



45th SFS IMA
lauded at
AFSPC banquet

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Ascension Island
wind farm
cuts cost

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Spouses set to be
pampered on
special day

12



Photos by Jim Laviska

Drilling for hurricanes

The 45th Space Wing and base mission partners prepare for hurricane season, which kicks off June 1. This year's HURCON exercise, which ran from Monday – Wednesday, put personnel through their paces from simulating an evacuation to boarding up buildings. Left, 45th Civil Engineer Squadron's Staff Sgts. Quentin Ford (left) and Steve Smith "batten down the hatches" on a Patrick Air Force Base building. Below, Senior Airman Matt Overholser and Denver Garcia, 45th CES, check mobile lighting.



Wing aims for safe summer

By Bill James
45th SW Safety Office

The 45th Space Wing has achieved a remarkable milestone – three years without a fatality or major disabling injury.

Each individual in the wing has contributed significantly to this achievement through teamwork, dedication and commitment. As the wing approaches Memorial Day, the beginning of one of the most deadly times of the year for Air Force members, everyone must ensure that a defensive stand is maintained on preventing mishaps.

Off-duty traffic and sports activities

are the two main areas of which personnel are seriously injured or die.

Personal risk management is the key to mishap prevention and this process is being stressed more and more by Air Force senior leadership. Risk management has proven to be highly effective, and commanders and supervisors provide the vital link through leadership roles.

To highlight the importance of the 101 Critical Days of Summer, there will be kickoff on May 21. Brig. Gen. Greg Pavlovich, 45th SW commander, has designated this as a "Wing Safety Day"

and all wing units are expected to participate in the planned activities.

There are several presentations and activities scheduled during the day. Senior leaders will greet personnel as they enter the installation gates and will they will also disseminate safety messages after each presentation. For planning and scheduling purposes, the May 21 itinerary has been sent to all commanders and unit safety representatives. Additional events will take place throughout the campaign and special events will be conducted prior to each major holiday.



By Brig. Gen. Greg Pavlovich
45th SW commander

Greetings from Vandenberg AFB! I spent the week with our Guardian Challenge warriors as they tested their mettle against the rest of the command in the AFSPC's premier space and missile competition.

It has been a week of warrior spirit and waiting. Our security forces have been put to the test with the marksmanship, two-mile obstacle course run, and a challenging tactics course.

For our space competitors who were evaluated at home station two weeks ago, competition week has meant more time to replay their own test segments over and over in their minds and wonder how they fared. While we know our folks wowed the 14th Air Force evaluators that tested them, waiting to see how that translates into a score has been grueling!

The team travels home today and so by the time you read this, the score-posting will be over and the recipient of the Schriever Trophy will have been named. At stake are the bragging rights to be called "best of the best" but regardless of the outcome, I know we have the finest folks in the command. It has been a glorious week of camaraderie and competition, and I couldn't be prouder of the esprit de corps and professionalism our competitors have shown throughout the preparation and competition period.

Our Guardian Challenge lead, Maj. Robert "Huck" Huckleberry, has been instrumental in bringing this team together. I know he'll tell you he had a lot of help, and he did, but thanks to him for taking charge. There are a lot of logistics involved with a project like this - from fund-raising to scheduling training time on our very busy range, to coordinating manifests for airlift and meeting the numerous AFSPC suspenses. He's done a stellar job.

Thanks to everyone who helped give our GC warriors the support they needed ... everyone went above and beyond to make this happen.

We are truly blessed with people who embody the Air Force core value of "Excellence in All We Do." Just check out our quarterly award winners on page 3 for a listing of our

outstanding military and civilians for the first quarter of the year.

Even our family members are outstanding. Kendra Melton, 16, was named the 2004 AFSPC Youth of the Year. The announcement declared Kendra as exemplifying "the highest standards of scholastic achievement, community involvement, and leadership." Way to go!

Our excellence was also reaffirmed with the announcement of another award for the 45th Services Squadron. Naomi Parrish from our Fitness Center was the senior civilian specialist of the year. This is especially great news as we celebrate Fitness Month in May. Make no mistake about it - we have the best facilities and personnel to help you prepare and meet your fitness goals and be WarFit.

Speaking of preparation, I know back on the east coast the wing has been busy with a hurricane exercise. You've probably been thinking you'll worry about hurricane season later. Well, it's later. The season starts June 1 and runs through Nov. 30.

I talked about preparation last week and I hope the exercise messages and preparatory activities you saw this week reinforced the urgency for you to take action.

Hopefully the exercise got you in the right mindset. We're going to follow up with tools you need to get ready. Prep material is located on Hurricane Preparedness link on the Patrick Web site (<https://www.patrick.af.mil>), but if you're like me and prefer to have it in-hand instead of on-line, we'll be publishing a special edition of the *Missileer* at the start of the season. It will be a single, handy reference for you as we launch into this year's season.

You probably saw some things that could have gone smoother during the exercise. I challenge you to take action on those items now while it is still fresh in your mind. I can't stress enough that you need to take this seriously and be ready. More than a dozen storms have been predicted for this season, and while it has been several years since the Space Coast has felt the brunt of a severe tropical storm or hurricane, it doesn't mean it won't happen.

And remember, this year we have the added challenge that our scheduled AEF commitment overlaps the very beginning of the season and our second hit (AEF 1/2) is actually the second half of the season. Please keep that in mind as you and your unit continue the preparation. Statistically the second half of the season is the busiest, so we'll need to be extra

vigilant in our preparations and ensure we take care of families of our deployed teammates.

On a final note, we are also preparing for our "safety" season, too. The wing will essentially stand down on May 21 for a Wing Safety Day as we get everyone into prevention mode. Many of our mission partners are planning parallel programs and I applaud them for that. Safety is definitely everyone's business or, as Gen. Lance Lord, AFSPC commander says, Safety is an attitude - get one!

As you saw from the introductory article on the front page, we'll be getting one May 21. We've scheduled sessions at Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Among other things the day will feature a presentation by Pat O'Neil from the Florida State Highway patrol. As you can imagine, he's seen some "dumb stuff" over the course of his tenure in law enforcement. He'll share that perspective with you in a great presentation.

Yesterday was the National Day of Prayer. I hope you had a chance to reflect on all the things you are thankful for, I know every day I'm thankful for the wonderful privilege of leading the greatest people in the world. Thanks again for all you do.

God bless and Go Sharks!



Guardian Challenge Team Reception
Friday, 5 p.m.
Patrick Air Force Base Passenger Terminal

Signs, banners, posters, noisemakers and other spirit material is encouraged. Be in place before 4:45 p.m.

Cake will be served in the terminal upon aircraft arrival.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Dave Baumann at 494-5334.



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Wing quarterly awards

Company Grade Officer

Second Lt. Daniel Bowen, 45th Medical Group medical logistics flight commander, is lauded for management of the \$195,000 war reserve materiel program which reached 99 percent efficiency, making it the top program of its kind in Air Force Space Command.

Senior NCO

Master Sgt. Gary Johnson, superintendent of Air Force Technical Applications Center's science support division, provided oversight to the vital completion of the \$1.2 million sample management facility and contamination control facility project.

NCO

Tech. Sgt. Scott Knupp, 45th Mission Support Group, monitors and tracks the training of 61 firefighters and is responsible for the fire protection of 1,127 facilities at Patrick Air Force Base. He developed an obstacle course for Maxwell AFB's on-scene commanders course, now an AF benchmark.

Airman

Senior Airman Daniel Beckett, an AFTAC materials collection application technician, was handpicked to brief high-level officials and that briefing garnered the support and development of a new joint service equipment platform with \$701,000.

Honor Guard NCO

Staff Sgt. Janel Heidebrink was

handpicked to be the NCOIC for the Honor Guard Competition team. Her leadership directly contributed to Team Patrick being named Best Honor Guard in AFSPC. She also maintains a 4.0 average in college.

Honor Guard Airman

Senior Airman Brett Mapston earned the NCOIC of the firing party on the Honor Guard Competition Team, traditionally reserved for NCOs. He scored in the top 5 percent for AFTAC's Fit to Fight and is a volunteer for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America.

Category III Civilian

Theresa O'Hara, 45th Mission Support Group, was dedicated and her management crucial in a project to remove excessive tire skids from the main runway. Faced with obstacles, her tenacity and problem-solving skills prevented \$15,000 in extra expenses and delay.

Category II Civilian

Jeannen Baker, 45th MSG real estate specialist, pursued the first enhanced use leasing project for the Air Force, she garnered \$70,000 from the Air Force Real Property Agency for market assessment of the sites and instituted new review procedures.

Category I Civilian

Alina Pietroforte, a 45th Services Squadron food services accountant, led a 10-person team through completion of 105 critical item checklists, ensuring 100 percent compliance on

all inspected items during the Hennessy Competition.

DoD Civilian Volunteer

Judy Nicholson, 45th Space Wing, is the coordinator for the Air Force Association Visions of Exploration Program, designed for third- to eighth-graders providing supplemental information that focuses on math and science.

Civilian Volunteer

Ronald Guimond, 45th Medical Group, is a Red Cross volunteer and registered pharmacist in the main pharmacy. His support ensured more than 16,000 prescriptions were accurately packaged and distributed. He has the lowest error rate of any pharmacy volunteer.

Military Volunteer

Capt. Ivan Acosta, 45th Launch Group, is deputy director for cadet programs in Florida's Civil Air Patrol. He managed all functions for 71 units and 2,000 cadets and created a career shadowing program at Patrick AFB.

Team Excellence

The 45th Weather Squadron's Launch Weather Integration Team fully integrated the process between launch weather officers and range weather forecasters, resulting in significant improvements in forecast on target. These improvements are being incorporated into 14th Air Force Instructions.



Program Manager Q&A:

Mr. Larry Hornback Civilian Force Development

Q: What is the mission of Civilian Force Development?

A: It's three-fold: determine the future work force mission needs; provide an effective platform to link our employees' developmental goals consistent with the mission; and articulate the needed investment strategies to develop our people.

Q: How do civilians benefit from the program?

A: Our efforts provide our civilians the chance to formally express their career developmental goals for the first time. This provides a greater platform for advancement potential. Second, our program places value on our civilians who are happy in their current job, but just need our attention to bring

the needed resources and focus to ensure they're the best at what they can do. It also provides an educational awareness platform to commanders and supervisors on how we need to develop our civilian workforce.

Q: With the program's success in the 45th Space Wing, could be used effectively through the Air Force?

A: Although our efforts started locally, we're on center stage as our AF defines its civilian force development strategies. We now have a presence on the Air Force Working Group defining tactical leadership development. Our program is employee-centered and in line with the Air Force's Development construct.

45th SFS sergeant wins IMA Outstanding Airman of Year

By 2nd Lt. Elizabeth Kreft
45th SW Public Affairs

A 45th Security Forces Squadron Reserve technical sergeant won the Air Force Space Command Outstanding Airman of the Year for 2003 in the Individual Mobilization Augmentee category.

Sgt. Terrence Cosby received the honor with four winners in other categories at the April 22 awards banquet at Peterson Air Force Base. Twenty Airmen from eight AFSPC bases were nominated, but only the top five first sergeant, noncommissioned officer, senior NCO, airman, and IMA walked away from the OAY banquet with the highest honors.

"The annual award program is a great way to reward the 'best of the best,'" said Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Kriete, AFSPC chief. "(This banquet) was just a small representation of what we have at Space Command - each one of the winners rose to the very top."

Sgt. Cosby began his days with 45th SFS in 1994. He served active days on and off through the years, but came back to serve again under a yearlong mobilization as a result of the Sept. 11 attacks.

"I called our IMA coordinator on the base that day and asked if they needed help," said

Sgt. Cosby. "I was back here working on Sept 13, and we took part in posting Force Protection Condition Delta for the longest time than any other continental United States base after the attacks."

Sgt. Cosby chose to remain activated after the mobilization time came to a close because he recognized the shortfall in manning due to numerous deployments of Security Forces troops.

"He served man-days with the squadron while the operations tempo was at its highest," said Chief Master Sgt. Jerry Delebreau, IMA security forces manager. "He proved to be a critical asset for our force here."

While on active duty, Sgt. Cosby assisted in critical training and integration of the Army and National Guard troops into the security teams here. This synchronization of action has been critical to the success of the 45th SFS.

"I think the most important thing I did during my man-days was help make the combination of the forces as smooth as possible," he said. "And that is what the core of our security is all about, making sure that we train our people to work together no matter what the circumstance."

Sgt. Cosby said this team mentality carried



Photo by Jim Laviska

Tech. Sgt. Terrence Cosby, 45th Security Forces, was one of five chosen as Outstanding Airman of the Year in the IMA category for 2003.

him through rough times and has been the mainstay of his career attitude. "This is a total team effort," he said. "My troops have been a part of my success, but more so, my family has carried me through. The support my son and my fiancée show to me are just as critical to my success as any of my own efforts," said Sgt. Cosby.

"We're proud to see him take home this award, but we're also happy to know he is still in the local area, because we look forward to seeing this hard-working troop using his man-days here at Patrick," said Chief Delebreau.

AFSPC leads way in sexual assault response, prevention

By Capt. Angie Blair
AFSPC Public Affairs

Air Force Space Command is leading the way in establishing command-wide standardized sexual assault education, training and prevention programs following an Air Force-directed major command sexual assault team assessment that concluded March 31.

"We found that everybody understood the issue, but there were better ways to do things as we looked across the command," said General Lance Lord, commander of AFSPC.

The 13-member AFSPC assessment team identified several best practices, four of which are scheduled to be implemented by the end of June, according to Gen. Lord:

- ▶ A checklist for responding to an incident used at Patrick Air Force Base.

"They (Patrick AFB) have a great commanders' incident and response checklist - a memory jogger for commanders and first sergeants that reminds them of the steps to take,

the people to notify and how quickly these steps should be done," said the general.

- ▶ A responsible drinking program from F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., designed to promote a responsible drinking culture;

- ▶ Educational prevention and reporting videos and briefings for training personnel used at Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

- ▶ Strong local law enforcement and base organization relationships that help keep the base informed of sexual assault reports at Los Angeles AFB, Calif.

"Every unit we have in the command has good contacts with local communities, but what we saw at Los Angeles was best of the breed - so we're going to try to implement their practices," said Gen. Lord.

The AFSPC assessment effort was part of an Air Force-wide review of procedures in place to deal with sexual assaults and was directed by Secretary of the Air Force, Dr. James G. Roche, and the Air Force Chief of

Staff, Gen. John P. Jumper following sexual assault allegations and handling of sexual assault cases surfaced at the U.S. Air Force Academy in February 2003.

"Air Force Space Command and the United States Air Force take sexual assault very seriously," said Gen. Lord. "Our team was tasked to make sure we are doing everything in our power to prevent it from happening and that if prevention does fail we insure a climate where it is reported and dealt with in a sensitive, appropriate and timely manner."

Space Command's assessment team, led by Col. Robert Worley, AFSPC mission support director, consisted of a mix of men and women - five officers, four enlisted Airmen and four civilians. The team conducted focus group discussions, leadership interviews, documentation reviews, open-door opportunities and meetings with key organizations during their month-long assessment tour.

"Our goal was to provide senior

leaders with a candid assessment of best practices, special issues, problems, and challenges," said Colonel Worley. "This was not about investigating specific cases or allegations but we were tasked to look at policies and procedures in place for both reporting and dealing with sexual assault."

AFSPC's SAAT report will be combined with other Air Force major command reports that will provide Air Force leadership with an overall "state of health" on sexual assault programs, procedures and policies and identify areas for improvement and highlight existing best practices.

"We want to give everyone an equal chance to prosper in Air Force Space Command and our Air Force," said Gen. Lord. "Professionals treat each other with respect. And if they don't, we work to take the proper and appropriate action against the perpetrator while taking care of the victim. Sexual assault in Air Force Space Command will not be tolerated at any level."

2003 AF Climate Survey: Progress in most areas, morale higher than 1997

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFP) — The 2003 Air Force Climate Survey results have been analyzed, and final reports have been released to unit-level leaders for action.

The survey ran Oct. 1 – Nov. 23.

"As the leaders of the world's greatest air and space force, we share a commitment to continually seek improvement. The survey results give our leaders targets for improvement from the people who know best — our Airmen," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper. "For the survey to be a true success, leaders must now take this information and use it to focus their efforts within their organizations. I urge leaders to brief the results to their members and then translate that information into action."

Previous surveys included active-duty Airmen and appropriated-fund civilians. To provide a clearer picture of the entire force, the 2003 survey included the Reserve, Guard and nonappropriated-fund civilians. More than 50 percent of the total force took the survey.

It addressed job characteristics, unit resources, core values, supervision, unit chain of command, training and development, and job enhancement. It also focused on teamwork, participation and involvement, recognition, unit flexibility, general satisfaction and unit performance outcomes.

Each question was answered on a six-point scale ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree."

Air Force-wide, unit performance outcomes, job characteristics and core values were the highest rated factors at 94-, 92-, and 87-percent agreement respectively. These results indicate that people believe they are meeting their missions' goals, find their jobs important and challenging, and believe

“*For the survey to be a true success, leaders must now take this information and use it to focus their efforts within their organizations.*”

Gen. John P. Jumper
AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF

that their unit understands and demonstrates Air Force core values, officials said.

Eighty-six percent of the survey participants said that people in their work groups exercise teamwork and perform essential work that is considered above and beyond the call of duty. Eighty-five percent of respondents agreed that they have the required training to do their jobs, and that they have opportunities for professional growth.

Overall, supervision was rated at 84 percent, while 81 percent believed their chain of command positively influenced the direction, people and culture of their units.

Although active-duty Airmen and appropriated-fund civilian participants' ratings increased from the 2002 survey, the results showed room for improvement in several areas. Seventy-eight percent of the respondents are generally satisfied with their jobs, are involved in their work place's decisions and believe their units respond well to change.

Since the first survey in 1997, acknowledgement of exceptional performance and management of time, people and equipment areas continue to score low in the survey; however, both have contin-

ued to increase. Comments received in the recognition area indicate that a simple "thank you" for a job well done can be just as effective as a formal award, officials said.

Sixty-five percent of participants agree morale in their unit is high. This number has increased from 55 percent in 1997.

In comparison with other components, active-duty Airmen rate all factors lower than reservists, guardsmen and civilians. Officers consistently rate all factors higher than enlisted Airmen and civilians with the exception of the unit resources factor.

Since 2002, the number of active-duty Airmen (deployed and at home station) who intend to remain in the Air Force has decreased significantly.

Analysis by Air Force Academy officials revealed that the chain of command as a whole, rather than the commander or supervisor alone, drives performance, satisfaction, organizational commitment and one's intent to remain in the Air Force.

According to the survey results, ratings increased in units where leaders used the results positively. The 2003 factor ratings were compared against the question, "Did my leader use the results in a positive way?" The results showed leaders who shared results and used ideas and suggestions had higher positive responses in all factors. Leaders that took action on previous survey results also increased their units' overall scores, officials said.

Results from the 45th Space Wing have been given to commanders and will be announced soon.

Design excellence brings career award

By 2nd Lt. Elizabeth Krefl
45th SW Public Affairs

A top 45th Civil Engineer Squadron civilian was recently announced a winner in the 2004 Air Force Design Awards Program.

Bob Van Vonderen, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station Civil Engineer flight chief, will be presented his award at a July 29 luncheon in Washington, D.C.

"The award is really for career-long achievements in development and design," said Jack Gibson, 45th CES range/base civil engineer deputy commander. "Though it is granted yearly, the award shows that all of his efforts over the years have made a big impact on the Air Force worldwide."

Mr. Van Vonderen began his career at Patrick Air Force Base 23 years ago. He served with the 45th CES as a design engineer until 1989, and then chose to take a job at Zweibruecken Air Base, Germany.

"We were working on a hardened photo interpretation facility for a reconnaissance squadron dealing with Cold War scenarios," he said. "It was an interesting job, but that is how my entire career has been - interesting jobs that I have been lucky enough to be a part of."

After another stint at Patrick in

1996, Mr. Van Vonderen went back to Germany, this time to Ramstein Air Base. While there he was able to travel back and forth to Turkey to work on some large construction projects for base gymnasiums, base exchanges and dormitories.

His next job took him to the United Kingdom. Mr. Van Vonderen held an important position at a regional civil engineer office called Waterbeach, outside of Cambridge.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Elizabeth Krefl

Bob Van Vonderen, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station Civil Engineer flight chief, takes a moment to explain career choices he has made. His various jobs and multiple responsibilities over the years have led to his award for career-long achievement in engineering design.

In his humble manner, he tried to explain his position there. "At this office I was in charge of runway projects and hospital additions that were critical to supporting Air Force missions."

In reality, Mr. Van Vonderen was in charge of over \$900 million in assets.

"Bob has a way of not mentioning how important his jobs have been," said Mr. Gibson. "At Waterbeach, he

was organizing jobs in the UK, Norway, and Spain. He was managing contractors from several different nations with multiple language barriers. It was no small feat."

While there, Mr. Van Vonderen was also able to organize numerous quality of life projects. "We spent a lot of time on these issues, and that was special because we got to see people really enjoying the end result. That is my favorite part...getting to see people having fun with the facilities we build."

Mr. Van Vonderen then went back to Ramstein to organize the Rhein Main AB closure. He was responsible for spreading the assets, totalling \$500 million, between Ramstein and Spangdahlem ABs.

"When I was overseas I was able to work on some incredible projects," said Mr. Van Vonderen. "It was really amazing that I found myself in the middle of great opportunities time and time again."

"I know my work had a part to play in getting this award, but I really have to say it was the work of all the people on the projects who should also get credit."

"Don't let the humble attitude fool you," said Mr. Gibson. "This award is big. He won't tell just how much he has done, but I will."

Ascension Island wind farm saves wing money

By 2nd Lt. Kevin Coffman
45th SW Public Affairs

It looks similar to the windmill-covered mountains near Palm Springs, but it isn't California. It's the windfarm on Ascension Island.

The six windmills provide additional power to help conserve energy and cut costs for Ascension Auxiliary Air Field. The windfarm has just added two large 900-kilowatt wind-turbines, potentially tripling the power output of the four smaller 225-kilowatt turbines.

"The wind farm is primarily here to provide power to the two new 1,000 kilowatt electric boilers for the desalinization process and supplement the prime power plant," said Bill Lutter, Engineering technician for downrange construction, 45th Civil Engineer Squadron. "It will reduce the load of the engines, and will help with overall power production."

The power plant's diesel engines will run less

and therefore save the government money with aid from the windfarm by reducing fuel consumption and maintenance.

The first windmills were completed in 1996, and immediately started producing energy and saving money. To date, the wind farm has saved the government about \$2.5 million. They are located near the Dark Crater region of the volcanic island, which gets its name because it looks like a meteor impacted there.

The location was chosen in the mid - 1980s after extensive research of wind tests, wind speed and wind variation from specific areas of the island.

The power plant and the wind farm combination not only provide power to the U.S. base, but also provide some power to the British Royal Air Force facilities and to other areas of the island.

The wind farm greatly reduces the potential for fuel spills, pollution and lowers the need for

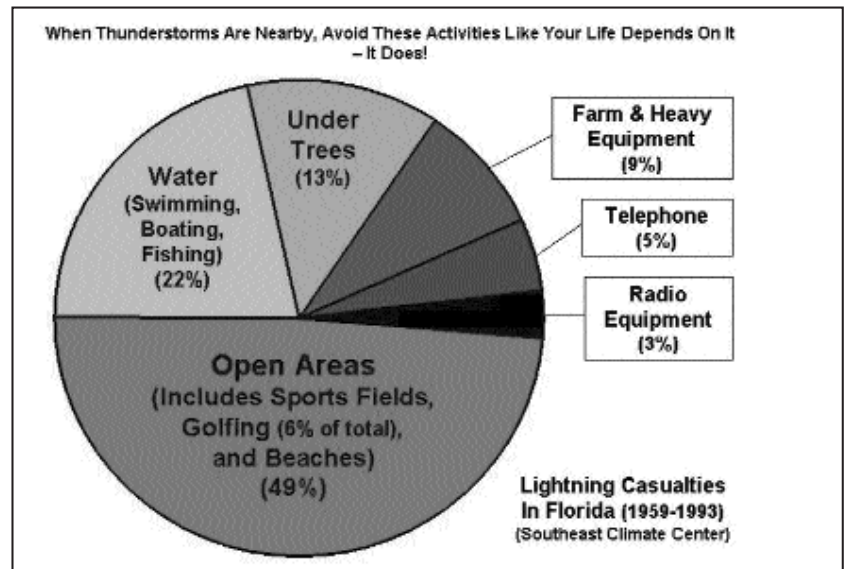


Photo by Bill Lutter

Windmills provide additional power to help conserve energy and cut costs for Ascension Auxiliary Air Field.

much-needed natural resources. Not only is "Control of the Battlefield Assured Here," but so is energy conservation.





Follow weather safety tips during lightning season

By William Roeder
45th Weather Squadron

Lightning is the top weather killer in Florida and inflicts lifelong debilitating injury on many more. Fortunately, the vast majority of lightning casualties can be easily, cheaply and quickly prevented.

The 45th Space Wing and Kennedy Space Center use two-tiered lightning advisories. The 45th Weather Squadron issues a Phase I lightning advisory when lightning is expected within five nautical miles of the specified point(s) with a desired lead-time of 30 minutes.

A Phase II lightning advisory is issued when lightning is imminent or occurring within five nautical miles of the point(s).

Follow local procedures when lightning advisories are issued. Under a Phase I advisory, those near proper shelter, should quickly finish outdoor activity and go inside. Those not near a proper shelter, should immediately stop outdoor activity and proceed to a safe location.

Under a Phase-II, go inside or proceed to safety immediately.

Proper lightning safety is a five-level process.

► **Level 1:** Schedule outdoor activities to avoid lightning. The weather forecasts for 45 SW and KSC are available from 45 WS at www.patrick.af.mil/45og/45ws. The National Weather Service Melbourne Office provides forecasts for off base use at www.srh.noaa.gov/mlb.

► **Level 2:** Use the 30-30 Rule when outdoors. If there is 30 seconds or less

between lightning and its thunder, go inside. Wait 30 minutes or more after the last thunder before going outside.

One of the safest places from lightning is a large fully enclosed building with wiring and plumbing. Keep away from any conducting path to the outside: corded telephone, electrical appliances and wiring, and plumbing. Those who can't get to a proper building, should stay in their vehicle because the solid metal roof and metal sides offer some protection.

► **Level 3:** Anyone who must be outside with thunderstorms in the area should avoid dangerous locations and activities. Avoid elevated places and open areas such as sports fields and beaches.

Avoid water-related activities. Do not go under a tree to keep dry. Don't use heavy equipment with open cockpits.

► **Level 4:** There are some actions that slightly reduce the risk if thunderstorms threaten and people are outside away from proper shelter.

However, it's much better to simply plan ahead and avoid the risk. NO place outdoors is safe when thunderstorms are in the area.

► **Level 5:** First aid – all lightning deaths are from cardiac arrest. Call 911 for help. Start cardiopulmonary resuscitation or rescue breathing, as appropriate. Use an Automated External Defibrillator. If an AED is not available or doesn't help, continue CPR or rescue breathing.

For weather safety training, including lightning safety, call 45 WS at 853-8410.

Volunteers make wing tax program successful

By Sue Walden

45th SW Public Affairs

It's called VITA, but it might as well be called "vital."

A small army of volunteers manned the free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program at the 45th Space Wing Legal Center at Patrick Air Force Base and 10 satellite sites, during tax season and made it a success, according to VITA coordinator Jim Brander.

With 10 less volunteers than last year, tax assistants filed 1,002 returns – 64 more than in 2003 – and saved active-duty members, retirees and their families \$159,000; that's how much it would have cost if they'd paid to go to a tax preparer.

Eighty percent of the returns were electronically filed, which is the Internal Revenue Service's preferred method of return.

"The majority of people, especially spouses of deployed and widows, were relieved to have us to depend on," said Mr. Brander. "Lots of these people didn't have a clue what to do."

Mr. Brander, who began working for the 45th Space Wing VITA program this year, is impressed with the volunteers. "The best part of taking this assignment was working with such giving, thoughtful volunteers and I look forward to working alongside them again next year."

Lt. Col. Kevin Fleming, 45th SW Judge Advocate, is impressed with this year's volunteers. "What hit me the most about the volunteers was how they enjoyed working here," he said. "They looked at it as a way to give something back to the base and they were just as willing to give to the community as our customers were to have them help them."

Recruiting has already begun for next year's tax season. As people were coming in to have their taxes done, customers completed a questionnaire to see if they were interested in volunteering next year. "We already have 43 signed up," said Mr. Brander, who retired from the Marine Corp after 26 years of service. The IRS offers a weeklong training for volunteers.

Though some were eager to sign up, others seemed a bit apprehensive. But even the mathematically challenged can assist. "It's more than just preparing taxes. We need people to answer phones, shred and perform other duties essential to the VITA's success," he said. In addition to having more volunteers, next year's goal is to have VITA representatives in every unit and to move Patrick's VITA office

“The best part of taking this assignment was working with such giving, thoughtful volunteers. ...”

”

Jim Brander

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

downstairs on the first floor to make it easier for customers.

VITA representatives faced a few challenges, but most can be described as people not knowing enough or bringing enough information when filing was prepared. Many didn't know how much, if any, advance child tax credit they received during the year. "Some said they didn't get it and we'd file it accordingly and it would be rejected."

Last summer, many parents with children under the age of 17 received an advance on their child tax credit from \$600 to \$1,000. Since the tax credit was a one-time event, Mr. Brander doesn't see this as a problem next year.

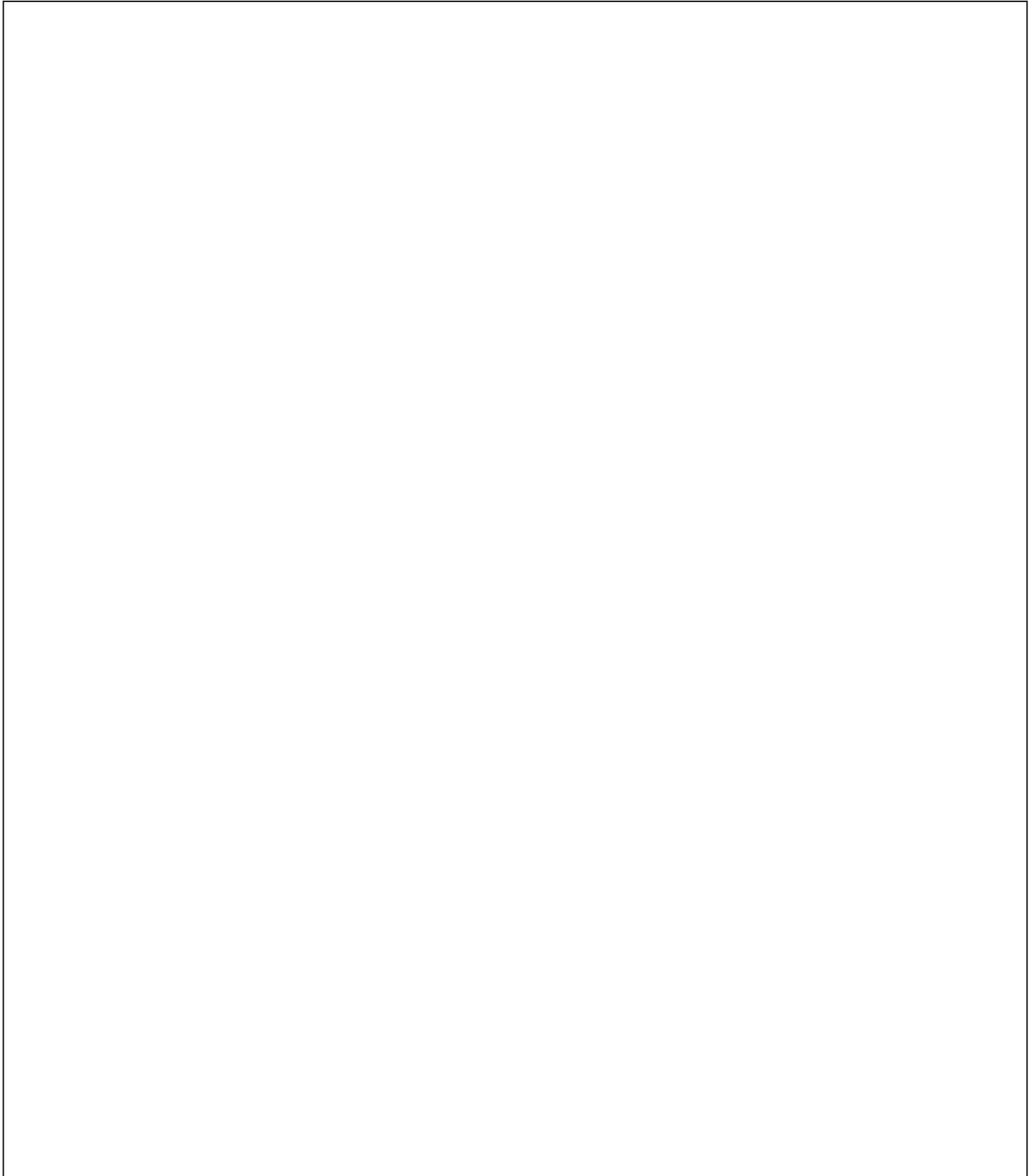
Others didn't know how much they paid for a stock and when they bought it, which is crucial in finding the final tax number, he said.

VITA's success, like any program, hinges on people being dependable. "There were quite a few who missed their appointments or who showed up late," he said. "Others were trying to get appointments. We didn't turn anyone away though, but we ask that if people are going to cancel that they call us."

VITA will continue to file returns for military members returning from deployment. Those who were deployed in a combat zone have a minimum of 180 days extension; those deployed outside the United States in a non-combat zone have a 60-day extension. Call 494-7357 for an appointment.

Though tax season is over for most, Mr. Brander has some tips to make next year go a little smoother. "If you're a spouse of someone who handles all the financial matters, get involved. I saw so many cases in which widows didn't have a clue about what was needed to file their taxes, or didn't know their financial situation at all. If you're a spouse handling all the finances and you truly love your spouse, get them involved."

For more information about the VITA program or to volunteer, call Mr. Brander at 494-7526.



BRIEFS

Calling all bikers

The Patrick Pack, a newly formed motorcycle riders association, meets Friday at 1 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to set up bylaws, a charter, and elect officers. A ride is also planned for Saturday.

Call Master Sgt. Mark Noegle at 494-2202 for more information.

Clinic closes

The base clinic will close at noon May 14 for an official function. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Mary Martin at 494-8151.

Safety Day closures

May 21 is Safety Day (See Page 1). All customer service centers will be closed for training.

Union meets

The quarterly American Federation of Government Employees Local 2568 Union meeting is Tuesday at 4:45 p.m. in Bldg. 423, room C-103. Use the west entrance of the building. For more information, call James Daniel at 494-2030.

Asian-Pacific event set

May is Asian-Pacific Heritage Month. The 45th Space Wing will hold a luncheon May 19 from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Officers' Club. Guest speaker is Wendy Chioji from WESH-TV News Channel 2. Entertainment is Tony Tehani's Hawaiian Review Dancers. Cost is \$15.

Menu is Hunan beef with broccoli and scallions, grilled chicken breast with terriya-

ki sauce or vegetable plate.

For tickets, call Airman 1st Class Melissa Fepuleai at 494-4318, Elsa Kekahuna at 494-5675, Staff Sgt. Leenette Sablan at 494-6333, Capt. Yu Loni at 494-3723, Gloria Johnson-Jones at 467-5415 or Capt. Tam Dinh at 494-8991.

Hours expanded

Family Services/Airman's Attic is now open on Mondays. New hours are Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. It's located in Bldg. 735, across from the library and Family Support Center.

Call Sal Noto at 494-5675 for more information.

Ceremony postponed

The Cape Cafeteria ribbon-cutting ceremony/opening scheduled for Tuesday has been postponed due to unforeseen delays. Stay tuned to the wing calendar, C4 and Missileer for a new date announcement.

Learn something new

The Family Support Center offers the following classes and events: Personal Financial Management Program, Tuesday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Parent Workgroup Lunch, Tuesday 11 a.m. - noon; Sponsorship Training, Wednesday 9-11 a.m.; Info Fair at the BX, Wednesday 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.; Children of Divorce, Wednesday 1-4 p.m.; Personal and Family Readiness Briefing, Thursday 8 a.m. - noon; Spouse Appreciation Day. All classes and events are in the Family Support Center, Bldg. 722, except when noted. Reserve a seat by calling 494-5675.

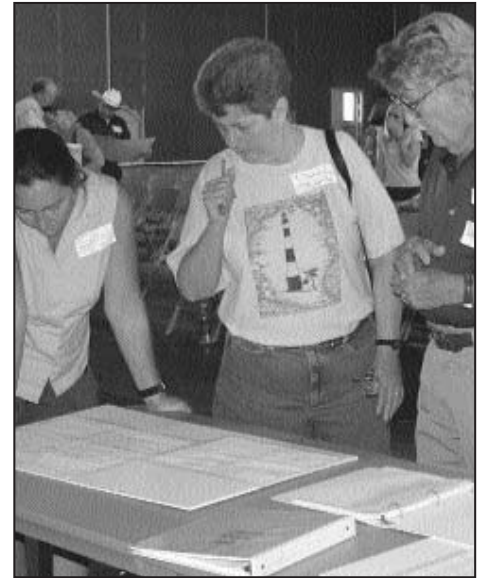


Photo by Sonny Witt

Family tree

Descendents of the original Cape Canaveral settlers find their relatives on a family tree map at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Close to 100 relatives came to the 5th Annual Reunion of Cape Canaveral Descendents May 1. They visited the lighthouse and cemetery and other historical sites at the Cape.

This one's for you, spouses

By Sue Walden

45th SW Public Affairs

Every year, military bases around the globe set aside a day to thank spouses.

The 45th Space Wing takes it a step further with Spouse Appreciation Day May 14. It's a day brimming with downright pampering, from makeovers to a cookout and free childcare.

"Personally, I think we take our spouses for granted," said Larry Fulk, 45th SW Family Services community readiness consultant and Spouse Appreciation Day coordinator.

"This is a day to thank them and I think we have a unique program; we try to do something different every year."

FSC and other 45th SW personnel must be doing something right because every year more spouses participate in the day's activities.

"I guess it's word of mouth, plus the ones who were here previous years want to come out again," he said.

Last year, more than 300 spouses attended the cookout and 75 had makeovers. "We think we'll have about 400 this year at the cookout," Mr. Fulk said.

This year spouses can enjoy live entertainment by a local band from 4-6 p.m. while on hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and soft drinks. Family Support Center will block off the street and side lot near the facility for the event.

Two new activities in the day's lineup are a Cape Canaveral bus tour from 8 a.m. - noon featuring the

museum, lighthouse and other space points of interest; and Riverside Dining Facility will be open to spouses and family members of active-duty members 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

"We really thank wing leadership for providing these two events because it wouldn't be possible without their support," said Mr. Fulk. Those interested in the tour must sign up for tour by calling FSC 494-5675.

Spouse Appreciation Day isn't just for women. As a matter of fact, three men were pampered in a makeover session last year.

The makeover activity features hair styling, manicures, makeup and a new treat this year, reflexology for the hands and feet.

"We also have goodies in the form of refreshments for our spouses so we'll pamper them from their heads to their toes," said Chrissy DeWitte, FSC work/life consultant and "pamper queen," as she calls herself.

"I'll be doing hair and working the room just like a salon owner. Those who'd like a makeover should call FSC to schedule an appointment. "We have 75 slots open so we won't turn people away," she said.

Mr. Fulk hopes all spouse will set aside time to attend some of the day's events. "Maybe they can't come to all activities, but try to come to some," he said.

"We want to make sure everyone has some fun and relaxation because spouses deserve it."



Photo by Joel Fuente

Spouses - men or women - can take advantage of many activities offered May 14 for Spouse Appreciation Day at the Family Support Center, from manicures and reflexology of the hands and feet to a cookout featuring live entertainment.

Cape Canaveral Historical Bus Tour

8 a.m. - noon

Open to spouses and family members of active-duty and DoD civilian personnel. Meet at the Family Support Center at 7:45 a.m. Call 494-5675 to reserve a seat.

Spouse Briefings

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Spouses and family members of active-duty and DoD civilian personnel learn about the wing mission, Air Expeditionary Force deployment cycles, construction project updates and Family Support Center programs. Call 494-5675 to sign up.

Riverside Dining Facility

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Eat lunch at the award-winning dining facility. Open to spouses and family members of active-duty personnel.

Free Makeovers

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Open to spouses and family members of active-duty and civilian personnel. Hair, makeup and reflexology of hands and feet, plus refreshments are featured.

Cookout

4-6 p.m.

Open to spouses and family members of active-duty and DoD civilians. Bring out the family for free hamburgers and hot dogs. The band Branches performs. The winners of the "Why I Appreciate My Spouse" letter-writing contest will be announced at 5 p.m.

Free Childcare

6-11 p.m.

Open to all active-duty families. The FSC, in conjunction with the Child Development Center, offers eligible military members for free childcare. Parents must stop by the CDC by Monday to sign up. Shot records are required. Call 494-7028 to sign up; certain age slots are limited.

Hearts of gold

“*The Patrick Spouses’ Club isn’t about wearing hats and gloves and sipping tea with pinkies in the air. We’re modern military spouses who enjoy interacting ... volunteering and raising money to give back to the local communities.*”

Gussie Reichel
PATRICK SPOUSES’ CLUB

By Ken Warren
45th SW Public Affairs

Not many people can write checks for over \$13,000, let alone enjoy doing it. But Caroline Charron and Gussie Reichel of the Patrick Spouses’ Club did and have several grateful charities and military families to show for it.

Mrs. Charron and Mrs. Reichel are president and treasurer of the PSC, respectively. Thus far during the club’s fiscal year, which ends May 31, it has given away \$13,471.52. Most recently, the PSC presented the 45th Space Wing with a \$2,000 donation for the Air Force Assistance Fund.

“We give to the Air Force Assistance Fund every year because we feel strongly that it’s important to support charities that support Air Force people. It’s a way to give back to our own,” said Mrs. Charron.

Their donation to the AFAF was split three ways: \$1,000 to the Air Force Aid Society and \$500 apiece to the Air Force Village and Enlisted Widows Home.

“The efforts of our volunteers and membership allow us to make a difference in this community,” said Deb Pavlovich, honorary presi-



Photo by Jim Laviska

From right, Gussie Reichel, incoming Patrick Spouses’ Club president and Caroline Cherron, this year’s president, present a check to AFAF co-chair Lt. Col. Lynn Malone, 45th Space Wing commander Brig. Gen. Greg Pavlovich and Maj. Scott Langan.

dent and senior advisor.

The 550-member PSC raises funds through a variety of means including an annual jewelry sale and ongoing sales of cotton throws and keepsake ornaments.

Among the other charities benefiting from the group’s altruistic efforts this year are the American Red Cross, Haven from Domestic Abuse, Harmony Farms Horses for the Handicapped and the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors. In addition, the PSC has established a new scholarship fund in conjunction with the Defense Commissary Agency that will award a \$1,500 college scholarship to eligible students every year for the next six years.

Members of the PSC believe their charitable

efforts help foster a sense family within the military community, which enhances the morale of service members and their families. This, in turn, sparks the positive energy that enables many of the various units at Patrick and the Cape to achieve their missions.

PSC members take great pride in their organization and extend an open invitation to others to join. “The Patrick Spouses’ Club isn’t about wearing hats and gloves and sipping tea with pinkies in the air,” said Mrs. Reichel. “We are modern military spouses who enjoy interacting in a variety of events, supporting each other, volunteering and raising money to give back to local communities.”

To join or to get more information about the PSC, call Mrs. Reichel at 536-3101.

What is the Patrick Spouses’ Club?

Membership in a spouses’ club fosters friendship, provides a sense of community building and creates a bridge between generations of spouses.

The PSC is an organization of spouses of all ranks and ages who are looking to restore the traditional purpose of the military spouses’ clubs as a place to socialize, have fun and find support.

Charities

- Fisher House
- American Red Cross
- The Haven from Domestic Abuse
- Harmony Forms Horses for the Handicapped
- Patrick Pantry
- Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
- Scholarship Program

Activities

- Bowling
- Mah Jongg
- Garden Club
- Moms & Tots
- Junk-it-n-lunch
- Gourmet
- Bunko

Golf

- Bridge
- Tennis
- Luncheons
- Trips
- Dinners
- Making new friends
- Meeting old friends

SPORTS & FITNESS

AF water polo team wins five games in tournament

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. (AFPN) – The Air Force Academy water polo team won five games in the Rocky Mountain Water Polo Tournament, including a four-overtime victory over the alumni/seniors team. Teams traveled from Florida and New Mexico to participate in the spring tournament, held here May 1 and 2.

In the highlighted game of the tournament, the 2004 Falcon water polo team played the alumni/senior team. Five of the seniors who started on the 2003's 18-10 team that held a national ranking of 14th competed against their former teammates.

The alumni included three-time NCAA All-American Brian Pendergast; 1996 most valuable player and goalie Craig Thomas; 1995 captain and most valuable player John Christ; and 2000 first-team all-conference selection Brent Reimer.

Other outstanding Air Force alumni included Keith Limbird, Jim Binns, Jim Melvin, Kelly Kemp and Greg Krino. The team was coached by Jeff Heidmous, who was the previous head coach for 17 years. He was recently inducted to the Water Polo Hall of Fame, along with Kemp.

At the end of the first quarter the score was 3-1 in favor of Air Force. At the end of the half Air Force held a 5-2 lead. The alumni cut the deficit to a single goal when they outscored Air Force 2-0 in the third quarter, with goals by Pendergast and Reimer. The teams exchanged goals in the fourth quarter, with alumni's Pendergast scoring a half-court shot to tie the game at the buzzer.

Neither team was able to score in two overtime periods. In the first sudden-death

period, both teams had chances, but great goalie play prevented any goals. In the second sudden-death overtime, Kyle Schafer skipped the game-winning goal by Thomas, the goalie coach for the Air Force team.

"This is only the second time in my 35 years of coaching I have been involved in four overtimes" said head coach Jeff Ehrlich. "What an exciting game and a great confidence builder for next year's team who had two of their top players, Josh Jewett and Brian McShane, sitting out with injuries."

Air Force opened the weekend tournament with a 13-6 victory over a men's masters team from Denver. Air Force had nine players get on the scoreboard with Murphey Morgan, Matt Herrera, Jeff Donaldson and Eric Swenson each scoring two goals. Nick Burton, Chris Nary, Christian Blume, Blake Pickell and Schafer each tallied a goal.

In their final game of the tournament, the Air Force alumni notched an 8-6 win over the Falcons. In the losing effort, Nary and Swenson each scored two goals, while Morgan and Herrera each notched a goal each. Pendergast did not play for the alumni, because he suffered a broken hand in the New Mexico game. The alumni's only loss was to the Air Force varsity squad in four overtimes; they defeated each of the other opponents.

The 2004 season will highlight national powerhouse University of California at Los Angeles and service academy rival Navy, which travels to Air Force for a match Sept. 10.

Promo



Photo by Jim Laviska

Almost there

A runner gets through the last portion of the annual Pedal, Paddle, Pant Competition was held April 30. Fifteen four-person teams competed in the three-stage event. Participants rode a four-mile bike path, rowed a one-mile canoe race and ran a 5K race to complete the course. The winning team came from the Air Force Technical Applications Center, with the Operations Group and Mission Support Group finishing second and third, respectively.

Children exercise too

Youth Programs sponsor a free Kids Run on May 15 as part of an Air Force-wide celebration of Armed Forces Day. The run will be held at the Pelican Coast (formerly South Housing) Athletic Complex Soccer Fields at 8 a.m. The run is open to family members ages 5-13 of active duty, retired military, DoD personnel, NAF employees and DoD contractors with each participant receiving a free T-shirt. Ages 5-6 will run a half-mile, 7- and 9-year-olds will run one mile and ages 9-13 will run two miles. Interested participants are required to register both online at www.americaskid-srun.org and in person at either the Youth Center or Fitness Center. For additional information, call the 494-3770.

Soccer coaches needed

Youth Programs is currently recruiting volunteer adult coaches for the upcoming Fall Soccer Program that begins in August. Interested persons are required to fill out an application at the Youth Center and provide any documentation of trainings to include cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid. For more information, call at 494-3770.

Physicals needed for sports

In accordance with Air Force Youth Programs AFI 34-249, all children enrolled in youth sports programs are required to have a physical on file for a period of one year from the date of the exam. For parents who wish to enroll their child beginning July 1 for the Youth Center's Fall Soccer Program, a sports physical is required before the child will be eligible to participate in practices and games. Parents who turned in a physical for soccer last season are required turn in a new one. Parents who turned in a physical for basketball, tee ball, baseball and girl's softball are encouraged to contact the sports director to ensure that their child's physical is still up to date to participate in soccer. For additional information, contact the sports director at 494-3770.

The Calendar

Saturday

▲ Kids triathlon (swim, bike, run), 8 a.m., at the Patrick Fitness Center. Participants must provide their own equipment and arrive no later than 7:30 a.m. For more information call 494-5899.

▲ Mother's Day bus trip to St. Augustine, 7:30 a.m. – 7 p.m. at Outdoor Recreation. Cost is \$10 per person. Trip includes walking tour of historic downtown area. For more information call 494-9692.

Sunday

▲ Armed Forces Week at the Officers' Club. Club members who are active duty, Air National Guard or in the Reserves receive \$2 off all buffets May 9-15 and \$1 off any lunch menu order of \$5 or more. Members must show their military identification and club card in order to be eligible. For more information, call 494-4422.

Monday

▲ Bike criterion, 9 a.m., at the Cape Canaveral Fitness Center. For more information call 853-3966.

▲ Three-on-three basketball, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., May 10-12 at the Cape Canaveral Fitness Center. For more information call 853-3966.

Thursday

▲ 30-minute swim, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 2- 6 p.m., at the Patrick Fitness Center. Participants attempt to swim as many laps as possible in 30 minutes. For more information call 494-5042.

▲ Strongman competition, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., at the Patrick Fitness Center. Contestants compete in five different strength events. For more information, call 494-4534.

▲ Power Hour Awards Ceremony, 4:45 p.m. at the Youth Center. The Asian Pacific Food Fest will follow the ceremony. Reservations be offered before Monday. For more information call 494-4747.

▲ Summer gymnastics classes every Thursday at the Youth Center. Course is open to children ages 3 (must be potty-trained) through 18. Monthly cost is \$30-35 for members, \$35-\$40 for nonmembers. For details, call 494-4747.

May 14

▲ Information, Tickets and Travel Fair, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., at the Patrick Fitness Center. More than 30 vendors from local attractions will be offering information and giveaways. For more information call 494-5158.

▲ Armed Forces 5K run, 6:30 a.m., at the Patrick Fitness Center; 9 a.m. at the Cape Canaveral Fitness Center. At Patrick, call 494-5899 or 853-3966 for the Cape.

▲ Kid's Night Out and home alone training, 6- 11 p.m., at the Youth Center. Kid's Night Out is open to children in kindergarten-sixth grade. Cost is \$10 per child. Home alone training will run from 6- 8 p.m. and is open to children ages 10-12. For more information call 494-4747.

May 15

▲ 2004 Spring Car Show at the Auto Skills Center. Awards presented to the top three vehicles. For more information call 494-4270.

▲ Patrick vs. Cape Canaveral, "North vs. South" soccer challenge, 10 a.m., at the sports complex in south housing. For more information call 853-3966.

May 17

▲ Cape Canaveral Wallyball Ladder Challenge, May 17-21 at the Cape Fitness Center. For more information call 853-3966.

▲ Two-week scuba classes begin at Outdoor Recreation. Cost is \$235 and includes all necessary equipment, as well as required dives. For more information call 494-2042.

May 18

▲ Thirty minute swim, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2- 6 p.m. at the Patrick Air Fitness Center.

▲ Duathlon, 10 a.m., at Patrick and Cape Canaveral Fitness Centers. Event consists of a 1.5 mile run, five mile bike ride, and 1.5 mile run.

Travel show offers insight into local attractions

By Marla Holbert
45th Services Squadron

Whether contemplating a short day trip or a longer excursion, the Patrick Information, Tickets and Travel office and Outdoor Recreation offer a chance to make vacation planning easy.

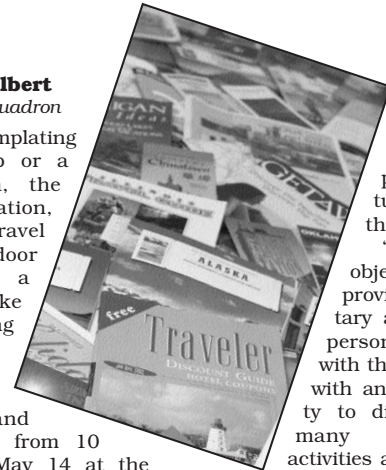
The organizations are holding a "Leisure and Recreation Expo" from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., May 14 at the Patrick Fitness Center gym. More than 30 travel and entertainment vendors are expected to be on hand, including several from local venues.

"The Leisure and Recreation Expo is the first of its kind at Patrick," said Jude Sorg, chief of the 45th Services Squadron Community Support Flight.

"Thousands of questions are fielded each month by our ITT and Outdoor Recreation staff members regarding exciting things to see and do.

This event will provide a perfect forum to gain ideas, ask questions and increase personal awareness of what there is to see and do in our own backyard."

Terri Holst, manager of Patrick's ITT office, said the event is open to all military personnel, family members and eligible guests who have base access. She



hopes to have more than 500 patrons turn out for the event.

"Our main objective is to provide the military and civilian personnel, along with their families, with an opportunity to discover the many interesting activities available for them in the local and

surrounding areas," Ms. Holst said.

She added that the expo is also offering several giveaways, including dinner tickets and door prizes. A live alligator will be on hand, as well.

Participating vendors include Ace of Hearts Ranch, Banana River Resort, Brevard Zoo, Busch Gardens, Comfort Inn Suites Orlando, Country Inn and Suites, Courtyard by Marriott, Double Tree Resort Orlando, Gatorland, Hilton Garden Inn Orlando, Hojo Enchanted Land Resort, Hojo Inn Maingate East, Hojo Resort Universal, Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort, Kennedy Space Center, Medieval Times, Pirate's Dinner Show, Staybridge Suites Orlando, Sun Cruz Casinos, Walt Disney Resorts and more (federal endorsement not intended.)

From AAFES necessity to collector craze

By Capt. Susan A. Romano

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

Historically, Americans have been collectors of countless types of things, from stamps and coins to military memorabilia and baseball cards.

One can find virtually anything at an online auction site: false teeth, used socks, even shrunken heads. Now, servicemembers have joined the collectible craze with an item that is as common to people deployed here as bottled water – the Army and Air Force Exchange Service pogs.

The pog goes back to the 1920s in Hawaii. A local fruit drink company bottled its product in glass bottles similar to old-fashioned milk bottles. The bottles were sealed with wax-covered paper disks. The company put different pictures on the disks. The juice was a combination of passion, orange and guava fruit – hence the name pog. It was the children playing games with the disks that gave them the name.

The games' popularity spread in the 1930s and 1940s before fading into obscurity. Then, pogs again became a national craze in the mid-1990s.

The exchange service uses pogs in the Middle East out of necessity. Because of weight, the U.S. Treasury Department does not ship coins to the area. So, AAFES officials chose to make their own version of the pog, in denominations of 5, 10 and 25 cents. AAFES pogs are about 1 inch in diameter and feature various military-themed graphics.

Currently, there are three series of AAFES pogs dating back to 2001. The first was simply the specific denomination as the design. In 2002, AAFES began issuing pogs with illustrations on them, such as aircraft, rockets and servicemembers in action. Pogs issued in 2003 have the year stamped on them, while those made in 2002 do not. Each denomination has 13 different designs.

Although AAFES officials said they never intended the pogs to become a collectible item that is exactly what has happened. Servicemembers are saving the cardboard circles as souvenirs of their tours of duty or as additions to their personal collections of military memorabilia.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Carrie Bernard

AAFES's pogs are becoming collectible items for deployed servicemembers. Because of weight, the U.S. Treasury Department does not ship coins to the Middle East; so, AAFES officials chose to make pogs in denominations of 5, 10 and 25 cents.

OUT & ABOUT

Events

Saturday, 3-6 p.m., Palm Bay Parks and Recreation Dept. presents "Bluegrass in the Park," an afternoon of free music for the entire family. The featured artist will be Ash Reeder, playing fiddle and guitar as well as the Cajun squeezebox. Also performing will be "Swamp Grass Band" and "The Castaways Bluegrass Bunch."

For more information, call Sandi Hall at 674-8140.

May 19, 7:30-9 a.m. Leadership Brevard will hold a breakfast "A Conversation with Brevard County Sheriff Candidates." The public is invited to hear their platforms followed by a question/answer session. Cost is \$15 per person in advance, \$20 at the door. The event is at Florida Institute of Technology's Hartley Room in the Denius Student Center at the Melbourne Campus. Reservations are preferred by May 12, call 632-8222 for more information.

Classes

Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Hands-on watercolor technique workshop for all experience levels at the Eau Gallie Public Library. Cost is \$10, including supplies. Registration is limited. Call 255-4304, for more information.

Mondays, African Dance and Drum Class at Palm Bay Community Center. Learn traditional West African dance and movement. Class times are 6 p.m. for children and 7:15 p.m. for adults. Prices are \$32 for children for a four-week session and \$38 for adults. Walk-ins are welcome for \$10 per class. For more information, contact Fatou Camara at 960-6200 or the community center at 952-3443.

Theater

Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m., Comedic play "Move Over, Mrs. Markham" by Ray Cooney and John Chapman will be performed at the Surfside Playhouse, 320 S. Fifth Street, Cocoa Beach. Admission is \$12, \$11 for seniors and active military and \$7 for children. For more information, call 783-3127.

Clubs

First Saturday of the month, 7 p.m., Palm Bay Parks & Recreation holds a Poetry and Spoken Word Club at the Palm Bay Community Center, 1502 Port Malabar Blvd., Palm Bay. Call Rick Scott at 952-3443 for more information or go to www.palmbayflorida.org.

ACTION LINE

494-6550



**Brig. Gen.
Greg Pavlovich**
45th SW
commander

The Action Line is your direct link to me and provides a valuable source of information on ways we can work together to make Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station better places to work and live.

The best way to get something fixed is to identify the problem to supervisors and first sergeants.

If you can't get your problem resolved through the agencies, contact the Action Line: e-mail, Commander'sline@patrick.af.mil or click global at Commander's Line - Patrick AFB; recorded message, 494-6550; mail, 45SW/PA 1201 Edward H. White II St, Ste C-130, Patrick AFB FL 32925-3237; fax, 494-7302. Address all correspondence "Attn: Action Line."

When directing an issue to the Action Line, callers must indicate to whom they've previously addressed the issue.

45th Mission Support Group
Col. Steve Werner
494-6607

45th Civil Engineer Squadron
Jack Gibson
494-4041

North and Central Housing
Caroline Jamba
494-2593

Pelican Coast
Pam Brown
777-8282

45th Services Squadron
Lt. Col. John Sproul
494-8081

Military Personnel
Maj. Dianne Dzialo
494-2035

Commissary officer
Ronald Rogers
494-4060

AAFES
Maurice Joiner
494-6455

Civilian Personnel
Robert Daniel
494-5238

Military Equal Opportunity
Capt. Marlon Johnson
494-6334

45th Security Forces Squadron
Lt. Col. Lynden Skinner
494-6202

Financial Services
1st Lt. Reina Chaperon
494-7171

45th Medical Group
Col. Gilbert Hansen
494-8100

Ground Safety
Chris Olesnevich
494-4023

Inspector General
Lt. Col. Frank Miles
494-4373



Catholic

Daily Mass (Tues. - Fri.) at 11:30 a.m. in the Library while Seaside Chapel is being renovated.

Saturday: 4 p.m. confession, 5 p.m. Mass in the South Patrick Chapel.

Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Mass in South Patrick Chapel, and 11:30 a.m. Mass in the Theater.

Religious education classes: 10:15 a.m. at the Education Center for pre-K - 6th grade, grades 7-12 Youth Ministry at 6 p.m. at South Patrick Chapel.

Protestant

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship in the Theater while Seaside Chapel is being renovated.

9:50 a.m. - Adult Sunday School in Seaside Chapel. 10 a.m. - Grades K-12 at South Patrick Chapel. Van transportation provided for base children.

11 a.m. - Contemporary Service in the South Patrick Chapel.

Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. Fellowship Dinner in South Patrick Chapel.

PROMO





Thursday *Never Die Alone* Half preacher, half Satan, and all street smarts, King David recorded the story of his exploits on audiotape, leaving behind sermons on villainy and its consequences.

The tapes reveal that the cycle of violence and retribution, which his actions have spawned, has come back to him full circle. Starring DMX and David Arquette.

Rated R for strong violence, drug use, sexuality and language. 88 min.

Friday *The Passion of the Christ* Over the last 12 hours of of Christ's life, he is betrayed by Judas Iscariot and is condemned to death for blasphemy. He is brought before Pontius Pilate for sentencing.

The roaring crowd demands his death, so Pilate orders his crucifixion. Jesus is severely beaten and made to carry his cross up to Golgotha, the hill outside Jerusalem, where he is nailed to the cross. Stars James Caviezel and Maia Morgenstern.

Rated R for sequences of graphic violence. 127 min. Note: This movie is not in English but, has English subtitles.

Saturday matinee *Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed* An anonymous masked villain wreaks mayhem on the city of Coolsville with a Monster machine that re-creates classic Mystery Inc. foes like The Pterodactyl Ghost, The Black Knight and the 10,000 Volt Ghost.

Under pressure from the terrified citizens of Coolsville, the gang launches an investigation into the mysterious monster outbreak that leaves Shaggy and Scooby questioning their roles in Mystery Inc. Stars Sarah Michelle Gellar and Freddie Prinze Jr.

Rated PG for scary action, rude humor and language. 86 min.

Saturday evening *The Passion of the Christ* - See Friday's synopsis.

Sunday *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* Joel discovers that his girlfriend Clementine has had her memories of their tumultuous relationship erased. He contacts the inventor of the process to have Clementine removed from his own memory.

But as his memories disappear, Joel recalls the good times they had together and tries to mentally overcome the procedure while he sleeps. Stars Jim Carrey and Kate Winslet.

Rated R for language, drug use and sexual content. 108 min.

Thursday *Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed* - See Saturday matinee's synopsis.

Movie times are 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Adults pay \$2.50; children under 12 pay \$1.50.

RIVERSIDE DINING

Saturday Brunch - Cajun meat loaf, **crispy baked chicken**, ribeye steak

Saturday Supper - **Fish amandine**, pork chops with mushroom gravy, stir fry chicken with broccoli

Sunday Brunch - Chicken parmesan, sauerbraten, tuna and noodles

Sunday Supper - Fried shrimp, **ginger barbecue chicken**, **spinach lasagna**

Monday Lunch - **Baked chicken**, simmered knockwurst, Swiss steak with tomato sauce

Monday Dinner - Roast turkey, baked ham, fish and fries

Tuesday Lunch - Grilled Salisbury steak, onion-lemon baked fish, yakisoba

Tuesday Dinner - Barbecue beef cubes, **paprika beef**, pork chop suey

Wednesday Lunch - Chalupa, burritos, Mexican chicken breast, chicken enchi-

ladas

Wednesday Dinner - Country style steak, fried chicken, **pita pizzas**

Thursday Lunch - Liver with onions, orange-spiced pork chops, tempura fried fish

Thursday Dinner - Pepper steak, **Mr. Z's finger lickin' chicken**, ginger pot roast

Friday Lunch - Beef and corn pie, pea and pepper rice, **seafood Newburg**, veal paprika steak

Friday Dinner - Yankee pot roast, **simmered corn beef**, pineapple chicken

Menus are subject to change. For more information, call dial-a-menu 494-2845. Items in bold are healthy choice meals.

