Team Robins wings, associate unit to get new leadership

Two wings at Robins are getting new commanders and other senior leadership positions are changing, the Air Force has announced.

Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, 402d Maintenance Wing commander, is taking an assignment with Air Force Materiel Command Headquarters in Ramstein, Germany.

Col. Lee Levy II, deputy director of logistics at Air Force Materiel Command Headquarters at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, will assume command of the wing. The date of the change has not been determined.

Col. Levy develops and directs policy and procedures for logistics and weapon systems and the associated mission management for the F-15, F-16, C-17 and C-130 and other weapon systems.

Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing commander, is scoring a take on assignment with the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington.

The wing is responsible for logistics operations, medical, civil engineer, security, comptroller, personnel management, morale and welfare, mission support, public affairs, legal, civil engineer and environmental management for the installation.

Col. Carl Buhler will take command of the 78th ABW during a change of command ceremony in July.

5th CCG captures AF awards

Members of the 5th Combat Communications Squadron transport a "civic" to the first aid tent during the 2008 Operational Readiness Inspection. The 5th CCG recently won three Air Force-level awards, including best large and small communications unit in the Air Force.

By Wayne Crenshaw

Col. Jose Rivera, 5TH CCG commander, won the award.

Col. Lee Levy AMC deputy director of logistics

Col. Warren Berry 78th ABW commander

Col. Carl Buhler 379th EMRS commander

Col. Jose Rivera 5TH CCG commander

5TH CCG, 3A

Blue collar to Air Force blue

Maintenance worker graduates from OTS

BY STAFF SGT. VANN MILLER

www.vannmiller.army.mil

Setting down his tool box for the last time was an anxious moment for one young maintainer as he stepped into a new role.

Second Lt. Charles Glover of the 562nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron recently graduated from Officer Training School, making the transition from a fumes-ridden, regular civilian employee to a newly commissioned maintenance officer.

It was here where the officer gained the support he needed to get a new career started. If it were not for the endorsement of Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, 402nd Maintenance Wing commander, Lieutenant Glover’s dream of becoming an officer in the Air Force may have never become a reality.

“I am very selective when I sign an endorsement for officer training,” the general said. “I interview members, and I’ve found the thing that fails many of them is their grades are not what they should be, or they have not put together the total character (of what the Air Force looks for).”

After interviewing Lieutenant Glover, the general said he knew within minutes the young maintainer would make for a good candidate.

“He has the work ethic and character that the Air Force is looking for,” General Atkinson said. “I didn’t know much about the military, other than a cousin who went to the Air Force, and I’ve found the thing that fails most of them is their grades are not what they should be, or they have not put together the total character (of what the Air Force looks for).”

Following his graduation from Officer Training School, newly commissioned 2nd Lt. Charles Glover stopped by Robins to thank Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, 402nd Maintenance Wing commander, for his endorsement.

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

mayor.crenshaw@robins.af.mil

Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, 402nd Maintenance Wing commander

Col. Lee Levy AMC deputy director of logistics

Col. Warren Berry 78th ABW commander

Col. Carl Buhler 379th EMRS commander

5TH CCG, 3A

Air Force photo by CLAUDIA LAZARRE

March 20, 2009

Col. Beckwith takes command of the 78th ABW during a change of command ceremony in July.
Volunteers recognized for hard work, dedication

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil

Robins has more than 25,000 employees who work hard here every day, but there are many who go even farther than the call of duty on a regular basis.

On Wednesday, the Airman & Family Readiness Center honored 13 people for their volunteer work, nine from the base and four in the community.

Nine people were given special recognition for a lifetime achievement award for years of volunteer service.

Four others won the Volunteer of the Year Award, which is authorized by the Air Force Staff to recognize federal civilian workers, their family members, retirees and civilian volunteers for their volunteer contributions.

“The folks we honored today certainly didn’t expect an award, but it is important that we recognize these volunteers here today because what they did was amazing,” said Col. Debra Bean, vice commander of the 78th Air Base Wing.

Col. Debra Bean, 78th Air Base Wing vice commander, speaks with retired Master Sgt. Ernest Munson and his wife, Marie. Mr. Munson was one of four winners of the Volunteer Excellence Award. The awards are authorized by the Air Force Staff to recognize federal civilian workers, their family members, retirees and civilian volunteers for their volunteer contributions.

Mr. Munson has been a volunteer for three decades in the local emergency management efforts, lending his expertise in radio communications to assist with emergency management and with search operations for missing persons. He has also volunteered by offering fast aid at the Georgia State Fair and has served as a Boy Scout leader.

Mother Day tornado response:

Mr. Munson is the current director of the Retiree Activities Office, where he volunteers three days per week. He also volunteers in the base pharmacy, where he provides assistance with verifying patient eligibility and handing out refilled medications.

Winners of the Angel Award, which is awarded in recognition of Ken Hansen of the Georgia Forestry Commission in recognition of personal participation in the Tree City USA program. The trees do not have to be memorials, says Mickey McCoy, chief of the environmental division.

One of the trees planted Tuesday was in recognition of Dr. David Smith, senior forester at the Georgia Forestry Commission.

Another was dedicated to Alpha Company, the 1-324 Infantry in the Army, the 19th Mountain Division in recognition of their service in Afghanistan.

One tree was planted in honor of the Tree Muskrattes, another in memory of Col. Debra Bean, who passed away in 2007.

The Historic Forest welcomes 4 new saplings

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil

Robins’ Historic Forest grew by four trees Tuesday.

The Historic Forest is an annual tradition that started here in 1994. Trees are planted each year in recognition of Arbor Day, which is today, and Earth Day, which was Wednesday.

The trees are paid for by donors who also pay for a plaque that is put in the ground in front of each tree, dedicating the tree to a loved one lost, counselors and other groups and individuals.

The forest is a simple way for people to remember someone.

Keenly aware that trees grow very slowly, he told the group of about 70 people gathered for the ceremony that hope will be realized even if you aren’t around to see it.

Colonel Bean also accepted a plaque from the Georgia Forestry Commission in recognition of personal participation in the Tree City USA program.

Each council is composed of active duty, reserve and retired military members, program managers, sourcing analysts and engineers.

The councils have a goal of reducing the total processing time for orders by half, reducing the costs 20 percent, and through those efficiencies improving product availability by 20 percent.

Mr. Kalebaugh said the councils may even go a step farther, looking to make purchases not just for the Air Force but for other branches of the military as well.

“We are looking at a defense rather than an Air Force to give us better leverage with the contractors,” he said.

The Aircraft Structures Commodity Council in the Air Force helps AF save time, money

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil

George Galegher, ASC director

The third council at ASC, the Aircraft Structures Commodity Council, looks at the more than 250 commodities councils that could take up to six months of administrative work, Mr. Galegher said.

With commodity councils, that time is cut 70 percent.

“We have to get a 25 percent drop in their cycle times, and that could take six months to see,” Mr. Galegher said.

“We are trying to capture as much cost saving as we can,” he said.

Prior to the formation of the councils, with every item that was not already covered under a contract, the item manager would have to get a purchase request.

That would then go up the administrative chain, Mr. Galegher explained.

“What we (collective requirements) and try to put them in on a long-term strategic contracting vehicle to try to capture as much cost savings as we can,” he said.

Mr. Galegher said that, prior to the councils, every item had to be negotiated, and the councils arrange contracts for the purchase of those items for the entire Air Force.

“We take their collective requirements and try to put them in on a long-term strategic contracting vehicle to try to capture as much cost saving as we can,” he said.

“The folks we honored today certainly didn’t expect an award, but it is important that we recognize these volunteers here today because what they did was amazing,” said Col. Debra Bean, vice commander of the 78th Air Base Wing.

Col. Debra Bean, 78th Air Base Wing vice commander, speaks with retired Master Sgt. Ernest Munson and his wife, Marie. Mr. Munson was one of four winners of the Volunteer Excellence Award. The awards are authorized by the Air Force Staff to recognize federal civilian workers, their family members, retirees and civilian volunteers for their volunteer contributions.

Mr. Munson has been a volunteer for three decades in the local emergency management efforts, lending his expertise in radio communications to assist with emergency management and with search operations for missing persons. He has also volunteered by offering fast aid at the Georgia State Fair and has served as a Boy Scout leader.

Mr. Munson is a senior pastor at a church that saw 20 percent growth last year, and he frequently counsels people on a range of personal issues. He also volunteers with the Department of Correction Outreach Program and has assisted in feeding the homeless.

Mr. Hoyt has been a volunteer firefighter in Troup County since 1994 and serves as fire chief in his district. Last year he responded to 16 fires and eight rescue calls. He also assisted with the 2008 Georgia State Fair and for the Historic Forest to date. The original forest is in front of Big Leaf 215, and for the past 10 years the trees have been planted by the Robins Parade Fund.

A tree with the plaque cost about $150, but the group of about 70 people gathered for the ceremony that hope will be realized even if you aren’t around to see it.

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Robins Airmen receive ‘dental stimulus’ for better oral health

The 78th Dental Squadron recently distributed “dental stimulus packets” to a group of deploying Robins Airmen.

In addition to providing basic oral healthcare products to help prevent dental problems during deployment, the initiative was a way for the 78th DS to demonstrate its pride and support for Robins deployed Warriors.

“With the long shifts and stressful work environment associated with deployments, Airmen have many distractions that often time keep them from making optimal oral health choices,” said Col. Ricky Cook, 78th DS commander.

“These stimulus packets will contain toothbrush kits, associated oral health aids, and patient educational materials providing guidance and instructions on oral hygiene care and nutrition.

“By providing a dental hygiene kit and ready force, we improve the overall health status of our service members,” Colonel Cook said.

Two areas of concern for deployed military members are cavities, or tooth decay, and periodontal disease, or gum disease. The problems are caused by bacterial infiltration into the teeth or surrounding soft and hard tissues that support the teeth.

“This disease process can lead to cavities and other gum related problems if left untreated,” Colonel Cook said.

The type and rate of damage associated with these bacteria, called dental plaque, is influenced by environmental, genetic and behavioral factors with poor diet and lack of proper oral hygiene generally playing the most significant roles.

“Eating balanced meals from the five food groups is the first key to good oral health,” said Diane Betze, dental health coordinator for the squadron.

“Food and drinks that contain starches or sugars significantly aid in the production of high levels of bacteria which in turn secret acid which attacks and breaks down tooth enamel.”

By choosing a balanced diet, brushing with a fluoride toothpaste, and using dental floss at least once a day the incidence of dental related problems can be significantly reduced, she said.

For those who eat or drink high starch or sugar items, Ms. Betze recommends limiting consumption to regular meals that are followed by proper toothbrushing rather than snacking throughout the day.

In the event that brushing after eating is not possible, chewing gum with a non-nutritive sugar increases saliva, which helps in diluting acid concentration and re-mineralization of enamel.

The daily use of an antimicrobial mouth rinse can also aid in the reduction of dental plaque formation.

The packets will continue to be distributed at the time to Airmen who are deploying – By the 78th Dental Squadron.

5TH CCGR

Continued from 1A

thing that sets the Mob apart is our attitude,” she said. “It really gets to the essence of ‘Let’s go.’ It is as true in terms of that it doesn’t mater where the mission is, it doesn’t matter where we are going, we are always saying ‘Let’s go.’ Let’s go and I think that attitude is really part of our culture.”

Lt. Alan Fraser served with the 447th ECS in Baghdad for four months last year. He said the unit helped run a new passenger terminal at Baghdad International Airport, which is jointly used by civilians and military.

“It was my first deployment,” he said. “It was exciting and it was eye opening.

He said 5th Mob members had a positive attitude in Iraq and enjoyed getting a chance to actually apply their training. Unlike most other units at Robins, the 5th Mob usually doesn’t apply its skills in support of the war effort except when deployed. The rest of the time the unit is drilling and training.

First Lt. Mark Duncan served as postmaster of the Baghdad post office for four months last year. They operated both a regular post office and a hub at the airport, he said.

“ It was great for us here at the 56th,” he said. “When we deploy we actually get to do things that influence the fight.”

The group is made up of four combat communications squadrons and one support squadron. It employs approximately 700 people, with most of those being active-duty military.

Its nickname “The Mob” is a holdover from the group’s original name, which was 5th Mobile Communications Group.

The group provides communications, air traffic control and weather systems support worldwide for U.S. military operations. The 5th Mob has also deployed to the Gulf Coast in support of Hurricane Katrina relief operations and it deployed to Pakistan in support of earthquake relief operations.

The group previously won the best large-unit Air Force award in 2006 and in 2007.

Col. Richter said she believes this is the first time the 5th Mob has won three Air Force-wide best unit awards in the same year.

OTS

Continued from 1A

attain an airframe and power plant license.

He then became a member in the 562d AMXS and continued to display great work ethics. With the support of his supervisors, he worked long hours and took night college courses. He is now assigned to Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., to serve as a maintenance officer in the 56th Maintenance Group.

After graduating from OTS, Lieutenant Glover returned to Robins to give a heartfelt farewell to the members of his old work center.

He told them the road was challenging, but he knew once he got started he would let nothing stop him from reaching his goal. He also expressed gratitude to General Atkinson for his support.

“You could not paint a better picture of a more perfect partnership,” said General Atkinson. “This is the epitome of the American dream. What a great example.”

The general went on to say he hopes others will look to Lieutenant Glover as an example or an inspiration to motivate them to pursue their dreams.
**Commander’s Action Line**

On March 31, I attended the Voluntary Protection Programs Participants’ Association Conference. During this conference, I had the opportunity to visit a textile manufacturing company and attend several workshops.

I first had the opportunity to visit Glen Raven Technical Fabrics located in North Carolina. This textile manufacturing company produces high-end fabrics. They also manufacture materials in support of the warfighter. They have excellent visual management for their evacuation plans. Glen Raven is a Carolina Star Site. They have several written programs pertaining to safety. Carolina Star requires 19 safety programs, but Glen Raven has gone over and above that requirement. They have formed several task groups within the company for checks and balances. Safety and awareness is a top priority at Glen Raven Technical Fabrics.

At the conference, I was able to attend numerous workshops. Some of the most memorable were:

- **Quarantine the Monsters**: New Techniques to Create a Positive Safety Culture
  
  In this workshop a question was asked of the attendees. Can you identify the monsters that are terrorizing your organization? That question was very thought provoking. One would immediately think the speaker was referring to people. Monsters are not people in the organization. Behaviors are monsters. In order to create a positive safety culture we must be able to identify the monsters and stop feeding them.

  The monsters are everywhere, at work as well as at home. The monsters are better known as risk behaviors. There are three risk behaviors: deliberate, unintentional and habitual. In order to stop feeding the monsters: we must change our mindset.

- **Empowerment**: Providing Leadership to Achieve Safety
  
  Why is it important to empower people? It is important because empowerment empowers input and participation. The main nugget learned here is when developing people, focus on their strengths, not their weaknesses. Allow room for a reasonable amount of failure. Never build your safety program around one person because if that person should leave, your program will crumble.

- **How to be an Effective Safety Manager**

  I took away many nuggets from this workshop. It is very important that a safety manager is honest, in touch, provides leadership, and is decisive. The safety manager must evaluate his or her safety system to check its effectiveness. Look for unsafe behavior, unsafe conditions, and evidence of unsafe activities.

  You must also obtain senior commitment, but remember commitment must be demonstrated. A lack of enforcement demonstrates a lack of commitment. You will also need to draft more players, involve people at every level.

  This workshop really piqued my interest. The workshop was facilitated by Jeff Bell, father of Brian Bell. Mr. Bell received the phone call that every parent fears. His son, Brian, a young man full of potential and promise, had been killed on the job at a construction site. Brian’s powerful presentation, Mr. Bell introduced his son Brian and took the audience step by step through the events leading to his death.

  Mr. Bell, who is an experienced safety facilitator for a large Paper Mill, explained what is required to prevent such tragedies. He told how every year in America, over 22,000 people are injured or for the quickest response, e-mail actionline.htm.

  To contact the Action Line, call 522-5667 or for the quickest response, e-mail actionline@robins.af.mil.
The main gym at the Robins Fitness Center will see some high-level basketball action on Monday.

The All-Air Force men’s basketball team, which is having its tryout camp at Robins, will play an exhibition game with the All-Army team. The game starts at 7 p.m. and admission is free.

The two teams are competing in preparation for the upcoming Armed Forces tournament in Millington, Tenn. The Air Force will try for an unprecedented fourth consecutive championship against teams from the Army, Navy and Marines.

Head coach John Bailey, a Robins employee, said basketball fans should make a stop at the Fitness Center for Monday’s game. “They will get a chance to see college-level competition,” he said. “It’s almost like watching part of the Armed Forces tournament.”

The camp started April 17 with Airmen from around the world coming to Robins to try to make the team. A record 30 Airmen came to the camp this year, and on Tuesday the first cut was made, taking the roster to 18. A team of 12 will go to the tournament.

Five Robins Airmen started the camp, and after Tuesday’s cuts that was down to 18. Airmen talked about their experience at the camp.

Tech Sgt. Juan Vasquez of the 116th Air Control Wing was cut, but he said his disappointment was tempered by the high level of competition. “The skill level is very high,” he said. “It shows how good everybody is getting.”

Another Robins player trying out for the team is Capt. Tysen Pina of the 116th ACW. He is a former Air Force Academy player and last played on the All-Air Force team in 2006. He hasn’t been able to try out for the past two years because he has been deployed.

He said the level of play in the tournament is “quite comparable” to college basketball. He also said that although the Armed Forces tournament isn’t televised, to the players it is just as important as the games between the military colleges.

“Tuesdays in the Air Force are the biggest,” he said. “Everyone wants to win.”

Capt. Tysen Pina of the Robins 116th Air Control Wing and a former Air Force Academy player, is competing in the All-Air Force basketball tournament.

He even returned the same night to assist with the practice. “The skill level is very high,” he said. “It shows how good everybody is getting.”

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Saturday's E-Cycling Day gives new home to unwanted, non-government electronics

Useful, non-government electronics equipment can now find another home besides your attic.

On April 25, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., people can recycle their unwanted electronics equipment at Happy Hour Recycling Center’s parking lot at 802 North Avenue in Warner Robins. As Keep Warner Robins Beautiful, the Houston County Association for Exceptional Citizens, and Robins Air Force Base offer its E-Cycling Day.

Ben Torrey, an environmental engineer in the 7th Civil Engineer Group’s Environmental Management Division, said the recycling event is a great way to do something useful with old items. "The purpose of E-Cycling Day is to promote the proper disposal of unwanted electronic equipment, whether it's abandoned or unusable."

Nominations being accepted for Camellia Gardens Memorial

The annual Camellia Gardens Memorial Service that pays tribute to deceased members of Team Robins will take place May 21 at 10 a.m. in thetranquil garden across from the officers' club.

The service, a patriotic tribute to the departed, is a 33-year tradition rooted in a partnership between Robins, the Middle Georgia Camellia Society, and the Warner Robins Chamber of Commerce. The three teamed up in 1976 to establish and dedicate the garden, which memorializes the dead by celebrating life.

Throughout the year, the garden themes with blossoms, birds, squirrels, and other wildlife.

At the garden’s entrance, a brick and mortar wall displays on gold plaques the names of 1,471 deceased military and civilian members of Robins who have been honored in past memorial ceremonies.

The annual ceremony is a project of the 78th Air Base Wing Base Chapel. Chaplain (Capt.) Michael Newton is accepting submissions for people to be memorialized this year. Honorees can be civilian or military members. All other required information is due no later than May 6.

There is no fee to honor an individual. However, contribution of an amount equal to the name of the honoree will be accepted and appreciated.

To ensure inclusion in this service, e-mail Chaplain (Capt.) Michael Newton at devon.jacob@robins.mil, Staff Sgt. Devon Jacobs at devon.jacob@robins.mil, or Staff Sgt. Sherene Fenton at sherene.fenton@robins.mil, or call the chapel at 926-2621.

Conserve energy

Mr. Shutter said E-Cycling Day will help reduce unwanted waste.

"Electronic waste accounts for almost 5 percent of landfill volume and it contributes up to 70 percent of toxins found in landfills, (whether it's from) heavy metals, circuit boards, or lead in the glass of computer monitors," he said.

While people don’t have to package their recyclable electronics, Mr. Torrey said people should clean their hard drives and remove any personal information to protect identity and privacy.

In 2009, the recycling event netted more than 67,000 pounds of equipment that were wrapped, palletized, and shipped for recycling. — Staff reports

Submissions for honoree nominations should include:

- Complete name and, if military, rank of the person to be honored.
- Branch of service
- Complete address of next of kin.
- Family-related information, such as names, addresses, and phone number of next of kin.
- Memorial ceremony date
- Reproducible photo, preferably black and white, and at least 2x3.
- Characteristic information, such as war, address, and phone number of next of kin.
- Name, address, and telephone number of the person or organization nominating the honorees.
- Military or organization honors was assigned and predominant responsibility while with Robins.

As many military members know, buying a home every time you PCS can be very risky.

Congress recognizes the unique problems military members face in owning homes and created some military-specific benefits within the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The act dramatically expands the eligibility for the Department of Defense’s Housing Assistance Program, which was formerly available only to certain military members living near installations closing under the Defense Base Realignment and Closure Act of 1990.

“Many military members and their families have been affected by the collapse of the housing bubble,” said Michael Shutter, chief of the legal assistance division in the base Legal Office. “If a military member is in trouble on the mortgage on his or her principal home, that member needs to look into the provisions of this act.”

Although the ARRA does not yet offer relief for family members of military members, the DOD continues to work on implementing regulations which will spell out the specific requirements and procedures for applying for relief. Military members who believe they qualify can start the application process. The HAP application can be found at www.usa.gov/home/index.html.

Another program worth a look by all homeowners — not just active-duty military members — is the Homeowner Affordability and Stability Plan, which is being administered by the Treasury Department, the Federal Housing Administration, the FDIC and other agencies.

The plan includes what are essentially two separate programs: one aimed at making homes affordable through refinancing, and another aimed at making homes affordable through loan modification.

“The Treasury Department has provided some excellent resources to help the public understand these programs and help them determine their eligibility to apply.”


For more information visit the WR-ALC Legal Office in Bldg. 708 or call 926-0867.

Recycle this Paper

Got News to share?
Send your story ideas, briefs or questions for the Robins Rev-Up to 78ABW.PAREvUp@robins.af.mil
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.

Don't Miss It

The page features a variety of events and activities, including family readiness events, military education sessions, and community gatherings. There is also a calendar of upcoming events, with dates ranging from April 21 to 30.

Family Readiness

A communication skills training will be held on April 23 in Bldg. 794. The event is designed to help participants improve their communication skills, with a focus on reducing conflicts in relationships.

Crafts Center

A yard sale will be held on May 9 in the Arts & Crafts Center. Registration will be held at the Crafts Center on April 24 for $20 (includes supplies). For more information, contact the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5292.

Family Readiness Center

A yard sale will be held on May 9 in Bldg. 794. The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and proceeds will be used to support the Family Readiness Program. Registration will be held in Bldg. 794 on April 24 for $20 (includes supplies). For more information, contact the Family Readiness Center at 926-2115.

The Goal Star Baseball Camp is scheduled for June 6 for children of all ages. The camp will be held at Westgate Park and will feature instruction in hitting, fielding, pitching, and catching.

The 78th FSS BRIEFS

The 78th FSS BRIEFS is a weekly newsletter that provides updates on events and activities at Robins Air Force Base. The newsletter includes information on upcoming events, such as family readiness events, military education sessions, and community gatherings. There is also a calendar of upcoming events, with dates ranging from April 21 to 30.

Philly

God's gift of football has been invested in a cause. This year, the Robins Family and Horizons members and spouses wishing to attend.

APRIL

FRIDAY

SUNDAY

April 24

The Robins Rev-Up will feature a weekly update on military news and information, as well as a list of upcoming events at Robins Air Force Base. The newsletter includes information on family readiness events, military education sessions, and community gatherings. There is also a calendar of upcoming events, with dates ranging from April 21 to 30.

Chapel Services

Chapel services are held each week at the chapel on the second Tuesday of each month. The services include Catholic masses at 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., as well as Orthodox Christian services at the chapel on the second Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m.

Dad and/or Times New Roman font, single-spaced, with double-spacing between paragraphs, and submitted on standard white bond paper with one-inch margin tops and bottoms and one-and-one-quarter-inch on left and right sides. Essays must be submitted electronically on a CD and must have appropriate metadata and text content (do not write SCAN or CD), only form (make sure all information marked against form), and a current and complete university accepted for new students or official transcripts for those students already enrolled.

The email address for Sherry Trysh, FSS Marketing, located at Bldg. 985 by July 1. Madea submis-
The Dixie Wing of the Commemorative Air Force to perform aerial re-creation of the Battle of Midway

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

The upcoming Robins Air Show, May 2-3, will feature a new event that its organizers say is a one-of-a-kind recreation of World War II aviation history. The Dixie Wing of the Commemorative Air Force, a group dedicated to preserving WWII aircraft in flight condition, will perform an aerial recreation of the crucial Battle of Midway. That will be preceded by a quick aerial simulation of the attack on Pearl Harbor and visited by Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle’s daring raid on Tokyo in retaliation.

On the ground the show will include a narration with music to tell the history being depicted and pyrotechnics will simulate the bombing of Japanese aircraft carriers. It was designed by Alan Armstrong, an Atlanta attorney and member of the Dixie Wing, which is based in Peachtree City.

He said the show will mark the first time that the group will perform the recreation. Mr. Armstrong said he came up with the idea after deciding that it wasn’t enough for attendees to see a plane flying in a circling formation. He’s been putting on a theater performance with airplanes.

“Mr. Armstrong said he expects the audience will get a deeper meaning from the show than from simply watching the planes fly. They will develop an appreciation for what it means to be an American citizen,” he said.

The planes that the Dixie Wing group will bring include some of the most venerable aircraft of World War II. The group’s planes include an SBD Dauntless, a replica of a Japanese Zero fighter, a Japanese Kate bomber flown by Mr. Armstrong, and two B-25 Mitchells. Two SNJ’s will be flown by Mr. Armstrong, and two B-25 bombers flown by Mr. Armstrong.

An SBD, one of the Dixie Wing of the Commemorative Air Force’s aircraft, is on display at the DeKalb-Peachtree air show in 2007.
Home, sweet home

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil

Expecting dads at Robins can get some expert advice next week on exactly what to expect when it comes to dealing with an addition to the family.

On April 29 the Family Advocacy Office at the Mental Health Clinic will offer a free class called “Dads: The Basics.” Staff Sgt. Travis McCord and Maj. Steve Nolan, who between them have seven children, will teach the class.

Sergeant McCord said the class is held four times per year and has been well received by participants in the past. “We’ve had an awesome response with what they have heard,” he said. “They have been very receptive to the conversation. A lot of them enjoy the fact that it’s just men and they feel like they can open up.”

The class begins at 10 a.m. and runs until 1 p.m. It is held at the Mental Health Clinic, which is in the base hospital. Sergeant McCord said many topics are discussed, including basic child-care skills such as changing diapers and bathing an infant. Two of the biggest topics are Shaken Baby Syndrome and coping with deployment after a child is born.

He said shaking a baby can cause serious brain injury, and fathers need to be aware of their physical strength when handling a baby. They also need to avoid picking up a crying child if the father is frustrated and possibly prone to shaking a baby without thinking about the consequences.

Deployment is also a big topic, Sergeant McCord said. They will discuss the importance of a father bonding with a newborn infant. Fathers who are deploying should consider making videos or audio tapes of themselves reading books for the child, or leaving behind clothing with the father’s scent that the child can hold.

Sergeant McCord said the class is open to military and civilians who have Department of Defense identification. He also said the class is not just for new dads. Participants in the past have already had children and have learned new skills from the class.