

N Air Force Association Newsline

December 2009

Important Dates

December

- 3 Finance Committee
4-5 Executive Committee
Arlington, VA
24-25 Christmas Holiday
AFA Closed
31-1 New Year's Holiday
AFA Closed



The Air Force Association mission is to:

Educate the public about the critical role of aerospace power in the defense of our nation

Advocate aerospace power and a strong national defense

Support the United States Air Force and the Air Force Family, and Aerospace Education

Air Force Association

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An Independent Nonprofit Aerospace Organization

As the year draws to a close, we want to say THANK YOU – members, volunteers and professional staff – for everything you’ve done to help make 2009 another great year for AFA. We’ve enjoyed serving as your national leaders and working with you on so many successful events. And our participation in numerous state and chapter activities has been among the highlights of the year.

The Air Warfare Symposium and Gala in February in Orlando – with the new addition of our high school *CyberPatriot* competition – was a great way to start the year. Our industry partners helped make it our premier winter event.

The AFA year builds to the Convention and Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition in September, and this year we had the added excitement of our first time at the Gaylord National Convention Center. . Our slate of speakers was probably our largest yet, and we received a lot of positive feedback on both the Convention and Conference. The symposium sessions are a great professional development opportunity. Again this year, over six thousand people visited the Aerospace Technology Exposition, featuring expanded floor space where our exhibitors showed off cutting-edge aerospace technology.

The wreath laying ceremony and Memorial Service at the Air Force Memorial is a fitting tribute to Air Force Association comrades. It is a moving experience for everyone who attends. The towering Air Force Memorial is now a national landmark, and we take great pride in having a part in honoring our Airmen of every generation.

We closed out the year with our Global Warfare Symposium and Air Force Ball in Los Angeles in mid-November. This effort is always a great way to highlight some important Air Force topics on our nation’s West Coast.

The Air Force Association has been actively engaged in reaching out to the public in many ways including emails from the President, discussions on Capitol Hill, Mitchell Institute studies, media outreach, new social media activity and Air Power Advocates group. Along with the efforts at the grassroots, we are all working together to achieve our mission.

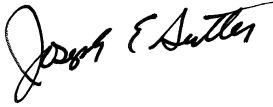
AFA has weathered the economic down turn, and we are already looking ahead to next year. It will be challenging for our Air Force with budget and economic constraints, and a rising threat environment across the globe. Thousands of our fantastic Airmen are in harm’s way in Southwest Asia. Our Air Force flew well over 100,000 air sorties in the region in the first 11 months of the year. The courage, dedication and sacrifice of our active duty, guard and reserve men and women in uniform, along with their civilian counterparts and industry partners, and all their

families, are remarkable. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers at this time of year, and reach out to our Airmen and their families in your communities so they know the depths of our appreciation.

You – the volunteers in the field and our professional staff in DC – are the reason for the Association’s success. Let’s continue to work to improve the quality of life of our nation’s Airmen and ensure that our Air Force is always ready.

We wish you a joyous holiday season, and a Happy New Year and look forward to even greater success in 2010.

Sincerely,



Joseph E. Sutter
Chairman of the Board



James R. Lauducci
Vice Chairman of the Board
Field Operations



S. Sanford Schlitt
Vice Chairman of the Board
Aerospace Education

AFA Warfare Symposium Set for February 18-19

AFA’s 26th Annual Air Warfare Symposium and Technology Exposition will be held February 18-19, 2010, at the Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel in Orlando, Florida. Invited speakers to the symposium include Secretary of the Air Force Michael B. Donley, USAF Chief of Staff General Norton A. Schwartz, Chief Master Sergeant of the

Air Force James Roy and other top Air Force leaders.

In support of the symposium, the Central Florida Chapter will again sponsor its annual Gala and Golf activities. The golf outing will be at the Walt Disney World's Magnolia and Palm Courses on Wednesday, February 17, 2010. Individual golfer price is \$110 which includes a reception. Additional reception tickets are available for \$60. For golf reservation information, please contact Jim DeRose at (407) 356-0461 or [E-mail: james.l.derose@lmco.com](mailto:james.l.derose@lmco.com). For golf sponsorships and/or merchandise donations, contact Bob Ceruti (407) 365-1519 or [E-mail: receruti@bellsouth.net](mailto:receruti@bellsouth.net). The chapter will celebrate "Aerial Reconnaissance" at its annual black-tie dinner on Friday, February 19. A special AFA leader rate of \$150 has been established for the Gala. The contact for this event is Tommy Harrison at (407) 886-1922 or E-mail: tgharrison@aol.com.

As an AFA leader, you are invited to attend the symposium which will be held on Thursday, February 18, from 12:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., and on Friday, February 19, from 8:00 a.m. until noon. The standard registration fee for the symposium is \$795 for an AFA individual member and \$895 for non-AFA members. However, since it is important for AFA leaders to attend this national event, there is a special leader

registration fee of \$235 (for AFA National Officers, Region Presidents, Directors, National Committee Members, State and Chapter Presidents. [Note: Since this is not a directed meeting, this fee is not reimbursable for AFA leaders.] The registration fee includes both symposium sessions, a lunch on Thursday, a reception/buffet honoring the symposium speakers on Thursday, and a continental breakfast on Friday morning. Each AFA leader who registers at this special rate will be entitled to purchase an additional ticket to the lunch for \$40 and/or the reception/buffet for \$150. In addition, tickets for the Central Florida Chapter sponsored events (annual Gala and Golf activities) can be purchased through the registration site.

Registration is now open at www.afa.org. Click on the Air Warfare Symposium Orlando logo on the right hand side of the screen and choose the ‘AFA Leader’ registration category to register. If you have any questions regarding the symposium, please contact Katie Storm (ext. 5848) kstorm@afa.org.

AFA is pleased to extend our internal rate of \$158 single/double per night, plus applicable taxes. Reservations will be accepted on a first-in basis until the block is full or until **Tuesday, January 13, 2010, by noon**, whichever comes first. **To reserve your hotel room, you must first register for the**

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Convention/Conference. At the end of the registration process, your Internet browser will display a registration confirmation page. **Look for the ‘Make Hotel Reservation’ button** – click that button and then input the appropriate information. NOTE: Do not call the hotel directly; this is the only avenue available for you to make your hotel reservation at this rate. If you have any questions, please contact Meghan McClelland at mmccllland@afa.org or 703-247-5815.

We are looking forward to having another successful meeting at the Rosen Shingle Creek. Here are some highlights about the property:

- Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. Check-out time is 11:00 a.m.
- Less than 20 minutes from the Orlando International Airport. Visit <http://www.rosenshinglecreek.com/location.asp#OIA> for directions or for transportation information. Multiple dining options from fine-dining Italian to a 24-hour deli and market place. Please check out all of their options at <http://www.rosenshinglecreek.com/restaurantsAndBar.asp>.
- Four pools and a spa.
- Discounted golf available – just mention you are with AFA.
- Valet (\$15 for the day; \$18 overnight) and self parking (\$4 per day, if you mention you are with AFA).

AFA National Nominating Committee seeks qualified AFA members for national office.

The committee will meet at the end of April 2010 to select candidates for AFA national officer and national board of director positions to be presented to the delegates to the AFA National Convention in September for election.

AFA’s Board focuses on setting policy and strategic direction for three

organizations: AFA as well as the AFA Veteran Benefits Association (AFAVBA) and the Air Force Memorial Foundation (AFMF). It is particularly important that the Association find candidates with the following characteristics:

- A capacity to govern with vision, think strategically and understand the business management of the three organizations for which the Board is responsible.
- A willingness to give freely of their time and talent, to actively serve on committees and to personally support the fundraising and development objectives of the Association.
- An understanding of and ability to work in a hybrid organization with a unique relationship between committed volunteers at all levels and the professional staff.
- An understanding and appreciation of the AFA mission, vision, values and history, including the legacy represented by the Air Force Memorial

The Committee will be looking for candidates that have specific expertise in certain areas, including finance and budgeting, strategy and planning, and development and fundraising.

All officer positions are for one year terms and open to any member. The incumbent Secretary is eligible to run again. AFA seeks new individuals to fill the positions of Chairman of the Board, Vice Chairman of the Board for Field Operations, Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education and Treasurer.

National Director Board positions are for three years. One position is limited to candidates from the Central Geographic area consisting of the following states: MT, ND, SD, MN, WI, IA, NE, KS, MO, IL, OK and TX. In addition to being from this geographic area, candidates must have demonstrated field leadership experience. Those

interested are advised to consult with the appropriate state and region president. Contacts are available on the Web at <http://www.afa.org/members/rgnstlst.asp>.

There are two open National Director positions to be elected on an “at-large” basis. These are open to any member from any state. In evaluating potential candidates, the nominating committee will consider field leadership experience and geographic dispersal.

A snapshot of AFA’s mission and current leadership team is available on the web at <http://www.afa.org/AboutUs/default.asp>. Descriptions of the duties and responsibilities of these offices are in AFA’s Operations and Procedures Manual at <http://www.afa.org/members/OPM.pdf>.

Deadlines:

Anyone who plans to run for one of these offices MUST indicate their intention to do so not later than February 28th and submit their name and other required materials to the AFA Nominating Committee. A one sentence e-mail or letter to the Committee through the staff (mnaheimer@afa.org) stating their name and the position for which they intend to run is sufficient. This will help the Nominating Committee conduct both its search and deliberative functions efficiently and in a timely manner.

The remainder of the requirements must be submitted to the AFA Nominating committee not later than March 19. These include one or more formal recommendations for candidates for these positions, candidate biographies, and any additional information and endorsements candidates wish the Nominating Committee to see.

Additional information for prospective candidates:

Prospective candidates **must** insure a recommendation on their behalf has been submitted to AFA HQ. Recommendations can be via an AFA Form (see below) or via personal e-mail

(or letter) to the Chairman of the Committee (through the AFA staff). A recommendation form is enclosed.

Forms are also available in the "Library" section of the "Field Resources" area of the AFA web site.

Each prospective candidate **MUST** also submit a signed AFA biographical form and answer a question concerning whether they have ever been convicted of a crime. Their signature gives AFA permission to conduct a background check and is also consent to serve in the position, if elected. Additional sheets may be attached as desired. **THE PHYSICAL FORM WITH A SIGNATURE MUST BE RECEIVED** via mail or fax.

In addition to these required materials, prospective candidates may also elect to include a written biography and letters of endorsement. Any material received by the due date will be included in the package given to the Nominating Committee for their consideration.

ALL material should be sent to the Nominating Committee in care of Field Services/ Headquarters. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Nauheimer (Ext. 4821).

Individuals selected by the committee to be sent forward to the delegates will also be required to provide a brief personal biography for inclusion in *Newsline* and the August issue of *AIR FORCE Magazine* and a high quality "head shot" photograph for the Magazine as well.

AFA Announces Fall 2009 JROTC Instructor Grants

On October 21, AFA announced ten recipients of the AFJROTC Instructor Grants for the fall of 2009, an AFA education initiative promoting the development of aerospace professionals.

The grants, each \$250, are provided to instructors of AFJROTC

units. This initiative promotes knowledge of aerospace power through classroom activities or materials that benefit the entire group of students, such as field trips to aerospace museums or Air Force bases, or DVDs that encourage interest in aerospace topics.

"We're pleased to support the efforts of these fine instructors. Through these grants, some students who already are learning about the military gain an additional opportunity to examine aerospace career fields," said S. Sanford Schlitt, Vice Chairman of the Board, Aerospace Education.

To qualify, teachers complete an application and send it directly to ROTC HQ where selection of recipients is made. JROTC units may apply for this grant every other school year.

Below are the grant recipients:

- David Ashcroft, Denton High School, Denton, Texas
- John Coulter, Southern Nash High School, Bailey, North Carolina
- Paul Hill, Tivy High School, Kerrville, Texas
- Barry Drossner, Deep Run High School, Glen Allen, Virginia
- Gregory Stephan, Normandy High School, St Louis, Missouri
- Drew Croucher, East Montgomery High School, Biscoe, North Carolina
- James Wood, Amelia County High School, Amelia, Virginia
- James Galloway, Avon Park High School, Avon Park, Florida
- Dennis Jones, Laurel Highlands Senior High, Uniontown, Pennsylvania
- Kevin Grady, Alvirne High School, Hudson, New Hampshire

Fall 2009 Civil Air Patrol Educator Grants Announced

On October 21, AFA announced twenty recipients of the Civil Air Patrol Educator Grant for the fall of 2009. These grants, an initiative funded by AFA and managed by the Civil Air

Patrol Headquarters, encourage early interest in the aerospace field.

The grants, each \$250, are provided to teachers who are members of either the Air Force Association or the Civil Air Patrol. This initiative promotes aerospace knowledge through classroom activities or materials that benefit the entire group of students. These grants fund field trips to aerospace museums or Air Force bases, or they are used for books, DVDs, or videotapes that encourage interest in aerospace-related topics.

"These teachers are doing a great job providing their students with extra opportunities," said S. Sanford Schlitt, AFA's Vice Chairman of the Board, Aerospace Education. "We're pleased to help encourage an interest in the aerospace career field in time to perhaps influence the educational path of some students."

"Through these activities, we hope to open some students' eyes to the possibilities of an aerospace career field that they otherwise might not consider," said Mike Dunn, President of AFA. "The Air Force and aerospace companies are always looking for bright, innovative professionals."

Below are the grant recipients:

- JoAnn Anderson, New Holstein Elementary School, New Holstein, Wisconsin
- Stephanie Benedict, Darke County Christian Homeschool Coop, New Madison, Ohio
- Michael Bero, Franklin Middle School, Green Bay, Wisconsin
- Steve Chance, Colonel Wright Elementary School, The Dalles, Oregon
- Scott Cutler, G.W. Bush Middle School, Turnwater, Washington
- Stuart Dewhurst, New Holstein Elementary School, New Holstein, Wisconsin
- Glenn Fortmayer, United School District 332, Cunningham, Kansas

- Bart Gadola, Wilkinsburg School District, Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania
- Susan Hayes, Oneida Nation High School, Oneida, Wisconsin
- Kathy Keeney, Lombardi Middle School, Green Bay, Wisconsin
- Martha Koho, Belle Morris Elementary School, Knoxville, Tennessee
- Angela Krause-Kuchta, Menomonie High School, Menomonie, Wisconsin
- Jessica McDaniel, Kramer Elementary School, Oxford, Ohio
- Martha Roberts, Capps Middle School, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- Dale K. Robinson, Jacobs Creek Job Corps Center Academics, Bristol, Tennessee
- Alex Rode, Ledyard Elementary School, Ledyard, Connecticut
- Shelby Soeder, Washington Irving Elementary, Waverly, Iowa
- Stephen Sycuro, West Stanly High School, Oakboro, North Carolina
- Jaelene Wentland, Brown County Middle School, De Pere, Wisconsin
- Heather Whitehead, The Walker School, Marietta, Georgia

For more information on AFA grants and scholarships, contact: Lynette Cross on Ext. 4807 or lcross@afa.org.

AFA's 2009 Pitsenbarger Awards Help 400 Graduates

On November 20, AFA announced a total of \$160,000 was awarded to 400 graduates of the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) this year through AFA's Pitsenbarger Awards. Under this program, each of the recipients receives a \$400 check and a certificate of achievement.

The award is named for William H. Pitsenbarger, an Airman First Class who gave his life in Vietnam saving others. For his heroism, he was awarded the Medal of Honor. AFA's Pitsenbarger awards will again be distributed to qualified Airmen CCAF graduates next year at both the spring and fall graduation ceremonies.

The program, created and administered by the Air Force Association, provides a one-time grant to selected top Air Force enlisted personnel graduating from the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) who are pursuing a baccalaureate degree. The award is based on distinguished activity encompassing leadership, teamwork, citizenship, community service, dedication, personal development and academic achievement, along with a Commander's endorsement.

"Promoting education is among our highest priorities at the Air Force Association," said S. Sanford Schlitt. "We're particularly pleased to help these fine Airmen take another educational step that will benefit their lives and careers."

Tips for Making a Smart Year-End Gift

During times like these, your support is even more critical to fulfilling AFA's mission. But since you have probably suffered from recent economic trends, this is the year to make the smartest gifts possible. Here are a few ways you can more easily support AFA in these uncertain times – we want the gift you make this year to help you as well as AFA.

1. If you own stock that is worth more now than when you purchased or inherited it, but you expect a decline in value, you could donate those assets, and "lock in the gains." Remember to give AFA the actual appreciated asset (such as a stock that is worth more now than when you bought it ten years ago) rather than selling it and making a cash contribution. You may also want to consider real estate.
2. This year you probably hold some assets that have increased in value and others that have decreased in value since you purchased them. If the values of various assets have moved in different directions, you can follow a two-step process that may benefit you as it benefits AFA:

- Sell the depreciated assets and claim the resulting tax loss to offset your gains;
 - Donate some of the sale proceeds to AFA. Depending on your tax situation, your donation will be eligible for a charitable income tax deduction, further offsetting taxable income for the year.
3. One hidden asset that you can give instead of cash is a paid-up life insurance policy, especially if you no longer need it. If you make Air Force Association the owner and beneficiary, you'll be able to claim a charitable deduction for the value of the policy and make a substantial year-end gift to AFA without affecting your cash-flow in any way.
 4. Now through December 31, 2009, the IRS will allow a qualifying donor to make an outright gift to a qualifying charity from his or her traditional or Roth IRA account, without incurring income tax on the withdrawal. If you are over 70½ and need to take withdrawals from your IRA, this provision may provide a creative source of funds for your charitable giving.
 5. Finally, a gift through your will, revocable trust, or retirement plan, doesn't reduce your income in any way during your lifetime. Because these gifts are revocable, you can change your beneficiary designations if your needs or your family's needs change over time.

For more information please visit us at: <http://www.legacy.vg/afa/articles/53.html>, or contact our Director of Development, Lois O'Connor at loconnor@afa.org or Ext. 5832.

Air Force Memorial Store

As we approach the holiday season, we thought we'd remind our members about the on-line Air Force Memorial Store. There are lots of items you can order as gifts...and help AFA in the process. In addition, for the next 30 days, we will discount the pictured Air

Force Memorial logo hat at 10% off the retail price. Go to this link:
<http://www.airforcememorial.net/>.



Dental Insurance Available to All AFA Members

AFA Veteran Benefits

Association has contracted with MetLife to provide Members excellent dental insurance coverage. Two plan choices are available:

- Basic Plan - covers preventive and basic restorative work. This means cleanings, oral exams, fluoride, x-rays, sealants, fillings, lab tests, periodontic and more).
- Comprehensive Plan - covers everything in the Basic Plan above PLUS major restorative work like extractions, crowns, dentures, bridges, implants, endodontics, oral surgery, periodontics, orthodontia and more.

Please visit www.afavba.org/dental for full details and to enroll.

Questions? Contact Susan Rubel at srubel@afa.org or Ext. 5842.

Region Profile: North Central Region

Welcome to the North Central Region made up of the states of Montana, North and South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Montana is home to the Big Sky Chapter located near Malmstrom AFB and the 341st Missile Wing. The chapter also supports the 120th Fighter Wing of the MT Air National Guard and their F-15s. The Rushmore Chapter in Rapid City, South Dakota, supports Ellsworth AFB and the B-1 Bombers of the 28th Bomb Wing. In the eastern part of the state is the Dakota Chapter in Sioux

Falls and the 114th Fighter Wing of the SD National Guard flying F-16's.

In North Dakota the General David C Jones Chapter supports two active duty wings at Minot AFB. These are the B-52 equipped 5th Bomb Wing and the 91st Missile Wing. The Red River Chapter at Grand Forks AFB assists the 319th Air Refueling Wing. In Fargo, the Happy Hooligan Chapter supports the 119th Wing. The 119th has a dual mission of flying the MQ-1 Predator and the C-21.

Minnesota's General EW Rawlings Chapter is located near Minneapolis and supports the 133rd Airlift Wing, MN Air National Guard and the 934th Airlift Wing, AF Reserve. Both wings fly the C-130. The Richard I Bong Chapter in Duluth supports the 148th Fighter Wing of the MN Air National Guard, flying the F-16. The Billy Mitchell Chapter in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, supports the 128th Air Refueling Wing, WI Air National Guard with their KC-135 Tankers and the 440th Airlift Wing, AF Reserve flying their C-130s.

Our North and South Dakota chapters are proud to announce that all four Senators and two members of the House of Representatives are members of the Air Force Caucus. Each state has an excellent relationship with their Members in Congress and meets with them in person routinely. (See photo taken during the 2009 National Convention.) In addition, eight of our Junior ROTC and or CAP Units recently participated in the Cyber Patriot II competition. (See photo.)



Lena Simons, ND State President Ron Garcia, Congressman Earl Pomeroy and Jim Simons, North Central Region President.

Below: Members of the Minot HS JROTC Detachment participate in the AFA Cyber Patriot II competition.



Our Red River Chapter hosted a base wide bar-b-que attended by Senator Byron Dorgan, and they also conducted a fund raiser and took the proceeds and visited the North Dakota Veterans Home. Our David C Jones Chapter was recently selected as the AFA Chapter of the Year for its size category. The Jones Chapter, Red River Chapter, and the State of North Dakota each showed an increase in membership last year. The EW Rawlings Chapter in Minneapolis sponsors a wide variety of programs.

The ROTC Mentoring Program is made up of ROTC students from the University of Minnesota and University of St. Thomas and former members of the Air Force. The Chapter maintains a list of former Air Force members who regularly meet with the students one-on-

one to discuss their former assignments and what to expect on active duty. Occasionally the ROTC students gather in one room and a speaker is brought in to share experiences on active duty and answer questions. This program is enjoyed by the cadets and the veterans alike.

The chapter holds an annual Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social at the local VA Hospital complete with a four piece banjo band made up of veterans. Volunteers are made up of ROTC students and chapter members. The event is held during the evening hours and about 50 veterans usually attend.

Each year the chapter sponsors an Awards Banquet which includes the local AFRES, ANG, ROTC from the two Universities, JROTC from four high schools, AF Recruiting Sq and CAP. Awards are given to (preselected by their peers) outstanding members of each unit to include the Teacher of Year.

This past year the St. Thomas University ROTC unit ran this outstanding program. Several St. Thomas University ROTC students gave their experiences as an ROTC student and told how they became interested in ROTC. They also did the registration table duties, Posting and Recovery of the colors and the Missing Man Ceremony. The ROTC military style Saber Arch Team was posted at the building entrance.

On the 63rd anniversary of VE Day, the Rawlings Chapter honored MN Women Veterans of WWII with a "Salute to WWII Women Veterans". The event included a luncheon for 96 WWII women vets (of all services) plus 142 guests and friends. Women Veterans came from all over the state accompanied by family members and guardians. What began as a small attempt to honor these marvelous women for the first time turned into a grand tribute to a deserving group of veterans. The program included a speech by the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs and reading of congratulatory letters from Members of Congress. Each WWII Woman received a Certificate of

Appreciation from the Governor and flag with a certificate that was on a Minnesota Air National Guard C-130 flying over the state of Minnesota.

The Rawlings Chapter has also contributed over \$500,000 since 1989 to educational activities including the Visions program, in which the chapter currently sponsors 140 classrooms, more than any other AFA chapter. Other programs benefiting include ROTC, JROTC at four high school locations, Veterans Activities, Military Recognition programs, Youth Scholarships, National Eagle Center, Friends of Flying Vikings events, ACE Program, CAP, and others.

Submitted by Jim Simons, North Central Region President