while the base pays the remainder.

He said the courses for the associate's degree included English, humanities, Spanish, physiology, psychology and others.

"I thought it was a great course," he said.

Institute for ITEP graduates

Jerry L. Allegood
Ruby J. Baggarly
Mamie S. Barkley
Kay Lynn Carter
Maxwell Stacy Carter
Richard Chamberlin
Stanley R. Deal
Antonio A. Delgado
Michael Kelvin Donald
Robert Walter Faber
Ernest Ford Jr.
Nancy Garrison
Carol K. Hall
Susan Kaye Harris
Katrina Wonnun-Hawkins
Jimmie L. Hill
Jacqueline A. P. James
John Randall Johnson III
Laura Davis Johnson
Glenda Faye Jones
Ronnie Jerome Jordan
Zohra L. Khan
Reginald Gerard McGhee
Sharon Mitchell
Shalana J. Moneypenney
Julie Harbin Odom
Sylvester Oglesby
Carlos S. Perry
Cheryl E. Pritchett
Caroline B. Rawls
Otis Shelley Jr.
Troy Emory Trull Jr.
Willie D. White

Robins celebrates diversity during Black History Month

BY LANORRIS ASKEW

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Robins is no stranger to showcasing its diversity and once again the base will celebrate differences by bringing its people together during the 2009 Black History

Observance.

Capt.

Maryann

Edwards,

BHO project officer,

said the over-

all purpose of

the Robins

Black History

Month celebra-

tion is to recog-

nize the continu-

ous achievements

and contributions

made by African Americans.

"It is also used as a vehicle to continue to educate and uplift our community, while fostering interaction of people of all races, ages and gender," she said

As project officer, the cap-

tain is responsible for the cele-

bration, including the over-

all planning, coordinating,

advertising and operations of

the events.

And with events including

a gospel extravaganza, an

educational symposium and

a luncheon with guest speaker

George Watson Sr., an

Original Tuskegee Airman,

the observance promises

something for everyone.

"I would like for all those

who participate in the events

to leave with a sense of unity

and togetherness," Captain

Edwards said. "I also hope

that people will leave with a

sense of duty to what we as

citizens must do within our

communities to educate and

empower ourselves to serve

all people in need, regardless

of race, creed or color."

Hildred Jones, who has

been working on the Robins

Black History Observance

committee since 1989, said

her wish for participants is

that they understand that we

can all be one as we work

together, that there is no

"little I or

big you."

Captain

Edwards

said she

believes it's

important for

a military

installation like

Robins to host

observances like

this because it

enhances

cross-cultural and

cross-gender

awareness and promotes har-

mony among all military

members, their families and

the civilian work force.

"It also helps people to

gain a greater understanding

and appreciation of each

other, regardless of our dif-

ferences," she said

Ms. Jones agreed.

"It's important because

there is not just one race of

people that works on any

military installation, there

are many cultures throughout

America and they should all

be celebrated."

She added that personally,

she feels obligated in some

form to continue to educate

and make people aware of

continued history making

moments.

The observance, which

officially kicked off Jan. 23

with a bowl-a-thon at Robins

Lanes, will continue through

the end of February and will

conclude Feb. 28 at the

Heritage Club with a grand

finale featuring entertain-

ment by the music trio



J-STARS fields airborne networking with innovative support concept

BY 1ST LT.

JAMIE CUBARRUBIA

116th Computer Systems Squadron

Airmen and Soldiers flying in the U.S. Air Force's E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System will have access to Beyond Line of Sight airborne SIPRNet and secure telephone capability, thanks to the Airmen assigned to the 116th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and the 116th Computer Systems Squadron.

BLOS, recently installed on the entire E-8C fleet, replaces the Joint Capability for Airborne Networks. It overcomes JCAN's glaring limitation—the requirement to have a direct line of sight to a limited number of ground stations with which it can share information. In addition to overcoming this significant operational hurdle, BLOS can deliver information at a rate of up to 256 kbps, eight times faster compared to JCAN's 32 kbps. BLOS connects Joint STARS to the DOD's Global Information Grid through direct connections with satellites.

These connections, unhindered by the earth's curvature, give airborne battle managers and ground-based leadership alike unprecedented access to the most up-to-date ground targeting intelligence data available. Through the BLOS connection, Joint STARS operators have the ability to share information with any DOD entity via SIPRnet mail, text messaging and secure telephone.

During a recent visit to the 116th Air Control Wing, Lt. Gen. Robert Elder, 8th Air Force commander, commented that it is imperative that cyber net-centric systems such as BLOS get implemented because Joint STARS was designed for this type of information fusion and information sharing. He also reiterated that cyber is a vital war fighting domain, the only domain that transcends all four war fighting domains of land, sea, air

and space.

From a mission crew perspective, Lt Col John Verhage, Director of Operations, 128th Airborne Command and Control Squadron, had nothing but positive comments about BLOS.

"I can get more information, faster, to the ground commander so he can make decisions on the battlefield for positioning of forces that involve 'Time Critical' decisions," he said.

Besides changing the way Air Force operations personnel carry out their missions, BLOS is also leading aircraft maintenance and communications personnel to re-evaluate the way they go about their business. Employing many net-centric commercial off the shelf communications technologies, the way BLOS equipment is configured and maintained blurs the lines between the two separate fields. Traditionally, only maintenance personnel are qualified to work on airborne systems, while communications personnel were confined to the base network control centers, help desks and as local client support administrators.

The 116th ACW at Robins, the Air Force's sole Joint STARS unit, is blazing the trail in defining roles and responsibilities between how two different career fields—aircraft maintenance and communications—work together to ensure theater commanders have 24/7 access to the vital ground intelligence Joint STARS provides. Two different squadrons in two different groups — 116th CSS, assigned to the 116th Operations Group, and 116th AMXS, assigned to the 116th Maintenance Group — have pooled their combined resources to handle the unforeseen challenges brought about by BLOS.

CSS communications airmen will provide back shop configuration and troubleshooting assistance to AMXS maintainers, who in turn will install and maintain



Courtesy photo

Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Beaty, 116th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, trains with Staff Sgt. Charisse Holmes, 116th Computer Systems Squadron, on BLOS configuration equipment.

the BLOS equipment onboard E-8C Joint STARS aircraft.

Lt. Col. Fred Massey, 116th CSS commander, was committed from the beginning to lending his squadron's support for BLOS.

"I think we bring important skills and knowledge to support AMXS and provide mission aircrews this critical connectivity," Lt. Col. Massey said. "The BLOS airborne networking system installed on the E-8C consists of the same equipment communications troops are trained on by the Air Force in tech school, such as network servers, routers and firewalls."

Getting BLOS operational quickly was directed from CENTCOM.

"BLOS came down as an urgent operational need directed from CENTCOM to be fielded to the FOL in the minimum amount of time," said Lt. Col. Mark Weber, 116th AMXS commander.

As a result of this, both

squadrons started searching for the smartest ways of doing business.

"This technology is so new that my career field hasn't quite caught up yet... the Air Force is in the process of creating a new career field to deal with all these new airborne networks coming down, but for now, the mission dictates this unique interaction between AMXS and CSS," said Master Sgt. Jason Page, 116th AMXS.

With more and more U.S. assets making use of net-centric COTS technology, arrangements such as the one between CSS and AMXS could become more commonplace throughout the Air Force, until a new career field specifically tailored to handle airborne networks connected to the GIG is finalized.

The Air Force can look to the 116th ACW for lessons in how to utilize, exploit and support follow-on emerging net-centric platforms.

Black History Observance activity

Golf tournament today starting at noon. Cost is \$45 per person. For more information, contact Jeanette McElhaney 926-3857. For a complete list of observance activities, view this article online at www.robins.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123133203.

TOPS IN BLUE

Continued from 1A

Both had traveled to San Antonio, Texas to audition. Airman Frost will serve as a vocalist in the show. They had been told if they were selected, they would be informed by Tuesday, and with the day drawing near and both having not heard a word, they were losing hope. Airman Frost had auditioned last year but wasn't selected.

Airman Frost, an apprentice at the Fitness Center, said she wanted to join the group because of her love of singing and the opportunity to travel and act as an ambassador for the Air Force.

"I'm so excited beyond

belief," she said. "I've never been outside the United States. I'm really looking forward to going into the deployment locations and performing for our troops."

The group performs a high energy show that includes a wide variety of music and some comedy. Colonel Bean was among those in Sunday's audience.

"It was the best show I've seen in ages," she told the 78th CG members. "It was incredible."

In March, Airman Frost and Airman Robinson will head for Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio where they will undergo an intense 45-day training period before hitting the road.

► IN BRIEF

PROMOTION CEREMONY

The 78th Air Base Wing will hold its monthly promotion ceremony in the Horizons Club Ball Room today at 4 p.m.

VOICEMAIL UPGRADE

At 5 p.m. on Monday the Robins voicemail system will undergo an upgrade. Prior to that date all messages must be retrieved as they will not transfer to the upgraded system.

After Monday you will continue accessing your voicemail box by the usual means, however beginning at 5 p.m. on that day you will need to enter the default pass code of "1234" (Do NOT press # after entering your pass code) and simply follow the prompts to set-up your upgraded mailbox.

Be sure to listen carefully as the menu options will be different. If you hear a busy signal when attempting to access your voicemail box, please be patient and try your call again as we anticipate a higher than usual volume of calls for the first few days after the upgrade.

Those who dial 6-9315 to access voicemail may disregard this message as those users will be upgraded via the transition to digital service.

SERVICE STATION ACCEPTS WRIGHT EXPRESS CARDS

Your Robins Service Station is now equipped to accept Wright Express cards. The interim solution will give customers the capability to use their WEX card to pay inside the AAFES kiosk. The "pay at the pump" system will be upgraded and ready to accept the new form of payment in Fall 2009.

HEALTH CARE COUNCIL MEETING

Col. James R. Little, 78th Medical Group commander, will host the quarterly 78th MDG Health Care Council Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Robins Professional Development Center (785 Tenth St, Bldg 941). Everyone is invited to attend this open forum, which will provide first-hand information about current medical processes and future endeavors. Commanders, 1st Sergeants, Unit Health Monitors, enlisted, officers, civilians and all others with MDG concerns or positive feedbacks are highly encouraged to come out and be a part of this informative meeting. For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Tiffany Holoway at 222-1574.

CHIEFS' RECOGNITION CEREMONY & DINNER

The Robins Chiefs' Group will recognize 14 personnel at a ceremony and dinner Feb. 28 at 6 p.m. in the Museum of Aviation, Century of Flight Hangar. Cost is \$30 per person. Dress for military members is mess dress or semi-formal uniform. Civilian attire is formal, coat and tie.

Recent statistics indicate that only one of every 100 personnel who begin basic military training in the Air Force will attain the status of chief master sergeant.

ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT AWARDS

The Engineering and Technical Management awards are presented annually to recognize the outstanding contributions of scientists, engineers and technical teams to the mission of the Center and to aerospace power.

This year's awards will be presented at a luncheon Feb. 18, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Century of Flight Hangar. Randy Jansen, F-15 chief engineer, will be the guest speaker. The theme of the luncheon is "Crisis - An Opportunity to Shine."

The Center has nominated 57 of its best technical people for the awards in 14 categories. Local winners will be submitted to AFMC for competition across the command and the Air Force.

Event tickets are \$14 and may be purchased by contacting Rebekah Slaughter at 327-4037 by Feb. 10.

HEARTS TO HEROES BENEFIT

Dance Houston County will host a dance Saturday at its 5th Saturday charity event. All proceeds will benefit the Hearts to Heroes Program. The event will be held at the

Warner Robins Recreation Center at 800 Watson Blvd. For more information, call 955-0689.

RECRUITING VETERANS AS TEACHERS

Bill Kirkland, program manager for the Georgia, Troops to Teachers Program will be at the Robins Education Center Feb. 20 from 10 to 11 a.m. to take questions about Troops to Teachers. The briefing will be held in Bldg 905, Room 243. no reservations are necessary. For more information, contact Danielle Molina at 926-9952.

Cash incentives offered for good ideas

The IDEA Program is an incentive program to reward submitters for their approved ideas that benefit the Air Force by streamlining processes or improving/increasing productivity and efficiency. It also recognizes individuals for intangible benefits such as improving working conditions.

All Air Force active duty and Air Force Reserve personnel and civilian employees may submit ideas, and are eligible for monetary awards. Contractor personnel may also

submit ideas but are not eligible for monetary awards; they will be recognized by receiving a certificate of appreciation.

Individuals or teams may submit ideas through the IDEA Program Data System via Robins Homepage or at <https://ipds.csd.disa.mil>.

Ideas must be clearly titled, state the current practice, method, procedure, task. The idea text must provide a detailed description or solution of how to change the current practice or implement the idea.

The idea text should contain the following headers: present method (describes how the process is currently being done), proposed method (describes the solution to

improving the process), and expected benefits (identify the benefits the Air Force will receive if the idea is approved). Ideas must include specific recommendations, not merely thoughts or opinions.

During the input process, IPDS assigns a number to each idea. IPDS then automatically sends it to the IDEA program manager who receives a notification in her e-mail. The IDEA program manager accesses IPDS and completes the eligibility review. The idea is then sent via IPDS to the unit POC for the subject of the idea who then assigns it to an evaluator.

If the base level evaluators can "implement" the idea, they have the authority to approve or disapprove it. Throughout the entire evaluation process, the submitter, unit POC and evaluator receive electronic IPDS notifications explaining where the idea is along the evaluation process.

If submitters do not have access to an organization computer, they may submit their ideas using the alternate process. Contact IDEA program manager Renee Beringer at 222-0743 or renee.beringer@robins.af.mil for assistance.

During the month of February, all ideas submitted and made eligible and/or approved will receive a promotional item from the IDEA program.



Robins Severe Weather Awareness Week campaign runs through Feb. 8

Governor Sonny Perdue has designated Feb. 1-7 as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Georgia. This educational campaign seeks to inform citizens on the risks associated with severe weather.

During the week, the 78th Operations Support Squadron's Weather Flight will lead an effort to enhance knowledge and situational awareness of procedures here at Robins. In addition, the flight will highlight preparation efforts that will assist the base populace with handling impacts associated with severe weather.

During the awareness campaign, the weather flight has prepared an educational program highlighting warning procedures, safety preparations and post-storm recommendations for Robins. The program will run from now until Feb. 8 on Robins TV, channel 15, on the base cable system.

Severe weather can occur in several fashions, according to senior aviation meteorologist Roddy Nixon, Jr. of the Robins weather flight.

"Most people tend to focus on the tornado or the hail-producing thunderstorm, however, flash flooding and lightning can be just as dangerous." As a matter of fact, these hazards kill more citizens annually than tornadoes," Nixon said. "Early awareness of the threat and adequate planning to handle it is essential."

Georgia sees, in an average year, six days with tornadoes, seven days with large hail and nineteen days with the potential for damaging wind-producing storms.

These events can occur at any time during any month of the year, however, the spring transition, mid-February thru Mid-May, historically is the greater threat window in the midstate.

Mr. Nixon cites recent severe weather events that have resulted in extensive damage and loss of life such as the

2008 Macon and the 2007 Americus tornadoes.

"We need everyone to take time to assess the dangers, have a plan of action, and be prepared for the difficult times that occur after an event," he said.

Applicable severe weather watches and warnings for Robins

►TORNADO WATCH: Conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms and tornadoes in and close to the watch area.

►TORNADO WARNING: Issued when strong rotation in a thunderstorm is indicated by Doppler weather radar or a tornado is sighted by trained personnel.

►SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCH: Conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms in and close to the watch area. A severe thunderstorm contains large hail of three-quarter inch diameter or larger, and/or damaging winds greater than 58 mph (50 knots or greater). Isolated tornadoes are also possible.

►SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING: A severe thunderstorm is indicated by Doppler weather radar or sighted by trained personnel. A severe thunderstorm contains large hail of three-quarter inch diameter or larger, and/or damaging winds greater than 58 mph (50 knots or greater).

►LIGHTNING WATCH: Conditions are favorable for the development and occurrence of lightning in and close to the watch area.

►LIGHTNING WARNING: Issued when lightning has been observed, manually or by lightning detection sensors, within a designated radius.

NOTE: All as issued as required and are a collaborative effort between the Robins weather flight and the 26th Operational Weather Squadron. — *By 78th Operations Support Squadron*

AFPC spreads word at Robins

Several hundred people from Robins attended one of two “Spread the Word” briefings at the base theater Jan 26.

Col. Leslie Formolo, Air Force Personnel Center chief of airman assignments, Randolph AFB, Texas, told the audience that unlike the “Wizard of Oz” with some man behind a curtain making decisions for them, there were 2,600 specialists to help assign them.

She and her team, comprised of Maj. Paul Fidler, Maj. Greg Nita, Jim Hale and Capt. Ron Bell, provided information on personnel issues and delivery transformation, as well as allowing Air Force members direct, face-to-face contact with AFPC personnel to address concerns and provide feedback.

Specific topics covered included, among others, 365-day deployment options, the Global AEF tempo-banding system, civilian hiring procedures, and assignment processes. —By Sue Sapp



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

Above, L to R, Maj. Paul Fidler, Capt. Ron Bell, Jim Hale, and Capt. Greg Nita, Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, answer questions from the audience during a “Spread the Word” briefing at the base theater Jan 26. The group was at Robins to answer questions about personnel issues and delivery transformation.

Below, several hundred people from Robins attended a “Spread the Word” briefing at the base theater Jan 26.



Spread the news

Send your announcements
to Lanorris Askew

at lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil



Photo by PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS CHAD J. MCNEELEY

President Barack Obama addresses the media Jan. 28 during his first visit to the Pentagon since becoming commander in chief. President Obama and Vice President Joe Biden met with Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and all the service chiefs, getting their input on the way ahead in Afghanistan and Iraq.

President thanks troops, pledges military support

BY JOHN J. KRUZEL

American Forces Press Service

President Barack Obama thanked U.S. troops and pledged to provide the resources they need to accomplish their missions Jan. 28 in his first visit to the Pentagon as commander in chief.

President Obama spoke to reporters here after meeting with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates to discuss military readiness, “difficult decisions” on Iraq and Afghanistan and other national security threats and objectives.

“I want to first of all thank all of the men and women in uniform who are represented here. They are the best that this country has to offer,” President Obama said after he and Vice President Joe Biden shook hands with a row of troops from all service branches who lined an E-ring Pentagon hallway.

To read the complete story, visit <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123133170>.

Commentary

"A man who views the world the same at fifty as he did at twenty has wasted thirty years of his life."

— Muhammad Ali

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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Submissions must be received by 4 p.m. the Monday prior to the requested Friday publication. They should be e-mailed to kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil. Submissions should be of broad interest to the base populace. If there are further questions, call Kendahl Johnson at (478) 222-0804.

DELIVERY

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Commander's Action Line

The Action Line is an open-door program for Team Robins personnel to give kudos, ask questions or suggest ways to make Robins a better place to work and live.

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.

Col. Warren Berry
78th Air Base Wing,
commander

Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response. Anonymous action lines will not be processed. Discourteous or disrespectful submissions will not be processed.

Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Robins Rev-Up.

To contact the Action Line:

Call 926-2886 or for the quickest response, e-mail action.line@robins.af.mil.

<https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>

PHONE NUMBERS

▶ Security Forces	327-3445
▶ Services	926-5491
▶ Equal Opportunity	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, Abuse	926-2393
▶ Housing Office	926-3776
▶ Chaplain	926-2821

CLEAN UP OF DUCK LAKE

During a recent walk along Duck Lake, I noticed quite a bit of trash along the bank and in the lake. Additionally, the stream/water source leading into the lake has quite a bit of trash and tree debris slowing the water flow. I would like to recommend a Duck Lake clean-up day be announced, asking for volunteers. If appropriate items are provided for the clean-up (bags, hip boots, gloves, pitch forks,

canoe/row boat, chain saw, etc.), I'm sure volunteers would support this effort - I know I would. If something is already planned, please share the schedule.

COLONEL BERRY'S RESPONSE:

Thank you for reminding us how lucky we are to have a great base to live and work on, and that it takes more than luck to keep it that way. We all need to pitch in on general "housekeeping" activi-

ties and be good stewards of our base environment. Your idea for a cleanup project is great--The 78th Force Support Squadron and Civil Engineering Group are teaming up to lead a Duck Lake Cleanup event on Feb. 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m..

Interested volunteers should contact Karan Hudgens at 926-4001 for information. You can also watch for additional information in the Rev-up and in Services flyers.



Healthy smiles require early start

February is National Children's Dental Health Month

U.S. Air Force file photo by AIRMAN REBECCA MONTEZ

Dressed up as dentists, a group of children admire their new look during a health and hygiene presentation last year at the Child Development Center at Langley Air Force Base, Va. The class given by the 1st Dental Squadron stressed teeth and mouth cleanliness as well as good eating habits. February is National Children's Dental Health Month. See the Rev-up throughout the month for articles on how to keep young smiles healthy.

Robins Voluntary Protection Program in action

What began as a DOD directive to Robins has grown into a sweeping movement across the base, directly involving almost half of our military members, civilian government employees and contractor personnel. In 2006, the DOD chose to pursue recognition in OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program throughout all branches of the Armed Forces in an effort to reduce mishaps and compensation costs. In turn, the Air Force selected a number of installations to begin the process that same year, with Robins being one of the first bases selected to participate.

The Voluntary Protection Program recognizes exemplary safety and health management systems through validation of these systems by personnel from outside of the areas being reviewed.

Education and awareness campaigns began with increased publicity and the usual briefings; however, if this program was going to obtain the necessary buy-in from everyone on the installation, it quickly became obvious that visible changes needed to take place on the shop floor. People needed to see a differ-

ence.

A cornerstone of VPP is employee involvement, so a locally-developed plan was designed which provided for participation at all levels of the organization.

The Commander's "Safe Site" Challenge was born. A "Safe Site" is an area/team/workplace where safety is viewed as everyone's responsibility, not just the responsibility of the supervisor or the safety manager. Leaders and supervisors within "Safe Sites" have established a climate/culture where proactive safety equates to increased productivity and continuous improvement is the norm.

The Commander's "Safe Site" Challenge includes an application process with support of both management and union, and three levels of recognition, from bronze to silver to gold, each building on the previous



level's criteria. The validation process involves reviews of paper, people and places in the work site. These reviews are accomplished by small assessment teams from outside of the areas being reviewed.

Two hundred fifteen work sites have submitted their applications to be recognized as "Safe Sites". So far, thirty-four are at the bronze level recognition, sixty at the silver level and five sites have achieved the highest level of recognition in the Commander's Safe Site Challenge, gold. Our goal is that every work site on the installation accepts the Commander's Safe Site Challenge, and adopts the VPP and "Safe Site" principles. We are confident that this will result in not only lower mishap rates and compensation costs, but increased employee involvement and an improved safety culture, both at work and at home.

— VPP Office

Robins lieutenant sees visions of gold ... bars

It is not uncommon for people to call you crazy when your goals seem out of reach or your method for achieving them unorthodox. This was the case for me almost every time someone learned that I had enlisted with a master's degree.

In joining the U.S. military my ultimate goal was to contribute to the success of keeping our country free. My younger brother had been deployed three times for a year or more with the Army, and I became burdened more and more with the fact that he was sacrificing so much while I was home enjoying (and all too often taking for granted) his and countless others' efforts. To me it was simple; I would join the Air Force and become an officer.

I enlisted February 2006 during a time when the active-duty Air Force was "force shaping" both its enlisted and officer corps. At that time there was a two year waiting list for "non-technical" officers. So, I had a choice to make: I could wait two years as a civil-

ian and maybe be selected as an officer or I could enlist, serve my country, gain some valuable military experience and if the Air Force could use me as such, become an officer.

Fast forward through basic training, technical school and arriving at my first duty station (we all have those "fun" stories). I started my military career as an airman 1st class and, like many others ambitious Airmen, had my next promotion rank pinned up at my desk. But, in addition to the senior airman stripes I also had a set of BDU second lieutenant bars displayed.

Every day I would look over at both ranks and wonder which promotion would come first. And during those really trying days looking at those gold bars and envisioning becoming an officer made all the difference. So, when I was invited to interview for an officer position with the Air National Guard it seemed very fitting that I would have these same gold bars in my pocket. I remember after meeting that selection board I took them out of my pocket and

thought, "I hope that worked," as if having the gold bars in my pocket may have been the deciding factor in my being selected or not.

After the longest three weeks of my life I received a phone call congratulating me on being selected as an officer. After the call I automatically reached over and grabbed the gold bars off my cubical wall. They seemed heavier and a little more real. The next few days were a blur but, I do remember feeling slightly taller and my cheeks hurting from smiling all the time.

Shortly after joining the Guard I was promoted to senior airman and left for officer training (AMS) about four months later knowing, all too well, it would be very much like basic training. I had decided that I would keep my "lucky" gold bars in my pockets everyday while at AMS and I was glad I did.

While there was never a moment I felt like quitting there were many stressful and difficult times when knowing those gold bars were there with me helped me maintain my vision

of commissioning. They helped me stay motivated and inspired during the worst portions of training (I seem to remember many such times were usually accompanied by much yelling).

When I did finally commission I was sworn in by my commander and, of course, I had my gold bars in my pocket. I remember thinking, "it's official!" After almost three years of hard work and perseverance I had achieved my goal of becoming an Air Force officer. The only thing better than achieving a major goal in life is sharing it with those who helped you throughout the process, so, after being sworn in, I pulled those gold bars from my pocket, told my commander the story behind them and handed her one to keep...

The other one you might be asking... I still carry it around with me. Except now it is proudly displayed on my BDU cap.

See it... Believe it... Achieve it...
This commentary was written by 2nd Lt. "Dan" Speir, 116th Air Control Wing.

Bookworms unite: Leaders release reading list

To encourage professional and personal development, Robins leaders are inviting base personnel to spend more time reading. To assist potential bookworms, leaders have released a list of 31 recommended books.

According to the Maj. Gen. Polly A. Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, sharing reading lists with other readers "adds to the

enjoyment of expanding one's exposure to new ideas and information."

"I've been an avid reader all my life, so delving into a reading list which represents a combination of leadership theories, military and government history, and biographies is exciting," the general said. "If other Airmen aren't already readers, I encourage them to start small with just one book and add to their own

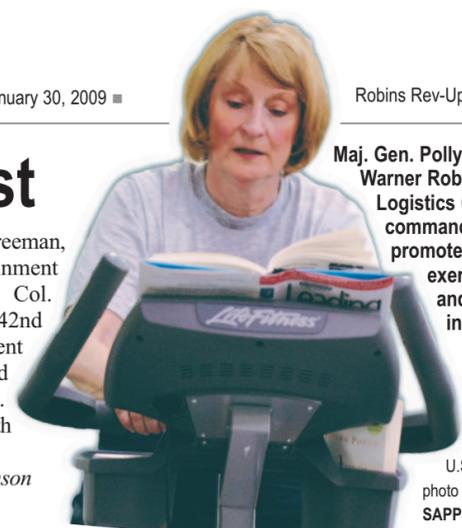
reading pleasure."

According to base librarian Blanchella Casey, the Base Library has several copies of each book available for checkout.

In addition to General Peyer's recommendations, the list includes recommendations from Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, 402nd Maintenance Wing commander; Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing com-

mander; Col. Tim Freeman, 330th Aircraft Sustainment Wing commander; Col. Joseph Veneziano, 542nd Combat Sustainment Wing commander; and Chief Master Sgt. Buddy Hutchison, 78th ABW command chief.

—By Kendahl Johnson



Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, promotes both exercise and reading.

U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

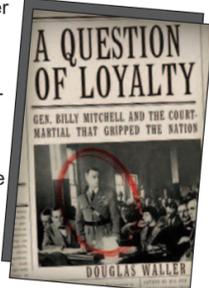
Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer's recommended reading list

Title: A Question of Loyalty

Author: Douglas Waller

Genre: Biography

Synopsis: The book plunges into the seven-week Washington trial of Gen. William "Billy" Mitchell, the hero of the U.S. Army Air Service during World War I.

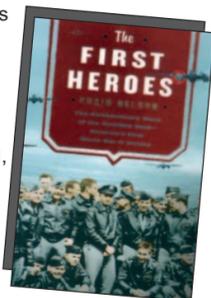


Title: The First Heroes

Author: Craig Nelson

Genre: History

Synopsis: Story of Col. Jimmy Doolittle's raid on Tokyo in WWII, with first bomber sorties from a carrier.

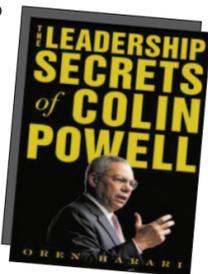


Title: The Leadership Secrets of Colin Powell

Author: Oren Harari

Genre: Leadership

Synopsis: Author shows how to apply Powell's leadership principles



Title: Good to Great

Author: Jim Collins

Genre: Management

Synopsis: Argues that the key quality to organizational excellence is culture, and illustrates how it propels some organizations yet inhibits others.

Title: John Warden and the Renaissance of American War Power

Author: John Andreas Olsen

Genre: Biography

Synopsis: Biography of Col John Warden, who is largely credited for "writing" the air campaign for Desert Storm.

Title: Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking

Author: Malcolm Gladwell

Genre: Management

Synopsis: An intriguing examination of snap judgments and instant decision making.

Title: Air Force Spoken Here

Author: James Parton

Genre: Biography

Synopsis: Biography of Gen. Ira Eaker, first 8th Air Force commander and leader of Allied Air Forces in the Mediterranean during WWII.

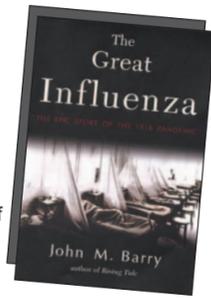


Title: The Great Influenza

Author: John Barry

Genre: History

Synopsis: The epic story of the deadliest plague in history, the influenza epidemic of 1914-1918.



Title: Boyd: The Fighter Pilot Who Changed the Art of War

Author: Robert Coram

Genre: Biography

Synopsis: Life of Col. John Boyd, one of the greatest fighter pilots in American history.

Title: Moving Mountains

Author: Lt. Gen. Gus Pagonis

Genre: Logistics

Synopsis: Outlines the many logistics challenges and successes of Desert Storm.

Title: It's All About Service

Author: Ray Pelletier

Genre: Management

Synopsis: How to lead your people to care for your customers.

Title: And Dignity for All

Author: James DeSapin

Genre: Leadership

Synopsis: People-based versus power-based principles of leadership from a former Caterpillar vice president.

Title: Supreme Command

Author: Eliot Cohen

Genre: Leadership

Synopsis: Leadership strategies of Lincoln, Churchill, Clemencaeu and Ben Gurion, who led in times of conflict.

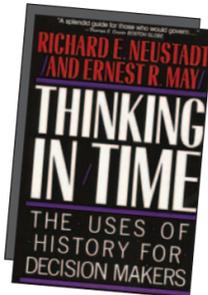
Col. Warren Berry's recommended reading list

Title: Thinking in Time

Authors: Richard Neustadt, Ernest May

Genre: Leadership

Synopsis: The benefits and pitfalls of using historical analogies in decision making.

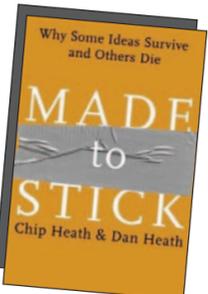


Title: Made to Stick

Author: Chip and Dean Heath

Genre: Management

Synopsis: A guide to communicating ideas and why some ideas "stick" while others do not survive.



Title: China's Rise: Challenges & Opportunities

Author: Fred Bergstein

Genre: Foreign Policy

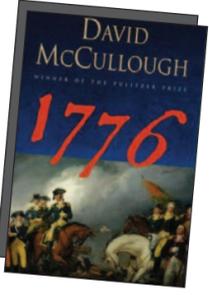
Synopsis: Examines the critical facts and dynamics underpinning China's rise and suggests policy responses.

Title: 1776

Author: David McCullough

Genre: History

Synopsis: A historical look at Washington's struggle leading independence.

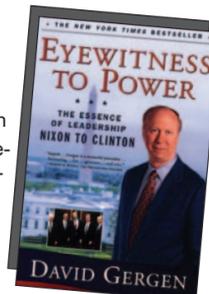


Title: Eyewitness to Power

Author: David Gergen

Genre: Leadership

Synopsis: From Nixon to Clinton, a behind-the-scenes account of their struggles to exercise power and draws from them key lessons for leaders of the future.



Title: Dawn Over Kitty Hawk

Author: Walter Boyne

Genre: History

Synopsis: Chronicles the Wright brothers' race to be first in flight in a historically-accurate, fictional novel.

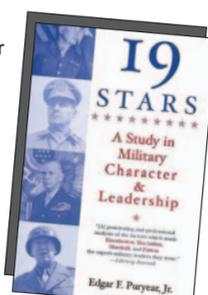
Col. Tim Freeman's recommended reading list

Title: 19 Stars

Author: Edgar Puryear

Genre: Leadership

Synopsis: A study of leadership styles from military generals Patton, Eisenhower, MacArthur and Marshall.

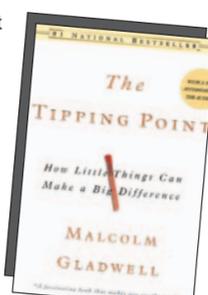


Title: The Tipping Point

Author: Malcolm Gladwell

Genre: Management

Synopsis: How little changes can have big effects, and how to making changes can better yourself and those you lead.



Title: Purple Cow

Author: Seth Godin

Genre: Management

Synopsis: How to do something remarkable to achieve organizational excellence.



Title: The Stuff of Heroes: Eight Universal Laws of Leadership

Author: William Cohen

Genre: Leadership

Synopsis: An eye-opening look at how to translate leadership skills in combat to daily life



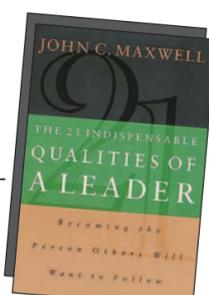
Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson's recommended reading list

Title: The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader

Author: John Maxwell

Genre: Leadership

Synopsis: Character qualities that make people want to follow their appointed leader.

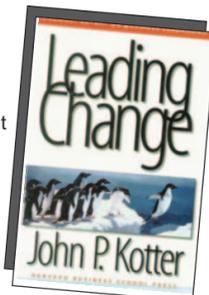


Title: Leading Change

Author: John Kotter

Genre: Management

Synopsis: Eight-step framework to implement change and create a sense of urgency.

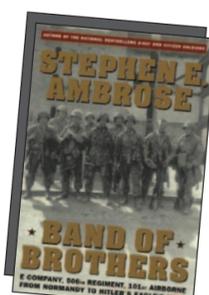


Title: Band of Brothers

Author: Stephen Ambrose

Genre: History

Synopsis: Chronicles the triumphs and tragedies of one U.S. Army infantry company over its World War II history.



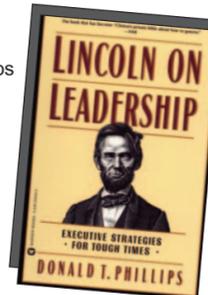
Chief Master Sgt. Harold Hutchison's reading list

Title: Lincoln on Leadership

Author: Donald Phillips

Genre: History

Synopsis: A look at Abraham Lincoln's leadership strategies during challenging times.

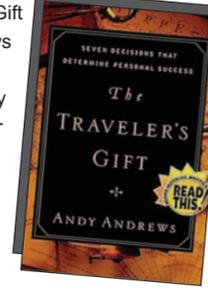


Title: The Traveler's Gift

Author: Andy Andrews

Genre: Leadership

Synopsis: Seven key decisions essential for personal success.

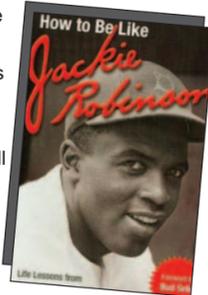


Title: How to Be Like Jackie Robinson

Author: Pat Williams

Genre: Biography

Synopsis: The life and times of baseball great Jackie Robinson.



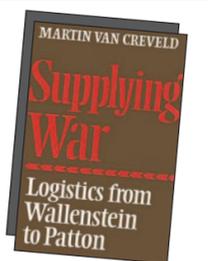
Col. Joseph Veneziano's recommended reading list

Title: Supplying War

Author: Martin Van Creveld

Genre: History

Synopsis: Addresses the critical, but often ignored, issues of logistics in warfare.



Title: Logistics in the National Defense

Author: Henry Eccles

Genre: Logistics

Synopsis: The strategic impacts of logistics and its bridge to the national economy.

Title: Affording Defense

Author: Jacques Gansler

Genre: Management

Synopsis: Author offers sensible proposals for the reform and revitalization of the U.S. national security system.

CSAF's 2009 reading list

Military history

Title: American Patriot: The Life and Wars of Col. Bud Day
Author: Robert Coram

Title: Fast Tanks and Heavy Bombers: Innovation in the U.S. Army, 1917-1945
Author: David Johnson

Title: The Savage Wars of Peace: Small Wars and the Rise of American Power
Author: Max Boot

Title: One Day Too Long: Top Secret Site 85 and the Bombing of North Vietnam
Author: Timothy Castle

Mission, doctrine, professional

Title: Counterinsurgency Warfare: Theory and Practice
Author: David Galulla

Title: Making 21st Century Strategy: An Introduction to the Modern National Security Processes and Problems
Author: Dennis Drew & Donald Snow

Title: Modern Strategy
Author: Colin Gray

Title: Thinking About America's Defense: An Analytical Memoir
Author: Glenn Kent

Our nation and world

Title: Afghanistan: A Short History of its People and Politics
Author: Martin Ewans

Title: Beating Goliath: Why Insurgencies Win
Author: Jeffrey Record

Title: Contemporary Nuclear Debates: Missile Defense, Arms Control and Arms Races in the 21st Century
Author: Alexander Lennen

Title: Not a Good Day to Die: The Untold Story of Operation Anaconda
Author: Sean Naylor

"Continued education is a crucial part of being a professional warrior reinforcing our core values of integrity, service and excellence. The books we have selected for our 2009 reading list capture a rich history, both intense and compelling, that offer a perspective to tackle the challenges of today and tomorrow."

Gen. Norton Schwartz
U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff



78th FSS BRIEFS

TODAY

Play Bunco Jan. 30 from 7 to 9 p.m. in Horizons. Cost is \$5 per person (18 years or older to participate and a valid club member). Open to all ranks and grades. For more information call Horizons at 926-2670.

SUNDAY

A Super Bowl XLIII extravaganza will be held Feb. 1. Enjoy the game on our multiple TVs including our three HD Plasma TVs with a basket of 12 wings for only \$7.95 and a bucket of domestic beer for \$7.25. Cost is free to members and \$5 for nonmembers. For more information call 926-2670.

A themed brunch will be held once a month at Horizons from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$11.95 for members, \$13.95 for guests and \$6.95 for children (3 – 10 years old) and children two years and younger are free. Please mark your calendar for the following dates: Sunday-themed brunches will be held Feb. 1, March 1, April 12 (Easter Sunday), May 10 (Mother's Day), June 21 (Father's Day), July 12, Aug. 2, Sept. 13, Oct. 4, Nov. 1 and Dec. 6 (Santa comes early). For more information call Horizons at 926-2670.

Stretch your educational and career goals with the CSAF and ALC Reading List starting Feb. 1 at the base library. For more information call the base library at 327-8761.

MONDAY

Learn a new skill or brush up on an old one starting Feb. 2 in the community center. Piano classes starting Feb. 2 from 7 to 8 p.m., cost \$65 per person; salsa and belly dancing starting Feb. 3 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and belly dancing from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., cost \$40 per person when you register for one class, get the other for free and hip hop classes starting Feb. 4 from 5 to 6 p.m. All classes need to be paid in advance. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

Win your sweetheart a special prize by guessing the right amount of candy in the sweetheart jar on display at the community center beginning Feb. 2 to 11. One guess per person please. Entries will be reviewed on

Feb. 12 at 2 p.m. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

Child Care requests are being accepted for school-age children to attend the Robins school-age program during the February winter break for Houston County Schools. Care will be offered Feb. 17 - 20 from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the youth center. Spaces accepted must be paid for by close of business on Feb. 2 or the spaces will be offered to others on the waiting list. Please use the online child care request form located at www.robinservices.com to apply. Contact Vera Keasley at 926-6741 for more information.

THURSDAY

The table tennis club will meet every Thursday in the Heritage Club ballroom from 4 to 8 p.m. Open to all and sign ups are not necessary. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

UPCOMING

An Art Show with exhibits and lectures presenting textile, patterns and communities in celebration of Black History month will be held Feb. 25 and 26 in the Heritage Club ballroom. Exhibits open for viewing at 11 a.m. for lectures and receptions begin at 4 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person for both days. For more information call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282.

A First Friday "March, sail, fly & blast into Military History" will be held at the Heritage Club and Horizons Feb. 6 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. First Friday means great food, chances to win prizes, entertainment and drink specials. Members must be present to win. Cost is members free and non-members \$5. For more information call 926-2670.

ONGOING

Information, Tickets and Travel Bldg. 956 has the following tickets for sale. For more information on these or other events, call 926-2945.

►Walt Disney World Armed Forces salutes active duty and retired military personnel and activated reserve or National Guard by giving a special offer. Receive a complimentary five-

LOA gets donation



courtesy photo

Left to right, Capt. Shony Webb, Career Broadeners; Col. Jim Danielson, USAF (Ret), Aerospace Industry Committee; Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, 402nd Maintenance Wing commander and Sue Gruber, Middle Georgia Logistics Officer Association president and a member of Plans and Programs at the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center accept a check for \$2,065 which was presented to LOA and the Career Broadeners for contributions to the 2008 Requirements Symposium, jointly sponsored by AIC and the Warner Robins Chamber of Commerce.

day park hopper with water park fun and more option. No more than one salute complimentary ticket per member will be activated. The member or spouse can purchase up to five Salute Companion tickets at the following discounted rates: 5-day base ticket (one park per day), \$99; 5-day park hopper, \$124; 5-day park hopper w/water park fun & more option, \$149. No member or spouse will be permitted to activate more than five total companion tickets regardless of place of purchase of those tickets and whether purchased by the member or spouse. All companion tickets must be purchased at the same time. The member or spouse must activate each companion ticket at Walt Disney World. All five days on each ticket must be used by Dec. 23, 2009. Orders are now being taken at the ITT office here. Last day to place

an order is Dec. 18, 2009.

►Tickets for the 2009 Daytona 500 to be held Feb. 15 are on sale. Tickets include a Great American Race for \$90; Super stretch Tower offer Feb. 14 and 15 for \$135 and Sprint Fanzone Feb. 15 (pre-race pass and Sprint Fanzone) for \$75.

►Tickets are on sale for the NASCAR Series Race held on March 6, 7 and 8 (includes Fridays Georgia Power qualifying and NASCAR Craftsman Series Truck race) at the Atlanta Motor Speedway for \$90.

►Tickets are also on sale for the Aaron's 312 and 499 weekend at the Talladega Super Speedway April 25 and 26. Cost for April 26 is \$50 for reserved grandstand seating in Gadsden or Lincoln or \$65 for reserved grandstand seating in

Talladega. Also tickets are on sale for Saturday, Sunday and pit pass for \$115.

►Tickets are available for a self-guided visit of the 250 rooms and estate of Biltmore Estates in Asheville, N.C. through April 3. Prices include admission to Biltmore House, gardens, winery and River Bend farm. Cost is \$23.25 for adult 17 years and older, \$6.75 for children 10 – 16 years old and children nine and younger are free with a paying adult.

The Biggest Loser runs through Feb. 28. Teams and individuals will earn points for each pound they lose. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place teams and individuals. Open to all base ID card holders. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128.

Editor's note: Have an opinion? If you have any suggestions for topics or would like to sound off on my top five, email kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil.



GREATEST SUPER BOWL PARTY SNACKS

Sunday, millions across the country will tune in to Super Bowl XLIII to watch the Pittsburgh Steelers take on the Arizona Cardinals. A big screen HDTV is nice but optional -- it's the delicious snack foods that make a party successful. What foods come to mind when planning a Super Bowl party? The Snack Food Association reports that Super Bowl snackers consume 11 million pounds of potato chips, 13.2 million pounds of avocados (mostly in guacamole), 8.2 million pounds of tortilla chips and 3.8 million pounds of popcorn. Here are my choices for the top snacks to provide when hosting a Super Bowl party.

5 Potstickers
Any kind of dumpling (or unleavened dough) stuffed with meats and other ingredients and deep fat fried is a good party snack. Some options include pierogi, lumpia, pizza rolls and egg rolls. (A distant cousin would be pigs in a blanket, which are often an unlikely crowd pleaser.)

4 Chips and dip
While there is nothing particularly special about chips and dip, they would be conspicuously missing if they weren't served. The beauty of chips and dip is there are a multitude of types of chips and hundreds of different dips to go with them. Artichoke and spinach dip and crab dip are my favorites.

3 Oven-baked finger foods
While this is a pretty broad category, I have one specific item in mind — cheesy jalapeño poppers. Other possibilities include mini pizzas, cheese sticks and chicken fingers. (The best party snack I've had to date were homemade bacon-wrapped stuffed jalapeños.)

2 Nachos
Nachos are a tried and true classic snack. At their essence, they are simply a layer of tortilla chips with melted cheddar cheese (avoid using processed cheese) and jalapeño peppers. Offering more variety, like a nacho dip with salsa, sour cream, guacamole and beans, scores you additional points.

1 Chicken wings
Who doesn't like chicken wings? No Super Bowl party would be complete without wings. With more than 100 different flavors (and thousands of different recipes available online) you are not limited in serving the original Buffalo hot and spicy flavor (although you can't go wrong if you do).

READER MAILBAG: "What's the deal with the number two pick? First, the Giants' win last year was the BEST superbowl of all time. Second, Tynes did not hit a game winner as written in the article, Plaxico Burrell caught the TD to put them up 16-14. Actually Tynes hit the PAT to make it 17-14. (Ed note: My recollection was a bit fuzzy due to an overload of super snacks.) One other note, in your number one pick you stated 'The back-and-forth fourth quarters saw the teams combine for 37 points.' I played football, I am a football fan, I even watch football, but I have never heard of two fourth quarters." — **Daniel Okurowski**, 373rd TRS, on last week's editor's top five list.

DONATE YOUR LEAVE

The following have been approved as a leave recipients: **Suzanne McGuire Milbee**, 580th SMXS. POC is Randy Ford 926-0485. **Terri Erica Walden**, 584th CBSS. POC is John McCord 222-3026

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 Robins Rev-Up, wings should send information to Lanorris Askew at: lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil. Submissions run for two weeks.

78th FSS PHONE DIRECTORY

- Services 926-5491
- Community Center 926-2105
- Outdoor Rec 926-4001
- Arts & Crafts 926-5282
- Horizons 926-2670
- Heritage Club 926-7625
- Library 327-8761
- HAWC 327-8480
- Fitness Center 926-2128
- Fitness Center Annex 926-2128
- Youth Center 926-2110
- ITT 926-2945
- Bowling Center 926-2112
- Pine Oaks G.C. 926-4103
- Pizza Depot 926-0188

Additional information on Services events and activities can be found in **The Edge** and at www.robinservices.com

CHAPEL SERVICES

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

Islamic
Islamic Friday Prayer (Jumua) is Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex rooms 1 and 2.

Jewish
Jewish service is Fridays at 6:15 p.m. at the Macon synagogue.

Orthodox Christian
St. Innocent Orthodox Church service is at the chapel on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m.

Protestant
The traditional service meets Sunday in the Chapel at 11 a.m. featuring hymns, anthems, congregational prayers and readings. Contemporary service meets at 6 p.m. in the Chapel sanctuary, singing the latest praise and worship music. The gospel service meets at 8 a.m. at the Chapel, praising God with inspirational music. Religious education meets in Bldg. 905 at 9:30 a.m.



NOW PLAYING



JAN. 30 — 7:30 P.M.
YES MAN
RATED PG-13

A man signs up for a self-help program based on one simple principle: say yes to everything... and anything. At first, unleashing the power of "yes" transforms his life in amazing and unexpected ways, but he soon discovers that opening up his life to endless possibilities can have its drawbacks.



JAN. 31 — 2 P.M.
BEDTIME STORIES
RATED PG

Hotel handyman Skeeter's life is changed forever when the bedtime stories he tells his niece and nephew start to mysteriously come true. He attempts to take advantage of the phenomenon, incorporating his own aspirations into one outlandish tale after another, but it's the kids' unexpected contributions that turn Skeeter's life upside down.



JAN. 31 — 7:30 P.M.
SEVEN POUNDS
RATED PG-13

Ben is an IRS agent who is depressed and guilt-ridden about mistakes from his past. He sets out to make amends by helping seven strangers. When he meets Emily, a beautiful woman with a heart condition, he falls in love with her, thereby compensating his plans.

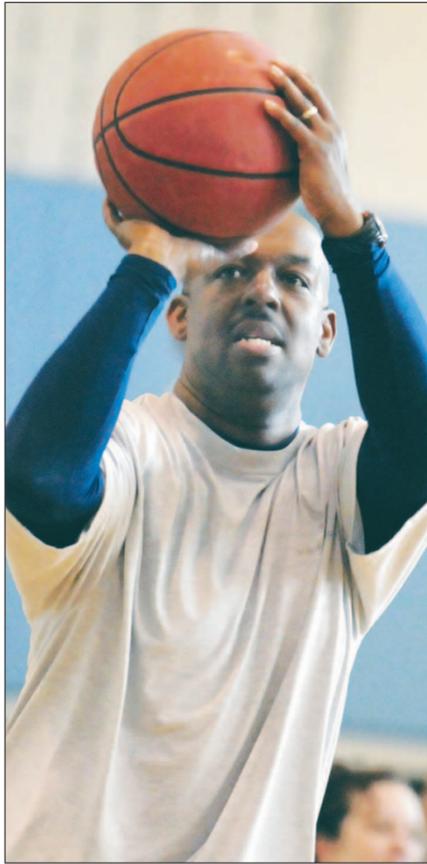
Tickets: \$4 adult; \$2 children (11 years old and younger. For more information, call the base theater at 926-2919



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

Above, members of the 78th Air Base Wing take part in a formation run during Sports Day Jan. 29.

Right, Master Sgt. Dwayne Burns, 78th Mission Support Group, keeps his eye on the basket while competing in 3-point and free throw competition during the Wing's Sports Day.



ROBINS INTRAMURALS

INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL

Regular season standings (through Jan. 16)

TEAM	W	L	UPCOMING SCHEDULE:
78 LRS	4	0	Feb. 2
116 ACW	3	1	78 LRS vs 116 ACW
581 SMXS	3	1	78 SFS vs 402 EMXG
542 CBSG	3	1	Feb. 3
402 EMXG	3	1	542 CBSG vs 402 EMXG
78 CG	2	2	78 CG vs 5 CBCS #2
78 SFS	0	4	Feb. 4
78 MDG	1	3	5 CBCS #2 vs 78 SFS
5 CBCS #1	1	3	78 CG vs 78 LRS
5 CBCS #2	0	4	Feb. 5
			116 ACW vs 78 MDG
			542 CBSG vs 5 CBCS #1

INTRAMURAL DEADLINES

Deadline to submit a statement of intent for participation in intramural racquetball is Feb. 11.

Deadline to submit a statement of intent for participa-

tion in intramural soccer is Feb. 18.

Return the letter to the Fitness Center, fax to 926-1767 or e-mail to Kenneth.Porter@robins.af.mil.

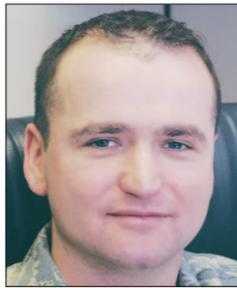


Who is your pick to win the Super Bowl?



Daniel Okurowski
373rd TRS, Det. 6

"Cardinals, because Kurt Warner can sling the ball and he has outstanding wide receivers."



Staff Sgt. Ryan Laney
116th MOS

"Steelers. Just because they're AFC."



Master Sgt. Sandra Hernandez
373rd TRS, Det. 6

"Cardinals because of (Kurt) Warner. He overcame a lot of adversity in his life."



Craig Henry
78th CEG

"Definitely the Steelers without question. I grew up there. They're the best sports team in the world."



Yolanda Reed
78th CEG

"Cardinals. My parents live in Arizona so I'm going for them."

Robins, sister bases meet for professional development

Submitted by the 5th Combat Communications Group

As part of a professional development opportunity, officers in the 5th Combat Communications Group recently went on a three-day trip, joining units at Moody Air Force Base, Ga., and Tyndall AFB, Fla., for instruction and training.

“The trip reinforced that communications is critical to every major effort the Air Force puts forth and it built camaraderie among the officers,” said Col. Jose Rivera, commander of the 5th CCG. “It provided extremely valu-

able insight into the greater world of communications and its future.”

First stop was to Moody’s 820th Security Forces Group, a unit that directly supports the warfighter through installation and maintenance of critical Mine Resistant Ambush Protected communications. The 820th SFG introduced the group to cutting-edge lightweight communications technologies.

Next, the 5th CCG visited Tyndall’s 601st Air and Space Air Operations Center, the unit responsible for defense of the North American continent.

“We were able to visit the backbone that makes it all possible – state-of-the-art communications technologies that allow huge quantities of information to be directed exactly where needed, vital to maintaining a 24/7 vigilant watch over the entire United States,” said 1st Lt. Tam Le of the 53rd Combat Communications Squadron.

In addition, Tyndall’s 325th Communications Squadron, a unit responsible for the operational needs of three fighter squadrons and associated units, gave the 5th CCG officers an introduction

into the life of a base communications squadron, an aspect that many of the young lieutenants were unfamiliar with.

“A striking difference between the 5th CCG and base units is that our group focuses on setting up initial communications in austere conditions while the base unit maintains and supports thousands of customers on a daily basis,” Lieutenant Le said.

While this three-day trip was a first, Colonel Rivera said he envisions additional professional development activities in the future.



Courtesy photo

During a recent professional development opportunity, 1st Lt. Alex Ortiona, 5th Combat Communications Group, observes the state-of-the-art Cheetah VSAT, or Very Small Aperture Terminal, satellite.

Leaders discuss federal mandates at energy conference

BY STAFF SGT. VANN MILLER
vannie.miller@robins.af.mil

Both civilian and military leaders met Jan. 27 to discuss federal energy mandates during a conference at the Warner Robins Museum of Aviation.

The 78th Air Base Wing hosted the first Georgia State Military Installation Energy Conference, which included members from the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, the U.S. Department of Energy, as well as representatives from Georgia Tech, the Herty Foundation and other civilian agencies in Georgia.

The conference follows the signing of the first two Presidential Memoranda toward energy independence, which were signed in Washington Jan. 26, proving to many just how seriously America is investing in clean energy.

Robins has taken the initiative to discover new ways to reduce its energy consumption and discover alternative energy saving ideas.

Although energy saving initiatives have been one of the base’s key objectives since the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, this week is particularly noteworthy as the nation focused on energy and the new White House administration’s way ahead.

As noted during the conference, the practices of energy conservation and energy efficiency are going to impact the base and the surrounding community in new ways, accord-

ing to one spokesperson from the 21st Century Partnership.

With the number of ideas discussed during the conferences, it was optimistic to see the options for renewable energy that had the potential for creating new jobs and grow industry for Middle Georgia, according to one speaker.

Mary Therese Tebbe, executive director of 21st Century Partnership, said she was excited about the opportunity to help the base develop its energy initiatives.

“We’re all new to this,” Mrs. Tebbe said about the sheer scope of the challenges to come. “But this is an opportunity to create the model. And, is an opportunity to institute the model”

During the conference, there were several areas of discussion, including energy intensity reduction, water usage and renewable energy. Furthermore, conversation about the future of ground fuel and alternative fuels were also discussed.

One of the guests, who spoke at length about renewable energy options, made the point that each area has its unique characteristics that make one form of energy more practical and worth investing.

Ross Harding, a vice president for business development from the Herty Foundation, illustrated with maps the locations across the United States that yielded the best returns based on the type of renewable energy.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Judah Bradley of the 78th Air Base Wing’s Energy Office, leads a question and answer session at the Georgia State Military Installation Energy Conference at the Museum of Aviation Jan 27.

Mr. Harding said though the efforts of conservation and efficiency are important in the planning to make Robins energy independent, he said the reality is in order to meet the goal mandated in the Energy Independence and Security Act, it will require implementing innovative alternatives.

A base representative at the conference said overall the conference was a great opportunity to meet with other installations and share ideas about energy conservation.

“Clearly we have to make significant changes in our business practices to meet our requirements,” said Judah

Bradley, 78th ABW Energy Office manager. “We’ve (Robins) worked with the state to identify opportunities for renewable energy plants on or near Robins.”

It is not clear after one conference what direction Georgia’s energy companies, the Warner Robins community or Robins Air Force Base will take in the journey towards green and clean energy, but it is clear that the people are invested in a future including energy independence.

“This is a great example of a partnership,” Mrs. Tebbe said about the cooperation at the conference.

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