

Air Force Association (Florida)
2016 State Convention
Lexington Hotel Riverwalk
Jacksonville, FL
July 16, 2016

Opening, Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation and Roll Call

State President Bill Yucuis called the meeting to order at 0800, and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ernie Webster gave the invocation.

President Yucuis asked State Secretary Susan Ault-Davis to call the roll. Eight chapters were present, 6 absent.

Chapters Present

Red Tail #136
Central Florida #303
Cape Canaveral #309
Waterman-Twining #316
Eglin #365
Hurlburt #398
Falcon #399
Sarasota-Manatee #429

Chapters Absent

Florida Highlands #173
Miami/Homestead #317
Gold Coast #351
Loren D. Evenson #355
James R. McCarthy #397
Bud West #419

A quorum was present. A list of convention meeting attendees is at Attachment 1.

Meeting Minutes – Bill Yucuis

Minutes from the 2016 Winter Meeting, Florida, held February 27th, were electronically distributed prior to this meeting. They were unanimously approved.

President's Opening Remarks – Bill Yucuis

President Yucuis addressed the FY2017 budget. Although the budget will be discussed in further detail, later in the day, Bill Yucuis wanted attendees to know that a line item for Wounded Airman would be added to the proposed budget. He recommended eliminating the funds for Area Vice Presidents (since they have been disbanded) and adding \$250 for Wounded Airmen Support.

Bill Yucuis also mentioned that Gary Lehman was interested in the State Treasurer position, as Ernie Webster had already dedicated 8 years to the position, and was not interested in running in the upcoming year.

The State President welcomed AFA Chairman of the Board, Scott Van Cleef, Vice Chairman for Field Operations, David Dietsch, and Tim Brock, National Secretary.

President Yucuis shared his view on the purpose of State Conventions:

Attended by like-minded people who are motivated to improve

Discover new and different ideas

Reenergize yourself

I hope you leave with one new idea

State President shared ideas from AFA National and other Chapters on how to improve:

Chapters each have unique character, strengths, and challenges

AFA offers many paths to support the AFA mission:

Military Family; especially if near Air Force bases

Education; AFROTC, AFJROTC, STEM schools and teachers, Cyber Patriot, Stellar Explorers

Membership and Budget are intertwined and important issues at the National, State, and Chapter level

Membership - Priority

Encourage all to get memberships in the on-line Communities:

Go to afa.org, Select Communities (at top of page)

Review Blogs

Review Information

Get in the habit of using the Training Modules; afa.org, Field Leaders

State Convention Plans – Bill Yucuis

2017 Winter Meeting in Orlando on March 3rd and 4th, 2017

Central Florida Chapter will sponsor

Business Meeting Friday afternoon, and Saturday morning

In conjunction with Air Warfare Symposium

Dinner Friday night; inviting AFA National Leaders and Staff

Sharon Branch will set up the meeting

2017 State Convention at MacDill AFB; Waterman-Twining (Ned Hance)

Tentatively set for July 15, 2017 at MacDill AFB

Stay at MacDill Inn; 351 room facility

75-person Convention Room

2018 Winter Meeting: Saturday of AWS in Orlando (TBD)

Coincide with AFA National Leaders and Staff in Orlando

Central Florida chapter will host

2018 State Convention – will be hosted by Central Florida Chapter

StellarXplorers – Tim Brock

Requested by Deborah James, Secretary of the Air Force

Goals:

Phased round

Better website

Video in work

Improved registration

Automated scoring

Is funded through sponsors, and does not require use of AFA funds

Tim Brock provided a scenario demonstration

To download program AGI.com

StellarXplorers@ afa.org

(Power Point presentations available on AFA Florida Website)

National Convention – Bill Yucuis

Florida is allowed 25 delegates, 11 signed up at this convention

Drill Meet – Sharon Branch

Date – TBD

Need chapter reps for awards

Sponsor will be University of Florida

Sharon Branch will send out a proposed list of Trophies showing potential Chapter sponsorship.

If the Chapter accepts, they will also be asked to provide who the trophy will honor and a brief description about that person.

A motion was made by Jim Connors to provide trophies for the top 3 winners in each category, instead of 5 winners currently supported. Chris Bailey seconded it. All were in favor.

CyberPatriot – Lee Barnby

Lee Barnby provided information on CyberPatriot competitions, specifically CyberCamps.

CyberCamps are 5 days long, and consists of 5 modules

Training modules include Cyber safety, protection of personal devices, and protection from outside threats

Identify Hosts (physical locations)

Identify Sponsors to provide facilities, equipment, and provide a counselor

Chapters responsible for ensuring that the Sponsor provides equipment needed

Target is Kindergarten through 6th grade

Free kits can be ordered at uscyberpatriot.org

Chapters asked to recruit through:

School board meetings

Industry

CAP/AFJROTC

State Government

Parents

Civic Groups

(Power Point presentations available on AFA Florida Website)

F-35 Jacksonville Air National Guard – Maj Kassebaum

Maj Kassebaum is a F-15 pilot currently assigned to the 125th Fighter Wing, Jacksonville ANG.

The ANG plans to announce soon, where they plan to beddown the ANG F-35s. If Jacksonville is selected, beddown will likely be 2022.

(Power Point presentations available on AFA Florida Website)

Election of State Officers

The current State President, Bill Yucuis, Vice, Sharon Branch, and Secretary, Susan Ault-Davis have all agreed to serve another term of office. There were no volunteers for these positions, or nominees from the floor. Members present voted unanimously to keep these officer positions as they are.

Gary Lehman volunteered to fill the Treasurer position vacated by Ernie Webster. There were no other volunteers, or nominees from the floor. Members voted unanimously to accept Gary to the State Treasurer position.

The new term will begin 1 October 2016.

AFA-21 – Ray Turczynski/Scott Van Cleef/Sandy Schlitt

Ray Turczynski and Sandy Schlitt were part of a team in 2006 that looked at a possible regional restructure of the Air Force Association. The discussion was passionate, and the members could not reach an agreement. However, there have been many changes in the past 10 years that indicate the AFA may need to take a look at how they are doing business now, and in the future. For instance, membership is down considerably, and field organizations are dissolving, or non-functioning.

Scott Van Cleef and others believe it may be time to take another look at the structure and see if it needs to be tweaked again to improve governance, field leadership, etc. AFA FL supported the idea to take another look during the AFA National Convention.

(Power Point presentations available on AFA Florida Website)

Chapter Health – Bill Yucuis

State President Yucuis discussed his concern over three Florida chapters that have either disbanded, or are in the process of disbanding. These chapters had a similar problem that led to this fate, they kept the same officers for a long period of time. And, no one was available to replace the officers when there was a death of the Chapter President, or one of the key officer positions. Bill Yucuis asked convention attendees to put practices into effect, that will prevent this from happening to other chapters. He is also looking for ideas on member retention and recruitment.

AFA 501c3, Non-profit – Dave Dietsch

Each chapter is responsible for filing a IRS 990 form. Several chapters nationwide, did not file a IRS 990, for 3 years or more. As a result, the IRS dropped the chapter's non-profit status. AFA National is working to resolve this issue, and asking other chapter to avoid making this mistake.

Dave Deitsch also reminded attendees that each state has their own requirements under the 501c3 statute. For instance, Florida requires that the 501c3 be filed through the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACSA). The DACS provides a Registration Number to identify organizations that have applied. The Florida Department of Revenue provides a tax exempt number that can be used for necessary AFA purchases.

Emerging Leaders – Dave Dietsch

Seven people have been selected to participate in the Emerging Leaders program. The AFA National budget was not able to fund all individuals who applied, so the selection process was very competitive. Names will be released soon.

Information Technology at AFA National – Dave Dietsch

National is looking at the possibility of hosting a website for use by all AFA Chapters. They would like to create templates that would make AFA reports easier, and more user-friendly. The site would use the Cloud technology for sharing files among the AFA members. The cost associated with this would be the share implementation costs, and would not require sustainment costs.

AFA Officer Positions – Scott Van Cleef

Due to the retention and recruitment problems experienced at all level of AFA, Scott Van Cleef warned all to expect program cuts in the future. He asked that we take a proactive look at membership renewal, by personally reaching out and contacting members who are due to renew. He stressed the importance of retaining valuable memberships, and future AFA leaders.

Chairman of the Board, Van Cleef, stated he accepted the resignation of Nora Ruebrook as National Treasurer. Chuck Martin, a current member of Finance Committee, has agree to finish the 2016 term of the National Treasurer. Mr. Steve Lungren has agreed to run for the Treasurer Position for 2017.

AFA National meeting will be held in September. It appears that there is only on contentious position right now. That position is for the Director at Large. Three individuals are competing for two open positions.

National Convention of the Silver Wings and Arnold Air Society (NATCOM) – Bill Yucuis

Location will be Disney Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando, on April 15 – 17, 2017. A motion was made by Tommy Harrison to add a one-time line item to the budget for NATCOM, in the amount of \$4,000. Bruce Fouraker seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Bill Yucuis, State President, will coordinate with the Silver Wings/ Arnold Air Society National staff and approve how best to use the monies.

(Power Point presentations available on AFA Florida Website)

State Budget – Ernie Webster

The AFA Florida 2017 budget will have a deficit of over \$3,000. After the review, and discussion, the budget was approved as amended. (Amendments - \$4,000 for NATCOM, and \$250 for Wounded Airman support.)

Adjournment

Dann Mattiza made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1624. The motion was seconded by Bruce Fouraker.

Recorded By:

Susan Ault-Davis, Secretary

July 16, 2016