

THE

180TH FIGHTER WING, OHIO AIR NATIONAL GUARD, TOLEDO, OH

STINGER



COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

WHY DID YOU COME TO WORK TODAY?

I read a great book recently, "Start with WHY." The author, Simon Sinek, made a compelling argument that successful organizations share one common trait – they understand at the most fundamental level why they exist. The people in these organizations feel the values of the institution say something about who they are, and who they want to be. In other words, they have connected their beliefs and values with their reason for getting out of bed and going to work. They share a common vision and identify themselves as being part of something bigger. Their lives are enriched because they belong. This is who we are as Stingers and the concept of starting with WHY provides some useful insight. One of the great examples of this kind of success is Apple. Whether you're a PC or a Mac user, you know the passion of the Apple crowd. Apple employees love their company and their customers will pay a premium price to own a Mac because they believe it says something about them. Owning a Mac implies they are educated, independent and cool.

This company started out at a time when computers were very expensive, not to mention just plain huge. Apple's idea was to put a small, affordable computer in every home; putting the individual on par with the big companies. As a result, their employees and customers are fiercely loyal.

Another great example was the UCLA Bruins basketball team under Coach John Wooden. His message was that hard work and attention to detail will lead you to your personal best. He didn't coach basketball just to win – winning was a byproduct of his real pursuit of developing character. His vision was that a group of individuals could reach their collective potential, as a team, when all players contributed to the best of their abilities and sacrificed to put the



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Amber Williams

Col. Scott Reed
180th Maintenance Commander

team first. His greatest memory was not one of his many national championships, but of a team that was short on talent but used every bit of what they had to finish the season ahead of all expectations. They were the closest of any team he ever coached to achieving their potential. Years later, Coach Wooden's players still identify the best part of themselves as being a product of those teams.

Both Steve Jobs and Coach Wooden knew WHY they were going to work.

Leadership must start with WHY because we need to clearly articulate the vision. When Martin Luther King delivered his famous speech at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963, over 200,000 people came to hear him. Most didn't come for him, they came for themselves. They were looking for someone to put into words what was already in their hearts. When he said "I have a dream" he was giving the mission statement for the WHY of civil rights. That was leadership.

Our organizations all have vision, mission and goal statements. What do they say? Do they speak to your beliefs? Do they

inspire you to be a part of something bigger than yourself? They should. I believe there are things worth fighting for. I believe in freedom and democracy. My vision statement says: "Serve our country with honor and integrity as part of a truly great organization: rooted in teamwork, tied together by our common core values, and defined by our ability to inspire our members to achieve their potential individually and collectively."

My personal epiphany occurred the last day of survival training in a mock POW camp. The instructors do a good job of making the experience feel realistic. You're sleep deprived and pretty miserable when suddenly all the guards come out of character and return to being American Airmen. They raised our flag and played the national anthem. It sounds corny now, but there were literally tears in my eyes. To this day, every time I hear my national anthem I honestly feel that same pride in my country. And yeah, sometimes I get a little misty when I hear it and think about the friends I've lost or the country my children will inherit. But that's WHY I wear a uniform and come to work.

If you believe in the same values as I do, then it's not complicated to figure out HOW to do our jobs. This is our code of conduct. We are committed to getting the job done right the first time, and to doing what needs to be done the best way we know how. We work as a team, where service comes before self and we treat our wingmen with respect and dignity. We celebrate our successes, and recognize failure is only a reminder of what needs to be fixed. We take responsibility for our actions and hold ourselves and our wingmen accountable.

HOW we do our jobs naturally follows WHY we do our jobs.

When we take shortcuts or put in minimal effort, we are out

See Comments pg. 11

Outstanding Airmen of 2012

Senior Airman Kendra G. Smith

180th Chief's Award

Senior Airman Kendra Smith is an aircraft egress systems mechanic assigned to the 180th Fighter Wing Maintenance Squadron. Smith a Coldwater, Ohio native, graduated from Parkway High School in 2007. She was actively involved in 4-H Youth Development Organization, Future Farmers of America, and Jr. Fairboard, holding multiple leadership positions and receiving many awards including an American FFA Degree, Grand Champion Horseman's Award, and Overall Equine Highpoint winner. Enlisting in the 180th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, in 2007, Smith attended Basic Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas before completing Aircraft Egress Technical Training School at Sheppard AFB, Texas. While balancing her military requirements, Smith earned an associate degree in Agricultural Business Marketing and Technology from the University of Northwestern Ohio in 2010 with GPA of 3.8. Because of her outstanding performance in handling egress issues during a 2011 wing training deployment to New Orleans, La., she was recognized as a superior performer. In August of 2012, Smith deployed with the 180th Maintenance Group to Great Falls, Mont. in support of the "Hang'em High



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Amber Williams

2012" exercise where she was once again recognized as a superior performer. During this deployment Smith handled all the Defense Travel System documentation for Maintenance Group personnel. Due to her superior knowledge of the DTS, all Maintenance Group personnel were able to complete their DTS requirements prior to returning home, with practically no errors. Also during this deployment, Smith offered her assistance to help with an aircraft egress issue and was able to return an aircraft back to a mission capable status. While assigned to the 180th FW Egress section, Smith worked diligently and learned the skills needed to become an exceptional aircraft egress mechanic. Her dedication to the mission and concern for others make her a valued member and a role model for other Airmen. Her continued diligence, commitment and performance contributed to her recent selection as a temporary technician in the Maintenance Group Command Support Staff. She has been instrumental in updating and maintaining the group's fitness program which increased fitness currency to over 90 percent from a program low of 50 percent in less than nine months. She was solely responsible for receiving zero discrepancies and praise during the recent Combined Unit Inspection and Logistics Compliance Assessment Program inspection. Smith continues to be active in a non-profit Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy program, Healing of Veterans through Equine-assisted Service, H.O.O.V.E.S., which uses activities with horses to promote growth and learning for members, veterans and their families.

Master Sergeant Bradley J. Haas

Honor Guard member of the year

Master Sgt. Bradley J. Haas is a services craftsman assigned to the 180th Fighter Wing Force Support Squadron. Before graduating in 2000 from Eastwood High School in Pemberville, Ohio, Haas enlisted in the 180th Fighter Wing in January of his senior year. Following graduation, he completed Basic Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, immediately followed by Services Apprenticeship technical training, also at Lackland, AFB. Upon completion of his technical training, Haas enrolled at the Ohio State University studying Mechanical Engineering and Computer Aided Drafting Technologies. Deploying in 2005 and again in 2007 to Southwest Asia, Haas supported Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. In between his deployments, Haas volunteered as a security forces augmentee for nine months in 2005 and 2006 to support security forces at the 180th FW and at Tyndall AFB, Fla. While balancing family and military commitments, Haas and his wife welcomed their first child in the summer of 2006. Haas was selected to backfill the

in the 180th FW Retention office for six months in 2008 and 2009, as the interim Retention Office Manager to ensure continuity and continued success of the office while the primary Retention Office Manager was away at training and then maternity leave. His outstanding performance while assigned to the Retention office led to his selection for a six month tour assisting in the 180th Fighter Wing Recruiting office in 2010. His dedication and attention to detail during the 2010 Operational Readiness Inspection earned Haas an Air Combat Command Inspector General coin and recognition as a superior performer during the inspection. His continued commitment to serve the 180th FW in any way, along with his can-do attitude directly contributed to his recent selection as the wing's newest production recruiter, in 2012, where he will serve a four-year tour.



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Amber Williams

Staff Sgt. Brooke Bostelman

Noncommissioned Officer of the year



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Amber Williams

Staff Sgt. Brooke N. Bostelman is a force sustainment specialist assigned to the 180th Fighter Wing Force Support Squadron. She attended Fairview High School, and graduated in 2006. Once she completed high school, Bostelman joined the 180th Fighter Wing and completed Basic Military training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, where she was

an Honor Flight graduate. Following BMT, she attended Technical Personnelist Apprentice School at Keesler AFB, Miss.

After completing her initial military training, Bostelman enrolled in the University of Toledo where she obtained a bachelor's degree in Speech Language Pathology. Currently, she is working to get a master's degree in Speech-Language and Communication Disorders at Fischler School of Education.

Bostelman's duties in the Force Support Squadron at the 180th FW include working the Force

Management program, training module development for upgrade training sessions with the command support staff personnelist and enhancing customer overall service. In 2010, she received the Air Force Commendation Medal for her outstanding contribution to the Personnel Support for Contingency Readiness team during the Operational Readiness Inspection. In addition to her normal duties, Bostelman recently served as a backup for full-time member of the Force Management office at 180th FW, who was deployed.

Bostelman continues to be an active member in her community where she works and volunteers at Good Samaritan School, assisting special needs children with daily activities and language disorders. She also volunteers her time to participate in the Relay for Life and Live Strong Organizations, where she has helped raise \$50,000 for cancer research. Along with raising money for cancer research, she uses her sewing skills to make blankets, bears and bandanas for children in the cancer ward at the Toledo Children's Hospital. Bostelman also participates in her church's Bible school as a teacher and mentor for younger children.

Bostelman comes from a long list of military members. Her father retired from the Air Force and her sisters are currently serving. One of her sisters is a member of the 180th FW and the other is in the Army.

Capt. Garrick Webb

Company Grade Officer of the year

Capt. Garrick Webb enlisted into the 180th Fighter Wing in 2001 as an F-16 aircraft mechanic and completed Basic Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas in 2002. Webb then completed F-16 Tactical Aircraft Maintenance Training at Sheppard AFB, Texas and at Luke AFB, Ariz. He is a 2005 graduate of Kent State University with a bachelor degree in Aeronautics and a 2005 Community College of the Air Force graduate with an associate degree in Applied Science. Before being selected in 2004 to be an F-16 pilot for the 180th FW, Webb deployed as an F-16 aircraft mechanic to Southwest Asia in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. He then earned his commission in 2006 from the Academy of Military Science at McGhee-Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tenn. After receiving his commission, Webb returned to Sheppard AFB for Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot training followed by Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals training. He then completed F-16 Formal Training course at Luke AFB, graduating in 2009 as a combat ready, multi-role F-16 fighter pilot flying both air-to-ground and air-to-air, all weather weapons and tactics. His unprecedented flying skills and knowledge

recognized by commanders, weapons instructors and peers as the best of the best at combat employment of the F-16 during air-to-ground missions led to his selection for early entry into the demanding Four Ship Flight Lead Upgrade program. While deployed in support of OEF as an F-16 pilot, Webb was selected to be the 112th Fighter Squadron's Combined Air



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Amber Williams

Operations Center liaison at Southwest Asia, where he was responsible for the coordination of hundreds of combat aircraft sorties. Webb's unmatched contribution to the 180th FW's Aerospace Control Alert developing standard operating procedures for the Mission Planning Cell's Joint Mission Planning software directly contributed to the wing's two-time ACA Unit of the Year awards in 2010 and 2011. Webb is currently an F-16 four-ship flight-lead and often plans, briefs, and executes and debriefs fighter missions flown at the 180th FW. He has over 750 flying hours including 25 combat missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Master Sgt. Jennifer Ferrari

Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the year



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Amber Williams

Master Sgt. Jennifer L. Ferrari joined the 180th Fighter Wing in 1997 as an armament systems apprentice assigned to the Maintenance Group. In September 1999, she deployed to Incirlick AB, Turkey, in support of Operation Northern Watch. Ferrari cross-trained into the Information Management career field, now known as Knowledge Operations Management, in May of 2003. In response to the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, Ferrari volunteered in support of Operation Noble Eagle to augment the 180th FW Security Forces Squadron by providing home-station security support to the base. In December 2001, she was recognized for her hard work and dedication to the mission with an Air Force Achievement Medal. She continued to provide additional support to security forces from May – July 2002. In July, she attended Airman Leadership School at Camp Perry, Ohio, and was awarded the Jon L. Levitow Award for excellence and the ALS Leadership Award. Ferrari was selected in 2003, as the full-time knowledge operations management specialist for the Operations Group. Also in 2003, she earned her Community College of the Air Force Associate Degree in Information Management and graduated from the University of Toledo with Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications. In December 2003, Ferrari became an instructor for the accredited Ohio Airman Leadership School. She was selected in 2004 as the Operations Group NCO of the Year. In August 2005, Sgt. Ferrari deployed to Southwest Asia in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom and was recognized with a Diamond “Well Done” Award. In Febru-

ary 2006, she earned her CCAF Associate Degree in Instructor Technology of Military Science. Sgt. Ferrari then attended the Noncommissioned Officer Academy at McGhee-Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tenn. and was awarded flight Leadership Award in August 2006. In May 2007, Ferrari deployed to Bald AB, Iraq, again in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. She was selected to be a Victim Advocate for the 180th Fighter Wing Sexual Assault Response and Prevention team in September 2007. Her experience as Flight Chief with the Ohio Airman Leadership School allowed her to spend 12 weeks, in 2008, teaching professional military education to Air National Guard and Active Duty Air Force Airmen at McGhee-Tyson ANGB, Tenn. In December 2008, she completed her Information Services and Support Associate Degree from the University of Toledo. That same year she was selected as the Operations Group Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. In 2009, Ferrari demonstrated a commitment to continuing education by completing the Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy in residence at Maxwell AFB, Ala. While in attendance, she earned the Top Female Fitness Award. In February 2011, Ferrari attained her CCAF Professional Manager Certification and in September completed ITIL Foundation Certification. Then in April 2011, she was selected as the full-time Knowledge Operations Management Functional Manager for the wing and has led her team of 18 Knowledge Operations Management Professionals in revitalizing the Wing Records Management Program. Sgt. Ferrari continues to demonstrate unparalleled commitment to military organizations as is a member of the Top 3 Council, Air Force Sergeants Association, American Legion, VFW and NCO Academy Graduate Association. She also contributes to the community by serving as Girl Scout Troop Leader for St. Benedict schools. Ferrari currently resides in Toledo, Ohio with her husband and two children.

Senior Airman Micah Callicoat

Airman of the year

Senior Airman Micah Callicoat is an aircraft structural repair mechanic assigned to the 180th Fighter Wing Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. Callicoat attended Tiptecanoe High School and graduated in 2004. While in high school he participated in numerous school activities to including wrestling and earning many awards. Callicoat enlisted in the 180th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard in 2007, and attended Basic Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Callicoat deployed to Afghanistan from October 2011 thru April 2012. During his deployment, he was stationed at the 455th Expeditionary Wing in Bagram, and the 451st Expeditionary Wing in Kandahar.

While assigned to the 180th FW Structural

Repair section, Callicoat has worked diligently to learn the skills needed to become an exceptional aircraft structural mechanic. His attention to detail and great work ethics have made him a valued member of his team, a young leader and role model for other Airmen seeking advice and leadership.

Callicoat plans to study structural engineering at Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio this winter. He is also an active member of the American Veterans Post 99 in Vandalia, Ohio, a volunteer organization dedicated to serving veterans and their families. Callicoat continues work with the Tiptecanoe High School wrestling program as a volunteer.



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Amber Williams

Master Sgt. Raymond R. Gerschutz

First Sergeant of the year



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Amber Williams

Master Sgt. Raymond R. Gerschutz was born in Lima, Ohio and graduated from Miller City – New Cleveland High School, in 1975. Immediately following graduation, he entered the Ohio Air National Guard in May of 1975. After completion of Basic Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, he returned to the 180th Fighter Wing for on-the-job training as an aerospace ground equipment repairman. He ended his first enlistment in September of 1981 so he could follow his passion for farming and running fishing charters on Lake Erie. His desire to serve remained strong, and in May of 1984, Gerschutz re-enlisted in the Ohio Air National Guard. His expert mechanical skills and unsurpassed work ethic immediately led to a full-time aerospace ground equipment repairman position at the 180th FW. Always eager to share knowledge and improve himself, Gerschutz became a member of the 180th FW Aircraft Maintenance Crash Recovery Team and helped earn the Wing a “Best Seen to Date” during the 1995 Operational Readiness Inspection. Professional development courses and the Noncommissioned Officer Academy helped hone his leadership skills along with a Dale Carnegie Public Speaking and Human Relations class. He enjoyed the Dale Carnegie class so much he volunteered as a graduate assistant

for the next four sessions, further enhancing his communications skills. Already possessing remarkable technical and mechanical skills, Gerschutz felt he had even more to offer and became a First Sergeant in October of 2010. A challenging position for anyone, Gerschutz has embraced the responsibilities and excelled above his peers. Gerschutz is devoted to his vision, the mission, and most importantly the troops. With his visions of what we can become if we have the courage to aspire to it, he continues to share his knowledge and experience ensuring the mission of safeguarding America’s freedoms will always succeed. His tireless efforts at taking care of fellow Airmen have enriched every life he has touched. The support he provides on all fronts is second to none, while the personal growth he has enjoyed as a First Sergeant is an immensely powerful message to his entire organization. In addition to his leadership at the 180th FW, his service before self is exemplified in his many civic roles. He serves on the local school board for Miller City – New Cleveland Schools where, in spite of tough economic times, he has helped the district remain solvent even as the state has cut back funding for schools. He is the chief of the Miller City Volunteer Fire Department and is a member of the Putnam County Communications Committee which has been set up to guide the county in decisions concerning the future of communications for public safety in the Putnam County. The strategic planning accomplished by this committee has led Putnam County to roll out new digital communications radios which are critical to coordinating the efforts of multiple agencies. Gerschutz is a proud and devoted husband and father of one daughter who is preparing to finish her high school career and begin college next fall.

YEAR IN REVIEW

WHERE WE’VE BEEN OVERSEAS

Isa AB, Bahrain
Bagram AB, Afghanistan
Kandahar, Afghanistan
Akrotiri, Cypress
Transit Center at Manas
Southwest Asia

WING INSPECTIONS

Logistic Compliance Assessment Program
1st AF Alert Force Operational Assessment
NORAD Fighter Alert Force Evaluation
180th Compliance Inspection
Health Services Inspection

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Roaring 20’s Night Family Support Group
SFS Deployment Sendoff/Family Picnic
Children’s Christmas Programs

COLOR GUARD

4 Funerals

WHERE WE’VE BEEN STATESIDE

Combat Archer, Tyndall AFB, FL
Red Flag, Nellis AFB, NV
Hang-EM High, Great Falls, MT
Alpena CRTC, Alpena, MI
Jaded Thunder, Tucson, AZ

UNIT AWARDS

2011 1st AF ACA Unit of the Year
2012 Ohio Air National Guard Flight Safety Trophy
Outstanding Recruitment and Retention for the state of Ohio
1st annual Chuck Smith ESOH Award
2011 Reducing Energy Appreciation Program Award

FLYOVERS

Estimated 15

HONOR GUARD

25 events

Chaplain's Corner

Can Giving and Receiving be Synonymous?

by Capt. Jamie Wells
180FW Chaplain

At a recent trip to a nursing home for a scheduled visit with a veteran, I saw an elderly man in a wheelchair in the dining facility. I wasn't sure if he was the veteran I was there to visit, so I introduced myself to him and asked his name. He didn't answer me. He just simply looked at me with big eyes through his glasses before turning back toward the TV. I sat with him and asked if I could play a Gaither Brothers gospel video, once again, he said nothing. I decided to play the video, and while we were watching it I noticed his nose was running so I offered him a tissue. I also noticed that his shirt was badly soiled, so I asked a nurse for a clean shirt and offered it to him.

After helping the man change into the clean shirt, he held up his empty cup and I got him some coffee. As we sat together, he would occasionally hand me his cup. I would hold onto it and hand it back to him every so often. I decided to keep the cup and pretend to drink the coffee. When I finally threw the cup away, the man said, "Was it cold?" I told him the coffee was good and thanked him. He said, "I wanted to share." Near the end of the video, the man looked at me and said "Thank you." I was so overwhelmed by the time I had to leave that I wanted to cry and say, "No, thank you."

As I bid farewell and left the room, the nurse stopped me and said, "Oh, didn't someone call and cancel your visit today? Your veteran has gone to an-

other appointment today."

Though I did not meet the veteran I was supposed to, the gift this man had given me far exceeded any expectations that I may have had before the visit. He was grateful to me that he wanted to share with me the only thing he had, a simple cup of coffee.

I didn't know his story; if he had been married with children, a good husband, father, and provider. Was he in this special ward of the nursing home, where people with various mental conditions are placed, because he had been so affected by a war that his soul was injured irreversibly? All I knew was this once tall, stout, athletic and proud man went through the fog of war to protect my freedoms. He may have done and seen things opposite of what he was taught, possibly causing moral injury to his soul.

Just like this man, who so effected me, many of us have been morally injured throughout this journey in this thing we call life. It is important to remember what Jesus said he in Matthew 25:35-36, 40.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

Let us all reflect on this, not only throughout the holiday season, but also on our walk through life.

YEAR IN REVIEW CONT.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Lt. Col. Timothy Moses
2011 CONR/1st AF ACA Pilot of the Year award

Staff Sgt. Chris Gonzales
2012 EANGUS National Award Winner of the Grantham University CSM Virgil R. Williams Scholarship

Tech. Sgt. Levi Shadle
2011ANG Command Post NCO of the Year

Tech. Sgt. Bruce Hedrick
2011 1AF Command Post Controller of the Year
Ohio Air National Guard NCO of the year

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Blood Drives -2
Tours - More than 50
Mud Hens Opening Day
Honor Flights - 5
Click or Ticket Kick-off
Parades - Memorial Day, Red, White, Kaboom
Dragon Boart Race
1812 Remembrance - Fleet Week
Perrysburg High School - Military Appreciation
Hosted St. Francis Adventure Camp
Swanton High School Salute to Veterans
Hosted Young Presidents Organization event

Community Events cont.

Roche De Boeuf Parade
Ribbon Cutting at new VA clinic in Toledo

UNIT EVENTS

Red Tails Movie Premiere
After Burners Picnic
ESGR Boss Lift
Final 555th Band Concert
Army/Air Force Joint Employer Event
Hometown Heroes
Combine Federal Campaign
Raffa Golf Outing

Firefighters shine during inspection



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Amber Williams

180th Fighter Wing firefighters prepare to extract a pilot from an F-16 fighter jet during an exercise at the 180 FW, Toledo, Ohio, October 14, 2012. Members of the 180th Fighter Wing went through a consolidated unit inspection to ensure there is continuity within the Air Force. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Amber Williams/Released)

by Senior Airman William Winston Public Affairs

A team of 180th Fighter Wing firefighters sprung in to action to simulate the extraction of an unresponsive pilot at the 180th FW flight line Oct. 13 for the Consolidated Unit Inspection inspectors.

“We were given a scenario where a fire was underneath a grounded air plane with an unconscious pilot,” said Staff Sgt. Matthew Pugh, 180th FW firefighter. “One crew was assigned to put out the fire under the plane, while the rescue crew took care of the pilot extraction.”

This exercise displayed the firefighters’ preparedness for the CUI, as well as real-world emergencies, and it was a teaching moment for the younger Airmen in this unit.

In the months leading up to CUI, the firefighters spent several hours preparing for this scenario.

“Everyone did a little extra work to prepare for the CUI,” said Pugh. “The rescue team took two hours out of every drill this year to practice getting the pilot out and there were extra trainings between our computer-based trainings.”

Pugh continued, “There was a lot of room to

mess up in this scenario because there were certain switches and knobs that we had to hit at the right time to shutdown the aircraft. Also, once the ladders that we used hit the jet, we had 60 seconds to get the pilot out.”

Moments after the start of simulation, the rescue team found a patch of grass to set down the gurney with the pilot and went through life saving procedures.

“They were precise, and moved quickly,” said Airman 1st Class Jacob Adams, 180th FW firefighter.

Adams stood among the observers during the whole exercise. “My task, during the CUI, was to watch and learn,” said Adams.

In July, Adams transferred to the 180th FW from Selfridge ANG base in Michigan. He explained that he transferred because a fellow Airman told him good things about the 180th FW fire department.

“I just completed my rescue and fire career development courses, and today I got to see everything I learned in action,” said Adams. “Plus, the CUI inspectors pointed out little details that are important from the extraction, like the placement of the oxygen tank.”

“I think we did really well today - everything worked out exactly how we thought it would,” said Pugh. “I am happy with how we did and I know everyone else was happy with it too.”

“Right from the start, I noticed great team work,” said Adams. “I think they were pretty confident in what they doing.”

The effort by these firefighters was only one example of why the 180th FW exceeded their goal for the CUI.

“The Airmen of the 180th FW demonstrated a great attitude, high motivation and very high morale during my visit to the Wing,” said Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Schwenk, superintendent of the headquarters inspector general team. “The level of that motivation, esprit de corps, and positive attitude demonstrated by their Airmen during this inspection was very impressive.”



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Amber Williams

Seasoned maintainer calling it a career

by Senior Master Sgt. Timothy Golden
180th Maintenance Group

The end of this year will also bring with it the end of a career that spanned parts of five decades. Master Sgt. Rich Miller will be attending his final drill this December after 37 years of service to the United States Air Force.

On Nov. 19, 1975, Miller began his career as a traditional guardsman in the Hydraulic Shop at the 180th Fighter Wing. He served in that capacity until he switched to active duty in 1981. While Miller was active duty, he was stationed at Travis Air Force Base, California, working on C-141s and C-5s and he served there until 1985.

Miller returned to the 180th FW as a drill status guardsman in 1986. A year later, he was hired as

a phase technician and he worked the dock. Three year later, he was hired back to the 180th FW Hydraulic Shop as a technician.

Miller will finish his career as the NCOIC of the Hydraulic Shop. Under his leadership, the shop has been through numerous higher headquarters inspections, deployments, 3 major changes in airframes, missions, and a total transformation of the Air National Guard. Through all of these changes, Miller has been a steadying force not only in his shop but in maintenance as a whole. Always known for his professionalism, knowledge of hydraulic principles and system operations, Miller has made a positive impact that will carry on for fu-



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Amber Williams
Master Sgt. Richard Miller
NCOIC for 180th Hydraulic Shop

ture generations.

When you see Rich, please wish him well as he ends his time here at the 180th FW.

FIRE SAFETY FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

by Tim Reed, Assistant Fire Chief
180th Fire and Emergency Services

The winter holidays are a wonderful time of the year when many families and friends seem to get together more often. There are many fire safety tips that can help keep you and your guests safe from fire during this season.

Chances are you'll be doing more cooking, so keep these cooking safety tips in mind. Never leave unattended items on the stove top, even though you might be tempted to be with your guests and family in another room. In a short period of time, a fire could develop and go unnoticed. Make sure that you keep your pot and pan handles turned in, so they do not hang out where little ones can grab them. A young child could get seriously burned in a split second. Also, don't leave flammable items on top of your cook top. Your cook top is not a

storage area. Pot holders or other combustible items lying on a stove cook top are fires waiting to happen. One simple mistake of turning on the wrong burner or a curious little one playing with a knob, and you could end up with a disaster.

Candles are big this time of year. They are pretty, but they cause a lot of home fires, so you must remain vigilant when you burn candles. Always blow candles out when you leave a room, leave your home or go to bed. Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn and make sure there is nothing above the candle. Use candle holders that are stable and sturdy and ensure the candle is firmly in place and won't easily tip over. Make sure you keep small children and pets away from candles; they are curious and could easily knock them over. Never decorate a Christmas tree with candles.

When picking out decora-

tions, make sure your holiday decorations are flame resistant. If you are using lights, make sure they have a UL or FM approval, and that they are rated for the use intended (outdoor rated for outdoor use). Make sure the lights are in good working order and that they do not have any fraying or other damage.

If you intend to put up a live tree, make sure the tree is not too dry when you purchase it. The needles should be fresh and green and not fall off when you touch them. When you get your tree home, cut two inches off the bottom of the tree to enhance water uptake. Water your tree daily. Make sure your tree is at least three feet away from any heat source including candles.

When Christmas is over, remove your live tree as soon as possible. Dried out trees are major fire hazards and can burn in a matter of seconds. Take the tree outside and away from your house.

PROMOTIONS

To 1st Lt.:

Kyle Tipton, OSS

To Master Sgt.:

Kevin Boes, AMXS
 Michael Green, AMXS
 Robert Guthrie II, MXS
 Brian McCormick, AMXS
 Jody Smith, MOF
 Matthew Stamm, AMXS

To Tech. Sgt.:

Eric Abraham, AMXS
 David Gentile, AMXS
 Jason Myers, AMXS
 Stephen Reddick, AMXS
 Dana Thompson, AMXS

To Staff Sgt.:

Matthew Crawford, MXS
 Williams Edwards, LRS
 Samuel Kusina, AMXS
 Shawn Spears, CF
 Amber Williams, FW

To Senior Airman:

Christina Bruno, MG
 Bradley Kahrs, MXS
 Joshua Herriott, MXS
 Caleb Panning, LRS

To Airman 1st Class:

Benjamin Phelps, MXS
 Christopher Cockrell, MXS

RETIREMENTS

October

Lt. Col. Scott Brede
 Master Sgt. Denise Kelly

November

Tech. Sgt Adam Cufu

ENLISTMENTS

Preston Brown, SFS
 Jacob Cessna, COMM
 Dylan Cleghorn, CE
 Nocholas Coci, CE
 Charles DeRaedt, AMXS
 Rebecca Hejduk, SFS
 Coleton Helter, AMXS
 Annamarie Herold, AMXS
 Ryan Hesterman, MXS
 Richard Jagodzinski, SFS

Ryan Keel, AMXS
 Andrew Noble, AMXS
 Benton Pohlman, SFS
 Christopher Schmidlin, LRS
 Tiffany Wilson, MDG
 Andrea Villegas, CE
 Stephen Wood, MDG
 Zachary Yeckley, FSS

CDC 90% CLUB

Congratulations to the following individuals who passed their CDC end of course exam with a score of 90% or higher:

Name	CDC/PME	Unit
Tech. Sgt Levi Shadle	SNCO PME 14D	FW

From COMMENTS pg. 3

of synch with who we want to be. It diminishes us. When we take the extra time and effort to do a job right, we might go home exhausted but somehow we are recharged to come back the next day. That behavior is consistent with our beliefs and over time makes us better.

The last piece is WHAT we actually do. Unfortunately, this is where most organizations and people start. They say "I make widgets. Mine are the best because of all the things I do. Don't you agree?" This type of thinking is backwards, and it is where companies and people can get lost. Maybe, their charismatic leader who had the vision of WHY is gone. Or maybe, the company is so successful they start to focus on WHAT they're doing that seems to be working so well, such as low prices, sales gimmicks and new products. Walmart is a great example. They started out believing that if you take care of your employees and customers, then they'll take care of you. Low prices were a part of their appeal, but once Sam Walton was gone it became their only focus. Now they struggle with smaller and smaller profit margins driven by customers who no longer have any loyalty. Walmart is just one more alternative in a search for the lowest price. Look at their very public mistakes with cheap labor in China. Clearly, they've lost their way.

Individuals can get lost too. You may know someone who is so enamored with his or her position they have forgotten they only have that position to serve others. Look at our country's recent scandals involving senior leaders who have abused the privileges of their positions. They were focused on WHAT they did as a job title, not WHY. No matter the reason, when we start with WHAT we do instead of WHY, we'll end up going to work just to collect a paycheck, pay for school, feed our ego, and so on. This is definitely not our vision.

If you are one of those who only come to work to collect a paycheck, that's okay – it's your choice. I honestly joined the Air Force just to pay for college. Somewhere along the way I realized how lucky I was to be an Airman. You can go through the motions in the Guard and stretch it to your enlistment or maybe even retirement, but you deserve more. Figure out what you believe in, what you value most and what you'd fight to protect. Find an organization that reflects your values and be a part of something bigger than yourself. Your life will be enriched.

I am convinced that if you think about it, you're already there. You are a Stinger – part of an unbroken line of outstanding Airmen who set you up for success. Your blood, sweat and tears can leave this organization and this country better than you found it. Ultimately, isn't that really WHY you came to work today?

YEAR IN REVIEW CONT.

2012 FEATURE STORIES

The Triple Nickel: The End of an Era - Air National Guard Band of the Lakes Decommissioned After 90 Years of Service

<http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123282637>

Stingers Fly High with Bio-fuel

<http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123286118>

180th FW wins back to back ACA unit awards

<http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123300953>

The Hedrick Hat-Trick: 180th Airman scores three awards in one year

<http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123300952>

Ohio Air National Guard Members Assist After Fatal Crash

<http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123304999>

The Final Notes Have Been Played: 555th Air National Guard Band of the Great Lakes Deactivated After 90 Years

<http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123309401>

H.O.O.V.E.S. Helps Service Members and Veterans

<http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123313955>

'Hang 'em High' gives Airmen deployment experience

<http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123322322>

180th Fighter Wing Deemed Mission Ready!

<http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123323527>

History in the making

<http://www.180fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123290407>

INTERESTING FACTS

- First operational F-16 unit to successfully fly aircraft using bio-diesel fuel; Potential world-wide impact
- Unbelievably successful Combined Federal Campaign; annual giving again led to unit members being recognized for having highest per capita giving in Northwest Ohio; helped ease tremendous suffering of needy

180TH FIGHTER WING DEEMED MISSION READY!

by Master Sgt. Beth Holliker
Public Affairs

During a recent Alert Force Evaluation, the 180th Fighter Wing Aerospace Control Alert mission, along with the 180th FW Command Post section received the rating of Mission Ready. This rating is the highest rating inspectors can report for North American Aerospace Defense Command, or NORAD, alert units.

Words of congratulations from the AFE inspection team, sent to Col. Nordhaus, 180th Fighter Wing Commander, highlighted that the 180th far exceeded the standards mandated by NORAD. The team noted that the overall performance, leadership and teamwork, in all aspects of the evaluation were among the "Best-Seen-To-Date."

"We have incredible Airmen here at the 180th," said Nordhaus. "We have sent our best and brightest all over the country to increase NORAD mission success."

These efforts did not go unnoticed as the inspection team highlighted the 180th's preparedness as a model for other units to emulate, and they have. With the assistance of 180th Command Post team

members, the ACA unit at Ellington Field, Texas received a "Best Practice" for their training program during their recent AFE.

After hearing the tentative results of the AFE, Brig. Gen. Mark Bartman, Assistant Adjutant General for Air for the State of Ohio, sent the following message to Maj. Gen. Deborah Ashenhurst, Ohio Adjutant General.

"Another 'best-seen-to-date' for the 180th FW on their recent Alert Force Evaluation (AFE). This is the second AFE in a row where the maintenance and command post was singled out as being outstanding. No other Active Duty or Air National Guard unit has this kind of track record. You truly have an incredible group of Airmen performing a critical 'no-fail' mission 24/7/365."

"The men and women of the 180 FW are the absolute best Airmen in the world, they prove it every day," said Nordhaus. "Our vision is to be the Best Fighter Wing in the World and our Airmen and their families are proving that to be true. I am proud to be part of this exceptional team!"