

# Wright-Patterson News

## 88th Air Base Wing Safety Office kicks off Summer Safety '09



### VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAM

Having fun is what summer is all about. People will be heading off to beaches, cook-outs, and campgrounds. This season, the 88th Air Base Wing Safety Office is helping Airmen take care of each other by encouraging co-workers, families, and friends to make the summer season fun, make it safe, and then, make it home!

The period between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day poses the potential for greater risks to our Airmen when they schedule vacations or enjoy off-duty activities. It's a period

when many service members visit family and loved ones and often travel longer periods than they should without rest or a break, and it's also a time for beach parties, cookouts and summer parties, which often combine alcohol consumption, hot weather, and high risk activities.

Air Force Safety Center statistics from the past decade indicate that in some years, one-half of the total Air Force traffic deaths occurred during the warm weather months. The following primary factors continue to cause most motor-vehicle fatalities: driving under the influence, excessive speed, not wearing a seat belt or using personal protective equipment, and fatigue.

During the summer of 2008, 16 Airmen died in off-duty mishaps.

"Our Airmen are the Air Force's most valuable resource," said Lt. Col. Scott Ormsby, 88th Air Base Wing Chief of Safety. "In order to accomplish the mission, we must all have a safety mindset, apply risk management in our daily activities, and look out for our fellow Wingmen."

We encourage everyone to be aware of summertime risks and incorporate risk management into your plans. The potential for injury often is overlooked in anticipation of beach parties, suntans and cookouts. By reminding our people of these risks, we help to preserve our most valuable asset: our human resources.

Contact the 88th Air Base Wing Ground Safety Office at 904-3391 (or visit us on the Air Force Portal) for more information on summer safety tips.



## As Freedom's Call Tattoo grows, so, too, does its technology exhibit

by Sharon Ertl  
Air Force Materiel Command  
Public Affairs

For some people, their favorite part of Air Force Materiel Command's Freedom's Call Tattoo are the impressive aircraft. For others, it's great music. Still, others go for the dazzling fireworks.

And, then, there are people who like to see technology. Which is why, when they visit displays in the Freedom's Call Tattoo technology exhibit, patrons will get a chance for some hands-on interaction with airpower capabilities developed at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base for use throughout the Air Force.

"The technology exhibit, June 26, gives attendees an opportunity to get an up-close-and personal look at and feel for a handful of technologies developed right here at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base," said Dave Egner, Freedom's Call

Tattoo director.

The exhibit will be housed in the spectator area, with 12 exhibitors presenting their wares in a nearly 5,000 square-foot tent.

"This is more than just technologies displayed, this gives the community a chance to see what goes on behind the fence," Mr. Egner said.

While this will be the fifth year for Tattoo, which saw a record-breaking crowd 75,000 attendees last year, but it is only the second year the event has hosted the technology display.

"Because of the interest shown in the technology exhibit last year, we're planning on more displays and demonstrations to further highlight the important work done at the base by people who live in our local communities," said Jim Palmer, technology exhibit coordinator. "We'll have a range of displays and demonstrations."



Air Force photo

This year's Freedom's Call Tattoo will feature a new technology expo.

One of the newest additions this year is an F-35 pilot training aid. Mr. Palmer said. The hands-on laptop computer, complete with throttle and stick functions and goggles, allows student pilots to "fly" while

looking at an accurate display of what is actually seen in cockpit. A large plasma screen above the computer allows onlookers to see what the "pilot" is seeing.

Additionally, there will be an astronaut suit from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, an F-16 cockpit simulator and a 14-foot trailer filled with interactive displays, courtesy of the Air Force Research Laboratory. Other base organizations that will have displays at the exhibit include the Aeronautical Systems Center, the Air Force Institute of Technology, the National Air and Space Intelligence Center, 445th Airlift Wing and 88th Air Base Wing.

Tattoo is free, and open to the public. Activities begin at 5 p.m. Gates will open at 4:30 p.m.

For more information, log onto [www.wpafb.af.mil/tattoo](http://www.wpafb.af.mil/tattoo) Follow Tattoo updates on Twitter or MySpace: @AFMC\_Now

## Museum host 5th Annual Spring Motorcycle Event May 29

You are invited to the 5th Annual Spring Motorcycle Event May 29. This year's event will be chaired by MGen Owen, AFMC/A4. As a eager (non-rider), he is taking an active role to learn more about motorcycles and educating fellow eagers about them. After all, automobiles are our number one threat!

The event will be three parts. The briefing portion will start at 9 a.m. May 29, in the Carney Auditorium inside the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force. This portion of the event is mandatory for military active duty that ride, plan on riding again or are awaiting motorcycle training.

All other base motorcycle enthusiasts (civilians, contractors, retirees, etc) are "highly" encouraged to attend as it has been approved as an alternate worksite.

Tickets for the door prize will only be handed out at the briefing. The door prize will be given away at the picnic portion of the event. Other prizes will be raffled off throughout the afternoon.

The second portion, starting at 11 a.m. is a mass motorcycle ride touring the area surrounding Wright Patterson. All riders with base access (ID to get on base) are welcome and encouraged to participate in the ride. The ride will initiate in the parking lot next to the museum. They will leave the museum for a ride around and through the base then return to the parking lots adjacent to the soccer fields.

NOTE: Active duty must have attended a certified motorcycle safety course in order to participate in the ride.

You can attend the picnic without participating in the ride. All protective equipment required by AFI 91-207 page 5, must be worn during the ride. This includes a highly visible upper garment (bright colors as opposed to dark ones) described in WPAFBI 31-204, page 19.

The third portion, starting immediately following the morning briefing and continuing for the remainder of the day, is the Services sponsored picnic. This will be held on the Museum grounds. The picnic is free to all motorcycle enthusiasts and those who decide to attend the event. There will be multiple attractions at this event such as XXX Stunt Team, California Superbike School putting riders through drills, a trials bike show, motorcycle dyno, and wheelie machine. We will also have several sponsors at the picnic to showcase equipment and bikes from shops in the local area. The sponsors include F&S Harley Davidson, Competition, Accessories, Sporty's Honda, and USAA.

In addition, we will have several MSF instructors available to answer questions and do complimentary motorcycle safety checks.

The purpose of the Spring Motorcycle Event is to bring all base riders together in a motorcycle friendly environment. Come on out to see the shows, take part in the drills, mingle, talk, and have fun. The briefing and the picnic will go on rain or shine. In case of rain the picnic will move to Bldg. 206 in Area C. If you have questions about the event or requirements please email [brandon.snyder@us.af.mil](mailto:brandon.snyder@us.af.mil) or [wade.appel@us.af.mil](mailto:wade.appel@us.af.mil).

**Motorcycle STUNT SHOW at the Museum!** That's right! This year's Spring Motorcycle Event is going to include:

- Stunt Shows
- California Superbike School Instructor doing drills with attendees
- Trials Bike Shows
- Motorcycle Dyno
- Wheelie Machine
- Free food

### 5th ANNUAL SPRING MOTORCYCLE EVENT

At the National Museum of the Air Force on 29th May 2009.

This year's event will be chaired by MGen Owen, AFMC/A4.

There are three main events.

- The first event, the briefing portion will start at 0900 in the Carney Auditorium inside the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force
- The second event, starting at 1100, is a mass motorcycle ride touring the area surrounding Wright Patterson.
- The third event, starting immediately following the morning briefing and continuing for the remainder of the day, is the Services sponsored picnic.

Many other attractions will be partaking in this event are: Stunt Shows, California Superbike School - Instructor perfecting steering technique with attendees, Trials Bike Shows, Motorcycle Dyno, Wheelie Machine, FREE FOOD, Gear and Bikes from local vendors, and more!

- Gear and Bikes from local vendors and more!
- If you're at all interested in attending a legitimate motorcycle event, please plan to attend this year's Spring Motorcycle Event, May 29, at the NMUSAF, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is an alternate worksite for WPAFB employees so all who are interested are more than welcome to attend.

# Wright-Patterson News

## Air Force Chief of Staff visits NASIC

by James Lunsford  
NASIC Public Affairs

“NASIC. Attention!” echoed through the National Air and Space Intelligence Center’s main entrance to announce the arrival of Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz.

Hosted by Col. D. Scott George, NASIC commander, the Apr. 21 visit gave Schwartz an opportunity to see the Air Force agency first hand.

NASIC analysts provided Schwartz with an in-depth characterization of strategic level threats to U.S. air and space forces evolving in the air, space and cyber realms.

The center deals not only in cur-



Air Force photo by Mitch Albertson

Col. D. Scott George, NASIC commander lays a framework for Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz during his recent visit to NASIC.

rent threats, but also works with the acquisition community to pre-

pare today’s designers for tomorrow’s fights.

This visit gave NASIC an opportunity to update Schwartz on the next generation of threats to U.S. air dominance that fighters such as the F-35 are likely to fly against.

In addition to an overview briefing about the center, presentations also focused on support NASIC provides to their three key stakeholders: national policy makers, force modernizers and warfighters.

Schwartz’s visit was the most recent in a number senior level visits to NASIC which range from U.S. Congressman Michael Turner (R-Oh) to Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley.

Running point on these visits is Will Beigel who leads the NASIC

Distinguished Visitor program. “We keep pretty busy,” Beigel said “but it’s very rewarding to help communicate the hard work of the NASIC analysts to the rest of the DOD community.”

The center has also hosted more than 70 high-level visits in the past several months.

George later remarked how excited and honored the center was to host the Chief of Staff and discuss how NASIC ties in to ongoing operations in places like Iraq and Afghanistan as well as preparing for tomorrow’s fights.

“These senior level visits are amazing opportunities for us,” said George. “They serve as a great indication of the vital role NASIC plays in our Nation and Air Force’s future.”

## The 88th ABW Safety office presents: ‘Comedy is the Cure’



Bernie McGrenahan

The 88th Wing Safety office is proud to present comedian Bernie McGrenahan’s “Happy Hour” Wingman Safety message. McGrenahan’s message is blazing across military bases around the

world delivering a comedy show with an inspirational and powerful message. Bernie’s program is the military’s newest method of Safety Training: Comedy and Inspiration, together!

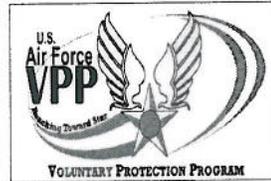
Do not miss this popular comedian and the touching and motivating message to inspire us all to achieve, Mission Success!

The program will be presented “live” on 14 May at 1030 and 1400 at the Base Theatre in Kittyhawk, Area C.



X-1 Supercar

## See what’s new to Tattoo in 2009



■ **NASA ER-2** – The Earth Resources-2 Satellite, or ER-2, is a high-altitude airborne science aircraft. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or NASA, acquired its first ER-2 in 1981; the second was obtained in 1989. These aircraft replaced the previously-used U-2 Dragonfly for use as flying laboratories. The ER-2 is based at the NASA Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

■ **Liberty Jump Team** – The Liberty Jump Team is a World War II military exhibition parachute team dedicated to the memory and honor of the men and women of WWII and other foreign conflicts. The team performs static-line parachute jumps in WWII uniforms and equipment, and jumps from a vintage C-47 Dakota troop transport aircraft.

■ **82nd Airborne Jump Team** – The All-American Freefall Team is the official representative of the famed 82nd Airborne Division, located at Fort Bragg, N.C. The team represents the Division during military functions, exhibitions, special events and competitions, demonstrating individual, formation and other precision freefall techniques. The 82nd Airborne Division is the largest parachute force in the free world. The team will jump from a C-130 Hercules aircraft.

■ **U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team** – The Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team is the traveling component of the USAF Honor Guard, which is the official ceremonial unit of the U.S. Air Force. The team inspires Air Force awareness among military and civilian audiences through its complex, high-precision drill routine. During the Air Force Honor Guard’s 60-year history, the Drill Team has performed in every state of the Union and many countries abroad.

■ **Honor Flight RV** – In May 2004 the National World War II Memorial was dedicated in Washington, D.C. The median age of WWII veterans is now 78 years. Honor Flight was initially conceived in 2004 by Earl Morse, a physician assistant and retired Air Force captain, to honor veterans he took care of for 27 years. Honor Flight’s sole purpose is to fly WWII veterans to Washington D.C. to visit the memorials dedicated to honor their sacrifices. To date, Honor Flight has flown more than 800 WWII veterans to the memorial. The RV will have accompanying spokespersons available to answer questions.

■ **NASA astronaut suit and interactive F-35 pilot trainer display** – A National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or NASA, astronaut suit and an F-35 Lightning II interactive pilot trainer display are two new features of Tattoo’s 4,800 square-foot technology exposition tent. The expo will enable an up-close look at, and some hands-on interaction with, these items, along with a number of airpower technologies that are developed for the Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

■ **U.S. Air Force Recruiting Service’s X-1 Supercar** – The Air Force X-1 is a Ford Mustang car converted to resemble the inside of an F-16 Fighting Falcon. By putting Air Force technology into an everyday sports car, the vehicle serves as an educational tool about Air Force career fields. Brand new to the U.S. Air Force Recruiting Service, the X-1 officially debuts June 1. There will be an interactive trailer display, as well.

For more information on Tattoo, log onto <http://www.wpafb.af.mil/tattoo>.

Follow Tattoo updates on Twitter or MySpace: @AFMC\_Now

## American Federation of Government Employees conducting membership drive

by Keisha E. Barlow  
88th Mission Support Group  
Civilian Personnel Flight

The American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local 1138 will be conducting their second membership drive of 2009 at Wright-Patterson AFB. The membership drive will be held Tuesday, May 12, and Wednesday, May 13.

Union representatives will be conducting free “Lunch and Learn” programs and information fairs at the designated locations.

The locations are listed below. All bargaining unit employees

are welcome.

For more information, please contact Ms. Keisha E. Barlow, Human Resources Specialist (Labor Relations), at 904-3416. AFGE Local 1138 may be contacted at 233-3996.

### Tuesday

Lunch and Learn - Area C, Bldg 210, “Fishbow” Conference Room #2, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch and Learn - Area A, Bldg 830, Staff Dining Room (Near the basement cafeteria), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Wednesday

Fair - Area B, Bldg 16, AAFES Lobby Area, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Attention! Are you separating from active duty?

IAW AFI36-3205 you are required to attend a Mandatory Separations Briefing. The Reserve In-Service Recruiting Office conducts the Mandatory Separations Briefing every second Tuesday of each month in Bldg 2, room 262, starting at 9:30 a.m. Attending the briefing is Mandatory for

every Officer and Enlisted member separating Active Duty. Please contact Master Sgt. Brian Burgin at 257-7842 or brian.burgin@wpafb.af.mil to ensure seating prior to attending the briefing, and for all of your questions regarding Reserve opportunities upon separating Active Duty.

# Air Force Core Values: the price of admission

by Chief Master Sgt. Stan Skipper  
Superintendent, 88th Medical Squadron

We have made it through another tax season and by now the majority of us have sent in our tax returns. For most Americans, taxes are the price we pay to enjoy the freedoms this great country has to offer. Even though we do not always agree with how they are used, we feel an obligation to pay them. To be an Airman in today's Air Force, we must also pay a price. It is the price we pay for admission and that price is integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do – the Air Force Core Values.

Integrity, service, and excellence can be found in mission statements of companies throughout the world. Through these statements companies provide their employees a focus toward a common goal. For Airmen, these three words have a much greater meaning for they epitomize the core values of the military profession.

The core values exist for all members of the Air Force family – officers, enlisted, civilians, and contractors. Upon entering the Air Force, we learn them and throughout our careers we constantly reinforce our commitment to them. More than just minimum standards, the core values remind us what it takes to get the mission done and inspire us to always do what is right.

### Integrity First

Integrity is the single most important aspect of a person's moral character, it defines who we are. Integrity first is the foundation for the other core values and for how we in the Air Force conduct business every day. Simply put, it is always doing the right thing even when no one is looking.

### Service before Self

Military service calls for an enduring commitment and dedication. It demands a sense of service before self – a realization

that mission requirements take precedence over individual desires. A 24/7 commitment, military service requires us to make many personal sacrifices when our goals do not coincide with the needs of the Air Force.

### Excellence in All We Do

Excellence in all we do means just that. Doing what we are supposed to do the way we are supposed to do it each and every time. It is not just striving for perfection: it is enforcing perfection as a standard. No matter the task, big or small, we must do the very best.

I have the honor of working in a first-class medical center. As a service-oriented organization, our patients and leadership expect us to uphold these core values to the fullest. I am proud to say that not a day goes by that I do not witness first hand integrity, service, and excellence in action.

Unfortunately there are the occasions when an individual thinks his/her wants are more important or that the rules do not apply to him/her.

A glaring example of this is the recent nuclear weapons security breakdowns – serious failures of the system with the potential to cause extreme damage to national security. Then there are the seemingly minor instances of rule bending or shortcuts which offenders deem as no big deal. No matter how big or small the incident, the outcome for the team is the same – the mission is negatively impacted and trust is lost.

Fortunately, we have a road map to get back on course – the core values.

They set the standard for behavior and remind us of our profession's importance and the demands placed on us. People not in the Air Force family may only see them as lofty ideals but for Airmen, they are the core of who we are and enable us to do what we do. They are the price of admission and retention into the greatest Air Force in the world.

## Direct Line



Col. Bradley D. Spacy  
88th Air Base Wing commander

I want your suggestions and comments concerning Wright-Patterson. Please tell me what we are doing well and where we can improve.

I suggest you first give the chain of command and base agencies an opportunity to resolve your concerns before calling the Direct Line. To contact the Direct Line:

- E-mail: [directline@wpafb.af.mil](mailto:directline@wpafb.af.mil)
- Voice: 257-2750
- Fax: 656-1279

Your question or concern may have already been addressed in a previous *Skywrighter* issue. To review previously published Direct Lines, please log on to the Web at <https://directline.wpafb.af.mil>.

## The 88th ABW Safety office presents: 'Comedy is the Cure'



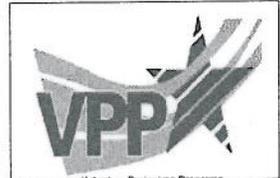
Bernie McGrenahan

The 88th Wing Safety office is proud to present comedian Bernie McGrenahan's "Happy Hour" Wingman Safety message. McGrenahan's message is blazing across military bases around the

world delivering a comedy show with an inspirational and powerful message. Bernie's program is the military's newest method of Safety Training: Comedy and Inspiration, together!

Do not miss this popular comedian and the touching and motivating message to inspire us all to achieve, Mission Success!

The program will be presented "live" on 14 May at 1030 and 1400 at the Base Theatre in Kittyhawk, Area C.



## Green tip of the day

Bring a reusable water bottle, preferably aluminum rather than plastic, with you when traveling or at work. You can save money by refilling the bottle instead of buying a new one.



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# Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Skywrighter



Vol. 50, No. 17

Serving the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Community

Friday, May 22, 2009

## Team Wright-Patt honors first quarter award winners



Senior Airman Casey Prine Honor Guard Member of the Quarter



Senior Airman Anthony J. Walters Airman of the Quarter



Tech. Sgt. Rebecca M. Brock NCO of the Quarter



Master Sgt. Patricia A. Yelverton Senior NCO of the Quarter



Capt. James Johnson Company Grade Officer of the Quarter



Ryan Brant Category I Civilian of the Quarter

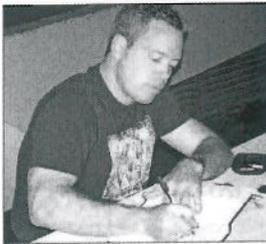


Eric W. May Category II Civilian of the Quarter



Michael T. Matosky Category III Civilian of the Quarter

## Comedian drives home 'sober' message



Bernie McGrenahan

by James Baker  
Skywrighter staff

The Wright-Patterson base theater hosted a pair of shows by comedian Bernie McGrenahan that combined 30 minutes of humor which then segues into the dangers and risks of alcohol, drug abuse and sexual assault and harassment for the final 30 minutes.

The stand-up has been featured on Comedy Central as well as a guest on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno.

He recently toured college campuses around the United States sharing his powerful message as well as working as an opening act to Tony Danza and Matchbox 20.

McGrenahan is going to bases all across the globe with his "Happy Hour: Comedy with a Message

Tour" spreading his inspirational life experiences to civilians, active duty and contractors of the armed forces. His refreshing approach encourages everyone to make smart, safe decisions and helps better prepare each unit for mission success.

"I love the men and women of the Air Force and I would like to take this opportunity right now to thank them for their sacrifice," McGrenahan told the captive crowd. "Everyone here today seemed really focused on the message and I really felt connected to them out there. I plan to make the military my focus for the next 5-10 years."

Base Vice Director Randy Parker said he was thoroughly impressed with the manner McGrenahan delivered his point and immediately captured the audience's attention.

"It was a high energy show that delivered a difficult message in a hilarious manner," said Parker. "It definitely beats the mundane trainings you get with PowerPoint presentations."

McGrenahan said he has now been alcohol free for more than 21 years, but made many dire decisions when he was younger. He said the first one resulted in getting behind the wheel of his car and

See Comedian, Page 11A

## Remember the real story behind Memorial Day

Commentary by  
Gen. Donald Hoffman  
AFMC Commander

More than 1.3 million Americans have fought and died on behalf of our country during the past 233 years. Except for Afghanistan and Iraq, those wars and conflicts have receded into the pages of history books. But our country was not built on history books. It was built on the backs of men and women who believed in the fundamental principles of freedom - principles for which they were willing to put their lives on the line.

I was recently TDY in Europe and had the opportunity to visit the American Cemetery at St. Mihiel, France. Buried there are 4,153 Americans who gave their lives defending the freedom of others. It is just one of many cemeteries around the world where we honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.



Gen. Donald Hoffman

On Memorial Day, we owe these people more than a day off of work, a backyard barbecue, or a day at the water park.

I plan to stop wherever I am and whatever I'm doing on Memorial Day at 3 p.m. for the National Moment of Remembrance. I hope you will too.

Take a moment to reflect on the sacrifices made and the lives lost in the name of freedom.

Our history is full of stories of ordinary people who displayed extraordinary heroism. No doubt our future holds more amazing stories of heat-ache and heroism. Some of those stories are playing out now in current conflicts around the world. These are stories that bind us together, as one, under the Stars and Stripes of the United States of America. They're the stories of real people whose loved ones suffered and mourned. Let us never forget to honor them all.

### 101 CRITICAL DAYS

The period between Memorial Day and Labor Day is called "the 101 Critical Days of Summer" because of the relative increase in the number of fatal, off-duty mishaps—last year 19 Airmen died during this period. Most of these mishaps involved private motor vehicle accidents caused by excessive speeds, fatigue, alcohol, and lack of seatbelt use.



Another source of fatalities was drowning either in water sports or in situations in which individuals lacked water safety skills and knowledge.

Keys to success in combating these figures are strong leadership, effective training face-to-face, focus upon the "Wingman Effect," and maintaining the Warfighter Edge at all times.

Remember: Airmen take care of Airmen.

## AFMC Colonels nominated for promotion to Brig. Gen.

Two Air Force colonels assigned to Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command have been nominated for promotion to Brigadier General.

The Department of Defense announced May 15 that the President has nominated Col. Lee K. Levy II, presently Deputy Director of Logistics, HQ AFMC; and Col. Kenneth J. Moran, Inspector General, HQ AFMC, for promotion.

Col. Levy, who will be taking command of the 402nd Maintenance Wing at Robins AFB, has been responsible for all depot maintenance, supply management and sustainment transformation activities within the command. He developed and directed policy and procedures for major overhaul, repair and modification of weapon systems and spare parts—an activity with a budget of more than \$6.5 billion employing more than

35,000 people at the command's three air logistics centers. He also was responsible for policy and procedures regarding aircraft maintenance, munitions, supply, logistics plans, transportation, packaging, and fielding and sustaining AFMC logistics data systems.

Col. Moran is responsible for providing the AFMC commander with an independent assessment of the command's operations, readiness, efficiency and effectiveness. In addition, he's responsible for conducting senior official fraud, waste and abuse, personal complaint and congressional investigations for the command. Prior to his current assignment, Colonel Moran was Deputy Director of the Develop & Sustain Warfighting Systems AFSO21 Office at HQ AFMC, where he lead AFMC transformation efforts.

# FROM THE BLOG

## Warfighters,

Welcome to my Blog! I hope you all use this site because I'm anxious to tell you what I'm thinking and really looking forward to hearing what's on your minds! Take a minute to read the ROE and instructions so we can get this conversation going, then bring it on!

— Col Brad Spacy  
Commander, 88th Air Base Wing  
"WARFIGHTER-1"

### From the blog:

Join the discussion! Post your comments at <https://org.eis.afmc.af.mil/sites/88cg/88ABWblog/default.aspx>

### WP Hot Topics:

- ☉ Gate 19B Closure
- ☉ Smoking
- ☉ Weapons on Base
- ☉ Quiet Hours

### Featured comments:

#### Speed Limit on D Street

I called and requested that D

Street in area B have its speed limit reduced to 15MPH. I was told that since it is not a parking lot or housing that they wouldn't reduce it. Now that all the curbing is in place in front of the 558 complex and there are actual roads, will that speed limit be increased from 15 to 25MPH? What do you say we keep everyone safe and reduce D Street to 15 MPH?

Besides there is a lot more congestion on that street

daily than there ever is in front of 558!

### Self-Defense Class

May I just say a big Thank-you to the group of trainers who gave the Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) self defense class? I attended the April 24 class, it was very informative and the hands-on training really made a difference. I have watched videos of self defense methods, but the hands-on training really brought it home. They did a great job!

### I-675 Gate

I-675 Gate 22B – it was an 11 minute delay at the I675 gate. I arrived at the end of the line of traffic today Wed at 8:06 and passed through the gate at 8:17. Good job to all those extra folks checking IDs. I can live with an extra 10-15min commute for a couple of weeks.

### Smoking Required Distance

I'd appreciate it if smokers would stand the required dis-

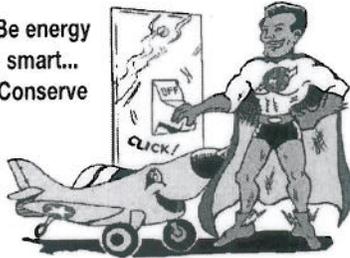
tance from the building so we nonsmokers are not exposed to their smoke. There is an area set up, but I do not think is the required distance from the building. I work in Building 1 and use the main entrance.

### Janitorial Contracts

If there is a contract in place for trash removal and it's not being done, the questions isn't whether or not the people should take out their own trash, but why should taxpayer money be spent on the contract? I don't mind taking out my own trash as long as there's not a contract in place and being paid for the same purpose. Doing someone else's job for them is not "doing your patriotic duty" but just the opposite. If someone is getting paid to do a job but they're not, then it's your patriotic duty to bring it to someone's attention (like on this blog). On the other hand, if an organization decides to save money and removing trash becomes an office function then they should do it without complaint.

## Another Bright Energy Savings Tip from: Capt. Kilowatt and Wrighty

Be energy smart...  
Conserve



Turn out the lights

Making improvements to your lighting is one of the fastest ways to cut your energy bills. An average household dedicates 11% of its energy budget to lighting. Using new

lighting technologies can reduce lighting energy use in your home by 50% to 75%. Advances in lighting controls offer further energy savings by reducing the amount of time lights are on but not being used.

## Education Spotlight

### Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) Graduation

The Education and Training Flight will be hosting the 2009 CCAF graduation May 8 at 1:30 p.m. at the Base Theater in the Kittyhawk area. Members will be receiving their Associate of Applied Science degrees in their Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC).

CCAF holds regional accreditation through Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

All base personnel are invited to attend the graduation to congratulate their family, friends, and

co-workers on their dedication to their educational accomplishment.

The Education and Training Flight will be minimally manned and Education Services will be closed all day May 8 to prepare for and host the ceremony. The testing office will have appointments in the morning and then will be closed. Please plan your educational needs accordingly.

Graduates are reminded to RSVP by May 1 and to be at the Base Theater May 8 at 10 a.m. for rehearsal, and return to the theater, appropriately dressed, no later than 12:45 p.m. for pictures and final instructions.



## Street Beat

VPP wants to know, "How do you stay safety conscious in the workplace?"



Robbin Miller  
403 SCMS

"We have to. We have an industrial area here, and we're inspected by multiple organizations. If somebody has an accident, it could mean the loss of life."



Matt Bozzuto  
403 SCMS

"We're safety conscious here because we have to be."



Dan Bingham  
403 SCMS

"We stay alert to our surroundings, and keep up to date with safety briefings as a reminder of items you might forget."



Keely Done  
402 SCMS

"Our safety person sends out e-mails each week, and we try to be wary of hazards in the workplace."



Lianne Cordonnier  
591 SCMG

"We keep up to date with training and with the supervisor's safety messages."

Skywrighter photos by Borina White



Air Force ONLINE news

[www.af.mil/news](http://www.af.mil/news)

# Supervisors getting an extra serving of VPP

**Commentary by Simone L. Koram**  
WPAFB Voluntary Protection  
Program Manager

**G**reetings Wingmen. I would like to take this excellent opportunity to engage your awareness by sharing with you one of the many creative ways Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Team promotes safety in the workplace and at home. As a bonus, at the end of this article, I am going to share with you nine meaningful ways to get involved and join the increasing momentum of VPP. So let's get VPP IN ACTION started:

This week, the VPP Team partnered with the Ground Safety Office by including a general VPP briefing to the already existing mandatory Supervisor Safety Training (SST) Course. Christopher Tiry, Ground Safety Specialist, who is also the primary instructor started the class by welcoming the audience and introducing the VPP Team (yours truly and of course, Tech. Sgt. Robert Brock, VPP program assistant).

Brock began his briefing by asking the class "how many of you heard of VPP?"

Most of the supervisors nodded their head; some sounded off, and smiled. As he continued his brief, he thought it was important for the audience to understand that VPP is not another Safety Program. "VPP has safety and health elements attached to it but what VPP does is build upon the existing safety and health programs, by teaching us steps to make it better. VPP is all about taking that extra step to go above and beyond what is expected, especially when we're dealing with

our wingmen and family safety" said Brock

"Did you know that WPAFB is a STAR site?" Few replied yes. "That's right," Brock said. "The 88th Air Base Wing Staff Office earned their STAR in Dec 2008. WPAFB is now known as the first active duty Air Force installation awarded the VPP STAR...you all should be proud," Brock exclaimed.

While standing in the back of the room listening and observing the class, I was very confident that after that intro, Brock was on his way to delivering what I would refer to as an "extra serving of VPP."

VPP STAR status means OSHA inspectors evaluated the installation or organization and determined that it deserves the highest health and safety rating. That said, we all need to keep in mind, that after earning VPP STAR recognition, together, we must change the culture of safety and health at work and at home by practicing the four elements of VPP:

- (a) Management, union, and employee commitment
  - (b) Worksite analysis
  - (c) Hazard prevention and control
  - (d) Health and safety training
- "It is important that the attendees recognize the linkage between ground safety and VPP as a mutually force multiplier, what I mean by that is our mishap prevention efforts are enhanced through the organization structure provided under VPP. It enables our personnel at all levels to be active participants in mishap reduction efforts. It is a win-win for ground safety, VPP and WPAFB community," Tiry explained.

I asked Tiry, "Do you think they benefited from us adding VPP to this SST course?"



Air Force photo by Simone L. Koram

**Tech. Sgt. Robert Brock, VPP Program Assistant in action, Briefing VPP at the 88th Air Base Wing mandatory Supervisor Safety Training Course, Area C, Bldg. 110.**

"Well, I think the students appreciated the opportunity to have the relationship between VPP and Ground Safety and their responsibility as supervisors explained. Their organization will certainly benefit from their heightened awareness of the VPP core elements and how they can be applied in their various work centers by empowering both supervisors and subordinates to take an active role in keeping the workplace safe and healthy" Tiry added.

The 28 supervisors who attended the SST course were active duty military and AF civilian, from Senior Airman to Colonel, GS-7-GS-14, and YAs and YC-2s...they all received an extra serving of VPP and ready to champion our mission. Thank you for your support.

I will close by leaving you with 9 meaningful ways to get involved in VPP:

- Report safety issues and recommend solutions
  - Volunteer on your organization safety team
  - Participate in safety investigation and near miss reports, attend meetings
  - Write and review job safety analysis
  - Develop/participate in employee improvement suggestion program
  - Conduct housekeeping and safety tours in your area
  - Train others in safety and health
  - Promote good health through civilian fitness and wellness program
  - Be a role model for others
- POC: VPP Team, 904-0888

## BBB offers advice on preventing unwanted solicitation

**by John North**  
President & CEO  
Better Business Bureau

Your BBB offers tips on reducing unwanted solicitations. Do you constantly receive junk-mail disguised as official-looking envelopes and glossy brochures? Are you constantly receiving unwelcome telemarketing calls? If so, there are ways you can end - or at least slow down - the flow of unwanted solicitations. Your Better Business Bureau offers ways to reduce or stop junk-mail and telemarketing calls.

### Opt-out of credit card, insurance and other financial product offers

By calling (888) 5-OPT-OUT from your home phone or visiting [www.optoutprescreen.com](http://www.optoutprescreen.com), you can remove your name from marketing lists credit bureaus provide to creditors and insurers. You can opt-out for five years or permanently and you must complete a form for each family member.

### Remove your name from mailing lists

Contact the Direct Marketing Association's (DMA) Mail Preference Service to remove your name from many commercial marketers' lists by visiting [www.dmachoice.org](http://www.dmachoice.org). You can choose which ads to receive or opt-out completely, but you'll continue to receive mail from companies not affiliated with the DMA, such as charities, local organizations and political candidates. Also, tell companies you do business with not to rent or sell your information to other companies.

### Register with National Do-Not-Call Registry

Register your home and cell phone numbers with the National Do-Not-Call Registry by visiting [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov). Once registered, your number must be removed within 31 days. If you receive telemarketing calls after 31 days, you can file a complaint online. Also, when telemarketers call, tell them you want your name and number removed from their lists.

Stop e-mail solicitations

If you receive unwanted e-mail solicitations or spam, forward them to [spam@uce.gov](mailto:spam@uce.gov). This is used by the Federal Trade Commission to pursue corrective action against scammers who send deceptive e-mails. Using a spam filter and an alternate e-mail address when registering online are other ways to decrease spam. Additionally, unsubscribe to unwanted e-mail by scrolling to the bottom and clicking the opt-out or unsubscribe link.

### Don't give out personal information

Avoid providing too much personal information when filling out product warranty cards, entering store drawings and responding to Internet surveys. Companies profile you based on your buying habits and income and then sell this information to other marketers.

For more information about reducing unwanted solicitations, contact your BBB by calling 222-5825 or (800) 776-5301 or visiting [www.airforce.bbb.org](http://www.airforce.bbb.org).

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A message from: AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

# VPP Manager partners with Wingman Coordinator



Air Force photo

Carmen Schott, SARC & Wingman Program Manager; Simone Koram, Voluntary Protection Program Manager and Iysha Jenkins, SARC program assistant discuss the connection between their two organizations.

**Commentary by Carmen Schott**  
WPAFB SARC & Wingman Program Manager

The Wingman Program's goal is to ensure that we work together to promote safety and support to our fellow wingman. Our motto is get involved, intervene and take action at the appropriate time. Our program shares a common mission with the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) and we are working together to promote awareness.

Both programs have a similar mission and a similar goal, which is keeping our wingman safe.

The VPP Program is a partnership between employees, management, the union, and OSHA which promotes worker's safety through active and meaningful employee involvement. There are four core elements of the VPP and they are: Management Leadership and Employee Involvement, Worksite Analysis, Hazard Prevention and Control and Safety and Health Training.

The VPP Manager, Simone Koram knows the importance of building good partnerships.

"One of the many initiatives of the VPP is to foster partnerships in the community, for example working with base support agencies and helping organizations, together our programs can create a healthy and improved culture of safety and health among wingmen and families. In my 20+ years of personal and work experience, helping people, and working on a variety of quality of life programs... collaboration has been a key ingredient to successful product and service deliveries," Koram explained.

Wright Patterson Air Force Base is the first active duty Air Force installation that has received the VPP Star Site award. When I asked Koram how the VPP can help airmen she said, "We all need to understand that VPP is not just another safety program. VPP is a program that builds on the existing safety and health program. Simply, it's another way to make the program better, as in, going above and beyond what is expected.

"I would like our wingmen to understand, when we follow the 4 key elements of VPP consistently,

then looking out for each other becomes a natural step, it eventually turns into a daily routine through repetition and practice.

"When we take deliberate and proactive steps to keep our wingmen safe, in the workplace, and in our community, we are taking VPP actions to prevent mishaps, reduce injuries and illnesses, and of course, create a happier and healthier work force and home for our wingmen and families."

We hear a lot about the Wingman program and have heard a lot of stories that are very moving. Many stories involve people stopping on an icy road to give someone a ride or individuals who save someone's life by offering assistance. But what we often don't hear are stories about work site concerns.

For instance, you come to work and see a large ceiling light hanging down or a hole in the floor it is important that you tell someone.

You not only are being a wingman but you are promoting safety and protection to your fellow co-workers and customers. It is important to intervene and act because you could possibly save someone's life.

When Koram handed me the VPP brochure, I immediately was drawn to the section that discussed the nine meaningful ways to get involved. The one that stuck out to me was the one that said, "Be a role model for others." This is exactly what the goal of the Wingman Program is and the highest standard that we encourage our Airmen to achieve.

"There are many ways to get involved in VPP, for example reporting safety issues and recommending solutions, perhaps you may want to participate in a safety inspection or help write a job safety analysis. Changing the culture means working together and everyone needs to be involved. It takes leadership, employee involvement and commitment to ensure that we are keeping each other safe and informed," Koram said.

Koram is currently recruiting what she calls, "VPP Agents" which will be volunteers who help support her program. She is currently recruiting volunteers to serve as VPP Agents and training will be involved. You will begin to see the Wingman Program and Voluntary Protection Program working together in the community for further marketing and exposure.

Both programs share a similar mission and both are determined to create a safer and healthier environment across Wright Patterson Air Force Base.

If you are interested in keeping your fellow wingman safe across the installation please contact Simone Koram at 904-0888 for more information about the Voluntary Protection Program.

I want you to encourage you to continue to send Wingman Stories to us so we can show the importance of partnerships across our community.

Please email your stories to 88ABW.CVK@WPAFB.AF.MIL or contact the Wingman Office at 257-7272 to schedule a meeting.



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# Serve like you mean it

by Col. Dawn Wilson  
Commander, Aerospace Medical Squadron

"Service before self" is one of our core values, but have you ever considered how we serve?

It's the details of how we accomplish our individual missions that set us apart. It's the small things that make the biggest impressions.

Would you rather have someone greet you immediately when you walk up to their work counter or do you feel better served if they continue their phone conversation and have you stand there without acknowledging your presence?

How tough is it to explain why someone's running late versus having customers take a seat without any recognition of their wait?

If someone needs a report completed and turned in within a specified time period, have you actually performed a service to that person if you turn it in after the deadline?

Going the extra mile doesn't really take that much energy, but the benefits are immense.

Many think of customers as people working outside their work

section, but customer service principles relate to all of us. We're all customers of each other. Today's Wingman Culture is directly in line with these principles. If we're really watching out for each other, we'll be injecting a "self before self" attitude in everything we do.

It's easy to decide how to treat people by simply considering how you wish to be treated.

Better yet, think about how you would treat a situation if it were one of your loved ones presenting the request. If you consider how to perform your service, with this golden rule in mind, you'll never go wrong.

There's an innate pleasure gained from the successful completion of a necessary task, and this is amplified when it directly involves fulfilling someone else's needs.

Although you may not consider your job to be a customer service position, all jobs are. Remember, it's those little things you do that help present a positive impression of yourself and your organization to those you serve. We all have a job worth doing, and as they say, "if it's worth doing, it's worth doing right!"

## Base to host Volunteer Information Fair

by Josh Aycock  
88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

A Volunteer Information Fair, hosted by the Airman and Family Readiness Center, will be held at the Family and Community Center, Bldg. 230, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The fair will host over 40 local volunteer agencies that will highlight volunteer opportunities across the Dayton area.

"Volunteering comes from ones heart," said Dawn Ivy, community readiness technician at the AFRC and leading base efforts for the volunteer program. "Some volunteer to give something back to the community and others find volunteering is a great way to build a resume and establish key contacts on the base and in the local community."

The fair is a part of National Volunteer Week April 19-25. The theme of this year's commemoration is "Celebrating People in Action" aimed at honoring the individuals who dedicate themselves to taking action and solving problems in their communi-

ties, according to the Points of Light organization's website.

Further efforts will be made by the AFRC to acknowledge the local civilian and military community's volunteer efforts. A Volunteer Recognition ceremony will be held April 27 at the Wright-Patterson Club and Banquet Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The awards ceremony will be a combination of presenting the Chief of Staff authorized Volunteer Excellence Award and honoring all of the nominees for their efforts and time spent serving the community.

Throughout the 2008 calendar year Wright-Patterson volunteers contributed more than 184 thousand hours to Wright-Patterson, saving more than \$3.6 million.

The 2,140 base volunteers included active duty, military retiree, government civilian, dependent, regular civilian and veteran individuals, all of whom are potentially eligible for the award.

For more information on volunteering please contact Dawn Ivy at 656-0941.

## Direct Line



Col. Bradley D. Spacy  
88th Air Base Wing commander

I want your suggestions and comments concerning Wright-Patterson. Please tell me what we are doing well and where we can improve.

I suggest you first give the chain of command and base agencies an opportunity to resolve your concerns before calling the Direct Line. To contact the Direct Line:

- E-mail: [directline@wpafb.af.mil](mailto:directline@wpafb.af.mil)
- Voice: 257-2750
- Fax: 656-1279

Your question or concern may have already been addressed in a previous *Skywrighter* issue. To review previously published Direct Lines, please log on to the Web at <http://directline.wpafb.af.mil>.

## Get fired up for spring cleaning

Spring is on the way bringing its many rituals, including spring cleaning, which also should be a fire safety activity. Most of the debris that accumulates over the winter months — boxes, stacks of paper, old clothes and other useless clutter — offer an excellent place for a fire to start.

Start by cleaning up all those newspapers. If there are too many to stack on your curb for recycling, bring them to the Base Recycle Center, located in bldg 293 Area A.

Are there any old oily rags you can get rid of? This is a good time to start a fresh shoeshine rag and a new furniture polishing cloth. What about those cloths that were used to wipe up fuel spills from the snow blower? Get rid of them, too. It doesn't have to be very warm in your garage or storage area for oily rags to heat up and start a fire.

Remember never fuel the lawn mower when the engine is hot. And never fuel it up inside the garage or the storage building. Take it outside in the open air. All flammable liquids should be stored in an approved container.



Go through the attic, the basement and the closets to get rid of those things you've outgrown or don't ever use. Maybe a charitable organization could make good use of some of these items. If you can't bear to part with some items, consider renting space at a mini-warehouse or self-storage facility. At the very least, straighten things up and be sure everything is at least three feet from water heaters, furnaces and other heat sources.

While you're thinking fire safety, test your smoke alarm, check your fire extinguisher and review your home escape plan. The Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Fire Department will be happy to assist you in making your home safe from fire hazards.

For more fire prevention information, call 257-4075.



## Green tip of the day

Planting trees can decrease the energy you need to cool your space, as well as provide a place to hang a tire swing.

Shade trees can reduce the need for air conditioning by 10 to 40 percent. Shaded walls are 9

to 36 degrees F cooler at peak temperatures.

Trees also raise property values and provide many other benefits. Get the best results by planting trees to the west and southwest of buildings.



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# Proposed range will provide training for EOD personnel

by **Derek Kaufman**  
88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Base officials are accepting public comment on the proposed construction and operation of a range to train Explosive Ordnance Disposal personnel here.

"It will be used for the proficiency training of EOD personnel and also for any emergency detonations of military munitions coming from communities around Wright-Patt," said Raymond Baker, chief of the quality branch with the 88th Air Base Wing's Environmental Management Division.

A draft Environmental Assessment evaluated four candidate locations on base for the training area. The proposed Skel Avenue site is located on the northern boundary of Huffman Prairie in Area C of the base, just south of the existing airfield Hazardous Cargo Pads. Three alternative locations are also identified.

The planned construction is relatively simple and would include a 6-foot tall concrete wall barrier around the detonation area - where blocks of C-4 explosive ranging from 1 1/4 up to 5 pounds would be periodically detonated - and a safety clear zone extending out 500 feet, secured by fencing, Baker said.

Officials noted although Wright-



Air Force photo/Derek Kaufman

**Staff Sgt. Gabriel Wasnuk, an explosive ordnance disposal team leader with the 88th Air Base Wing demonstrates a simulated improvised explosive device or IED.**

Patterson has had either an Air Force or Army EOD capability for more than 40 years, the current EOD Flight has been stationed at the base since September 2007 and does not have a dedicated range to conduct Air Force-required proficiency training. At a temporary

training area on base EOD specialists are currently limited to using the explosive equivalent of .50 caliber or 12-gauge shot gun cartridges, said Tech. Sgt. Micah Jobe, an EOD team leader with the 88 Air Base Wing Civil Engineer Directorate.

The new range will provide vital proficiency training for new and experienced EOD personnel who frequently deploy in support of joint warfighters, said Jobe. Wright-Patterson's EOD unit is currently authorized 17 Airmen, who typically deploy for six-month periods to places like Iraq and Afghanistan, where Improvised Explosive Devices or IEDs are the number one killer of U.S. and coalition forces.

"This is a very perishable skill," said Jobe of the explosives training and techniques used by EOD personnel. He added training is constantly being refined in response to the adaptation and creativity of insurgents.

"This training ensures we stay safe and proficient with the explosives we use to disarm IEDs. It helps save lives, Jobe said.

According to the Environmental Assessment, training at the range could occur three days per week, up to eight hours per day. Most of the time involved is setting up and training with the explosive mate-

rials. The actual detonation takes less than a second.

The maximum number of detonations that would occur in a training day is one per hour or a total of eight, although training more typically would include just one detonation per week, Jobe said.

The range would also be used for emergency disposal of military ordnance found in the community. The Wright-Patterson EOD team's area of responsibility includes the local area and surrounding states and they have responded to some 40 calls for support from neighboring areas to dispose of "souvenirs" from previous conflicts, often found in the garages or basements of aging veterans.

The public is invited to review the draft Environmental Assessment and draft Finding of No Significant Impact/Finding of No Practicable Alternative at the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, 3640 Colonel Glenn Highway, Dayton, Ohio.

Written comments and inquiries on the draft EA and FONSI/FONPA should be directed to:

Mr. Raymond Baker  
88 ABW/CEVY  
1450 Littrell Road  
Wright-Patterson AFB Ohio  
45433-5209  
(937) 257-0177

# All hands on deck! It's time to look at boat safety

by **Cason Soat**  
88 Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Bringing out the boat for the first time in months can be exhilarating for boating enthusiasts. The thrill of removing that tarp from your boat for the first time in months prepares ones heart for a lazy summer's day on the lake.

However, a responsible skipper pays just as much attention to safety as they do to polishing the stern time and time again. Taking into consideration all safety precautions can help keep a good day on the lake what it is intended to be - Stress free!

Boaters should begin by checking the laws and regulations of the local state, county and lake where you will be boating. Ohio revised code has detailed regulations that should be reviewed prior to an outing. For example on Eastwood Lake in Dayton, swimming and wading are not permitted, yet waterskiing and tubing are.

Knowing the laws is a great start but there are still some life-saving safety habits which that



should not be ignored.

Wearing a personal flotation device should be one of the most instinctual habits for all boaters. It is not just a fashion statement but it could save your life. According to the U.S. Coast Guard, more than two-thirds of all boating fatalities in 2007 were due to drowning, of which 90 percent were not wearing a lifejacket.

Another potentially life-saving behavior that boaters can do to ensure they never leave the dock

unprepared is to make a pre-boating checklist.

What should your list include? Here are just some suggestions:

1) Make sure that you have the appropriate amount of lifejackets on board. Remember, the lifejacket to passenger ratio on your vessel must be no less than 1-to-1, per Ohio state regulations. Also, all lifejackets must be Coast Guard approved and information of those requirements can be found on the Coast Guard's web page.

2) Check the local forecast before you leave. The last thing you want is to get stuck in the middle of thunderstorm on your day off.

3) Check the pressure reading on the on-board fire extinguisher. A faulty extinguisher can be costly in the event of a boat fire.

4) Check your navigation lights. If you are boating when there is not abundant sunshine, you must ensure that other boaters can see you from a ways out. According to the Coast Guard, collisions with other vessels accounted for 66 casualties and more than 1300 accidents in 2007. Remaining visible with your lights is the first step in preventing these accidents.

5) Do not operate a boat under the influence. The Coast Guard reported that alcohol use was the primary contributor in 21 percent of fatal boating accidents in 2007, making alcohol the leading contributing factor to boating fatalities. Boat smart. Boat sober!

Making the extra effort to prepare and protect yourself and others on the boat is the best way to ensure a safe and fun outing.

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# Analysis reveals strong safety foundation at AFRL



by Daryl Mayer  
88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The results of the Gap Analysis confirmed what many already believed, that the Air Force Research Laboratory has a firm foundation to meet the ultimate Voluntary Protection Program goal of driving down preventable mishaps to zero.

The analysis, conducted in early April of AFRL directorates

located at Wright-Patterson, consisted of visits to 20 separate work centers and more than 30 formal interviews. Lt. Col. Wade Weisman from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Logistics led the team of safety professionals conducting the analysis.

Overall, Weisman said, "AFRL is extremely well organized across the board."

The purpose of the analysis is

to document the directorate's progress and identify any areas needing improvement. The "gaps" between current standing and the requirements are recorded electronically in an "eVPP" tool until they are corrected and closed. Once sufficient gap closure progress has been made, they apply to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for a formal worksite inspection.

"Our thanks to the whole team for helping us better understand our baseline," said the AFRL Vice Commander, Col. David Glade II. "The team validated that we have a good basis, but also pointed out ways we can get better in our workplace safety and health."

Glade chaired the VPP Executive Steering Committee, a group comprised of all the deputy directors across AFRL. The group has been charged by Maj. Gen. Curtis Bedke, AFRL commander, to personally oversee the Lab's VPP progress.

"I appreciate all the support given to the team this week," Weisman said. "The senior leader commitment in AFRL is really astounding and that is good. OSHA will sense that commitment right away when they come to visit later."

Weisman identified a number of areas that showed great consistency, especially in safety procedures training. He suggested some of those "best practice" workcenters could share their processes with other units to achieve the same results across the Wright Research Site and AFRL as a whole.

Of the 243 total elements the team observed, AFRL showed that 83 percent were either completed or in progress.

Although VPP is ultimately an OSHA program to recognize "best in class" worksites, it is widely credited throughout industry for dramatic reductions in workplace accidents and the associated costs in terms of both dollars and human tragedy.

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# Air Force Research Laboratory begins VPP journey



by Daryl Mayer  
88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Building on an already strong culture of safety, the Air Force Research Laboratory began the process this week to incorporate the Voluntary Protection Program into all levels of the organization.

Since its inception by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in the early 1980s, VPP has recognized "best in class" worksites for their attention to the health and safety of their workforce. It is credited throughout industry for dramatic reductions in workplace accidents and the associated costs in terms of both dollars and human tragedy.

During a briefing in the AFRL

Headquarters Monday, Lt. Col. Wade Weisman from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Logistics explained the VPP Gap Analysis process to the AFRL leadership.

He found a strong advocate in AFRL Commander, Maj. Gen. Curtis Bedke, who had experience with VPP in a prior command at the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards AFB, Calif.

"I've seen it work and I believe in it," Bedke said. "This program has a 25-year record of success in industry, so it is proven. This is nothing but good."

The Gap Analysis process, Weisman explained, identifies areas needing improvement to meet VPP standards. In many cases, the

improvements may be as small as tweaking standard reporting under the Air Force Safety Program to meet VPP standards. Once sufficient gap closure progress is made, units can apply for an OSHA evaluation for Star status, the highest level of recognition in VPP.

"This isn't an inspection where you correct items and 30 days later you're done," Weisman said. "This is about changing a culture and that takes time."

In December 2008, the 88th Air Base Wing here became the first active-duty Air Force unit to receive the Star award.

Bedke was quick to put a human perspective on the program.

"We're not doing this to get awards or save money or to see our stats go down," he said. "We're doing this so that every night all our people go home with their body parts intact. We are doing this because we care about our people and we don't want them to get hurt or killed."

As part of the analysis, members from the DOD Center of Excellence visited the four Technology Directorates, 711th Human Performance Wing, and the Headquarters element that comprise the AFRL units on Wright-Patterson. Team members will have the opportunity to observe work centers and conduct interviews with employees. In addition, Weis-

man will personally interview senior leaders from each unit.

The work center visits are less about finding "safety discrepancies" and more about gauging the general attitude of the work force. The team is more interested in seeing how people take the initiative to identify and correct potential mishaps or unsafe conditions, Weisman said.

"This is not a compliance inspection," the colonel said. "We want to see the response if we do find something. Is it immediately resolved?"

Such an evaluation gets right to the core of the management and employee involvement — one of the four key elements of VPP.

"Every single person has a role to play in VPP. There has to be involvement up and down the chain of command and at all levels of the organization," Bedke said. "I desire and expect full cooperation."

Weisman said the team will brief the results of the Gap Analysis to AFRL leadership Friday.

"I think it is important to recognize that we aren't starting VPP to fix something that is broken," Bedke said. "AFRL already has a great safety culture. Nonetheless, recognizing that we can always get better and that VPP has such a strong record of success — why wouldn't we do it?"



Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Ericque Stevini

## Warrior of the week

Senior Airman Bradley Scheidt, 445th Security Forces Squadron, currently assigned to the 506th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, was selected as Warrior of the Week at Kirkuk Regional Air Base, Iraq.

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# Motorcycle training available for beginning riders

by the 88th Air Base Wing  
Safety Office

The 88th Air Base Wing Safety Office has pre-purchased motorcycle training slots for spring/summer 2009. These slots are intended to train beginner motorcycle riders at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in safe riding techniques and to meet Air Force requirements. There are a limited number of pre-paid slots available and these slots are going fast.

Beginner riders may obtain a slot for training by contacting their respective Unit Motorcycle Safety Coordinator. The UMSC will in turn contact the Safety



Office to request a class date.

The trainee will then be required to report to the Safety Office to complete the required

paperwork to secure the slot.

Once trainees secure a slot, they are required to attend the training on the assigned date, as

these seats have been pre-paid. A 72-hour notification is required to cancel an appointment.

If pre-paid slots have been filled, individuals can still log into <http://www.motorcycle.ohio.gov/> and schedule training with any of the listed training locations. Upon completion of the course, individuals should report to the 88 Air Base Wing Safety Office, Building 110, Area C, with their Motorcycle Safety Foundation card.

Once training is verified, individuals should complete form SF1164 for training fee reimbursement. For more information, please call 904-3391.

## New exhibit highlights '100 Missions Up North' at the museum

A major new exhibit, titled "100 Missions Up North," opens March 19 at the National Museum of the United States Air Force. The display highlights the story of brave airmen who flew missions in the deadly skies above North Vietnam and neighboring countries during the Southeast Asia War.

Located in the Modern Flight Gallery, the exhibit features more than 50 historical photographs, approximately 100 artifacts, such as flight suits, boonie hats, unique patches, and first-hand accounts of the courage of many U.S. Air Force pilots and crewman.

The exhibit primarily revolves around the "100 Mission patch," which became a symbolic mark of courage during Operation Rolling Thunder from 1965-1968. The achievement of 100 missions grew into a rich tradition with its own proud customs, such as elaborate celebrations, growing of "bullet proof" mustaches or end-of-tour dunkings.

"When people speak about completing 100 missions, they do so with reverence and respect," said museum director Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Charles D. Metcalf. "These brave men went to extraordinary lengths to complete the mission and their accomplishments deserve to be recognized at the Air Force's national museum."

Achieving 100 missions over North Vietnam in



an F-105 "Thud" aircraft had particularly special meaning. During some periods, it was more likely than not an F-105 airman would be shot down at least once during his tour, and the odds of completing a 100-mission tour were not good. Other aircraft that were involved included the

F-4, EB-66, RF-4 and RF-101.

"The museum's motto is 'we are the keepers of their stories,'" said Jeff Duford, a historian at the museum. "This exhibit lives up to that motto because it gives the opportunity to highlight not only the brave and heroic tales of the many men that fought for the United States, but also a glimpse into the quirky and lighthearted side from a turbulent time in history."

For more information and historical photos from "100 Missions Up North," please visit [www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=13848](http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=13848).

The National Museum of the U.S. Air Force is the world's largest and oldest military aviation museum, featuring more than 400 aerospace vehicles amid more than 17 acres of indoor exhibit space. Thousands of personal artifacts, photographs and documents highlight the people and events that comprise the Air Force storyline, from the beginnings of military flight to today's operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. More than one million people visit the museum each year.

Located on Springfield Street, six miles north-east of downtown Dayton, Ohio, the museum is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day). Admission and parking are free.

## Nuclear sustainment from Page 1A

"Everyone in this command has to contribute to warfighter support. It's our job."

Another priority is the sustainment of the civilian workforce. Hoffman told his leaders to fill their civilian employee vacancies to the maximum extent possible. He said a robust workforce will help AFMC better achieve its mission.

"We must move full speed ahead and fill our vacancies," he said. "And whether we're hiring from the outside or picking from a list of internal candidates, we must hire the best qualified people, regard-

less of where they come from."

Hoffman praised his commanders for making progress in energy and resource conservation since he took command in December 2008, but called for continued focus.

"It's up to you to set the tone for your people and treat every penny spent as if it were your own," he said.

To emphasize the conservation priority, the gathering heard from Michael Aimone, the assistant deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations and Mission Support at Headquarters Air Force. He dis-

cussed how the Air Force has made great strides in energy conservation over the past several years.

Also, Tim Bridges, AFMC's director of Communications, Installations and Mission Support briefed on several energy conservation initiatives under way or planned for AFMC.

Conference attendees heard other updates on issues central to AFMC's warfighter-support mission, including a status report on the Global Logistics Support Center, Centralized Asset Management and the Warner Robins Air Logistics

Center's initiative known as high velocity maintenance.

Command officials hope high velocity maintenance will reduce the time aircraft are out of service undergoing programmed depot maintenance by doing more advance planning and finding efficiencies in the maintenance process.

Topics relating to the command's "people" priorities included the command's suicide prevention and fitness programs and its Voluntary Protection Program safety initiatives.

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