

FLORIDA WEST COAST CHAPTER of the AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION



Vol. 7, Issue 5

NEWSLETTER

OCT - DEC 2018

AEROSPACE EDUCATION

As noted in last quarter's newsletter, I believe Aerospace Education is the AFA program that provides our chapter the greatest potential for impacting our Florida west coast community, the Air Force and the nation. As such, this issue will concentrate AFA's Aerospace Education programs and how we can – and have -- put them to work. I hope you will enjoy this summary and maybe – just maybe—it will encourage you to become involved.

Mike

AEROSPACE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

(Much of the following text has been taken from the Air Force Association website.)

AFA believes in the power that students hold in securing our nation's future. Yet, only 16 percent of American high school seniors are interested in careers in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM). To equip our students with the knowledge and skills required for future innovation, we **must** increase the number of students and teachers in STEM fields.



As such, AFA is part of the nationwide initiative to improve STEM learning—including aerospace education—to better prepare students for the competitive global economy and increase their chances of becoming future leaders who solve our nation's toughest challenges. We know the Air Force and the nation will need people with the skills to design, manufacture, operate and maintain the systems we will need to keep our country secure. Go to <https://youtu.be/l9dvf0RziWE> for an excellent video about AFA's education programs.

As the video explains, AFA supports aerospace education and STEM through awards, grants, scholarships, professional development opportunities, and programs. Following is a summary of some of the initiatives the chapter can be involved with our local educational systems.

CYBERPATRIOT



CyberPatriot is the National Youth Cyber Education Program created by the Air Force Association (AFA) to inspire K-12 students toward careers in cybersecurity or other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines which are critical to our nation's future. Initially focused on the Cyber Defense competition, it has grown to cover a much broader field of programs. Programs include:

- The National Youth Cyber Defense Competition (With more than 5,500 teams worldwide participating in last year's competition. And, with nearly 6,400 registered for the 2018-2019 competition.)

- AFA CyberCamps
- Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative
- Cyber Education Literature Series
- CyberGenerations

Schools from our area – primarily Riverview High School and the Sarasota Military Academy -- have been participating in the CyberPatriot competition for several years. Our goal now is to expand the participation into more local schools – particularly in Manatee County. Additionally, the Education Foundation of Sarasota County sponsored a Cyber Summer Camp in 2017 and anticipates continuing for the immediate future.



STELLARXPLORERS

StellarXplorers inspires and attracts high school students to pursue studies and careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) through a challenging, space system design competition involving all aspects of system development and operation with a spacecraft/payload focus.

The teams are tasked to monitor an earth based subject and to design the orbit, satellite and rocket necessary to complete their task within given weight and financial constraints. The competition is conducted through three levels participation with the top teams from around the world provided an expense paid trip to the competition finals held each year in Colorado Springs in conjunction with the Space Foundation’s annual Symposium.

This is an exciting hands-on learning experience that develops commercially valuable skills and increases appreciation for the critical role of space in our daily lives. The competition attracts all types of students with diverse backgrounds who will establish their own experiential base off accomplishment, all while building teamwork and leadership skills. The chapter is working with the Education Foundation of Sarasota County to initiate this program in the Sarasota school system this year.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Teachers do so much more than educate. They inspire, motivate, and nurture. The very best educators transform learning into a boundless adventure and prepare their classes to explore new frontiers of technology for the good of us all. STEM teachers shape the future of our nation - introducing students to exciting new concepts and offering a glimpse into what's possible.

Along with grants and scholarships, the Air Force Association believes that recognizing those who educate America's youth is an important aspect of what AFA is all about. Every year, AFA proudly honors the commitment and achievements of these extraordinary teachers through its unique Teacher of the Year Program – recognizing those special teachers who help students see STEM education as an exciting adventure.



STUDENT STEM AWARDS

Our student STEM awards program is a chapter initiative to honor exceptional student Aerospace/STEM projects submitted in the Science/STEM Fairs conducted annually by Sarasota and Manatee counties. We typically honor one high school and one middle school student from each county.

The chapter presents the winners with the “Dr. Y Achievement Award”. It is named in honor of chapter member **Dr. Michael Yarymovych**. He is internationally recognized as a distinguished Aerospace Scientist who served as the Chief Scientist of the Air Force from 1973 to 1975.

EDUCATION GRANTS

AFA knows that there are many teachers and instructors with big dreams on how to educate their classes and units. Unfortunately, sometimes a lack of resources prevents those dreams from becoming a reality. However, AFA offers grants to educators, Civil Air Patrol units, and JROTC units to advance aerospace education in the classroom. This is an area the chapter has not pursued, but should. Mostly it will entail just making the eligible entities aware of the program and letting them complete and submit the applications. This could be a great opportunity for a volunteer to promote a valuable STEM program with a limited time commitment on their part.

Educators: Every year, AFA awards \$500 grants to 40 educators poised to make a lasting difference. The grant process is competitive. A committee of aerospace education experts reviews all qualified applications and scores them based on their detailed grant proposals. AFA selects projects that best serve our nation’s students and support our mission. AFA Educator Grant applications are accepted from September 1st to December 15th each year. Educator Grants are awarded in February.

Civil Air Patrol: AFA also offers educational grants to Civil Air Patrol (CAP) units and educators to advance aerospace education and STEM initiatives. Since 1996, AFA has provided more than \$440,000 to CAP units and teachers to help fund aerospace education programs. AFA's support through CAP grants has inspired interest in over 346,000 youth toward science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects and careers.

CADET RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT

In addition to the programs described above, AFA offers several more that recognize and support programs that are preparing our next generation of leadership.

AFA Outstanding Cadet of the Year program: AFA supports AFROTC, AFJROTC, and Civil Air Patrol cadets as they develop into responsible citizens and the next generation of aerospace leaders. We provide an AFA Outstanding Cadet of the Year medal to one cadet in each detachment, squadron, or unit. AFA is proud to support these future leaders with an award celebrating their exceptional accomplishments. As the chapter does not have a school with an AFJROTC or AFROTC unit within our two county area, we have concentrated our efforts – limited at best – to supporting the three Civil Air Patrol units in Sarasota and Manatee counties.

Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings support: AFA is proud to provide more than \$30,000 annually in support of Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings. All cadets and students in these programs are also AFA members and many have close connections with their local AFA chapters.

Arnold Air Society & Silver Wings are sister organizations, working in tandem towards common goals for their communities and the United States Air Force.

- Arnold Air Society is a professional, honorary service organization advocating the support of aerospace power. It is comprised of cadets throughout the USAF officer candidate training programs, including ROTC throughout university-level institutions, and the Air Force Academy.



- Silver Wings is a national, co-ed, professional organization dedicated to creating proactive, knowledgeable, and effective civic leaders through community service and education about national defense. It is made up largely of civilians interested in personal development, leadership, service, and support of our military personnel.

SCHOLARSHIPS



AFA also wants to see our blue suit Air Force members and the greater Air Force family aim high in their educational journeys. Financial assistance and support is available for all Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve service members, their dependents, Air Force spouses, cadets, and civilians.

Through AFA scholarships, caring organizations and individuals help students pursue their dreams of higher education with generous scholarships, awards and grants. These programs exemplify the lifelong bond of Airmen and the commitment of our supporting community.

AFA annual scholarships include:

The George and Vicki Muellner Foundation scholarship: This program assists cadets who are members of either the Arnold Air Society or Silver Wings. Two scholarships in the amount of \$5,000 each are awarded annually.

Colonel Aaron Burgstein Memorial Scholarship: The Colonel Aaron Burgstein Memorial Scholarship was established to aid minor dependents of (officer or enlisted) Active Duty, veteran, or retired service members; reservists; or National Guard members of all branches pursuing a degree at an accredited college or university. Priority is given to dependents whose parent or guardian served for eight or more years, who have had a parent die while serving on Active Duty, or who have a parent classified as a wounded warrior through the Air Force Wounded Warrior program. One scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded annually.

Captain Jodi Callahan Memorial Scholarship: The Captain Jodi Callahan Memorial Scholarship provides \$1,000 in financial assistance and recognition to an Active Duty, full-time Guard, or Reserve (officer or enlisted) Airman pursuing a master's degree in a non-technical field.

Mike & Gail Donley Spouse Scholarships: The AFA Mike & Gail Donley Spouse Scholarship program awards two \$2,500 scholarships annually to encourage Air Force spouses worldwide to pursue associate/bachelor undergraduate or graduate/postgraduate degrees.

Lt. Col. Romeo And Josephine Bass Ferretti Scholarship: This scholarship was established for minor dependents of Air Force Active Duty, Reserve, or Air National Guard enlisted Airmen pursuing an undergraduate STEM degree. A committee will award \$5,000 to a student based upon several factors, including academics, character, and financial need.

Col. Loren J. And Mrs. Lawona R. Spencer Scholarship: This scholarship provides \$5,000 for Air Force personnel (officer or enlisted, Air Force civilian, full time National Guard and full time Reserve) to pursue graduate level education in management and administration fields in preparation for senior level leadership roles.

Pitsenbarger Award: William Hart Pitsenbarger was a United States Air Force Pararescueman who gave his life aiding and defending a unit of soldiers pinned down by an enemy assault in Vietnam. He was initially posthumously awarded the Air Force Cross, which was later upgraded to the Medal of Honor.

AFA encourages the continued education and personal development of our Airmen; for as they improve themselves, they improve our Air Force. AFA offers two categories of Pitsenbarger Awards for enlisted Airmen



graduating from the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) with plans to pursue a bachelor's degree): 1) AFA's traditional \$400 cash scholarship and 2) AFA's new University of Maryland University College \$750 tuition waiver.

The Pitsenbarger Awards are awarded to select top Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve graduates at CCAF graduation ceremonies each spring and fall.

MITCHELL INSTITUTE

AFA's Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies is an independent, nonpartisan policy research institute established to provide creative, insightful policy options that better empower our nation's leaders by:



- Informing the national security debate
- Educating about aerospace power's unique role in securing America's global interests
- Cultivating air minded talent

The Institute is our “think tank” – and AFA’s voice to educate our governmental leaders about the role of Airpower and to advocate for the resources need for the Air Force to accomplish its assigned missions. It sponsors a wide variety of publications providing new, innovative, and thought provoking writings on current and emerging policy issues pertaining to national defense and aerospace power. Additionally, it conducts numerous events – the Mitchell Hour, the Space Breakfast Series, the Strategic Deterrence Breakfast Series, the Mitchell Dinners and various Symposiums to provide venues for the on ongoing evolution of Air Force policy.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

When it comes to education, the opportunities are limitless. From the classroom to the community, AFA offers programs and supports initiatives to advance the future of STEM. There’s camaraderie in our AFA community that can’t be replicated. Donations received for the Aerospace Education program will advance STEM-related classroom curriculum while supporting STEM educators, civilians, our Total Force Airmen, their families and America’s youth.



Left to right – Chapter President Mike Richardson, Teacher of the Year Allison Cohen and the Director of Programs for the Education Foundation of Sarasota County, Kati Burns.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD PRESENTED TO ALLISON COHEN

Allison Cohen – a math teacher at Booker Middle School – was recognized as the Chapter’s 2018 STEM Teacher of the Year in her classroom on August 29th.

Ms. Cohen has taught for 21 years and currently teaches 6th grade Mathematics at Booker Middle School in Sarasota. She was previously recognized during the 2017–2018 school year by the Sarasota Country School District as their 2018 Middle School Teacher of the Year.

As the chapter’s winner, Ms. Cohen received: (1) a check for \$250.00, (2) an AFA Certificate of Excellence, (3) an AFA Padfolio, (4) a Chapter Teacher of the Year Pin and (5) a complimentary Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education Membership sponsored by the Civil Air Patrol.

Thanks go to the Education Foundation of Sarasota County for their role in helping us identify and recognize Ms. Cohen.

AIR FORCE TRIVIA

And since we are on Education, try matching these Air Education and Training Command Bases to their nearest cities. Answers are on page 7.



Goodfellow AFB
JBSA-Randolph
Keesler AFB
Laughlin AFB
Luke AFB
Maxwell AFB
Sheppard AFB
Vance AFB

Biloxi, Mississippi
Del Rio, Texas
Enid, Oklahoma
Montgomery, Alabama
Phoenix, Arizona
San Angelo, Texas
San Antonio, Texas
Wichita Falls, Texas

FINANCIAL



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AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that provides a simple and automatic way to support the chapter organization every time you shop – and at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with

the added bonus that the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the chapter.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Be sure you reach out to the primary shopper in your house and give him/her the info necessary to start using AmazonSmile – and to start making a financial contribution to Florida West Coast Chapter of AFA.

AIR FORCE NEWS

Boeing -- which partnered with Swedish aerospace firm Saab -- won the \$9.2 billion competition to build Air Force's next trainer aircraft.

Boeing's trainer will replace the Air Force's aging T-38 trainers that have been in the U.S. military's portfolio since the 1960s.



AFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

or join online at www.afa.org

Check here if a renewal

Name _____ Rank _____

Address _____

State _____ ZIP _____

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AFA Chapter Choice: Florida West Coast Chapter #429

Email _____

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(Includes print copy of Air Force Magazine)

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MAKE A DONATION

I wish to include a charitable donation to support AFA.

\$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

Contributions to AFA are fully tax deductible for federal income tax purposes.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Check enclosed (not cash) MasterCard VISA AMEX

Account Number _____

Exp. Date ____/____ CVC # _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please mail this application – with a check if applicable -- to:

Air Force Association
ATTN: Membership
501 Lee Highway
Arlington, VA 22209-9963

For quicker service, visit www.afa.org or
call 1- (800) 727- 3337, option 3.
Mon-Fri 8:30am-5:00pm EST

AIR FORCE TRIVIA ANSWERS

Goodfellow AFB -- San Angelo, Texas; JBSA-Randolph -- San Antonio, Texas; Keesler AFB -- Biloxi, Mississippi; Laughlin AFB -- Del Rio, Texas; Luke AFB -- Phoenix, Arizona; Maxwell AFB -- Montgomery, Alabama; Sheppard AFB -- Wichita Falls, Texas; Vance AFB -- Enid, Oklahoma

AIR FORCE WISDOM

"It is generally inadvisable to eject directly over the area you just bombed." — US Air Force Manual

"Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword, obviously never encountered laser guided bombs." — Bomber Pilot

"Never tell your Sgt. you have nothing to do." --- USAF Recruit

"If you see a bomb technician running, try to keep up with him." — USAF Ammo Troop

"You've never been lost until you've been lost at Mach 3." — Paul F. Crickmore (SR71 test pilot)

"The only time you have too much fuel is when you're on fire." — Unknown Author

"If the wings are traveling faster than the fuselage it has to be a helicopter and therefore, unsafe." — Fixed Wing Pilot

"When one engine fails on a twin-engine airplane, you always have enough power left to get you safely to the scene of the crash." — Multi-Engine Training Manual

Without ammunition, the USAF is just an expensive flying club." — Unknown Author

If you hear me yell; 'Eject, Eject, Eject!', the last two will be echoes. If you stop to ask 'Why?', you'll be talking to yourself, because you are now the pilot." — Pre-flight Briefing from an F-104 Pilot

Airspeed, altitude and brains. Two are always needed to successfully complete the flight." — Basic Flight Training Manual

Courtesy: QSL.net Try them at:
<https://www.qsi.ne.wb0ydi/jokes.html>



Florida West Coast Chapter
Air Force Association
1580 Shadow Ridge Circle
Sarasota, FL 34240



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AEROSPACE EDUCATION ISSUE

The Florida West Coast Chapter of the Air Force Association is incorporated in the State of Florida as a qualified 501(C)(3) charitable organization. Our Registration Number is CH48270.

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