



Tennessee Valley Flyer

“TOP OF ALABAMA”

TENN VALLEY FLYER

4TH QUARTER 2011

Happy 64th Birthday United States Air Force

On September 15th in the Atrium of Redstone Federal Credit Union, individuals from across the Tennessee Valley celebrated with the Chapter the Air Force’s 64th Birthday. The Honorable Mo Brooks, 5th Congressional District Representative was the Guest Speaker. In addition to the featured speaker, the evening’s program included: aerospace education; the Tennessee Valley’s Outstanding Airmen; and a welcome to our

new Community Partners.

Following a moving invocation by Chaplain Jim Melancon and the presentation of the colors by the Huntsville High AFJROTC Honor Guard, first on the agenda was Aerospace Education. Late last year, the Executive Council undertook a decision to expand the Chapter’s Aerospace Education Program. The 135 individuals present at the Birthday, witnessed the

fruits of that effort recognizing: five aero-space education scholarship recipients (totaling over \$3,500); and the Chapter’s Teachers of the Year, Jeremy Raper and Amy Mehok. Of note, Jeremy Raper was also Alabama’s AFA Teacher of the Year and will compete next year for National honors.

Much of the success of the Chapter’s Aerospace Education Program, is attributed to the Chapter’s Community Partners. Over the past year, the Chapter almost doubled its (continued on page 5)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CAP Exceptional Service	2
CyberPatriot IV	2
Chapter Officers	2
Spotlight Community Partners:	3
Bill Penney Toyota	
Galaxy of Lights	3
Veterans Day Parade	4
Community Partners	6

Space Camp Hall of Famer to Speak at Quarterly Meeting

Did you know that one of the Chapter’s own recently became the first U.S. Air Force space and missile operator inducted into the Space Camp Hall of Fame? Lt Col William “Burke” Hare III, Chief of Operations, for the Flight Test Execution Directorate at the Missile Defense Agency on Redstone Arsenal, was selected as one of three inductees into the 2011 Space Camp Hall of Fame. To date there are only 24 members of the Space Camp Hall of Fame, which includes Dr. Wernher von Braun and Astronaut Dottie Metcalf-Lindenburger.

On Thursday, 1 December, from 6 PM - 7:30 PM in the ground floor

auditorium at 655 Discovery Drive in Huntsville, the Chapter will hold its 4th Quarter Meeting. Lt Col "Burke" Hare, will be the featured guest speaker, providing a short presentation on the history of manned spaceflight. The meeting is open to the public (AFA members and anyone interested in space travel). For more information, please visit the Tennessee Valley AFA Web Page (www.hsv-afa.org), the Chapter's Facebook page at "AFA TVC 335," or contact Cathy Scott at cbscott76@yahoo.com or 256-503-8038.



Rep. Mo Brooks (5th Ala District) speaks on education and defense at the AF Birthday Celebration

Chapter Quarterly Meeting
Thurs, 1 Dec; 6:00—7:30 pm
Ground Floor Auditorium
655 Discovery Dr, Huntsville

Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Exceptional Service to Chapter Member



Skeet Vaughn testing zero gravity experiments for NASA

In 1944, a young man of 15, “Skeet” Vaughn knew he wanted to fly. On 1 December, at Maxwell AFB, now (CAP) Lt Col Skeet Vaughn will help the CAP mark its 70th Birthday as he is presented with the CAP Exceptional Service Award.

Today, Skeet is an active member in CAP and the Tennessee Valley AFA Chapter. A retired Air Force Reserve Lt Col and NASA engineer, he has authored numerous papers and reports. He recently published a book, “There’s Something in the Air: Clemson University Aviation and Space Heritage” which documents Clemson (his alma mater) aviation and space pioneers, as well as the history of University’s AFROTC program. For more information on the book and Skeet’s history go to: <http://www.knology.net/~skeetv/>.



CYBERPATRIOT IV— Thirteen Area High Schools Defending “Cyberville”

Shattering its earlier projection of six to ten teams, the Tennessee Valley leads Alabama with 13 (out of 23 AL Teams) Cyber Patriot Teams. Area teams include:

High School

- Boaz High School
- Bob Jones High School
- Grissom High School (x3)
- Lee High School
- New Century Tech High (x2)
- Westminster Christian Academy

AFJROTC

- Bob Jones HS AFJROTC Det
- Huntsville HS AFJROTC Det

Civil Air Patrol

- Pell City Composite Squadron
- Springville Composite Squadron

The Round #1 is complete with Round #2 scheduled to be complete by 17 December. The combined scores of the two rounds will be totaled to determine who advances to Round #3 (13—28 January 2013). The finals to be

Chapter Leadership

Elections were held in early October to elect the coming year’s Chapter Officers. With an unanimous vote (isn’t this a sign of corruption in third world countries?) the following officers were elected:

President: Rick Driesbach

Vice President: Guy Broadhurst

Treasurer: Jack Royster

Secretary: Russ Lewey

There are also a number of appointed positions which assist and handle special areas of focus. Filling these positions are:

Deputy Treasurer: Jim Porter

VP for Aerospace Education:
Russ Lewey
George Krym

VP for CyberPatriot: Rob Kuehn
Gary Connor

VP for Membership: John Pennell

VP for Public Relations:
Cathy Scott

VP for Veterans Affairs:
Darryl Carpenter

Thanks to those who have volunteered to lead these important programs. There is always a need for additional volunteers. Contact Rick Driesbach, if you are interested in assisting in any of the above areas.

held in Washington DC from 22—23 March 2012.

For more information and to follow the results you can visit the CyberPatriot web site at: www.uscyberpatriot.org or contact Rob Kuehn at 256-975-4752 or Russ Lewey at 256-425-8791.

*Wishing all the Alabama
Teams the best of luck!*



Bill Penney Toyota

For over 65 years Bill Penney Toyota has been dedicated to offering its customers personal service and a great automobile-buying experience. Not only has Bill Penney Toyota been a family owned and operated business for three generations, it is also the oldest Toyota dealership in Alabama.

The Penney family automotive career began in 1946 when Bill Penney Sr. borrowed some start-up cash from his grandfather and opened a used car lot on Meridian Street. He was so successful in his first week of business that he paid off the loan. After extending his operation to include new cars and

having great success selling America Motors products, Bill Penney Sr. was selected to be the first Toyota dealership in Alabama in 1967. Since then, the dealership and the Toyota brand have continued to move forward.

"It is important for customers to know that the Penney family is still very hands on" says Owner Jerre Penney. "We are proud to be one of the few dealerships that are still family owned and operated in this area." Jerre's son, Zack Penney, continues on the family tradition as the General Manager of Bill Penney Toyota and the new face for the dealership's media.

Spotlight - Community Partners



Bill Penney Toyota can fulfill all of your automotive needs – from a great selection of Toyotas, Mitsubishi's and pre-owned vehicles, to the newly expanded service department, the fully stocked parts department, a collision center for complete auto body repair, the Toyota Rent a Car program for when you need to rent a vehicle, and a detail department offering full car detailing and cleaning services.

They are conveniently located at 4808 University Dr NW or you can learn more by going to their web site at: www.billpenneytoyota.com.

Chapter to Support Galaxy of Lights

On December 16, the Tennessee Valley AFA Chapter is volunteering to support its Community Partner, the U.S. Space and Rocket Center, in the Galaxy of Lights at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens.

An annual event at the Botanical Gardens, the Galaxy of Lights is a holiday light extravaganza featuring larger-than life animated light displays.

Before guests enter Galaxy of Lights, each family can see Santa's Rocket Sleigh Pit Stop where Santa's Propulsion Crew is adding rocket engines to his Sleigh. Visitors will be able to see the reindeer during their pre-Galaxy Pit Stop, get their picture taken, see the lit aircraft

at Aviation Challenge, and refresh themselves for the Galaxy tour.

The Chapter has agreed to provide the Space and Rocket Center 10-15 volunteers to help make this extension of Galaxy of Lights a great success. Volunteers will work in the following areas: greeters, parking, pedestrian crossing, reindeer attendant, photographer and photo assistant, information table, and arts and crafts. This is a great opportunity for you and your family to meet and work with other Chapter members, while supporting the AFA and this Community event.

For more information, contact Al Kemmet (256-503-4824) or Burke Hare (703-581-3550).

Now on Facebook!

You can follow the
Chapter's latest
activities on
Facebook.

Just "like us" 

at AFA TVC 335.

Of course, you can
still visit us on the
web at:

www.hsv-afa.org

Chapter Does Airmen and All Veterans Proud

On behalf of all Airmen (former and current) and for the second year in a row the Tennessee Valley Chapter participated in the Huntsville-Madison Veterans Day Parade. One of over 150 parade entrants, the Chapter had three silver Avalons driving in close formation for just over two miles along the parade route. Formation lead was Chapter President, Rick Driesbach. The rest of Rick's crew included Jack Royster and Russ and Diane Lewey. In the number two slot—was Daryl Carpenter in the left seat, with his wife, Barbara, as co-pilot. John Phillip and George Krym rounded out that crew. At six o'clock, in the number three position was Mike McNabb, with Guy Broadhurst and the Chapter's honored crewmember, Mike Susko and his son, John. A WW II veteran and former B-29 weatherman, Mike is 90 years young. Those present truly en-

joyed hearing of Mike's Pacific B-29 experiences.

The highlight of this year's Veterans Day Celebration was the dedication of the Huntsville-Madison Veterans Memorial. Earlier this year, the Chapter's Executive Council elected to take on a fund-raising project to sponsor the Air Force Flag at the Veterans Memorial. A \$15,000 project, the Chapter raised and donated \$6,000 towards that effort at the recent Air Force Birthday Celebration (see related story on page 1 and 5).

Truly it was a great day to be an Airmen!



Chapter Member and Army Air Corps Veteran, Chris Christiansen, looks with pride to the Chapter-sponsored, Air Force Flag at the Huntsville Veteran's Memorial.



Pre-Mission Brief (L to R) George Krym, Barb Carpenter, John Phillip, and Darryl Carpenter



The Tennessee Valley Chapter has \$9,000 more to raise over the next several years in support of the Air Force Flag at the Veterans Memorial. Donations are tax-deductible. For more info contact Rick Driesbach at 256-651-7052.

(AF Birthday Continued from page 1)

partners and introduced its six newest Community Partners during the evening's program:

- Beason & Nalley
- The Boeing Company
- Ducommun Miltec
- L3 Communications
- ManTech International
- Quantech Services

Lamar Advertising received special recognition for enabling the Chapter to promote the Air Force and its Aerospace Education Programs by providing over \$25,000 in free advertising over the past three years.

For the second year in a row, the Birthday Celebration was the backdrop for the announcement of the Tennessee Valley's Airmen of the Year. This year's winners are:

- NCO of the Year—TSgt Eric Faatz, an Electronic Intelligence Analyst with the Missile and Space Intelligence Center.
- Senior NCO of the Year—SMSgt Eric Calvert, assigned to the 226th Combat Communications Group – Eagle Vision Detachment here in Huntsville.

Thanks to the generosity of many within the Chapter, Rick Driesbach had the pleasure of presenting a check for \$6,000 to sponsor the U.S. Air Force Flag at the new Huntsville Veterans Memorial. Accepting the donation on behalf of the Veterans Memorial Fund, was US Army Brigadier General (Ret) Larry Capps, and Jon Stieglitz.

Following the recognition of the outstanding achievements of our youth, teachers, and the military, it was appropriate that the Congressman Mo Brooks, would be the Guest Speaker. A strong



Cutting the AF's 64th Birthday Cake (L to R) Cadet TSgt Michael Wall, Rep Mo Brooks, Chris Christiansen, Steve Stevens, and Rick



advocate in support of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and national defense, Rep. Brooks spoke on the value of STEM education and the role that teachers serve in preparing our youth for the challenges of tomorrow. He then went on to congratulate the Air Force for 64 successful years — noting the evolving role that air power had played over the past 100 years. Singling out that not one soldier had been killed by enemy air forces since the Korean War — in his words, true Air Superiority. He opined that National Defense must be our number one priority and expressed concerns that the cuts being discussed by the House and Senate could result in serious reductions in our capability to ensure national security. He acknowledged that the national debt is a threat to our nation and

must be addressed by Congress and the Administration but not at the risk of national defense. On behalf of Rep. Brooks, the Chapter donated a \$100 check to the Huntsville Space & Rocket Center.

You can't have a birthday celebration without a birthday cake and in accordance with standing traditions, Congressman Mo Brooks, along with the youngest cadet and two Army Air Corps veterans, Steve Stevens and Chris Christiansen, participated in the honors of cutting the cake.

Brye McMillon led the singing of the Air Force Song. Gen Hap Arnold would have been proud!



Over 135 people helped celebrate the Air Force's 64th Birthday

Support our AFA Tennessee Valley's Community Partners

Beason & Nalley, Inc.

www.beasonnalley.com

Bevilacqua Research Corp

www.brc2.com

Bill Penney Toyota

www.billpenneytoyota.com

The Boeing Company

www.boeing.com

Cobham/Sparta Corp

www.cobham.com

Davis Strategic Innovations, Inc.

www.davisdsi.com

Decisive Analytics Corp.

www.dac.us

DMD, LLC

www.dmdgroupinc.com

Ducommun-Miltec

www.ducommun/miltec

GATR Technologies

www.gatr.com

L3 Communications

www.L3comm.com

Lamar Advertising

www.lamar.com

ManTech International

www.mantech.com

Lockheed Martin

www.lockheedmartin.com

Mercedes-Benz of Huntsville

www.mercedesbenzofhuntsville.com

Qualis Corporation

www.qualis-corp.com

Quantech Services

www.quantechserv.com

Redstone Federal Credit Union

www.redfcu.org

U.S. Space & Rocket Center

www.spacecamp.com/museum

Woody Anderson Ford

www.woodyanderson.com

For information on how your business
can become a Community Partner,
contact Russ Lewey at 256-425-8791 or
by email at "LeweyRV@yahoo.com"