

AFA Chapter 398, Executive Council Meeting Minutes  
July 19, 2023

Attendees:

Mark Chapman	Dann Mattiza
Fred Gross	Rick Soria
Max Friedauer	Susan Ault-Davis

State Convention

- State convention was held in the Ocala, FL on July 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> , Max Friedauer, Mark Chapman, and Dann and Jean Mattiza were in attendance
- Chapter 398 members were recipients of several state awards: Eddie Arroyo was recognized as State and Chapter Member of the Year. Other individual awards went to Susan Ault-Davis, Fred Gross, Max Friedauer and Mark Chapman for Sustained Service. Special Citations were issued to Rick Soria and Eddie Arroyo and Exceptional Service Citations were awarded to Edward Sauvageau and Joe Kinego.
- The Chapter was award Exceptional Service Awards for Community Relations, Best Single Program (Unsung Heroes), Aerospace Education, and Communications.
- State officers were elected: President Dwyer Dennis; VP Edward Hood; Treasurer Tom Carney, and Secretary Sharon Branch
- State Convention 2024 will be in Cape Canaveral, 2025 will be in Tampa/MacDill area, and 2026 will be in Jacksonville

National AFA

- National convention will be held at The Gaylord Hotel on September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> and AFA conference will also be held there September 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>
- Dann and Jean Mattiza plan to represent Chapter 398
- The Hurlburt Chapter will receive three unit awards and 2 individual awards during that event.
- AFA National awarded 40 educational grants in 2023; 8 were awarded to organizations/people in Florida. United Forces & Family (F2) has \$50K available for grants which may be matched by AFA Chapters
- Pitsenbarger awards are now \$750 per award and there are only 42 available across the nation. Hurlburt has funded some individual awards (unfunded by National) in the past and will continue to do so. Fred Gross will meet with the Education Director at Hurlburt field to discuss award opportunities and criteria. Next graduating class will be November 2023. National pointed out that according to the IRS, an award of over \$600 must also be reported.

- Retention rebate of 50% will be offered to Chapters for individuals who sign up for AFA membership and then renew their membership the following year

#### Teacher's Workshop

- Will be held August 8<sup>th</sup>, from 8 -3, at Beachside Church, located to the left of Choctaw High School (formerly the NWFDN). Doors will be open at 7am
- Fred Gross, Max Friedauer, Mark Chapman and Dann Mattiza will support the workshop in two shifts: 8-11 and 11-2. Others are welcome to volunteer. Contact Dann.
- AFA offers grants for teachers and Chapter may match those grants.
- August 7<sup>th</sup> the building will be open for those who wish to set up a table. Chapter 398 will update our tri-fold pamphlets and distribute – Dann Mattiza and Fred Gross

#### Awards Banquet

- Will be October 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Clubhouse Grill, located in the Clubhouse of the FWB Golf Course Clubhouse
- Dinners will cost \$40 per person

#### Unsung Heroes

- Will be held Feb/Mar 2024

#### Newsletter

- News articles should be submitted to Mark Chapman by end of September, for an October publication

#### Marine Institute

- Chapter 398 voted to support the Okaloosa Academy with hovercraft materials and demonstrate construction – Rick Soria

#### Chapter Officers

- The Chapter will be electing officers soon. Susan and Dann have agreed to remain as Secretary and Treasurer. Ann other volunteers? . Dann working.

#### Next Meeting

- Next meeting will be Aug 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am, at Clemenza's in Uptown Station.