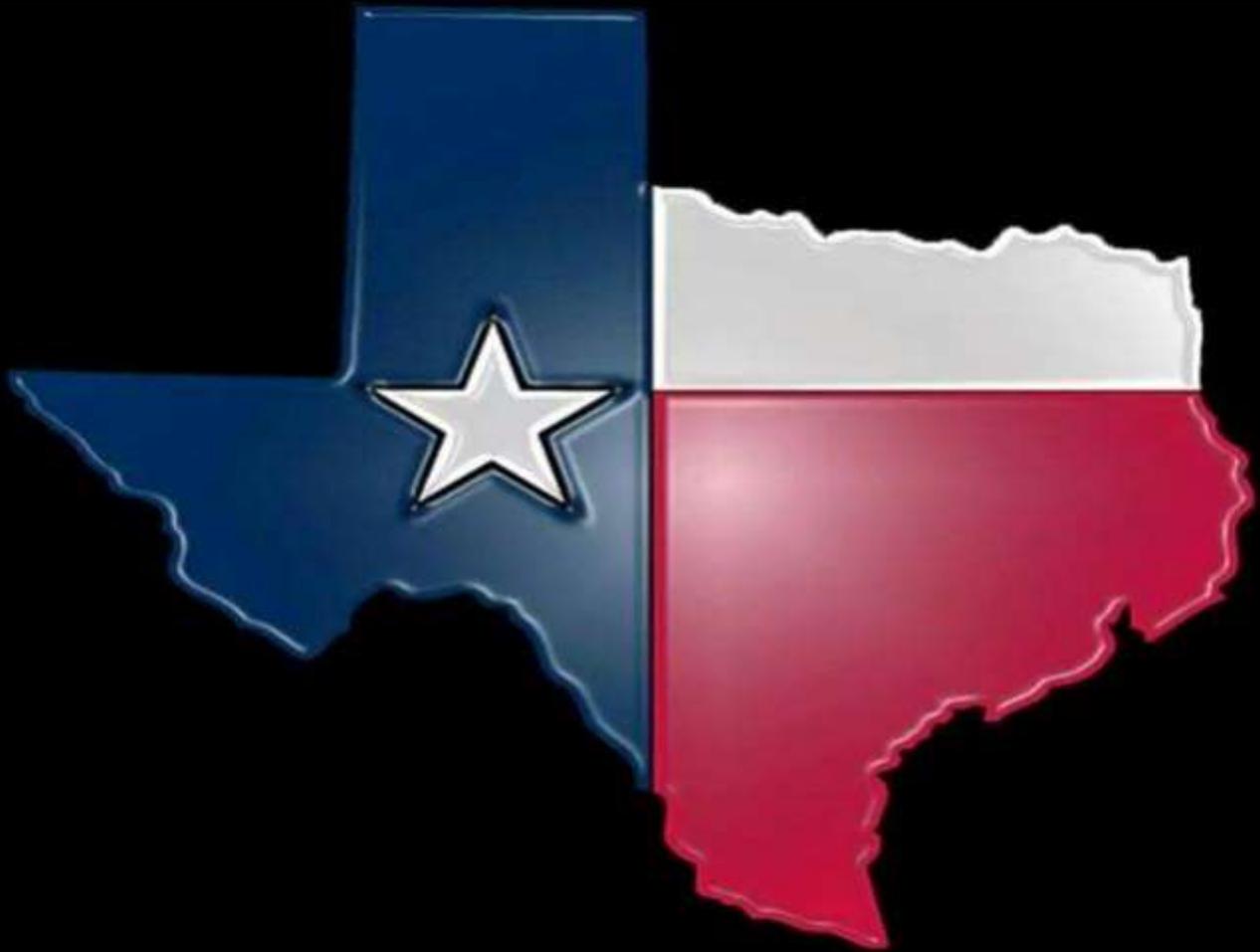


AFA Texas News

The Air Force Assn News of Texas



3rd Quarter 2017



AFA Texas News

Official Newsletter of Air Force Association Texas

President: Mike Winslow	Exec VP: Randy Coggins
Secretary.: Joan Lopez	Treasurer: Bob Gehbauer
VP Communications: Norm King	

Web page: <https://texasafa.org>

Fall Texas State Meeting

The Fall Texas State AFA meeting was an virtual online meeting held on October 28

Future Meetings

- Spring 2018—Aggieland
- Summer 2018 - Donnelly
- Fall 2018—October Virtual Online Meeting
- Spring 2019—Abilene
- Summer 2019—Alamo



Presidents Page



From the President:

1. Quarterly reports and newsletters are still due. These are reviewed regionally and at HQ to assess the state of chapter activity.
2. Support payments are now based on membership. Some chapters/states may have been 'overpaid' initially, but the next payment will make the appropriate adjustment.
3. Don't forget your **annual activity plan, annual budget, and officer's roster** - due in Oct.
4. Our favorite son - Mark Tarpley was elected National Director at Large, along with Rick Hartle from Layton Utah.
5. Membership rates are changing. There is financial incentive for the chapters for retention of new members. Check the AFA.org website for the latest information and applications.
6. If you haven't done so recently, review the information and tutorials on the afa.org website. There are some very good 'best practice' updates.
7. The message of the Convention was that lack of congressional action on the Budget and Continuing Resolutions are having a severe impact on the capability of the USAF to initiate desperately needed programs and to meet its growing mission requirements. Review the AFA Position Papers and make sure your Congressmen and Senators hear from you!

News From National

AFA's eBay Page

AFA is selling merchandise on eBay. You can find USAF 70th Birthday t-shirts, the 2017 almanac, various art prints, and Airmen for Life merchandise.

Health 21 Magazine

AFA is pleased to announce a new partnership with AMSUS, the Society of Federal Health Professionals, who has created the Health21 E-magazine. Health21 supports a new vision of wellness and health care for the 21st Century. The magazine provides thought leadership articles, encourages civilian and military interoperability and shapes the future direction of health for all. I hope our members enjoy this new E-magazine, which we plan to send to our members, free of charge, starting this month.

Training Subcommittee Update

We're in the final stages of sorting out exactly how the modules will work from their new home on the Training Modules page, which you'll get to from an option on the menu bar on the Field Leaders page. When you click on a link on the new page, you will not have to complete anything like the Brainshark guestbook to start a video. There will still be a survey at the end of each video, but it will be longer than before because we have to use it to capture some of the in-

Last month I wrote that our contract with Brainshark was going to end on September 1st. That's what I thought. What I didn't know was that someone on the National staff decided to extend the contract a month, so all the links you see in the Training Modules box on the Field Leaders page of the AFA web site still work. Come October 1st, however, they

I still plan on having Nia send out a special edition of Newslines with a quick tutorial on how to access and use the videos in their new location. Look for it later this month or in early October.

The new page has links to all of the old modules on it. They will now stream from this page but remember that when you're invited to take the end-of-module survey, that survey no longer exists. The same is true for any references to tables of contents: they don't exist either. We will modify these videos to replace all the references to Brainshark-provided tools over the next several months. Updated modules will have **Updated!** next to their titles.

The other big change that's coming is that we will be disconnecting most of the modules from specific months. Some modules still need that connection, like the planning and reporting ones, but most do not. We'll still recommend you watch certain videos each month, however: we don't want you to forget about them.

And speaking of that, this month we suggest you watch the [Advocacy, Part 1](#), video. With everything Congress has on its plate, including passing a real Defense Department budget to replace yet another Continuing Resolution, now is a good time to brush up on how to do advocacy.



Dear Charity Administrator,

We have just completed AmazonSmile donation disbursements for the 2017 Q3 disbursement cycle to organizations that generated the \$5 minimum disbursement amount or more. Air Force Association (EIN: 74-6077166) will not be receiving a donation this quarter from the AmazonSmile Foundation because your donation balance was less than the \$5 minimum disbursement amount. Don't worry - we will hold your donation and add it to a disbursement in a future quarter. For more details, visit <http://org.amazon.com> and click on the Receive Donations tab.

This holiday season, remind your supporters to do their shopping at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate to Air Force Association. You can use the following tools to engage your supporters and increase your AmazonSmile donations.

Offline marketing:

As of last quarter, you can use offline channels such as direct mail and printed marketing/fundraising collateral to tell your supporters about AmazonSmile.

Online marketing:

Sign in to <http://org.amazon.com> and click on Marketing Tools to access customized online tools.

Share this link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-6077166> and ask your donors, volunteers, employees, and friends to bookmark this link so all their eligible holiday shopping will benefit Air Force Association. #YouShopAmazonDonates

Copy and paste the below holiday image and message to use in social media, email, and on your website.

Shop for everyone on your gift list this holiday at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-6077166> and Amazon donates to Air Force Association





AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

Thursday, August 31, 2017

Technology Upgrade Notification

As part of our commitment to remain on the cutting edge of Membership technology, AFA is pleased to announce that we are upgrading our Association Management System to Salesforce platform. Our new system will help us continue to provide the extraordinary customer service you have come to expect, while enabling us to offer the you most up-to-date products and services.

Upgrade Timeframe

- Start Friday September 1st, 2017 at 3 PM EST
- End Tuesday September 5th, 2017 at 11 AM EST

With our new system, there are some changes that will affect the products and services we provide to you. We want you to be aware of these changes and ask that you read this letter carefully to help ensure the transition to our new system causes you as little disruption as possible.

After this upgrade, you will receive an automated email from Salesforce asking you to change your password over period of one week starting Sep 5th. This email will contain a link to the system to create a new password for the portal. Please check your junk email as system emails frequently go to the Junk inbox. Please check our online resource center if you do not receive an email after Sep 12th.

Also, be aware that the first few days of this transition, we will still be checking that everything is working correctly. However, in that process, there could be minor issues that cause temporary delays connecting to our new system. We do this to ensure you have the best service possible so please be patient during this transition.

MEMBERSHIP ACCOUNTS

Your Membership number will not change. You may continue using your Membership number to identify yourself when you reach out to AFA National staff.

ONLINE Membership Account

Members will be able to view and edit their accounts online. Please check your contact information and update any information that is incorrect.

Corporate members will be able to view and edit all the contacts associated with their accounts.

Members will be able to pay their dues online.

The Join and Donations Process

The Join and Donations Process will be change to the new system and donors will be able to view their history on AFA's website.

FOR ASSISTANCE

Online Info Center

To learn more about the changes that will take place, please visit our website www.afa.org/support/

To reach our support team, please contact us at support@afa.org

Texas Awardees at National Convention



News From The Chapters

Austin AFA News

Austin Chapter Awarded AFA National Recognition

The Austin Chapter was recognized at the 2017 AFA National Convention the award as an Overall Retention Extra Large Chapter for 2017. This award is given to the chapters who retain the most current members.



MollyMae Potter accepts the AFA Overall Retention Award for the Austin Chapter at the September National Convention.



Air Force Association Houston

San Jacinto Chapter 233 AFAHouston is on Facebook
Houston, Texas

THE FORCE BEHIND THE FORCE

Volume 12, Issue 4

Page 2

July, August, September Events

Chapter 233 Celebrates it's Teacher Of The Year

Tamara Lee of Oak Ridge High School is selected as Teacher of the Year. Ms. Lee teaches Anatomy and Physiology to seniors at the school and she does it in a totally different and fantastic way that excites her students and keeps them remembering the principles she has taught them. Students have stated that Ms. Lee, "is the best teacher ever." We salute Ms. Lee for her innovative and thoughtful methods of teaching that holds the interest of her students and motivates them.

The award was given during the annual Ship Channel Tour provided by the Port of Houston Authority. As usual the tour was fascinating with the tour boat plowing past the mighty ships, loading and offloading cargo at the various ports. The BBQ was excellent. You just had to walk down the steps of a swaying boat to get it. Many old timers to the tour had their sea legs but the newcomers had a bit of a challenge. We thank the Port of Houston Authority for providing such an outstanding event for all AFA members and guests.



Larry Werbiski, Chapter 233 AFA President presents a check to Tamara Lee our Teacher of the Year.

Harvey was the main event of the quarter

24 August 2017, a day that will live in infamy for Southeast Texas. Some 30,000 people displaced, hundreds of thousand homes inundated, 75 deaths attributed to the storm. It was this chapters main quarterly event whether we liked it or not. Our folks rallied to the support of others given we were not one of the 30,000. Our AFJROTC cadets in high schools were among the 30,000 not to mention the UoFH AFROTC cadets who were displaced. Our rallying cry was, if you have a boat, get it in the water and go help. Or, if you had access to aircraft, go bring in supplies. And many did pulling people out of homes full of 10 feet of water. Harvey overshadowed any event the chapter could have promoted. We are proud of our members who rose to the task of helping others in this time of great need.



The "Force Behind The Force"
There are those who make it happen, those who watch it happen and those who say "what happened?"
Let's make it happen



PRESIDENTS CORNER

Vietnam in the spotlight again for me and a lot of folks. I recently returned from my reunion for C-7A Caribou Association members. Had the opportunity to meet one of the guys who was in a sister squadron out of Cam Rahn Bay, Bruce Cowee. He has recently edited a fantastic book that tells the war stories of pilots that he encountered while flying with Western Air Lines. The stories are captivating and are representing all the flying services. The genesis was his at work conversations between fellow pilots that came together flying for Western Airlines. He reminded all of us getting older in the tooth that it is important to pass our own personal history to our families and the public in general. One of his biggest challenges was to get his sources to even tell their stories. I recommend the website vietnamtowesternairlines.com for a preview of his book.

The PBS series on Vietnam has been shown this month and is a very good program. Usually I don't buy a video series, but since I missed several episodes I probably will buy it. How important was it. For me personally, I was looking for airplane shots mostly. However, when I was assigned to Security Police at Hickam some of my troops were detailed TDY to Clark AB. They along with the Marines were the last off the Embassy roof. The importance of factual information is essential. Why, just this week I had to politely correct a story he had listened to on books-on-tape. It was a novel about GIs teaching Vietnamese how to plant an improved rice. A comedic spin was the GIs not speaking the language and the irony of the VC benefiting from it (probably true) I had to explain I was directly involved with the logistics hauling bags and bags of seed rice between the 5th Special Forces and CORDs (CIA) pacification program. Reality hardly matched the novel in execution.



CMSgt Bobby McCasland

Chapter 416 Ambassador

CMSgt McCasland had a full career.

He took the first KC-135 off the Boeing Production line and delivered it to its' first duty station. He was so knowledgeable that he helped with the writing of ground and flight manuals and all was intimately involved in early flight-testing.

Bobby was the Flight Mechanic and Flight Engineer for two Chiefs of Staff of the Air Force and was one of the original founders of "Speckled Trout airplane" used by Air Force Chief's of Staff (COS) since the early 1960s. He was recruited to pick out a KC-135 Stratotanker from the KC-135 fleet and bring it to Greenville, TX, to convert it into the COS's personal aircraft. He traveled to numerous Air Force active duty and Reserve Units to find just the right airplane. Bobby did this at the tender-ripe age of 72!

To say Bobby made an impact on people is a bit of an understatement. His name adorns a Conference Room at Edwards AFB to this day because of his accomplishments at the Air Force Test Range.

On top of all his other accomplishments, Chief McCasland was asked to help work the B-52 program. The fleet of aircraft being generated needed someone to help keep the program on track and moving. Bobby was called on to go back to Boeing to help get the first five aircraft out of the Factory.

He was the lead Program Manager on the Buffalo and Montana Aircraft Programs. He went to the desert and had two aircraft turned over to the Air Force so they could be modified into Test Bed one-of-kind aircraft for the Presidential, 89th Military Airlift Wing. Buffalo ended up being the first Glass Cockpit aircraft in the 89th Fleet and was used by President George W. Bush!

Bobby seems to never rest. He was again hand-picked to develop and manage the Drug Enforcement Agency's Cessna Citation

program here at Greenville, TX. This work generated continued successes for our law enforcement agencies.

Locally, Bobby and his wife, Louise, regularly visit the VA Hospital weekly and take cookies, prepared by Louise, as well as their tremendous good natured personalities. They are model examples of those servant leadership. Nothing has slowed them down for many years. In addition Bobby has been hitting up the local Grocers for all of their "Sweet" food items, Cakes & Pies, Cookies, etc. and taking those to the VA as well.



Letting no grass grow under his feet, he has also been a regular "Meals on Wheels" provider.

On top of all this, he single-handedly manages to care for the upkeep of two family cemeteries managing the mowing, weed-eating, and other maintenance!

Both Bobby and Louise have a heart for service and our veterans. They have been sponsoring a Free Veterans Breakfast hosted by the Elks one Saturday a month in Greenville, TX. This event touches so many and draws both the community and it's veterans together.

Bobby McCasland is a true Air Force Legend and a person our Membership and all of AFA should know about.