

N Air Force Association Newsline

August 2009

Important Dates

August

- 1 Massachusetts State Convention
Cape Cod AFS, MA
- 1 Pennsylvania State Convention
Carlisle, PA
- 7-8 Executive Committee Meeting
Arlington, VA
- 28-29 Midwest Region Meeting
Galesburg, IL
- 29 Washington State Convention
Ellensburg, WA



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, the Air Force Family, and Aerospace Education

Air Force Association

1501 Lee Highway
Arlington, VA 22209-1198
703-247-5800 800-727-3337
FAX: 703-247-5853

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

AFA web site www.afa.org

E-Mail addresses:

service@afa.org

fldsvcs@afa.org

2009 National Aerospace Awards Announced

The following awards will be presented at AFA's Anniversary Dinner on Wednesday, September 16, 2009.

JOHN R. ALISON AWARD

For the most outstanding contribution by industrial leadership to national defense

General Atomic Aeronautical Systems, Inc.

For the MQ-9 Reaper Unmanned Aircraft System

W. STUART SYMINGTON AWARD

For the most significant contribution by a civilian in the field of national defense

Senator Orrin Hatch

Utah

H. H. ARNOLD AWARD

For the most significant contribution by a military member for national defense

General John D.W. Corley
Commander, Air Combat Command
and

Air Component Commander for U.S. Joint Forces Command

AFA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Recognizes not a single achievement, but a lifetime of work in the advancement of aerospace

The Doolittle Tokyo Raiders

The Tuskegee Airmen

Dr. James Schlesinger

AFA CHAIRMAN'S AEROSPACE EDUCATION AWARD

For long term commitment to aerospace education making a significant impact across the nation

Exxon Mobile Corporation

The following awards will be presented at the Air & Space Conference Opening and Award Ceremonies, Monday, September 14, 2009.

JOAN ORR AIR FORCE SPOUSE OF THE YEAR AWARD

For civilian spouses of military members for their significant contributions to the Air Force

Mrs. Michelle L. Storch

Hill AFB, Utah

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

For the most outstanding performance of duty as a VA employee

Ms. Kendra Betz

Glendale, Colorado

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

Captain Chesley Sullenberger

US Airways

DAVID C. SCHILLING AWARD

For the most outstanding contribution in the field of flight.

U.S. Air Forces Central

Lt Gen Gary L. North, Commander

THEODORE VON KARMAN AWARD

For the most outstanding contribution in the field of science and engineering

Laser Joint Direct Attack Munition Team

Eglin AFB, Florida

GILL ROBB WILSON AWARD

For the most outstanding contribution in the field of arts and letters.

The United States Air Force Band

Bolling AFB, District of Columbia

HOYT S. VANDENBERG AWARD

For the most outstanding contribution in the field of aerospace education

Mr. Robert F. Collings

Founder of the Collings Foundation

GEN GEORGE C. KENNEY AWARD

For the most significant contribution by an individual or team in the area of lessons learned

The Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command Lessons Learned Team

Hurlburt Field, Florida

THOMAS P. GERRITY AWARD

For the most outstanding contribution in the field of systems and logistics

Major Chad A. Holt

Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona

GEN BILLY MITCHELL AWARD FOR C⁴ EXCELLENCE

For the C⁴ professional who most enhanced the Air Force's war-fighting capability

Captain Scott A. Weed

3rd Combat Communications Group
Tinker AFB, Oklahoma

LT GEN CLAIRE LEE

CHENNAULT AWARD

For outstanding aerial warfare tactician(s) from TAC, PACAF, USAFE, ANG and AF Reserves

CITATIONS OF HONOR

For the outstanding contribution of an individual or organization to the development of aerospace power for the betterment of mankind

4th Air Support Operations Group

Heidelberg, Germany

11th Intelligence Squadron

Hurlburt Field, Florida

703rd Aeronautical Systems Group

Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

Enterprise Operations Squadron

Chantilly, Virginia

563rd Rescue Group

Davis-Monthan, Arizona

SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE SAFETY AWARD, CATEGORY I

For the Major Command with the best overall mishap prevention program

United States Air Forces in Europe

Directorate of Safety
Ramstein AB, Germany

SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE SAFETY AWARD, CATEGORY II

For the Field Operating Agency or Direct Reporting Unit with the best overall mishap prevention program

Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center

Kirtland AFB, New Mexico

AIR NATIONAL GUARD

EARL T. RICKS AWARD

For the Air National Guard person or persons for outstanding airmanship

The Aircrew of TORQE 95

Stationed at Bagram AB, Afghanistan

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT DICK RED AWARD

For Outstanding Air National Guard Aerospace Maintenance

Senior Master Sergeant Kerry A. James

176th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Alaska Air National Guard

AIR NATIONAL GUARD

OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD

For the Air National Guard Unit with the most outstanding airmanship

148th Fighter Wing

Minnesota Air National Guard

GEORGE W. BUSH AWARD for ANG Members and Employers

To recognize outstanding civilian employers of Air National Guard members who made outstanding contributions to the total force mission Officer Category

Captain Jonathan D. Ness

Washington Air National Guard
and

Microsoft Corporation

Enlisted Category

Not awarded for 2009

AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND

For the AF Reserve unit which displays outstanding flying achievement and continued superior performance

Team McChord

446th Airlift Wing
McChord AFB, Washington

N Air Force Association **ewsline**

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Chairman
of the Board Joseph E. Sutter

President Michael M. Dunn

Editor Kathy Snodgrass

Contributors Lynette Cross
Judy Galbreath
Meghan McClelland
Ann Sagle
Jim Simpson
Bridget Wagner

Design Tonya Hall

**AIR FORCE RESERVE UNIT
AWARD**

For the Air Force Reserve Unit which displays superior performance and outstanding achievements

336th Air Refueling Squadron
March ARB, California

CITIZEN AIRMEN AWARDS

To recognize outstanding civilian employers of the Air Force Reserve members who made outstanding contributions to the total force mission

Enlisted Category

Master Sergeant Daniel A. Schultz
911th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania
And

The Reed Witting Company
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Officer Category

Major Michael V. Bautista
728th Airlift Squadron
McChord AFB, Washington
And

Southwest Airlines
Dallas, Texas

EDUCATION

**OUTSTANDING ROTC CADET OF
THE YEAR**

Cadet Wesley W. Carr
University of Arkansas

**CAP AEROSPACE EDUCATION
CADET OF THE YEAR**

Cadet Victor R. Traven
Civil Air Patrol, Maryland

PROFESSIONAL

CHAPLAIN CORPS AWARD

For outstanding performance by a member of the USAF Chaplain Service

Chaplain (Captain) Andrew L. Thornley
Andrews AFB, Maryland

PAUL W. MYERS AWARD

For the AF Med Corps Officer who has made the most significant contribution to the continued good health of the men and women of the USAF

Major (Dr) William Hannah
Keesler AFB, Mississippi

JUANITA REDMOND AWARD

For the AF nurse (Lt or Capt) who provides significant contribution to health care of an AF individual or family, excellence in clinical nursing or improvement in nursing care.

Captain April J. Dunlevy
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska

STUART R. REICHART AWARD

For the most outstanding achievements in the field of law within the USAF

Mr. David W. Chappell
AFLOA, Arlington, Virginia

**AFMC MANAGEMENT AWARD
(EXECUTIVE LEVEL)**

For outstanding contributions to management while assigned to AFMC

Mr. Gary Williams
308th Armament Systems Wing
Eglin AFB, Florida

VERNE ORR AWARD

For the best utilization of human resources in the USAF

33rd Rescue Squadron
Kadena AB, Japan

**OUTSTANDING CIVILIAN SENIOR
MANAGER OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Jeffrey J. Braun
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

**CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT OF
THE AIR FORCE THOMAS N.
BARNES AWARD**

For the outstanding aircraft crew chief in the USAF

Staff Sergeant Jonathan W. Scheets
4th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Seymour Johnson AFB, North Carolina

CREWS AND TEAMS

HOWARD W. LEAF AWARD

For outstanding achievement by a USAF test team engaged in the test and evaluation of a defense acquisition program

**A-10C Precision Engagement
Operational Test Team**
Nellis AFB, Nevada

**LT GEN WILLIAM H. TUNNER
AWARD**

For the most outstanding airlift crew in the Air Force

The Crew of Torque 05
40th Airlift Squadron
Dyess AFB, Texas

BRIG GEN ROSS G. HOYT AWARD

For the best air refueling crew (Active, ANG or Reserve) in the USAF

The Crew of Air Force Rescue 5828
67th Special Operations Squadron
RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom

GEN CURTIS E. LEMAY AWARD

For the best overall bomber aircrew in the Air Force

Crew of Bone 11
37th Bomb Squadron
Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota

GEN THOMAS S. POWER AWARD

For the best overall missile crew in the Air Force

**Captain Stephen M. Gringage and
Captain Benji L. Johnson**
Crew Number 201

91st Operations Support Squadron
Minot AFB, North Dakota

GEN JEROME O'MALLEY AWARD

For the best reconnaissance crew in the USAF

The RC-135 Crew of Python 75
38th Reconnaissance Squadron
97th Intelligence Squadron
55th Operations Support Squadron
Offutt AFB, Nebraska
390th Intelligence Squadron
Kadena AB, Okinawa, Japan

**BEST SPACE OPERATIONS CREW
AWARD**

For the best overall space operations crew in the USAF

Alpha Crew
4th Space Control Squadron
Holloman AFB, New Mexico

**AIRBORNE BATTLE
MANAGEMENT CREW OF THE
YEAR AWARD**

For the outstanding AWACs or Joint Stars aircrew's battle management contribution to the USAF and air power

Crew Two

16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron
Robins AFB, Georgia

The following awards will be presented locally at the Recipient's location.

**OUTSTANDING CIVILIAN
PROGRAM MANAGER OF THE
YEAR**

Mr. Kenneth E. Bandy
Eglin AFB, Florida

**OUTSTANDING CIVILIAN
PROGRAM SPECIALIST OF THE
YEAR**

Mr. Gary J. Parker
Patrick AFB, Florida

**OUTSTANDING CIVILIAN WAGE
EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Brigido G. Serrano
Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona

**GEN EDWIN W. RAWLINGS
AWARD (MANAGEMENT AND
TECHNICIAN CATEGORIES)**

For outstanding achievements in the field of environmental conservation within the USAF. Awarded to one supervisor and one technician each year

Management

Mr. Douglas Owen
Seymour-Johnson AFB, North Carolina

Technician

Technical Sergeant Mark T. Burns
Nellis AFB, Nevada

AFMC MANAGEMENT AWARD

For outstanding contributions to management while assigned to AFMC

Middle Division

Mr. Michael W. Campbell
308th Armament Systems Wing
Eglin AFB, Florida

Junior Division

Captain Waldine W. Messmore
308th Armament Systems Wing
Eglin AFB, Florida

2009 Outstanding Airmen

The Air Force has selected its top enlisted members, the twelve Outstanding Airmen of the Year for 2009. An Air Force Selection Board at the Air Force Personnel Center considered 33 nominees who represented major commands, direct reporting units, field operating agencies and Air Staff agencies. The Board selected the 12 based on superior leadership, job performance, and personal achievements.

The nominees are authorized to wear the Outstanding Airman of the Year ribbon, while the 12 winners will wear the bronze service star device on the ribbon. The winners will also wear the Outstanding Airman of the Year Badge for one year from the date of formal presentation. The Airmen will also serve as members of AFA's enlisted advisory council for the next year.

The Outstanding Airmen are:

Staff Sergeant Johanna S. Aviles
Air Force Space Command

Senior Master Sergeant Mary A. Bechdel
Air Force District of Washington
Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance

Master Sergeant Tyrone F. Bingham
Air National Guard

Senior Airman Channel H. Bolton-Scholl
Air Force Reserve Command

Technical Sergeant John T. Carter
United States Air Forces in Europe

Technical Sergeant Manuel J. Herrera
Air Mobility Command

Technical Sergeant Benjamin P. Horton
Air Force Materiel Command

Technical Sergeant Jennifer S. Laufer
Air Education and Training Command

Technical Sergeant Marisol M. Lozada

Air Force Special Operations Command

Master Sergeant Christopher Pollock
Pacific Air Forces

Senior Airman Alexander W. Royal
Air Combat Command

Senior Master Sergeant Jeffery E. Steagall
Air Force Space Command

**AFA Announces Spring 2009
Pitsenbarger Awards to 245
Graduates**

On June 16, 2009, AFA announced a total of \$98,000 awarded to [new graduates of the 2009 Spring Community College of the Air Force \(CCAF\)](#). Known as AFA's Pitsenbarger Awards, each of the **245 recipients** receive a \$400 check and a certificate of achievement. AFA's Pitsenbarger awards will again be distributed to qualified Airmen CCAF graduates at the fall graduation ceremonies.

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.

The program, created and administered by AFA, 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.

"The Air Force Association is pleased to provide each of these fine Airmen with a \$400 check to help them continue their educations," said S. Sanford Schlitt, Vice Chairman of the Board, Aerospace Education.

“We’re proud of these Airmen and the work they do, both professionally and academically,” said Mike Dunn, President of AFA.

AFA Announces Awards to Outstanding Civil Air Patrol, JROTC and ROTC Cadets

On July 1, 2009, AFA announced the 2009 awards Civil Air Patrol squadrons, ROTC detachments, and Junior ROTC high school units.

Among these awards are the **Outstanding Cadet of the Year** from each detachment or unit; the AFA Silver Medal for the [Outstanding Aerospace Studies 300 Cadet](#) from each Air Force ROTC detachment; the [AFA Bronze Medal for the Outstanding Junior Year Cadet](#) in an Air Force Junior ROTC unit, accompanied by a certificate and ribbon; and an [AFA CAP Cadet medal to the Outstanding CAP Cadet](#) of each CAP Squadron, a Silver Medal is accompanied by a ribbon (in sky blue) and a certificate.

“We’re so pleased to be able to recognize each of these hard-working cadets,” said S. Sanford Schlitt, Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education. “Each of them has stood out to their commander and peers for their efforts and focus. We’re proud of them.”

“These cadets are known for rolling up their sleeves and getting to the job at hand. They’ve earned the recommendation of their detachment commander,” said Mike Dunn, President of AFA. “Congratulations to each on a well-deserved award, and a great start on a bright future.”

For more information on AFA awards, grants and scholarships, contact: Lynette Cross at 703.247.5800 ext 4807 or LCross@AFA.org.

AFA Announces 2009 National Aerospace Teacher of the Year

AFA announces William L. Austin, a dedicated teacher at Pocalla Springs Elementary School, Sumter, SC, as the 24th recipient of the prestigious National Aerospace Teacher of the Year Award.

Nominated by the Swamp Fox Chapter #298 and the South Carolina AFA, Austin uniquely combines his roles as an elementary teacher, an adjunct college professor and an Air Force veteran, who served 21 years. Austin’s teaching career began as a favor to a harried educator who requested he watch over a class for awhile in the absence of the substitute teacher. Instead, he discovered his calling.

He strongly believes in the importance of education, particularly the need for quality science and math education that is the underpinning of aerospace development and many other professions. In a 15-year teaching career, he has instilled a love of learning and science in many students. He also shares his practical knowledge with other upcoming science teachers as an adjunct professor at the College of Charleston and formerly at the Citadel Military College.

“Congratulations to William Austin, an excellent teacher. He is AFA’s National Aerospace Teacher of the Year,” said S. Sanford Schlitt, Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education. “He creates enthusiasm among his students, generates interest in science and inspires other teachers by his example.”

“William Austin is making a difference in many young lives, and we’re proud to recognize his dedication,” said Mike Dunn, President of AFA. “We appreciate William Austin, the many other fine nominees for this award, and so many good teachers across the country, whose work will influence our nation’s future.”

Austin holds a BA in Education from the University of South Carolina and a Master’s from South Carolina State University. He also studied Aerospace Technology at the Community College of the Air Force.

The National Aerospace Teacher of the Year award recognizes classroom teachers at the national level for their accomplishments and achievements in building enthusiasm among K-12 students about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), and preparing them to use these skills and contribute to tomorrow’s technologies.

AFA Announces 2009 Air Force Excellence Scholarship Winners

AFA is proud to announce the recipients of the Air Force Excellence Scholarship for 2009. Each recipient will receive a scholarship in the amount of \$3000.

The Air Force Excellence Scholarship was created by AFA in partnership with the First Command Educational Foundation, who provided the funding for the award.

We received over 150 applications for these scholarships and have selected five outstanding applicants to receive a \$3,000 scholarship. The winners are as follows:

Bruce Cunningham
Lakewood, FL

Lean Evans
Del Rio, TX

Kristen Kloeppe
The Woodlands, TX

Christopher Nichols
Honolulu, HI

Kane Swaney
Magnolia, DE

Do You Use News Releases?

News releases are the best way to tell your community about what you are doing. Here are four important rules to follow:

- **Timeliness** – Plan the news release at the same time you plan your event. Check with the news media to find out what their deadlines are and meet them with your release.
- **Clarity** – Find someone who can write clearly. Use short, concise sentences. Do NOT use jargon.
- **Local impact** – Show the link to your LOCAL community if you want to get your release published. Remember, like politics, the most important news is local.
- **Content** – There's no way around it. You have to have something to say. Answer the famous "who, what, where, when, why and how?" questions.

Finally don't expect to have every news release published. Work hard to get the first one in print and then go from there.

AAS Silver Wings Alumni Association

There is an Arnold Air Society and a Silver Wings Alumni Association. There are opportunities for Chapters collocated with USAF installations to take advantage of these organizations to get more young folks interested in AFA. Make contact with the organization and try integrating their activities with yours.

For more information about the organization, or to see about getting your Chapter involved in joint activities with them, please contact Leanne Babcock, at Leanne.Babcock@peterson.af.mil or Ashley Agacki Ashley.Agacki@gmail.com

Region Review: The Far West Region

The Far West Region consists of two states California and Hawaii. There are 19 chapters in California and one in Hawaii with 11,071 members in the region. There are two California chapters with over 1,000 members, the Claude Farinha Gold Rush Chapter and the Gen Doolittle LA Area Chapter. The Gen Bernard A. Schriever Chapter is also a dominant force in the region. Our Hawaii Chapter is made up of 743 members. Key Air Force installations supported by our AFA chapters include Edwards, Vandenberg, Beale, Los Angeles and the March ARB.

Due to its large number of chapters, California also has a State organization, CAFA. This organization is made up of a President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Area Vice Presidents, one of whom serves as the State's Senior Vice President. Each year the state organization gathers in a State Convention. This year's event was on May 29 and 30 at March ARB in Southern California and was sponsored by the Bob Hope Chapter. The Convention included a Golf Tournament at the Gen Old Golf Club and tours of the 144th Fighter Wing with F-16 aircraft on 24 hour alert status. Tours were also available of the Predator UAV, C-17 Simulator, Air and Marine Operations Center and the March Air Field Museum. CAFA Awards were given out at both State and Military Award Banquets. The Claude Farinha Gold Rush Chapter was selected as the CAFA Chapter of the year for the sixth year in a row, an amazing accomplishment. In the photographs Martin L. Ledwitz, CAFA President, and Brig Gen Eric W. Crabtree, Commander, 4th Air Force present Brig Gen Bob P. Otto, Commander, 9th Reconnaissance Wing, Beale AFB his award as CAFA Person of the Year and Team Beale receives their CAFA award.



One of the key events in the region, held in November each year, is the AF Ball and Symposium at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, CA. The Ball is shared between the National organization and the Gen Bernard A. Schriever Chapter located in the Los Angeles area serving the Space and Missile Systems Center, SMC. The Chief of Staff of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Air Force are often attendees at this formal event. The accompanying Symposium has been designed to bring a little of the Air and Space Conference to the West Coast. This year the event was further enhanced by Air Force Week activities carried on throughout the Greater Los Angeles Area.

The region chapters focus on ROTC and JROTC scholarships, STEM, Morale and Welfare, the Visions program, Member Events, and the CAP. Chapter revitalization has been key in the region. In recent months three chapters have been brought back from the brink of deactivation thanks to the efforts of the CAFA and local leadership teams. I am proud to say that all chapters have submitted their annual activity and

financial plans as well as their rosters for the year.

The region also includes the Education Foundation for Aerospace, Inc (EFA), a 501(c)3 nonprofit CAFA affiliate whose primary focus is to facilitate military family support programs, aerospace education, scholarships and teacher of the year programs. EFA has provided over \$125,000 in scholarships throughout the CAFA organization over the past six years. It annually awards \$1,000 to the CAFA State Teacher of the Year and further recognizes Teachers of the Year from each of the State's three Areas. The Far West Region is a large and exciting part of our National AFA organization. It will continue to focus on the needs of the local chapters while playing a key role as a significant contributor to the AFA at the National level. *Submitted by Wayne Kaufman*

Delegate --Committee Member Convention/Conference and Hotel Registration Information 2009 AFA National Convention and Air & Space Conference

Registration is open now!

To ensure you have the accommodations you want to have you must do the following:

FIRST—REGISTER FOR THE CONVENTION AND/OR AIR & SPACE CONFERENCE

AFA Delegates should use the on-line registration process to register. Please use the following link to receive the special AFA Delegate rate.

PLEASE NOTE: YOU CANNOT GET TO THE LINK THROUGH THE REGULAR AFA WEB PAGE; YOU MUST CLICK ON THE LINK PROVIDED:

<https://registration.afa.org/reg/reg1.aspx?event=conf2009®type=delegate>

SECOND – MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS

The Air Force Association is pleased to extend our delegates the military rate of \$233 single/double per night, plus a resort fee (see below) and applicable taxes. Please make your reservations now to ensure you get the military rate. Reservations will be accepted on a first-in basis until the block is full or until Thursday, **August 20, 2009**, whichever comes first. **To reserve your hotel room, you must first register for the Convention/Conference.**

At the end of the registration process, your Internet browser will display a registration confirmation page. **Scroll to the bottom of the page to click the button 'Make a Hotel Reservation'** 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.

Resort fee: The Gaylord National™ Resort & Convention Center on the Potomac has a \$10 per day, per room resort fee that will be posted to your account upon check in. This fee includes: Local phone calls up to 20 minutes (\$.10/minute thereafter), complimentary toll-free and credit card calls up to 20 minutes (\$.10/minute thereafter), complimentary bottled water (2 per room, per day), complimentary daily newspaper, complimentary access to the resort's state-of-the-art Fitness Center, and complimentary high-speed Internet access in each guestroom.

AFA Delegates

On Sunday evening, September 13, AFA through the generosity of Lockheed Martin Corporation, will again offer AFA Delegates an exciting opportunity to "fly" the F-22 Raptor and F-35 Lighting II – the world's only 5th Generation Fighters. You will be able to climb into the cockpit demonstrators that realistically simulate the revolutionary technologies that only these two aircraft possess. Representatives will be on hand to provide the latest, up-to-date information on the status of the Air

Force acquisition programs for this game-changing technology.

You and a guest are cordially invited to attend a **reception and F-22 / F-35 Simulator Demonstration** to be held at the Lockheed Martin facilities in Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia, **Sunday, September 13, 2009, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** Dress Code – Business Casual. Ladies should wear pants if they would like to try the simulator. Food and beverage will be available. Complimentary round-trip transportation will be provided between the Gaylord National Resort and the facilities. We look forward to seeing you there! This invitation is limited to the first 140 people who RSVP.

To RSVP please return to this link:
<https://registration.afa.org/reg/reg1.aspx?event=conf2009®type=delegate>

- 1) Enter your e-mail address and click 'Next';
- 2) Answer your access control question and click 'Next';
- 3) At the top of the page click 'Add Registration';
- 4) Click 'Next' (at the bottom of each page) until you get to Step 3;
- 5) At Step 3, scroll down to 'Additional Activities' and check the box for the Reception and F-22/F-35 Simulator Demonstration;
- 6) Step 4, confirm and click 'Next';
- 7) Step 5, check out and obtain your confirmation.

Please contact Katie Storm if you have any questions.

Email: kstorm@afa.org
Phone: (703) 247-5848
Fax: (703) 247-5830

Update: Congressional Morning Reception September 15

The 2009 Congressional Morning Reception (formally known as the Congressional Breakfasts) location has been finalized. The Congressional Morning Reception will be held on

Tuesday, September 15 from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. at the Dirksen Senate Office Building room SD-106.

In order to participate in this program, AFA needs a Congressional Morning Reception representative from each state to be the point of contact. Please contact Bridget Wagner of the AFA Policy and Communication staff— Ext. 5818 or bwagner@afa.org with contact information if you have not already done so, and she will send you regular updates regarding the Congressional Morning Reception.

Please remember to do the following:

1. Contact your Congressional Delegation and invite them to the morning reception. Invitations should be both mailed and faxed, followed up by telephone calls to check in with each office about the Reception.
2. Contact each office within your Congressional Delegation and request meetings with the Member or Defense Legislative Assistant to discuss AFA top issues. Meetings can take place anytime after 9:00 a.m. It is up to your own group to decide how many people attend these meetings from your state/region group.
3. Invite and encourage your local AFA members to participate in the Morning Reception program.

We are extending the last return bus from Capitol Hill to the hotel to 12:15 p.m. Should your visits end later than the last return bus departure, there are a couple of options for you regarding transportation back to the hotel. There is a Metro option with a free shuttle to the hotel from the King Street Metro (the last King Street shuttle to Gaylord leaves at 4:00 p.m., and you should allow at least 30 minutes to get from South Capitol on the Blue line, then a change to yellow line at L'Enfant Plaza). A bit more expensive alternative is the Gaylord shuttle from Union Station to

the hotel for \$13 per person or a taxi for ~ \$25-30 (cheaper than the Gaylord shuttle with three passengers).

Special Flags Available

AFA is offering an opportunity to give a special gift while continuing its educational programs and outreach efforts. For a contribution of \$150, you can receive an Air Force flag which was flown over the U.S. Air Force Memorial on Memorial Day. This is an official 3'x5' U.S. Air Force outdoor flag made of 100% nylon and finished with a canvas header and brass grommets. The flag will also include a certificate of authenticity, and all donations are tax-deductible. It is a perfect way to honor and thank speakers, leaders in your community, or other dignitaries. As you know, AFA relies on support from people like you to continue to its mission. Contact Lisa Rietmann at Ext 4837 or lrietmann@afa.org for more information about this program.

Educator Grant Program Applications Now Being Accepted

AFA believes that one of the most significant means to affect student learning is to fund grants to meet the unmet and unfunded educational needs of students. Each school year, the Association awards grants to worthy projects that significantly influence student learning.

The Association will accept grant applications from August 1 – November 15, 2010. The grant process is competitive in nature. A committee comprised of outside experts in the field of aerospace education will review all qualified grant applications and make recommendations on funding. Based upon the funding available, the Association will choose to invest in projects that best serve our nation's students and support the mission of the Air Force Association.

The Educator Grant program promotes aerospace education activities

in classrooms from kindergarten through twelfth grades. The program encourages development of innovative aerospace activities within the prescribed curriculum.

Grant applications must be completed and submitted online at <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/educator.asp>. Hardcopy or faxed applications will not be accepted.

IRS Group Exemption

If the IRS were in charge in Afghanistan, the Taliban would've surrendered years ago out of frustration ... We are still exchanging letters with the IRS as we pass the third anniversary of the Group Exemption request (it was submitted 10 July 2006). Our attorney is drafting what he refers to as "the final letter" and is asking that the determination be moved from the Cincinnati office to IRS HQ – we'll see. I would like to express my personal thanks to six field leaders who have been the "pillars" supporting the effort (over two years ago, the IRS picked five field units and has been requesting information on them ever since. The "lucky five" are:

Dan Callahan, AFA 230 Callahan Chapter, TN
Nancy Driscoll, AFA 257 Bob Hope Chapter, CA
Pete Lane, AFA 391 Denton Chapter, TX
Tom O'Shea, then Jesse Wayland, Illinois State AFA
John McCance, Ohio State AFA

Buy them a drink when you see them at convention – they've earned it!

Staff Changes

Ann Sagle, AFA's Manager of Donor Relations and Field Education Programs departed the staff on July 23. Ann had been with AFA about 12 years. The programs she was handling have been divided among other current staff as follows:

Visions of Exploration

Educator Grants

Laine Martens, Ext. 4891

Chapter, State and National Teacher of the Year

Chapter Matching Grants

Awards for Aerospace Excellence

Mary Nauheimer, Ext. 4821

ROTC Scholarships

Air Force Excellence Scholarship

Lynette Cross, Ext. 4807

Fellowships

Lisa Rietmann, Ext. 4873

Direct Mail (calendars, lapel pin, etc.)

Lisa Rietmann, Ext. 4873

If you should want to contact these staff member via email, use their first initial and last name @afa.org.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS

8 September 2008

8PM Eastern time

On 8 September 2008 at 8pm Eastern time, AFA – AEC will hold a 45 minute informational audio conference. The agenda will contain a 5 minute presentation from HQ followed by questions and answers submitted by you. You will be able to submit questions in advance or during the call via email. Your questions will ALL be answered during the call or thereafter electronically.

Anyone may participate in the call but you must register first. We are testing this effort of cross communication in order to judge interest to see if we should do such a conference periodically.

Register by emailing your intent to participate to AENewsletter@AFA.Org.

Registration will close 25 August. After that, those who have registered will receive by return email a telephone number to call for participation on 8 September as well as further instructions. **Register now!**

2009 AFA NATIONAL CONVENTION
September 12 – 16, 2009
Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center
(Tentative Schedule of Events as of July 9, 2009)

Friday, September 11

1:00 pm – 4:00pm	Region Presidents Meeting	Presidential Boardroom
4:00 pm – 9:00pm	AFA Executive Committee	Presidential Boardroom

Saturday, September 12

8:00 am – 2:00 pm	AFA Board of Directors	National Harbor 5
10:00 am	AFA Credentials Registration	National Harbor 10-11 Foyer
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Preliminary Business Session	National Harbor 10-11
5:00 pm – 5:45 pm	Catholic Mass	National Harbor 4
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Field Awards Reception and Dinner	Potomac AB
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Delegate Regional Caucuses	
	Central East	Chesapeake 6
	Far West	Chesapeake 7
	Florida	Chesapeake 5
	Great Lakes	Chesapeake 4
	Midwest	National Harbor 9
	New England	National Harbor 6
	North Central	National Harbor 7
	Northeast	Chesapeake I
	Northwest	Chesapeake 8
	Overseas	Chesapeake H
	Rocky Mountain	Chesapeake 9
	South Central	Chesapeake D
	Southeast	Chesapeake G
	Southwest	Chesapeake F
	Texoma	Chesapeake E

Sunday, September 13

6:00 am – 7:00 am	Continental Breakfast	National Harbor 2-3
7:00 am	Departure for Memorial Service	Bus Loop by Maryland Ballroom
8:00 am – 8:30 am	Memorial Service/Wreath Laying	Air Force Memorial
9:00 am – 5:00 pm	AFA Business Session	National Harbor 10-11
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	Official Delegate Buffet Lunch	National Harbor 2-3
5:45 pm – 8:30 pm	Delegate Education Session	Lockheed Martin Facility

Monday, September 14

7:30 am – 8:45 am	Continental Breakfast	Potomac 1-6 Foyer
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Conference Opening and Award Ceremonies	Potomac AB
11:00 am	Technology Exposition Ribbon Cutting Ceremony	
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Conference Attendee Lunch	Exhibit Hall CDE
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Conference Address & Workshops	various rooms
2:10 pm – 4:30 pm	Delegate Workshops	Chesapeake 4, Chesapeake 5
6:00 pm – 7:45 pm	Outstanding Airmen of the Year Reception	Exhibit Hall CDE
8:00 pm – 10:30pm	Outstanding Airmen of the Year Dinner	Potomac AB

Tuesday, September 15

7:00 am	Departure for Congressional Morning Reception	Bus Loop by Maryland Ballroom
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Delegates Congressional Reception	Senate Dirksen Room 50
9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Conference Address & Workshops	various rooms
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Conference Attendee Lunch	Exhibit Hall CDE

Wednesday, September 16

7:30 am – 8:45 am	Continental Breakfast	Potomac 1-6 Foyer
9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Conference Address & Workshops	various rooms
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Conference Attendee Lunch	Exhibit Hall CDE
6:30 pm – 7:45 pm	Air Force Anniversary Reception	Exhibit Hall CDE
8:00 pm – 10:30 pm	Air Force Anniversary Dinner	Potomac AB