

THE MARAUDER

Gold Coast Chapter 351 Quarterly Newsletter

<http://goldcoast351.org/news.htm>

DECEMBER 2012



Pres: V.S. Montalvo CAP.VSM@juno.com VP: H. Bennett FXE-pilot@aol.com Treasurer: Ran Meriam Warbird10@bellsouth.net

MISSION The Air Force Association educates the public about the critical role of aerospace power in the defense of our nation; advocates aerospace power and a strong national defense; and supports the United States Air Force and the Air Force Family and aerospace education.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: To update your email address or Unsubscribe please email: blarson@afa.org

President's Message

Greetings: I pray you have all had a joyous holiday season and are excited about the new year that is upon us. You will find several news items in their entirety that may be of interest to you. These articles cover 2012's accomplishments of the AFA, the Air Force and the Veterans Administration. For daily up-to date information, please see the emails on The Air Force magazine online, the APA of the day and Notes from the AFA.

The 2013 AFA Florida State Calendar of Events is evidence of the enormous effort the State President Mike Emig and his staff have put into the 2013 programs, events and activities to carry out the AFA Mission of Educate, Advocate and Support.

The chapter's 2013 focus continues on the CyberPatriot Competition and how we can motivate more high-schoolers and supervising adults to get involve. Take time to peruse the items on our chapter activities and the individual member involvements.

Please consider two important actions in 2013; renewing your membership and participating in one of our chapter's activities. Excelsior, VSM

Greetings from your National Officers...

As the year comes to an end, we want to start off with showing our gratitude for all that you have done throughout the year. We hope you will enjoy this special time of year with family and friends, and we look forward together to a great New Year.

2012 has brought us many changes in terms of AFA leadership. While we said farewell to the AFA leadership team of Mike Dunn and Buck Buckwalter, we welcome Craig McKinley as President

and Dick Newton as the EVP. Both have seamlessly integrated into the AFA family and we expect great things ahead.

SAVE THESE DATES:

Jan.16-Gold Coast Chapter Mtg Banyan Bldg at Ft Lauderdale Executive Airport; 1PM - **all invited**

Jan.26-Challenge Air at Banyan Hangar

Ft Lauderdale Executive Airport 9am to 4 pm

An event highly recommended by GC Member and volunteer pilot for the event Art Randall

Jan. 26- Four Chaplain Ceremony; Dania Coast Guard Station; info. lorettayung@yahoo.com

Feb. 1,2 &3- Collings Foundation WWII

Airbirds: Boca Airport; for info. Markf84@att.net

Feb.8,9 &10- Collings Foundation WWII

Airbirds: Ft Lauderdale Executive Airport, Banyan Hangar 63 - See attached FLYER for more info

Mar. 1-3 AFA FloridaState Winter Meeting &

JROTC Drill Meet at UCF in Orlando. For info.

Warbird10@bellsouth.net

First Quarter Dinner Meeting TBA

Apr. 20&21- Ft Lauderdale Air Show

Apr.29-May 6- Fleet Week



Model Aircraft-The chapter has a wholesale account with an aircraft model distributor. We can get you a model of a plane

that might have special memories for you or a loved one at less than normal retail cost. Milt Markowitz 561-499-0583 or markf84@att.net

AFA initiatives continued to unfold throughout 2012. Our education initiatives continue to grow in scope and depth for all ages, especially with our annual conferences, professional development events and CyberPatriot program.

On cyber security and gaining great recognition from media and industry. This year saw an increase in sponsor support as well as an increase in their reach, building the competition curriculum to help further prepare today's youth to be career- and college-ready.

Our initiatives to fulfill our mission to support our Airmen also increased. The Wounded Airman Program, established last year, was the beneficiary in the 2012 Cycling Classic from which a check for \$25,000, raised through pledges made by those participating, was presented to help support the program.

The Air Force Memorial continues to serve as an emblem of gratitude to the many airmen who have served this country in times of war and peace.

The 2012 annual conferences and symposia expanded their scope and continued to show development and expansion, serving as invaluable professional development events for all participants. Specifically, the 2012 Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition was the biggest yet, with more than 65 conference addresses and panels, including an address by new Chief of Staff of the Air Force Mark Welsh. In addition, special heritage presentations were given to heroic groups who have dedicated a lifetime of work in the advancement of aerospace.

Each year, we have to say our final goodbyes to AFA members and friends, and our prayers are with their families during this season. Their immeasurable contributions to AFA have helped shaped this great Association, and they will be missed.

While we have the opportunity to spend the holidays with loved ones, we must remember the courage and commitment to service displayed by our Airmen, Sailors, Soldiers and Marines, who may be separated for their families during this time. Their dedication is remarkable and we have great pride and appreciation in the work they do.

The new year will definitely bring changes and new initiatives as well, including more focus on the people aspect of the AFA mission-highlighting our airmen and their families. Just to give you a sneak peak, such initiatives will include a Transition Program for Airmen leaving the service and an expanded Spouses Scholarship Program.

Without a doubt, the successes of this Association have to be attributed to you - the volunteers, members and staff at AFA national. Our hearts are truly filled with gratitude for all that you do. Together, as we move into 2013, we can build on those efforts to expand the reach of AFA to help improve the quality of life of our nation's Airmen and support our Air Force in the challenges ahead.

From your AFA National Officers, may your holiday season be filled with much joy and happiness!

Sincerely, George Muellner Chairman of the Board

Maj.Gen Frederic "Boots" Blesse, a top US fighter ace of the Korean War died recently.

Gen Blesse flew more than 220 combat missions in the F-51, F-80 and F-86. Gen. Blesse wrote the fighter tactics book No Guts, No Glory that served as a basis of fighter Combat operations for many years in the Air Force. Over his 30-year military career, he earned numerous military decorations and authored Check Six & A Fighter Pilot Looks Back. Gen Blesse was 91 years old.

In 2009, Gen Blesse kindly accepted an invitation from our chapter to speak at a breakfast meeting. We were honored to have him take part in the re-dedication of the restored F-86H, Sabre Jet which after much effort was finally remounted at Holiday Park in Ft Lauderdale. We shall remember Boots fondly. VSM

AFA Daily Report Newsletter Dec 19, 2012

Defense Authorization Conference Report Concluded: House and Senate defense overseers announced on Tuesday that they reached agreement in conference on the final version of the Fiscal 2013 defense authorization bill, completing the conference report that provides \$633.3 billion for national defense programs in this fiscal year. That total is some \$1.7 billion more than President Obama requested and includes approximately \$527.5 billion for the Pentagon's base budget (up \$2.1 billion from Obama's request), \$88.5 billion for overseas contingency operations (equal to the request), and \$17.4 billion for Energy Department national security programs (\$395 million less), according to summaries of the conference report (see below.)

Among the major Air Force-related decisions, the conferees:

- Authorized an end strength of 329,460 Active Duty airmen.
 - Adopted language establishing a National Commission on the Structure of the Air Force.
 - Approved USAF leadership's modified force structure reduction plan, with the exception of keeping an additional 32 tactical airlifters (C-27s or C-130s) in service, along with 1,000 airmen.
 - Prohibited retirement of Global Hawk Block 30 aircraft.
 - Allowed block buys of SBIRS GEO-5 and GEO-6 satellites over six years.
 - Authorized a 1.7 percent across-the-board pay raise for uniformed service members.
 - Established the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission.
- SASC Chairman Levin [release](#)
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CAP Cadet takes prestigious Honor:

Under the command of Major Knudsen, 2012 Florida State Teacher of the Year, of the Crystal Lakes MS Civil Air Patrol Squadron- Cadet Lt Leah Dorn was awarded the Cadet Honor Society Distinction Award with aiguillette. Cadet Lt Dorn continues with exceptional grades in CAP while maintaining her A-Student status on the Principal's Honor Roll. This remarkable young lady has for the third year been inducted in CAP's prestigious Honor Society which recognizes the highest academic achievement in Civil Air Patrol. KUDOS

AFA Florida Calendar of Events 2013

January, 2013

31 -- Quarterly Reports (QAR, QFR and Newsletters) due to State President

February, 2013

10 -- AFJROTC Educator Grant Deadline
20 -- Air Force Gala Golf, Shingle Creek Golf Course, Orlando, FL
20 -- Air Force Gala, Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando, FL
21-22 -- Air Warfare Symposium, Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando, FL

March, 2013

14-15 -- **CyberPatriot V Finals**, Gaylord National, National Harbor, MD
2 -- Winter Meeting- Orlando, FL
2 -- State Drill Meet-University of Central Florida
31 -- Deadline for CAP Teacher Grants (Quarterly)
31 -- Chapters Submit Florida State Award Nominations to Area VPs
31 -- Chapters Submit State Teacher of Year Nominations to Area VPs
31 -- Chapters Submit Courtesy Copies of National Award Nominations to Area VPs

April, 2013

1 -- **CyberPatriot VI** Registration Opens (Projected)
15 -- Area VPs provide Courtesy Copies of National Award Nominations to State Executive VP
15 -- Area VPs provide State Award Nominations to State Executive VP
15 -- National Award Nominations due to State President
15 -- National Teacher of the Year Nominations due to State President
TBD -- Region President's Meeting
30 -- Quarterly Reports (QAR, QFR and Newsletters) due to State President
TBD -- Spring Area Meetings

May, 2013

10 -- Award Nominations Due to National
10 -- National Aerospace Education Awards Due to National
31 -- National Teacher of Year Nominations Due to National

June, 2013

30 -- Deadline for CAP Teacher Grants (Quarterly)

July, 2013

1-- AFA Educator Grants Open
13 -- State Convention-Wyndham at Jacksonville, FL (Activities begin on 11th for early birds)
31 -- Quarterly Reports (QAR, QFR and Newsletters) due to State President

August, 2013

1 -- Cutoff Date for Field Resolutions

September, 2013

13 -- Region President's Meeting
14-15 -- AFA National Convention, Gaylord National Hotel, Washington, DC
16-18 -- Air & Space Conference, Gaylord National Hotel, Washington, DC
30 -- Deadline for CAP Teacher Grants (Quarterly)

October, 2013

10 -- AFJROTC Educator Grant Deadline
15 -- New Chapter Officer Rosters due to State President
17-19 -- Region/State President's Orientation
31 -- Quarterly Reports (QAR, QFR and Newsletters) due to State President
31 -- Chapter Officer Rosters Due to National
TBD -- Area Meetings

November, 2013

11 -- Educator Grant Deadline (Projected)
21-22 -- Global Warfare Symposium and AF Ball, Century Plaza Hyatt Regency, LA, CA

December, 2013

10 -- Chapter Annual Activity Plans due to State President
10 -- Chapter Annual Financial Plans due to State President
31 -- Deadline for CAP Teacher Grants (Quarterly)
31 -- Annual Financial and Activity Plans due to National

Congratulations- Gold Coast Chapter CyberPatriot Team reaches semi-final level

Upon receiving these few words of congratulations, "Kudos on reaching the semi finals", the Cyberpatriot coach responded:

Thank you for kind words and your support!

Will do our best to get to the finals... probably wont be easy for the rookie team but it will be really exciting :)

I think Cyberpatriot is a great way to get kids interested in computers/STEM.... We also have robotics club at school (www.eaglesrobotics.org) so we are keeping busy. I am just a parent -who knows IT :)
I wish we had more support at the school level, get more kids involved from different schools - not sure if you saw that LA Unified School district has 6 teams in the semifinals - its part of their after school program.

V. Safin, Atlantic Community High School

For current information on the CyberPatriot 2013 Competition please contact: Fran Shaw, the Chapter's CyberPatriot Competition VP.
fcs2121@comcast.net



Congratulations to our Community Partner Don Campion, President and owner of the Banyan Air Service operating at Ft Lauderdale Executive Airport. The Chapter's Community Partner of the Year Award was presented to Mr. Campion by chapter members Ran Meriam, VSMontalvo,

Loretta Young and Bob Marks in recognition of his contribution to the aviation community. We are very proud to have him as one of our Gold Coast Chapter members.



Date: 6 June 2012

Subject: Veterans Aid & Attendance Pension

Dear Veteran and/or Surviving Spouse of a Veteran,

If you or your spouse served in the U.S. Military or Merchant Marines during a period of war, you may be entitled to receive the "Aid & Attendance Pension". Many Veterans are unaware of this pension, which pays for private duty home health services. This is not a cash benefit; it is a reimbursement benefit for in-home services. Services covered are such things as meal preparation, light housekeeping, transportation, mobility, bathing, dressing and other activities of daily living. The following are the minimum standards required to qualify for this pension:

- Veteran and/or Surviving Spouse of the Veteran are at least 65 years of age.
- Veteran actively served for at least 90 days where at least one day of the enlistment falls within a period of war (see the chart below for dates).
- Veteran must have been honorably discharged.

Qualifying Wars	Recognized Dates (DD214/Separation Docs Must Fall Within Dates)
World War II	December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946
Korean War	June 27, 1950 to January 31, 1955
Vietnam War	August 5, 1964 to May 7, 1975
Persian Gulf War	August 2, 1990 to Present Day

If the Veterans service meets the aforementioned minimum qualification standards, please continue to read below. If not, please consider passing this information on to other Veterans or Spouses of Veterans that you may know, so that they may review the aforementioned and see if they possibly qualify for this pension.

Now that you have verified that you meet the minimum qualification standards, your next step is to call our office at 1-877-652-2855 so we can further assist you with qualification and application process. The following chart details the most recent fully entitled pensions available for the Aid & Attendance Pension Program.

Maximum Monthly Pension Available	
Veteran with Spouse Combined	\$2,020.00 per month
Veteran without a Spouse	\$1,704.00 per month
Surviving Spouse of a Veteran	\$1,094.00 per month

NOTE: There should never be any cost to the Veteran, Spouse or Family to qualify and receive the "Aid & Attendance Pension". Some financial planners, insurance agents, attorneys and others are using this pension program to gain access then attempting to sell other types of services or charging for their assistance with the pension process; this should never be the case.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Gregory Sr.
Veteran - United States Navy

HOMESTEAD AIR SHOW 2012

Gold Coast Chapter members were delighted with the air show at Homestead AFRB and the AFA

Miami/Dade Chapter's hospitality.



Wreaths Across America

Once again, the Gold Coast Chapter members supported and participated in the Wreaths Across America event at the Lake Worth Cemetery. Since 2007 when AFA President VSMontalvo organized the first WAA ceremony, the outpouring of contributions to purchase wreaths has increased to the point where it seemed that this year every gravesite had a holiday wreath placed on it. Among the many veteran groups, family and friends, many *young people* groups attended to Remember the Fallen and Honor those who served.

OUR PARTNERS ARE SPECIAL. THEY SUPPORT OUR CHAPTER! PLEASE SUPPORT THEIR BUSINESSES!

<p>EXCELLENT REACH, INC. Ft. Lauderdale, FL Youth Aviation & Leadership Program Consultations excellentreach@gmail.com</p>
<p>BANYAN AIR SERVICE Ft. Lauderdale, FL 1635 NW 51st Place; Ft Lauderdale, FL 33309 800-200-2031 954-491-3170 www.banyanair.com</p>
<p>DINO'S HAIR CENTER Lauderdale, FL</p>

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