

## Arizona Teacher of the Year Takes to the Skies

Frank Luke Chapter's 2009 Teacher of the Year Joanne Henning took to the skies on November 23 with the 313<sup>th</sup> Civil Air Patrol Squadron at Phoenix Goodyear Airport. Henning plans to share her experience with her fourth-grade students, who earlier this year, were visited by a pilot from Luke AFB. The pilot visit was held in conjunction with the students' project studying robotics and the mechanics of flight. In addition to being the first light-plane flight for Henning, a teacher at Glendale American Elementary School in Glendale, Arizona, the one-hour flight marked other "firsts." This flight was the first mission for the 313<sup>th</sup>'s new aircraft, a Cessna 182T flown from the factory by Lt Col Rick Amundsen. Amundsen, an AFA member, is the squadron's certified flight instructor and Henning's pilot. It was also the unit's first flight for a teacher in the Arizona Wing's "Fly A Teacher" Aerospace Education Program. Eight more teachers are scheduled elsewhere around the state.



Harry Bailey, Arizona AFA State president, poses with AFA member Lt Col Rick Amundsen and Joanne Henning before the flight

The CAP offers flights to teachers to help promote aviation and space and to create an awareness of the importance of aerospace education for students. Complimentary Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education teacher memberships are provided to each AFA chapter or state Teacher of the Year. Letters of congratulations and invitation are sent to each, providing information about the many benefits afforded teacher members of CAP. In addition, AFA chapters can sponsor teachers for membership for a special 1/2 price of \$17.50 for AFA chapters.



Henning proudly shows off her Certificate of Flight from the Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education Fly A Teacher Program

Free benefits for K-12 teacher members include: over 20 national standards-based aerospace education products that promote STEM curricula and career options; awards and grant programs; professional development opportunities; and orientation airplane flights. For more information, go to [www.capmembers.com/ae](http://www.capmembers.com/ae). For further information about AFA sponsorships, contact Susan Mallett at [smallett@capnhq.gov](mailto:smallett@capnhq.gov).

## **Teams Reach Medalist Flight in National Cyber Defense Competition**

Twenty-one high school teams topped the field to move up to the Medalist Flight of *CyberPatriot II*, likely the largest live high school cyber defense competition ever staged with an opening round of Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) and Civil Air Patrol (CAP) teams from high schools representing 42 states and Japan.

The 21 teams surviving the opening round include: Huntsville High School, Huntsville, Alabama; Catalina Magnet High School, Tucson, Arizona; Civil Air Patrol Unit RMR-CO-030, Peterson AFB, Colorado; F. W. Springstead High School, Spring Hill, Florida; Lincoln Way East High School, Frankfort, Illinois; Lincoln Way West High School, New Lenox, Illinois; Parkway High School, Bossier City, Louisiana; CAP Unit SWR-LA-008, Hammond, Louisiana; CAP Unit NCR-MN-030, Bloomington, Minnesota;

Lafayette High School, Ballwin, Missouri; North Henderson High School, Hendersonville, North Carolina; CAP Unit MER-NC-022, Gibsonville, North Carolina; Newburgh Free Academy, Newburgh, New York; Rome Free Academy, Rome, New York; CAP Unit NER-NY-288, Freeport, New York; Billy Ryan High School, Denton, Texas; Flower Mound High School, Flower Mound, Texas; Boerne-Samuel V. Champion High School, Boerne, Texas; CAP Unit SWR-TX-214, Combine, Texas; Clearfield High School, Clearfield, Utah; and William Byrd High School, Vinton, Virginia.

"Congratulations to the top 21 teams, and good luck to all the teams over the next two Saturdays of competition," said S. Sanford Schlitt, AFA's Vice-Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education. "*CyberPatriot II* is proving to be a fantastic hands-on learning experience. It's a great way to encourage new interest in this crucial career path."

## **Parkway High School Cyber Patriots Advance in International Cyber Competition**

On November 7, the Parkway High School Cyber Patriots earned a place in the Top 24 of over 200 high schools from 44 states, South Korea, and Japan in the Air Force Association's *Cyber Patriot II* Competition. This competition was the largest live high school cyber defense competition ever staged. "This is a dramatic expansion of the *CyberPatriot* competition that began last year as an AFA initiative to promote student career interest in cyber security and other science, technology, education and mathematics career fields," said Sandy Schlitt, Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education in a recent press release about the competition. On November 7, the entire field of 200-plus teams participating in *CyberPatriot II* stepped up to their computers, typed in a password and began a race to the finish to solve a series of cyber defense problems within a unique computer program pioneered by Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). Teams had up to six hours to correct 100 percent of the vulnerabilities in a virtual network and were ranked according to their success and speed with the SAIC system tracking their progress.

The Parkway team, led by MSgt O'Brien, consisted of five sophomores: Cadets Rebecca Booth, Ethan Garcie, Allison Grantham, Travis Lowery, and Sterling Williams. Other members included Cadets Andriana Avie, Ashley Williams, Carlos Harris, Hunter McGee, Ben Mosiery and Leanne Nye. The team's performance earned them a slot in the *CyberPatriot* Medalist Flight on November 21, where they will face a much more complex virtual network and an entirely new set of vulnerabilities.

## AFA Announces Final Round Teams for National High School Cyber Defense Competition

The Air Force Association (AFA) announced the eight teams who have punched their ticket to the Championship Round of *CyberPatriot II* in sunny Orlando, Florida, in February.

*CyberPatriot II*, likely the largest simultaneous high school cyber defense competition ever staged, began with a one-of-a-kind simultaneous opening round Nov. 7 of nearly 200 high schools from 41 states and Japan competing over the Internet. Over two weeks, that group was narrowed to 36 teams for the Medalist Flight competition on Nov. 21, out of which emerged these final eight teams:

- CAP Beach Cities Cadet Squadron 107, Torrance, CA (Top Scorer)
- AFJROTC FL-952 F.W. Springstead HS, Spring Hill, FL
- CAP Rochester Oakland Comp Squadron, Rochester Hills, MI
- CAP Burlington Comp Squadron, Burlington, NC
- CAP Seacoast Composite Squadron, Portsmouth, NH
- AFJROTC NY-095 Newburgh Free Academy, Newburgh, NY
- AFJROTC NY-20031 Rome Free Academy, Rome, NY
- AFJROTC UT-081 Clearfield HS, Clearfield, UT

Their rewards are an all-expense-paid trip to the Championship Round, February 19, 2010, in conjunction with AFA's Air Warfare Symposium at the Rosen Shingle Creek Convention Center. There, they compete in the most complicated series of live challenges yet, against a "Red Team" opponent that will actively counter their defense strategies.

In a race against the clock, the Medalist Flight competitors had no more than six hours to find and correct vulnerabilities in a complex, three-operating-system virtual network made possible by Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), and were tracked according to success and speed. Using a commercial platform called CyberNEXS, the teams had to "lock-down" two Windows and one UNIX servers.

"*CyberPatriot II* has been a tremendous success and an excellent learning opportunity. We appreciate the enthusiastic participation from across the nation, and look forward to expanding *CyberPatriot III* next year," said S. Sanford Schlitt, AFA's Vice-Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education. "As a career field, cyber defense is essential to our nation's prosperity and national security. One of our primary missions at AFA is promoting education in science,



CAP *CyberPatriot* Finalists from Cadet Sq-107, compete with Brig Gen Dave Warner, AFSPACECOM CIO, looking on. Warner later wrote: *The Cadets were very motivated and had their 3 competing workstations on fire as they collectively "battled" against intrusions... The 5 cadets are fired up and are excited about the next step of the competition! ... All in all a great concept... kudos to AFA!*

technology, engineering and mathematics, and we're so proud to spearhead this exciting educational program."

The competition benefits greatly through the advice and assistance of Dr. Greg White of the Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security (CIAS), which also created and conducts the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition. Dr. White serves as a colonel in the Air Force Reserve in the field of cyber security.

### **AFA, Microsoft Announce Software for *CyberPatriot II***

In conjunction with the Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security (CIAS), the Air Force Association (AFA) announced Microsoft's support for *CyberPatriot II*, a one-of-a-kind nationwide high school cyber defense competition.

Microsoft will support the completion of this multi-stage computer security competition by providing software, including Windows Server, at no cost for all of the teachers and students participating. Students will then use the Microsoft software for learning, preparing, and competing in the event.

"We are extremely grateful for Microsoft's generous support of this exciting project," said S. Sanford Schlitt, AFA's Vice Chairman for Aerospace Education. "This software will greatly enrich the learning experience for all of our future *CyberPatriot* teams."

### **Air Force Research Laboratory to Support AFA's *CyberPatriot***

The Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, has agreed to support *CyberPatriot*, a one-of-a-kind National High School Cyber Defense Competition.

AFRL recognized the potential benefits of *CyberPatriot* early in the concept development phase, providing technical advice on a number of aspects of the project. The decision to follow-up that assistance with a modest grant and continued in-kind technical support came straight from the top. Commander of the lab, Major General Curtis M. Bedke, USAF, said: "I fully support this initiative; it's a great idea, and these are the perfect people to be doing it."



AFA's *CyberPatriot* program began less than 18 months ago and has already ambitiously expanded in just its second year to offer this hands-on learning experience to as many students as possible, currently more than 1,000 students in teams of up to five from each school, with plans to continue growing next year. Limited to Air Force Junior ROTC and Civil Air Patrol high school students this year, the program will be offered to non-JROTC high schools beginning this spring. This AFA initiative promotes student career interest in cyber security and other science, technology, engineering and mathematics career fields, in keeping with AFA's chartered mission to promote aerospace education.

"We are extremely grateful for AFRL's superb support of this exciting project," said S. Sanford Schlitt, AFA's Vice Chairman for Aerospace Education. "The funding and in-kind support will allow us to take the even more ambitious step of moving out on *CyberPatriot III* for the 2010-2011 school year."

## AFA Texas Hosts Joint Meeting and Dinner at the Capitol

The Fall Texas AFA Executive meeting, held in Austin on November 13-14, was a joint effort between AFA Texas and The Silver Wings and Arnold Air Society Reunion. One hundred and twenty five students from Area/Region IX and thirty five AFA members and their guests from eleven Texas AFA chapters attended the one day meeting staged at the Double Tree Hotel in Austin, Texas. Kelly Jones, AFA Texas President, welcomed cadets to one of the joint business sessions held during the weekend. One highlight of the event was a joint formal banquet held in the Texas Capitol building. Lieutenant General (Ret) Kenneth Eickmann, a native of San Antonio, was the featured speaker.



Former National Director Dan Heath (center) dines with cadets at the Texas State Capitol

## Aerospace Education Council Members Identified

In accordance with Section 3-C of Article XIV of the AFA Constitution, the Aerospace Education Council shall consist of a Chairman and at least six persons, two of whom must be voting directors of the Association. These members shall be appointed by the Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education in consultation with the Chairman of the Board and confirmed by the Board of Directors. The Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education chairs the AEC.

**Sandy Schlitt**, Vice Chairman of the Board, Aerospace Education, submitted ten names for approval as the 2009-2010 AFA Aerospace Education Council. The ten members have now been approved by the AFA Board of Directors.

**William D. Croom, Jr. (TX)**; has many years of service to AFA at the chapter, state and national level, including service as AFA National Secretary and also on AFA's Board and Executive Committee. He also served on the AEF Board of Trustees and chaired AEF's Program Review and Development Committee for two years. He was selected as AFA's Member of the Year for 2007. He is a returning member of the Council and is currently a National Director Emeritus.

**Emil "Max" Friedauer (FL)**; is a current AFA National Director. He has many years of service at the chapter, state, and national level to include serving on the AFA Field Council and as past Chapter, State, and Region President. This would be his second year on the Council.

**Ed Garland (TX)**; is a current AFA National Director and a Life Member of AFA. He has served in many chapter and state positions, including chapter and state president and also on several national committees including service as Chairman of the Constitution Committee. This will be his first year on the AEC.

**James Hannam** (VA); is a former National Director and Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee. He has also served as Region President, Central East Region, Secretary of Virginia State AFA, President of the DW Steele chapter, member of the Field Council and member of the Long Range Planning and Strategic Planning Committees. He has a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science from the United States Air Force Academy, a Master of Science in Applied Mechanics from Stanford University, and an MBA from Auburn University. This would be his second year on the Aerospace Education Council.

**Rod McKinley** (VA); recently retired as Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force and is serving his first term as a National Director. This would be his first year on the AEC.

**George K. Muellner** (CA) served for six years as an appointed National Director. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in aeronautical and astronautical engineering from the University of Illinois and a Master of Science degree in aeronautical systems management from the University of Southern California and is retired from his position as President, Advanced Systems, Integrated Defense Systems, The Boeing Company. This would be his second year on the Council.

**Michael J. Peters** (CA); served two terms as National Director, two terms as Region President, and is a former member of the Board's Executive Committee. He has a MBA in Economics and Management. This would be his second year on the Council.

**John Shaud** (VA); former AFA Executive Director and current National Director Emeritus. He is currently the Director of the Air Force Research Institute at Air University and is a returning member of the Council.

**Marv Tooman** (IA); is a Life Member, has served as chapter and state president, Region VP and at the National level on the Membership Committee and the Field Council. This would be his first year on the AEC.

**Chuck Zimkas** (CO); has many years of service at the state and national level, including service as a National Director. He was also the former Vice President of the Aerospace Education Foundation. He has also been on the staff of the Space Foundation for twenty years. He is a returning member of the Council.

### **Hennessey Presents Cyber Patriot Awards**

AFA National Director Peter Hennessey was the guest speaker at an awards luncheon at Metro High School in Columbus, Ohio on November 16.

The awards luncheon was held to recognize students that represented the school and participated in *CyberPatriot II* "Beta Test." On 26 September 2009, these students were the first to experience the technology instrumental in the online qualification rounds, and the lessons learned in the Beta Test were incorporated into the subsequent competition rounds.



Hennessey spoke to attendees about the Air Force Association and the *CyberPatriot* program. He also assisted in presentation of the awards. Feedback from the students indicated they had a fun and challenging experience.

### **University of Minnesota is Site for North Central Region Joint Meeting**

Minneapolis hosted the annual North Central Region NORCOM conference the weekend of October 23-25. The North Central Region meeting was held at the University of Minnesota on October 24 and the joint meeting with the AAS/SW ARCON Region VII on October 25. AFA leaders from across the region joined with support organizations like *USA Today* to review ongoing operations and to plan for future activities. Sandy Schlitt, AFA Vice-Chairman for Aerospace Education, was the featured guest speaker.

The NORCOM conference coincided with SNOWCON. This was an ROTC conclave sponsored by the Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings. Cadets traveled from central regional states to attend this event. Joint sessions were held between the two organizations. Sandy Schlitt gave two extensive presentations. First, he gave an update on AFA and its activities to regional and central state AFA leaders. The next day he met with ROTC students and leaders to give them a history of AFA. He asked them to join the organization.

Schlitt noted: "AFA exists in large part to support the success and development of young leaders like those here in ROTC. We want you to be successful, and in your success we want you to become members of AFA so that you can join in developing the success of those coming behind you. In that way the organization can perpetuate itself and fulfill its mission to educate, advocate and support you throughout your Air Force careers."

AFA Cental Region President Jim Simons opened up the conference. Then AAS/SW cadet leaders Joe Carroll, Area VII Commander, and Darcy Oien, Region VII President, briefed attendees on their activities. Their leaders and teachers in ROTC, CAP, JROTC and the AFA regional states followed with PowerPoint briefings about programs and training activities.

The weekend of briefings was completed with a visit from Major Dave "Zeke" Skalicky. He is the US Air Force F-22 Raptor aerial demonstration team commander and pilot based at Langley, Virginia. Skalicky was the featured speaker at the dinner banquet held the last evening of the NORCOM/SNOWCON joint event.



From left: C/Joseph Carroll , Area VII Arnold Air Society Commander; C/Sarah Sprankle, Area/Region VII Chief of Protocol; Ashley Agacki, Joint Alumni Association National Marketing & Communications Chair; Darcy Oien, Region VII Silver Wings President; Jim Simons, AFA North Central Region President; Sandy Schlitt, AFA Vice Chairman of the Board Aerospace Education; Vic Seavers, Rawlings Chapter President; Glenn Shull, AFA Minnesota State President; C/Christine Spampinato; James Bowman, Minot Chapter President

## Central Florida Launches Rockets

The Central Florida Chapter recently partnered with the Florida Wing of the Civil Air Patrol to present rocket workshops at local libraries. Organized by CAP Major and Orange County Library System (OCLS) staff member Corey Halaychik, the four workshops took place during two weekends in November. Workshops were at the Winter Garden, Ocoee, Hiawasse, and South Creek OCLS branches. At the workshops, attendees made paper rockets and released them with an air compressor-powered PVC launcher. Students and parents alike cheered with each successful launch. Altogether, more than 60 students and parents participated in these workshops. While making rockets, OCLS Programs Coordinator Rebecca Jacobson talked about using library resources, and CAP and AFA members talked about their programs. CAP participants included Lt Col John Lynn, Maj Michael Warwicke, and 1st Lt John Stewart. Chapter participants included president Bill Yucuis, who also teaches Aerospace at Lyman High School, and Richard Ortega, Chapter Vice President for Education.



Richard Ortega, Aerospace Education VP for the Central Florida Chapter and AFA Florida, explains rocketry to an attentive student



**Happy Holidays!!! (but the *AE Newsletter* needs You in the New Year!!!)**  
*AE Newsletter* will take a break over the holidays, but we need your inputs (now would do – take a break from the Christmas cards) to keep the information flowing. Please send your stories, accomplishments, and great ideas to share with your fellow AFAers out there in the field! Submit an input today to [AENewsletter@afa.org](mailto:AENewsletter@afa.org).