



March 2016

Chapter 101 Newsletter

Alabama Warrior

In January, Lt Col Jon Shultz (daughter of Chapter VP Scott Hunter and spouse of former AF JAG Major Mary Scott Hunter's husband), retired from the Alabama Air National Guard 187th Fighter Wing at Dannelly Field in Montgomery. He served 21 years and has over 2000 hours in the F-16. While active and in the ANG he flew in operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and was awarded the Bronze Star for combat ops while

commanding FAC team in 2003 Afghan invasion. He currently is involved with the Air Force X-37 program working as a contractor in

Huntsville. We welcome him as a member of the Air Force Association and look forward to hearing him speak to our chapter soon.



Chapter Quarterly Meeting

We'll meet for our first quarterly chapter meeting of 2016 on March 3rd at Bourdreaux's in Daphne. This venue has turned out to be a good location for our membership demographics as well as a great setting for a social gathering of

our membership. Please make an effort to get to this meeting for an update on the chapter's activities and plans. Scott Hunter will be giving us an update on the upcoming Veteran's Appreciation Luncheon, April 20th, Noon to 1:30 p.m., at the USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park Aircraft Pavilion.

Next Chapter Meeting

Thursday, 3 March meeting at Bourdreaux's Cajun Grill in Daphne at 1730 hours.

See you there

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Membership Corner

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

New for this year we are implementing a voice messaging system to contact our members for meetings and announcements. We would like your feedback on this system. It has become increasingly difficult to use our current roster email addresses; however, we will continue to utilize them with the voice mail messages. Please feel free to update your personal info at www.afa.org by clicking the membership tab.

Mark A. Colicchio
V.P. Membership

Note from AFA President Larry Spencer:

2016 has already provided much excitement for our organization through our 70th birthday celebration, exciting professional development events, and efforts in support of our US Air Force. However, as February draws to a close, I wanted to share with you two of my top priorities.

First: emphasize the progress we have made with the Air Force Family by making AFA the

official Professional Development Association of Airmen. My second priority is to increase membership among active duty Airmen, as well members of the Guard, Reserve, Civil Air Patrol, and Air Force civilians. These two priorities go hand-in-hand but will require the dedication of you, our members, to spread the word about how AFA is completing its mission of promoting a dominant United States Air Force.

Local News

Lucy Frailie, a student at Bayside Academy, was selected as the winner of our Vets Day Essay contest. Chapter President Steve Carey presented Lucie with a certificate and an AFA memento in recognition of her excellent work. She certainly has a bright future in journalism and may even be a future contributor to the South Alabama AFA Chapter Newsletter. Congrats Lucy!!



President's Corner

Happy New Year South Alabama Chapter 101! I hope you are ready for another exciting year with events like the Military Appreciation Luncheon where we honor our AFA Teachers of the Year. This annual luncheon will be held at the Battleship on April 20 and features Vice Admiral Lee (see bio) as the guest speaker. In case you did not know, 2016 has been declared the Year of the Coast Guard by the City of Mobile. Our USCG is celebrating 100 years of Coast Guard Aviation and we should all tip our hats to our fellow aviators who serve and protect our nation's borders and ports.

I also wanted to update you on some of the great benefits of your membership in the Air Force Association. Many are indirect in that the association supports a strong, modern and well equipped Air Force, and works to defend the pay and benefits of all Air Force active and retired members. However, if called upon, AFA will rise to the occasion and support an individual member struggling with the DOD and congressional bureaucracy. If you ever have questions or issues about things like your Survivor Benefits, pay or medical coverages, feel free to call me and we'll reach out for AFA support.

If you are a veteran with a problem, remember: AFA may be the go-to organization for rallying support for a legislative solution. However, do your homework. Make sure you come forward with a well-defined solution and proposed legislative language that will implement your solution. Your AFA is here for you! Get involved and YOU can help make a difference for all of us!

President Steve Carey, 251-406-9799

REMINDER --- its election season again, and as the campaigns and debates heat up, it is important to remember what the AFA can and cannot do. Participating in elections on behalf of our organization is not allowed. We could lose its tax-exempt 501(c)3 status if we are found to be in violation. Individuals acting as private citizens are able to do any campaigning they would like, but not while acting on behalf of the AFA. When acting in an official capacity with the AFA or *identifying* yourself with the AFA in any way:

- Do not endorse a candidate.
- Do not support a particular political party.
- Do not invite candidates to speak, unless you invite all of them.
- Do not give AFA money or time to any campaign, this includes using AFA money to attend a fundraiser. Individuals are allowed to volunteer or donate as private citizens, but not as representatives of the AFA.
- Do not tell your members how to vote. Messages do not have to state a name or party to be in violation; anything that refers to distinctive features of a candidate's platform or biography can be considered an endorsement.
- Do not approach candidates and ask them to endorse AFA policy positions.
- Do not link to a candidate's page or otherwise endorse on your Chapter website, Facebook page, Twitter account, or other social media.

The Alabama Air Force Association consists of four chapters:

- 100 - Birmingham
- 101 - South Alabama
- 102 - Montgomery
- 335 - Tennessee Valley

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

Education

The South Alabama AFA has selected a group of outstanding local educators as our 2016 Teachers of the Year. We will choose one of these dedicated professionals for our nomination to the AFA Alabama State Selection Committee for consideration as the State and then National Teacher of the year. Congratulations to all these superb teachers. They will each receive a certificate and a cash grant to help them with their classroom work.

Mobile County 2016 TOY
Stacey Davis of St. Elmo Elementary, Winner of AFA Mobile Grades K-5 STEM TOY

Bonnie Howard of Hankins Middle, Winner of AFA Mobile Grades 6-12 STEM TOY

Cindy Robles of Bayside Academy, selected as Teacher of the Year for 2016

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Vet/Retiree Affairs

As you may know, the AFA is an integral team member in the *Spirit of 45*. This is an effort to create national recognition of the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII. Bob Largent, a former Chairman of the Board, is AFA's point man on this effort. As part of their effort, the group is working to create a 5-year campaign to collect the military photos of the 16 million

who served during WWII so they can be included in a Wall of Honor that will be displayed on the National Mall in August - September 2020. They have already started collecting the photos of the Tuskegee Airmen and Chennault's Flying Tigers for their 75th anniversaries this year.

A promotional poster for a Military Appreciation Luncheon. The background is blue with white stars and a red and white striped border at the bottom. The text is white and yellow. The logo of the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce is in the top left corner.

**MOBILE AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Military Appreciation Luncheon

Wednesday, April 20
Noon to 1:30 p.m.
USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park
Aircraft Pavilion

Sponsored By:
Advanced Dermatology & Skin Care Center
Airbus Defense and Space Military Aircraft Inc.
Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union • Austal
Gulf Coast Truck & Equipment Co. Inc. • Hargrove Engineers + Constructors
Ingalls Shipbuilding • Pilot Catastrophe Services • Volkert
Photography – The Jim Owen Studios
Venue Sponsor: USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park

\$25 per ticket or \$200 for table of 8
Reservations are required.

Register online at events.mobilechamber.com or contact
Carolyn Hunt at 251-431-8621 with credit card information.



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION



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Birthday

1946 70 YEARS SUPPORTING THE AIR FORCE FAMILY 2016