

Tenn Valley Flyer 1st Quarter 2012



TENN VALLEY FLYER

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Lt Gen Elder to Speak at 2nd Annual CyberSpace Luncheon on 8 Mar 2012



Lt Gen Robert Elder, USAF, Ret

Lt Gen Robert Elder, Jr., USAF (Ret), US Strategic Command Joint Functional Component Commander for Space and Global

Strike, is the guest speaker at an 8 Mar 2012 luncheon, hosted by the local chapters of the Air Force Association (AFA), the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA), the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA), and Cyber Huntsville.

The 8 Mar luncheon follows on the success of last year's luncheon, which featured Lt Gen David Deptula, USAF (Ret), the first Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance for the Air Force.

This year, General Elder will speak on Cyberspace Challenges and Opportunities from a Warfighter's perspective. The

luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the North Hall of the Von Braun Center. Doors will open at 11:00 a.m. for networking (see flyer on page 6). The role of cyberspace, which involves not only virtual, but also physical and social network elements, is shifting from a key enabler to a critical element of the Nation's security, and must be defended as well as leveraged.

General Elder retired from the Air Force as the Commander, 8th Air Force, the senior Air Force organization at U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) responsible for deterrence and global strike operations. He also held a position with USSTRATCOM as the joint functional commander responsible for planning

and coordinating all nuclear and global strike force activities. Additionally, General Elder served as the Air operations center commander and deputy air component commander for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. His executive experience includes senior leadership posi- (Continued on page 4)

Space and Rocket Center Hall of Famer Lt Col Hare Makes History with U.S. Manned Spaceflight Presentation

Not many people discover a passion at age 5 that continues more than 35 years later, but it was evident that Lt Col William "Burke" Hare had as he amazed attendees with his in-depth knowledge of the history of manned space flight at a recent AFA Tennessee Valley Chapter Quarterly membership meeting.

Lt Col Hare, an Air Force Space and Missile Operations officer, began his presentation by saying he hoped to inspire people and augmented it with personal encounters he had with notable space leaders. While Lt Col Hare covered the "firsts" in space flight history, he also highlighted achievements by Air Force personnel. "His presentation was absolutely superb," said retired Col Rick Driesbach, president of the Tennessee Valley AFA Chapter, which was apparent as atten-

dees waited to speak with Lt Col Hare after his talk.

Some achievements by Air Force members included Col Joe Kittinger, Jr., the first human to achieve Mach speeds without aircraft by jumping from a balloon gondola while researching high altitude manned escapes in 1960; Gus Grissom, the first USAF member in space in 1961 (and second American to Alan Shepard (USN)); Edward White, the first American to perform a spacewalk; and, Col Mike Fincke, the US astronaut with the most time in space (more than 380 days and 9 spacewalks).

Lt Col Hare also emphasized the support the Air Force has provided to the space program through its lift vehicles, launch complexes, (Continued on page 4)



Tennessee Valley Chapter President Rick Driesbach congratulates Lt Col Hare.

CYBERPATRIOT IV Update: New Century Technical High School Advanced

There were 13 high school teams from northern AL linked to the local Tennessee Valley Chapter (335) of the Air Force Association, but only one team from Alabama — New Century Technical High School— advanced to Round 3, which was impressive considering there were over 1,000 teams registered from throughout the country.

The team's coach, Mr. Jim Morse said this is only the second year they participated in the competition and he is very proud of their accomplishment as they did most of the work for this on their own. Intuitive Research and Technology in Huntsville sponsored the team. Team members include:

- a. Kelli Little – Team captain, grade 12. She was State Individual Champion in programming at the Skills USA and in the state Programming Team Alabama

Council for Technology in Education (ACTE) champions last year.

- b. Zach Hobbs – Grade 12. He was a State champion and regional qualifier in the CISCO NetRiders networking competition last spring.
- c. Justin Traglia – Grade 11, also a member of the ACTE champions.
- d. Orlando Garcia – Grade 11, also a member of the ACTE champions.

- e. Alex Cole – Grade 12.

- f. Donte Brocke – Grade 9.

Although NCTHS didn't advance to the finals, we congratulate them on their success and for being 26th in the nation!. For more information and to find out next year's competition, visit the CyberPatriot web site at: www.uscyberpatriot.org or contact Rob Kuehn at 256-975-4752 or Russ Lewey at 256-425-8791. (Cathy Scott)

**Congratulations Springville CAP
Composite Squadron
for going to the Finals!**

From Ashville, AL (just north of Birmingham)

1 of only 12 teams in the All-Services Division!

Good Luck at Finals: 22-24 March near DC



Tennessee Valley's AFA Chapter Targets CyberPatriot Competition

Last year, the Tennessee Valley AFA Chapter decided to undertake a series of activities to expand and enhance its Aerospace Education (AE) program. For several years, the chapter had awarded AE scholarships and selected a Teacher of the Year. Similarly, for the last two years, teams from the Tennessee Valley had participated in CyberPatriot. That said, they recognized given the breadth and depth of defense and IT-related companies in the Huntsville area, coupled with an ongoing initiative known as "Cyber-Huntsville," they weren't maximizing their potential for CyberPatriot participation.

With AFA Headquarters significantly expanding its CyberPatriot enrollment, the Chapter decided that, it too should be able to increase their numbers. For each of the past two years in CyberPatriot II & III, two Tennessee Valley teams had partici-

pated.

This year, they adopted a goal of at least 10 teams (a 400% increase) for 2011. They recognized that such an increase required targeting various audiences through a multi-faceted approach. Rob Kuehn volunteered, and the Chapter quickly accepted, designating him as the Vice President for CyberPatriot. His role was to develop and execute a CyberPatriot Plan.

As with any war plan, determining the key targets is essential. His plan focused on primarily three fronts: Local politicians, school administrators, and teachers. Assisted by Gary Connor and Bob Hovde, Rob put the plan into action. On the local political front, they tied the competition to the CyberHuntsville Initiative and local focus by the Chamber of Commerce, Schools Foundation, and Committee of 100 on STEM education. They contacted the Mayors of Madison and Huntsville and the chairman of the

Madison County Commission via email, and personally met and briefed the Chamber of Commerce on CP IV. They also worked with Mary Scott Hunter, the area Representative to the Alabama State Board of Education. She was very helpful in reaching out to all the School Superintendents in North Alabama, and to the mayors and city councils of both major cities (Huntsville and Madison) in the area. They also contacted the School Superintendents and Principals of all the high schools in the area, educating them on the key aspects of CyberPatriot and offering Chapter assistance (financial, mentors, and information). They received very positive feedback from many on the value of CP IV. Finally, they also reached out to individual teachers and the Air Force, Army, Navy and USMC JROTC cadres in the area, to include high school teachers that had previously competed for AFA Teacher of the Year (Continued on page 4)

Support our Community Partners

Beason & Nalley, Inc.
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SPARTA, Inc., a Parsons Company
www.parsons.com/markets/pages/sparta.aspx

U.S. Space & Rocket Center
www.spacecamp.com/museum

Woody Anderson Ford
www.woodyanderson.com

**Want to
Become a
Community
Partner?**

**Contact
Russ Lewey
256-425-8791**

**or by email at
“LeweyRV@
yahoo.com”**

Chapter Supports “Santa’s Pit Row” at Gardens

With the Space and Rocket Center working with the Huntsville Botanical Gardens, you would have to expect that this year’s Galaxy of Lights would be something “outta of this world.” Therefore, it was a natural for the Tennessee Valley Air Force Association to team with Space Camp Hall of Famers in support of the Space and Rocket Center’s Aviation Challenge. Although temperatures were definitely on the chilly side – AFA volunteers made sure that well over 800 vehicles experienced a warm and welcoming reception to the first-ever “Santa’s Pit Row”. In addition to directing and parking vehicles, AFA members were responsible for assuring the safety as literally hundreds of little ones rushed to see first-hand, Santa’s “Rocket Sled” and live reindeer in training. Why, even several of the Chapter member’s wives jumped in, volunteering to help children as they decorated Christmas cookies in pure “sugar plum fantasy.”

Lt Col Burke Hare, an AFA-member and recent US Space Camp Hall of Fame inductee, stated that the leadership from the Space and Rocket Center said the Chapter (along with the Hall of Fame members) was the best volunteer group they had had throughout the month-long event! With the success of this effort in support of Aviation Challenge still fresh, the Chapter is looking to explore additional opportunities for future teaming efforts with the Aviation Challenge, the Space Camp Hall of Fame Assoc, and the Space and Rocket Center.

There is no doubt that we are already looking forward to a repeat event – I just wonder if next year they will let us take Santa’s Rocket Sled for a couple of touch and go’s. (Russ Lewey)



**Galaxy of Lights volunteers included
(L to R): Guy Broadhurst, Ted Henrich, Burke
Hare, George Krym, Jack Royster, and Russ
Lewey.**

Thanks for helping out!

ACTE TECHNOLOGY FAIR
6 APR, 0745-1145
NEEDS VOLUNTEER JUDGES

CONTACT RUSS LEWEY
AT LEWEYRV@YAHOO.COM
FOR MORE INFO

Chapter's CyberPatriot Strategy (Cont. from Pg 2)

the Year honors.

Russ Lewey and Cathy Scott were instrumental in reaching out to the public media as a means of getting the word out. They were successful in having one of the Chapter's Community Partners, Lamar Outdoor Advertising, provide pro bono digital billboards during April and again in late August to promote CyberPatriot awareness across the Huntsville-Madison area. Although initial contacts were promising, attempts to get CyberPatriot on a local television station and in the local newspaper did not materialize. That said, the Chapter hopes to use these venues to increase next year's participation.

Meanwhile, as the program moved forward and their recruiting efforts began to see teams inquiring and registering, the next challenge was to find mentors and sponsors. Here, again "tapping", Community Partners and others associated with the Chapter. Surprisingly, the requirement for mentors was greater than the need for financial sponsorship. The chapter was pleased to learn that a good source for mentors came from the younger employees of local IT companies. They were eager for the challenge and could more easily relate to the high school students.

By 8 October 2011, there were 13 CyberPatriot teams across North Alabama – beating the initial goal by 150%! Feedback from the teams has been very positive and the kids seem enthusiastic about the competition

Clearly, having a single focal point to coordinate our efforts was essential to its success, and we don't discount the fact that being in a defense/high tech community was also a factor in the program's success. We are already beginning to look on how to expand our reach to the outlying areas within the Chapter's AOR for next year's competition. (Russ Lewey)

General Elder (Cont. from Pg 1)

tions with the Joint Staff, Air Force staff, and NATO, while his international experience includes interactions with senior government representatives in the Middle East, Asia, Europe, Pacific, South America, and Africa. General Elder previously served as the Commandant of the Air War College and Vice Commander of Air University. In all, General Elder commanded 9 wings and 1 direct reporting unit with 270 aircraft and 41,000 professionals providing long-range global strike, battle management, surveillance and reconnaissance, electronic combat and expeditionary heavy construction capabilities to theater combatant commanders worldwide. He is a command pilot with more than 4,300 flying hours, including 83 combat hours. Furthermore, General Elder is an accomplished engineer with avionics software development and program management experience, and holds a doctorate in engineering from the University of Detroit.

Hall of Famer (Cont. from Pg 1)

numerous astronauts, and Air Force Space Command. While many attendees recognized programs such as the International Space Station, the Shuttle, Skylab and the Apollo missions, Lt Col Hare included facts about the Apollo-Soyuz, Gemini, Mercury, and USAF-specific endeavors.

Lt Col Hare was recently honored as one of three inductees out of 60 nominees into the 2011 Hall of Fame Class at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL. There are only 24 members of the Space Camp Hall of Fame, which includes Dr. Wernher von Braun and Astronaut Dottie Metcalf-Lindenburger. Retired Col Russell Lewey, Vice President of Aerospace Education for the Tennessee Valley AFA Chapter, said Lt Col Hare did an "awesome" job and plans to have him give the presentation to local AFJROTC units. (Cathy Scott)

Tribute to AAF Veteran Douglas C. Garner

Doug Garner of Huntsville passed away 23 Jan at age 89. Mr. Garner was an Army Air Force Veteran who spoke at a Feb 2010 AFA meeting about his experiences flying 30+ missions over Germany and other occupied territories as a B-24 gunner in the 93rd Bomb Group and 8AF. He was one of the first Honor Flight recipients and was a distinguished DOD civil servant. Mr. Garner was the recipient of several awards to include the Distinguished Flying Cross, 5 Air Medals, World War II Victory Medal, Middle Eastern Theatre Ribbon with one Bronze and one Silver Star, and the Jubilee of Liberty Medal from France. Our sincere condolences to his first love, wife Patsy (his second love being flying) and all of his family.

Air Force Flag Flies Proudly At Veterans Memorial



Members and supporters of the AFA Tennessee Valley Chapter pose in front of the recently dedicated Huntsville and Madison County Veterans Memorial in Huntsville. In 2011, the Chapter and its supporters agreed to sponsor the Air Force flag. In the first year, the Chapter raised more than \$6,000 of the \$15,000 needed and plan to conduct additional fund drives to pay the remaining \$9,000 over the next four years. See the March 2012 edition of AFA National Report in web version and airforce-magazine.com for another photo. (Photo by John Phillip) To order a print, contact John Phillip at the_p_patch@knology.net.

Pictured above are (L to R), first row: Jim Booker, Chris Christiansen, Russ Lewey, Wayne Gardner, "Skeet" Vaughan, Ted Henrich, Daryl Carpenter, Cathy Scott, Patrick Scott, and Gary Connor.

Second row: Ghee Fry, Hollis Bridges, Paul Wagner, Jack Royster, Dave Hall, Rick Driesbach, and John Phillip.

**To Learn How To Send a Tax-Deductible Donation
for the Air Force Flag at the Veteran's Memorial**

Contact the Tennessee Valley Chapter at

President@hsv-afa.org

Thursday, 8 March 2012

Lt Gen (Ret) Robert Elder, USAF
US STRATCOM Joint Functional Component Commander
for Space and Global Strike
Presents



Cyber Challenges and Opportunities A Warfighter's View

at

The Von Braun Center, North Hall
1130-1300 Luncheon

Hall doors open at 1100 for networking
\$30 for Individuals & \$350 for Corporate Tables
\$350 for Corporate Tables of 8

Tickets may be obtained using PayPal at www.hsv-afa.org

For more information contact AFAAFCEA@att.net

256-651-5862

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