



YOUR
CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER

FLIGHTLINER

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION



May 2015



INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION



Welcome!
AFA Members and Guests
July 3rd
Altamonte Hilton

(More Info / Reservations See page 11)

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY!

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Sign up today Page
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AFA Congressional Fly-in
by Mike Liquori
Past President, Central Florida Chapter

As a member of AFA's current Emerging Leaders Program class, my council assignment for the year has been on the Field Council. In that capacity, I have been working on AFA's advocacy efforts in Washington, D.C.. Recently, I had the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C. to take part in AFA's 2nd Congressional Fly-In. Along with another eleven AFA members from across the country, we were able to meet with 60 current members of Congress or their staff to discuss important issues affecting our Air Force.

AFA National set the stage perfectly for the group as soon as we ar-

See: Emerging Leaders, page 10

SOP Tells All...
by Todd Freece
Colonel, USAF, Retired

The Central Florida Chapter of the AFA recently hosted its 19th annual Scholarship Opportunities Program (SOP). This annual event allows high school students and parents to meet admissions representatives and cadets from the Air Force Academy and the local AFROTC detachment at the University of Central Florida. Attendees were also introduced to the Preparatory School and Falcon Scholarship opportunities for those motivated to attend the Air Force Academy but needing extra time to make their application more competitive.

Over 30 local area students and

See: SOP Tells All, page 6

Central Florida Chapter Mission

Our mission is to promote a dominant United States Air Force 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
- **SUPPORT** the total Air Force family and promote aerospace education

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From the President



Being a year and a half into my tour as Chapter President has provided me with time to reflect on the Central Florida Chapter and all of its numerous accomplishments...which, when considered, are quite amazing. Having been a member of several AFA chapters, I'll admit that it took me a while to comprehend the scope of involvement and sphere of influence that the Central Florida Chapter wields.

We are all very familiar with the chapter's role in the annual Air Warfare Symposium...the golf outing, the Gala dinner, the impressive Gala videos and awards presentations...all part of a gigantic effort that takes the involvement of many chapter members and countless hours of dedicated effort. Their achievements ultimately earns the chapter funding to successfully run the many important programs and events that have earned the chapter award recognition at the local, state and national levels. However, I'm not here to talk about the Air Warfare Symposium and Gala. I think it is also important recognize the chapter for the numerous other projects and activities it conducts that truly make a difference in our world.

While space does not allow us to list everything the chapter does, here are just a few great examples:

- **Sharon Branch** (our Chapter VP for Aerospace Education), along with **Todd Freece**, held another successful **Scholarship Opportunities Program**...an event where local high school students and their parents are invited to learn more about scholarship opportunities at the AF Academy and AFROTC programs. *See article on page 1.*
- **Mike Liquori** (former chapter President and current Gala Chairman) was accepted into AFA's highly competitive **Emerging Leader Program**. As a part of this program, Mike recently traveled to Washington D.C., where he had the opportunity to meet with several of our nation's congressional representatives and staffers and discuss several important AFA and USAF issues with these key personnel. *See article on page 1.*
- Our chapter strongly supports AFA's **CyberPatriot** program. Several chapter members serve in this important program. **Richard Ortega** is the Team Coach and **Bonnie Callahan** is a Team Assistant for Civil Air Patrol's Orlando Cadet Squadron's Team Wilson. *See article on page 9.*
- **Tim Brock** (Chapter Treasurer) has taken the lead in helping AFA start a new national competition on the heels of the highly successful CyberPatriot program. This new effort, called **StellarXplorers**, will provide much needed focus on our country's current and emerging space programs. *See article on page 9.*
- **Sharon Branch** also took the lead to coordinate the annual **State-wide AFA Junior ROTC Drill Meet**. She secured the meet location and associated university support, recruited a new drill meet coordinator, coordinated trophy sponsorship, acquired the trophies, designed and printed award certificates, coordinated AFA leadership attendance, and personally prepared the Drill Meet Script.

The bottom line is that **your** Central Florida Chapter is an amazing entity that gives so much to the community at the local, state and national levels. We are very lucky to have a core group of intelligent, dedicated and innovative members that are willing to work so hard. I encourage you all to get active in the chapter...it can only help us become even better!

Bill Palmby

CAP Cadet Honored by Top AF Officials

by Florida Wing CAP Public Affairs

Cadet Colonel (C/Col) Jeremy A. King recently received the General Carl A. Spaatz award, the highest achievement a Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Cadet can reach! An achievement reached by less than two percent of cadets entering the program.

The award was presented during the Gala at the Air Force Association's Air Warfare Symposium and Technology Expo in Orlando.

Adding to the prestige of the evening **C/Col King** personally received his Spaatz Award from Secretary of the Air Force, **The Honorable Deborah Lee James** and the Chief of Staff USAF, **General Mark A. Welsh, III**. What an honor! It just doesn't go any higher!



Air Force Chief of Staff General Mark Welsh III, Cadet Colonel Jeremy King and Secretary of the Air Force, Deborah James

C/Col King was impressed with his personal conversations with **General Welsh** and **Secretary James** who personally presented him with highly esteemed challenge coins.

"It was the memory of a lifetime," he said, "and I am so grateful to all who made it possible."

Adding further to the evening's honors was the fact that also present for **C/Col King's** award was **Ken Kelly**, the second ever recipient of the Spaatz award and **Ken Goss**, Spaatz Award recipient number thirty-nine.

It is hard to include everything in a snapshot of **C/Col King's** CAP career that has culminated with this award, but his journey to this honor began in June of 2009 when he joined the Polk County Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol as a cadet. Here he quickly fell into the cadet lifestyle and especially enjoyed serving with CAP at community aviation events such as Sun'n'Fun, MacDill Airfest, and Collings Foundation's Wings of Freedom tours.

C/Col King moved rapidly through his cadet leadership development and promotions and served in many leadership roles in his CAP Squadron, Group, and at the Wing level. A key cadet

leader, he served as a Cadet Ambassador for exchange cadets coming to Florida from other countries and was later himself selected for CAP's International Cadet Air Exchange (IACE) program.

On the Emergency Services side of CAP, **C/Col King** received training and was qualified as a ground team member, flight line supervisor, skills evaluator, and mission scanner on the air crew.

C/Col King now continues to serve the Civil Air Patrol as a Senior Member in the grade of Captain.

FlightLiner Note

Thanks to all who have contributed to make this the best Chapter newsletter!

Please send your comments and suggestions to Ken at: KennethKelly@earthlink.net

Deadline for articles for the next edition is August 13, 2015

Events Calendar

May 2015

- 14 * Chapter Council Meeting
- 16 Armed Forces Day
- 25 Memorial Day

June

- 11 * Chapter Council Meeting
- 14 Flag Day

July

- 3 * CFC Independence Day Celebration (Officer Election at Altamonte Hilton)
- 4 Independence Day
- 10 [No Chapter Council Meeting]
- 17-18 AFA (Florida) State Meeting Ocala Hilton

August

- 13 * Chapter Council Meeting
- 17 National Aviation Day

September

- 7 Labor Day
- 10 * Chapter Council Meeting
- 12-13 AFA National Convention in DC
- 14-16 Air & Space Conference Technology Expo in DC
- 18 National POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 26 Chapter Awards Luncheon Hilton Hotel, Altamonte Springs

October

- 8 * Chapter Council Meeting
- 12 Columbus Day

* See details in this newsletter

YOUR Chapter Council Meetings

The Chapter Council holds an informative meeting on the second Thursday of each month at 7pm at the Showalter Flying Service building at the Orlando Executive Airport.

All members are welcome.

Please check the calendar (to the right) for any date changes!

So Much for Orderly Transition

by Marc Schanz, Air Force Magazine

Just over a year ago, the Air Force was ready to take advantage of the “orderly transition” following the Afghanistan force structure drawdown and take care of the three Rs,—“regroup, reset, and retrain,” said **Assistant Vice Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Stephen Hoog**, during a Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies event in Arlington, Va.

Instead, the Crimea Crisis broke out, followed by the ISIS offensive in June 2014, and then the Ebola scare in Africa later that summer, all of which USAF forces responded to. This has thrown demand predictions out the window in many missions. Hoog said USAF flew 19,959 CAS sorties in US Central Command operations during 2014 alone supporting Operation

Inherent Resolve in Iraq and Syria and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. “Our airmen and key partners are responding to all these events,” Hoog said, but they are doing so with “significant challenges.”

These events also have impacted construction of the Fiscal 2016 budget and the program objective memorandum. Last year, “everyone was asking for more Air Force, but with the expectation that the Air Force would bring its own checkbook as well,” added Hoog. This attitude has changed somewhat, as reflected in the 2016 budget.

Hoog said now there is a growing realization that US airpower is vital to the way America fights and how it projects influence in the world.



Air Force Assistant Vice Chief of Staff, Lt. Gen. Stephen Hoog, speaks at a Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies event in Arlington, Va., on April 29 2015. Staff photo by Lyndsey Akers.

AFA Scholarships Create New Opportunities for Cadets

Nathaniel Smith, C/Col, AFROTC, Cadet Wing Commander



Cadet Roberson receives General Holloway Scholarship from Bill Palmby, CFC President



Cadet Sison accepts AFA Award on behalf of Cadet Heater

Det 159 Cadets recently gathered at UCF Pegasus Ballroom for the Detachment award ceremony. Prestigious commendations and scholarships were awarded to superior performing cadets.

The Central Florida Chapter is key in helping create opportunities for AFROTC Cadets. CFC President, **Bill Palmby**, was on hand to make the presentation of our Chapter's annual AFROTC scholarships. In lower right photo, \$500 scholarships are presented to **Cadet Vasquez, Cadet Orvosh, Cadet Pacheco, Cadet Estrada, and Cadet Sanetti**.

Congratulations to all of you!

Also announced was the nomination for the Fall 2015 Wing Commander (Student Leader). The new Cadet Wing Commander for next semester is an incoming senior student **Alex Pacheco**.



Cadet Hui receives 1Lt Arriaga Scholarship from Bill Palmby, CFC President



Det 159 Cadets receive CFC scholarships from Bill Palmby, CFC President

31st Air Warfare Symposium & Gala

Gary Lehmann, Executive VP

During three action-packed days in February, the Central Florida Chapter (CFC) golf outing, the Air Force Association (AFA) Air Warfare Symposium and CFC Air Force Gala proved to be a

great success. The focus on this year's Gala was celebrating Air Force Command and Control along with recognizing our industry partners who share in the success of this vital Air Force mission. The invaluable contributions of the units, organizations and individuals as they innovated, designed and developed these integrated and sustained capabilities ensured that the United States remains the world's premier air power!

The three-day Symposium and Gala event began with the annual golf outing at Shingle Creek Course. Over 80 players representing DoD, aerospace companies, AFA, and Air Attachés from foreign countries were treated to good weather on a great course, thanks to the staff at Shingle Creek. A special thanks to the AFROTC Cadets at Det 159 for providing outstanding support to the CFC. This was the first event and it set the tone for an extremely productive and successful week!

The next two days were filled with informative exhibits displayed by 28 industry partners demonstrating their ability to support our great Air Force. Additionally, the Air Warfare Symposium was conducted with attendance and participation from such dignitaries as: Secretary of the Air Force, **The Honorable Deborah Lee James**, Chief of Staff USAF, **General Mark A. Welsh, III**, and the **Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, James A. Cody**. Also attending were seven other USAF 4-star generals and numerous other flag officers, members of the foreign attaché corps and industry leaders that participated in the event. The senior leaders from the AFA included **Scott Van Cleef**, Chairman of the Board; **David Dietsch**, Vice Chairman of the Board for Field Operations; **Mark Barrett**, AFA's Acting President and CEO; and **Dann Matizza**, Florida State and Region President.

During the Gala on Thursday evening, various military units and organizations were recipients of AFA Awards. The 705th Combat Training Squadron operates the Air Force Distributed Mission Operations Center together with their industry partner, Alpha

Omega Change Engineering. For their contributions in providing theater-level, full spectrum live virtual constructive training, they were recognized as a Jimmy Doolittle Educational Fellow in the AFA.

For their work in Contested Degraded Operations, the CFC designated Jimmy Doolittle Educational Fellows in the AFA to the Angry Kitten Electronic Attack POD Team, which enables the AF to replicate an increased number of advanced enemy platforms so aircrews can fight



Alpha Omega Change Engineering and the 705th Combat Training Squadron



ACC/A3 and Georgia Tech Research Institute recipients

against a more realistic threat. The team was represented by the Georgia Tech Research Institute and ACC/A3.

The CFC was also pleased

to recognize Air Battle Managers (ABMs) for their role in controlling the battle space and establishing big-picture situational awareness. The ABMs were represented

by **Major Brad Dvorak**, the 2013 AF ABM of the Year, who received the Jimmy Doolittle Educational Fellowship



Air Force Air Battle Manager



CAF Weapons and Tactics Conference

on behalf of the ABM career field.

The final award of the evening was presented to the Combat Air Force Weapons and Tactics Conference for their orchestration of the 2014 conference, which centered on finding innovative ways to use existing technology to accomplish Air Combat Command's five core functions: air superiority; global

See: Gala, page 11

SOP Tells All...

Continued from Page 1

35 parents attended the event.

Gary Lehmann, Vice President of the Central Florida AFA Chapter, welcomed students, parents and cadets to the Scholarship Opportunities Program.



Franz Plescha, Colonel, USAF retired, USAFA Class of 1987 presents an overview of the AF Academy

This event is held each year on the first Sunday of the Air Force Academy Spring Break. This timing allows current USAFA cadets, from the Central Florida area, to join-up with AFROTC cadets from



UCF AFROTC Det 159 Cadets share during Q & A time

the University of Central Florida to provide a rare venue for prospective Academy or University attendees to interview cadets from both commissioning programs in the same room.

Franz Plescha, retired AF Colonel and USAFA class of 1987, provided the audience an understanding of the Air Force Academy admissions

requirements and what they could expect over their four years as a cadet. **Lt Col David Schiffert**, Operations and Recruiting Officer for AFROTC Detachment 159, described the application process for the AFROTC High School Scholarship Program.

Finally, **Betsy Miller** provided a rare look into the Preparatory School program offered by the Air Force Academy or through the Falcon Foundation Scholarship program.

Betsy and her husband **Rick Miller**, have mentored over a dozen Central Florida high school students through the preparatory school process to eventually become cadets at the Air Force Academy.

The highlight of the event was the one-on-one time with current cadets. Students and parents could explore the programs beyond the glossy brochures and motivational videos. Since the Academy and AFROTC cadets are not far from their days in high school themselves, the credibility of their experience meeting the challenges and demands of their respective commissioning programs is unequivocal.

Time with parents and old friends at home is precious for Air Force Academy cadets. Their dedication to support this event is evidence of their commitment to attract others who share the same desire and values of excellence and service. The passion and enthusiasm of the cadets to be leaders in the Air Force inspired the group. Cadets from both programs stayed well beyond the scheduled event time to be

certain all guests had their questions answered.

The Central Florida Chapter



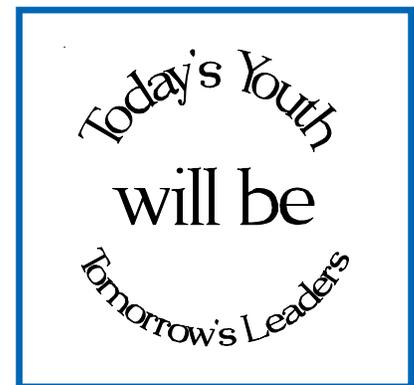
Cadets Joseph Stukey and Matthew Chumaceiro discuss life at the AF Academy with high school students and parents

of the AFA is proud to sponsor this annual event along with support to local area AFJROTC and Civil Air Patrol units to ensure high school



Cadet Natsuko Worrell discusses life at the AF Academy with high school students and parents

students are aware of opportunities and inspired to become airpower leaders in the USAF.



Membership News

We welcome **YOU**
to join and participate in the
Central Florida Chapter
of the
Air Force Association!

Visit our web site to get
more Chapter information...
<http://centralflorida.afaflorida.org>

For Our Members
"Our best recruiter is you!"

You can help
share the AFA story ...

Your local Chapter and AFA offer many great benefits
that many patriotic and civic minded people
just don't know about.

Talk with your friends and neighbors
and give them an opportunity to join us.

It is easy! A membership application is on this page.

Chapter Officers Nominated Election at July 3rd Meeting

The Nominating Committee announced the following recommended slate of officers for the year 2015/2016. Nominations from the membership are still available. If you would like to run for an office, please notify **Bill Palmby** 407-568-3750 or palmbyB@aol.com.

Election of the chapter officers will be held at the Independence Day Celebration (July 3rd) at the Altamonte Hilton. Please come out and vote!

2015/2016 Recommended Slate of Officers

President – Gary Lehmann
Executive Vice President – Todd Freece
Secretary - Jim DeRose
Treasurer - Tim Brock

AFA APPLICATION



Check here if renewal.

NAME _____ RANK (if applicable) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Central Florida Chapter #303

AFA CHAPTER CHOICE _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

I understand the annual \$45 fee includes a subscription (\$25) to AIR FORCE Magazine. AFA dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution but may be deductible as an "ordinary and necessary" business expense.

CURRENT MILITARY STATUS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Active Duty U.S. Armed Forces | <input type="checkbox"/> Previous U.S. Military Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. National Guard | <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Widow(er)/Lineal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Reserve | <input type="checkbox"/> Ancestor/Descendent of Veteran |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retired U.S. Armed Forces | <input type="checkbox"/> Civilian (No service w/ U.S. Military) |

Branch of Service: _____

CURRENT PROFESSION

- Aerospace Industry
- U.S. Government
- Retired
- Other

CURRENT JOB FUNCTION

- Management
- Engineering
- Operations
- Procurement
- R&D
- Retired
- Other

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

- \$45 for 1 year
- \$110 for 3 years

Special \$22.50 rate for:

- Current Service Enlisted E1-E4
- Current Student

Life Membership

- \$600 single payment
- \$630 extended payments
 - Initial payment of \$90 and 4 quarterly payment of \$135 each
 - Initial payment of \$90 and 8 quarterly payment of \$67.50 each

DONATION

I wish to include a charitable donation to support AFA and its mission to promote Air Force Airpower.

- \$10 \$25 \$50 Other \$ _____
- Contributions to AFA are fully tax-deductible for Federal income tax purposes.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

- Check enclosed (not cash)
- American Express
- MasterCard
- VISA

Account Number _____ Expiration Date _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Membership Info:

Tommy Harrison
Tgharrison@aol.com
or call 407-886-1922

Please mail application to:

Air Force Association
501 Lee Hwy
Arlington, VA 22209-9963

Gifted Teacher from Air Force Family

Sharon Branch, VP, Aerospace Education

The Central Florida Chapter Teacher of the Year is **Mary Timmerman**! A unique, but deserving honor for an elementary school teacher.

Mary teaches gifted and advanced 5th grade students in all subjects at Sterling Park Elementary School in Seminole County.

In an effort to teach her students about the world in which they will one day be future scientists, engineers, or CEOs, **Mary** engages them in the Internet Science and Technology Fair (ISTF), sponsored by the University of Central Florida. Students have the opportunity to participate in a 21st century science fair that challenges them to utilize information technology tools in order to discover and explore the future of math, science, and engineering through collaborative experiences and independent study.

In 13 years, **Mary's** students have created 37 different engineering projects, including five this year. The student teams apply science inquiry and technology tools to research real world problems while enlisting the help of scientists and engineers worldwide, as their technical advisors.

The ISTF program challenges students to research how National Critical Technology applications may be used to solve real world problems. They use information technology tools while adhering to guidelines based on national science content standards. Students develop critical thinking, research and reading/writing skills as they work online with practicing professionals and publish their final research findings using web based

ISTF Format Guidelines. Their projects are then evaluated during preliminary and final rounds of online judging with other teams spanning 3rd through 12th grades from the US and other countries.

Mary adopted the vision and goals of UCF's ISTF program and finds it important to continuously inspire elementary students to consider science and engineering careers and better understand the innovation process. She helps them develop critical thinking skills and to learn to utilize information technology tools not only in their

participated in Lockheed Martin's Engineering Week which includes 4th through 12th grade students.

It was a day of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) activities including paper airplane designs and flying, hands on simulators, and a Toothpick Bridge Competition. Out of 24 bridges that competed, all three of her students' bridges placed in the top 10: third place, fourth place, and eighth place, over all.

New for this year, **Mary** has challenged her students to learn more about computer science by introducing them to computer coding and language using basic programs, such as Hour of Code and Code Studio. They then apply what they learned by using code to create avatars and even their own computer games. By learning how to code, the students are also learning critical thinking and logic, and these are skills they can apply in all their classes; science, math, even reading and writing.

Mary is also the Sterling Park Lego Robotics Coach. This school year, the program grew from one team to three, and one of those teams made it to Regionals where they competed against 23 other teams.



Mary Timmerman
Central Florida Chapter
Teacher of the Year!

Our Central Florida Chapter- Teacher of the Year

The Central Florida Chapter is pleased to recognize Ms. Mary Timmerman's success as a teacher and the impact she makes by helping students to learn and grow into productive members of our society.

science projects, but all throughout their academic curricula. By incorporating science and engineering into her daily lesson plans in all academic subjects she has created a love of science and innovation in the hearts of her students, while teaching them the importance of science and engineering in our society.

Top ISTF teams receive certificates of award from the Dean of College of Engineering and Computer Science at UCF.

A great record! Over the years, **Mary's** teams have won 14 Meritorious Awards (1st Place) and an additional 14 Honorable Mention Awards (2nd Place).

One of only two elementary schools, **Mary's** students also

*Congratulations for
a job well done!*

CAP Launches Aviation Academy...

by Christina English, CAP, Squadron Commander

Florida Wing Group Two :: Col. Roger Helton on
launched its new Aviation Academy :: discussions of the jet's

this past December with the use of an L-29 Delphin owned by CAP Colonel Christian Moersch.

19 Cadets and eight staff members attended an evening brief about the Russian Jet Trainer. Cadets were led by Lt. this unique aircraft.



Former FL WG CC, Colonel Christian Moersch, with his L-29 Delphin Russian Trainer

engine explaining the differences between European engines versus American engines.

Seminar discussions for that evening included: communications, electronics, fuel tank placement, engine structure, aviation safety and flight training history for



Cadets had the opportunity to do an aircraft walk around, touch parts, and ask questions.

The excitement continued with the follow up of Aeromedical training for the January seminar, explaining the eye; how it relates to flight and the piloting.

Left: CAP Cadets with L-29 Delphin at Spruce Creek.

CAP CyberPatriot Team Scores Big!

by Richard A. Ortega, Lt Col, CAP

Since its introduction some years ago, CyberPatriot has continued to grow in both quantity and quality!

Our Central Florida Chapter also continues to provide both



leadership and financial support to this important Aerospace Education activity that includes AFJROTC, CAP, and other teams.

Great job! One of our local Civil Air Patrol (CAP) CyberPatriot teams, Team Wilson, continues to excel and placed as a Florida State award winner. Our own AFA Chapter members, **Richard Ortega** and **Bonnie Callahan**, are key leaders to help assure the team's success.

A recent recognition event highlighted Team Wilson's key cadets

and mentors who received individual trophies for a job well done.

Pictured above (left to right) are: **Lt Col Richard Ortega** (Team Coach), **Bonnie Callahan** (Team Assistant), **C/Capt Nicholas Swerdloff**, **C/2Lt Michael Chambers**, **C/SSgt Jacob Burke**, **C/SSgt Antonio Rivera**, **C/Amn Micah Rumbaugh**, **C/Amn Gabriel Harding**, **Alexis Brignoni** (mentor) and **AlleK Pastrana** (mentor).

Team Wilson continues to build its notoriety in our local community

as the Orlando Mayor **Buddy Dyer** declared Sunday, March 29, 2015 as "CyberPatriot Team Wilson Day." **Congratulations Team Wilson!**

AFA's nationwide effort to promote and sponsor CyberPatriot is a great example

of "the difference" we can make in the youth of our Nation. This important program is key to our future national security!

StellerXplorers

A new AFA initiative on the horizon!

Tim Brock (Chapter Treasurer) has taken the lead in helping AFA start a new national competition on the heels of the highly successful CyberPatriot program. Just announced, this new effort, called StellerXplorers, will provide much needed focus on our country's current and emerging space programs.

AFJROTC; Aviation and Aerospace Academy Magnet Program

Sharon Branch, VP, Aerospace Education

Several members of the Central Florida Chapter recently visited the Oak Ridge High School Aviation Magnet and the Air Force Junior ROTC at Oak Ridge and Dr. Phillips High Schools in Orlando.

“The mission of the Aviation and Aerospace Academy Magnet Program is to provide sound academic preparation for high school, college and beyond, while affording valuable career readiness experiences in the fields of aviation and aerospace. Students will be immersed in a rigorous academic core coupled with a variety of career-relevant electives complemented by student involvement in such real world work experiences as career-site field trips, job shadowing, mentor programs and internships.”

(www.orhs.ocps.net; then click on Magnets and then on Aviation Magnet)

Mr. Michael Martucci, 10th grade Assistant Principal, gave the visitors a tour of the facility and introduced them to the instructors. He described his vision for the future of the program.



Oak Ridge High School Aviation Magnet Simulator

Mr. Martucci is looking for sponsors from the Air Force community as the program is currently funded by the Navy and private industry. The Junior ROTC program at Oak Ridge is one of the earliest programs in the community. Both Oak Ridge and Dr. Phillips High School junior ROTCs have 3 instructors. The instructors at these and many other

schools in the Central Florida area educate students in military customs and courtesies, military history, and the current military environment. They also conduct physical fitness programs and sponsor after school programs for the youth to include drill team and color guard activities.

The structure of these programs provides opportunities for students to become “citizens of character, dedicated to serving their nation and community.” Students learn the core values of integrity, excellence, service. An example of the type of activities AFJROTC cadets plan, organize and participate in is the Pearl Harbor Day ceremony conducted at Dr. Phillips High School (pictured left and below).



Dr. Phillips AFJROTC Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance



Dr. Phillips AFJROTC Honor Guard presentation of colors

The Central Florida Chapter is pleased to support the AFJROTC programs with a stipend and to attend their annual award ceremonies.

Any member of the Central Florida Chapter is welcome to help us make these presentations and visit the schools.

If you're interested in becoming more involved, please contact Sharon Branch today!

Emerging Leaders

(continued from page 1)

...rived in D.C. The two-day event began with several outstanding preparation briefings by senior members of the Air Force staff from the Programming and Legislative Liaison areas, a member from the Center for Budgetary Analysis and a previous staffer from the Senate Armed Services Committee. These presentations were critical to ensuring all of us spoke intelligently

...on the budgetary issues facing the Air Force in the near and long term.

For my day on Capitol Hill, on the Senate side, I was able to meet with staff members in both Senator Marco Rubio and Senator Bill Nelson's offices. On the House side, I met with staff members from both Congressman John Mica and Congresswoman Gwen Graham's offices. While these meetings were

...a wonderful educational opportunity for me on the inner workings of our national leadership, they were more critical for the overall effectiveness of our group's unified message. We were able to outline several key issues for the Air Force and AFA, as well as the importance of making the required budgetary changes necessary for continued success of our service moving forward.

Gala..

(Continued from page 5)

precision attack; global integrated intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; personnel recovery; and command and control. The CFC designated the Combat Air Force Weapons and Tactics Conference as a Jimmy Doolittle Educational Fellow in the Air Force Association.

The evening closed with musical entertainment provided by Willy Pete--a band assembled from musicians and artist from all across the country that exists to celebrate the American Warrior by

providing quality entertainment for troops and their families.

A special thanks goes out to Gala Chairman, **Mike Liquori**; Golf Chairman **Bob Ceruti**; and all the members of Central Florida Chapter and AFA National staff that planned and executed this most memorable event. We also thank the cadets of AFROTC Det 159 for their dedicated assistance at all the events. The CFC received numerous accolades from individuals that attended. Everyone had a memorable and enjoyable time.

FlightLiner

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July 3rd Independence Day Celebration - A fun event!

By Bill Palmby, Chapter President

In Altamonte Springs off 436 (just East of I-4)

take North Lake Blvd south...

Our Central Florida Chapter tradition, the **Independence Day family celebration**, is back again with a big "bang." It is planned for **July 3rd** at the **Hilton in Altamonte Springs**, so we can see "**Red, Hot & Boom.**"

Come join us! Social hour is at **6pm** with a "backyard barbecue" dinner served at **7pm**. **Dinner** includes all the fixin's you would expect in your favorite backyard BBQ.

A superb fireworks show starts

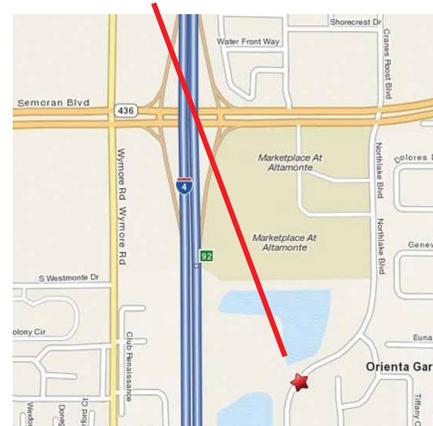
at 9pm so bring your family and friends to enjoy the celebration.

Of course, we will all be there in a patriotic mood, so proudly wear your red, white, and blue.

So, please bring your family and friends *and* kids!

Seating is limited!

Please send in your reservation form (below) today and get ready for a great time!



----- Cut Here -----

To be Received by June 27, 2015

**Reservations for Independence Day Celebration
Dinner and Fireworks - Friday, July 3rd at 6pm
ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET!**

(Members and Guests, including kids - Are Welcome!)

Seating is limited! Please make your reservations today!

Location: Hilton Hotel, Altamonte Springs

Adults: _____ x \$ 20.00 = \$ _____

Children (age 3-11): _____ x \$15.00 = \$ _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ made out to: **AFA-CFC**

Mail to: Tim Brock, Treasurer, 622 West Palm Valley Drive, Oviedo, FL 32765

For more information call: **Gary Lehmann** 701-340-9655

Name _____ Ph: _____



See you
there!!

Annual Independence Day Celebration on July 3rd!

See you
there!!

Make your Reservations Today...



Air Force Association
Central Florida Chapter
P.O. Box 2651, Orlando, FL 32802-2651

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Our Community Partners Are Special!

The Central Florida Chapter proudly associates with our community through the Community Partner Program. We encourage all our members to support these businesses that support us.



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