



TENN VALLEY FLYER

Tennessee Valley Flyer 2nd Qtr 2015 (Apr-Jun)

WWW.AFA-HUNTSVILLE.ORG

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

TENNESSEE VALLEY TO HOST THE SOUTH-CENTRAL REGION AND ALABAMA STATE AFA CONVENTION

Jim Mungenast, AFA South-Central Region President, and Russ Lewey, Alabama AFA State President, invite everyone to participate in this year's combined South-Central Region and Alabama AFA Convention. This year's event will take place on 11 July at the Jackson Center, a Tennessee Valley AFA Community Partner. There are two parts to this event: a business session which is limited to AFA members will run from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. and includes a working lunch; and, the evening social and dinner from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. is open to members and guests.

The Vice Chairman of Field Operations, Dave Dietsch, will be the guest speaker at the business session and the evening dinner will feature a talk by Michael Griffin, former Director of NASA. Costs for the event are \$10 per person for the business session and \$32 per person for the dinner event. Reservations are required and must be made no later than 6 July. Reservations can be made by contacting Russ Lewey by email:

LeweyRV@yahoo.com or by phone: 256-425-8791.

(See flyer on page 6)

- Aerospace Education: Pages 2-3
- Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Ceremony: Page 4
- Recent Luncheons: Page 5
- AFA Conventions Flyer: Page 6
- Community Partners: Pages 7–9
 - Mary's Grocery
 - Parsons
 - Radiance Technology
- Upcoming Events: Page 10



Christiansen family members performed the presentation to the Top Cadet Scholarship Winner named in honor of their father. See story on page 2.

Chapter Supports Tut-Fann Activities

By Scott Patton

Tennessee Valley AFA members will provide support for the upcoming 6 June "BBQ with the Vets" at Huntsville's Tut-Fann Veteran's Home. Our AFA chapter is also looking for volunteers to support Bingo at Tut-Fann! Members would help run the sessions and offer prizes for the veterans during Bingo days, which are Mondays (1400-1500), Thursdays (1400-1500), and especially Saturdays (0930-1030).

Tut-Fann is also looking for volunteers to help with Tut-Fann Day, an all-day carnival, slated for 24 July 2015.

**Join the fun
and support our Vets!**

Aerospace Education

By Jay Carlson

AFJROTC Scholarships 2015

We are pleased to be able to report this year the Chapter was able to double the value of our three chapter scholarships to deserving local AFJROTC cadets from \$500 to \$1000. In addition the Executive Council voted to name the Top Cadet Scholarship, who receives an additional \$500, in honor of long time chapter member and WWII aviator Major Howard Christiansen as a memorial scholarship. John Phillips was the champion for this new award and worked tirelessly to bring it to fruition to include development of a specially designed and framed certificate and the presentation script. The presentation was made by the son and daughter of Major Christiansen, Dick and Debbie. The Christiansen family also presented the chapter with a check for \$500 for the Aerospace Education Fund.

The inaugural recipient of the Major Howard Christiansen Memorial Scholarship was Cadet Major Serge Corvington from Huntsville High School. Cadet Corvington will be attending Marion Military Institute pursuing Defense Acquisition and Strategic Planning. Very active in the cadet corps, he has participated in the Drill Team and commanded the Physical Training Team. In athletics Cadet Corvington lettered twice in Varsity Wrestling and captained the team in his senior year. He also lettered twice in Varsity Track & Field. Serge is also active in Boy Scouts. A former Senior Patrol Leader, he was selected for High Adventure Scholarship where he served as Crew Leader for a 97 mile – 10 day New Mexico trek, earned Life Scout rank and is presently completing his Eagle Scout project. We wish Cadet Corvington all the best in his future endeavors.

In addition, Cadet MSgt Derrica Franklin from S.R. Butler High School was awarded a \$1000 scholarship. Cadet Franklin will be attending Alabama A&M this fall in pursuit of a Nursing Degree with a goal of receiving a commission in the US Navy. Derrica was not only active in the AFJROTC program, she was also on the basketball and softball teams, served as an elite Ambassador for the school hosting DV tours, and taking Advance Placement (AP) academics. We wish Cadet Franklin all the best in her future endeavors.

Cadet Colonel Sarah Wroblewski from Bob Jones High School was awarded a \$1000 scholarship. Cadet Wroblewski will be attending Marion Military Institute pursuing Leadership Education/Military Science with a goal of receiving a commission in the US Air Force. Sarah held various leadership positions culminating as the Unit Commander during which time the AF Inspection Team rated cadet operations as “Exceeds Standards”, the highest grade awarded. In addition, she was an active member of the award winning Drill Team and Honor Guard. We wish Cadet Wroblewski all the best in her future endeavors.



Chapter member Burke Hare served as Master of Ceremony at the 17 April 2015, “On To Mars” workshop with over 165 international high school students, college students and college mentors in attendance. The event analyzed lessons learned from the Lunar Rover Project, Apollo Moon Program and from robotic rovers on Mars. Students and mentors then applied these lessons learned to solve key challenges in deploying a human rover on Mars. The workshop was part of the NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge (formerly NASA Moonbuggy Race).



Cadet Major Serge Corvington

2015 Major H. Christiansen Scholarship Winner

***Congratulations to all Our
Scholarship and Cadet
Winners!
We're Proud of You!***

Aerospace Education

By Jay Carlson

AFA Cadet of the Year Award (Medal)

Rob Robertson, a member of the chapter's Executive Council, presented the AFA Cadet of the Year award at Huntsville High School to Cadet Captain Jon Truitt.

Jay Carlson, VP for Aerospace Education, presented the AFA Cadet of the Year award at S.R. Butler High School to Cadet Major Devancy Jefferson.

Brenda Armstrong presented the AFA Cadet of the Year Award at Bob Jones High School to Cadet Lt Col Andrew Paul Smith.

By Kim Triesler

Teacher of the Year

Air Force Association Tennessee Valley Chapter 335, Huntsville, Alabama is proud to announce the two 2015 Teacher of the Year (TOY) award winners selected by the chapter. First, Ms. Kim VanHoosser, selected as the Chapter TOY winner for grades K through 8, teaches students at Central School, Huntsville, AL. In particular, she specializes in math, science, and engineering. Additionally, she volunteered to teach 7th & 8th grade enrichment courses. The lessons include creating a school newspaper, podcasting, engineering and maintaining the school radio station. She is, as so aptly stated on her nomination form, an exemplary professional STEM educator, and the chapter agrees!

Second, Mr. Greg Ennis, was selected as the Chapter TOY winner for grades 9 – 12. He was also the Chapter's nominee and winner of the State AFA Alabama Teacher of the Year award. He teaches 9th through 12th graders at James Clemens High School in Madison, AL, in Introduction to Engineering Design, Principles of Engineering, and Engineering Research and Design. He is an outstanding teacher who "really goes the extra mile for his students." In fact, he built the Engineering Academy from the ground up. This Academy is an area where students begin to utilize the skills it takes to become an engineer. Furthermore, he coaches an engineering team that competes in many competitions. Of note, in September 2014, the team placed first in the InSPIRESS competition held in Huntsville. He, too, was recognized by his school's leadership to be fully deserving of the award. And, there, too, we heartily agree!



Chapter Supports Docent Program at US Space and Rocket Center

By Burk Hare

Members of the Tennessee Valley Chapter are working closely with the staff of the US Space and Rocket Center to help execute the strategic plan for the Center's Aviation Challenge program. One of the emerging opportunities within the Center's strategic plan calls for a Military Emeritus Docent Program. The Military Emeritus Docent program is intended to complement the current NASA Emeritus Docent Program at the Rocket Center. If you have been to the Space and Rocket Center recently, chances are you have run into a NASA Emeritus Volunteer in their White Lab Coats telling stories and sharing expertise from their time at Marshall Spaceflight Center as a former Government or civilian employee. Our own Otha "Skeet" Vaughn is a member of this esteemed group of docents sharing their NASA stories to the over 550,000 guests who visit the Rocket Center and its Space Camp/Aviation Challenge programs annually.

Several members of the Chapter have been heavily involved on the Military Emeritus "Tiger Team" to include Zig Jastrebski, Bryan Bennett, William "Cat" Morris, and Lee Smith to name a few. The Chapter members of the Tiger Team continue to work closely with the Rocket Center to identify areas where former Air Force military members interested in volunteering to become a Military Emeritus could contribute their Air Force stories with the Air Force aircraft

and missiles currently in the US Space and Rocket Center inventory. There are plenty of retired airframes to choose from. For instance, the US Space and Rocket Center has an Atlas ICBM and Jupiter missile on display in Rocket Park. In addition to the A-12 Blackbird aircraft seen from I-565, the Rocket Center is home to the following U.S. Air Force aircraft: F-16, T-38, F-111, and F-4 Phantom. These Air Force airframes need Air Force stories to go with them!

And speaking of stories, the Chapter Tiger Team members continue to partner with the Rocket Center staff to explore additional opportunities for Air Force Military Emeritus Docents to share air combat and flight operations "war stories" with the motivated young men and women attending Aviation Challenge Camp on the Rocket Center property. Other potential opportunities include learning to operate the Aviation Challenge flight simulators and giving tours of the aircraft and Aviation Challenge facility to external guests. And there is more to come---stay tuned!

Becoming a Military Emeritus allows the Air Force story to be included amongst the other military voices that are volunteering at the US Space and Rocket Center and supports the Air Force Association mission of Aerospace Education outreach. Be looking for more infor-

(Continued on page 6)

WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS CEREMONY



Hundreds gathered on 4 April at the Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial to “Welcome Home” Vietnam Vets who never received the welcome they deserved.

For the second year in a row, Butler HS AFJROTC cadets helped with color guard, parking, and other duties. Top left photo: Cadet Devancey Jefferson poses with a Vietnam Veteran. MSgt Bradley Gudgel, Aerospace Science Instructor at Butler, stated that the cadets really appreciated the opportunity to hear these heroes’ first-hand accounts.



CHAPTER 335 OFFICERS

President

Rick Driesbach

Rick.driesbach@gmail.com

Vice President

Guy Broadhurst

Broadhurst.guy@gmail.com

Treasurer

Jack Royster

jroyster@knology

Secretary

Ken Philippart

kdp520@hotmail.com

Chapter 335 Special Vice Presidents

Aerospace Education: Jay Carlson

Community Partners: George Krym

CyberPatriot: Bob Hovde

Membership: John Pennell

Programs: Brenda Armstrong

Public Relations/Newsletter: Cathy Scott

Veterans Affairs: Zig Jastrebski

Second Quarter Luncheon Honored Gary Powers Jr., Cold War Expert

In late April, the Chapter hosted its second quarter luncheon, once again at the Redstone Federal Credit Union. The Chapter was extremely fortunate to have Francis Gary Powers, Jr., son of the late Gary Powers to speak at the event. Francis Powers is the founder of the Cold War Museum and recognized Cold



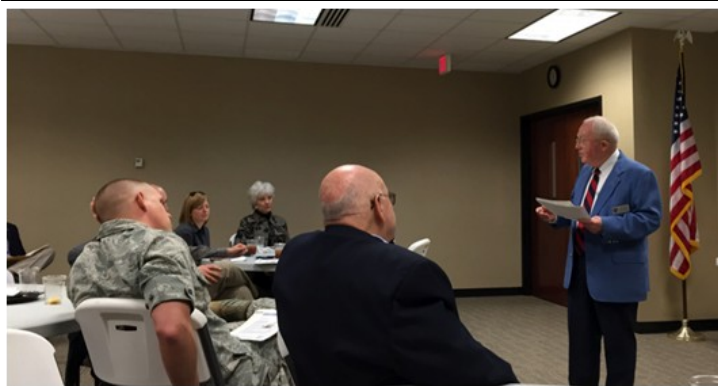
Francis Gary Powers, Jr., speaks to a student, following signing the book, "Operation Overflight", about the Soviet's shoot down of his father's U-2 .

War expert, he has been frequently featured on the Discovery Channel, and the History Channel. He recently consulted for a Steven Spielberg Cold War thriller due out in October 2015 about James Donovan who brokered the 1962 spy exchange between Rudolph Abel and Gary Powers, Sr.

The timing of the event was particularly appropriate as it was just days before the anniversary of the Soviet, shoot-down of Gary Powers' aircraft on 1 May 1960. Francis Jr. set the record straight on a number of myths that surrounds the U-2 incident. He indicated that there was one report that attributed his father's incident with aliens and UFOs. He described the months of interrogation, the trial, and his father's imprisonment. His cellmate, a Latvian, a coincidence – Francis opined it wasn't. Lastly, he spoke of about his father's personal life after his repatriation, all the way until his death when a KNBC news helicopter he was flying crashed in August 1977.



Francis Powers Jr. founded the Cold War Museum in 1996 with a purpose to preserve the history of the Cold War and to honor Cold War veterans. It is presently housed at Vint Hill Farms Station near Washington DC. The museum has a collection of cold war artifacts that are valued at over \$3 million. Francis Jr. encouraged anyone who has artifacts they wish to donate to the museum to contact the museum at: museum@coldwar.org.



IN THE COCKPIT OF AN AC-47

Back in the 1940s on radio and the 1950s on television there was a show called, "You Are There." This past March, at a luncheon at Redstone Federal Credit Union, Retired Col Gary Baker took chapter members and guests back to the Vietnam War to experience what it was like to fly the AC-47 gunship, with the Vietnamese Air Force (VNAF). Gary, one of a handful of airmen, was assigned to the VNAF and regaled those in attendance with anecdotes of flying with Vietnamese and other Southeast Asian

crew members. Pulled out of C-141s in 1967, Gary went through the USAF C-47 training and then on to Vietnam for VNAF training, and was actually awarded VNAF wings. Assigned to Tan Son Nhut AB, he flew for a year, receiving two Distinguished Flying Crosses, 12 Air Medals and a countless number of Vietnamese medals.

Needless to say, everyone was enthralled by his presentation. In appreciation of his time and efforts, Rick Driesbach, Chapter President, presented Gary with a certificate, noting that the chapter was donating \$75 to the Wounded Airmen Program in Gary's name.



***Next Quarter's events are the Ala State Meeting/
Dinner and the AF Birthday (more to follow)***



South Central Region and Alabama State Convention *11 July 2015*



HOSTED BY: TENNESSEE VALLEY AFA CHAPTER

LOCATION: JACKSON CENTER — A COMMUNITY PARTNER

**6001 MOQUIN DR. NW, HUNTSVILLE
WWW.JACKSONCENTER.NET**



BUSINESS MEETING

10:00 AM — 1200 PM: STATE & CHAPTER BUSINESS

**12:00 PM — 1:00 PM: LUNCH WITH DAVE DIETSCH,
AFA VICE CHAIRMAN OF FIELD OPS**

1:00 PM — 3:00 PM: REGIONAL & NATIONAL BUSINESS

EVENING SOCIAL AND DINNER (WITH SPOUSES AND GUESTS)

6:00 PM — 6:45 PM: NO HOST SOCIAL

6:45 PM — 9:00 PM:

**BUFFET DINNER: BEEF TENDERLOIN AND SHRIMP & GRITS
VEGETABLES, ROLLS, DESSERT**

GUEST SPEAKER:

MICHAEL GRIFFIN, FORMER DIRECTOR OF NASA

RESERVE YOUR PLACE TODAY

COSTS: \$10 FOR BUSINESS LUNCH

\$32 PER PERSON FOR DINNER

DRESS: BUSINESS CASUAL (OPEN COLLAR) FOR BOTH EVENTS

FOR RESERVATIONS OR MORE INFORMATION: CONTACT

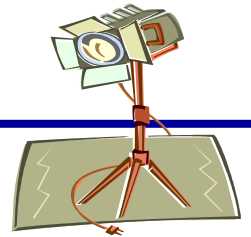
RUSS LEWEY (256-425-8791) OR LEWEYRV@YAHOO.COM

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS MONDAY, 6 JULY 2015

DOCENT, Continued from Page 3

mation on how to apply to this program as it becomes active in the near future. This will be a great volunteer activity for interested individuals and a big win for the Chapter's mission to support aerospace education!

One more word, the Chapter is looking to provide volunteer help to the Rocket Center for the restoration of the F-4 and other Air Force aircraft currently at the Aviation Challenge facility. There will be more news to come on the restoration initiative in the coming months as we work the details with the Rocket Center. This is an exciting time for the Chapter and the US Space and Rocket Center as momentum builds for the future!



Mary's Grocery – The Perfect “Wingman”

Have you ever found yourself wondering what would be the perfect wine for that perfect meal? Or maybe as the perfect gift for that special someone? Well, the right wine or beer for any reason is just 7 miles south of Huntsville along US Hwy 431. Mary's Grocery is a Community Partner,



and not just any partner, but the Chapter's first “Wingman” (see the article in last quarter's Tennessee Valley Flyer for a description of the Tiered Community Partner program). Mary's Grocery offers a vast assortment, of wines, from an everyday wine suitable for hamburgers on the grill to a limited release that will truly add elegance to that special meal. But they don't just offer

wine. Looking for a perfect sip of bourbon or other spirits? How about a craft beer on tap? Yes, at Mary's you can take home some of the best local brews straight from the draft (in sealable bottles). However, there complete selection could be overwhelming if not for the expertise of Steve. He has been working his magic in this same location for more



Look for the Conoco Gas station (on your right) as you come down from Monte Sano on your way to Hampton Cove. Yes, the best selection of wine and beer is found at a gas station!

Located: 5894 US-431, Brownsboro

Phone: 256-518-9555

than 20 years, and he certainly knows his stuff. Just ask, as he, or other staff, are always more than happy to offer suggestions. When you stop by, get on their mailing list and you will get an invitation to one of their exclusive wine tastings. They also offer 10% off, of their already low prices on the purchase of at least 12 bottles.

So stop in and chat with Steve; thank him for supporting the Air Force and AFA's aerospace education programs throughout the valley. You will be glad that you did!

PARSONS

Founded in 1944, Parsons is an engineering, construction, and technical and professional services firm with revenues of \$3.1 billion in 2014.

Parsons is a leader in many diversified markets with a focus on defense/security, industrial, and infrastructure. Parsons delivers design/design-build, program/construction management, and other professional services packaged in innovative alternative delivery methods to federal, regional, and local government agencies, as well as to private industrial customers worldwide.

They conquer the toughest logistical and technical challenges and deliver landmark projects across the globe. Today, more than 15,000 employees are engaged in executing nearly 5,000 projects in 50 states and 28 countries around the world. For more about Parsons, please visit www.parsons.com.

Support Our Community Partners! We Appreciate Them!

Spotlight — Community Partners



Radiance Technologies, Inc.

William Bailey (L), President of Radiance Technologies, receives the "ACE" Community Partner award from Rick Driesbach (C), Tennessee Valley AFA Chapter President, and Russ Lewey (R), Alabama AFA State President.

Happening This Summer

A Taste of Air Force Heritage

The Chapter, in concert with the Huntsville/Madison County Library System, is looking to inspire and enlighten young people across the Tennessee Valley. This summer the Chapter is providing a session on aviation and the story of the "Candy Bomber" as part of the Library's Summer Program. Bring your children or grandchildren to hear this moving story. The schedule for the sessions/location is below, for more information contact Russ Lewey (LeweyRV@yahoo.com).

Program Schedule:

June 8/New Hope @ 2:30 pm
June 11/Monrovia @ 1:00 pm
June 12/Oscar Mason @ 10:00 am
June 15/Main Branch @ 1:30 pm
June 23/Showers @ 2:00 pm
Murphy @ 4:00 pm
June 30/Triana @ 1:30 pm
Madison @ 4:00 pm
June 30/Triana @ 1:30 pm
Madison @ 4:00 pm



Schedule (continued)

July 3/Bailey Cove @ 3:00 pm
July 9/Hazel Green @ 4:00 pm
July 15/Gurley @ 10:30 am
Bessie Russell @ 1:30 pm



Have a Safe and Happy 4th!



“ON THE RADAR”

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY!! COME OUT AND JOIN AIR FORCE FRIENDS IN WORTHY PROJECTS!

- Tut-Fann Veteran's Home BBQ: 6 June, 1100
- Huntsville / Madison Library Program: 8 June—15 July
- AFA State and Regional Meeting: 11 July
- Space & Missile Defense Symposium: 11-14 August
- National AFA Convention: 12-13 September



Us on
Facebook:
AFA TVC 335

Your AFA chapter is a 501-3C organization, and is always receptive of donations to further chapter Aerospace Education objectives. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, please mail a check (made out to AFA Chapter 335) to Jack Royster, 1880 Shellbrook Drive, Huntsville AL 35806.

George Krym: VP for Community Partners (George.Krym@yahoo.com)

Aero Thermo Technology

www.aerothermo.com

Aerotek

www.aerotek.com

Aleta Technologies

www.aletatechnologies.com

Bevilacqua Research Corp

www.brc2.com

Bill Penney Toyota

www.billpenneytoyota.com

Dr. Rebecca Howell (Dentist)

www.rebeccahowelldmd.com

Davis Strategic

Innovations, Inc.

www.davisdsi.com

Delta Research, Inc.

www.dr-inc.com

Ducommun-Miltec

www.ducommun.com/miltec/

Edward-Jones (Brenda Armstrong)

Farmers Insurance (David Gillies)

FlyQuest, Inc.

www.FlyQuest.net

GATR Technologies

www.gatr.com

Intuitive Research and Technology

www.irtc-hq.com/

Irrigation Maintenance

Services, Inc.; 256-755-1524

Jackson Center

www.jacksoncenter.net/

Lamar Advertising

www.lamar.com

Landers McLarty Automotive

www.rljmclartylanders.com/

Linc Research Inc.

www.lincresearchinc.com

Lockheed Martin Space Systems Co.

www.lockheedmartin.com/

Mary's Grocery: Hwy 431 South, Brownsboro, AL

ManTech International

www.mantech.com

Northington Consulting

www.northconllc.com

Parsons—SPARTA

www.parsons.com/markets/pages/sparta.aspx

PeopleTec

www.people-tec.com

Qualis

www.qualis-corp.com

Quantech Services

www.quantechserv.com

Radiance Technologies

www.radiancetech.com/

Redstone Federal Credit Union

www.redfcu.org

Richard Alexander NY Life Agent

www.newyorklife.com/agent/rcalexander

UAH Professional & Continuing Studies

www.uah.edu/pcs

U.S. Space & Rocket Center

www.spacecamp.com/museum

Woody Anderson Ford

www.woodyanderson.com

**Help us Keep
America the Land
of the Free!**