



The Eagle's Eye

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New leadership comes to Barksdale

AF Global Strike Command

Lt. Gen. Timothy M. Ray will soon assume command of Air Force Global Strike Command when Gen. Robin Rand retires after 39 years of service.

AFGSC provides strategic deterrence, global strike and combat support to U.S. Strategic Command and other geographic combatant commands. The command is comprised of more than 33,700 professionals operating at two Numbered Air Forces: 11 active-duty, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve wings; the Joint Global Strike Operations Center and the Nuclear Command, Control and Communications Center. Weapons systems assigned to AFGSC include all U.S. Air Force Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles and bomber aircraft, UH-1N helicopters, E-4B National Airborne Operations Center aircraft and the remaining U.S. Air Force NC3 weapons system.

General Ray earned his commission from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1985. He completed undergraduate pilot training and has held operational flying assignments in the T-38 and B-52, serving as an instructor, evaluator pilot and squadron commander. He has also flown the B-1 and commanded the 7th Bomb Wing at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas. General Ray had various staff assignments at the major command, Headquarters U.S. Air Force and combatant command levels as well as served as Commanding General, NATO Air Training Command – Afghanistan, NATO Training Mission – Afghanistan/Combined Security Transition Command – Afghanistan and Commander, 438th Air Expeditionary Wing, Kabul, Afghanistan.

Prior to his current assignment as Deputy Commander, United States Eu-



Lt. Gen. Timothy M. Ray Col. Michael A. Miller

ropean Command, Stuttgart, Germany, General Ray served as the Commander, 3rd Air Force, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

General Ray's major awards and decorations include: Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Air Medal with oak leaf cluster, Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Award, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with "V" device, silver and bronze oak leaf clusters, and Combat Readiness Medal with two oak leaf clusters.

General Ray is a command pilot with more than 4,000 flight hours in the T-37, T-38, B-52G, B-52H, B-1B, C-21, C-27A and C-208 aircraft.

2d Bomb Wing

Colonel Michael A. Miller assumed command of the 2d Bomb Wing on June 18. In this role, he is responsible for providing combat-ready B-52H aircraft, crews, and associated combat support to

conduct global operational taskings. As Barksdale's installation commander, he supports 32 tenant units, including Headquarters, Air Force Global Strike Command; Headquarters, 8th Air Force; and the Air Force Reserve Command's 307th Bomb Wing. He promotes the welfare of more than 11,400 military and civilian personnel, 6,300 family members and 25,000 retirees.

Colonel Miller received his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1994. He has served in a variety of flying and staff positions including Commander, 9th Bomb Squadron, Deputy Commander, 7th Mission Support Group and Vice Commander, 7th Bomb Wing. Colonel Miller is a published author of two Congressional Research Reports to Congress, is a graduate of the USAF's Weapons School, and holds masters' degrees from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Air Command and Staff College, and The School of Advanced Air and Space Studies. Prior to his current assignment, he was the Director, Joint-Global Strike Operations Center, Barksdale AFB, LA.

Colonel Miller's major awards and decorations include: Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Joint Service Commendation Medal, and the Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters.

Colonel Miller is a B-52 and B-1 weapon systems officer with more than 2,400 hours; including more than 700 combat hours in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

CELEBRATE BARKSDALE GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Shreveport-Bossier Military Affairs Council is hosting the Celebrate Barksdale Golf Tournament on November 12, at the Stonebridge Golf Course. From the newest airman basic to the highest ranking general, the Military Affairs Council provides these men and women of Barksdale Air Force Base a day of rest and relaxation.

CELEBRATE BARKSDALE" 4-PERSON GOLF SCRAMBLE @ STONEBRIDGE COUNTRY CLUB

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1030 SIGN-IN/LUNCH, 1130 TEE OFF

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP IS \$500 (Your corporation's logo will be proudly displayed on a banner at the Golf Course)

(This covers you, a guest and two military players, a foursome, military will be assigned)

Team Sponsorship is \$400 (This covers you, a guest and two military players, a foursome, military will be assigned)

Hole Sponsor \$100 (A sign with your name will be proudly displayed on a tee box)

Contact Kathi Smith @ 429-2418 or MACEAGLE@SHREVE.NET

Deadline to sign up is 8 October 2018

Falling for the Falls

By Master Sgt. Ted Daigle
307th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

More than 30 business and government executives from throughout North Louisiana visited military installations and historic sites in Niagara Falls, New York, May 30-31st, 2018 as part of the 307th Bomb Wing's Civic Leader Tour.

The biennial event is designed to allow civic leaders near Barksdale Air Force Base to learn more about the larger Air Force by seeing other bases around the country. This year's tour focused on the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, a base hosting multiple units with a wide variety of missions.

While at Niagara Falls ARS, the leaders toured the Buffalo Military Entrance Processing Station, the central point for all military enlistees and officer candidates entering the service from that area. They also learned more



about the 107th Attack Wing and the 914th Air Refueling Wing through briefings from their commanders and a tour of the 914th Security Forces squadron.

Also on the agenda was a tour of historic Fort Niagara to learn more about the rich tradition of the military in the region. The group also learned about another branch of the service, touring the Buffalo Sector Coast Guard Station.

Throughout the tour, the group had unfettered access to leaders from the 307th Bomb Wing who served as military escorts for the tour. Leadership present during the tour included Col. Robert VanHoy, 307th BW commander, Col. Casey Cooley, 307th Maintenance Group commander, and Lt. Col. Gloria Field, 307th Mission Support Group deputy commander.

This access, coupled with learning more about the broader Air Force mission was helpful, according to Sheena Bryant, Vice-President of Business Development Strategy for the North Louisiana Economic Partnership. In a letter to VanHoy following the event, Bryant expressed her gratitude for the insight provided on the tour.

"The knowledge gained on this trip helped me to better understand how well-positioned our region is to support the defense industry," she said. "That level of understanding is invaluable in economic development."

For other participants, like Mike



Photos by Master Sgt. Ted Daigle

Middleton, Caddo Parish Commissioner and an Air Force veteran, the chance to meet those still serving made the whole effort worthwhile.

"This great opportunity allowed me to thank many of our military professionals from Barksdale Air Force Base and the Niagara Falls community," said Middleton. "I wouldn't change a thing about the program, unless, of course, it could be done more often and I could be on every one!"

While the Civic Leader Tours occur only once every two years, the 307th Bomb Wing provides a host of opportunities and programs designed to strengthen the relationship between the civilian and military communities. To find out more, please contact the 307th Bomb Wing Public Affairs office at 318-529-3025 or email 307.BW.PA@us.af.mil.

Civic Leader Passes

As many of you are aware, the Civic Leader Pass Program (old Eagle Pass) was reinstated a couple of months back. You should have received by email your Civic Leader Application Form to get your pass issued. Due to the upgraded security posture, everyone entering Barksdale must have a military ID card or some form of pass. If you are bringing a guest on Barksdale, even if you have escort privileges on your pass, they must stop and get a temporary pass issued. Please allow sufficient time to get that pass issued when planning your schedule. **Again, everyone entering Barksdale must have a military ID or a pass-that includes individuals being brought on by active duty, military retirees or GS Civilians.**



Past Pres. John Atkins and Current MAC Pres. Scott Alexander present a MAC scholarship to Tech. Sgt. Robert Perry, 707th Maintenance Squadron. (Courtesy photo)

MAC announces 2018 scholarship winners

The Shreveport-Bossier Military Affairs Council is pleased to announce the winners of the 2018 Military Affairs Council Scholarship. This year's recipients are A1C Naomi O. Abel 2 MDSS, A1C John G. Augusta 608 AOC, SrA Julio C. Burgos Carrascal 8 AF, SrA Kristopher K. Cox 2 CS, A1C Brittney K. Gish 2 CS, SrA Daniel Hagan 2 MXS, SrA Luke A. Hill 2 BW/PA, MSgt Walter Hoffman 2 MXS, SrA Steven J. Kalz 2 MUNS, SrA Ryan Martinez 2 MXS, A1C Timothy M. Myszenski 26 OWS, SSgt Kenneth J. Oliver 2 AMXS, SSgt Christopher C. Pekar 2 MXS, TSgt Robert E. Perry 707 MXS, SSgt Samuel J. Ritzmann 2 MXS, SSgt Brandon R. Sangston 2 AMXS, SrA Stephen C. Schaefer 2 CS, SSgt Robert J. Simpson 2 CES, MSgt Scott D. Stobel 2 CES, and SSgt Kaitlyn West, 2 CONS.

Scholarships were presented at the Military Affairs Council Update Luncheon on 7 June 2018 at the Barksdale Club. Congratulations to all our winners.

UPCOMING
Events

No Barksdale Air Show in 2018
Celebrate Barksdale Picnic, 12 Oct 2018

Celebrate Barksdale Golf Tournament, 12 Nov 2018, Stonebridge
MAC Christmas Social, 18 December 2018, 6:00 p.m., Shreveport Club

COMMENTARY: Feeling at home at my first base

By Airman 1st Class Sydney Campbell
2d Bomb Wing Public Affairs

When I arrived at Barksdale in March 2017, I was thousands of miles away from my home and family. I'm familiar with the military lifestyle because my mother is an active duty Airman, but nothing could have prepared me for the depression and loneliness I often found myself feeling.

I found myself alone, in my dorm, crying about me being in the military. Not because I regretted my decision, but because I didn't have anyone to hug or laugh with. I didn't have someone there to celebrate my accomplishments with and it felt like I had no one.

After my first few weeks on base I went to the First Term Airmen Course (FTAC). During FTAC we were briefed on many different programs and organizations around the base. One that stood out to me was a sponsorship family program, Roots for Boots. A sergeant briefed us on the program and asked if anyone wanted to join. I hesitantly raised my hand because I didn't really know what would come of something like this, but I wanted to at least try it. I filled out a questionnaire that made me feel like I was joining a dating website. It asked me about my religion, interests and likes. I handed it back to the sergeant and went on not thinking much of it.

A few weeks later I got an email from 1st Lt. Molly McAuliff, Roots for Boots coordinator, asking if I could attend a meet and greet for Airmen and their new sponsor families. When the day came I went, still not knowing what to expect, but I am very glad I took that small leap into the unknown.

The Halphen's, my local area family sponsor, stepped up to be there for me when my family couldn't. I no longer had to worry about being alone. Obviously no one can replace my family, but

I am thankful there is a program in place to allow local families to give back and support young Airmen.

The Halphen's took me into their home and treated me like family, they made me home cooked meals and we hung out.

Being a part of something that gives me a break from the military has really helped me not feel alone here at Barksdale. I know there are thousands of agencies out there to help people who may be sad, hurting and depressed, but nothing comes close to a hug from someone who cares about you. I never knew these strangers would have this big of an impact on my life.

Sara Halphen, my host mom, has stepped up more than once to be the mother figure I've needed her to be.

I have had times where I did something great at work and my family was unable to celebrate with me. In these situations, I would call Sara up and share the good news and she would be just as happy for me as my own parents.

One time back in June of 2017, Sara stepped up in a big way and helped me more than I could have ever asked for.

I got engaged and needed to go wedding dress shopping. I kept putting it off so my mom could fly out and go with me but as time passed, the date got closer and closer, and I came to terms with the fact that I was just going to have to find a dress on my own. At a time when I should be the most joyous, I was again saddened by the fact that my family was thousands of miles away.

Thankfully, Sara stepped up and helped me find a bridal boutique and made all the arrangements. She helped



Airman 1st Class Sydney Campbell, third from left, 2nd Bomb Wing Public Affairs photojournalist, Sara Halphen, second from left, Roots for Boots host mom, and other Airmen pose for a photo at a bridal boutique in Minden, La., June 24, 2017. Campbell joined the Roots for Boots program and now has a host family at her first duty station, Barksdale Air Force Base, La. (Courtesy photo)

me find the dress I would walk down the aisle in and I even got the opportunity to facetime my mom so she could still be a part of the experience.

I would have loved for my mother to have been there in person, but I am so glad I had Sara to help me through the process and be like a mother and a friend.

I have had such an amazing personal connection and experience with the Halphens and the Roots for Boots program. For other Airmen who are currently in the situation I was once in, I would encourage them to take the step I made and contact McAuliff at molly.mcauliff@us.af.mil to join Roots for Boots. Families that wish to support Airmen through this program can reach out to her as well.

Celebrate Barksdale Annual Picnic for the Airman VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR "CELEBRATE BARKSDALE"

Please join your fellow MAC members and volunteer to work at "Celebrate Barksdale" on Friday, Oct. 12. This is our annual way of extending a great big THANK YOU to all the men, women and their family members serving Barksdale. We need your help with cooking and serving hot dogs, hamburgers and all the trimmings to our guests. In addition to showing our appreciation to Barksdale Team Members and their families, working at "Celebrate Barksdale" is a terrific way to meet other MAC members, interact with Base personnel and enjoy a Friday outside in October weather.

Volunteer Opportunities

The four major areas of work are listed below along with the responsible Committee Chair. If you can work and are interested in serving in a particular area, please contact the committee chair directly; otherwise contact Bert Schmale, Vice President Celebrate Barksdale or Kathi Smith, Executive Director, and we will work you into a slot. Please let us know your availability when signing up to work.

Daryl Pruitt dpruitt@citizensnb.com Cell 318 469-0758 — Cooking Committee - Responsible for cooking and delivering food to serving tent.

Lisa Johnson ljohnson@bossierchamber.com Cell 318 208-0680 — Tent Committee - Responsible for food serving process and routine cleaning of dining tables.

Dave Lay davidjlay@yahoo.com Cell 318 426-1221 — Refreshments Committee - Responsible for icing and distributing soft drinks/water; oversight on Beer distribution.

Kathi Smith maceagle@shreve.net Cell 318 268-0773 — Logistics Committee - Responsible for ordering supplies, coordinating electrical needs, coordinating stage/children's activities and organizing trash details.

Bert Schmale bert.schmale@bxs.com Cell 318 603-6026 Vice President Celebrate Barksdale - Coordinates all aspects of event.