



Chapter 101 Newsletter

Quarterly Report

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It seems that spring may have sprung a little early. The Snowbirds are here in force and the weather to the north is certainly not spring like. For Chapter 101, 2012 was really a year of continuing to establish the chapter as an operating unit. We supported area CyberPatriot teams, recognized our Teacher of the Year, found a new Community Partner, and joined with

other area military support groups such as MOAA and the Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee. But we still need to broaden our range of activities and bring more of you, our membership, into the AFA's mission here in Lower Alabama. We have Junior ROTC units that will welcome a guest speaker that wants to share their USAF experiences. In

looking back at 2012, we certainly missed a few opportunities to engage our communities – so let's make an effort to get ourselves and the USAF's story out to our neighbors, schools and businesses in 2013. Check out the "Sequestration" information in the National News for some details on the scope of our problem.

Membership Facts:

- We have a base of over 200 active AFA members in South Alabama
- Our community is a great place to share your aerospace and cyberspace experience and skills
- You CAN help and make a difference

Next Chapter Meeting

- **Leading Edge Guest Speaker from Airbus!**
- Thursday, March 21st at the Captain's Table.

Membership

Carnival Season is nearing its end and The South Alabama chapter is ready for spring. We'd like to kick it off with a strong membership showing at our next meeting on March 14th. We need help with updating our membership list, so if you'd like to help please email me: dawgedr@att.net. You will be receiving an email reminder about our next meeting but I would like to take this opportunity to ask you to bring a friend. You never know who may be interested in pursuing an AFA membership!

NEED A VACATION?

Take advantage of one of your AFA membership benefits! AFA does have a connection with a reputable "timeshare" company through the "Veterans Holidays" program. This is a valuable "space available" benefit program that offers you and your family the opportunity to enjoy vacations at popular destinations around the world for the incredibly low price of just \$349 per unit, per week. Those eligible (and their family and friends) have access to spacious accom-

modations at more than 3,500 resorts, apartments, and condominiums in more than 100 countries. Visit www.veteransholidays.com and search the database of eligible resorts to make your reservation. During the reservation process, choose "Air Force Association" under "Installation" to confirm your eligibility. You may also make your reservation by phone on 1-877-772-2322. Be sure to mention that you're an Air Force Association member when speaking with the representative (our Veterans Organization Code is #601).

Education

AFA is now accepting nominations for 2013 AFA Chapter 101 Teacher of the Year awards. One will be selected from 9-12th grades and one from K-8th. Nominees should represent science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Forms are available at:

<http://afa.org/aef/aid/cty.asp>.

Nominations are due to Don Fry by 15 March. The pur-

pose of the program is to recognize classroom teachers at the chapter level for their accomplishments and achievements in exciting K-12 students about science and math and preparing them to use and contribute to tomorrow's technologies. This is a unique opportunity for chapters to reward special teachers who are furthering excellence and making coming to class an ad-

venture. Award Recipients receive: Check for \$250.00; Certificate of Excellence; AFA tote bag; a complimentary AFA Aerospace Education Membership sponsored by AFA South Alabama Chapter 101; and a complimentary Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education Membership sponsored by the Civil Air Patrol.

President's Corner



I'm proud to be your Chapter President especially with what's in store for the future of South Alabama! Your Chapter is poised for another year of growth but we need your involvement. Please reach out to me or our Vice President of Membership, Mark Colicchio, if you know of anyone who wants to become a member of the Air Force Association. They do not need to be retired or have any past affiliation with the Air Force. Rather, we encourage individuals and businesses to join our team as we ready ourselves for an explosion of aerospace industry in Southern Alabama. I challenge each of you not to sit on the sidelines as our country faces unprecedented budget strains on our nation's defense strategy.

"Sequestration threatens to carve crucial capability from America's Air Force, with alarming and immediate effects on people, readiness and infrastructure, and, eventually, on modernization," said Gen. Mark A. Welsh III. "If it occurs, it will significantly undermine your Air Force's readiness and responsiveness today." You and your Air Force Association can make a difference. We are the LOCAL VOICE that our community needs to hear. So, please bring your experience and a little bit of your time to your South Alabama Air Force Association. It's a great group of patriots and volunteers who want us to make a difference! Your executive officers have built an exciting year focusing on Aerospace education in our

local elementary and high schools. We are also working on summer trip to Maxwell AFB for a tour and round of briefings from Air University the birthplace of the Wright Brother's first military flight school. We also are adding some strong guest speakers at the quarterly meetings to help educate our members. Coupled with our speaker program, we are visiting local schools and will be selecting a teacher of the year from both Mobile and Baldwin counties. With Airbus and its follow-on sub-industry growth, your AFA is poised to help spread the word about the importance of our military contribution and the value of a strong Air Force!

Upcoming Activities

Our first quarterly meeting for 2013 will be Thursday, March 21st at John Word's restaurant on the Causeway (Hwy 98 next to Battleship Park). We'll gather around 1730 for a while and then listen to Allan R.

Beck, Col, USAF Ret. Who is now the Head of Engineering Operations for Airbus Americas Engineering, Inc. He will speak about his USAF career and his current experiences with Airbus. This

promises to be an enjoyable and interesting evening. Stick around after Allan's talk for refreshments, something to eat and more time to discuss local and national Air Force concerns.

Next South Alabama Chapter Meeting is Thursday, March 21st at the Captain's Table. See you there. Other 2013 meetings:

Thurs - Jun 20th

Thurs - Sep 12th

Mon - Nov 11th

National News

The impending federal budget sequestration event will hurt all segments of US federal activity. DoD will bear an exceptionally large portion of the overall budget reductions. Between the existing funding reduction of

\$487B and sequestration's projected \$500B cut, the Department of Defense is facing a very profound strategic turning point. \$1T in budget cuts will leave the military fundamentally un-derequipped to protect

the nation's core interests—including the global stability that affords economic prosperity. It is one thing to be prudently efficient, quite another to be strategically foolish. Read the entire AFA

Air Power Advocacy talking point paper at the chapter's web site: www.afa101.org

Alabama Statewide News

Chapter Activities:

In Montgomery, next month (March) the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, General Mark Welsh, will be in Montgomery and will speak at the Chapter Luncheon on 15 March. Presently, there are 275 individuals registered to attend.

In Mobile, Steve Carey and Scott Hunter are

working hard to establish some traction for this recently renewed Chapter.

Birmingham's Bill Voigt is looking to meet with several members within their area to begin the work of bringing this Chapter back into operational status. They are beginning to look for speakers and venues to

stimulate interest in aerospace.

The Montgomery Chapter is planning its annual summer traveling educator workshop (12 – 17 June) for STEM career exploration to share with students. Airlift has been approved to return to California and many STEM sites and excellent speakers are se-

cured; she did however, note that pending budget cuts could cancel the airlift. She is inviting all state chapter TOYs and teachers who work in the CAP K-6 ACE program and K-12 AEX program first; and then will invite teachers from throughout the state as space is available. A flyer will go out about this trip in March

Our Community Partners



AF101, your South Alabama Chapter, is new and growing. You can affiliate on-line easily. Do it now.

You can contact chapter officers at:

Steve Carey – President	251-406-9799	scarey@certapro.com
Scott Hunter – Vice President	251-709-2262	Scott.Hunter@RaymondJames.com
Mark Colicchio – VP Membership	251-652-2222	dawgedr@att.net
Don Fry – VP Education	251-422-8466	donfry@member.afa.org
Leif Dunn – Treasurer/Vet Retiree	251-233-6336	lrdudd@earthlink.net

Veterans and Retirees



**AFA
SOUTH ALABAMA
CHAPTER 101**

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New co-pays for TRICARE pharmacy customers

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AFRNS) – New co-payments for prescription drugs covered by TRICARE will go into effect soon. The Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act requires TRICARE to increase co-pays on brand name and non-formulary medications that are not filled at military clinics or hospitals.

There is no increase to co-pays for generic medications. Increases will be effective sometime in February, depending on when system changes can be made, and the publication of a required Federal Notice.

TRICARE Pharmacy co-pays vary based on the class of drug and where beneficiaries choose to fill their prescriptions. The co-pay for generic medications stays at \$5 when a prescription is filled at a network pharmacy. There is no co-pay when generic prescriptions are filled through TRICARE Home Delivery. The new co-pay for a 30-day supply of a brand name medication purchased at a retail network pharmacy will be \$17, up from the current \$12. Beneficiaries using TRICARE Home Delivery will pay \$13 for brand name drugs, up from \$9; however, the Home Delivery price is for a 90-day supply.

The greatest change in co-pays applies to non-formulary medications. The \$25 co-pay for these drugs increases to \$44 at retail pharmacies and \$43 through Home Delivery. The TRICARE Uniform Formulary is a list of all the medications TRICARE covers.

For fiscal 2014 and beyond, the new law directs that co-pays increase annually by the same percentage as retiree cost-of-living adjustments. In years when a COLA increase would total less than a dollar, it will be delayed a year and combined with the next adjustment so increases will always be \$1 or more.

Pharmacies at military hospitals and clinics will continue to provide medications with no co-pays. Visit <http://www.tricare.mil/Costs/PrescriptionCosts.aspx> for more details. (Courtesy of TRICARE Communications)

For more retiree news and information, please visit www.retirees.af.mil.

Featured Items

The Best of Chapter AE Activities 2012-2013



From Jerry White, Aerospace Education Council Chairman

Thanks to many who responded so positively to our first Aerospace Education Newsletter. Jim White (VA), along with Grant Hicinbothm (UT and Rocky Mountain Region) really made this happen. Thanks also to all of you in the chapters working hard for AE who have now sent in reports. You will see that the scope in this issue is broadened significantly. "Out there" is where the Education really happens. As you connect locally with schools, teachers and AF Museums, as well as Civil Air Patrol and the ROTC programs, you make STEM and the recognition of Aerospace move to the front burners of people's minds. In March the CyberPatriot finals will be held at the Gaylord Hotel at National Harbor in Washington DC (14-16).

In conjunction with the finals the Aerospace Education Council (AEC) of AFA will hold a face to face meeting. We want to discuss our processes on Scholarships, Visions, Teacher of the Year, and more. We would love to have your input of your views on STEM and Aerospace Education as it relates to what AFA can and should do. Just email me at Jerrywhite100@msn.com. We want to have broad discussions on what are doing well and what we can do better. Also in March the National Convention for Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings will be held in Atlanta. AF Chief of Staff General Welsh is scheduled to speak, along with our AFA CEO Gen (ret) Craig McKinley. I will be there as the AFA representative on their Board. Dick Bundy represents AAS/SW into the AEC. We applaud this fruitful relationship. These young people are the future of AFA and our Air Force.

We encourage you in our local chapters to intentionally forge relationships with the ROTC units in your area. Recently at the US Air Force Academy, Gen William Shelton and Gen (Ret) Kevin Chilton spoke to the Freshman and Sophomore (4th and 3rd classes for you insiders) specifically on the issues of STEM education and their potential future in the AF with technical degrees. I encourage you to seek out similar opportunities in your local HS and college community. Educators seek out people like you from the AF and business community to influence their students.

Have a great President's Day honoring our nations leaders and founders.

Jerry E. White

East Panhandle Regional Science and Engineering Fair

Where: Okaloosa County Fair-grounds

When: 8 Feb 2012

Who: Hurlburt Chapter

The Hurlburt Chapter provided Special Awards Judges to interact with students and share their journey of discovery as the "Best of the Best" participants were present for this scientific exchange. The Chapter Judges learned how unique a science and engineering fair is for participants as they posed questions for which students had to seek answers while satisfying their inquisitiveness about the world that embraces them. Student projects represented research, experimentation, demonstration, and scientific collection efforts. Through the projects, students showed their ability to incorporate their display unit, exhibit materials, and written reports into a logical presentation that illustrated the means for conducting the experiment, developing the results, and arriving at the conclusions centered on their stated hypothesis. The Hurlburt Chapter's role as a contributor to the Science and Engineering Fair Special Awards Program's success is one of many ways this AFA chapter supports the surrounding communities while motivating the local youth to explore STEM activities. The awards ceremony took place February 15th when Special Awards to the recipients. First Place winners in the Junior and Senior Divisions received \$100 while Second Place finishers received \$50 and all recipients received an AFA Certificate and Letter of Achievement.

Winchester STARBASE Has 2012 Opening

Where: Winchester, VA

When: Fall 2012

Who: Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter 435

As many Chapter 435 members know, it took several years for us to make the Winchester StarBase program a reality. There are approximately 76 STARBASE facilities and now two in our chapter's area! STARBASE is a Department of Defense activity that provides STEM education (science, technology, engineering, and math) for young students. Winchester StarBase received enthusiastic support from our local school systems. The new Winchester Program Director is Susan Corrigan (susan.b.corrigan@us.army.mil), an experienced educator. She planned the opening ceremony for July 23 at the Winchester Armory, where the classrooms are located. The official address is The Winchester STARBASE Academy, 181 Pendleton Drive, Winchester, VA 22602. Phone: 540.866.4964. More information on DoD STAR-BASE can be found at http://www.starbasedod.com/images/Annual_Reports/2011-starbase-annual-report.pdf. Additionally, there is a volunteer program known as STARBASE 2.0, which is significantly different than most DoD programs. It doesn't operate with large staffs of paid federal workers—its success is totally dependent upon effective collaborations with other organizations who share our enthusiasm for encouraging young people to engage in STEM. Additionally, there is a

volunteer program known as STARBASE 2.0, which is significantly different than most DoD programs. It doesn't operate with large staffs of paid federal workers—its success is totally dependent upon effective collaborations with other organizations who share our enthusiasm for encouraging young people to engage in STEM activities. Successful STARBASE 2.0 programs have collaborated with DoD engineering organizations, colleges, and universities, and other STEM-oriented private industries. The ability to create collaborations and connections well beyond those needed for the core STARBASE Program is a key differentiator between a struggling and a thriving, vibrant 2.0 effort.

Community Outreach ACTE

Technology Fair

Where: Huntsville, AL

When: Q2, 2012

Who: AFA Chapter 335,

Tennessee Valley Flyer

At right, Darryl Carpenter

helps as a judge out at

the recent Alabama Council

of Technology in Educa-

tion (ACTE) Technology

Fair. Several chapter members

volunteered. By the way,

they'll need judges next year,

too. It's a great way to

interact with young people

and see how schools are

using technological advances.

