

AFA Chapter 398, Executive Council Meeting Minutes  
March 13, 2024

Attendees:

Fred Gross	Eddie Arroyo
Meredith Coleman	Dann Mattiza
Max Friedauer	Mark Chapman
Les Matheson	Mac MacAloon
Susan Ault-Davis	

Aerospace Education

- The Science Fair awards were presented by Dann Mattiza on Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 1800, at Beach Community Church, 200 Racetrack Road, FWB.
  - o Three of our selected award winners placed best overall in their competition categories and all four will be heading to the Florida state competition.
- Teacher of the Year nominations are due April 15<sup>th</sup> for State and May 1<sup>st</sup> for National. We currently have two submissions, and more are expected through an increase in advertising.
- Meredith Coleman has been polling teachers on their availability to attend Teacher workshops and their interest in the curriculum. We discussed several topics and venues that teachers have found interesting in the past.
- POC is Meredith Coleman

Unsung Heroes

- The awards will be presented to twenty individuals from the 1SOW on March 15, 1100, at the Soundside.
- Guest speaker will be CMSGT Joey Meininger, 1SOW Command Chief Master Sergeant
- A discussion concerning a new location for future events, due to the excessive cost of the current venue, has led to several possibilities requiring additional research.

Pensacola Activities

- Joe Kinego recently provided a tour at the Pensacola Naval Museum as requested by USAF LtCol (Ret) Sweet and his wife. LtCol Sweet was shot down in Desert Storm while piloting an A-10. He is the most recent US POW.
- The Gulf Breeze HS AFJROTC will have their award ceremony on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Joe Kinego will attend.
- The Pensacola HS AFJROTC will have their award ceremony on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Joe Kinego will attend.

- Navarre HS NJROTC will have their awards program on 1 May. Mark Chapman will attend.
- JROTC – Joe Kinego provides support to Gulf Breeze and Pensacola JROTC cadet programs. He is often asked to speak about his military experience to the cadets and does so at their school and award ceremonies. Mark Chapman provides support to Navarre High School and presents scholarships on behalf of Chapter 398.
- Chappie James Memorial – members voted to present a \$500 monetary donation towards fifty stars that will be added to the memorial. Mark Chapman will present.

#### Items of Interest

- Hurlburt Chapter 398 will be participating in a Special Olympics Charity Event “Rides of March” with Omni Broadcasting and Emerald Coast Connected on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 9am – 3pm, behind Santa rosa Mall. Some of the proceeds, from member volunteer efforts, will be shared with Chapter 398 so we can continue supporting several community programs. Contact Dann to volunteer.
- The State drill meet was held March 2<sup>nd</sup> in Daytona Beach. Dann and Jean Mattiza attended and presented trophies on behalf of Chapter 398. Award presenters and drill competitors have not made a comeback since 2020, and it is possible that AFA Florida may not continue the event in the future. Chapter 398 formerly also presented awards to local drill meet held at Hurlburt and sponsored by the Honor Guard. We will investigate restarting this event.
- Awards reminder: Chapter inputs for State and National AFA awards are due by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Dann Mattiza is overseeing the award nominations and will not be available after April 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Newsletter reminder: Chapter newsletter will be published March 31. Need articles submitted to Mark Chapman by March 20<sup>th</sup> for Unsung Heroes, Regional Science Fair, Community Partners, Rides of March, and new Community Partners.
- AFA National is moving to 1200 Joyce Street, Arlington, VA. The new location will be in Pentagon City and easily accessible to the metro system.

#### Next Meeting

- Next meeting will be April 10th, 11:30 am, at TBD. Eddie will run meeting. Dann on Leave.