

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 CORNER

First, I would like to send warm greetings to all **2,221** members of the Wright Memorial Chapter - 212. I wonder if you, like me, sometimes forget that our chapter is made up of this many Individual and Community Partners (i.e. businesses). It is easy to forget that as of March 2008, the WMC-212 is the 4th largest chapter in the AFA, behind the: 1) Alamo (TX) with 3,658 members, 2) Donald Steel (VA) with 3,120 members, and 3) Lance P. Sijan (CO) with 2,229 members. I would like to think that we can regain 3 place, as we are only 8 members behind and that with some hard work from our membership committee we can even become the 2nd largest chapter in the AFA!



KENT OWSLEY

Secondly, I bet you don't know that our chapter has a 2008 expectation of Income of over \$375,000 and Expense greater than \$262,000. The WMC-212 anticipates collecting Income from: STAR (Corporate) Sponsorship program, support of the USAF Anniversary Ball, monies we receive from AFA National based on chapter membership, and the carry-over balances from 2007.

We plan on expending roughly \$262K to support many items that are important and vital to our Chapter, Wright Paterson AFB, and the USAF. Some examples are:

- Aerospace Education
 - Visions Programs
 - Support of the Chapter teacher of the Year
 - ROTC and JROTC Scholarships and support of these programs
 - AFIT awards
 - Fellowships

- Major Support Programs
 - Support of the Dayton Air Show via the Chalet program
 - USAF Anniversary Ball
 - National Museum Of the United States Air Force (NMUSAF)
 - Wright B Flyer Foundation
 - Fisher Nightingale Capital Campaign
 - USAF Tattoo
 - USAF Marathon
- Major Activities
 - Support to the Veterans Administration
 - Civil Air Patrol
 - Support of the Air Force Sergeants Association and Top Three
 - Hero's Welcoming Hero's
 - Shipment to deployed WPAFB Airmen
 - Chapter meet and greet events

I wanted to make sure you knew that **YOUR WMC-212 Chapter** is very active in meeting our AFA mission of Supporting, Educating and Advocating on behalf of the USAF. In order for us to continue the mission we need you help. Please become active in the chapter. Simply put the more active people we have the better we can become. The first step is coming to one of our monthly meetings, held the first Tuesday of each month at the Wright Patterson Club and Banquet Center (O'Club) where you can see first hand the different activities we are supporting and then you can become in the activity of your choice. Whether its membership or Veteran Affairs, Whether its Education or major program support, etc. we always are looking for more support.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to hearing from you. I can be reached at my office (937) 427-2259 or via email kent_owsley@member.afa.org (note there is an under bar between kent and owsley in my email address)

– Kent Owsley

Is Our Chapter Leader a “Commander” or the “President”?

The Wright Memorial Chapter #212, Air Force Association, was organized in 1946 and was one of the original charter chapters in the new Air Force Association. AFA was incorporated on 4 February 1946 by notable figures in our history such as General Henry H. “Hap” Arnold and Jimmy Stewart. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle became the first “Commander” of the National AFA organization and helped set up many chapters in the United States in 1946.

The first WMC #212 leader was also called a Commander. Records show that Doctor Jerry Meyer stepped up to help organize a charter AFA chapter in the Dayton area in 1946 to 1948. We believe Doctor Meyer was a World War II Army Air Forces veteran living in Dayton who was so enthusiastic about the future United States Air Force that he devoted his time and energy to organizing a chapter in this area. He was definitely the “leader” at that time of AFA/Wright Memorial Chapter (WMC) history.

With the assistance of many active duty and civilian people at Wright-Patterson AFB, Dr. Meyer set the foundation for making the WMC become one of the largest and most active chapters within AFA. Our chapter is the fourth largest (out of 218 chapters worldwide) in AFA. We have over 2200 members and maintain an extremely aggressive set of educational and social programs.

Many Commanders followed Dr. Meyer to lead the Wright Memorial Chapter but in 1965 the Air Force decided that AFA should stop using the term “Commander”. That word caused confusion for Air Force active duty members if an AFA chapter was located near an active base. The title of chapter leaders was changed to “President” and that title remains today. The dedication of many men and women who served as WMC leaders over the years has always been outstanding, even if they are no longer called “Commander”.

During the early years of AFA, chapter leaders could not be active duty members so civilian men and women, or retired military members served in elected positions. Let me relate one story of how chapter leadership (Commander or President) continues no matter what challenges are thrown our way.

One of our Wright Memorial Chapters most distinguished members and past chapter president was Maj. Gen. (Retired, AF Reserve) Clyde Autio. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1953. 10 years later he

was released from active duty and began working at Wright-Patterson AFB with the Foreign Technology Division (now called National Air and Space Intelligence Center). While a civil servant he joined the AF Reserve and worked in the intelligence field. He progressed in rank and assumed higher positions of responsibility, and continued his active support of AFA/Wright Memorial Chapter #212.

In September 1986, Gen. Autio was elected to be the President of the AFA/WMC. (Chapter officers served from 1 October of one year to 30 September of the next year.) However, just as he assumed the chapter president’s duties in October 1986, he was recalled to extended active duty as deputy assistant chief of staff for intelligence, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C., and Commander, Air Force Intelligence Service, Fort Belvoir. He served in these capacities until April 1987 when he was promoted to Major General (AF Reserves) and returned to the Dayton area. With his new rank, he became mobilization assistant to the assistant chief of staff for intelligence, Headquarters U. S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

Because Clyde was about to assume his duties as the AFA/WMC president when he was recalled to active service in October 1986 (he initially thought the recall to active duty would be for a short period of time), the AFA/WMC was without an active president. The newly elected WMC vice president, William “Bill” Schaff, (Retired, Colonel, USAF and an AFA life member) continued the WMC activities by coordinating with Clyde in Washington, D.C. but this arrangement slowed decision making. Chapter initiatives soon became more difficult to accomplish. Therefore, after several months, when it became apparent that Clyde would remain in Washington, D.C. for an extended time period, Clyde resigned his president’s position and Bill Schaff became president of the WMC for the remainder of the 1986-1987 term.

Bill was subsequently elected in 1987 and served another two years as AFA/WMC President; thus, he served as president of the WMC for almost three years (November 1986 to September 1989). Bill and Clyde went on to serve in AFA Ohio State and Great Lakes Region offices, and AFA National advisory committees. Clyde and Bill are examples of WMC Presidents, or “Commanders”, who dedicated much time and energy to carry out the AFA mission. They still live in the Dayton area and continue their Air Force Association support.

VA Christmas Party 2007

On Saturday, 8 December 2007, the Wright Memorial Chapter of the Air Force Association (AFA) and the Kittyhawk Chapter of the Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) sponsored the 13th Annual Christmas party for the residents and patients at the Veterans Administration (VA) Nursing Home on West Third Street in Dayton. Members of the AFSA, the 445th Airlift Wing, the AFA, the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT), the 88th Air Base Wing, Aeronautical Systems Center, Wright-Patt Fitness Center, Bearing Point, and Bellbrook High School J ROTC served food and good cheer to the veterans.

During the party, seven members of the Greenon High School band, under the direction of Julie Durkee, president of the AFSA Auxiliary provided holiday music. As the veterans arrived, members from the various organizations handed out sandwiches, fruit, cookies, chips, punch, and coffee to the veterans. At the same time, members were visiting and carrying food to the veterans in the wards who could not come to the party.

While the party was in progress, Staff Sergeant Marion Edward King of the 445th AW provided free haircuts to the resident veterans. Whenever the band took a break, members of the organizations conducted a drawing and passed out Christmas presents to the veterans. Several members sorted and organized many boxes of donations during the party to be delivered to the veterans. Over a hundred veterans enjoyed the Christmas Party and expressed their thanks to the organizations that participated in the party. The volunteers considered it a rewarding experience to support the veterans.



The AFA volunteers at the VA Christmas Party were from left to right: Walt Shellhorn, George Simons, Shannon Owsley, Kent Owsley, Vita Eonta, and Joanne Powell.



Wright-Patterson AFB Fisher Houses...*Touching Lives with Compassion*

Another Fisher House is going to be built on Wright-Patt!

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, is the birthplace, home and future of aerospace, but most people are not aware that it is also the birthplace of compassionate care in the Department of Defense. The base opened the Nightingale House in May of 1990 by converting a base house to a compassionate care facility, making it the first compassionate care house in DoD.

The Wright-Patt Fisher and Nightingale Houses provide an opportunity for military families to stay together and support each other when a loved one is undergoing medical treatment, providing physical and emotional support to our servicemen and servicewomen and their families. In 2006, the two Wright-Patt Houses assisted more than 750 families of all ranks, branches of the armed forces and all components, including active duty, Guard, Reserve and retired. They have assisted thousands of families in over 17 years of existence.

In 1991, Zach and Elizabeth Fisher were asked to build one Ronald McDonald-type House at Bethesda Naval Medical Center, Maryland. What started as a request to build one house has turned into 38 homes at 25 locations world-wide. The operation continues today with the Fisher House Foundation planning to build five new houses each year over the next ten years.

Why a new Fisher House at Wright-Patt? The Nightingale House is a base house, converted from two three-bedroom units into an eight-bedroom facility. The biggest drawback of this house is that it is not handicapped accessible in any way. In addition, only two of the eight bedrooms have private baths and the other six share two upstairs hallway baths.

How did Wright-Patterson AFB get authorization for a new Fisher House? Wright-Patterson was previous-

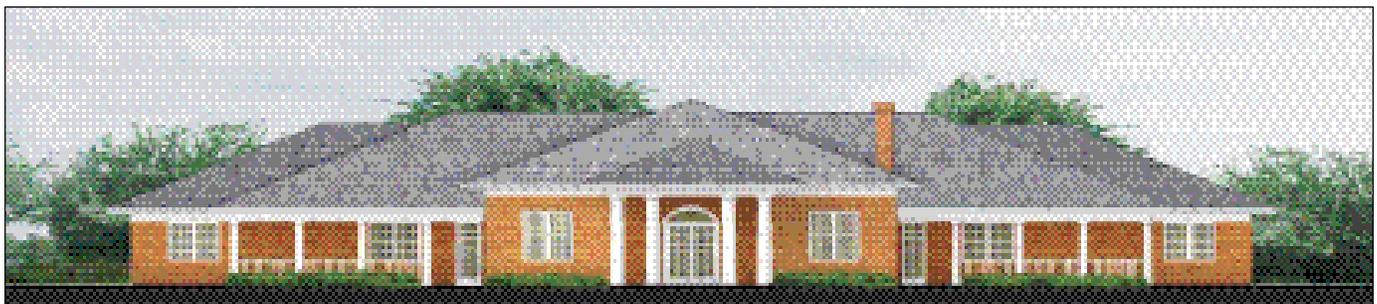
ly selected to receive a new house in 1997, however that offer was placed on hold due to changing mission requirements at the Medical Center at that time. In November 2006 the Air Force Surgeon General sent a letter to the Fisher House Foundation and placed the new Wright-Patt house as the Air Force's number one priority. The Fisher House Foundation has made an offer to build this house.

The new Fisher House will replace the existing Nightingale House, which will be returned to Military Family Housing. The Fisher House Foundation will break ground on April 25th, 2008 and it will be an eight month construction project. It will be located on the grounds directly behind the existing Fisher House on Schlatter Drive, within walking distance of the Wright-Patterson Medical Center.

The new house will be a single story 13 bedroom facility with 13 handicapped-accessible and ADA compliant bathrooms. It will be approximately 10,000 square feet with two living rooms, a kitchen and dining room and more laundry capabilities. By moving from the Nightingale House to the new Fisher House, it will also add 1,825 bed nights a year, bringing capacity to 8,030 bed nights a year.

The projected cost of the new House is \$2M. The Fisher House Foundation has challenged the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. to raise \$1M towards the new House. The campaign kicked off on 17 December 2007.

Saying that this campaign core is for injuries "to our soldiers," Don Huber, Honorary Co-Chair said, "We can't forget these patriots. While the medical center provides the best medical and psychological help, the Fisher/Nightingale facilities provides access within walking distance for the families." *CONTINUED ON PAGE 5*



Miami Valley Community Partners Sponsoring World War II Veterans Tribute

To Potential Sponsor:

The WWII Veterans Tribute is an event honoring World War II Veterans in conjunction with the Band of Flight Glenn Miller Concert on 17 May 2008. This Tribute is to recognize all WWII Veterans who served in the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard or Reserves. This event is sponsored by the National Museum of the United States Air Force and the Miami Valley Community Partners made up of Air Force Association, Miami Valley Military Affairs Association, Order of Daedalians, National Honor Flight, Military Officers Association of America, Veterans Administration, Dayton Development Coalition, Distinguished Flying Cross Society, and Air Force Museum Foundation. The event will be held at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, Saturday, 17 May 2008 from 1500 to 2015 hours. The Community Partners now need funds to give these heroes an appropriate Tribute and encourages your organization to sponsor some of the programs on the attached sheet.

For more information about our Community Partner program, please contact Peet Odgers. *Please submit your sponsorship form to:*

**Miami Valley Community Partners
7152 Hartcrest Lane
Centerville, OH 45459**

FISHER HOUSES . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

To support the capital campaign with an on-line donation, visit www.fnhi.org, call Chris Stanley, Executive Director of the FNHI at (937) 672-8724 or mail your donation to Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc, Post Office Box 33871, Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433.

The FNHI is a private non-profit, 501(c)3 organization, registered in the State of Ohio (Federal Tax ID number: 31-1313382) as well as with the Dayton/Miami Valley Better Business Bureau Charitable Advisory Service dedicated to supporting the Fisher Houses at Wright-Patterson AFB. It is not part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and it has no governmental status.



TRIBUTE TO WWII VETERANS Sponsorship Application

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Signature and Title

Wright Memorial Chapter 212

Sponsoring Chapter Chapter #

Please complete this section for the first Sponsor

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- Sponsor Reception (\$5,000)
- Sponsor Golf Carts (\$2,000)
- Sponsor Gift Certificates (\$1,000)
- WWII Veteran Supporter (\$500)

Signature Date

Method of Payment

- Check Enclosed MasterCard VISA

Account Number Exp. Date

Signature Date

**Please make checks payable to:
Wright Memorial Chapter 212**

Aerospace Education Highlights

It's time for the Wright Memorial Chapter to reflect on the accomplishments of the 2007-2008 school year and beginning planning for the next school year.

A very successful Visions Program was run with USA Today newspapers in the classroom. We had 228 classrooms all across the Miami Valley that benefited from the papers. Our chapter is the largest in the country for providing USA Today newspapers for classroom use. For thousands of our students this is the only exposure they ever get to a newspaper and their excitement mounts when Wednesday comes and they get the opportunity to learn about predominantly science and math through the USA Today newspapers. Wright Memorial Chapter's support of this program helps classes from 3rd-12th grade. We have placed classroom sets in conventional classrooms, gifted classrooms and classrooms with special need children. To my knowledge, we are the only chapter that provides papers to a home instruction teacher in the Dayton Public Schools. She uses the papers in student's homes that have been injured or due to critical illness are unable to attend school on a daily basis.

In October 2007 the Wright Memorial Chapter helped to sponsor WOEa Day, a teacher inservice day for teachers in western counties of Ohio. Approximately fifty teachers were registered for the all day inservice on science related topics. We were pleased to have walk-ins that added to the number of pre-registered teachers. This inservice day was co-sponsored by the Education Outreach office from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, National Aviation Hall of Fame, and National Museum of the United States Air Force.

The school year commenced with the continuation of an exciting program for our members, along with persons both military and civilian from WPAFB. We

continued our tutoring program with the Fairborn City Schools that began in the previous school year. The bulk of our volunteers tutored at Fairborn Intermediate School (4th and 5th graders) while some worked in the 6th grade building and the high school. We were also pleased to pick up a large number of volunteers from Booz Allen Hamilton Inc. We also picked up 4 more tutors for the ESL program particularly for Vietnamese students. The program was a huge success throughout the entire district and will continue next school year. We will be looking for more volunteers, so if you are interested please contact me at swal3754@ameritech.net.

AFA is known for a program that recognizes teachers through a program titled Teacher of the Year. This program exists on the local, state, and national level. We are honored to have Tim Pinkerton as our Wright Memorial Chapter Teacher of the Year. He received this honor at the AFA State Convention in April. At the convention he received an even greater surprise of hearing his name called as the Teacher of the Year for the state of Ohio, and to learn that his package qualified for national consideration. Now we wait to see how he fairs on the national level.

Our state convention was held this year at the National Composite Center on April 12th. We were pleased to have 100 teachers present from all over Ohio. Our teachers came from urban, suburban, and rural school districts. Our teachers ranged from student teachers to teachers with well over 30 years of experience with backgrounds ranging from preschool to advanced placement science classes. They had the opportunity to take 5 hours of classes related to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and received CEU's at no cost. CEU's are required by the state of Ohio to update your certification. A special thanks goes to Wright State University for their help in granting CEU's to our teachers.

As you look at this school year's accomplishments, please share with us any ideas that you may have as to new program that you might like to see us add to this list of accomplishments.

OBJECTIVE OF THE AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

... we, as free people, may unite: to advocate for and support the men and women of the United States Air Force; to address the defense responsibilities of our nation imposed by the many advances in aerospace technology that have been and will continue to be made; to educate the members and the public at large as to what those men and women and technology contribute to the security of free people and the betterment of mankind; and to advocate and support military preparedness of the United States and its allies in order to adequately maintain the security of the United States and the free world.

– Article II, AFA Constitution

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame

Many of America's veterans continue to serve their communities, state and nation after honorable military service and The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame seeks to recognize them for their countless contributions to society. The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame is not a military hall of fame. Those selected for the honor of induction are veterans who have honorably served their country through military service and who have continued to serve and inspire their fellow man with their deeds and accomplishments throughout their lifetime.

James Conrad, the Former Ohio Bureau of Employment Services' Administrator, proposed the Hall of Fame to recognize the post-military achievements of outstanding veterans and to spotlight all veterans' contributions to the civilian workplace. In 1992 a special panel of representatives from the state's veterans' organizations was brought together, they endorsed the idea, and Former Governor, George V. Voinovich, created The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, the first Veterans Hall of Fame in the nation.

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame is administered by the Governor's Office of Veterans' Affairs. Charter members of the Hall of Fame included the six Ohio military veterans who were elected president of the United States and all Medal of Honor recipients from Ohio. A committee of veterans serves as advisors for the Hall of Fame and selects approximately 20 inductees annually from nominations solicited from all citizens of Ohio throughout the year. Men and women chosen for this honor come from all eras, all branches of service and all walks of life.

To nominate a veteran to the Hall of Fame, go to the Office of Governor's Affairs website at <http://veteransaffairs.ohio.gov/hallfame/nomination.htm>, download a nomination package, and return it by JUNE 30, 2008.

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General Hoffman to Lead Air Force Materiel Command

by Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs



Department of Defense officials announced April 18 that Lt. Gen Donald J. Hoffman, currently the military deputy in the office of the assistant Air Force secretary for acquisition at the Pentagon, will become the sixth commander of Air Force Materiel Command.

President Bush has nominated General Hoffman for promotion to the grade of general with assignment as commander of AFMC, headquartered at Wright-Patterson AFB. General Hoffman will succeed Gen. Bruce Carlson, the current AFMC commander who has served in the position since August 2005.

No dates have been announced for when the change of command will occur, or when General Carlson will retire to end a 37-year Air Force career.

One of nine Air Force major commands, AFMC's mission is to conduct research, development, test and evaluation, and provide acquisition management services and logistics support necessary to keep Air Force weapon systems ready for war.

In his current position, General Hoffman is responsible for research and development, test, production, and modernization of Air Force programs worth more than \$23 billion annually.

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES TWO NEW SCHOLARSHIPS

The Air Force Association and the First Command Educational Foundation have signed a Memorandum of Understanding, establishing two new scholarships to assist members of the Air Force family and Air Force ROTC cadets. This MOU commits AFA and FCEF to provide a total of \$125,000 in scholarships over a five year period, ending in 2013.

The first scholarship, the AFA-FCEF Air Force Excellence Scholarship, provides five scholarships in the amount of \$3000 to members of the Air Force family who are seeking a Bachelors or Masters Degree. It is anticipated that the first awards will be made in the summer of 2008.

The second scholarship, the AFA-FCEF ROTC Scholarship, provides two scholarships in the amount of \$5000 to Air Force ROTC cadets who are pursuing an undergraduate degree in one of the STEM subject areas. The awards will be determined on the basis of both academic merit and financial need. Air Force ROTC Headquarters will assist in the selection of the award recipients. It is anticipated that the first awards will be made in the summer of 2008. Recipients of the scholarship will be invited to attend the Air Force Associations' Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition, held in Washington, DC, in September.

These scholarships are made possible with the generous financial support of the First Command Educational Foundation, promoting education as the foundation to a productive society through scholarships and financial literacy programs.

FCEF was established in 1983 to provide scholarships to military members and their dependents. In 2001, FCEF enhanced its mission to include financial literacy education. Over its 25-year history, FCEF has provided over 500 presentations for more than 40,000 participants and awarded more than \$3.7 million in scholarships across the nation. FCEF depends on the generosity of donors to make a positive change in people's lives.

For more information contact Ann Sagle at asagle@afa.org.

Footnote.com and the National Archives Launch An Interactive Vietnam War Memorial

Footnote.com's innovative social web site lets visitors pay tribute to Vietnam War heroes from their PC.

Footnote.com and the National Archives and Records Administration held a press conference on March 26 at the Archives in Washington, DC, to announce the release of an online interactive photo of the Vietnam War Memorial. In addition to releasing this unique version of the Wall, Footnote.com enables visitors to search the Wall for people they know and pay tribute by adding photos, comments and stories of those who lost their lives during the Vietnam conflict.

Footnote.com started the project by contracting the expertise of Peter Krogh, a National Geographic photographer, who was given the challenge to photograph the entire wall. Creating this online version of the Wall required almost 1,500 individual photos that were stitched together to create one single image. The process took over five months and resulted in an image that is nearly five gigapixels in size. Despite the immense size, just about anyone can view the image on Footnote.com via an Internet connection.

Footnote.com partnered with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to link the service records and casualty reports to each name on the Wall. "The records of the Vietnam War in the National Archives are essential resources for veterans to revisit their history and establish their rights," explains Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein. "These extensive files are mined by scholars every day as they continue to interpret and understand this pivotal period in American history." Footnote.com will also be digitizing National Archives photos from the Vietnam War.

Finding someone on the Wall is as simple as typing a name into a search box and letting Footnote.com quickly locate and zoom into the area of the Wall where the individual name can be viewed. Once the name is located, visitors can see the soldier's service record and view comments, stories and photos that have been contributed by other visitors.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

*Thanks to the AFA Community Partners for their support
of the United States Air Force, and the Air Force Association.
Support these businesses whenever you can!*

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AFA APPLICATION

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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.

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- 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 Reservee
- Retired US Armed Forces
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