

N Air Force Association Newslines

June 2009

AFA's National Convention, Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition

September 11-16

Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center
National Harbor, MD

The 2009 AFA National Convention, will be held in National Harbor, MD, at the **Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center** from September 11-13.

Our Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition will begin on Monday, September 14, and run through September 16. This is truly a one-of-a-kind event where the Air Force Association brings together Air Force leadership, industry experts, and academia from around the world to discuss the issues and challenges facing America, the aerospace community, and our US Air Force today.

Important Reminders Regarding Potential Delegates

Who can be a Delegate? – Any voting member affiliated with a chapter can be a Delegate for their state if duly selected as a Delegate by the State President (Cadets may not serve as Delegates). All individuals who plan to represent their chapter on the state delegation must coordinate with the State President since the State President is responsible for selecting Delegates in accordance with the AFA National

Constitution and must provide a roster of selected Delegates to the Credentials Committee on Saturday, September 12. After you are selected to attend as an official delegate you will receive an **“invitation code”** directly from your State President which will allow you to register online.

What is a Delegate required to attend during the Convention? –

Delegates must attend the business session on Saturday, the Region Caucus held on Saturday night and the business session on Sunday. You should plan on attending the Congressional Morning Reception on Tuesday morning and the individual appointment with your Members of Congress if scheduled.

Do you need a Delegate registration package or have questions regarding delegate registration? If so, contact Membership Operations, Mary Nauheimer (ext. 4821) or Judy Galbreath (ext. 4800) at National Headquarters. You may also send an email message to fldsvcs@afa.org to request a delegate registration package.

Important Dates

June

- 5-6 Oklahoma State Convention
Enid, OK
- 5-7 Southwest Region Conference
Albuquerque, NM
- 13 Virginia State Convention
Richmond, VA
- 13 New York State Convention
Farmingdale, NY
- 17 AFA Audit Committee
Arlington, VA
- 18 AFA Awards Committee
Arlington, VA
- 19 Strategic Oversight Council
Arlington, VA
- 27 North Carolina State Convention
Goldsboro, NC



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

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ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

AFA web site www.afa.org

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Following is the tentative schedule of events to assist you in making your plans.

Friday, September 11

Region Presidents Meeting

Saturday, September 12

Board of Directors Meeting
Credentials Registration
Convention Preliminary Business Session
Catholic Mass
Field Awards Reception & Awards Dinner
Regional Caucuses

Sunday, September 13

Continental Breakfast
Memorial Service at the Air Force Memorial
Convention Business Session
Official Delegates Lunch
AFA Convention Business Session (continued)

Monday, September 14

Continental Breakfast
Opening and Awards Ceremony

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
Aerospace Technology Exposition
Air & Space Conference
Air & Space Workshops
Delegate Workshops
Outstanding Airmen of the Year Reception & Dinner

Tuesday, September 15

Congressional Breakfast Reception
Individual Congressional Appointments
Air & Space Conference
Aerospace Technology Exposition

Wednesday, September 16

Continental Breakfast
Air & Space Conference
Aerospace Technology Exposition
Air Force Anniversary Reception and Dinner

A complete schedule with times will be published on the Internet and in a future issue of *Newsline* when available.

To ensure you have the accommodations and tickets you want to have, you must do two separate things:

FIRST – Register for the Convention and/or the Air & Space Conference

If you will be serving as a delegate to the National Convention you **MUST** register and pay your delegate fee. 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 reservation

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.

2009 Scholarships

For the following scholarships, more information and applications are available at <http://www.afa.org/afef/aid/scholars.asp>

Grantham University Scholarship
Application Deadline: June 15, 2009

Through AFA's affiliation with Grantham University, AFA is pleased to provide a Full 4-Year Online Degree Scholarship to an Active Duty Dependent, an AFA Member, or a dependent of an AFA Member. One (1) full four-year scholarship, bearing a total value of approximately \$28,000, to Grantham University, also includes required books and software. To be eligible, candidates must have a high school diploma or GED.

Lt Col Romeo and Josephine Bass Ferretti Scholarship
Application Deadline: June 30, 2009

N Air Force Association **ewsline**

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This scholarship is made possible by a bequest from the estate of Lt Col Romeo and Josephine Bass Ferretti and was established for minor dependents of active duty Air Force, Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard enlisted airmen. It is for students pursuing an undergraduate degree in the area of science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM). The scholarship will be awarded to a student upon completion of the final year of high school who is entering an accredited institute of higher learning to pursue an undergraduate degree in the areas of science, technology, engineering or math.

*Jodi Callahan Memorial Scholarship
Application Deadline: June 30, 2009*

The Captain Jodi Callahan Memorial Scholarship provides a \$1,000 scholarship to an active duty Air Force, full time Air National Guard or full time Air Force Reserve (officer or enlisted) pursuing a Master's Degree in a non-technical field of study.

Recruiting New Leaders

Have you considered ...?

- Making PERSONAL CONTACT. Mailings and telephone calls mostly don't work.
- Telling them you need THEIR talents and ideas. The best way to fail is to tell someone they're just filling a square or no one else wants the job.
- Talking to them on THEIR turf or in a professional setting. Try lunch.
- Taking another ENTHUSIASTIC AFA member along to help make the appeal. Use senior leaders if they're available.
- Don't overload them

Membership as a Part of Participation in AFA Events

Many of our Chapters and State organizations have regular events which

draw large crowds to help raise funds for AFA activities at the local and State level. One way to increase membership might be to consider including a one-year membership as part of the registration/participation fee. For units who host large dinner-type functions, the purchase of a table could include a one-year membership for any person chosen by the organization purchasing the table. For events with individual registration fees, consider including all or part of the cost of a membership in the fee and make an automatic membership part of the event kit.

Visions of Exploration Funding Changes

Submitted by Jim Lauducci and Sandy Schlitt

We want to give you an update on a change we have made in funding for the *Visions of Exploration* Program. Currently AFA chapters that participate in the program contribute 50% of the funding and AFA HQ contributes the other half. Starting with the September 2009 school year, we will be asking chapters to contribute 60%; AFA HQ will contribute the remaining 40%. We do not make this change lightly. It was the subject of spirited discussions among the Aerospace Education Council, the Field Council and the Region Presidents. Let us give you some background and rationale, as well as provide specific financial impact to chapters.

Last December the Finance Committee presented the proposed 2009 AFA budget to the Executive Committee. As you might expect our projections for investment income were down significantly – approximately \$470,000 less than in 2008. This had a very real impact on our operating budget for 2009. As a result we implemented some serious belt tightening and solid cost cutting actions. We made a conscious decision not to cut any of our programs, but we did look at some areas where we could save some money. *Visions of Exploration* was one of those programs.

The change in HQ versus chapter percentages will save \$20,000 in the 2009 budget and will avoid having to cut other programs. It will increase chapter costs \$20 per classroom. Let us give you two examples:

Visions 18 week program:

Currently: \$94.50 for renewing chapters/\$76 for first time chapters (5 classroom min.) for 30 papers.

Revised Program: \$114

Visions 28 week program:

Currently: \$100 per chapter classroom for 20 papers.

Revised Program: \$120

As stated above the Aerospace Education Council, the Field Council and the Region Presidents all studied and debated this change in some detail. In the end we concluded that it was the right thing to do under the circumstances. Chapters can adjust to this change in several ways. One is to make program cuts; another is to shift chapter funds from other programs to make up the difference; another is to solicit additional funds from local sources; a fourth is to conduct a specific fundraising event for *Visions*.

We will be glad to answer any specific question you may have or provide additional details.

IRS Group Exemption Update

Last summer, with the concurrence of the Board, we began more aggressive pursuit of action on our Group Exemption Request. We hoped for speedy resolution on an issue that seems to be a relatively simple matter, and yet as this is written, we are approaching the third anniversary of our request (10 July 2006). The latest exchange of letters took place last month, and our attorney has requested the case be moved to the D.C. office if we do not resolve matters in a telephone conference yet to be scheduled in early June. Thus for the present, chapters remain 501 (c)(19) organizations, while AFA continues to operate as a 501

(c)(3). We continue to hope to have the situation resolved soon.

On a somewhat related matter, some units have asked about the 990-N e-postcard filing. Guidance on that front has not changed – if you have filed, or encounter no difficulties in filing, go ahead and file. If you have any difficulties (the most common one is the data base not recognizing your EIN), we do not believe it is worth the effort and frustration to pursue it when we still have over a year until any penalties are operable. By then we hope to be able to resolve those difficulties in one way or another.

You may be assured that we will let you know as soon as we have definitive word on the group exemption front.