



Hurlburt AFA Chapter 398



**Jul-Sep 2016**

The Official Newsletter of the Hurlburt 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.

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**Chapter Officers**

- President – Jim Connors
- Vice President - Fred Gross
- Secretary – Susan Ault-Davis
- Treasurer – Danny Webb

**AFA Chapter 398**

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**Florida State Convention Report  
by Dann Mattiza**

The Annual State Convention for the Florida AFA was held on Jul 16<sup>th</sup> at the Lexington Hotel Riverwalk in Jacksonville, FL. It was hosted by the Falcon Chapter (# 399) of the Air Force Association. Chapter President Larry Belge and his team made sure every visiting delegate had a great weekend and experience. Provisions for early arrivals included a Wine Tasting event on Thursday evening and a River cruise and Dinner on Friday evening. Many of the attendees opted to arrive early Friday to enjoy the cruise on the St John’s River. The Chapter also ensured a hospitality suite was available for all attendees, complete with adult beverages, snacks, and plenty of lively conversation!

Lodging for the event was in the newly remodeled area of the Lexington, so all attendees enjoyed brand new beds, towels, carpets and televisions. Naturally, there were a few hiccups (since the workers literally left on Friday for us to move in that day and the next) but overall, it was a wonderful fresh and new environment.



Our business session started on Saturday AM when President Bill Yucuis called the Convention to Order and led the delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were several briefings on different topics throughout the day including a report on CyberPatriot presented by Lee Barnby, another on the Stellar Explorer Program presented by Tim Brock, and one from the Jacksonville ANG unit on their initiatives to try to get Jacksonville designated as a future F-35 unit. Bill Yucuis addressed the AFA Membership Community and several of the Training Modules available for Chapter leaders and others.

The State Drill Meet for 2017 will be held at the University of Florida at Gainesville. The date is still TDB, but based upon the State’s decision last year, it will not be in conjunction with the Winter Meeting. Our Winter Meeting for 2017 will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of March in Orlando, right after the AFA Air Warfare Symposium. The Central Florida Chapter (Gary Lehmann, President) will set up the meeting site. Next year our Annual Convention will be held at MacDill AFB and it will be hosted by the

The **Hurlburt AFA Annual Golf Tournament** will be held at the Shalimar Pointe Golf Course on Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> Oct 2016. The format is four-person scramble (no handicap limits). Tee time is 0800 hours. **Golf Fee Includes:** Green Fee and Cart, Range Balls, Door Prize Ticket, and lunch

Waterman-Twining Chapter (Ned Hance—President). The Central Florida Chapter also volunteered to host the State Convention in 2019.

The Florida AFA attendees were joined by AFA Chairman of the Board Scott Van Cleef and Vice Chairman for Field Operations, David Dietsch. Both of them addressed the convention and Scott also doubled as our Luncheon Speaker. Key points covered by David included a discussion of our ongoing efforts to resolve the IRS and tax issues, the need to modernize the AFA IT system to bring it into compliance with current security, privacy and management standards. This will require a major outlay of funds and will be instituted over a multi-year period. Since the AFA was already facing a budget deficit, and has for the past few years, even more emphasis is being placed on cutting costs, increasing membership, and increasing contributions.

During our Luncheon, President Yucuis and Executive Vice President Sharon Branch presented several Individual State Awards, Falcon President Larry Belge presented Falcon Chapter 399 TOY awards to their teachers, and Members of the State's Top Ranking CyberPatriot teams in the All Service and Open Divisions were recognized and presented awards. Following COB Scott Van Cleef's remarks, we returned to our meeting.

During the afternoon session, one of the items discussed was a potential initiative to relook at the overall status of AFA and determine if changes needed to be made in the areas of governance or strategic goals. This is similar to a corporation's periodic (generally 10 year) internal look and review. The last review done for AFA was about 10 years ago and known as AFA 21. Ray Turczynski provided a briefing on the goals and outcome of that review, and Sandy Schlitt joined via telephone to provide his input. As a result of the AFA 21 study, the AFA merged with the Aerospace Education Foundation and began its transition to 501(c)(3) status; the Board of Directors was resized from 40 to its current level of 19; the positions of VCFO and VCAE were created and the Executive Director position was eliminated; and State organizations now reported to National through an assigned Region. There were more changes, but those were some of the biggest. The overall goals was to improve Field Leadership, improve the executive/decision making structure of the National Organization, and to revise financial support to the Field by tying support payments to mission accomplishment at the Chapter Level. Scott Van Cleef and others believe it may be time to take another look at the structure and see if it needs to be tweaked again to improve governance, field leadership, etc. AFA FL supported the idea to take another look.

When COB Van Cleef spoke to the delegates, he echoed some of the issues raised by David Dietsch, but pointed out they were expecting to finish the year either in the black or very close to it due to some unexpected revenue from the Mitchell Institute. He emphasized the need to not only get new members, but to retain the ones we have. In the personnel area, he stated he accepted the resignation of Nora Ruebrook as National Treasurer, and her replacement for the rest of the year is Chuck Martin, a current member of Finance Committee. The new Executive Vice President is Denise Hollywood, and we have a new Director of Marketing and Business Development. He stated the Nominations for the upcoming vacancies at the National Level have been completed. There will only be one contested election and that will be in the Director At Large area where there are three candidates for two positions. Mr Steve Lungren has agreed to run for the Treasurer Position, Tim Brock will run for Secretary, Mac MacAloon is the only candidate for VCFO and Mr Whit Peters is running for Chairman.



President Yucuis then briefed the delegates on the proposed NATCON –National Convention of the Silver Wings and Arnold Air Society—that is supposed to be held Apr 15-17, 2017 at the Disney Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando. After several minutes of discussion, it was decided that AFA Florida would add a line item to the budget to allow up to \$4000 outlay to help support the event. In previous discussions earlier in the day, President Yucuis had briefed that he had recommended eliminating the funds for Area Vice Presidents (since they have been disbanded) and adding a \$250 listing for Wounded Airmen Support that would allow the AFA FL to contribute to either the Adaptive Sports Camps or the AFA WAP. Both those initiatives were approved as a part of the Budget for 2017, and the meeting was adjourned.

During the Dinner that evening, President Yucuis continued the presentation of State Awards at the Chapter Level. Hurlburt was recognized for their efforts in the Communications, Community Relations and Overall Programming areas. Our Dinner Speaker was Lt Col George Downs, Commander of the 159<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron at Jacksonville. He provided an excellent briefing on the disposition and role of the FL ANG.

Many thanks to the Falcon Chapter for their hospitality and organization of this event.

## Medal of Merit Awarded to Major Ray Belcher

Major Belcher distinguished himself as a mentor during the 2013 -2014 CyberPatriot VI National Youth Cyber Defense completion.

His contribution to the Air Force Association during CyberPatriot VI has improved and elevated the effectiveness of the Association in a national sense as well as shown exceptional service at the local and regional level.

Major Belcher help train 32+ students on three high school teams and three middle school teams in between July 2013 and March 2014.

During CyberPatriot VI, Major Belcher took the initiative in meeting with the Open Division high school team to prepare them for their first year of competition. His knowledge of computer information systems and cybersecurity from his previous experience from CyberPatriot III, IV, & V helped to expedite the learning curve of the Open Division high school team. He also provided post competition round analysis to students to help focus training on technical trouble areas discovered as well as team building techniques.

Major Belcher's efforts aided three Arizona middle school teams of CyberPatriot's Middle School Pilot Program to place 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> in the semi-final round out of 70 plus teams. His efforts also aided the Open Division high school team to win the state recognition round and "Region Honoree", and the Army JROTC team during competition in the National finals and achieve top Army team in the nation.

In addition to CyberPatriot VI, Major Belcher also encouraged students to take advantage of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) scholarships and was invited to participate on the Career and Technical Education Advisory panel at the local high school. His dedicated efforts in promoting cyber education and collaborative learning techniques in Cochise county supports and advocates AFA's mission for aerospace education and a technically superior workforce to ensure U.S. national security.

The distinctive accomplishments of Major Belcher reflect great credit upon himself, Cochise County, Arizona, and the Air Force Association.



## Chapter 398 Recognized at National Convention

August 3, 2016

Dear Jim,

I am delighted to inform you that the Awards Committee has selected the Hurlburt Chapter to receive the **Exceptional Service Award for Community Relations**, an **Overall Retention Award for an Extra Large Chapter**, an **Aerospace Education Achievement Award**, **Community Partner Achievement Award**, and a **Chapter Growth Award**. This recognition is a fine tribute to your chapters' dedication and outstanding efforts on behalf of AFA.

Awards presentations will be made during the 2016 National Convention at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center on Saturday, September 17, 2016. The awards that will be presented to your chapter during the ceremony is the Exceptional Service Award for Community Relations and the Overall Retention Award for an Extra Large Chapter.

David Dietsch

Vice Chairman of the Board Field Operations

## STEM Camp

Air Force Association Hurlburt Chapter #398 President Jim Connors recently presented students with an AFA chapter coin. The students were attending the AF STEM Camp 2016 sponsored by Eglin Youth Programs from June 26<sup>th</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. The program teaches the value of "Design Thinking" building confidence with technology through problem solving and hands-on learning. The educational program includes: propulsion (airplanes, rockets, and engines), robotics, and water dynamics. Applicants had to be youth entering 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grades and dependents of an Active Duty military assigned to, working or living on an Air Force (AF) Led/Joint Installation, AF Retired military, AF Civilian Employees, Air National Guard (ANG) or AF Reserve. Over 50 students applied for the 30 class quotas. "You are the future of America," Mr. Connors reminded them. He congratulated them for deciding to attend the camp during the summer and encouraged them to pursue STEM careers.



Chapter Executive VP for Aerospace Education was the lead STEM instructor and directed all STEM Activities at the camp.

The Northwest Florida Section of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), the Engineers For America (EFA) STEM Initiative Tea, and the Air Force Association Chapter 398 invites you to an **"Engineers as Educators"** workshop on Saturday, October 22, 2016. The workshop provides hands-on training for 2 STEM lessons to volunteers and classroom educators. We'll break into teams and execute each lesson during the training.

**WHAT:** AIAA & EFA teaches you how to perform/present 2 STEM lessons  
**WHO:** all STEM volunteers and educators (elementary, middle & high school)  
**WHERE:** Okaloosa STEMM Center (379 Edge Ave, Valparaiso, FL)  
**WHEN:** Saturday, 10/22, 9-12  
**WHY:** Get comfortable with fun STEM lessons and meet other educators/volunteers!

## Coming Events

15 Oct	Air Commando Assoc Golf Tournament, Ft Walton Beach Municipal
18 Oct	Executive Council meeting, Bella Donna's (1130)
20 Oct	Teacher Recognition Dinner, Hidden Creek
22 Oct	<i>Engineers as Educators</i> " workshop, Okaloosa STEMM Center
24 Oct	Early Voting begins in Florida (24 Oct – 5 Nov)
28 Oct	Chapter 398 Golf Tournament, Shalimar Point
8 Nov	Election Day
11 Nov	Veterans Day
15 Nov	Unsung Heroes Luncheon, Soundside Club (1100)
24 Nov	Thanksgiving
20 Dec	Hurlburt Executive Council meeting, Bella Donna's (1130)

## AFA 398 Community Partner of the Quarter

Oct-Dec 2016

Dr Hall's goal is to offer the highest quality dental care to the patients. They office understands that attached to each smile is a person, and they strive to treat each person with the care and respect they deserve. They offer a friendly environment that caters to all ages from young children to those only young at heart. They provide:



- Comprehensive Exams
- Cleanings
- Basic Restorative Care (aka fillings)
- Crowns/Inlays/Onlays
- Bridges
- Fixed and Removable Implant Restorations
- Complete and Partial Dentures
- Root Canals

After graduating from Niceville High School in 1994, Dr. Nathan Hall completed his undergraduate work at Auburn University (War Eagle!), then pursued his doctorate at NOVA Southeastern School of Dental Medicine. After graduation in 2006, he returned home to practice with his father, Dr. Gary Hall in Niceville Florida. Known to many of his patients as "Dr. Nate", Dr. Hall is actively involved in the dental community. He is currently serving as president of the Okaloosa/Walton Dental Society and is a member of the Florida Dental Association and the American Dental Association.

Their office is located next to the Destin Chamber of Commerce in front of the entrance to Regatta Bay at 4484 Legendary Drive, Suite B, Destin, FL 32541, 850.460.2801 (phone) or [smile@nathanhalldmd.com](mailto:smile@nathanhalldmd.com) Dr. Hall has been a strong and consistent supporter of the AFA Hurlburt Chapter and has been a Community Partner since 2012. Please help us congratulate Dr Hall on his selection as the AFA Community Partner of the Quarter for Oct-Dec 2016.

## AFA 398 Community Partner of the Year

When you walk into the Award-winning Clemenza's at Uptown Station, owned and operated by Dominic "Dom" Damiano, you are part of his Clemenza family – Born from a love of cooking, deep Italian roots, and a desire to delight, Clemenza's encompasses all that is Italian. From wood-fired pizzas and traditional red sauces to pasta and clams, paired with one of their premier wines. They also offer a classic taste of Italy and boast a full bar of premium liquors plus a wide array of specialty cappuccinos and espressos for a true Italian experience. Besides providing the best dining



experience on the Emerald Coast, Clemenza's supports the community and the military at every opportunity including a number of private military dinners and retirements. He provides cooking classes for deployed spouses and squadron team building. Emerald Coast Magazine referred to "Dom" as the "Culinary Godfather." Best of the Emerald Coast five years running in four different categories and Finest of the Emerald Coast 2 times. They were also one of the Top Ten Restaurant's in the Huffington post, received 11 Emerald Fork Awards, and five Certificates of Excellence from Trip Advisor. He was a also an Honorary Commander at Eglin AFB and Hurlburt Field and is currently a Special Advisor to the 1 SOW. For over five years Clemenza's has been an avid and consistent supporter of the Hurlburt AFA Chapter, its Airmen, their families, and all of our chapter activities. They were also our Community Partner of Quarter Jan-Mar 2014 and now the Hurlburt Chapter 398 is proud to announce Clemenza's At Uptown Station as the Hurlburt AFA Chapter Community Partner of the Year for 2016.

## Chapter 398 Community Partners

The Hurlburt Chapter of the Air Force Association is proud to introduce our Community Partners. This program links our local businesses who share the same aims with the Air Force Association. Our Community Partners are special members. Their membership provides scholarship funds, grants, AFJROTC support, teacher awards, Space Camp for kids, and AFSOC/Hurlburt quarterly and annual recognition. They support Freedom's Team and support Airpower and a strong national defense.



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### **Diamond**

The Boeing Company

FLIR Systems Incorporated

### **Platinum**

L-3 Comm/Crestview Aerospace  
Lockheed Martin SOS CLSS

Lockheed Martin Mission Systems & Training (MST)

### **Gold**

Air Commando Association  
Embry Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU)  
Lt Col Gerry & Kay Chapman Memorial

Eglin Federal Credit Union  
Lockheed Martin Corporation  
MacAulay Brown Inc.

### **Silver**

Beach Community Bank  
Clemenza's at Uptown Station  
Emerald Coast Endodontics  
Preston Hood Chevrolet  
WinTec Aeromaker Inc.

Cherry Wealth Advisors  
Elbit Systems America  
Nathan Hall DMD, "Family & Cosmetic Dentistry"  
Rheumatology Associates

### **Bronze**

Audio Visual Integrity  
Dennis and Company  
LC Industries  
SA Technical Services Inc.

Aqua Pool and Patio Company  
FAST Signs  
Ramada Plaza Beach Resort  
Serigraphia, Inc.

### **Basic**

Awards Plus Frames by Sharon  
Cakemasters Bakery  
Freedom Self Storage  
Jimmy's Men's Store and Pawn  
Mary Esther Cut-Off Barbershop

Bella Donna Catering & Café  
Emerald Coast Funeral Home  
It's All about You Massage & Day Spa (MM15298)  
Mama Nu's Kitchen (Formerly Gus' Corona Café)  
ZT Motors of FWB