

Astro News

'Mission' possible

AFMC officials change focus from 'business area' to 'mission area'

Staff. Sgt. Carl Norman
AFMC Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — There is more to a name than people might think, according to Air Force Materiel Command officials.

The command recently changed its "business area" focus to "mission areas" — a move designed to show its commitment to supporting the warfighter with a more common terminology.

"Since 1997 we've focused on the customer, the bottom line, outputs and understanding our costs more, and we've done that through a business-management approach," said Maj. Gen. Todd Stewart, AFMC's plans and programs director.

"Now that we're making progress toward that end in our own organization, we want to be able to communicate more effectively and tell the command's story to the rest of the Air Force in a way that's more commonly understood. So we renamed AFMC's inner workings from business areas to mission areas to add more of a mission emphasis."

AFMC's mission areas are:

— Science and technology: discover, develop, demonstrate and transition affordable, integrated technologies that keep the United States Air Force the best in the world.

— Test and evaluation: provide customers the highest quality development test and evaluation, air traffic control and weather services at the lowest possible cost.

— Information management: provide network services and data sharing to make sure customers have the right information anywhere, any time and on demand.

— Product support: provide life-cycle management for Air Force war-fighting systems.

— Supply management: provide spare parts needed in war and peace.

— Depot maintenance: repair systems and spare parts to keep the Air Force ready in peacetime and provide sustainment to combat forces in wartime.

— Information services activity group: develop, acquire, sustain and integrate combat support information systems for Air Force and Defense Department customers.

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Balloon goes up for Airborne Laser

A balloon representing the Airborne Laser program makes a practice flight in preparation for the Kodak Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta Oct. 7-15. The balloon features an artist's concept of an aircraft-mounted laser destroying a missile in flight. (Photo by Rich Garcia.)

Halloween: Trick or Treating, Haunted House planned for Ft. Mac.

Halloween is right around the corner. Trick or Treating hours for military family housing will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 31. On base trick or treating is open to children of active-duty military personnel whether they reside on- or off-base. Active-duty military members may also invite non-military guests, however guests must be personally chaperoned by the sponsor throughout the evening.

Many homes and families in base housing areas will be participating. Families that wish to participate are asked to leave their front porch light on. Out of respect for families who do not want to participate, trick or treaters and their chaperones are asked to pass by those residences that have their front porch lights off.

If you have questions, call the base housing office at 363-8340. (Courtesy 61st ABG.)



The 61 ABG is sponsoring the 2nd Annual Combined Federal Campaign Haunted House on Oct. 27 and 28 at the Fort MacArthur Teen Center, Building 451. Organizers say that this year the Haunted House promises to be bigger and better than last year.

The Haunted House will be open Oct. 27 from 6 to 10 p.m. and Oct. 28 from noon to 4 p.m. for the younger and not so brave, and from 5 to 10 p.m. for those interested in a good scare. The night fright times are \$2 per person with the daylight fright being \$1. All money raised will be donated to CFC organizations as determined by the Haunted House visitor. All military, DOD and contractor employees are invited.

Volunteers are needed to help build and participate in the Haunted House. To volunteer, contact Staff Sgt. Jason Rusticelli at 363-5134. (Courtesy 61st ABG.)

Action line 363-2255

Q I would like to know why the Children's Youth Center fees are so expensive for before- and after-school care? In particular, why are school-age children charged the same amount as the children in kindergarten? Kindergarteners are using the facility for more hours than school-age children. I feel that the school age children should have lower fees. I've seen this done at other bases, and I don't understand why it's not done here. I think the fees should be based on the number of hours my child is actually at the facility. I would like an answer to my question.

A The School Age Child Care Fees are based on mandated Department of Defense fee ranges and the hours children use the program for child care. The fees for child care are based on 40 hours per week, consistent with the local school schedule and work hours of base personnel. If your child is attending the program less than 40 hours per week on a consistent basis, a separate contract can be developed between you and management for the number of child care hours you use per week. The fee can be reduced based on actual hours used. However, whenever there is a deviation from the contracted hours, the basic fee may be charged. Please contact the Youth Center at 363-8402 or 363-8383 for further information.

Q I thought the Combined Federal Campaign and the Air Force Assistance Fund were the only charitable fund drives authorized on military installations. I do not object to fundraising efforts to support unit and SMC functions, but I do object to the near constant fundraising activities such as the "16th Annual AIDS Walk Los Angeles." My understanding was that the CFC was designed to provide a screening function to help ensure the charitable organizations involved were legitimate and to reduce the time and effort expended on multiple charitable fund drives. If we are going to be continually bombarded by other charitable campaigns anyway, what is the justification for the CFC?

A In accordance with regulations issued by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, "the Combined Federal Campaign is the only authorized solicitation of employees in the Federal workplace on behalf of charitable organizations." Non-CFC charities can still engage in fundraising activities away from the workplace during periods when neither the CFC nor the Air Force Assistance Fund campaign is in progress. Building lobbies and similar public spaces on a military installation are not considered to be part of the federal workplace. However, DOD and Air Force regulations preclude non-CFC fundraising activities on a military installation during the

six-week period of the annual CFC.

Non-CFC fundraisers must be approved in advance by the Installation Commander or his designee (61st ABG/CC). Requests for approval should be submitted in writing through 61st ABG/SVFP.

You asked specifically about the AIDS Walk Los Angeles posters and placards displayed in the lobbies of SMC buildings. AIDS Walk Los Angeles requested and was granted approval to place posters or placards in building lobbies on base. Because these posters are addressed to a broad audience and are informational in nature, they do not constitute a solicitation under the applicable regulations. Additionally, these items may legitimately be displayed in building lobbies and other public areas because building lobbies are not in the federal workplace.

It would, however, be improper to display such posters in SMC offices or work areas. Since non-CFC fundraisers are not authorized on-base when the CFC campaign itself is in progress, the posters and placards should not be displayed during the CFC. Once the annual CFC kicked off Oct. 4, sponsors were asked to remove their posters to avoid any direct competition with the CFC. The groups complied with this request and the posters were taken down.

The Action Line is your direct link to Col. Phil Parker, 61st Air Base Group commander. Its purpose is to make Los Angeles AFB a better place to live and work. Below is a list of people to call if you have an issue to address.



- Base Exchange** – David Clore 640-0129
- Base IG** – Lt. Col. John Woodcock 363-0802
- Chaplain** – Lt. Col. Gary Garvey 363-1956

Civil Engineering –

Lt. Col. William Saunders 363-0287

Commissary – Al Cherry 363-6140

Comm. Sqd. – Lt. Col. Lori South 363-0798

Equal Employment Opportunity Program Office –

Leonard Gonzales 363-1565

Equal Employment Opportunity Program Office –

TTY for hearing impaired 363-6862

Family Support Center – Tom Sanders 363-5365

Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline 363-2020

Housing – Jon VanHoose 363-8340

Logistics – Maj. Ronald Graham 363-0351

Medical – Col. Mark Wisniewski 363-5005

Mission Support –

Lt. Col. Maureen Hurley 363-1230

Privacy Act/FOIA – Jesusa Cruz 363-2576

Public Affairs – Lt. Col. Robert Potter 363-0030

Security Forces – Maj. Lyle Cary 363-0032

Services – Gary Van Dusen 363-0430

Military Equal Opportunity Office –

Capt. Elizabeth Vallery 363-2806

TRICARE 363-0261

24-hour Crime Stop 363-2124

Legal Office – Col. Scott Bagley 363-0916

Area Defense Counsel –

Capt. Art Kirkpatrick 363-6776

Los Angeles AFB Combined Federal Campaign goal

Los Angeles AFB charitable contributions through CFC are currently at \$48,000, with a goal of \$238,000.

5% 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90 95 100%



Astro News

*Space and Missile Systems Center
Editorial Staff*

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Deadline for submissions is Friday, close of business, the week before publication. Articles should be sent via e-mail to the editor or sent on disk. The mailing address is SMC/PAI, 2420 Vela Way, Suite 1467, El Segundo, Calif. 90245-4659.

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Submit articles to:
SMC.PA.ASTRONEWS@
LOSANGELES.AF.MIL
OR
Call 363-0303 for more
information.

News Briefs

Ft. Mac. Chapel hosts Fall Fest

A free Fall Festival sponsored by the Chaplain Services Division will be held Oct. 31 in Building 37 at Fort MacArthur from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Food, games and lots of treats will be provided. For more information, call the chaplain's office at 363-1956.

Knott's Berry Farm for free

During the week of Nov. 4-12, Knott's Berry Farm will be sponsoring the 11th annual Veterans Week Tribute. Nov. 5 is designated as Air Force Day. Free admission to the park is available for all nine days to any U.S. veteran, active-duty military personnel and spouse (or one guest), and up to two dependent children ages 3-11. Military personnel may purchase discounted tickets for additional family members at Outdoor Recreation and Ticket Sales for \$20 for adults and \$14.50 for children.

Veterans and active military personnel must present military identification or proof of U.S. military service at Knott's ticket booths to receive complimentary tribute tickets. Families whose spouse is currently serving in another region of the world may present proof of that spouse's military status to receive the tickets. For more information, call Knott's Berry Farm at 714-220-5200.

Who let the Ice Dogs out?

The Long Beach Ice Dogs, a West Coast Hockey League, will host a military night at 7 p.m., Nov. 11 during the Ice Dogs vs. Fresno Falcons game at the Long Beach Arena, 300 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach. The special offer is open to all Air Force personnel with government ID. Loge seats are \$9 (regular price is \$17) and concourse seats are \$6 (regular price is \$11). Beanie bulldogs are available to the first 5,000 fans. Reserve your tickets by Nov. 6. For tickets or more information, call Jeff Dyrek at 562-624-5577.

TRICARE access standards

To ensure the beneficiaries who use the Department of Defense Military Health System receive medically necessary care when they need it, DOD leadership developed access standards for TRICARE Prime enrollees. What's important is ensuring that access to care is easy, fast and logical. TRICARE's standards for access are easy—one day or less for urgent care, one week for routine care, one month for specialty or wellness care, 30 minutes or less in the provider's waiting room, and 30 minutes or less travel time to the primary care provider's office. Emergency services are available and accessible within the TRICARE Prime service area 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In an emergency, TRICARE beneficiaries should call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room. For additional information, please contact the Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator, Rosie Manning at 363-0261.

Astro News wants your story

Do you have an interesting or important story to tell? Use your base paper, the *Astro News*, to tell it. Call the editor, Tech. Sgt. Tim Dougherty at 363-0303 to discuss your story or for help writing one.

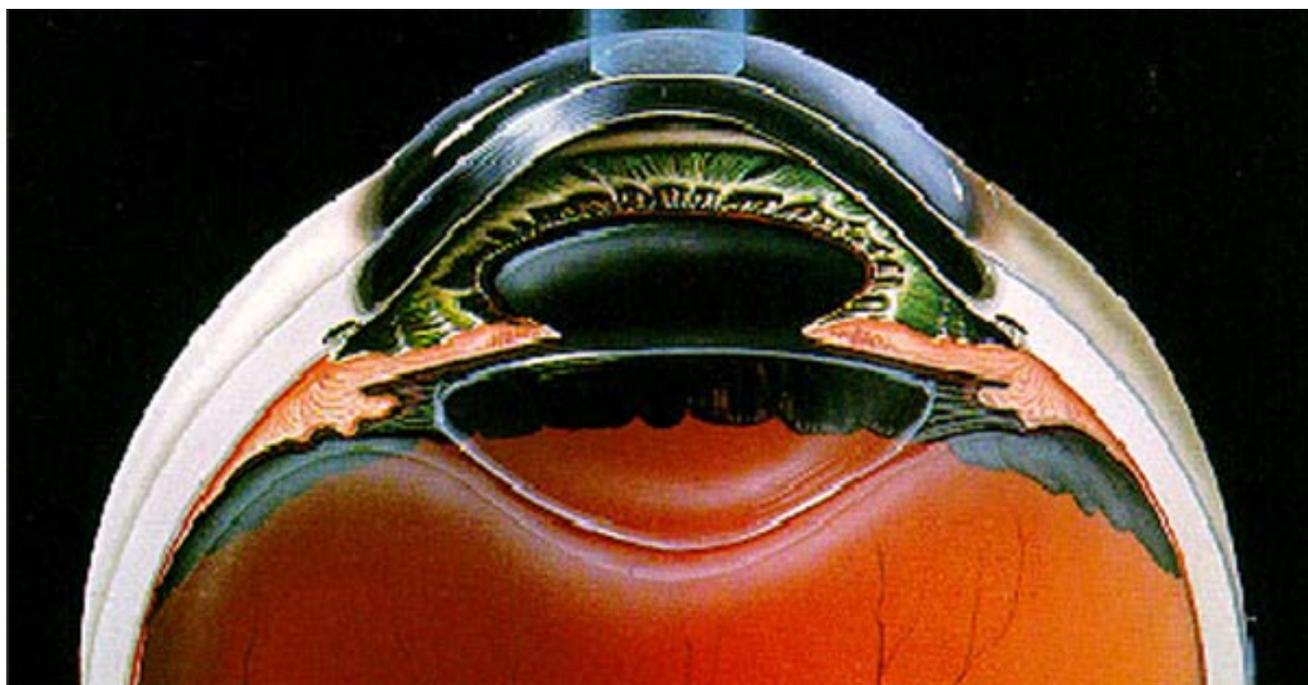


Photo courtesy 59th Medical Wing, Wilford Hall Medical Center

During laser eye surgery, the surgeon flattens the cornea, or front surface of the eye, allowing light to be focused further back onto the retina to give the patient clearer vision.

Rules change for laser vision correction

Capt. Clinton Anderson
Optometry Services Chief

Just four years ago, members of the armed forces were not allowed to have any method of refractive surgery to improve vision performed. In addition, individuals who had these procedures performed were disqualified from being commissioned or enlisting. Since that time, both surgical eye procedures and Air Force policy have changed dramatically.

Ocular refractive surgery is defined as surgery performed on the eyes by an ophthalmologist, or eye surgeon, to correct for myopia, hyperopia and astigmatism. The three most common procedures used to correct these refractive errors are Laser-Assisted Intraström in-situ Keratomilysis or "LASIK," Photorefractive Keratectomy or "PRK," and the little used Radial Keratotomy or "RK." During these procedures, the surgeon flattens the cornea, or front surface of the eye, allowing light to be focused further back onto the retina to give the patient clearer vision. The most common side effects of these procedures are increased glare at night and dryness of the eye. The side effects usually last for one to six months and can vary depending on the surgical technique used and the patient's ability to completely heal from the procedure. Although LASIK and PRK are very accurate procedures relative to the outdated RK, a 20/20 outcome is never guaranteed with these surgeries, and individuals with higher refractive errors may experience increased side effects and a more variable visual outcome.

Prior to 1996, all forms of refractive surgery disqualified any individual from enlistment or commissioning in the United States armed forces. Individuals in the armed forces could not have these procedures performed on their eyes outside the military, and only a select few were allowed to participate in PRK studies at select locations. After numerous policy changes, the Department of Defense has recently changed its stance on refractive surgery. PRK and LASIK are now waiverable for commissioning and enlistment provided that the procedure was performed over a year prior to the candidate's application. These individuals must meet the vision standards of the Air Force and must provide all documentation regarding the surgery and its follow-up

examinations. Only PRK is possibly waiverable for those candidates seeking to apply for flight status, and RK is still not waiverable for any type of commissioning or enlistment.

As for individuals currently serving in the armed forces, LASIK and PRK performed by civilian ophthalmologists are now allowed under a policy memorandum released by Air Force officials in April. RK is not allowed under any circumstances. Prior to having LASIK and PRK performed by a civilian eye doctor, the service member must first contact Rosie Manning in the TRICARE office at 363-0261 for a mandatory briefing. This briefing is conducted to inform the service member that TRICARE will not cover any of the costs of the surgery including medications or follow-up visits regarding side effects or adverse outcomes. After this briefing, the surgical candidate must receive permission from his or her commander to ensure that the side effects of the surgery will not have a negative impact on the mission of their organization. Finally, after the procedure is performed, the service member has 72 hours to report to the optometry clinic to document that his or her vision still meets the Air Force standards.

Although a mandatory medical evaluation board is no longer required for service members having refractive surgery, disqualification from the armed forces and loss of disability benefits may occur should the service member not meet Air Force vision standards. Active-duty personnel on flight status are forbidden to have civilian refractive surgeries and should contact the Los Angeles AFB Vision Clinic at 363-2485 for more information. These policies are also consistent for members in other branches of the armed forces, but it is mandatory that non-Air Force personnel contact their nearest medical treatment facility prior to having refractive surgery performed.

The Air Force has been performing studies on PRK at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland, AFB, Texas. These studies are closed trials, and individuals from other bases may not participate in these procedures. Later this year, the Wilford Hall Ophthalmology Clinic will be instituting the war fighter program for service members who wish to have PRK. Los Angeles AFB is not yet a part of this program and will not send any personnel to participate at this time. For additional information, call Capt. Clinton Anderson, Chief of Optometry services at 363-5008.

— Installations and support: sustain the missions and people at AFMC bases and deployed locations with quality facilities, environments and support services at the lowest possible cost.

Gen. Michael Ryan, Air Force chief of staff, said AFMC, under the leadership of its previous commander, Gen. George Babbitt, introduced a business-management analogy as a way to communicate the goals and objects they were trying to achieve. This vision put heavy emphasis on building efficiency and effectiveness into every step of the process of supporting the Air Force warfighter with safe, reliable, powerful and affordable systems.

“Just as the Wright Brothers proved their flying machine concepts at the turn of the last century, Gen. George Babbitt has implemented new concepts to keep our Air Force in tip-top fighting shape well into the next century,” Ryan said. “He has been on the forefront of solidifying the efficiency of our business affairs, improving

cost accountability and creating agile combat support.”

That vision has carried over to AFMC’s current commander, Gen. Lester Lyles, and managing costs without sacrificing quality or effectiveness is still the goal.

“There is a real perception in the eyes of some key people in the Air Force leadership that AFMC has lost its focus on supporting the warfighters and that we’re more interested in being a business organization and saving money instead of supporting the warfighters,” said Lyles. “Nothing could be further from the truth.

“My goal is to make sure everyone understands our number one objective is to support the warfighters for the United States Air Force,” he said. “AFMC’s mission area focus is how we’re able to operationalize our processes and how we operate on a day-to-day basis. It’s the key to how we accomplish our mission.

“Our mission area management is the right thing to do for this command, it’s the

right thing to do for the United States Air Force, and it’s had tremendous payoff.”

Although the command has experienced success with the business-type approach, Stewart’s main concern is overcoming a predominantly “budget-management” culture, where people are focused primarily on getting more money and spending it all with little or no regard to what they accomplished.

“There’s a notion among many Air Force people that if they don’t spend all their money, they won’t get it next year, and that’s true,” Stewart said. “But many people never ask the question, ‘Do I really need it next year?’ There’s just always that assumption they always need more.”

He said the AFMC approach is trying to get people to ask, “What did I actually produce with my budget and did it meet standards or not? And if it did meet standards, how can I produce the same sort of output with less money?”

“That’s a question we never really asked

MISSION, From Page 1

before,” Stewart said. “We often paid lip service to the notion that we ought to give the federal taxpayer a break and try to be efficient. But, quite frankly, it was easier to whine for more money than to do the difficult task of really getting more efficient; so that’s where we put our emphasis. It’s time for that to change.”

Stewart said he doesn’t expect AFMC’s terminology change to have a dramatic impact on the Air Force, but he hopes it will make it easier to communicate the command’s philosophies and strategies.

“The way we do things is certainly not unique to this command, but I’d say to some degree, we’re showing the way for others, and certainly ourselves in that we’re doing better than we used to,” Stewart said.

“I’m sure there are other organizations in the Air Force who are equally committed and aggressive in managing their outputs and productivity. I hope we can all work together, because we’re not done with this journey by any means.”

SMC Today

Got a good story? The staff of the video program, ‘SMC Today’, would love to hear about it. To submit story ideas for ‘SMC Today’ call John Brazelton at 363-6897.

Building young warriors

'Cory Jitsu-do' martial arts class helps children 'say no' to drugs

Capt. Sheldon McNeil
Chief, Flight Operations and Metric Tracking

Teaching self-esteem, discipline and confidence, as well as staying drug-free, are some of the goals of Cory Jitsu-do, a martial art that has been taught to children at Fort MacArthur for the past 12 years. Parents who have enrolled their children in this class have been elated at the results, which includes better grades on report cards. Staff Sgt. Alonzo Jones, a certified master of martial science, designed Cory Jitsu-do specifically for children.

"The focus of Cory Jitsu-do is to teach children they are gifted with the power to make positive choices and thus have a responsibility to protect themselves and others. One of the choices Cory Jitsu-do centers on is preparing children and teenagers to say no to drugs and yes to their lives," said Cory Jitsu-do Vice President Sifu (teacher) Gerry Bayle.

Bayle is a black belt and works as a computer engineer for The Aerospace Corporation. She has been a student of Jones for almost four years and recently took over the position of head instructor at the Fort MacArthur children's class.

The curriculum Jones has created also gives children strategies against drug use.

"Ancient warriors surmised that drugs destroyed the mind, body and spirit. They thought illicit drug use was something that poisoned and altered the mind and was considered sorcery or witchcraft which warriors vowed to fight," Jones said. "Martial arts is best suited for this struggle, because it gives children the mental, physical and spiritual confidence to say no. Martial arts trains children to be better prepared to not abuse drugs, which includes tobacco and alcohol."

Bayle's students recently competed in a writing contest on the topic "Say no to drugs." The winners were: 1st Runner Up Warrior Champion Jaylssa Hamilton, 2nd

Runner Up Warrior Champion Jenna Smith, 3rd Runner Up Warrior Champion Melissa Misenhimer, and 4th Runner Up Warrior Champion Kayla Dene-Bean.

The Grand Warrior Champion was Danielle Ali who took home the grand prize of \$100 cash. All of the children involved in the writing contest received letters of appreciation for their participation.

"Giving our children a warrior mind set, that is, the ability to fight for what is right even when no one else is looking, is the best way to keep children free from drugs. What makes this even more exciting is that in January, we are opening the writing contest up to all of the Cory Jitsu-do schools worldwide as well as the civilian community," Bayle said.

The writing contest will be an outreach program designed to focus children's minds on positive behavior. "This contest follows the precepts of ancient Japanese Calligraphy, that is, writing allows you to build character strengths through reflecting on positive precepts," Bayle said.

Jones said that early training is the success of this program. Director of Research of the Carson Drug Abuse Foundation Dr. Susan Migardon agrees. "Individuals who are able to go through adolescence to age 21 without smoking, using drugs or abusing alcohol have a very good chance of never abusing drugs," she said.

The Cory Jitsu-do class is held at the Fort MacArthur Community Center Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 5 p.m. For more information, visit a class or call Jones at 363-6223.



Photos by Capt. Sheldon McNeil

Writing contest winner Ali, top, and runner up Dene-Bean, below, stand with, from left, Bayle, Sifu Jerome Ginsberg, and Jones.





Oooh Raah!

GPS joint program office storms beach with Marines during military training day



Clockwise from top left: Maj. Thomas Becht, left, and Lt. Col. Edward Phillips of SMC's NAVSTAR Global Positioning System joint program office familiarize themselves with a .50 caliber machine gun during their military training day at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 2. Capt. Vern Fletcher, left, 1st Lt. Charles Pacello, right, and others get ready to 'splash' a Marine Corps LVTP7 Amtrak. SMC/CZ members get ready to come ashore in the Amtrak. Two SMC/CZ members try their luck on the Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer as they attempt to destroy enemy tanks with the SMAW – a Shoulder-launched, Multi-purpose, Assault Weapon. The SMC/CZ training day was organized by training manager Todd Trabue. "The day was geared towards getting our folks thinking again about the warfighter and how we support them. I think it was a good day and everyone had a great experience," Trabue said. (Photos by Joe Juarez.)



AF paralegal field needs people

Opportunity for retraining is now

Master Sgt. Wayne Evans
Law Office Manager

Have you ever thought about a career in the legal field? Did you know that as an enlisted member you might be eligible to retrain into the paralegal career field?

The Air Force paralegal career field has been in existence since May 1, 1955. Even before that date, paralegals played a very prominent role in the Judge Advocate General's Department. The department's primary mission is to provide legal counsel to commanders, first sergeants and other key personnel on a broad spectrum of legal and quasi-legal matters.

The paralegal's role is to assist the attorneys in achieving that mission. Consequently, paralegals support virtually all areas of the legal office including military justice, claims, civil law, legal assistance, contracts and environmental law. Within these divisions, the paralegal conducts legal research, interviews witnesses and victims and drafts opinions and documents. They also support investigations of serious incidents such as aircraft, missile or rocket accidents.

To ensure paralegals are qualified to support these many legal areas, the department provides the necessary training, both on the job and in the classroom. As with other career fields in the Air Force, a paralegal's

training requirements consist of 3-, 5- and 7-skill levels. The only difference is the content of the training. Paralegals attend basic and advanced paralegal courses at the Judge Advocate General's School at Maxwell AFB, Ala. Paralegals receive upgrade training within the department and may also attend several specialized courses like operational law, environmental law, contract law and the annual federal income tax course. A bonus for attending these courses is the ability to receive credit from the Community College of the Air Force.

To be eligible to retrain into the paralegal career field, you must be able to type a minimum of 25 words per minute, and have a minimum AQE score of 50. Also, you must not have any derogatory information in your records. If you are eligible and wish to retrain, you must submit a retraining application. In addition, your base law office manager and staff judge advocate must personally interview you.

The paralegal career field is extremely interesting and very challenging. It is rewarding for individuals who are looking for a job that gives you independence in your work, personal growth and most importantly, a sense of accomplishment at the end of each day. If this is what you seek, then the paralegal career field is right for you.

To submit retraining applications, contact the employment section of the military personnel flight. For more information about the paralegal career field, contact the Law Office Manager, Master Sgt. Wayne Evans at 363-6465.

If you aren't looking at the United States Air Force Online News, you aren't getting all of the news. After you read this paper, check out your other newspaper at www.af.mil/newspaper

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your
intake.

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Honoring Hispanic Heritage month

Members of dance group "Mexico 2000" perform at the annual Hispanic Heritage month luncheon at The Club Oct. 6. The event was hosted by the SMC Hispanic American Club and The Aerospace Corporation Hispanic Advisory Council. Dancers from the Andean region and from the central, northern and

southern coasts highlight the Inca, Creole, Hispanic and Afro-Peruvian heritages. The event's guest speaker, LaVerne University professor Dr. Manuel Escalante, spoke about how it's hard to understand people unless you understand where they have been. (Photos by Joe Juarez.)

Motorcycle safety tips

Volunteer teaches beginner, experienced riders

Tech. Sgt. Mark Garner
Base Safety Office

While a motorcycle ride along a winding road can be an exhilarating experience, it's important riders realize that ignoring safety can be hazardous to your health.

That's why the Base Safety Office offers a motorcycle course designed to create safe riders. While the class is mandatory for military and DOD civilians who plan to ride on base, the four hours of classroom instruction and five hours of hands-on training should be considered a prerequisite for anyone getting on a motorcycle.

"Riding a motorcycle requires both mental and physical skills to survive in street traffic. The rider must know and operate within three limits: the road, the rider's skills and the motorcycle," said Maj. Bill Slutter, Los Angeles AFB's motorcycle safety instructor.

Slutter, who works at SMC's Space Based Infrared System program office, is also an active instructor with the California Motorcyclist Safety Program and instructs riders in the local community.

Slutter volunteered to conduct rider training when he realized the program on base was deactivated two years ago. The Los Angeles AFB Safety office, with the assistance of Slutter, has revamped the Motorcycle Safety Course.

"I find teaching physical and mental aspects requires strong communication skills, which contribute to my work in

External & International Affairs for the Space Based Infrared System. I've gotten a great deal of personal satisfaction from training well over a thousand students. I feel fortunate the SBIRS program director, Col. Michael Booen, sees service to the base as an important aspect to our job."

The cyclists demonstrate riding skills on the range and are evaluated for safety. Areas of discussion include experiences on braking, swerving and defensive riding techniques, use of protective equipment, and how to alter some bad habits. The ERC is also available to dependents, retirees, and contractors if space is available.

The first Experienced Riders Course was held Aug. 24 at the Naval and Marine Reserve Center on Terminal Island in San Pedro. As of today, 14 personnel from the Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Navy have taken the class.

Students are very happy that Slutter volunteers his time to teach.

"Maj. Slutter did an excellent job instructing the course, and there is no question it was beneficial to everyone who attended. Plus, the local course saved me a great deal of time and effort as I would have otherwise had to travel out to March AFB, Calif., or elsewhere," said 2nd Lt. Brinton Lincoln from SMC's Systems Acquisitions program office.

Personnel interested in an experienced or beginner rider course should contact the Safety office at 363-3048 or Maj. Bill Slutter at 363-6732. The next class is scheduled for Oct. 27 at 8 a.m.

Leading LA

Staff Sgt. Ferdinand "Tee" Toledo...

... is the Non-commissioned Officer-in-Charge of the 61st Medical Squadron, Commanders Support Staff and has been at his job for 10 months. He assists squadron members in administrative and personnel actions. He also receives, processes, inputs and distribute personnel actions via PC-III.

"My job is important because it deals with all aspects of squadron personnel actions and accountability. This is critical for mission readiness. I work

closely with the Commander and First Sergeant assisting them with programs such as adverse actions to awards and recognition programs," Toledo said.



If Toledo isn't at work, you might find him at home cooking or watching movies with his wife and daughter.

SMC/XR hosts planning meeting

2nd Lt. Robert Swearingen SMC Developmental Planning

The SMC Developmental Planning directorate held a kick-off meeting for the third phase of Air Force Space Command's Integrated Planning Process, or IPP for the FY04 cycle Sept. 22 at Los Angeles AFB.

The results from this cycle are intended to influence the FY04 POM, Mission Solution Analysis, or MSA.

Setting the tone of the meeting was Col. William Gardner, SMC Developmental Planning director who emphasized the importance of fostering important partnerships with industry to help solve our future space mission capabilities.

More than 200 people attended the meeting, the strongest turn out in six years. Participants came from the Air Force, Army,

NASA and numerous contractors such as Lockheed-Martin, Boeing, Northrop Grumman, TRW and Pratt-Whitney.

The day started with the Headquarters Space Command Plans section discussing the first two phases of IPP; Mission Area Assessment and Mission Needs Analysis, which define future space mission requirements and needs. Next, the SMC Planning and Analysis Division discussed their FY04 cycle MSA process and plans. MSA was presented as the key to finding, evaluating, and refining new concepts designed to fulfill future space mission needs.

The afternoon session included each of the TPIPT chiefs who briefed their submission area and showed their schedule for upcoming meetings and events in their individual TPIPT which are driven by a need to provide the best concepts to AF Space Command by January 2001.

Chapel Schedule

Roman Catholic

Saturday: Sacrament of Reconciliation at 4 p.m., Mass at 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: Mass at 9 a.m., Continuing Christian Development in Building 37 at 10:15 a.m. and RCIA meets at 10:15 a.m. in Building 37 conference room until Easter.

Protestant

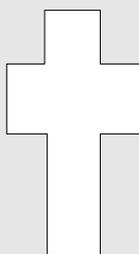
Sunday: Sunday School at 9 a.m., Building 37; General Protestant worship at 10:30 a.m.

For more information on baptisms call Chaplain, Maj. Randy Roberts at 363-1871.

Classes are available for those interested in becoming a Roman Catholic. Would you like to know more about the Catholic Faith? Are you already an adult Catholic wanting to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? The Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults classes begin Sept. 22 at 10:15 a.m. in Building 37, 2nd floor conference room.

The classes are free and will be held three times a month until April 8, 2001. For more information or to register for the class call Chaplain, Maj. Randy Roberts at 363-1871.

All the above services are at the Fort MacArthur Chapel. Call the Chaplain Service Division office at 363-1956 for more information.



The Club 363-2230

The lounge opens at 4 p.m. every Friday. The DJ starts playing at 5 p.m. Free snacks are available to club members.

The barber shop is open from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, and is located in Building 120 on the lower level floor. For more information, call 363-1733.

Community Center 363-8225

Due to seismic upgrades to Building 425, Fort Mac Hall is closed to groups of 50 or more until January 2001.

RV Storage 363-2081

For your convenience, Los Angeles AFB offers two recreational vehicle storage facilities. They are located next to the FamCamp in Lawndale and at Fort MacArthur. Storage fees are \$30 per month for RVs more than 23 feet and \$20 per month for RVs less than 23 feet long.

The recreational vehicle storage located at Fort MacArthur is open to active-duty military personnel residing in Los Angeles AFB military housing.

Family Child Care – 363-8334

The Seal Beach Naval Facility has openings in their Navy licensed family home day care homes. For more information, call Kathy Richards, family child care director, at (562) 626-7899.

Los Angeles AFB is striving to expand family child care services in homes of military and retired military members. If you are a spouse who lives either on or off base and are interested in becoming a licensed family child care provider, contact Hyechong Froschl at 363-8334 or stop by the child development center at Fort MacArthur, Building 31.

Providers:

Amy Gonzalez can provide child care from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays to Fridays for children ages 3 and up on a full, part time and drop-in basis. For more information, call 514-1938.

Johvon Tidwell can provide child care from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays to Fridays for children ages 2 and up on a full, part time and drop-in basis. For more information, call 547-9762.

The above providers are the only individuals authorized to provide child care in the Fort MacArthur, Pacific Heights and Pacific Crest Areas. In accordance with Air Force Instruction 34-276, "Persons wishing to provide care for more than 10 hours per week on a regular basis in government quarters must be trained, licensed and granted approval from the base commander." If your child care provider is not on this list, please notify our office immediately so we can invite them to become trained and licensed through our Family child care office.

Are you ready for some football?

Monday Night Football is back! Watch Al Michaels along with new comers Dan Fouts and Dennis Miller and come and see your favorite team play on a big screen at the Harbor View Mondays from 5 to 10 p.m. You must be an identification cardholder and over 18-years-old to attend.

HAWC offers monthly workshops to improve health, live better

The following is a list of classes offered at the Health & Wellness Center in October and November. Most classes are offered monthly. Contact the HAWC at 363-6266 to sign up for any of these classes or to obtain further information. Classes are open to active duty, family members, DoD civilians and contractors. All classes will be held in the recently remodeled HAWC, located in Building 243, across from the Commissary.

October

- Oct. 26** 10 - 11 a.m.
Step to Lower Cholesterol
- Oct. 23, 27, 30** 9:30 - 11 a.m.
Tobacco Cessation
- Oct. 23** 5:30 - 7 p.m.
Tobacco Cessation
- Oct. 25** 9 - 11 a.m.
Think Light! Weight Loss Program
- Oct. 31** 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Stress Management

November

- Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30** 10 - 11 a.m.
Step to Lower Cholesterol (4 class series)
- Nov. 14** 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
General Nutrition
- Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27** 9:30 - 11 a.m.
Tobacco Cessation (series of five classes)
- Nov. 7** 9 - 11 a.m.
Heart Healthy Eating
- Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22** 9 - 11 a.m.
Think Light! Weight Loss Program. (Series of eight classes, mandatory and voluntary program)
- Nov. 21** 9 - 11 a.m.
Smart Shopping Commissary Tour
- Nov. 28** 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Stress Management

Free tickets to UCLA vs. Stanford

Celebrate Veteran's and Armed Forces Appreciation Day Nov. 4 during the University of California, Los Angeles vs. Stanford homecoming football game, 3:30 p.m. at the Rose Bowl. UCLA is celebrating the school's fourth annual appreciation by giving free general admission tickets to the game to any military or veteran personnel in uniform or with military identification. One ticket issued per military identification. Reserved tickets are available on a "buy one get one free offer." Other ticket prices are: \$25 for reserved; \$12 for adults; and \$4 for youth. Tickets are available in advance at the UCLA central ticket office or at the Rose Bowl the day of the game while supplies last. For ticket information, call 310-UCLA-WIN.

The Fitness Center 363-6815

The Fitness Center offers one-on-one free individualized fitness programming. We have certified personal trainers that offer the following services: fitness assessments, personal fitness planning, fitness goal setting, programs to lower cholesterol, strength training, cardiovascular training, proper use of equipment and proper lifting techniques. Individual appointments can be made by calling 363-6815, or you can ask at the front desk for a trainer during your workout.



Annual photo contest deadline nears

The Community Center is hosting the Annual Los Angeles AFB Photo Contest. The four categories are monochrome prints, color prints, transparencies and digital photos.

Subjects to consider are military life,

people, nature, creative effects and computer imaging and enhancement (digital photo category only). All identification cardholders are eligible to participate. Deadline to turn in photos is Oct. 25. The Community Center will exhibit all nomi-

nees in the ballroom Oct. 27. Los Angeles AFB winners will be sent to the Air Force Materiel Command for competition in the major command contest.

For additional information, visit the Community Center or call 363-8225.