

# N Air Force Association Newsline

November 2009

## Important Dates

### November

- 11 Veteran's Day  
AFA Closed
- 14 New England Region Meeting  
Windsor Locks, CT
- 19-20 Global Warfare Symposium  
and Ball  
Los Angeles, CA
- 26-27 Thanksgiving  
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, the Air Force family, and aerospace education*

#### Air Force Association

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## Air 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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 **noon on Tuesday, January 13, 2010**, 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. **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 [mmcClelland@afa.org](mailto:mmcClelland@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).

### Update on LA Symposium and Ball

The 2009 Global Warfare Symposium will be held in Los Angeles, CA, on Thursday, November 19, and Friday, November 20, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

This annual symposium focuses on the global role of the Air Force in the world today and will feature topics ranging from the nuclear enterprise, cyberspace, expeditionary forces and space. We have invited multiple speakers from around the Air Force, industry, and government. As always, our national symposiums attract the top echelon of USAF senior management and commanders, the aerospace community and academia.

The Symposium will run on Thursday, November 19, from 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. On Friday, November 20, the Symposium will continue from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The Annual Air Force Reception and Ball will be held Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. Since it is important for AFA leaders to have the opportunity to attend the symposium, a special "AFA Leader" registration fee for National Officers, Region Presidents,

Directors, State and Chapter Officers and designees has been established. Registration is now open. Please go to <http://www.afa.org/events/NatlSymp/2009/default.asp> for more details.

If you plan to stay at The Beverly Hilton, please call the hotel directly to make reservations as soon as possible at (310) 274-7777 or 800-HILTONS. Mention the AFA symposium to receive the special symposium rate of \$255 (single or double) plus 15.37% tax and \$.45 CA Tourism assessment fee. You may also visit: <http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/LAXBHHH-AFTT-20091116/index.jhtml> to make your reservations online. The deadline to receive these rates is October 27 or until the group block sells out, whichever comes first.

Check the AFA website for the latest information on the symposium or contact the following people for additional details on specific functions:

#### Registration

Katie Storm  
[kstorm@afa.org](mailto:kstorm@afa.org) or (703) 247-5848

#### Hotel Information

Meghan McClelland  
[mmcClelland@afa.org](mailto:mmcClelland@afa.org) or (703) 247-5815

#### Air Force Ball

Henry Sanders  
[hsanders@afa.org](mailto:hsanders@afa.org) or (310) 645-3982

### Pitsenbarger Awards for the 2009 Calendar Year

Funding for this award program for 2009 was set at \$160,000 to provide 400 \$400 awards. However, the number of applications increased significantly, and we processed 38 more applications than spring in prior years.

All base education offices were notified in January 2009: "Applications will be declined when funding has been expended."

As of the writing of this article, we have spent \$137,200 for 343 recipients. We project that we will be unable fund all of this year's applicants. In fact, we

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believe there could be a shortfall of between \$10,000 and \$15,000 (or up to 37 denied applications).

## Requests for National Officer or Headquarters Staff Support

All requests from the Field for support for an event either by one of your national officers or a headquarters staff member must come through the Field Services Division (Jim Simpson or Mary Nauheimer). Submit them as soon as the event date is known but before February 15th. The officers and senior staff will meet later in the month to set their calendars and commit to specific events so you should not expect a confirmation before the end of February.

In each case you should either use the Field Visit Request Form on the AFA Web at <http://www.afa.org/members/visit.pdf> OR provide the same information in an e-mail. Specifically, include the following:

- Type of Event to include location
- Type of support requested, e.g. speaker, workshop
- Any additional information that is relevant to the request
- Contact person information

## Planning Material is up on the AFA Website Now

All of the material needed by chapter officers to begin their planning process for 2010 is on the AFA Web in the Field Resources section. Remember your Annual Activity and Financial Plans are due to Headquarters, endorsed by your state president (if applicable) and region president not later than December 31.

Anyone who has questions on any part of this process should call or e-mail their state or region president or Jim Simpson ([jsimpson@afa.org](mailto:jsimpson@afa.org)) or Ext 5856) or Mary Nauheimer

([mnauheimer@afa.org](mailto:mnauheimer@afa.org) or Ext 4821) at Headquarters.

## Region and State Presidents Meeting

Fourteen regions and 27 state organizations were represented at the annual Region and State Presidents Meeting, held in Arlington, Virginia, on October 29-31, hosted by Vice Chairman of the Board, Field Operations, Jim Lauducci.

Attendees also heard presentations from Vice Chairman of the Board, Aerospace Education, Sandy Schlitt and the AFA professional staff, led by AFA President/CEO Mike Dunn, discussing Headquarters activities and perspectives as they relate to the Field.

The balance of the meeting focused on Field Issues, principally the planning and payment procedures for 2010 and other issues including the recently approved 501(c)(3) group exemption for most AFA chapters and states as AFA subordinate organizations. It also featured a presentation entitled "Chapter Turnaround" by John Hasson, newly elected New England Region President.

All presentation materials are on the AFA Web (Field Resources) in "Region and State Presidents Meeting Materials" with the exception of material relating to the Strategic Plan and the chapter planning templates all of which is located in a different section as indicated above. See "Workshops" and "Planning" in the Library section.

## AFA's New Group Legal Services Plan

During December 2009, AFA Members will have an opportunity to enroll in AFA's new group legal services plan, MetLaw®. The annual fee is \$198 and provides full legal representation for most personal legal needs. Please see [www.afavba.org/legal](http://www.afavba.org/legal) for full details.

We will make an enrollment form available on the website in December. This new program will be announced to the membership via an ad in *AIR FORCE* Magazine as well as in *AFA Update*.

Please help us pass the word to members because they must enroll in December 2009 to be covered during the 2010 calendar year. (New AFA members can enroll during 2010 with a pro-rated fee.) Direct questions to Susan Rubel at [srubel@afa.org](mailto:srubel@afa.org) (ext. 5842).

## Region Review: New England Region

### NEW ENGLAND REGION AT A GLANCE

- 4000 AFA members across six states
- Two State organizations – Massachusetts and Rhode Island – and three states with designated Presidents: Connecticut, New Hampshire and Vermont
- Eleven Chapters: five in Massachusetts, two each in Connecticut and Rhode Island, and one each in New Hampshire and Vermont. Only Maine has no chapters
- Current Region President: John Hasson

Welcome to this month's update on the New England Region. Nearly 4000 AFA members call New England home and we who are active in our Chapter, State, and Region activities are proud of the AFA spirit that abounds here.

The Region, as you might guess, covers the six States of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. With the exception of the Florida Region, we are perhaps the only Region that puts forth such a common geographic picture in our minds.

The Region presently includes two State organizations, Massachusetts

and Rhode Island, and eleven Chapters. New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Vermont have “designated” State Presidents to bolster AFA’s presence with State and National congressional delegations. Only the AFA members in Maine do not have a chapter in their State – yet. Establishment of a chapter there is a top priority for the coming year.

Many of the eleven New England chapters are located near traditional Air Force installations – active duty, Reserve and Air National Guard. In New Hampshire, their single chapter, BG Harrison Thyng #249, provides support to the activities at Space Command’s New Boston (NH) AFS, Pease ANGB, and several AFJROTC units. Vermont’s Green Mountain Chapter #326 is directly associated with the 158<sup>th</sup> FW at Burlington ANGB. In Rhode Island, Metropolitan Chapter #311 has a strong focus on the ANG unit at Quonset Point, while Newport Blue & Gold #180 is linked primarily to the Air Force students and faculty at the Naval War College at Newport.

Three of the Massachusetts chapters are closely aligned with their respective Air Force units: Pioneer Valley Chapter #111 is tied to the 439<sup>th</sup> AW at Westover ARB and also supports the 104<sup>th</sup> FW at Barnes ANGB. Otis #166 works closely with the 6<sup>th</sup> Space Warning Squadron at Cape Cod AFS as well as several ANG units on the Massachusetts Military Reservation/Otis ANGB, and Paul Revere #178 enjoys a very close relationship with Hanscom AFB’s Electronic Systems Center and the 66<sup>th</sup> ABW.

Both the Pioneer Valley and Otis Chapters are coming on strong as rejuvenated chapters with excited new leadership and a strong mission focus for their members. The other two Massachusetts chapters, Minuteman #167 and Worcester #171 are not so closely tied to traditional installations, but enjoy their support for AFROTC, AFJROTC and CAP cadet units in their areas. Connecticut boasts two chapters, Flying Yankee/Gen Kenney #423 and

Lindbergh-Sikorsky #312. The Flying Yankee Chapter works closely with the 103<sup>rd</sup> AW at Bradley ANGB as well as the AFROTC detachment at UCONN. The Lindbergh-Sikorsky Chapter, located predominantly in southwestern Connecticut, is without an installation and is in the process of rebuilding itself. It is worth noting that two of the Region’s chapters (Flying Yankee #423 and Paul Revere #178) have a heavy reliance on industry membership.

Several chapters struggle with a significantly aging membership profile. As a result, the AFA Field Council is piloting a program with three MA chapters to entice and involve younger members. Two of the three currently have a very young chapter officer profile and are well-positioned to carry this transformation forward.

In terms of chapter size, our smallest is the Newport Blue & Gold Chapter #180 in Rhode Island with about 45 members - the smallest in the CONUS - that makes its home at the Naval War College. Each summer, the incoming Air Force class members in both the junior and senior schools get the Chapter President’s invitation to join AFA and affiliate with the chapter for the next year. Many of their regular member programs are aimed at keeping Air Force students focused on the right shade of “blue” during their studies.

The largest chapter in the New England Region is the Paul Revere Chapter #178 at just over 725 members. This chapter just garnered the prestigious “Donald W. Steele, Sr. Award” as the AFA Outstanding Unit of the Year for 2009. Paul Revere does everything well, from Veteran’s programs to Community Partners to Aerospace Education and scholarships to supporting their nearest installation’s commanders at the Electronic Systems Center at Hanscom AFB. They are also famous for some pretty amazing big-time symposia that draw over 1000 attendees each with very significant speakers from the Air Force leadership as well as industry.

We can’t leave the New England Region without saying

something about the two State organizations in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Both have some common traits, among which is the continuous development of leaders for the top elected State positions. Both also have traditions of State Presidents with a strong focus on promoting their chapters as cheerleaders and with direct involvement in chapter activities – not to also run a chapter, but rather to serve as an example of what chapter leadership is all about.

Another common trait for the past several years has been State leaders who work closely with the Region President and who strive to be well-informed on AFA National-level and Air Force issues. Both States recently held their annual State Conventions and elected their leaders for the next year. While the two State’s membership numbers show a significant difference -- ~1750 in Massachusetts and five chapters versus ~250 in Rhode Island and two chapters – there is no difference in enthusiasm for the AFA mission and the promotion of their chapters.

New England Region web site:  
[www.newenglandafa.org](http://www.newenglandafa.org)

*Submitted by Ron Adams, Past President, New England Region*