



Centerline

Quarterly Newsletter

July - August - September

VOLUME 28, ISSUE 3, 2014

What's New

*Check out the AFA web site at
www.AFA.org and the
Local Chapter web site at
www.afalasvegas.com*

Regular Features

*Upcoming Events
Salute to Community Partners*



Upcoming Events

*October 22, 2014 - Tom Plasterer
Scholarship Award - Rancho HS*

*November, 2014 - Community Partner
Mixer*

December, 2014 - Christmas Charities

Note: All events Nellis AFB unless otherwise noted.

In This Issue

We've lost a warrior- his memory lives on
The Tom Plasterer Story

Chapter Honored at National Convention –
garners two coveted awards

Major Kyle Bressett USAF/WS wins
Gen Billy Mitchell Award for C4 Excellence

The Austin's - an AFA Human Interest story

Golf Tournament update

4th Annual Warfighter Symposium-best to date

AFA Membership Application

An Item of interest:

Starting with this issue we are including an AFA membership form in our newsletter. It can be easily printed out and can be very useful in a "target rich" potential membership event. This form will become a permanent part of our quarterly newsletter. We should have a Community Partner Membership form in our next issue. It too will become a permanent part of our newsletter as a recruitment tool.

Thunderbird Chapter

AFA Officers

President

Bob Cunningham 372-7848

Vice President

Jimmy Clark 306-0497

Secretary

Bob Hale 219-1345

Treasurer

Pete Gillespie 452-9522

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Pete Peterson 682-5759

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Vice President, Special Projects

Robert 'Terry' Sullivan 270-2118

Vice President, CAP Liaison
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Bob Hale 219-1345

Newsletter Editor

Pete Gillespie 452-9522

Centerline

Centerline is the official newsletter of the Thunderbird Chapter of the Air Force Association and is published quarterly at no charge to the members. Contributions of articles are requested, along with phone number. Recommendations or comments are also invited. To be placed on the distribution list, obtain additional copies or back issues, or to join the Thunderbird Chapter of the Air Force Association, send request to Thunderbird Chapter Air Force Association, P.O. Box 9749, Las Vegas, NV 89191-9749.

Editor Pete Gillespie 452-9522

Distribution Terry Sullivan 270-2118

Presidents Remarks

You all know how heartfelt we have been in our dedication to the Rancho Aviation Academy Junior ROTC flying program scholarship known as the Thomas Plasterer Aviation Scholarship. With great sadness, we were informed that on September 14, 2014 Tom passed away from brain cancer after a valiant fight – but Tom will not be forgotten...



In Memory of

Thomas A. Plasterer

June 24, 1985 - September 14, 2014

We named our program after Tom in recognition of his dedicated Air Force service and, upon his contracting brain cancer and early retirement from the Air Force, his "giving back" to those who follow him in the Rancho High School Aviation Academy program. We are still in contact with his wife, Alicia, who helped us present to the 2014 scholarship awardees on 22 October. More on the joint AFA-Daedalians Rancho High School event will be in our next issue.

At the 2014 AFA National Convention, 13-15 September in Washington, DC, your Thunderbird Chapter was honored to receive the 2014 AFA National Exceptional Service Award for Airman and Family Programs, and the Overall Membership Retention award for the second year in a row – thank you members! Our Major Kyle Bressett, from the USAF Weapons School, was awarded the exceptionally well deserved General Billy Mitchell Award for C4 Excellence – Congratulations "Killer."

Our Golf Tournament crew is ardently planning our next Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) scholarship fundraiser day on the links. Please look for more information on that in this issue and in e-mailings as the event plans finalize. Your support has always been superb and greatly appreciated.

Its election time at your Thunderbird chapter! We need to select the next officer corps to carry on the work of our wonderful organization. Some of the current hard working crew of elected leaders is in need of a well – deserved rest – including your President, and our Secretary position is open – Thank You Bob Hale for stepping in. At issue are the four elected positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Elections will occur during our December meeting – so be there if you can, especially if you want a voice or are stepping up for an office. New officers will be installed in January 2015. All interested members are encouraged to step forward to render aid and comfort as you see fit. Stand up and be counted! Your chapter needs YOU! ... And YOU! ... And YOU! Thanks ...

Respectfully,
Bob Cunningham

The Austin's – A proud Air Force family

We would like to recognize the generosity of Arnold and Jean Austin (both USAF ret) In asking their friends and family to donate to the USO and AFA's Wounded Warrior Program, in lieu of gifts, at their recent 50th Anniversary Celebration. The chapter received over \$300 in donations and forwarded same to AFA. We received a nice Thank You letter from AFA - to wit:

“Thank you for your very generous gift in honor of Arnold and Jean Austin. The gift will go directly to the AFA's Wounded Airman Program which supports our wounded arriving at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and Brooke Army Medical Center, and helps them to reintegrate into their communities and back into the Air Force Family. Thank you for joining the efforts of our chapters around the country as they work together with AFA National to give back to those Airmen who have given so much to defend our nation...”

The Thunderbird Chapter proudly salutes you-Arthur and Jean Austin. Not all of our heroes are on the battlefield!

The Thunderbird Chapter Proudly Salutes it's Community Partners

ARCATA ASSOCIATES

ARMEDFORCES BANK

AVTECH RESEARCH CORPORATION

BATTLE SPACE FLIGHT SERVICE

BLUE MAN GROUP

THE BOEING COMPANY

BOOZ ALLEN HAMILTON

BOWHEAD

CASA BLANCA RESORT AND CASINO

CHILLY JILLY'Z

CSC

J13

LAS VEGAS 51'S

LOCKHEED MARTIN

MESA BEVERAGE

NATIONAL ATOMIC TESTING

MUSEUM

NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

NORTHROP GRUMMAN AEROSPACE

ONE NEVADA CREDIT UNION

PILLAR HOTELS

RAYTHEON BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

SPRING HILL SUITES

URS

WGFP

Annual Golf Tournament Update

As you may have deduced by now, there will not be an AFA Golf Tournament this year. We do however have our sights set on a beautiful Saturday morning next April at the Legacy Golf Club. Although Herk is “easing out” as the Golf Czar, you know It will be a great tournament, as his fingerprints will be all over it. Details to come in our next newsletter.



4th Annual Silver State Warfighter Symposium Agenda

Link	Duration	Start	End	Topic	Presenter
▶	15	8:00 AM	8:15 AM	Welcome	USAFWC & AFA
▶	75	8:15 AM	9:30 AM	**57 Wing/USAF Weapons School Integration Brief	Col Spain, Maj Madson
▶	45	9:30 AM	10:15 AM	**53rd Test & Evaluation Group	Lt Col Forrest
▶	45	10:15 AM	11:00 AM	**432d Wing-Current Operational Update	Col Chittenden
▶	15	11:00 AM	11:15 AM	Break...	AFA
▶	30	11:15 AM	11:45 AM	**USAFWC LVC 2020 Vision	Col Seger
▶	45	11:45 AM	12:30 PM	** Electromagnetic Maneuver Warfare @ NSAWC	CDR Miller
▶	30	12:30 PM	12:45 PM	Travel to Nellis Club	AFA
▶	15	12:45 PM	1:15 PM	LUNCH	AFA
▶	15	1:15 PM	1:30 PM	Break...	AFA
▶	30	1:30 PM	2:00 PM	Green Flag Exercise Innovations	Lt Col Dadgar
▶	45	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	Red Flag Exercise Innovations	Col Weed
▶	30	2:45 PM	3:15 PM	JTAC Advanced Instructor Course	Capt Seay
▶	15	3:15 PM	3:30 PM	Symposium closing remarks	USAFWC & AFA
	30	3:30 PM	4:00 PM	Travel to 65 AGRS de-activation ceremony: Bldg 265	
	15	4:00 PM	4:30 PM	65 AGRS de-activation ceremony	Lt Col Wintill
	30	4:30 PM	5:00 PM	No Host Social in 65 AGRS Heritage room: Bldg 1770	Lt Col Wintill

**Classified Session in USAF Weapons School Bldg 282

The theme this year for the Fourth Annual Warfighter Symposium was “Joint Perspectives on Air-Sea Battle Challenges”. Briefings included updates from the USAF Warfare Center, 432nd Wing (Creech), USAF Weapons School, 53rd Test & Evaluation Group, Red Flag, Green Flag and the Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center. The keynote speaker was LtGen(r) Dave Deptula of the Mitchell Institute. The briefings were excellent and very well received by all in attendance – and the attendance is steadily increasing. The Thunderbird chapter, AFA, is extremely proud to sponsor the Silver State Warfighter Symposium as it is rapidly becoming our premier annual event.



1501 Lee Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22209-1198
 An Independent Nonprofit Aerospace Organization

Membership Application

Name _____ Rank _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone _____ Date of Birth _____
 AFA Chapter Choice Thunderbird Chapter # 189
 Email _____

Current Military Status

- Active Duty U. S. Armed Forces
 - U. S. National Guard
 - U. S. Reserve
 - Retired U. S. Armed Forces
 - Previous U. S. Military Service
 - Spouse/Widow(er), Lineal Ancestor/Descendent of Veteran
 - Civilian (No Service with U.S. Military)
- Branch of Service _____

Current Profession

- Aerospace Industry Retired
- US Government Other

Current Job Function

- Management Procurement Retired
- Engineering R and D Other

Membership Options

- \$30 for one year E-Member
 - \$45 for one year
 - \$110 for three years
- Special \$22.50 rate for:
- Current Service Enlisted E1-E4 Current Student

Life Membership

- \$600 single payment \$630 extended payments \$90 initially and \$135 quarterly for 4 payments
- \$90 initially and \$67.50 quarterly for 8 payments

Method of Payment

- Check enclosed (not cash) MasterCard VISA American Express
- Credit Card Number Exp. Date _____ Exp _____
 Signature Date _____ Date _____

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