



Hurlburt AFA Chapter 398

SERVICE before SELF

EXCELLENCE in ALL We DO

Integrity first



Jul - Sep 2020

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

State Officers

President – Mark Chapman
Vice President – Todd Freeze
Secretary – Bill Yucuis
Treasurer – Gary Lehmann

AFA Chapter 398
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Florida AFA State President presents Mr. Chris Dosev with the General Lewis H Bereton Award

The Hurlburt AFA Chapter nominated Mr. Dosev for the Florida AFA General Lewis H. Bereton Award for his efforts to name the new Pensacola three mile bridge for General Daniel “Chappie” James. Gen James is a well known USAF hero and a native son of Pensacola. In the photo above, Chapter VP Fred Gross, State President Mark Chapman and Chapter President Jim Connors make the award to Mr. Dosev. The Award is given annually to a civilian who has made an outstanding contribution to the USAF community.

We are very grateful to Mr. Dosev and the other members of the team who worked so hard to convince the local city and county governments, as well as State Officials, to honor and recognize Gen James in his own hometown.

An artist’s rendering of the Memorial to Gen James that is planned to be placed near the Pensacola end of the bridge is found later in this issue.

2020 OKALOOSA-WALTON HOMELESS VETERANS STAND DOWN

Friday, November 6, 2020 • 0830 – 1230 HRS
Crestview Community Center
1446 Commerce Drive
Crestview, FL 32539



Services

- Flu/Tetanus/Pneumonia Shots
- Mental Health Screening
- Health & Comfort Items
- Dental Screening
- Florida Dept of Veterans Affairs
- Veterans' Court
- Barber
- VA Clothing, Boots, Blankets
- Employment Services
- Nourishing Meal
- Veterinary Services 8:30-11:30
- Bicycles
- VA Housing Assistance
- VA Benefits Assistance

Notes

- **Veterans Only!** Eligibility will be verified at sign-in. Bring ID (VA Card, Military ID, or DD Form 214) if available. (If you don't have any of these documents VA personnel can assist in verifying veteran status.)
- **Face Masks Required!** Face masks will be available.
- **Social Distancing Rules Apply!** Following local guidance.



Point of Contact: dnomadchief@aol.com

AFA NATIONAL ELECTION RESULTS

Chair of the Board Mr. Gerald Murray announced the results of the National Election. As you will recall, this year's National Convention was virtual, and the election was conducted in each Chapter with results being forwarded to the State/Region Presidents for final submission. State memberships determine the number of available delegates (and therefore, votes) available. In our case, Florida had 27 votes. Each Chapter had 2 votes (24 total) and the remaining 3 votes were submitted by the State Officers using the voting rules used at the National Convention.

Our Elected National Officers for the coming year are:

Chairman of the Board: Gerald Murray

Vice COB- Field Operations: Jim Simmons

Vice COB-Aerospace Education: Jim Hannam

National Secretary: Rick Hartle

National Treasurer: Chuck Martin

National Director- East Area: Gavin "Mac" MacAloon

National Directors at Large: Steve Gourley and

Len Vernamonti

FLORIDA AFA STATE CONVENTION and AWARDS

The Florida State Convention was held on 25 July via Zoom. Other members also joined by phone. There were 25 members online and they were joined by VCOB Field Ops, Mac MacAloon and AFA Florida State TOY, Jill Whitacre. The members elected: **Mark Chapman as State/Region President, Mr. Todd Freece as Vice President, Ms. Sharon Branch as Secretary, and Mr. Gary Lehmann as Treasurer** for the coming year. Congratulations to you all and thank you for serving.

Since the 2020 State Convention, which was scheduled to be hosted by the Falcon Chapter was cancelled, they requested to host the 2021 State Convention. The Bud West Chapter, with support from both the Eglin and Hurlburt Chapters, had originally agreed to host the 2021 State Convention and they have agreed to now host the 2022 State Convention. These changes were approved by the membership. In addition, after some discussion the members agreed to make the 2021 Winter Meeting a virtual meeting. The decision to make all future Winter Meetings virtual will be discussed at that time.

The State also voted to close the Highlands Chapter (173) and the McCarthy Chapter (397). AFA members in those chapters will be reassigned to other chapters.

The following State Awards were announced at the meeting.

Exceptional Service Awards were presented to the **Martin H. Harris Chapter 303** for: **Best Single Program, Community Relations, Communications, and Overall Programming**. They were also selected as the **Extra-Large Chapter of the Year**. The **Eglin Chapter** received **Exceptional Service Awards for Aerospace Education and Veterans Affairs**.

The **State Member of the Year** was **Mr. Todd Freece** of Martin H. Harris Chapter and the **Regional Member of the Year** was **Mr. Dwyer Dennis** of Space Coast Chapter. **Ms. Jill Whitacre** of West Shore Jr/Sr High School in Melbourne was named the **Florida State Teacher of the Year**. **Mr. Chris Dosev** was awarded the **Bereton Award**. The **Hse Education Foundation** (Ft Walton Beach) received a **Special Citation**. Our **Cyber Patriot** winners were **St Augustine CAP Composite Squadron** winning the All Services Division and **Creekside High School** of St Johns winning the Open Division. Meanwhile, **Flagler Palm Coast High School/AFJROTC** was the **StellarXplorers** winner. **Mr. Rick Soria** was selected and named the **Hurlburt Chapter Member of the Year**.

HURLBURT CHAPTER TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

The Air Force Association Chapter 398 Hurlburt selected two Outstanding Teachers as Teachers of the Year. **Ms. Meredith Coleman, Northwood Elementary School**, is the Hurlburt Chapter 398 Elementary School Teacher of the Year and Hurlburt Chapter 398 Co-Overall Teacher of the Year. **Ms. Dawn Pack, Destin Middle School**, is the Hurlburt Chapter 398 Middle School Teacher of the Year and Hurlburt Chapter 398 Co-Overall Teacher of the Year. **Congratulations to both of our winners!**

Both individuals received a certificate and \$250 check in April/May. These were mailed due to the COVID 19 protocols. We had also planned to recognize both teachers at a dinner in October as a part of our Annual Award Dinner. Unfortunately, that has also now been cancelled and they will be recognized in 2021. Both were also offered scholarships to the Educators Space Camp in Huntsville, but that has also been deferred. We are working to find acceptable dates for them to attend post-COVID.

The purpose of our annual program is to recognize classroom teachers at the chapter, state, and national level for their accomplishments and achievements in exciting K-12 students about science and math (STEM) and preparing them to use and contribute to tomorrow's technologies. This is a unique opportunity for us to reward special teachers who are furthering excellence and making coming to class an adventure.

COMMUNITY PARTNER NEWS

AFA Chapter 398 Community Partner of the Quarter Jul-Sep 2020



Congratulations to Eglin Federal Credit Union for being selected as our Community Partner of the Quarter, 3rd Quarter 2020. Eglin Federal Credit Union, also referred to as EFCU, was chartered in 1954 and is a not-for-profit, member-owned financial institution. Membership includes military and civilian personnel on Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlburt Field, and Duke Field. They have been an outstanding AFA Chapter 398 Hurlburt Field Community Partner since 1999. They actively support our Air Force family, Cadets, teachers, students, Veterans and Wounded Airmen. Thank You for your Support!!

WELCOME! ---- Hurlburt Chapter's NEWEST Community Partner



Since our beginning in 2004, we strive for excellence in all we do and exemplify that excellence in our products and design. We are devoted to those we serve to deliver innovative gear with superior quality.

Of course, we are not stopping there. We are continually improving our gear lineup and looking for more ways to improve the tactical gear industry and ultimately the warriors here at home and worldwide.



Artist's Rendering of Proposed Memorial



Neat Picture! Framed by one of our CP's, Mr. Steve Oglesby of Awards Plus Frames by Sharon.

Coming Events

Oct

14 - Executive Board Meeting. 1130, Mama Nu's, Ft Walton Beach

Nov

3 – Election Day----GO VOTE!

6 – 2020 Okaloosa Walton Homeless Veterans Stand Down

18- Executive Board Meeting. 1130, Mama Nu's, Ft Walton Beach

Dec

No Executive Board Meeting this Month Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

OTHER STUFF

Possible Unsung Heroes Luncheon in 1st quarter of 2021.

National Wreaths Across America Day

Sponsor a Wreath for Our Local Veterans

Hosted by the
Veterans Tribute Tower Committee
Beal Memorial Cemetery ID# FLBEAL
Fort Walton Beach, Florida
December 19, 2020 at 10:00 AM



Remember

The Fallen

Honor

Those that Serve

Teach

The value of
Freedom

Air Force
Association
ID#FL0759

Marion Mc Bryde
Eglin AFA President

Jim Connors
Hurlburt AFA
President



Contact: Daquiri Champion, AFA Wreath Coordinator
For details on how to donate
Contact Champion.daquiri@gmail.com

Every Wreath Makes A Difference

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 Heroes 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.

Again, "Thank you!" to all 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 – Ft Walton Beach
Lockheed Martin MFC SOS CLSS

Elbit Systems of America
Lockheed Martin Rotary and Mission Systems
Alion Science and Technology (formerly Mac-B)

Gold

Eglin Federal Credit Union
Lt Col Gerry & Kay Chapman Memorial

Silver

Beach Community Bank
Cherry Wealth Advisors
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Associates
Sacred Heart Medical Group - Rheumatology
SA Technical Services Inc

Blue Force Gear
Emerald Coast Endodontics
On-Point Defense Technologies, LLC
Preston Hood Chevrolet

Bronze

Aqua Pool and Patio Company
Booz | Allen | Hamilton
Edward Jones
Nathan Hall DMD, "Family & Cosmetic Dentistry"
The Island Hotel by Ramada

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

Basic

Emerald Coast Funeral Home
It's All About You Massage & Day Spa
Little Caesars Pizza (Racetrack Road)
McNeil Hotel Group

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 one 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, Chapter 398 registration number is CH32205