



## **Air Force Association**

An Independent Non Profit Aerospace Organization

### **WON'T YOU JOIN US?**

We, Air Force Association Chapter 214 of Enid, are a group that works with and for the people at Vance Air Force Base to help their stay here be a little more pleasant. Besides just being good neighbors, we know it is the least that we can do for these defenders of our great country. The Air Force people who have served at Vance remember Enid fondly, and often share positive views about how special our community is with their military co-workers at the bases they travel to. We honor Vance Quarterly Award Winners at our quarterly presentations. We also recognize Vance's annual award winners and provide recognition and support for the Junior Air Force ROTC unit at Enid High School. Vance personnel are always anxious to help repay our community for the hospitality they receive with assistance for Christmas in April, Special Olympics, Camp Tomahawk and many other events.

Supporting Vance Air Force Base also makes very good business sense. The base is the single biggest contributor to our economy (over \$227 Million annually of total economic impact) and employs over 2600 people, of which 60% are civilians, our neighbors. Whether you benefit directly or not, all of us benefit indirectly from Vance. Our Chapter has an active membership of over 500 members. Members include active duty, retired, and veteran Air Force personnel. Enid also has the distinction of having the largest number of Community Partners (business memberships) of any Air Force Association Chapter in the United States! Currently 228 of Enid's businesses are Community Partners. Our members enjoy a monthly copy of the Air Force Magazine, which is both educational and enjoyable. They are also invited to our quarterly programs that are interesting and informative – recent speakers at our programs include Astronaut Owen K. Garriott, humorist Argus Hamilton, and US Senator James Inhofe.

It wasn't that long ago that we were all concerned that Vance might close. They didn't, and I believe our chapter helped to spare Vance. We are having a great time supporting Vance Air Force Base and the Air Force in general, and cordially offer you the chance to join us. You may contact any of the Chapter Officers or Board Members below to join the Air Force Association as either a regular member or as a Community Partner. **Won't you join us?**

#### Officers:

George C. Pankonin, President (234-1222)  
Mike Cooper, Vice-President (233-2202)

Oscar Curtis, Secretary (233-1651)  
Doug Chown, Treasurer (213-7852)

#### Board Members:

Richard Johndrow  
Terry Cox  
Bill Shewey  
Jim Faulkner  
Dennis Lakely

Jack "Pappy" Beam  
Bruce Jackson  
Mike Barnthouse  
Dave Swiger  
Jay Jacobs

Ed Greven  
Dan Harris  
Richard Burris  
John Martin

## WHAT DOES AFA DO WITH THE FUNDS?

Fair question! The other side of this paper tells you a little bit about the endeavors we support with the Enid Chapter of the Air Force Association. Let me share with you some of the financial details regarding distribution of the funding that you make available through your membership.

We try very hard to schedule quality presentations for your enjoyment at the quarterly events for which there is little or no charge. Often we can arrange for guests (such as elected officials) to speak to us as part of their job to stay in touch with their constituents. Others will come for the exposure they gain to be able to offer for sale a book they have written. Still others ask only that we cover their expenses. Occasionally, however, we do pay the presenters that entertain us. We watch this area closely, but sincerely believe our membership deserves a variety of high quality presentations during the quarterly AFA Events we offer. Of course we also treat the military award winners and other invited honorees to their dinner at these presentations.

We financially support many annual events that benefit members of the greater Air Force Community. These contributions recognize or honor current Air Force members and those young people who are working toward joining the Air Force when they are eligible. Recent contributions include:

1. Monetary donations and co-sponsorship with the Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee for the annual Enlisted Appreciation Night held at Vance AFB. This event thanks the enlisted corps at Vance for their significant contribution to the pilot training mission at Vance, and for their support of the US when they deploy from Vance to the world's hot spots.
2. Financial support for the AF Junior ROTC program at Enid High School. Recent support includes a \$250 contribution we gave to match one they received from the Aerospace Education Foundation (a grant that we nominated them for). These funds are used to defray the cost incurred for AF related field trips and the purchase of appropriate materials for their classroom. We also honor their top cadet annually with a \$200 savings bond.
3. We provide a \$100 savings bond to the Vance AFB Company Grade Officer, Honor Guard Member, First Sergeant, Senior Non-Commissioned Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer and Airman of the Year at their annual awards program.
4. We organize and provide funds in support of the annual Vance-Townie Golf Tournament. This event provides the opportunity for Vance Military members of all ranks to join Enid residents for breakfast and a round of golf at Oakwood Country Club. The Enid automobile dealers and many other businesses also support this event with their contributions and attendance. Our Vance guests are eligible to win over \$1,000 in prizes donated by the sponsors.

We also support larger special endeavors with the funding your membership provides. Our chapter had a granite monument built and installed in the AirPark area at Vance Air Force Base in commemoration of their 50th Anniversary. The cost of this monument was over \$3,000, but it was money well spent in recognizing their contributions to our community. We have taken the lead in raising the funding to install a bronze statue in the atrium of Vance's Headquarters building. This is an ambitious project that will cost \$50,000. Of course we cannot fund a project of this magnitude alone, but we are organizing the required fund raising in addition to providing the funding we can.

While this is by no means an inclusive list of the things we support with the funds your membership provides it does give you an idea of the events we are supporting. The amount we can do depends entirely on the strength of our regular and Community Partner memberships. **Won't you join us?**