



Ohio Chapter Newsletter

4th Quarter 2004

2005 Officers Named

Thank you to all the 2004 officers for a job well done and congratulations to the 2005 officers.

- CHAIR: Vikki Michalski
VICE CHAIR: Faye Pointer
TREASURER: Jane Goodwin
SECRETARY: Julie Richer
NATIONAL REP: Jennifer McLravy

2004 Conference

East and West converged at the 2004 international conference in San Antonio. AEP members from the Ohio and South Texas chapters got together for a photo with Charles Patton, AEP Texas president and chief operating officer. Patton was a conference speaker.



Pictured (from left back row) are: Claudia Powell, Lila Munsey, Hazel Flores, Vikki Michalski, Patton, Jennifer McLravy and Nancy Hutton; (front row) Doris Roeder, Terri Berliner, Nellie Delgado, Cynthia Snyder, Judith Talavera and Jane Goodwin

REMEMBER the 2005 CONFERENCE - Ohio: The Heart of It All - is Oct. 3, 4 and 5 at the Columbus Hyatt Regency!

September Meeting

TIPS: Common sense leadership good practice

- T Talk to your people
I Keep them informed
P Be predictable
S Be sensitive to individual needs

THESE points were part of the "common sense" leadership message U.S. Army Lt. Col. Sherrie Bosley and Maj. Ralph Litscher presented to WiNUP Ohio members and guests during the chapter's September meeting. TIPS, they explained, is their former commanding general's belief that leadership is common sense.

Beginning with powerful images of the 9/11 terrorists' attacks and the world's reaction - the "Why We Went" - that resulted in many a damp eye, Bosley and Litscher shared leadership lessons and challenges they encountered as U.S. Army officers deployed with the 101st Airborne Division to Afghanistan and Iraq.

They also offered accounts of their respective units' missions as part of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and resulting humanitarian efforts in Iraq.

They shared how they fell back on TIPS every day to keep exhausted soldiers motivated and focused on the jobs they had to do while struggling in hostile geographic

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Officers

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environments – the rugged, mountainous, cave honeycombed and roadless Afghanistan and the desert heat and sands of Iraq – amidst constant change and uncertainty.

While their job assignments were to resolve contractor issues; develop a political system and form a government; rebuild the nation and its educational system; provide humanitarian aid; and deal with the media – the solutions to keeping morale up and people focused sometimes was very simple.

“One day,” Bosley said, “we had ice cream. It was a simple thing

that went a long way because it was the answer to a need. Be sensitive to individual needs.”

She related another instance in which she had to send two inexperienced 19-year-olds to a remote fuel site.

“I told them they were important to the success of this mission. The job they needed to do was critical. Why it was critical. That I knew they could do it. And they did,” Bosley said. “Talk to your people. Trust your people. That helps them and you succeed.”

With a photo of a combat mission briefing as a backdrop, Litscher explained the mission briefing process and why it includes a rehearsal.

“We literally draw each stage of the process in the sand,” he said. “We discuss the plan. We answer all questions. We want every person involved to know and understand what is going to happen. Drawing it may be a simple thing, but again, it’s all about giving your people what they need to understand and perform their jobs.”



Maj. Ralph Litscher (left photo) and his wife, Lt. Col. Sherrie Bosley discuss leadership. (right photo) Maj. Litscher, Col. Bosley, 2004 Ohio Chair Jennifer McLravy and 2005 Ohio Chair Vikki Michalski following the officers' leadership presentation to the Ohio chapter. Col. Bosley is Michalski's sister.

Winter Safety Tip – Watch out for *Black Ice*

If you are traveling on what appears to be wet road surfaces but the car in front of you is not splattering your windshield with water, then BEWARE. What you are driving on may be black ice. Adjust your driving accordingly. SLOW DOWN and do not make sudden stops or turns. Recognizing hazardous conditions and taking appropriate precautions will get you to your destination safely.

GO HOME SAFE TONIGHT!