



Hurlburt AFA Chapter 398



**Oct - Dec 2018**

The Official Newsletter of  
Chapter 398 of the Air Force  
Association

**AFA Mission**

To promote a dominant USAF  
and a strong national defense,  
and to honor Airmen and our  
Air Force Heritage.

**To accomplish this we:**

Educate the public on the  
critical need for unmatched  
aerospace power and a  
technically superior workforce  
to ensure U.S. national  
security. Advocate for  
aerospace power and STEM  
education, and support the  
total Air Force family and  
promote aerospace education.

**Chapter Officers**

President – Jim Connors  
Vice President - Fred Gross  
Secretary – Susan Ault-Davis  
Treasurer – Thom Guthrie

AFA Chapter 398

Box 1220

Mary Esther, FL 32569

[www.Hurlburt.AFAFlorida.org](http://www.Hurlburt.AFAFlorida.org)

**A Legend Passes**

Dann Matizza, Executive VP for Membership

Tommy G. Harrison, Col, USAF (Ret) passed away on 9 December 2018. Tommy was very well known in the Air Force Association and especially well known in the Florida AFA. He was a member of the Marty Harris Chapter (Formerly the Central Florida Chapter) centered in Orlando, FL. Tommy held almost every office within the Chapter (sometimes more than once) and headed a myriad of committees during his time with Chapter 303. He was a “Founding Father” of the Gala held each year in Orlando and headed the committee for 10 years. He was a regular at the event and could be called upon to help with any task.



Tommy also answered the call to serve at the State/Region and National levels of AFA and served in all State/Regional Offices and as a National Director. After passing on the responsibilities of those offices to others, he continued to serve as a mentor for the next generation of officers at every level. A walking database of AFA knowledge, Tommy was frequently called upon for the historical background of decisions, to clarify procedures and processes, and to provide rational, well thought out suggestions.

Tommy and his wife, Marty were also well known as the host and hostess of the Hospitality Suites they hosted at National and State events. Their room became the epicenter of every convention and as many decisions were made there as anywhere. Delegates from all states, as well as National Officers, came to their suite at the end of the business day join in an evening of socializing, discussion, storytelling, and comradery. (Just don't go into the bedroom!) We will miss his stories, friendly smile and sage advice. God Speed Tommy! Our thoughts and prayers go with you and your family. Thanks for sharing him, Marty.

The Memorial Service for Tommy was held at the First United Methodist Church of Orlando on 20 December. His inurnment will take place at a later date in the family plot in Savannah, GA.

## 1 SOW UNITS UNSUNG HEROES

Max Friedauer, VP for Unsung Hero Programs

The Hurlburt Chapter 398 of the AFA has been honoring the "Unsung Heroes" for the past 21 years, and in the Fall of every year we honor the Unsung Heroes of the 1st Special Operations Wing and its Units with a luncheon. This year the chapter recognized 15 "Unsung Heroes" (young airmen (E1-E3) who contribute to the mission by always going above and beyond what is expected of them) and honored them at the Hurlburt Soundside Club for lunch on the 29th of November 2018.



The Hurlburt Honor Guard presented the colors. SrA Morgan Mclin from the 801 SOAMXS sang the National Anthem, and Chaplain Gary Coburn gave the invocation. The Master of Ceremonies for the Luncheon was TSgt Jason Newbold from the 11<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Intelligence Squadron.

The guest speaker for the lunch was the 1st Special Operations Wing Vice Commander, Col Michael D. Curry, and he spoke about Hurlburt Field's amazing Airmen and said how impressed he was with their Air Commando spirit. He emphasized that "The Airmen in the 1st Special Operations Wing are the ones that are quick learners, volunteer when needed, and are totally focused on mission accomplishment. He emphasized how all the incredible things these brilliant Airmen execute on a daily basis are not done by officers and senior NCOs; they are done by A1Cs and Senior Airmen. "...the impact these Airmen have made is remarkable. He talked about their extraordinary effort during Hurricane Michael and the devastation caused at Tyndall AFB. These disciplined professionals, responded wishing hours and provided all the support requested and more. To date, these unsung heroes have never been recognized for their contributions to the 1 SOW mission; today we changed that. He also thanked AFA and its Community Partners for the great support to Hurlburt Field.



Col Curry, assisted by 1 SOW Command Chief Fry, presented each "Unsung Hero" with a Framed Certificate and a book (donated by Chief Fry, 1 SOW Command Chief. TSgt Jason Newbold read a few of each Airman's accomplishments as they came forward. The luncheon was sponsored with a grant from the Boeing Corporation represented by Col (Ret) Mark Transue and Col (Ret) Hank Sanders. The Boeing Company is one of 36 Community Partners that support the many programs the chapter is involved in. Other AFA Community Partners present were Jimmy Tucker, FNBT Bank; Dominic Damiano, Mama Clemenza's Uptown; Wendy Valdez, Home2 Suites by Hilton; Jerry Williams, Eglin Federal Credit Union; and Ashley Smith, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. This event continues to be very popular and everyone is looking forward to the Hurlburt Tenant Units Unsung Hero event in the Spring (Mar-Apr) of 2019. Also present were our AFA Chapter President, Jim Connors; Executive VP Fred Gross; Secretary Susan Ault-Davis; Max Friedauer VP for Unsung Heroes; and member Les Matheson. And Anthony "Tony" Siragusa, nicknamed "Goose," a former National Football League defensive tackle, who spent 12 seasons with the Indianapolis Colts and the Baltimore Ravens, was a special guest of the 1 SOW.



At the conclusion of the luncheon, Chapter President Jim Connors presented Col Curry with a "brick" that was purchased in his name and will be placed at the Air Force Enlisted Widows Village. Mr. Connors also thanked the supervisors for teaching and mentoring these Airmen so they could succeed and be successful and for

nominating them for this award. MSgt Jonathan J Nevel, 4 SOS/DOF; and MSgt Jayme L Cartwright, 11 SOIS; and TSgt Jason Newbold from the 11 SOIS worked tirelessly behind the scenes to put this all together, taking reservations, creating the e-Invitations, organizing and printing the program brochures, preparing award certificates, and coordinating the event with the Soundside Club.



Our honorees and Unsung Hero Award Recipients were: A1C Teaira S. Airington, 73 SOS; SrA Talia S. Ambrosio, 1 SOSS; A1C Timothy L. Attaway, 4 SOS; A1C Isley C. Baggett, 8 SOS; SrA Amber B. Birch, 1 SOMDSS; A1C Darian M. Carter, 1 SOMDSS; A1C Patrick R. Dolan, 1 SOCES; A1C Giselle A. Guerrero, 1 SOMOS; SrA Anthony Hernandez-Morell, 1 SODS; SrA Andrew L. LeMay, 1 SOAMS; SrA Gelsey M. Ortega, 1 SOLRS; SrA Nicholas N. Quintana, 1 SOCES; A1C Benjamin L. Rosendahl, 801 SOAMXS; SrA Ryan O. Stevens, 901 SOAMXS; SrA Brandon C. Wheeler, 11 SOIS.

### CCAF Graduation

Fred Gross, Chapter Vice President, attended the Fall Community College of the Air Force Commencement at the Soundside Club on November 7, 2018. Over four hundred degrees were awarded. The guest speaker was CMSgt Edward Fry, 1st SOG/CCC. Wing, AFSOC and Base leadership members were in attendance. Two scholarships were awarded by AFA Chapter 398 - SSgt Melanie Sanchez Leckie (11 SOIS) and SSgt Kathryn Brockmiller (AFSOC A6)





## Emerald Coast Funeral Home – Featured CP for Oct - Dec

### Funeral Planning, Cremation Services and more

At Emerald Coast Funeral Home, we do, indeed, try to offer you a home—a comforting and inviting place to gather in remembrance and celebration of lives lived well. Our experienced staff is committed to this vision and passionate about making your time with us as memorable and uplifting as possible. We bring together decades of experience caring for families of all cultural backgrounds and diverse walks of life. We pledge to treat you and your loved ones just like family, and we guarantee to offer services that meet all of your specifications while exceeding all of your expectations.



Licensed staff members are available around the clock—24 hours a day, 7 days a week—to discuss your needs. Whether you are doing pre-planning or need to hold a service soon, we are ready to answer our phone and offer you warm, friendly, and empathetic service.

### In terms of specific services, there is much that Emerald Coast Funeral Home has to offer:

Our Pre-Planning Services make it easy for you to get your express wishes down in writing, ensuring that you have the kind of memorial service you truly desire and that your friends and loved ones can have total peace of mind that they are adhering to your wishes.

We host Burial Services that convey both the solemnity of the occasion, but also the joy that comes from celebrating the life of a dear loved one. We are happy to attend to all aspects of the service, and we invite our guests to linger as long as they wish, fully enjoying a special and intimate time with friends and family.

For those who choose it, we also offer Cremation Services; cremation can be a meaningful way in which many families mark the death of a loved one. We offer services tailored to honor those who are military service members and veterans, as well.

## SA Technical Services Inc - CP of the Year -2018

SA Technical Services, Inc. (SA Tech) is a Service-Disabled, Veteran-Owned, Small Business (SDVOSB) headquartered in Niceville, FL. The company was founded in 2005 to provide government acquisition agencies a SDVOSB, high-end engineering and program management, systems engineering and technical assistance (SETA) alternative to their current providers. SA Tech has proven to be an excellent choice for the government. We have personnel and subcontractors working at Hurlburt Field, FL; Wright-Patterson AFB, OH; Kirtland AFB, NM; Cannon AFB, NM; Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA; Layton, UT; McConnell AFB, KS; and RAF Mildenhall, UK.



As one of three Prime Contractors for AFSOC SETA V, SA Technical currently services eight tasks with approximately 60 contract employees. SETA V tasks include CV-22 FCF support at Hurlburt, Cannon and Mildenhall; Administrative support for the Commando Ready Resilience Center, USAFSOS, and the Chapel at Hurlburt; Operational support for the 720th Special Tactics Group at Cannon and JBLM, and Mission Rehearsal Training for the 492 SOW at Hurlburt; Course Development, Instruction and Educational support for USAFSOS and AFSOC/A6; and Simulator Support for AFSOC at Wright Patterson AFB, Kirtland, Cannon and Hurlburt. We recently teamed with two other companies and are also providing support to the 22nd ARW at McConnell AFB, KS and the 551<sup>st</sup> SOS at Cannon AFB, NM under different contract vehicles.

SA Tech has been a supporter of the Hurlburt AFA Chapter for over 10 years and has participated in several Unsung Heroes, Community Partner, Golf Tournament, and Annual Award events. We recognize the value of supporting our local community, our educators, and our Air Force family and are proud to play a part in that role as members of the Air Force Association and Hurlburt Chapter 398. We look forward to a long association with the Hurlburt Chapter.

## Chapter 398 Community Partners

AFA Chapter 398 is very fortunate to have very supportive Community Partners. Through their generous funding and involvement, we were able to support our Wounded Warrior training camp, Teacher Workshops, Teacher of the Year recognition, Space Camp, student scholarships, Unsung Hero Airmen recognition, Cyber Patriot competitions, regional Science Fair and much more.



Thank you to all current partners who renewed their commitment this year and went above and beyond with grants and other financial support.

We are very happy to welcome three new Community Partners; Edward Jones, (Matt Ritter), 124 Miracle Strip Parkway, Suite 301, Mary Esther, FL 32569, First National Bank and Trust (FNBT) Bank, (Jimmy Tucker, Hurlburt Branch) 29 Eglin Pkwy NE, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548 and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Associates (Dr. Charles W. Elwell, Jr.), 7 Clifford Drive, Shalimar, FL 32579. Welcome to the team!!

Again, thank you to all of our Community Partners who supported us throughout the year. We are looking forward to a very busy and successful new year and with your support we will make it better than ever.

### **Diamond**

FLIR Systems Incorporated

### **Platinum**

The Boeing Company – Ft Walton Beach  
Lockheed Martin Rotary and Mission Systems  
MacAulay-Brown

Lockheed Martin – Ft Walton Beach  
Lockheed Martin MFC SOS CLSS

### **Gold**

Eglin Federal Credit Union  
Lt Col Gerry & Kay Chapman Memorial

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU)

### **Silver**

Beach Community Bank  
Clemenza's at Uptown Station  
Emerald Coast Endodontics  
On-Point Defense Technologies, LLC  
Sacred Heart Medical Group - Rheumatology

Cherry Wealth Advisors  
Elbit Systems America  
Nathan Hall DMD, "Family & Cosmetic Dentistry"  
Preston Hood Chevrolet

### **Bronze**

Aqua Pool and Patio Company  
Booz | Allen | Hamilton  
Edward Jones  
SA Technical Services Inc (***CP of the Year 2018***)  
The Island Hotel by Ramada

Awards Plus Frames by Sharon  
Dennis and Company  
FNBT Bank  
Serigraphia Inc.

### **Basic**

Emerald Coast Funeral Home (***CP of the Quarter***)  
It's All About You Massage & Day Spa  
Little Caesars Pizza (Racetrack Road)  
McNeil Hotel Company

Freedom Self Storage  
Jimmy's Men's Store and Pawn  
Mama Nu's Kitchen

Community Sponsorship levels are: Commando - \$5000, Diamond - \$2500, Platinum - \$1000, Gold - \$500, Silver - \$300, Bronze - \$150, and Basic - \$100. If you know of any business interested in becoming a Community Partner please contact any of our chapter officers.

"A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE."

Call 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or visit [WWW.FLORIDAConsumerHELP.COM](http://WWW.FLORIDAConsumerHELP.COM), Chapter 398 registration number is CH32205

## Coming Events

### January

9 - Executive Board Meeting

21 – MLK Day

### February

13 – Executive Board Meeting

18 – President's Day

27-1 Mar – Air Warfare Symposium, Orlando FL

### March

1-2 – AFA Florida Winter Meeting, Orlando FL

13- Executive Board Meeting

Note: Chapter Executive Board Meetings will now be on the 2<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month