ON WINNING 5 AFA NATIONAL AWARDS

Jack Gross Large Chapter Award
Awarded to chapter with highest number of NEW members

Large Overall Retention Award
Awarded to chapter with highest percentage of all renewed memberships

Community Partner Gold Award
Chapters whose Community Partner total is equal to, or greater than, 6% of total membership

Sustained New Member Recruitment award
Chapter meeting minimum new member recruitment standard for three quarters following convention

Chapter Growth Award
Chapter 335 had a greater than 12% increase in members in the year ending in Jun 2016.

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Tennessee Valley AFA Chapter Invites You To Help Us Celebrate the Air Force 69th Birthday

Saturday, 24 September 2016
7 pm – 9:30 pm
Jackson Center (6001 Moquin Drive)

Heavy hors-d'oeuvre and a Cash Bar
Tickets $25/person - Limited Availability

Deadline to reserve your ticket(s) is 18 September
Contact: Jack Royster at 256-721-9898 or jroyster@knology.net
Over 120 JROTC cadets from across Alabama, Tennessee, and Mississippi participated in the first ever Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps summer leadership training, JROTC Aviation Challenge, at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL, 9-12 June 2016. The encampment consisted of JROTC cadets from all four branches of service, with over 80 cadets from Air Force JROTC programs.

The cadets were organized into an Air Force Group Command structure, consisting of two squadrons and six flights, with leadership positions rotating daily. During the course, the cadets received training in teamwork by matriculating the Leadership Reaction Course in Area-51, learning how to survive in the wilderness, and executing learned strategies in the Escape and Evade exercise. The Helo Dunker, which simulated a helicopter crash over water, was a big hit with the cadets, as they had to not only escape the sinking helicopter, but also ensure all crew members and passengers got out safely. All cadets received the opportunity to fly in the Mach I and Mach II simulators, while learning the principals of flight. Stamina was put to the test during daily early morning PT and evening competitive sporting events.

Air Force Association members were very involved with JROTC Aviation Challenge. Classroom instruction consisted of the two AFA educational programs – CyberPatriot, presented by Alabama AFA State President Col (ret) Russ Lewey, and StellarXplorer, taught by Lt Col (ret) Dave Murphy and AFA member Tim Brock from GA. USSRC Docents, Col (ret) Bryan Bennett, Lt Col (ret) Rob Robertson, and Lt Col (ret) Zig Jastrebski, who are also AFA members, provided static aircraft tours to the cadets. The grand finale of the encampment was a graduation program in which leadership, fitness, and superior performance cadet awards were presented. The graduation speaker was AFA member, Col (ret) Bryan Bennett, who spoke to the cadets about life lessons and opportunities. Chapter members and Community Partners also donated $2,325 for local AFJROTC cadets from economically challenged families to attend.

JROTC Aviation Challenge was deemed a grand success by all cadets and JROTC instructors in attendance, as well as the USSRC and Aviation Challenge staff members. The cadets were invited back for summer 2017 and all asked to expand the encampment to a full week. Fees for a week long camp are being negotiated at this time to keep the cost low for the cadets. Nonetheless, 5-9 June 2017, has been reserved for next summer’s JROTC Aviation Challenge, and more military and STEM-oriented training will be provided to our future leaders.
Our chapter is extremely proud to announce the AFA National 2016 Teacher of the Year (TOY) award winner is Mr. Greg Ennis of James Clemens HS! Greg was selected as our 2015 Chapter TOY winner for grades 9 – 12, as well as the Chapter’s nominee and eventual winner for the 2015 AFA Alabama Teacher of the Year Award. He competed against the other AFA state winners, and, much to our delight, he was declared the national winner for 2016. For a teacher from Alabama to be recognized nationally for teaching science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), when many think the movie "Deliverance" describes life in Alabama, is quite an achievement. However, in Northern Alabama, a key industry is rocket science, thanks to the presence of Redstone Arsenal and NASA. On a side note, Alabama schools do extremely well in AFA’s annual CyberPatriot competition thanks to teachers like Greg. In particular, Greg teaches high school courses such as 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 at James Clemens HS from the ground up. This Academy is an area where students begin to develop the skills necessary to become an engineer. Greg coaches an engineering team that competes in many competitions and finished first in the 2014 InSPIRESS competition held by NASA in Huntsville. Greg is recognized by his school’s leadership to be fully deserving of the AFA awards, and we heartily concur!
Chapter Presentations

John Pennell (L), Vice President of Chapter 335, presents Russ Lewey, AFA State President for Alabama, with the Mary Anne Thompson Silver Wings Award on behalf of the Auburn University Silver Wings Chapter for his outstanding support during the 2015-2016 year.

The award is presented to an individual member of the Air Force Association for outstanding support of Silver Wings. The award is named for Mary Anne Thompson, member of the first Angel Flight National Staff, 1998 SW National Honorary President and Board of Trustees Member. The John "Boots" Stratford Chapter at Auburn University sponsors the award.

Chapter VP for Aerospace Education, Jay Carlson presents a Chapter Scholarship to Cadet A'Jada Young @ J.O. Johnson HS on 25 May 2016.
The beginning of the school year in Huntsville, AL brought two new and exciting entities to Huntsville City School (HCS) district. The first being the opening of a newly-built school, Jemison High School, named in honor of Dr. Mae Jemison, the first African-American female astronaut. Dr. Jemison, a native of nearby Decatur, AL, was also the first African-American female to fly into space, aboard the Endeavor space shuttle in 1992. Dr. Jemison attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony on 2 August 2016, and addressed the administration, parents and students. She stated “I am truly honored to have my name attached to this educational institution that gives todays and future generations the foundation they need for success in whatever path it is that they choose.”

Along with opening a new school, HCS also stood up a new Air Force JROTC program, designated as AL-20171. USAF Major (ret) Melissa Lacey and USAF MSgt (ret) Bradley Gudgel are the SASI and ASI, respectively, for this new program. The school year began with a 30% increase in JROTC enrollment from the previous Marine Corps JROTC program. AL-20171 hit the ground running by offering CyberPatriot, an Aviation Fundamentals program, a Rocketry (TARC) team, a Civilian Marksmanship (Rifle) team, as well as enough cadets to form 3 competitive drill teams, a Color Guard, and sabre teams.

Jemison High School boasts the first College Academy magnet program in North Alabama and will have some of the best educational opportunities found anywhere, with a variety of career academies including cyber security and advanced manufacturing, complete with a titanium, 3-D printer. The campus also has a 0.9 mile Greenpower racetrack where students will learn how to design, build and race electric cars.
Inspiring Tomorrow’s Leaders
By Russ Lewey

When you talk to people about the Air Force Association (AFA), I’m guessing that education and youth is not the first thing that comes to their minds. But maybe it should when you consider AFA’s mission is:

- **EDUCATE** the public on the critical need for unmatched aerospace power and a technically superior workforce to ensure U.S. national security.
- **ADVOCATE** for aerospace power and STEM education.
- **SUPPORT** the total Air Force family, and promote aerospace education.

Note that “educate” or “education” appears in every one of the bullets. What is also exciting to see is how the Tennessee Valley AFA Chapter has picked up the education gauntlet and is charging ahead. In this newsletter, you can read about the Chapter’s Teacher of the Year who won State and in September will receive the AFA’s National Teacher of the Year award. Elsewhere, AFA chapter members support the education mission: speaking at classrooms and camps, mentoring students, and providing funds for scholarships and leadership enrichment opportunities.

There are two nationally sponsored programs that AFA is executing which are reaching thousands of young people, and locally, the Tennessee Valley is well represented. First is CyberPatriot. Now in its ninth year, this cybersecurity education program and competition is making a difference from kindergarten through high school and beyond. Last year, almost 3,400 teams from around the world competed for top honors at the high school and middle school levels. AFA, with partners around the nation, hosted 83 cyber camps this summer – one was right here in Huntsville, AL. Elementary teachers (K-6th grade) can download or get a free copy of the Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative, two programs (K-3rd and 4th-6th) with instruction and games for teaching cyber safety.

AFA’s newest aerospace education program is StellarXplorers. This high school competition is in its third year. This past April, two teams from the Tennessee Valley (Huntsville High AFJROTC and James Clemens High) traveled to Colorado Springs for the finals. Using software used by the military and NASA, students design and plan for satellite missions. From the satellite and orbit, to a platform to get their satellite in orbit, the students are

(Continued on page 8)
challenged through three levels of competition with budgetary, fuel, weight, and mission requirements, much like our space warriors face today.

There is a minimal cost ($195 for CyberPatriot and $200 for StellarXplorers) for both of these programs. That said, there are a number of ways to have these funds waived at the national level, or the Chapter can look for sponsors. There is still time to register a team (2 – 5 participants) for either program (deadline for CyberPatriot is 8 Oct and StellarXplorers is 15 Oct). If you want more information, check out their websites:


Aviation Challenge Emeritus Docent Program
by Rob Robertson

The Tennessee Valley Air Force Association Chapter has several members who volunteer on a regular basis supporting the US Space and Rocket Center’s Aviation Challenge program as Military Emeritus Docents. The Docents conduct tours of the Aviation Challenge campus allowing guests to have a “behind the scenes” look at the aircraft, simulators, and centrifuge that the students experience when they attend Aviation Challenge.

The schedule for the remainder of 2016 is as follows:
• Saturdays only, 1100-1400hr recruiting (1 or 2 recruiters), 1400-1500hr running the tour (1 “Tour Guide”)
• Labor Day weekend will be last “intense” manning weekend – 3-5 Sep (Sat, Sun, and Mon)
• Ops will probably cease a week or two before Thanksgiving

There are only about 16 Volunteer Days left. Sign up! You’ll have fun! We promise!
**USAF Birthday Celebrations Across the Valley**

**MDA**

The Missile Defense Agency will celebrate the 69th birthday of the United States Air Force on Friday, *September 16, at 10 am*. Details on the exact location within the Von Braun complex are yet to be released. Air Force Association members with Von Braun complex building entry credentials are encouraged to attend. If you have questions please contact Eric Silkowski, eric.silkowski.ctr@mda.mil, 256-450-4120.

**Tut Fann Veteran’s Home**

The members of the TN Valley Air Force Association plan to celebrate the Air Force’s 69th birthday again this year with the Veterans at the Tut Fann home here in Huntsville. The celebration is tentatively set for *early afternoon on Saturday, 17 September*. There will be cake, music, and the traditional singing of the Air Force song. Everyone is welcome to come out and join us in celebrating our AF birthday and socializing with the Veterans at the Tut Fann home. If you are interested and can join us, please contact Scott Patton at scott.g.patton@icloud.com and he will keep you posted when the time is set.

**AFA Chapter 335 Evening Social**

Join us in celebrating the USAF’s 69th Birthday on Sep 24, 2016 at the Jackson Center in Cummings Research Park, Huntsville, AL. Due to limited seating, RSVPs are required by *Sep 18*. Dress is casual. Contact: Jack Royster at 256-721-9898 or jroyster@knology.net.
Each year, the Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (HCMOAA) conducts a golf tournament to raise funds for its scholarship program. There are some great door prizes and a nice silent auction.

The tournament will be held on September 22, 2016 at The Links at Redstone - in concert with the Redstone Arsenal Retirees Appreciation Day. HCMOAA is an all-volunteer not-for-profit organization that is tax exempt and tax deductible (EIN 23-7388598) under IRS provision 501(c)(19), and is soliciting donations that can be given away as prizes or auctioned off at the tournament. Additionally, they are seeking "Hole Sponsorships" at various levels. 100% of the net from the tournament goes to the scholarship fund; the majority of the proceeds result from hole sponsors and the silent auction held using the most generous donations of area companies and organizations.

Registrations are now being accepted for the tournament. Base access is NOT an issue - HCMOAA will arrange access through the visitor center at Gate 9 (Research Park entrance) for all players. Feel free to contact the HCMOAA Treasurer, Rick West, at 256-776-6901 or rickw675@att.net if you have any questions!
Community Partner Spotlight
"Wingman" Community Partner

Davis Strategic Innovations, Inc. (DSI), an AFA “Wingman” Community Partner, was recently selected by NASA as one of the small businesses to be highlighted in the NASA publication, "Space Launch System: A Case for Small Business (NP-2016-03-2141-HQ), Pg. 42 and 43."

**NASA:** Tell us about your company’s history and its capabilities.

**DSI:** We are a premier engineering support company dedicated to engineering, science, analysis, research, and education. The company is a Service-Disabled Veteran–Owned Small Business that focuses on the technical support of complex customer requirements in the areas of safety, environmental, engineering, strategic planning, program management, and medical/public health. Since 2007, DSI has provided technical support to NASA in numerous engineering capacities such as safety, propulsion, stress, thermal, design, mechanical, hardware, and guidance and navigation. At the Kennedy Space center (KSC), DSI performs safety engineering and analysis, reliability, systems safety, and operations safety support through the S-MASS II contract. At Marshall Space Flight center (MSFC), DSI has three technical support contracts. In 2009, DSI received a MSFC Small Business Subcontractor Excellence Award, presented for the company’s exemplary support to NASA.

**NASA:** How many employees does your company have?

**DSI:** DSI has 40 employees.

**NASA:** How long have you supported the SLS Program?

**DSI:** DSI has supported the SLS Program since its inception and is proud to have provided past engineering support to NASA’s Constellation Program as well.

**NASA:** Describe what services or support you provided to the SLS Program.

**DSI:** We support the NASA MSFC Space Launch System Program Office on the launch vehicle stage adapter (LVSA) contract. The LVSA is part of the evolvable SLS configuration. DSI also supports the Spacecraft and Payload Integration and Evolution (SPIE) Office, which is an integral part of the Space Launch System.

*The full publication is available at [http://www.osbp.nasa.gov/docs/236209_SLS-TAGGED.pdf](http://www.osbp.nasa.gov/docs/236209_SLS-TAGGED.pdf).*

DSI’s Dr. Jim Davis and TBE’s Greg Lawson on an LVSA machining tour.
You’re thinking about building a home, remodeling, or just want to freshen up a room. You could go to one of those box warehouse or hardware stores – wander aimlessly around for service or advice, maybe even luck up and find some inferior quality materials that will get you started. Or, you could visit the experts at W.W. Supplies, where Jennifer can provide interior design expertise in a showroom that allows you to see, up close, a wide variety of carpet, porcelain and ceramic tiles, stone, hardwood, or granite, to make your floor pop and still stay well within your budget. You want it installed? Their installation team is guaranteed to please. If you are a “do-it-yourselfer,” they have the tools and materials for the job, and Danny’s installation experience will make sure that you have the right tools to do the job right the first time.

Located at 1830 Keats Dr. NW, Huntsville, they are convenient, just south of Sparkman Dr. off of North Memorial Parkway. Better yet, they are open 6 days a week (7 am – 5 pm Monday – Friday and from 7:30 to Noon on Saturday). So drop by check out the best selection in the Tennessee Valley, or call 256-536-9253 and tell them thanks for being a “Partner” and for supporting the “Top of Alabama.”
Community Partner Spotlight

You’ve been waiting for this time of life – more leisure and less work! The Lodge at Johns Road is designed specifically for adults like you – 55 and better. You can enjoy the features and amenities that will make your life a little easier in a secure environment. No more yard work or needing to paint the house! It’s all handled for you so you can spend more time on the things you enjoy the most.

We know active adults like you love to travel and may leave home for weeks at a time. This two-story building has been designed with your security in mind – for when you’re home and when you’re away. Entrances have secure access, including the lobby. In addition, security cameras provide an extra measure of safety. Studio, 1-, 2-, and 3-Bedroom Apartment Homes.

Amenities Include: Full Kitchens & In-Apartment Washer/Dryer Hook Ups, Patios or Balconies on All Homes, Valet Trash Pick Up, Pets Allowed (Additional Fees Apply). Additional fee-based services such as housekeeping, catered meal coordination, and dry cleaning pick up/drop off can be made available based on residents’ demand.

We Provide: A Community Living Room, Theater Room, Arts & Crafts Room, Meeting Areas, Library/Business Center, Free Common Areas with Wi-Fi, Hair Salon/Barber Shop, Fitness Room.

The Lodge at Johns Road is located just minutes from shopping, dining, entertainment, area churches and more at BridgeStreet Town Centre, The Village at Providence, and on University Drive. We put you close to one of Huntsville’s most dynamic areas and yet you can come home to the quiet and calm of green spaces just outside that hustle and bustle and Outdoor Gathering Spaces & Garden Area.

451 Johns Road | Huntsville, AL 35806 | P: (256) 721-7555 | info@lodgeatjohnsroad.com
LodgeAtJohnsRoad.com | /LodgeAtJohnsRoad
Community Partner Spotlight

Chapter President Rick Driesbach thanks Bill Bailey, CEO of Radiance Technologies, for Renewing as an ACE-level partner at the Space and Missile Defense Symposium.

Ms. Karen Price, Vice President of Operations for Conditioned Air Solutions, accepts the Wingman Community Partner plaque from Chapter President, Mr. Rick Driesbach.
Community Partner Spotlight

Huntsville, Alabama, July 5, 2016 – Qualis Corporation announces the promotion of Carlos Kingston to the position of Chief Operating Officer, where he will be responsible for the oversight and leadership of all Qualis contracts providing advisory and assistance services to the DoD, NASA and industry partners.

“Carlos has extensive success leading mission-critical program operations,” says Elizabeth Morard, Chief Executive Officer of Qualis Corporation. “He brings real commitment to customer satisfaction and demonstrated dedication to the well-being of a highly-skilled, geographically-dispersed workforce. Qualis is very pleased that Carlos has accepted the responsibilities of Chief Operating Officer.”

Mr. Kingston joined Qualis in November 2014 as Vice President – Missiles and Space, responsible for directing Qualis’ national security missiles and space line of business. Mr. Kingston has more than 30 years’ experience in senior positions with the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) and the US Army. Prior to joining Qualis Corporation, Mr. Kingston served as MDA Program Director of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense program.


Carlos Kingston Named Qualis Corporation Chief Operating Officer

by Cathy Shields

Ms. Amber Pinkey, Community Manager for The Lodge at Johns Road, proudly receives the organization’s initial plaque and medallion as our newest Community Partner.
Tennessee Valley AFA Chapter 335 is proud of its Community Partners:

**ACE Level**

Tennessee Valley AFA Chapter 335 is proud of its Community Partners:

**ACE Level**

GATR Technologies  
www.gatr.com

MTSI  
http://www.mtsi-va.com/

Radiance Technologies  
www.radiancetechnologies.com

R-Squared Consulting, LLC  
Rob Robertson

**Wingman Level**

Conditioned Air Solutions  
www.conditionedairsolutions.com

Davis Strategic Innovations, Inc.  
www.davisdsi.com

Intuitive Research and Technology  
www.irtc-hq.com/

Linda Morgan - Rise Real Estate  
http://lindamorgan3.homesandland.com/

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

W.W. Supplies  
https://www.facebook.com/wwsupplieshuntsville/

Community Partner

Aero Thermo Technology  
www.aerothermo.com

Aerotek  
www.aerotek.com

Aleta Technologies  
www.aletatechnologies.com

Bevilacqua Research Corp  
www.brc2.com

Delta Research, Inc.  
www.dr-inc.com

Dr. Rebecca Howell (Dentist)  
www.rebeccahowellmd.com

Edward-Jones (Brenda Armstrong)  
www.FlyQuest.net

Irrigation Maintenance Services, Inc.; 256-755-1524

Jackson Center  
www.jacksoncenter.net/

Lamar Advertising  
www.lamar.com

Landers McLarty Nissan  
www.rijkmlarnytlanders.com/

Linc Research Inc.  
www.lincresearchinc.com

Intuitive Research and Technology  
www.irtc-hq.com/

Lindamorgan3.homesandland.com/

ManTech International  
www.mantech.com

Northington Consulting  
www.northcullnc.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

Redstone Federal Credit Union  
www.redfcu.org

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

Woody Anderson Ford  
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.
Veteran’s Week 2016
Preliminary Schedule

4 Nov  Veteran’s Prayer Breakfast, Madison YMCA
4 Nov  Hall of Heroes Unveiling, County Courthouse
5 Nov  50th Anniversary Vietnam Lecture Series
9 Nov  Arrival of wounded warrior, HSV Airport
10 Nov  Veteran’s Dinner, VBC
11 Nov  Veteran’s Breakfast, VBC
11 Nov  Parade, downtown HSV
Upcoming Events

16 Sep—USAF Birthday Celebration @ MDA
17-18 Sep —AFA National Convention
17 Sep —USAF Birthday Celebration @ Tut Fann
22 Sep—MOAA Golf Tournament
24 Sep—Chap 335’s USAF Birthday Celebration @ the Jackson Center
15 Sep—NO Executive Council Meeting
20 Oct—Executive Council Meeting
5-12 Nov—Veterans Week Activities
17 Nov—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.