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Memorial Day 2016 events on pages 16-17
F-4C #640-838, currently located at Aviation Challenge, US Space and Rocket Center, is a historically significant aircraft. It flew during BG Robin Olds' famed Operation Bolo against the North Vietnamese air force on 2 January 1967. On that day, Major Philip P. Combies and 1st Lt. Lee R. Dutton, flying F-4C 640-838, from the 433 TFS, call sign Rambler 04, shot down a MiG-21. Next year will be the 50th Anniversary of this event.

The F-4C 640-838 Restoration Team met at Aviation Challenge on 2 April 2016 to evaluate the needs and the scope of the upcoming restoration effort. The initial team is composed of Chris Key, Rich Power, Billy Ondrusek, Daniel Gibson, Andy Bevilacqua, Bryan Bennett, and Zig Jastrebski. The overall impression was that the aircraft is in pretty good shape for sitting outside for more than 20 years. The team developed initial restoration goals as well as a list of parts and equipment needed. The restoration plan includes returning the aircraft to its 1967 8TFW, Ubon Thailand livery (see image). The Restoration Plan is now being submitted to the USAF for approval (USAF still owns the aircraft). Expect restoration activities to begin this summer with completion next year. Hopefully, next year we can have a ceremony commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Operation Bolo.
The TN Valley AFA is joining AUSA, RSASMA, WOA, MOAA and the NA "Screaming Eagles" to put together the annual "BBQ with the Vets" event this year on Saturday, 4 June 2016, from 1100-1300 hours at the Floyd "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home (Address: 2701 Meridian St N in Huntsville). We hope that you all can come out and support this event. The consolidated veterans groups are looking for around five or so volunteers from AFA to assist with serving the plates and talking with the vets. Of course, all are welcome to attend and share stories if you would like to participate. The idea is to come out and have lunch with the veterans and their families. It's always a great event, and our Veterans really appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedules to spend some well-deserved time with them. Meeting time will be around 1030 for volunteers; 1100 for those that just want to come out and visit.
Aviation Challenge is a camp located in Huntsville, Alabama as a companion to Space Camp. Aviation challenge is more closely related to fighter aircraft than space. The camp is a military based one, teaching many basic flying skills with in-depth simulators. Since 1990, trainees from around the globe have trained to be the next generation of fighter pilots in this structured, military-style program using combat scenarios. Aviation Challenge Camp combines fun, teamwork, and leadership skills into a week of new friends and adventures.

The Tennessee Valley Air Force Association Chapter has several members who volunteer on a regular basis supporting this program as Military Emeritus Docents. The Docent support resumed in mid-Spring this year to begin our second year of support. The support runs to mid or late November depending on weather and attendance at the USSRC. Starting Memorial Day, Docents support three days a week from 11 AM to 3 PM. The typical day entails talking to USSRC guests, obtaining their interest, and then leading them on an Aviation Challenge tour. A Docent or two conduct the tour of the Aviation Challenge campus allowing the guests a “behind the scenes” look at the aircraft, simulators, and centrifuge the students experience when they attend Aviation Challenge.

This program provides an opportunity for us to give back to the community in support of the USSRC. To date, the Military Emeritus Docents have greeted several hundred visitors and conducted 60+ tours since starting in July 2015 at the Aviation Challenge campus. The USSRC leadership has shown tremendous support for the program and is behind the effort 100%.

Interested in learning more about the Military Emeritus Docent program or becoming a Docent? Visit the web site [http://rocketcenter.com/emeritus](http://rocketcenter.com/emeritus) or call the U.S. Space & Rocket Center 256.721.7128 or 256.721.7100
The Tennessee Valley Chapter brought in some air support for the 2016 Huntsville St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Thanks to support provided by Lockheed Martin, makers of the F-35 Lightning II, the Air Force’s newest aircraft, the chapter had a 1/10 scale model of the joint strike fighter on parade for thousands of parade attendees to see March 12.

Bob “the builder” Hovde designed and built a frame to mount the model and its stand in the bed of a pickup truck. The jet was the highlight of the association’s three-ship formation of pickup trucks. The formation also displayed Air Force and AFA banners and an Irish pennant. An Irish jig and the Air Force song played as the formation snaked its way through downtown Huntsville under overcast—but dry—skies.

“The crowd always loves the Air Force song and was especially thrilled this year with the F-35 painted with the U.S. flag,” said Rick Driesbach, chapter president.

The chapter displayed a thank you sign honoring Lockheed Martin on one of the trucks. Driesbach also formally thanked the company with a letter of appreciation.
The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Air Force Association has traditionally supported scholarships to the local AFJROTC units. With the current school term coming to an end, our chapter awarded the second annual memorial scholarship in honor of Major Howard “Chris” Christiansen, a longtime and active chapter member who died in April 2014. This year’s scholarship award was presented to Cadet Colonel Sarah Savage at the Huntsville High School’s Annual Award Ceremony on April 27. Cadet Savage was recognized for her outstanding leadership, impressive scholarship, and exceptional support to her unit and fellow cadets. The chapter’s standard scholarship amount is $1,000. The memorial scholarship is for $1,500 and is given to recognize the “Best of the Best” cadet among the competing AFJROTC units in northern Alabama.

Mr. Dick Christiansen, a son of Major Christiansen and Ms. Debbie Thompson, a daughter, further honored our memorial scholarship by actually presenting the award to Cadet Savage. The family members provided historical background information on their father’s World War II service and also gave Cadet Savage a photo of their father as a young Lieutenant in his WWII uniform, a copy of the actual Certificate of Valor that he received after completing his combat service, and a short biography.

The members of the Christiansen family provided a special, realistic, and personal element to our presentation at the Huntsville High School Awards Ceremony. Our chapter is also extremely grateful to the Christiansen family for a very generous and unsolicited contribution they made to our chapter in support of their father’s scholarship. We are very appreciative to the total support that we have received from the Christiansen family.

The chapter’s memorial scholarship specifically recognizes the dedication and patriotism of Howard “Chris” Christiansen as a World War II B-17 “Flying Fortress” bombardier in the Mediterranean Theater of 15th Air Force. Chris flew 51 missions in the Allied Air Campaign against German manufacturing and logistics capabilities. Five of those heroic missions were against the heavily defended oil refineries of Ploesti, Romania. By honoring one of our past members, the memorial scholarship is intended to demonstrate a specific, personal example of exceptional bravery by one of our members, to preserve the military heritage of the Air Force, and to establish a wonderful and strong aerospace education tradition for our chapter.
Teachers of the Year
By Jay Carlson

Teacher of the Year in the K-8 category is Mrs. Abbi Griffin, a Kindergarten teacher from Julian Newman Elementary School in Athens.

Abbi used various modeling and hands-on techniques to reinforce lessons. Pictured here is an example of using Balls and Ramps to discuss speed, force, motion, and inertia with her students who had to design and build a ramp system. They tested and improved their system as they built it. Students also made a roller coaster and used the roller coaster to expand what they learned about speed and how to make something go faster or slower.

Teacher of the Year in the High School category is Mr. Michael May, a Science and Engineering instructor at Athens High School.

Michael used many tools to encourage and excite his students in the field of STEM. One example was his exercise in which his students flew a camera package aboard a weather balloon to record the curvature of the Earth from the edge of space and tracked its return to ground using GPS. As part of the exercise they learned about the effect of winds at various altitudes and unknown variables. They were required to predict where the package would land and selected the size of the parachute that would control the descent protecting the package and yet allow duration of fall rapid enough that the package's electronics would still be operating when recovered.
AFA Scholarships and Awards

Bob Jones High School

Chapter Member Bryan Bennet presents the AFA medal to Cadet Alex Bartholomew and a Chapter Scholarship to Cadet Kaitlin Teague at Bob Jones HS on 2 May 2016

J.O. Johnson High School

J.O. Johnson High School will hold its award ceremony on 25 May at 1100. Cadet Lt Col. A’Jada Young will be awarded an AFA Tennessee Valley Chapter Scholarship. Cadet Young will be attending Mary Baldwin College in the Fall.
JROTC Aviation Challenge 2016
By Maj Melissa Lacey

JROTC units across Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee will participate in an inaugural summer leadership encampment at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center (USSRC) in Huntsville 9-12 June 2016. The encampment, JROTC Aviation Challenge, consists of cadets from Air Force, Navy, Army, and Marine Corps JROTC programs. The curriculum will involve leadership development and orchestrated aviation challenges and will give cadets the opportunity to experience aviation in action as they interact with USSRC aviation staff and instructors, while participating in hands-on scenarios.

Over 125 cadets have registered for the JROTC Aviation Challenge, to include cadets from all 5 Huntsville City schools, both Madison City schools, Hazel Green HS, Athens HS, and Austin (Decatur) HS. Out of area schools include: Wilcox County, Davidson (Mobile County), Selma and Midfield High Schools in Alabama, as well as New Albany and Rosa Forth High Schools in Mississippi, and Lexington and Northside High Schools in Tennessee.

Cadets will be organized into a USAF group staff organization, consisting of two squadrons and six flights, regardless of JROTC branch of service. Training for all flights will consist of the Leadership Reaction Course, F-18 Super Hornet simulators, helicopter water rescue pad, simulated air control systems and enclosed wooded area for navigational training and land survival training. Training will culminate with a group-wide Evade and Escape woodland exercise.

Members of AFA Tennessee Valley Chapter contributed $2,345.00 to sponsor 10 former Butler High School Air Force JROTC cadets who are currently enrolled as Marine JROTC cadets at J.O. Johnson HS. Our Chapter members who serve as Docents at the USSRC will also provide informational tours of the static aircraft at Aviation Challenge throughout the encampment.

Graduation will be on Sunday, 12 June 2016, at 10:00 a.m. All members are welcome and encouraged to come out to greet those cadets we’ve sponsored, as well as congratulate them on their success in completing this challenging encampment.
A Flight Surgeon’s Story
by Russ Lewey

While in the Air Force the last thing that I wanted to do was go see the flight surgeon. It usually meant that something was wrong or, worst yet, they might find a grounding condition. This past March, at our Quarterly AFA meeting/luncheon, I looked forward to my visit with a flight surgeon, Dr. Lamb Myhr. Okay, not literally, as Dr. Myhr was a flight surgeon during WW II and died in 2008. However, his great niece, Mrs. S. Carlisle May, brought him to life in her book, “A World War II Flight Surgeon’s Story.”

In her book, she takes us alongside her uncle from the hot deserts of Morocco to the Rhine River with the 9th Air Force. There, the flight surgeon was expected to not only treat injuries, but tend to the mental well-being, and even provided public sanitary services inspecting food prep and latrines. Through Mrs. May’s research, we are right there with Dr. Myhr, as President Franklin Roosevelt and other senior officers met in Sicily to congratulate the 9th AF on their successful invasion.

Given her uncle’s service, it seemed only fitting that the Chapter thank Mrs. May for her presentation with a donation to the Wounded Airman Program, in her and her uncle’s name. Special thanks also goes out to the Redstone Federal Credit Union, and to Ms. Annalise Harwood, for the use of their outstanding facility and luncheon.

CyberPatriot Awards
by Bob Hovde

The Huntsville City School Board recognized winning CyberPatriot teams by presenting each participant with a “Resolution” certificate. Chapter 335 participated by presenting each team coach with the AFA certificate denoting it’s final standing (1st, 2nd, or 3rd in the State or Region). Huntsville took all of the places in the State and two of the three in the Region. Pictured at left is Chapter member Bob Hovde, presenting the AFA certificate to Christine Sutton, Coach from Grissom High School, while the School Superintendent, Dr. Wardynski, and the rest of the team look on.
Congratulations to the StellarXplorers team from Huntsville High School! The team is composed of AFJROTC cadets from Unit AL-941. AL-941’s team was one of twenty-five teams involved in StellarXplorer II. The competition is dedicated to teaching high school students STEM skills that can be applied to the development of satellites and future space exploration. The team is composed of Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Jon Truitt, Cadet Major Alia Harris, Cadet Major Devancy Jefferson, Cadet First Lieutenant Rosaline Yelleh, Cadet Staff Sergeant Princess Offei-dua, and Cadet Senior Airman Joseph Vivian.

After competing in three tough rounds of qualifications, the team advanced to national finals, which took place on April 13th and April 14th at the Space Foundation in Colorado Springs. They also attended the 32nd Space Symposium and the Award dinner. While at the Symposium, the team met individuals from NASA, Boeing, and other companies involved in space. These company representatives discussed with the members of the team how STEM education could impact their future career paths. At the dinner, they had the wonderful opportunity to meet numerous dignitaries including General John E. Hyten, Commander of Air Force Space Command and listen to a presentation from SpaceX Chief Operations Officer Gwynne Shotwell. These six did exceptionally well in the competition and their community is very proud of them. During the competition the team had to work through problems on how to launch a satellite, what equipment they will put on it, choose the best launch platform, choose the best orbit to meet requirements and also balance costs so they don’t go over budget. Along with STEM, a key part of their success was teamwork they developed during the competition and exhibited while there. They learned how important teamwork was for them if they wanted to accomplish their goals.
**Community Partner Spotlight**

"Ace" Community Partner

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**R-Squared Consulting, LLC**

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R-Squared Consulting, LLC is a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business consulting firm specializing in space systems integration, space launch vehicle development and integration, systems engineering, missile defense and IC related activities to space systems, space integration, and launch integration of IC assets with a breadth of experience of overall systems engineering. Its home office is located in Harvest, AL. The Owner and Founder is retired Air Force Lt Colonel Albert L. Robertson, Jr - “Rob.” He’s also a retired senior Civil Service member and experienced private industry senior systems engineer. He is DoD acquisition certified Level 3 in Program Management and Systems Engineering and Level 2 in Test and Evaluation. He has over 35 years’ experience in space, acquisition, IC, engineering, and test and evaluation. He has a reputation for being handed the tough problems and figuring out a way to make it happen.

R-Squared Consulting has over 35 years’ experience in:

- Program management; systems engineering; acquisition management (FAR, DoD processes, IC processes); test and evaluation; intelligence community activities;
- A broad knowledge of aerospace systems requirements, development, support and operations beyond a single specialty;
- MDA counter-countermeasure systems engineering and consultations;
- DoD, NASA, IC and commercial space for space architecture, integrated space communications, space technology protection, and space related systems engineering;
- Reviewing and assessing US space related technologies, space technology programs, satellite communications, satellites, launch vehicles and space related systems ensuring critical US space technologies were not improperly exported to foreign entities;
- Integration of commercial communication satellites, military communication satellites, intelligence community satellites, planetary mission satellites, and other DoD satellites with several different types of US and foreign space launch vehicles and upper stages;
- Managing daily technical management mission support and interface with DoD organizational offices;
- ITAR education and training; and
- Leading ACAT 1A systems engineering efforts requiring evaluation/coordination of all new and current efforts impacting final deployment and integration of all ground, sea, and air components.

R-Squared Consulting, LLC offers its customers superior service based on its experience years in the intelligence community and space business ranging from typical systems engineering solutions to tailored solutions implementing only the necessary components of systems engineering to accomplish the mission. Typically systems engineering firms rely on the “tried and true” approach to systems engineering. R-Squared Consulting, LLC has a unique back-ground filled with robust experience bringing to the table “out of the box” thinking resulting in solutions easily affordable and do-able by the customer.
Community Partner Spotlight
"Wingman" Community Partner

Conditioned Air Solutions

No matter what your heating and air problem is, we can fix it!

Conditioned Air Solutions is a locally owned and operated business. We dedicate ourselves to being a different kind of company. Everything we do is focused on fixing your problem correctly, fixing it the first time, and giving you the best value we can. Service is simply what we do – we live it and breathe it, every single day.

A great service company is built around its people, and we’re no exception. We believe everything starts and ends with the relationship our people have with you. When you allow us to serve you in your home, you’ll find we have a different attitude than most companies. We start by emailing you a picture and bio of the technician who is coming to your house, so you can get to know him even before you meet him. We want you to feel secure knowing whom you are allowing into your home.

We offer:

- Maintenance, Replacement, and Installation for Heating, Air Conditioning (HVAC), including Gas Piping.
- No service surprises; from your technician to your pricing you will know everything up front, before any work begins.
- Maintenance plans for both Commercial and Residential systems.
- We offer special financing with approved credit for HVAC systems, air purifiers, humidifiers, dehumidifiers, duct systems, etc.

Here’s how we do business:

- We will schedule your appointment.
- We will email you a picture and bio of your technician.
- He will call you when he’s on the way.
- He will arrive in a clean truck, be in uniform, have a business card with his picture, and be clean, polite, experienced, and professional.
- He will diagnose the problem then give you a detailed written exact price (not an estimate!) to fix it.
- Once you decide how you want to proceed, we can fix it.

Conditioned Air Solutions is looking for experienced HVAC service technicians and installers. Military HVAC training is a real plus. For more information, see the job listings on our website (www.conditionedairsolutions.com), or send your resume to careers@conditionedairsolutions.com.

Conditioned Air Solutions has a special offer for AFA Chapter members. Just mention that you’re a member when calling and receive a $49 diagnostic service.
Bevilacqua Research Corporation (BRC)

Bevilacqua Research Corporation (BRC) is a home-grown Huntsville company started in 1992 to support NASA and the DoD. Led by Jo and Andy Bevilacqua, BRC has quietly grown into an almost 400-person company spread over 15 states specializing primarily in the Research, Development, Test & Evaluation of complex military systems. Andy Bevilacqua is a former aircraft electrician and service-disabled Vietnam veteran who served in the Air Force from 1971 to 1975. Andy started BRC to provide exceptional support to his customers and BRC has lived up to that challenge being recognized in 2014 as #14 in the nation among the top 100 inner city businesses.

BRC believes in people and in serving the communities where it’s employees live and work. In addition to supporting local charities like Big Brothers, Big Sisters, the Huntsville food bank, Toys for Tots and walk for MS in various communities, BRC has quietly served the business community for over 20 years by offering free business mentoring to numerous small businesses both in Huntsville and the other communities where it does business.

Some of the significant accomplishments that BRC has had over the last 24 years include:

- Small Business Administration Tibbett’s Award winner for Alabama in 1998
- Inc. 5000 Winner multiple years
- 2 time runner up, Huntsville small business of the year
- #14 on the Inc. top 100 Inner city Business list in 2012
- GSA OASIS small business contract winner in Polls 1 & 3

BRC is known as ‘the quiet company’ because it has not grown through hype and self-promotion. Rather, the owners and employees of BRC have grown the company using the philosophy that ‘excellence speaks for itself’. BRC is proud of its people and their accomplishments over the last 24 years and proud to be a sustaining member of the local Air Force Association Chapter #335.

Andy Bevilacqua
Bevilacqua Research Corporation
4901 Corporate Drive, Suite B
Huntsville, Alabama
(256) 882-6229
http://www.brc2.com/
Tennessee Valley AFA Chapter 335 is proud of its Community Partners:

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www.woodyanderson.com

Annual Giving Levels: Ace: $500, Wingman: $250, Basic: $90

Want to become a Community Partner, Wingman, or Ace? Contact George Krym at george.krym@yahoo.com.
MEMORIAL DAY
Remembrance Ceremony

Maple Hill Cemetery
Huntsville, Alabama
30 May
11:00 AM

Never Forget - - Honor Forever
MEMORIAL DAY
2016

An Evening at the Veterans Memorial

Monday, 30 May, 2016; 7:00—8:00 PM
Huntsville—Madison County Veterans Memorial
Monroe Street, Huntsville, Alabama

Featuring:

Lee Marshall  Michael Curtis  First Missionary Baptist Church Choir
The Huntsville Symphony Orchestra  The AMC Band  “Fahrenheit”

Please bring a lawn chair and snacks to enjoy the evening
Pets and alcohol are not permitted in the Park
Rain Site will be the Von Braun Center

Broadcast Live on WHNT, Channel 19
Sponsored by the Association of the U.S. Army, Redstone—Huntsville Chapter
Upcoming Events

May 30th—Maple Hill Cem. Memorial
May 30th—Evening at Veteran’s Memorial
Jun 4th—Tut Fann Memorial Day BBQ
Jun 16th—Executive Council Meeting
Jul 21st—Executive Council Meeting
Aug 18th—Executive Council Meeting

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.