



Flight Line

Air & Space Forces Association



Chapter 105

2023-3

Tucson, Arizona

July 2023

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From the Prez -

I hope that you continue to enjoy your daily activities and count the blessings you have as an American. I also encourage you to become as involved as you can with your local AFA Chapter 105.

As we move into the heart of summer and continued hot temperatures, don't forget about the Monsoon season and the threat of localized flooding. Remember, Arizona has the "Stupid Driver Law" under which you may be charged for the costs of extracting your vehicle from a flooded wash or other water if you attempt to drive through it and are not able to get across. More importantly, don't get close to fast moving bodies of water to prevent accidentally falling in and being swept away.

April was a packed month that started early. Monday morning, April 3, Bryan Foulk & I participated in a telephone conference with Lt Gen Richard Moore, the Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Programs, to get his perspective on the possible mission changes for DMAFB. Bryan & I attended a dinner hosted by the Southern Arizona Defense Alliance for Congressional Military Liaisons that were visiting military units in Southern Arizona on April 6. April 14, I had the opportunity to attend the U of A AFROTC Det 020 Dining Out at the invitation of the Det Commander, Col Carey Jones.

Monday, April 17, saw Bryan & I attend a "DMAFB Update" where local community leaders had the opportunity to interact with the teams from HQ ACC & HQ AFSOC on the potential mission changes at DMAFB. We were there at the invitation of the 355th Wing Commander, Col Scott Mills, to show the continued support of the local community as to the importance of DMAFB locally and to the Nation.

During April, I was honored to present the AFA Civil Air Patrol Outstanding Squadron Cadet of the Year to a cadet from the Yuma CAP Squadron by VTC. I was able to present the AFA Outstanding AFJROTC Squadron Cadet of the Year in person to a cadet from Nogales High School and a cadet from Desert View High School, Tucson.

The month finally ended with our chapter meeting Friday, April 28 with a presentation from the 355th Wing Innovation Office "Lightning Spark" on their efforts to encourage innovative ideas at all levels across the wing and DMAFB. Their aim is to encourage

innovation and breakdown barriers that are preventing the implementation of ideas to help people do their jobs more efficiently to increase our combat power.

Per past practice, we didn't have a chapter meeting in May due to the Memorial Day weekend. But that didn't mean it wasn't a busy month. In May, chapter officers attended two changes of command, attended the first quarterly awards ceremony for the 355th Wing and the Annual Awards Ceremony for the 162nd ANG Wing to present the AFA Junior Airman of the Year Award to SrA Guadalupe D. Beltran. I attended the May ALS Graduation Ceremony, the 2023 MSgt Release Ceremony, and was honored to represent the chapter at the Gold Star Family Memorial Dedication.

Finally, I was able to present award packages and checks to our two OUTSTANDING Chapter 105 Teachers of the Year, Shannon Maxon of Innovation Academy for grades K-8, and Richard Booth of Empire HS for grades 9-12.

June saw chapter officers attending 11 changes of command and one ALS graduation.

In addition, your chapter hosted a successful Southwest Region conference June 9-10 in Tucson. The conference was attended by AFA State and Chapter Presidents from AZ, Nevada, and New Mexico; as well as the SW Region president and West Area director.

And there was still time to hold a chapter meeting June 23, where we heard from two representatives of the 355th Wing Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office. They described the office and volunteers' efforts to raise awareness of what constitutes sexual assault and efforts to reduce its occurrence. They also described how their office works with the victims (survivors) to come to terms with what happened to them and how to recover as best they can.

We won't have a July meeting but will be hosting the Loft meal on July 23.

Since we use email to stay in touch, please remember to let us know if you change your email address. AFA National is also dependent upon having your current email so you should let them know of any changes.

AFA Mission

Our mission is to promote dominant U.S. Air and Space Forces as the foundation of a strong National Defense; to honor and support our Airmen, Guardians, and their Families; and to remember and respect our enduring Heritage.

Wally Saeger, President



Chapter's April Program Innovation

The presentation at the April Chapter meeting was from the 355th Wing Innovation office and was done by TSgt Brandon Largent and SSgt Joshua Sacerio. Sgts Largent and Sacerio first explained what Innovation is and then emphasized the need for it. They explained the challenges faced by the USAF and how innovation can help address them. Next, they explained the importance of staying ahead of adversaries and emerging threats.

They then highlighted examples of innovation taking place at DMAFB and the impact they are having on operations and capabilities.

To further expand, they explained the USAF Innovation Ecosystem and the roles of private industry and the academic institutions in driving innovation in the USAF while acknowledging the bureaucratic barriers and cultural resistance.

In conclusion, they highlighted the opportunities in digitalization with AI, autonomous systems, additive manufacturing, and space operations. They then patiently answered questions to help clarify the points they were trying to make. Thank you TSgt Largent and SSgt Sacerio.



L-R: President Wally Saeger, TSgt Brandon Largent, SSgt Joshua Sacerio

Chapter's June Program Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR)

At the June General Membership Meeting/Luncheon, Ms. Krista Contreras and TSgt Kelsey Schnoblen provided a very informative presentation on the Davis-Monthan SAPR Office purpose, services provided, support eligibility and anticipated changes. Their passion to reduce sexual assault through outreach and education and their dedication to support survivors of sexual assault was evident. Ms. Contreras and TSgt Schnoblen shared the key to support is believing the survivor and returning a small measure of control to them by giving them choices – whether or not to have a forensic exam, reporting options available to them etc. A victim advocate is available to the survivor to accompany them to the hospital, OSI interview, and throughout the legal process.



TSgt Kelsey Schnoblen & Krista Contreras

To ensure survivors are given the best support possible, all victim advocates (VAs), whether volunteer or full-time advocates, are required to complete a 40-hour training program in order to receive certification. In addition, each VA must complete a designated number of continuing education units to be eligible to renew certification thereby ensuring VAs are knowledgeable and fully understand the importance of their responsibility to survivors.

An Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military, completed in 2021, made 82 recommendations for SAPR. All recommendations were approved for four priority areas: accountability, prevention, climate and culture, and victim care and support. Changes already being implemented include SAPR office now taking initial sexual harassment reports which were traditionally under the purview of EEO, addition of Expanded Restricted Report, opportunity for survivors to take convalescent leave and the creation of a separate prevention workforce.

Welcome to Air & Space Forces Association, Tucson Chapter 105

The following new members have joined or transferred to our chapter this past quarter:

SSgt Tanisha Adsitt	Josiah Lane
TSgt Matthew Heise	Logan Sandlin
TSgt Samuel Park	Aline Guzman
TSgt Brandon Tegtmeier	Jerry Giordano
A1C Megan Kabus	Jake Ryan Averion
Brig Gen Sean Choquette	Vincent Bonavita
A1C Giovanni Gray	Jake Adams
Don Luke	Gavin Dunston
Michaela Rosales	Scott Hunter
TSgt Rickie Lawrence	Robert Harbour
Paul Loughran	Col (ret) Harold Linton
Mireya Van Zile	Lt Col James Kappes
Elizabeth Kight	



HH-60G Pave Hawk at D-M AFB

Chapter 105 Teachers of the Year

Your chapter was able to select two Outstanding Teachers of the Year for 2023.

The first Chapter TOY for grades K-8, was Shannon Maxon, a third-grade teacher at Innovation Academy in Oro Valley. Shannon teaches STEM, reading, writing and social studies. She has been in her current position for 3 years and has been teaching for 6 years. Shannon was recommended by her principal, Michael Connelly, for her understanding of literacy-based instruction, STEM integration, and Project Based Learning. He stated that she regularly infuses the Engineering Design Process and Scientific Inquiry Method into her daily instruction. She provides hands-on engaging experiences that capitalize on the curiosity of students. Mrs. Maxon is incredible from an academic/instructional standpoint, but equally as impressive is her relationships with students and families. Mrs. Maxon works tirelessly to get to know students, their likes, dislikes, passions and worries. It was obvious when I presented her award package and check, that she was loved by her students.



Shannon Maxon receives her 2023 Chapter 105 K-8 TOY check from Chapter President Wally Saeger

likes, dislikes, passions and worries. It was obvious when I presented her award package and check, that she was loved by her students.

The second Chapter TOY for grades 9-12, was Richard Booth, a high school teacher from Empire High School in Vail AZ. Richard teaches Advanced Placement Computer Science, Introduction to CS, Video Productions, and Gaming & Animation to grades 9-12. Richard has been in his current position for the 11 years that he has been a teacher.



Richard Booth (right), AFA Chapter 105 High School 2023 TOY, receives his check from Chapter President Wally Saeger (center). Empire High School Principal, Matt Donaldson is to the left.

Richard came to my attention when my younger grandson was visiting various Vail High Schools to choose one to attend. Mr. Booth obviously made a lasting impression since my grandson & son were impressed enough that my grandson chose to attend Empire HS just so he could be a student of Mr. Booth. In his nomination letter, Matt Donaldson, Empire's principal had the following to say: "Rich's investment in his students' learning, and their investment in his trade, has fueled some remarkable relationships over the years. It is one of the reasons students return, year after year, to check in with Mr. Booth and share what they've accomplished since graduating from Empire. And, whether it's showing him their latest project or asking for his help with shooting a short film for college, Rich always has time to support his life-long learners." What better testament to Rich as a teacher and a mentor. When I arrived to present Rich with his award package and check, his energy and love for teaching was apparent and his students gave him a standing ovation.

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"A Little Bit of History"

Martin XB-51



The Martin XB-51 was an American trijet ground-attack aircraft. It was designed in 1945 and made its maiden flight in 1949. It was originally designed as a bomber for the United States Army Air Forces. The requirement was for low-level bombing and close support. The XB-51 lost out in evaluation to the English Electric Canberra which - built by Martin - entered service as the Martin B-57 Canberra.

This unorthodox design was fitted with three General Electric J47 engines - an unusual number for a combat aircraft - two underneath the forward fuselage in pods, and one at the extreme tail with the intake at the base of the tailfin. The innovative, variable incidence wings, were equipped with leading edge slats and full-width flaps. Spoilers gave most of the roll control and undersized ailerons provided feel for the pilot. The combination of variable incidence and slotted flaps gave a shorter takeoff run. Four 954 lb thrust Rocket-Assisted Take Off (RATO) bottles with a 14-second burn duration could be fitted to the rear fuselage to improve take-off performance. Spectacular launches were a feature of later test flights.

The main landing gear consisted of dual wheel sets in tandem in the fuselage, similar to the Boeing B-47 Stratojet, with outrigger wheels at the wingtips. The XB-51 was a large but aerodynamically "clean" design which incorporated nearly all major systems internally. The aircraft was fitted with a rotating bomb bay.

Crew was a pilot under a "fighter"-type bubble canopy and a Short-range navigation and bombing system operator/navigator in a compartment located lower than and to the rear of the cockpit (only a small observation window was provided). Both crew members were provided with a pressurized, air conditioned environment, equipped with upward-firing ejection seats. The XB-51 was the first Martin aircraft equipped with ejection seats, these being of their own design.

General characteristics

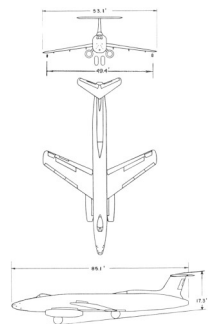
- Crew: 2
- Length: 85 ft 1 in (25.93 m)
- Wingspan: 53 ft 1 in (16.18 m)
- Height: 17 ft 4 in (5.28 m)
- Wing area: 548 sq ft (50.9 m²)
- Max takeoff weight: 62,452 lb
- Powerplant: 3 × GE J47 turbojet engines

Performance

- Maximum speed: 644 mph
- Range: 1,075 mi

Armament

- Guns: 8 × 20 mm cannon with 1,280 rounds
- Rockets: 8 × High Velocity Aerial Rockets or
- Bombs: Up to 10,400 lb carried internally



Southwest Region Conference

June 8 – 10, 2023

Your chapter hosted the Southwest Region Conference, June 8-10 at the Ramada by Wyndham Viscount Suites Tucson East. The event was attended by 27 people including 13 from outside Tucson.

The event started Thursday night with an “ice breaker” social for folks to renew friendships and get to know some people new to the event.

Friday started with a 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group Mission Orientation. The AFA leaders received a 309 AMARG Mission Brief from Mr. Gary Hubbard, the 309 AMARG Deputy Director which covered the many aspects of the work done by AMARG which goes well beyond the storage of almost 4,000 aircraft and countless components; to include those from aircraft, engines and even some missiles. The remainder of the immersion was conducted on a bus and included:

Storage & Preservation, Reclamation, & Production
Tooling Storage areas

Hangar 5, Hydrazine facility, and new arrival overflow parking

AMARG wood mill & A-10 Wing Shop

AMARG backshops, Maintenance Shelter, Temp A/C
Maintenance Shelter (TAMS)

FMS Transfer assets (F-16s spray-sealed, ready for shipment

Reclamation building

After lunch, those in attendance heard Opening Remarks from AFA’s Chairman of the Board, Bernie Skoch by VTC. Bernie talked about his vision for the AFA during his tenure as the chairman of the board and initiatives to achieve the goals of expanding membership and supporting the field which he believes is the Heart of AFA.



Alan Berg

SWR President, Alan Berg, welcomed everyone and thanked AFA Chapter 105 for hosting the event.

West Area Director Bobi Oates discussed her leadership philosophy to be an enabler and provided some feedback on the AFA Board of Directors.



Our first guest speaker was Col Carey Bobi Oates



Col. Carey Jones

“Mamba” Jones, the Commander, AFROTC Detachment 020, University of Arizona. Her talk was about the “Future of Air Force Pilot Training” and the need to change to be more dynamic and flexible. With the technology available today, virtual reality and improved computers, students don’t have to do the rout training like in the past and can concentrate on areas where they need more work to be proficient. This should result in a better prepared pilot at the end with potentially less effort and at lower cost.

Our next guest speaker was Lt Col Jaymes “Yuri” Hines, Commander, 55th Rescue Squadron, DMAFB. Before he started his vision of the “Future of Air Force Rescue,” Lt Col Hines wanted to tell how he got into Rescue. Originally, Yuri was an F-15E backseater but decided he wanted to be in Rescue when his brother, who was wounded, was evacuated by an AF rescue helicopter which probably saved his life. Yuri gave a compelling story about the need for change in Search & Rescue to survive in a near-peer conflict. While he couldn’t go into details, he said that his people are developing the tactics & procedures to perform the mission in a threat rich environment; he is confident that Search & Rescue can continue to be relevant and live up to their motto “That Others May Live”.



Lt. Col. Jaymes Hines

Friday ended with a dinner where the guest speaker was Major General Evan L. Pettus, Commander, Twelfth Air Force (Air Forces Southern), DMAFB. General Pettus gave a very enlightening talk about what keeps him awake at night. He stated that biggest concern he has is the growing influence of China and to a lesser extent Russia. While we continue to have strong relationships with a number of countries in Central and South America that his people work hard at maintaining, there are a substantial number of countries are susceptible to outside influence that are not in our country’s best interests. His concern is that without continued, and even increased effort, we will eventually reach an untenable situation just outside our door.



MG Evan L. Pettus

Saturday started with Southwest Region President Alan Berg talking about his philosophy for volunteer organizations like AFA and how he wants to continue to conduct business in the SWR.

Chapter 105 Executive VP and VP for Advocacy, Bryan Foulk, provided an overview of AFA’s approach to advocacy followed by specific actions he has been involved with at both the National and AZ state levels.

Mike Vargas, 2019 AFA National Teacher of the Year, joined us from his home in Phoenix to talk about his time as the National TOY and the opportunities that were opened up to him as a result. Mike gave a rundown on the approach being taken by the Air Force and Space Force to encourage STEM and in particular how he was working to advance STEM in Arizona and the SWR. Following his presentation, conducted a demonstration that is used in classrooms to excite younger students to pay more attention to STEM.

After lunch, people broke into smaller discussions groups to focus on what they were interested in.



EC-130H Compass Call at D-M AFB

Arizona and National Advocacy and Education

Your State of Arizona AFA has been busy in the advocacy and education of elected officials within the State. AFA AZ has joined the Southern Arizona Defense Alliance (SADA) which is an alliance of support groups for Ft Huachuca, DMAFB, 162nd Guard, MCAS Yuma and Army Proving Ground Yuma that interact with local, state and federal officials along with the Pentagon. In addition, AFA AZ has visited with both Senators and all of the State congressional districts numerous times, both in Arizona and back in DC. The purpose of these visits is to educate the elected officials on the need to support both the Air and Space Forces and what these components bring to the State economically.

AFA National stood up a new program in 2021 for the purpose of advocating and educating for the Air and Space Forces. In the 2023 NDAA a few AFA proposals were drafted for inclusion in the NDAA. In the current 2024 NDAA proposal AFA has achieved a Chairman's Mark (will be included in the final version) to increase F-35 purchases, prevent F-22 retirements, increase E-7 purchases, limit E-3 retirements until sufficient E-7s are on-line, and quality of life increases for Airmen and their families with housing, pay and food allowance increases.

For the 2024 NDAA AFA is still working on incorporating a new Space National Guard and Missile Defenses for PACAF and Europe.

Now, on to the Budget. Negotiations between the Senate and House have resulted in a Military top line budget for of \$886B both 2024 and 2025. This is a slight reduction from past years and when factoring in inflation, it is actually a large reduction in the Military Budget. AFA is strongly working to overcome this shortfall in the face of European and INDO Pacific threats. The Mitchell Institute feels strongly that this budget limitation will negatively affect the Air Forces' and Space Forces' abilities to wage a dual front campaign.

If the NDAA is not rectified and passed by January 1 there is a mandatory one percent cut going forward for the 2024 FY. The week of July 10th, the House should start to finalize their portion of the NDAA and the Senate is optimistic they will bring it to the floor by the end of July. It is also hopeful that during the August recess Congressional staffs can work on reconciling the differences between the 2 bills and have something out in September.

On the Appropriations side, the House has a Military cap of \$826B with \$32B for energy, \$17.5B for MILCOM, totaling \$875B leaving \$11B less than what the NDAA is calling for. In addition, the Senate Appropriators have a cap of only \$823B which is an even bigger hit.

With the issues and cost of Ukraine weighing on the budget already, many are asking for a supplemental funding package. This will probably not be included in the main budgets but will hopefully be tacked on later as part of an emergency add on.

Possible dual conflicts, inflation, lower budgets and appropriations, and a need to increase quality of life for all, present many challenges for the AFA to advocate and educate the people who control the money and the future. Fight's On.

Bryan Foulk AZ legislative Affairs AFA

Appealing your health care decisions

As a Veteran receiving care in VA, you may not always agree with decisions we make about your medical care. If you disagree with a health care decision, you have options. As a Veteran, you deserve the best health care possible. But you may not always agree with decisions we make about your medical care or whether you are eligible for some types of care.

If you disagree with a decision we made, you can appeal it. Here's how:

First, a word about where benefits come from within VA. The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) handles non-health benefits, including service-connected compensation, education, dependency and indemnity compensation, VA home loans and life insurance. The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) also has its own set of health benefits involving your health care and eligibility for certain health services.

To learn more about VBA benefits, please visit its [website](#).

Two kinds of health care decisions, two kinds of appeals

In VA health care, you can appeal two kinds of decisions: medical determinations and health benefits decisions.

A medical determination is a decision made by your care team about your health care, like whether to prescribe a certain medication, treatment or physical therapy. It can also mean a decision to refer you to a community provider for care.

A health benefits decision is about whether or not you are eligible for VA health benefits, such as VA health care, VA nursing home and domiciliary care, reimbursement for non-VA emergency care and certain medical devices.

How to appeal a medical determination

You can appeal a medical determination by filing a Clinical Appeal, which allows other medical professionals to review your medical needs and decide whether the determination was correct.

To file a Clinical Appeal, contact the patient advocate at your VA medical facility and ask to initiate a Clinical Appeal.

How to appeal a health benefits decision

If you disagree with a health benefits decision, you can request one of three types of review:

Higher-Level Review

Supplemental Claim

Appeal to the Board of Veterans' Appeals

You can select the type of review you think is best for your case.

When and how to request a Higher-Level Review

If you believe our decision was wrong and you don't have new evidence, a Higher-Level Review may be your best option. You can't submit any new evidence, but instead a senior reviewer will look at your case again. This reviewer will evaluate the same evidence that was previously considered. You must file a request for Higher-Level Review within one year of the date of your decision

AFA at a Glance

AFA Mission

Our mission is to promote dominant U.S. Air and Space Forces as the foundation of a strong National Defense; to honor and support our Airmen, Guardians, and their Families; and to remember and respect our enduring Heritage.

To accomplish this, we have three mission strategic pillars:

- **EDUCATE** the public on the critical need for unrivaled aerospace power and promote aerospace and STEM education for a technically superior and professional workforce to ensure national security
- **ADVOCATE** and promote aerospace power to favorably shape policy and resourcing decisions to guarantee the strongest aerospace forces in the world
- **SUPPORT** Airmen, Guardians and the families of the Total Air Force and Space Force, including Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, civilians, families, and members of the Civil Air Patrol

The Air & Space Forces (AFA) is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

The AFA was established in 1946 and your local AFA Tucson Chapter 105 was chartered in 1964.

The Air & Space Forces Association has played a crucial role in support of the U.S. Air Force for more than 75 years—longer, in fact, than the Air Force has existed as an independent military branch. Today, AFA supports both the U.S. Air and Space Forces and remains dedicated to its mission to Educate, Advocate, and Support both services and the Airmen, Guardians, and their families whose service helps support the defense and security of our nation.

Airmen Taking Care of Airmen

AFA created the **Wounded Airman Program** in 2011 with a focus on taking care of our DAF service members. Our Air & Space Forces Association family is made up of many supporters beyond those that have had the privilege of wearing the uniform. We are family members, community supporters, spouses, and friends. We all make up our Air & Space Forces family and we will always take care of our own. AFA's Wounded Airman Program ensures that our Air & Space Force brothers and sisters who have given so much to our great country will always be taken care of by their Air & Space Forces family.

Our program provides life-changing assistance to seriously wounded, ill, and injured Airmen, Guardians, and their families. We step up to help in the times they need it most. The Wounded Airman Program supports the Air Force Wounded Warrior (AFW2) program on its mission to provide personalized support and advocacy to wounded Airmen, Guardians, and their families.

But we can't change so many lives on our own. Donors, sponsors, volunteers, and others help us care for all our brothers and sisters during all stages of service in the Air Force and Space Force. Through the support of our local communities and national sponsors, we have provided more than \$1,000,000 to wounded Airmen, Guardians, and their families.

AFA Aerospace Education Programs

Scholarships

We want to see our members aim high in their educational journeys. Financial assistance and support are available for all Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve service members, their dependents, Air Force spouses, cadets, and civilians. Explore the opportunities made possible by the generosity of our donors and sponsors, and apply for a scholarship today!

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. AFA is proud to offer grants to educators, Civil Air Patrol units, and JROTC units to advance aerospace education in the classroom.

Teacher of the Year Program

Teachers do so much more than educate. They inspire, motivate, and nurture. AFA's unique Teacher of the Year Program rewards special teachers who help students see STEM education as an exciting adventure.

Pitsenbarger Awards

AFA salutes enlisted Airmen graduating from the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) with plans to pursue a bachelor's degree. At CCAF graduation ceremonies each spring and fall, Pitsenbarger Awards are given out to selected top Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve graduates.

AFA Outstanding Cadet of the Year Program

AFA supports AFJROTC, AFJROTC, and Civil Air Patrol cadets as they develop into responsible citizens and the next generation of aerospace leaders. We are proud to 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 remarkable accomplishments.

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 are also AFA members and many have close connections with their local AFA chapters.

Arnold Air Society is a professional, honorary service organization of ROTC cadets advocating the support of aerospace power. 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.

Civil Air Patrol

AFA is proud to have a long-standing partnership with Civil Air Patrol. Many CAP members are also AFA members and work with their local AFA chapters. AFA provides awards and grants to support CAP aerospace/STEM programs for CAP cadets and educator members.

CAP provides free aerospace/STEM education products and programs to Chapter Teachers of the Year and local K-12 educators. CAP also has a Cadet program which offers youth, ages 12 and up, the opportunity to experience aerospace/STEM career exploration, to include flight training.

Aerospace Education Fellowships

If you would like to help support amazing teachers and students across the country, consider a Fellowship to show your devotion to AFA's mission of promoting aerospace education. AFA Fellows are supporters whose significant contributions to AFA's education programs deserve special recognition.

CyberPatriot

CyberPatriot is the National Youth Cyber Education Program created by the Air Force Association (AFA) to inspire K-12 students toward careers in cyber-security or other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines critical to our nation's future.

Programs Include:

- The National Youth Cyber Defense Competition
- AFA CyberCamps
- Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative
- Cyber Education Literature Series

CyberGenerations

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.

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 accomplishments, all while building teamwork and leadership skills. Most of all ... it is FUN!!!

Community Partner Program

For more than 40 years, businesses have been joining the Air Force Association to support both AFA National and local AFA chapters. Becoming a Community Partner is a great way to get your business involved with your local Air Force Community. Community Partners are partnership businesses that want to assist both AFA National and the local AFA chapters by becoming involved in Community efforts to support the United States Air Force.

By forming a partnership with your local AFA chapter, your business will help AFA fulfill their mission to promote a dominant United States Air Force and a strong national defense. Any business or organization can become a CP and have two options for membership:

Category One (CP I) \$90.00 annually- Business can designate one person to receive AFA Membership and enjoy all benefits thereof.

Category Two (CP II) \$180.00 annually- Business can designate two people to receive AFA Membership and enjoy all benefits thereof.

Not only does a Community Partner receive all the benefits of an AFA membership, such as a variety of product and service discounts, insurance programs, and much more, but the partner will also receive the following upon joining AFA:

— Date Medallion

Wooden Plaque

8"x5" "Our Business Supports Our Troops" Window Decal

If your business is interested in becoming a Community Partner, you should first contact your local chapter.

For questions or for more information on the program, please contact: **Dave Carrell, carrelldav@aol.com, (520) 305-4407**

Have your business become a part of a great cause and show your patrons that you support our Air Force!

Tucson Chapter's Community Partners

A & E Specialty Marketing
Elliott M. Klahr
P. O. Box 4423
Rio Rico, AZ 85648
520-281-1369 (P)
520-980-0515 ©

Chick-fil-A
Dave Carrell
6675 E. Grant Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85715
520-305-4407

Chick-fil-A
4885 N. Oracle Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85705
520-408-2456

Chick-fil-A
Brian White
3943 W. Ina Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85741
520-744-6269

Chick-fil-A
Matt Hountz
3605 E. Broadway Blvd
Tucson, AZ 85716
520-321-4232

Chick-fil-A
Andres Romo
1188 W. Irvington Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85714
530-741-2280

Ciruli Brothers
5 Calle Cristina
Rio Rico, AZ 85648
520-281-1456

Vantage West Credit Union
P. O. Box 15115
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800-888-7882
Vantagewest.org

Tucson Appliance Company
Chris Edwards
4229 E. Speedway Blvd
Tucson, AZ 85712
520-881-1207
tacappliance.com

Brushfire BBQ
Peter Wagle
7080 E. 22nd St.
Tucson, AZ 85710
520-867-6050

Aero Club of Arizona
P. O. Box 856
Green Valley, AZ 85622
520-648-5749

Upcoming Events

We continue to schedule future “field trips” to different organizations on base. If you have something specific you want to see please let us know! There are MANY events supporting our local Airmen and changes of command! As a Chapter, we try to attend all that we can. If you are interested in representing your AFA Chapter at any of these, please inform Wally Saeger (wsaeger@afatucson105.org) and he will coordinate it. You just have to show up and enjoy these traditional military ceremonies and gatherings. First come, first served!!

July 2023

- 3rd: Chapter Executive Committee Meeting, 1200, BrushFire BBQ on 22nd Street (all welcome!)
- 23rd: Loft Meal, 1630, Location will be Dorm, Bldg 3610
- 28th: No Chapter Meeting

Aug 2023

- 7th: Chapter Executive Committee Meeting, 1200, OG Conference Room
- 25th: Chapter Meeting, 1130, Subject & Location TBD

Sep 2023

- 4th: No Chapter Executive Committee Meeting, Labor Day
- 9-10: AFA National Convention, National Harbor, MD. **Consider being a delegate**
- 11-13: AFA Air, Space & Cyber Conference, National Harbor, MD
- 22nd: Chapter Meeting, 1130, Subject & Location TBD

SAVE THESE DATES:

- Oct 2nd: Chapter Executive Committee Meeting, 1200, Location TBD (all welcome!)
- Oct 27th: Chapter Meeting, 1130, AL Post 36, Josh Appel, Operation Red Wings
- Nov 6th: Chapter Executive Committee Meeting, 1200, Location TBD (all welcome!)
- Nov 20th: “Dorm Feed”, Time & Location TBD
- Nov 24th: No Chapter Meeting, Thanksgiving Weekend
- Dec 4th: Chapter Executive Committee Meeting, 1200, Location TBD (all welcome!)
- Dec 7th: Joint annual awards with Daedalians, 1130, AL Post 36
- Dec 22nd: No Chapter Meeting, Enjoy your Holiday Season

AFA's Mission

Our Mission is to promote dominant U. S. Air and Space Forces as the foundation of a strong National Defense; to honor and support our Airmen, Guardians, and their Families; and to remember and respect our enduring Heritage.

To accomplish this, we:

- **EDUCATE** the public on the critical need for unrivaled aerospace power and promote aerospace and STEM education for a technically superior and professional workforce to ensure national security:
- **ADVOCATE** and promote aerospace power to favorably shape policy and resourcing decisions to guarantee the strongest aerospace forces in the world:
- **SUPPORT** Airmen, Guardians, and the families of the Total Air Force and Space Force, including Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, civilians, families, and members of the Civil Air Patrol.