

## Future Warriors event showcases Total Force missions

By Capt. Rachel Ingram  
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

In partnership with members of the Air National Guard, Army National Guard, Black Boys in Tech, Wright State University and other agencies, the 445th Airlift Wing welcomed about 50 students to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base April 6 for Future Warriors, an event organized by the 87th Aerial Port Squadron.

“The day was all designed to introduce the kids to the military and help them understand the opportunities they might have,” said Master Sgt. Richard Bullard, 87th APS special handling supervisor.

More than seven months in the making, Capt. Libya Binford, 87th APS passenger service officer in charge, first pitched the idea to squadron leadership after her sons completed a drone pilot course with Cincinnati-based nonprofit, Black Boys in Tech. The organization’s website stated the program provides interactive STEM experiences and mentorship opportunities within marginalized communities.

The course Binford’s sons attended included a field trip to the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, spurring her memories of participating in similar outings during her childhood in New Orleans.

“I’ve never forgotten the field trips and mentorship programs I participated in as a child,” Binford said. “I just started thinking about how we could set the trajectory of kids’ lives through similar events—what if they had access to come on base and talk to actual pilots?”

As her vision grew, so did the list of partner agencies. A prior enlisted Army National Guard veteran, Binford had connections to former battle buddies who believed in her and the event she was organizing. By the



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

**Capt. Sean Conway, 89th Airlift Squadron pilot, explains the capabilities of a C-17 Globemaster III to young members of Cincinnati-based nonprofit organization Black Boys in Tech at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, April 6, 2024. BBIT was created by mothers in Cincinnati to provide interactive STEM experiences and mentorship for their sons, desiring them to participate in one BBIT’s pilot program and continue with out-of-school STEM programming during the school year.**

time event day rolled around, she had successfully secured static displays of a C-17 Globemaster III; a mine-resistant, ambush protected vehicle; a Humvee; and a flat bed tactical vehicle, all of which were manned by uniformed service members representing various components of the Air Force, Army and Marine Corps.

“We just wanted to blow their minds,” she said.

BBIT, which is open to youth of all demographics, sent a large group of students and mentors to participate, and the organization also contributed funding

to purchase raffle prizes to incentivize active participation. Additional students associated with the event organizers and volunteers attended as well.

In addition to hands-on aerial evacuation demonstrations aboard the C-17, several pilots sat on a panel interview to answer students’ questions, and multiple 445th AW squadrons set up interactive stations for students to try on firefighting and chemical warfare gear, see examples of fabricated aircraft parts, and learn more about police equipment and weapons.

“Even some of the chaperones and young adult ambassadors were checking out different parts of the aircraft or the equipment we had set up and asking, ‘Is this something I could do?’” said Senior Airman Meggie Samuel, 87th APS service representative.

To further illustrate how many opportunities and pathways to service exist, representatives from Wright State University’s ROTC program spoke to students,

## Four 445th AW officers selected for promotion to colonel

By 445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Four lieutenant colonels from the 445th Airlift Wing were selected for promotion to colonel recently.

Air Reserve Personnel Center officials announced results for the Calendar Year 2023 Air Force Reserve Line and Nonline Colonel Promotion Selection Boards April 1.

The members selected for promotion were Ryan Albrecht, 445 Airlift Wing staff judge advocate; Jason Bordas, 445th Civil Engineer Squadron commander; Michael Policastro, 445th Aero-medical Staging Squadron Critical Care Air Transport Team flight commander and physician in charge; and Robert Wengerter, 445th Mission Support Group commander.

The selection boards convened at ARPC, August 6-14, 2023, to determine those officers best and fully qualified to assume the next higher grade. Board mem-



bers selected 228 of 1,661 officers considered.

A complete list of Airmen selected for promotion is available online by visiting the Air Reserve Component Officer Promotion home page on myFSS.

Categories considered during these promotion boards were Line of the Air Force Air Operations and Special Warfare (LAF-A), Line of the Air Force Nuclear Missile Operations (LAF-N), Line of the Air Force Space Operations (LAF-S), Line of the Air Force Information Warfare (LAF-I), Line of the Air Force Combat Support (LAF-C), Line of the Air Force Modernization (LAF-F), Line of the Air Force Cross Functional Operations (LAF-X), Judge Advocate (LAF-J), Chaplain (CH), Dental Corps (DC), Medical Corps (MC), Nurse Corps (NC), Medical Services Corps (MSC), and Biomedical Sciences Corps (BSC).

## Wing safety offers tips for countering heat stress

By Master Sgt. Joe Klimaski  
445th Airlift Wing Occupational Safety & Health

Summer is right around the corner, officially starting June 20, and it's all but guaranteed that we're going to see regular 90-plus degree days well into September.

If you're going to be enjoying the Ohio sunshine, whether it be catching a baseball game or working outdoors, it's important to know when you're at risk for heat injury and how to protect yourself.

Needless to say, working in extreme heat and humidity, doing outdoor physical labor, and not consuming enough water, places you at high risk for heat injury during the summer months.

So what should you do to protect yourself during hot and humid weather conditions?

First, dress for the conditions. Wear light-colored, lightweight and loose-fitting clothing.

Next, drink water and take frequent breaks.



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

During normal weather conditions, a typical person should consume around 100 ounces of fluids each day (not including alcohol or caffeine).

During hot conditions, however, it's suggested that a person consume water every 15 minutes, so fluid consumption will drastically increase.

Last but not least, when working or playing outside during the summer months, take frequent and regular breaks.

Find a shaded, cool or air-conditioned area to get out of the heat and humidity to rest and recover.

While summer may arguably be the most enjoyable season of the year, know the risks when outdoors, and plan ahead to counter those risks.

For more information, contact the 445th Airlift Wing Safety Office at (937) 257-5767.



## Around the wing ...



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly



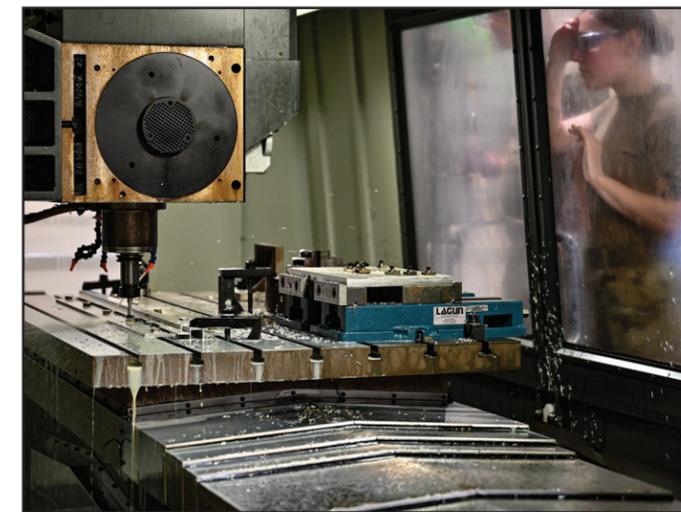
Tech. Sgt. Joel McCullough

(left) Members of the 445th Civil Engineering Squadron pose for a photo during a squadron promotion ceremony held at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, Ohio, April 9, 2024. About 40 Airmen from 445th CES participated.

(right) Airmen from the 87th Aerial Port Squadron and the 89th Airlift Squadron conduct loading and unloading training on a C-17 Globemaster III at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, April 7, 2024.



Senior Airman Angela Jackson



Tech. Sgt. Joel McCullough

(left) Reserve Citizen Airmen from the 445th Force Support Squadron play frisbee during a team building event at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, April 6, 2024.

(right) Senior Airman Kyleeann Engle, a 445th Maintenance Squadron metals technology journeyman, observes the Haas VR-8 Computer Numerical Control machine as it tools an intercostal part for a C-17 Globemaster III at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, April 7, 2024. The CNC machine cuts the metal while also spraying it with a liquid that cools the metal from friction and lubricates it so shavings are expelled easier.



## 445th Complaints program wins DAF-level 2023 IG award

By Stacy Vaughn and Amanda Dick  
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs



Lt. Col. Todd M. Baker

Announced April 1, the 445th Airlift Wing Inspector General Complaints and Resolutions program won the Department of the Air Force 2023 Lt. Gen. John P. Flynn Inspector General Award for Category II, which is for the top Air Force Reserve Command or Air National Guard unit.

The award highlights programs that most demonstrate six fundamental leadership characteristics: integrity, justice, compassion, loyalty, courage and spirit.

“The exceptional support I got from the commanders, first sergeants and wing support agencies made last year’s results possible,” said Lt. Col. Todd Baker, 445th IG Complaints and Resolutions (IGQ) director. “I also credit an excellent working relationship with the AFRC/IGQ office that afforded me the opportunity

to support Unit Effectiveness Inspections and see other wing’s programs and participate in IGQ training courses.”

Baker, who is the sole member running the program, was selected as a four-time augmentee for these AFRC UEI teams, providing Major Command-level complaints resolution to 14 Airmen and training/mentoring four new wing-level IGQ members to create successful programs.

During the award period, Baker executed AFRC’s largest IGQ program by providing exceptional support to two diverse host and tenant wings with five groups and 24 squadrons, spanning seven bases and providing coverage for up to three drill weekends a month.

“While the sheer size of the program is sometimes daunting, it provides the opportunity to interact with and assist Airmen across the country with unique issues and concerns,” Baker said. “This makes the 445th AW IGQ office an excellent place to learn and gain experience in helping Airmen in the IG role.”

Additionally, Baker expanded support for reserve-related complaints to over 400 Individual Mobilization Augmentees serving in Air Force Materiel Command and other tenant active units, pro-

viding assistance on reserve component policies and hiring practices to members transitioning to the IMA program.

One initiative Baker started was the integration of the Complaint Resolution Program into the overall Commander’s Inspection Program by coordinating program visits at the unit level with vertical inspections, ensuring individual Airmen were heard and could access the IG, while providing overall health of the unit beyond inspection program results.

Finally, Baker communicated the role of the IGQ program to 13 new commanders, 15 first sergeants and more than 140 newcomers across two wings, using flexible scheduling and in-person/virtual presentations to reach Airmen at every level.

He also volunteered to develop and presented training on wing-level IGQ processes and policies at the annual MAJCOM training event, instructing 15 new Inspector General members by sharing his years of experience.

“As I near the end of my career, I hope to transition the IGQ program over to the next generation of IGs and expand our support by leveraging full-time IGQ trained members from the IG Inspections offices at both wings to ex-

pand outreach to Airmen in need,” he explained.

Baker stressed anyone can contact the 445th AW IGQ anytime regardless of status, and permission from an Airman’s chain of command is not needed. IGQ can assist with providing information or contacting the appropriate agency when the situation doesn’t require a formal IG complaint or investigation. Airmen can call (937) 257-9902 to reach the 445th IG.



Lt. Gen John P. Flynn

**Flynn’s final assignment was as Inspector General of the U.S. Air Force from September 1976 until his retirement on Oct. 1, 1978. The award recognizes an outstanding IG Complaints Resolution Program office that best embodies the six fundamental characteristics of Flynn’s leadership model: integrity, justice, compassion, loyalty, courage and spirit.**

## 1st quarter CY 2024 award winners announced

CGO



**Capt. Shanice Jackson**, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron flight nurse/assistant chief nurse, is the 445th Airlift Wing Company Grade Officer of the Quarter. Jackson proactively organizing 26 flight nurse and 18 medical technician credentialing and certifications, ensuring 100% compliance with public law requirements. She bolstered unit capability by meticulously realigning 16 Unit Type Code slots, ensuring 100% accuracy in readiness reporting to higher headquarters for available personnel in preparation for future peer-to-peer contingencies. The captain elevated AE flight standards as medical crew director on three sorties, amassing eight flight hours. She guided nine junior technicians in pulmonary resuscitation codes for 14 training events. Jackson mentored 16 children in a local Boys and Girls Club, volunteering 42 hours and providing life experiences. She volunteered over 18 hours to the USO, providing briefings to 100 military and civilian members. Jackson developed and delivered on nursing curriculum, improving knowledge.

SNCO



**Master Sgt. Diego Cancino**, 445th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment flight chief, is the 445th Airlift Wing Senior NCO of the Quarter. Cancino successfully led 3,361 inspections and 662 quality control inspections on critical life-saving flight equipment totaling over \$10 million. While training 16 team members, he surpassed Headquarters Air Force’s 10% mandate by more than 50%. Cancino was by-name requested by Air Force Reserve Command Logistics and Engineering to conduct a Unit Effectiveness Inspection at the 459th Air Refueling Wing at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland. Cancino discovered an Air Force supply system deficiency and worked alongside Headquarters Army and Headquarters Air Force Chemical Defense subject matter experts to rectify an ordering process error for mask tester alcohol wicks, leading to an annual cost savings of over \$1 million. Cancino leveraged his Lean Sigma Six Green Belt training to streamline U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine’s Aeromedical Evacuation training center supply forecasts, increasing yearly flight safety for 300 flight nurses.

NCO



**Tech. Sgt. Brandon Davis**, 445th Mission Support Group training manager, is the 445th Airlift Wing NCO of the Quarter. Davis proactively identified and corrected 29 critical on-the-job training errors across five squadrons, enhancing the accuracy of members’ training and aligning with commander of Air Force Reserve Command TASKORD #2023-01, Task 1- Maintain Readiness. Going beyond his standard duties, he expertly processed 36 college transcripts, ensuring accurate documentation of completed degrees and progress toward additional education goals for 445th AW members. Davis hosted five focused question and answer sessions on GI Bill and education benefits, delivering crucial insights to over 85 members. Sergeant Davis facilitated the acquisition of 130 boxes of frozen meat and meals for under privileged veterans in the local community through the “Military Chow Hall” food pantry, contributing to essential support for those who served. Davis fulfilled three semester hours toward his organizational leadership bachelor’s degree, maintaining a 3.5 GPA, with 10 courses left for degree completion.

AMN



**Senior Airman Marcus Simones**, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron training manager, is the 445th Airlift Wing Airman of the Quarter. Simones led a three-person team, examining four aircraft returning from deployment. His team’s inspections resulted in detection and replacement of six unserviceable tires, enabling 434 flying hours, 148 sorties and a 70.3 mission-capable rate. Simones completed over 200 man-hours, accomplishing 30 tasks designed to discover and mitigate critical failures. He conducted 10 life raft pressure inspections, ensuring essential life-saving devices were serviceable in case of emergency. Simones identified a faulty emergency storage battery during a critical Air Mobility Command contingency launch. He integrated with two other career fields to remove and replace the battery, safeguarding the delivery of three missions and 20,000 pounds of cargo. The Airman volunteered more than 20 hours to help raise funds for the Kroger Foundation. His work with his team raised more than \$1,500 in local grants, contributing to over \$8 million in grants donated to 321 nonprofit organizations nationwide.



# SPOTLIGHT

**Rank/Name:** Staff Sgt. Anne Smith

**Unit:** 445th Force Support Squadron Education and Training

**Duty Title:** Education and Training technician

**Hometown:** Columbus, Ohio

**Civilian Job:** Defense Information Systems Agency information technology specialist

**Education:** I plan to go back to school for a bachelor's degree in project management.

**Hobbies:** Mom of two boys (Emmett and Archie), weightlifting,



baking and car karaoke

**Career Goal:** Civilian goal - Become an information technology project manager; Military goal -

Learn all I can in my new career field to be a resource for our unit and very interested in becoming a First Shirt!

**What do you like about working at the 445th?:** The 445th has been my family for my whole life. My grandfather and my parents served in the 445th. I grew up playing hide and seek in the old Logistics Readiness Squadron building/warehouse. I truly care about all the people I work with!

**Why did you join the Air Force?:** I have a heart to serve! Joining the U.S. Air Force Reserve has given me so many opportunities, experiences and lifelong friendships.

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and in the second half of the day, the students toured the WSU campus and its engineering lab.

“For some kids, all they know about the military is what they see online, in movies or in video games,” said Senior Airman Cecily McWhorter, 87th APS passenger service representative, and a senior at WSU. “It’s important to invite them in and show them the morale and opportunities.”

While the students ranged from elementary school to college, many were in their teens and approaching the next stage of decisions regarding education and career.

“Even if they don’t join the Air Force, we can still make a positive impact with residual benefits,” Bullard said. “After this, 50 more kids have a better understanding of the Air Force, and more specifically, the Air Force Reserve. If each of these kids tells their friends and family, there will be sort of a butterfly effect.”

The themes and activities throughout the event highlighted skills like discipline, teamwork and attention to detail, Bullard added, noting the crossover into military culture.

“When you look into those kids’ faces and see, in real time, the impact the experience is having on them, you know you’re doing the right thing,” she continued.



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

**U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Kyle Lane, 324th Military Police Company, Armory, in Middletown, Ohio, explains the features of a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected All-Terrain Vehicle to young members of Cincinnati-based nonprofit organization Black Boys in Tech at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, April 6, 2024.**



# News Briefs

## Newcomers

Maj Elizabeth Diaz Fernandez, AES  
 Capt Blake Badillo, AES  
 1 Lt Andrew Maltarich, AES  
 TSgt Stuart Holliday, AES  
 SSgt Samantha Cox, FSS  
 SSgt Patrick McClain, OSS  
 SrA Bryan Perez Palacios, 87 APS  
 A1C Trent Hutchison, SFS  
 AB Bethany DeGraw, ASTS  
 AB Kennedy Masey, 87 APS  
 AB Tatiana Rivera, 87 APS

## Promotions

**Master Sergeant**  
 Marjorie Butcher, AES

Christopher Hedrick, MXS  
 Mariah Magtoto, FSS  
 Blake Reynolds, AMXS  
 Angela Thompson, ASTS

## Technical Sergeant

Zachary Baird, MXS  
 Michael Cage, MXS  
 Ryan Guenther, CES  
 Adam Schaefer, CES  
 Nuren Subair, AES

## Staff Sergeant

Adam Klosterman, FSS  
 Jermaine Richards, AMXS  
 Faith Schuster, AES

## Senior Airman

London Foreman, MXS  
 Katherine Giza, CES  
 Zachary Kegley, AMXS  
 Christina Stokes, FSS

## Airman First Class

Jordan Reid, LRS

Heaven White, 87 APS

## Airman

Kennedy Masey, 87 APS  
 LRS

## Wellness Fair

The 445th Airlift Wing Annual Wellness Fair is June 2 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. between buildings 4010 and 4012.

The following organizations will be on hand to provide information: Veterans Affairs, Wounded Warriors, Military One Source, 4Paws for Ability and 445th AW/88th Air Base Wing helping agencies.

Self-pay food trucks will be available.

In case of inclement weather, the fair will move to Hangar 4026.

## Buckeye Flyer

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# 445th captains selected for promotion to major

By 445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Thirteen captains from the 445th Airlift Wing were selected for promotion to major.

Air Reserve Personnel Center officials announced results for the Calendar Year 2024 Air Force Reserve Line and Nonline Major Promotion Selection Boards April 15.

The members selected for promotion were Alexander Berger, Maria Duffy, Trevor Tomlin, Eric Wrenn and Alexander Galat, 89th Airlift Squadron; Joshua Coffman, 445th Maintenance Squadron; Michael Schibler, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron; Kristina Knickerbocker and Brittney Snider, 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron; Carol Read-Arce and Christopher Trotter, 445th Maintenance Group; Andrew Huellemeier, 445th Operations Support Squadron; and Patrick Stalnaker, 445th Airlift Wing.

The selection boards convened at ARPC, January

22-26 to determine those officers best and fully qualified to assume the next higher grade. Board members selected 688 of 956 officers considered.

A complete list of Airmen selected for promotion is available online by visiting the Air Reserve Officer Promotion page on myFSS.

Categories considered during these promotion boards were: Line of the Air Force Air Operations and Special Warfare (LAF-A), Line of the Air Force Nuclear Missile Operations (LAF-N), Line of the Air Force Space Operations (LAF-S), Line of the Air Force Information Warfare (LAF-I), Line of the Air Force Combat Support (LAF-C), Line of the Air Force

- Force Modernization (LAF-F), Judge Advocates (LAF-J), Chaplains, Dental Corps (DC), Medical Corps (MC), Nurse Corps (NC), Medical Services Corps (MSC), and Biomedical Sciences Corps (BSC), and Line of the Air Force Cross-Functional (LAF-X).



# Wright-Patt honors new chiefs

*445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs*

Four 445th Airlift Wing Airmen were honored alongside their active-duty counterparts April 5 at the annual Wright-Patterson Air Force Base chief master sergeant recognition ceremony at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force.

Chief Master Sgts. Michael Blake, 445th Maintenance Group; Michael Eonta, 87th Aerial Port Squadron; Kyle Truelsen, 445th Maintenance Squadron; Robert Thomas, and 445th Civil Engineer Squadron; were among the 11 selectees who joined the top 1% of the enlisted corps.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy challenged the new chiefs to continue improving themselves.

“Don’t wish it was easier. Wish you were better,” Roy said. “You got to continue to push yourself forward. If we’re going to advance, if we’re going to take the Air Force (and) Space Force to the next level, that we need to rapidly, in General (CQ) Brown’s words, rapidly. You’re going to have to do what that model just said.”

Chief Master Sgt. Lloyd Morales, 88th Air Base Wing command chief, congratulated the new chiefs – and their families – for their hard work in making to the top, but also challenged them not to take it easy now.

“Throughout your career, you’ve understood and personify that the only time success comes before work is in the dictionary,” he said. “You’ve made it to the top 1 percent, but that does not give you an excuse to do less; it instills a responsibility to do more. The other 99% is counting on you. You worked hard to get here, but now the real work begins.”



Photos by R.J. Oriez

**(top) Chief Master Sgt. Michael Blake, 445th Maintenance Group, is escorted through a saber cordon by family members during the Wright-Patterson chief recognition ceremony at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, Ohio, April 5, 2024.**

**(bottom) Chief master sergeants of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, gather on stage at the end of the chief recognition ceremony in the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, April 5, 2024.**



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