

WMC Crossfeed

Air Force Association – Wright Memorial Chapter 212

Box 33604 • Dayton, Ohio 45433-0604

An information bulletin from the Wright Memorial Chapter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



KEN CURRELL

You will notice that this edition of the Crossfeed is limited in articles. That was on purpose. I will highlight some things that I believe are worthy of the focus. The next edition will be full of pictures and articles sharing the news of our activities.

Our chapter held its annual dinner meeting on March 14th, very successfully so. It was a completely sold out event and we enjoyed the opportunity to visit with senior leaders of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. The Commander of AFMC, General Pawlikowski, led the list of dignitaries joining us with AFLCMC, AFRL, AFIT, NASIC, 88th ABW all represented by their senior leaders and many leaders from our sponsors, affiliated organizations and AFA-chapter state and national leadership added to the list of distinguished attendees. With such an august group of individuals in attendance, I took the opportunity to offer some thoughts about something I touched on in our last *Crossfeed*, and that is membership and overall status of our organization. Some who attended subsequently asked to share my remarks and so I thought this *Crossfeed* may be another opportunity to pass some thoughts about our organization to you as well. Here are my summary remarks from our March gathering.

For almost 69 years, Air Force roles have varied and evolved and for 70 years and 1 month, AFA has matched every development---in some cases led them by way of our independent voice and civilian status. For example, the accredited Community College of the Air Force germinated from AFA's Project Utah, a project demonstrating that Air Force technical courses could be used in the Utah public school system. Today we continue to advance education that supports our national interests through our CyberPatriot competition....something AFA started in 2009. It is the National Youth Cyber Education Program and at its center is the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition. This year nearly 3,400 teams of middle and high

school students participated in the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition. They performed the task of newly hired IT professionals who must manage the network of a small company. 28 finalists remaining from the 3,400-team competition meet in Baltimore to determine the best teams for 2016. In 7 short years the AFA-sponsored CyberPatriot competition has grown 422%.

The Mitchell Institute is an AFA-created entity, is an independent, non-profit research, studies, and analysis organization which last week hosted a Desert Storm, 25-year commemoration dinner. The dinner's speaker, Deputy Secretary for Defense Robert Work, stated the Air Force had taken the brunt of the DoD's cuts; something we've all felt for some time, but not heard publicly spoken at that level. Our association's independent voice and status is the catalyst for awareness dialogues and information that bring the words of a Deputy SECDEF into clear focus about the health of our Air Force and other pressing initiatives and concerns.

We have programs like résumé assistance and career mentoring to help all airmen... and that is the big "A" airmen. Our Wounded Airman Program is the benchmark of airman-helping-airman programs. Unlike other highly advertised wounded service personnel programs, every dollar AFA receives for this program goes directly to the airman. All overhead and administrative costs executing the program are defrayed by AFA's general fund. Bringing it into our backyard, our chapter donates more than \$3,000 annually to the Air Force Aid Society by way of our successfully run silent auction at the Air Force Ball. Thousands more dollars are provided to base and command-level awards programs, AFROTC/AFJROTC scholarships, VA hospital events, special events tickets permitting base personnel to attend the event at no cost and much more. I haven't even begun to tally the countless volunteer hours donated annually. All of these programs require resources committed to our mission areas. Most importantly it requires dedicated people to keep our association relevant and vibrant.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

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Understanding the value of association memberships today is viewed differently than previously as Air Force members rise in the officer, enlisted and civilian ranks. Today, only 49% of our senior officers are AFA members and too few of our enlisted force know that they, too, can be AFA members. I must work harder to help change that picture and I ask for your help doing so. Coming generations aren't "joiners" in the traditional sense and believe their connectivity and networking experiences can remain rooted in digital and/or virtual experiences. But as I've told our two children repeatedly as they've grown, one never knows where the next handshake is going to take you. I realize JA guidance restricts specifically mentioning an organization, however, we have the latitude to encourage membership in officially recognized professional military associations, associations such as the Air Force Association or the Air Force Sergeants Association. Again, I'm stressing we encourage those whom we lead to examine professional military association memberships and remind them of the value such affiliations can offer them in their life's journey. The AFA, and others like us, supporting those who are or have been in the profession of arms, are part of the Air Force's future. We're a pivotal part with the freedom to be the unencumbered voice in the military and political circles that influence and determine what the Air Force's future may look like. We're the part who understand the impacts of life's transitions. We've been here before the U.S. Air Force became the U.S. Air Force and we're in it for the long haul. But while the AFA is the scion of Arnold and Doolittle, our status and relevance is not guaranteed. We must continually work to secure our future. As a non-profit, volunteer organization, we must continually rejuvenate our human and financial resources. In today's environment that is a tough sell, no matter the audience. It is, however, a most worthy message and cause. Let's commit to our Air Force's future, let's commit to AFA's advancing the Air Force's future, let's commit to airman helping airman no matter their duty status. Most importantly let's act to make those commitments a reality now and in the future. Peter Drucker said the best way to predict the future is to create it. Let's do exactly that. Thank you.

If you read this far, thank you for taking the time to do so. I trust when finished you felt your time worthwhile and maybe...just maybe...may give us some of your valuable time advancing our professional military association's goals.

On the near-term horizon the Great Lakes Region is conducting its regional AFA gathering in Dayton the weekend of August 26th. I'm including the text of an

email the Great Lakes Region President, Paul Lyons, sent to the Chapter Presidents asking them to provide his invitation to the membership to attend that event. *Retired General Larry O. Spencer*, former Air Force Vice Chief of Staff, is our keynote speaker. He is presently serving as AFA's President. Please consider taking some time out of your schedule to attend this event, get to know other chapter members from not only our Chapter, but other Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Kentucky chapters as well. Here is Paul's email followed by the RSVP form Paul included in his email.

Dear Great Lakes Region (GLR) AFA Member:

You are cordially invited to attend this year's Air Force Association (AFA) GLR Meeting on Friday, August 26th and Saturday, August 27 in Dayton, Ohio. This event will serve as an excellent opportunity to meet AFA members from Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio while gaining National, Regional and State perspectives of our organization.

I'm excited to announce that our AFA President, General Larry Spencer, USAF (Ret.) has accepted our invitation to serve as our Key Note Speaker at our Friday evening banquet. We are also fortunate to gain Chuck Heflebower's insight during our business meeting on Saturday. You might recall that we helped elect Chuck to serve as an AFA National Director at our AFA Convention last year. Chuck is a retired Air Force Lt. General and currently serves as the Chairman of our AFA Membership Committee. We've asked him to specifically address our need to recruit Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members.

Friday. (1745 to 2100) Our banquet will be held at the Pentagon Tower (3500 Pentagon Blvd, Beavercreek, OH). The Pentagon Tower is right next to the Hilton Garden Inn. Attire for Friday evening is coat and tie or AF service dress uniform (Class A). The attachments provide the tentative agenda, cost and lodging details. Out of town visitors might want to arrive early on Friday for a Behind the Scenes Tour of the Air Force Museum.

Saturday. (0830 to 1430) Please note our business meeting on Saturday is about a 30 minute drive from the hotel to the VA Medical Center in Downtown Dayton. The address is 4100 West 3rd Street, Dayton, OH. Attire for Saturday is business casual. Polo shirt is acceptable.

Fund Raising Opportunities. The GLR plans on giving two donations this year: One donation will be to the AFA Wounded Airman Program, where every penny raised directly helps our wounded airmen. The second donation will be to help build a \$6 million Fisher House on the Dayton VA Medical Center complex. The Wright Memorial AFA Chapter supports . . . *CONTINUED ON PAGE 3*

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Dayton VA and this donation will be yet another way for our GLR to support our veterans. Please consider giving to one or both of these deserving needs. As always, donations are not expected and are purely optional.

Finally, I hope to see you at the Friday and/or Saturday portions of our GLR meeting. Please feel free to call me at (260) 402-5886 if you have any questions.

Regards,

Paul A. Lyons,
Great Lakes Region President,
Air Force Association

Also you can put September 8th on your "save the date" schedule as well; marked for the Team Wright-Patterson Air Force Anniversary Ball. Once again we'll conduct our silent auction, from which all proceeds are donated to the Air Force Aid Society. Plan to come out for a gala affair, meet some new folks from the community and base and have a good time.

I'll call it quits here for now, but there will be much more in the next Crossfeed, so please stay tuned. I hope to see you at our events, enjoy your summer and if you're interested in helping out with our operations, please let me know and I'll do my best to match your interest with something our Chapter is doing.

Regards,

Ken



Ken Curell presenting the AFA Scholarships to CCAF graduates in the amount of \$400.



Ken Curell and Heater at the AFA Night Out during the Dayton Dragons game which had a sold-out crowd in attendance.



Tecumseh AFJROTC Unit's banner that hangs at the entrance of their school when they host the annual AFJROTC drill competition recognizing the chapter's contribution for providing their competition trophies.

**AFA Great Lakes Region Meeting
August 26 & 27, 2016
Dayton, Ohio
RSVP FORM**

Chapter: _____

Attendee Name(s): _____

E-mail Address: _____

Banquet on Friday, August 26th	# of Attendees	_____	X	\$30	=	\$_____
Business Meeting on Saturday, August 27th:.....	# of Attendees	_____	X	\$20	=	\$_____
Wounded Airman Program Donation (optional):					=	\$_____
Dayton VA Medical Center Fisher House Donation (optional):					=	\$_____
TOTAL					=	\$_____

*Please make your check payable to:
AFA State of Ohio and mail the check,
along with this form, to the address below NLT August 1, 2016:*

Paul Lyons
4211 Fieldbrook Pass
Fort Wayne, IN 46815

Lodging: Twenty rooms have been reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn (3520 Pentagon Park Blvd, Beavercreek, OH 45431) for Friday, August 26th. To reserve one of these rooms, simply use this link:

<http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/D/DAYBCGI-AFA-20160826/index.jhtml>

The room is rate is \$99 plus tax. Please note that the cutoff for the hotel reservation at this rate is July 29th.

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WRIGHT MEMORIAL CHAPTER
Air Force Association
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NAME _____ GRADE _____
ADDRESS _____
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AFA CHAPTER CHOICE **WMC 212** DATE OF BIRTH _____

ELIGIBILITY

I am eligible as a member or patron as shown and understand the annual \$36 fee includes a subscription (\$21) to AIR FORCE Magazine. The fee is not deductible as a charitable contribution for federal income tax purposes.

- DAF Civilian (Non-Veteran) Previous Service US Armed Forces
- Current Active Duty US Armed Forces Spouse/Widow(er) of any of the above
- Current Service US National Guard Patron (no service with armed forces)
- Current Service USAF Reserves
- Retired US Armed Forces

AFA MEMBER NUMBER FOR RENEWAL _____

PROFESSIONAL

- USAF (including civilian) NASA
- Other US Government Aerospace Industry
- Other Civil Air Patrol

JOB FUNCTION

- Management R&D
- Engineering Professional
- Operations Other
- Procurement GS 15 and above

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

- \$36 for 1 year \$90 for 3 years

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

- \$500 single payment \$525 extended payments
- Initial payment of \$85 with 4 payments of \$110 each
- Initial payment of \$85 with 8 payments of \$55 each

METHOD OF PAYMENT

- Check enclosed (not cash) American Express MasterCard VISA

Account Number _____ Exp. Date _____
SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

AFA WRIGHT MEMORIAL CHAPTER
P.O. BOX 33604
WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB, OH 45433-0604