

# NVMAA

#### **MIAMI VALLEY MILITARY AFFAIRS ASSOCIATION**

Volume 15, Issue 2 FALL 2016

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

s my year as MVMAA President comes to a close I'd like to take this time to thanks all those members and volunteers who make MVMAA the great organization it is. The many hours that you contribute to serving the military men and women along with their families do indeed make a positive difference to our community. You do it with a style and grace that is utterly amazing. Some of you have a military background or may be a retiree such as myself, some of you have family that has served, and others are just proud



Americans who wish to volunteer and serve our military community here in the Miami Valley. Whatever your motivation, the superb results we realize as an organization are due solely to your efforts. This comes with a sacrifice, the time you give to MVMAA is time that you may have planned to spend with your family or friends in other endeavors and know that we do recognize what it takes to make this organization succeed.

There is one group of our team that needs to be highlighted for their superior efforts this year. That is our Golf Committee team of Jerry Pfeifer, Angel Lewis, and Holly Beard. The energy and dedication they bring to making the Bob Chiles Classic the unqualified success it has become is unparalleled. The results this year are the best ever and the resulting contribution to the Fisher House is quite impressive. Thanks to them for a job well done!

Later this year I will have the honor of handing over the reins to Jon Larrabee as he assumes the President's position. Jon has the skills and ties to the local community that will serve us well as we move to increase both our membership and interaction within our many community partners. He is the one who can help us expand and grow the organization. Thank you Jon for stepping up and providing the leadership for MVMAA. In closing, it has been a busy and fulfilling year and I am proud to have served you and the MVMAA membership. I look forward to continuing as an active participant and working with you all as we continue to serve our military community.

Most Sincerely, Col. (Ret.) Stephen Goeman MVMAA 2016 President

#### MCDONALD LOOKS TOWARD NEW COMMAND

By 88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

s Col. Bradley McDonald assumes command of the 88th Air Base Wing, he took a moment to respond to some questions about his priorities, assignments and his family.



What most excites you about coming to Wright-Patterson AFB?

McDonald: My family and I are thrilled to return to Wright-Patterson and the Miami Valley! We have some very special memories and experiences from our previous assignment to here. I am honored, humbled and excited to serve as commander of the Mighty 88th Air Base Wing. We look forward to reengaging old friends and making many new ones. CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

# 35th ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY LUNCHEON

onday the 2nd of May was 35th Annual Armed Forces Day Luncheon, hosted Springfield Exchange Club, Springfield Kiwanis Club, Miami Valley Military Affairs Association and Springfield Rotary Club. This program recognizes and honors area military units, installations and assigned personnel who proudly serve their Nation, State and Community in the preservation of our freedom and the pursuit of world peace through strength. Approximately 220 people were in attendance including 70 of our local Military personnel and 13 MVMAA members. Our Keynote speaker this year was none other than our own vice President Dr. Cassie Barlow who delivered a moving Armed Forces Day message to our audience. This event is held each year at the Hollenbeck Bayley Creative Arts and Convention Center in Springfield and is scheduled alternatively on the first Monday or Tuesday in May. Our 2017 event is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday the 2nd of May 2017.

It was the honor of our combined Clubs to recognize the Men and Women who serve with the following units:

#### **UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

Wright-Patterson AFB 88th Air Base Wing

#### UNITED STATES AIR FORCE RESERVE

Wright-Patterson AFB 445th Airlift Wing

#### **OHIO ARMY NATIONAL GUARD**

371st Sustainment Brigade 37th Brigade Special Troops Battalion

#### **OHIO AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

178th Intelligence Surveillance & Reconnaissance Wing 251st Cyberspace Engineering Installation Wing 269th Combat Communications Squadron



Cassie Barlow and Ralph Anderson represent the MVMAA during the 35th annual Armed Forces Day Luncheon.



Members of the community gather at the 35th annual Armed Forces Day Luncheon, held in Springfield.



**MVMAA** members conduct business during the August meeting. Left to right, Fairborn Chamber of **Commerce Director and Greene County Development** Director Paul Newman Jr., 178th Wing Commander Col. John Knabel, 88th ABW Command Chief Lisa Arnold, 88th ABW Commander Col. Brad McDonald. **MVMAA President Col (Ret)** Steve Goeman, MVMAA **Vice President Col (Ret) Cassie Barlow** 

Photo: Patrica Phillips



Fisher-Nightingale House Executive Director, Christopher Stanley speaks during the 2016 Annual Golf Outing. Thank you to everyone that supported the event. Due to your support \$12,000 will be donated to the Fisher-Nightingale House during the Annual MVMAA Dinner in November.



Retired Marine Corporal Larry Draughn won closest to the pin during the 2016 Annual Golf Outing. The outing raised \$12,000 for the Fisher-Nightingale House.

#### Be sure to visit us on social media!

http://www.mvmaa.org

https://www.facebook.com/Miami-Valley-Military-Affairs-Association-MVMAA-201753379894759/?fref=ts

https://twitter.com/MVMAA1

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#### **Golf Committee:**

Angel Lewis - Jerry Pfeifer - Holly Beard

#### McDonald Looks Toward . . .

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#### What are your main priorities as commander of the 88th ABW?

McDonald: My overall vision for the 88th Air Base Wing is that WE achieve Excellence in all WE do. In order to do so, my priorities are respect, relationships and results.

Respect is the foundation upon which we'll achieve Excellence together – we will get everyone's best, individually and collectively, by respecting ourselves, respecting others, and respecting our Air Force.

Relationships are critical to obtaining Excellence in all WE do. Not only are great relationships forged within the wing and across WPAFB, but the Miami Valley community is an outstanding partner as well. We will nurture these existing relationships and build new ones.

Results are our end goal – at the 88th ABW, we will continue to provide outstanding installation support to all WPAFB organizations and teammates. These priorities will help us achieve Excellence in all WE do. The 88th ABW will make history daily at Wright-Patterson AFB!

## Are there any special preparations you have made for this assignment?

McDonald: Each assignment, mission set, deployment and degree earned has contributed to being able to lead the Mighty 88th and make a positive difference in people's lives. Fortunately, civilian, officer and enlisted mentors and peers have provided great advice and counsel over my career that will be invaluable in serving the men and women of the 88th ABW.

## A year from now, what would you like to say you accomplished in that time?

McDonald: The 88th Air Base Wing will continue to achieve Excellence in all WE do through a focus on respect, relationships, and results. Together,

we will provide outstanding installation support – it will be exciting to see the history the 88th ABW makes over the next 12 months!

#### What's a little-known fact or aspect about you or your command style you would like our readers to know?

McDonald: We see life and the Air Force as an exercise in teamwork to accomplish goals requires a combination of respect and relationships to achieve results. The 88th Air Base Wing is an outstanding organization already recognized for great accomplishments. Together we will continue to achieve Excellence in all WE do. Every Airmen has a story and collectively these stories make up the Air Force family. It's my great privilege to get to know these Airmen, learn their stories and serve as their biggest champion - so we're going to get out and meet as many Airmen as we can.

Krista's and my piece of the 88th Air Base Wing story is one of family. We both come from small, rural towns in Idaho and Iowa where our parents and grandparents taught us the values of respecting others, honesty, hard work, and being grateful for family and friends. We learned that coming together and learning from others is the best way to get things done. The idea that diversity of experiences and backgrounds is what makes today's Air Force great is readily apparent in the 88th Air Base Wing – a fantastic team of civilians, officers, and enlisted members. We're looking forward to getting out, shaking hands, and learning the stories of our outstanding 88th ABW Airmen!

# What do you like to keep on your desk? What's a memento that means a lot to you?

McDonald: That's easy...pictures of my wife and children. They're very important to me and are key to living a balanced life.

Can you tell us a little about your family – your wife, Krista, and children Matthew, Melissa, and Brandon?

McDonald: Krista's been my best friend since we met over 20 years ago and we've enjoyed the Air Force experience together. Matthew graduated high school in May and will attend college this fall, Melissa will be a high school senior this year, and Brandon moves up to eighth grade. They're all proud of the Air Force and are excited to be here.

# When you're not working, how do you spend your time? What do you do for physical training (PT)?

McDonald: Being called an Airman is a high honor - serving our country as an Air Force officer is something I truly love! The opportunity to serve Airmen and their families is very motivational and a responsibility Krista and I take seriously. We've learned over the years that having balance in life is important for us to best serve others. Achieving balance is different for different people and there's no recipe to follow. For me, growing up in Idaho, my dad instilled a love of the outdoors in our family so hunting, fishing and backpacking are definitely on the list. Also, physical fitness is not just part of being an Air Force officer but is also something I enjoy through endurance racing, whether triathlons or marathons.

#### The commander's final comment:

McDonald: It's great to be back at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio! We're truly humbled by the warm welcome we've received – both from our military family and the community. We cannot wait to get started contributing to the team and serving the members of the 88th Air Base Wing and beyond.



# From The Springfield News Sunday, Tues 3 May 2016

By TIFFANY Y. LATTA, Staff Writer

former Wright-Patterson commander urged Springfield residents Monday to stop and appreciate the sacrifices those in the military make to keep this country safe.

"The sun never sets on our Department of Defense. So we can sleep well. Your Department of Defense is definitely awake thanks to the many people we honor today on Armed Forces Day," said Cassie Barlow, executive director of the Wright State University Aerospace Professional Development Center.

Barlow, a retired U.S. Air Force colonel and Wright-Patterson commander, spoke on Monday at the Hollenbeck Bayley Convention Center as part of the Springfield-Clark County 35th annual Armed Forces Day Luncheon hosted by the Springfield Rotary Club, Springfield Kiwanis Club, Springfield Exchange Club and the Miami Valley Military Affairs Association.

Armed Forces Day was established Aug. 31, 1949. The day replaced separate days honoring those in the Army, Navy and Military

The day has been observed with an annual luncheon bym the Rotary Club for 35 years, msaid Col. Ralph Anderson, a retired member of the U.S Air Force and a member of the Springfield Rotary Club.

He said Memorial Day on May 30 and Veterans Day Nov. 11 honor veterans. "This is a unique opportunity for those folks out there who are currently serving and for us to tell them we really appreciate their service and what they do and that we're really behind them. I think they need that," Anderson said.

Barlow said there are currently more than 2.4 million men and women in the military.



She said those who serve put service before themselves and their families. "When I think of those serving our armed forces, regardless of what branch and what duties they perform, I think of one word and that word is sacrifice. In doing this they're giving their all," Barlow said. "They're ready to deploy at a moment's notice and prepare to put their lives on the line to defend our freedoms and our way of life. They endure so the rest of us can live freely. No matter where these men and women are serving or what their missions are, they are all making sacrifices for a better world for the rest of us ... Each one of them has a story."

She recalled a member of the Air Force who was headed to Afghanistan and was killed in Germany on

March 2, 2011, after moving his family to England a month prior. Barlow said

when she went to the man's home to tell his wife, the family still had not completely unpacked. Posthumously, the man was awarded the Purple Heart, she said.

Barlow said the dedication of those in military make this country strong. "They're not there fighting for glory. They don't care how many medals they earn or how many times they see their names in the newspaper or on TV. They're out there every minute of every day fighting for what they believe in. They're fighting for peace and security for their families and for our families. They're fighting so the rest of us don't have to. They're fighting for the freedoms that make the United States of America the greatest nation on Earth," she said.

# 14<sup>™</sup> IS FINDS ITS 'POT OF GOLD,' DISCOVERS WWII VET

By SENIOR AIRMAN JOEL MCCULLOUGH, 445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Pennsylvania lives a 93-yearold World War II veteran who holds a unique piece of Air Force history.

John Johnson, known as Jerry back in Mercer, served in the 9th Photographic Technical Squadron during the time of the atomic strikes on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Johnson was discovered after two years of historical research by the 14th Intelligence Squadron at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio as the unit tried to uncover its lineage.

When the research begin, the 14th IS was not given much information besides activation dates, higher head-quarters names, and where the unit was stationed, said Lt. Col. Dianne T. Hickey, commander of the 14th IS.

For two years they were unsuccessful in gaining information. The 14th IS tried searching with the Air Force Historical Research Agency, the Air Force Libraries, numerous internet searches, and even with Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma City, the first duty station of the 9th PTS.

June 5, 2016, while looking through books and becoming frustrated, Hickey said she returned to the internet for help. One specific search led her to a partial article in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette dated Sept. 7, 1997. The article was about someone named Johnson, from Mercer County, Pa. The article stated Johnson was having a reunion with 9th PTS members and that he had photographs of the atomic blasts at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

"I called the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette archives," said Hickey. "They pulled up the full article and provided Mr. Johnson's first name. They could not send me the full article, but they did instruct me how I could sign up a paid subscription and download the full article, which I did."



Lt. Col. Dianne Hickey, 14th Intelligence Squadron commander, met World War II veteran John Johnson June 15, 2016 after learning about his connection to the 14th IS. Johnson was discovered after two years of historical researchby the 14th IS as the unit tried to uncover its lineage. Johnson served inthe 9th Photographic Technical Squadron during the time of the atomic strikes on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. (Courtesy photo)

As recommended by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Hickey called the Mercer County Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. The American Legion provided contact information for their state headquarters.

"I called the American Legion State Headquarters, who had 'too many' John Johnsons to be helpful," said Hickey. She then asked if they could narrow the search with keywords "WWII" and "Mercer County." That's when they found the name John G. Johnson of Mercer County. This Johnson was a 93-year-old WWII veteran and lifetime member of the American Legion.

Hickey was provided an address but no other further details. She said the internet provided a phone number that correlated with the address. She called the number and left a message. Later that evening Johnson returned her call. The unit had finally found its "pot of gold."

"After jumping out of bed with excitement, I grabbed paper and pen and started taking notes as he confirmed he was a member of the 9th Photographic Technical Squadron, stationed at Will Rogers Field and Guam, and had 'hundreds' of photos, negatives and documents from the 9th PTS," she said.

Hickey traveled to Mercer County along with John Gephart, a National Air and Space Intelligence Center videographer, who offered support and recorded the interview.

Johnson started out his military career in photography as part of the 946th Reconnaissance Squadron, a photo group under the 3rd Air Force Command. According to Johnson, the 946th RS did a lot of photography in the United States mostly from P-38 Lightning aircraft. CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

#### HARVEST FEST

ach year MVMAA supports
Wright-Patterson's annual Harvest Fest. Family Support
Chairperson, Karen Celik, leads the charge by working with local supporters to donate goods for the event.

Below are details about the 2015 event and we look forward to assisting with 2016!

Harvest Fest 2015 was held October 31 at the Family Readiness Center on Allbrook Drive.

Base Commander Col. John M. Devillier opened the event with welcoming remarks and thanks to all who came and all who donated their time, money and services.

There were well over 200 attendees, which is fewer than the past few years; however, that is because fewer personnel are deployed, which is good news!

The children had fabulous and creative costumes. There were a

variety of games and activities to keep them happily busy and there were many prizes given out.

Plenty of food was available. In the area designated for eating, videos were played for the children's enjoyment.

Many thanks to the following organizations and businesses that contributed to the event:

MVMAA
Lowe's (Trotwood)
Frontier Communication
Dayton Dragons (Mascot: Gem)
WPAFB First Sergeants
McDonalds (Fairborn)
Sysco Foods
New York Pizzeria (Trotwood)
Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 4270
(Trotwood)
District 3 Ladies Auxiliary
El Meson

Thank you also to the volunteers who brought food and donated their time.

# TROTWOOD POLICE CHIEF ERIK L. WILSON INVITED TO WHITE HOUSE FOR 21ST CENTURY POLICE BRIEFING

ewly-appointed Trotwood Police Chief Erik L. Wilson has been invited by the White House Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs to participate in the White House 21st Century Policing Briefing on June 30, 2016 in Washington, D.C.

This briefing will take place at the White House Eisenhower Executive Office Building, and will review the recommendations from the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. Input will be provided by those participants on what these recommendations will mean for each respective community represented by those invitees. This briefing will also include considerations for new ideas about enjoining public trust and confidence in the justice system while maintaining public safety.

Chief Wilson heads the twice awarded CALEA Accredited with Excellence police department for the City of Trotwood, Ohio. He assumed this role on May 1, 2016, succeeding City Manager Quincy E. Pope, Sr. who formerly served as the City of Trotwood Police Chief.

Chief Erik L. Wilson also recently graduated from the Northwestern University School for Public Safety.

"The City of Trotwood is excited about Chief Wilson's opportunity to discuss the emerging and complex issues facing law enforcement on a national level," City Manager Quincy E. Pope, Sr. stated during a meeting today.

#### MVMAA AWARD WINNER AWARDED HIS SECOND OHIO CROSS FOR HEROISM

USO

s part of the MVMAA Strategic Plan goal of outreach to the military community, MVMAA has instituted the "Outstanding Military Member Award" to be given to a deserving unit member. All units have the opportunity to submit a nomination for consideration.

We are very proud of our May 2016 awardee MSgt. Dallas Root of the 178th Ohio National Guard based in Springfield. MVMAA encourages our members to read the attached article about MSgt. Dallas Root receiving a SECOND Ohio National Guard "Ohio Cross" for heroism. We were not aware that he received one in 2005 for yet another heroic act and can only reiterate the pride we have for all our military! Huge congratulations to MSgt. Dallas Root!

Please see the below link to read more about MSgt Root's heroic actions.

http://m.springfieldnewssun.com/news/news/springfield-guardsmanwins-second-award-for-life-s/nsrQZ/

#### 445th Security Forces and Logistics Readiness Squadrons Annual Tour

embers of the 445th Security Forces and Logistics Readiness Squadrons performed their annual tour July 18 to August 1, 2016 at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, Alaska. Members of the 445th SFS along with reservists from the 720th Security Forces Squadron out of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, helped to augment the home station 673rd Security Forces Squadron with guard duties and security duties for the July 30-31 air show. The 445th LRS augmented the 673rd Logistics Readiness Squadron, helping them prepare their vehicles for the air show.



In the attached photo, Senior Airman David K. Fink, 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels journeyman, carries a fuel line after refueling F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft July 20, 2016, at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, Alaska.

#### 14th IS Finds Its "Pot of Gold" . . .

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"Sometime between 1944 and 1945 we were in the 9th Photographic Technical Squadron," Johnson said. "Right after the peace in Europe, I think in April 1945, we embarked."

The 9th PTS embarked to Guam, he said. There they supported all the heavy bombers that flew out of Guam. They did a lot of photography work over the Pacific Ocean, up into Japan.

Most of the photographs were taken on B-29 Superfortresses and the cameras had 30 inches of focal length and were all automatic, Johnson added. There was a smaller camera, the C-20, that was used as a handheld device.

"In those days, you flew at 10,000 feet, had a little magnifying device and you could identify a tiny little ship on a photograph not more than three quarters of an inch and determine what the ship was and what they were doing," said Johnson.

He went on to explain that the inside a 30-inch focal length camera there was

a large roll of film, around 100 feet long and 8 inches wide. Once the camera was used for photos, the film was brought back and put in a special device. In this device, the film was developed in a can, then put through processing. Then it was taken to the printers, and they would process the negative. The prints were then given to someone at 20th Air Force for analysis and planning.

Johnson said the only time he recalls the 9th PTS working with secret and top secret photos was when they were working with Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

"The bomb was dropped on August of 1945," he said. "Prior to that time, of course, there was the reconnaissance on several cities in Japan. Hiroshima was not the first choice."

Johnson could not remember the other cities they looked at.

"However, I have copies of leaflets that were dropped on seven or eight cities that were going to be bombed to tell the Japanese that this was going to happen." Johnson was a photograph processor, and he recalled seeing the before and after strike photographs.

"I couldn't believe it -- no one could believe it. You couldn't imagine the force that thing had," he said.

The 9th PTS was in photo production until February 1946. Once the unit was released, they were sent home.

"I am proud to have served in the 9th Photo and done my little part," said Johnson. "I think it was very helpful in the war and in the Pacific. It was a good outfit with good men."

Johnson was honorably discharged as a technical sergeant in April of 1946.

Hickey plans to formally host Johnson in Dayton September 23-24, 2016. During the visit, Johnson will share his military history, tour the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, and visit the 14th IS, where Hickey will recognize him as an honorary squadron member.

## 178th Wing Public Affairs

by A1C RACHEL SIMONES

Ohio Air National Guard Medical Groups Train, Assist at Ramstein Air Base

PRINGFIELD, Ohio (August 6, 2016) – More than 80 medical group members from the 121st Air Refueling Wing, 178th Wing, 179th Airlift Wing and 180th Fighter Wing deployed to Ramstein Air Base, Germany, July 9-23 to complete annual training.

The Ohio Air National Guard medical groups traveled to Ramstein to gain perspective on the operational mission and to receive hands-on training from active duty counterparts.

Mrs. Kristin Goeman

Honorable Bob Stone

The medical group Airmen helped to backfill positions at Ramstein during the permanent change of station (PCS) season.

"It's been a great joint venture not only for the state of Ohio but for the active duty Air Force, as well," said Col. Charles Shurlow, the 178th MDG commander.

The annual training trip served a multi-functional mission. Guardsmen assisted the active duty side, and active duty Airmen trained Guardsmen to prepare for deployments.

Medical group members that specialize in public health participated in a tick drag on base to gain training on environmental surveillance. Surveying local insect species is useful to keep bases free of disease-carrying insects.

The dental personnel assisted their active duty counterparts by conducting oral examinations, performing oral surgeries, and assisting with record keeping.

Other members of the medical group learned new patient care software that helps to organize and to keep an accurate account of a patient's medical history.

Medical group members also assisted in the bioenvironmental, general practice and orderly room sections of the Ramstein clinic.

"I'm very proud of the professionalism on this trip," Shurlow said, who helped to coordinate the integration of the Guardsmen and the active duty Airmen throughout the trip.

# MEMBERSHIP UPDATE WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

Mr. Mark R. Bruns Executive Director, Huber Heights Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Terry Burkert Councilman, City of Fairborn

Mr. Gary L. Burkholder City Manager, City of Brookville

Col. Blanche A. Casey (Ret) Commissioner, Greene County Veterans Services Commission

Ms. Emily Christian Interim City Manager, City of Riverside

Mr. Demarus Crawford-White Board of Directors, Trotwood Chamber of Commerce

Mr. David Kershner Commissioner, Greene County Veterans Services Commission

Col. Howard F. May (Ret) President, Greene County Veterans Services Commission

Mr. Glenn Otto Council Member, City of Huber Heights

Mr. Jim Pierce Chamber Board Member, Trotwood Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Jeffrey M. Roberts Trustee, Beavercreek Township

Mr. Richard Shaw

Council Member, City of Huber Heights

Ms. Janell Smith

Council Member, City of Huber Heights

SMSgt. Timothy Spradlin (Ret) Commissioner, Greene County Veterans Services Commission

Mayo, City of Beavercreek

Mr. Anthony M. Zamora VSC

Miami Valley Military Affairs Association P.O. Box 33633 Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433-0633

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED** 

# Save The Date! The MVMAA Annual Dinner at Hope Hotel November 29, 2016 6:00 - 9:00 PM



Miami Valley Military Affairs Association P.O. Box 33633 Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433-0633

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The MVMAA Newsletter is published three times a year and is available on line at http://mvmaa.org/