



THE SPIRIT

Air Force Association Florida

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AFA Florida Drill Meet

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Waterman-Twining Chapter 316 will host the 2017 AFA Florida State convention July 14-15 at MacDill AFB with lodging on a space available basis in the new billeting facility and the convention in the Bay Palms Golf Course Facility meeting rooms. See pages 10-11 for more information and for a registration form to attend the convention.

Marlon Vernon, Miami-Homestead Nominee, Is AFA Florida's 2017 State Teacher of the Year

Marlon Vernon, an information technology teacher, CyberPatriot coach and 33-year veteran of classrooms in the Miami area, is the AFA Florida teacher of the Year. He was nominated by Miami-Homestead Chapter 317.

Marlon is the IT academy leader, Cisco Networking Academy instructor and instructor Trainer at Miami Lakes Educational Center and Technical College (MLECTC), since August 2000.

He leads a dynamic cohort of technical and core academic teachers focused on curriculum integration strategies to improve teaching and learning for all students in the academy of IT. Under his leadership, MLECTC's academy of IT has grown by over 100 percent since 2008. Marlon was awarded Teacher of the Year in 2009 and the Cisco Networking Academy Instructor Expert and Advanced Level Excellence award 2013 through 2016.

Marlon has been teaching for 32 years in the fields of Electronics Engineering and Computer Networking Technologies in high school, college and private enterprise. He

currently teaches IT Essentials, CCNA, CCNP, Security, Voice, Cloud and Linux technologies. Marlon has 35 years of electronics and telecommunications experience. He has been a LAN/WAN Engineer since 1999 designing, deploying and maintaining small networks to enterprises.

He is also the current president and CEO of TechEd Solutions, an online IT education portal and consulting company. Marlon currently serves on the Cisco Academy Advisory Board for the global networking academies. He also chairs the Technology Committee at MLECTC, serves on the Miami Dade Chamber of Commerce, coaches and facilitates several clubs and organizations including Skills USA and IT Club.

Marlon is currently the school's National Academy Foundation (NAF) lead teacher in a model IT academy.

He is an advocate for women in technology and strongly supports IT Women of South Florida, the National Center for Women in Technology. Many of his female students have won scholarships and

(continued on page 3)

I thought for this year's Spirit newsletter, I would give a little overview of the condition of AFA Florida. Overall, I think we are all supporting AFA's Mission to Advocate, Educate, and Support at various levels of support, based on each Chapter's capabilities and resources. This is no different than what is happening throughout AFA, so Florida is by no means unique.

AFA Florida is holding our State Convention at MacDill AFB on July 15 and I hope every Chapter can send at least one representative. One of the topics will be to recommend closing the McCarthy and Highlands Chapters. That will require moving those Chapter members to other Chapters and I will be asking for each Chapters inputs. Please start thinking of your recommendations.

On a more positive note, the Evenson Chapter has recently been reconstituted as the Tyndall Chapter. Mac MacAloon, AFA Vice Chairman for Field Operations (VCFO) moved to Florida last year (i.e. an AFA Florida member) and works on Tyndall AFB. Mac was key to connecting with

some energetic airmen at Tyndall, led by SSgt Ed Hood, the new Chapter President, who were able to restart the Chapter. In addition, late last year the Bud West Chapter, led by the efforts of John Schmidt, have been rejuvenated after a period of inactivity.

I recently submitted AFA Florida for the Outstanding State Organization Award and I want to highlight some positive things done throughout the State this past year. I cannot mention everything but I think it is important to recognize the many outstanding contributions made by Florida Chapters. Almost every Chapter supports their local AFJROTC and CAP units. Once again, AFA Florida sponsored

the AFJROTC State Drill Meet, with several chapters paying for trophies. On March 18, 2017, the University of Florida AFROTC detachment conducted the Drill Meet. Bill Yucuis and Sharon Branch, plus Florida Chapter representatives from the Hurlburt, Falcon, and Red Tail Chapters, were

(Continued on the next page)

From the President

An overview of the condition of AFA Florida

*By Bill Yucuis
President, AFA Florida*



AFA Florida President Bill Yucuis and members of the Bellevue High School AFJROTC team are all smiles after winning the traveling "Best of Meet" trophy during the State Drill Meet at the University of Florida in Gainesville March 18.

From the President

(Continued from the previous page)

able to observe the competition and present the trophies.

Across the State, AFA Florida Chapters support Arnold Air Society/Silver Wings (AAS/SW) units. Last October, I was able to attend the AAS/SW Region IV Area Convention (ARCON) which was held in Puerto Rico. At last year's State Convention, we agreed to support the AAS/SW National Conclave (NATCOM), which was held in Orlando over Easter weekend, with a \$4000 grant. The grant was used to provide transportation and lodging for the two major guest speakers, Col. (Ret) Ed Hubbard (POW) and Maj. Rob Marshall (Seven Summits Team Leader), a \$500 Flight Scholarship, and \$600 to cover transportation costs for cadets from the University of Puerto Rico, who are in the Florida Region. I was able to attend NATCOM and interact with AAS/SW cadets from around the country. Florida Chapters, including the Waterman-Twining Chapter, sponsored cadets to attend both NATCOM and ARCON.

The Central Florida Chapter held the 33rd Annual Air Force Gala and Golf event in conjunction with the AFA Air Warfare Symposium. At the Gala event, it was announced the Chapter was officially changing their name to the Martin H. Harris Chapter. The Golf event raised \$5000 for AFA's Airman and Family Readiness Program. The Cape Canaveral Chapter provided busses to bring airmen from Patrick AFB to attend the Symposium, the Waterman-Twining Chapter did likewise with University of South Florida AFROTC cadets, and the Harris Chapter coordinated with AFJROTC and CAP units to visit the AWS Exhibit Hall.

AFA Florida has a proud tradition of supporting Air Force airmen and their families. The following Chapters

work closely with their Air Force units: Cape Canaveral (Patrick), Falcon (Jacksonville FLANG), Waterman (MacDill), Eglin, Hurlburt, and Miami (Homestead FLANG). A prime example was Chapter responses to this past year's AFA budget crisis when Pitsenbarger grants were temporarily halted. Cape Canaveral, Waterman, Eglin, and Hurlburt Chapters all stepped forward and provided grants to top CCAF graduates.

For the past three years, the Eglin and Hurlburt AFBs have hosted Adaptive Sports Camps in support of the Air Force Wounded Warrior (AFW2) Program. This year, the Hurlburt Chapter donated \$500 to AFA Airman and Family Programs, which supports these events, plus provided snacks, drinks, and pizzas for events held at Hurlburt. The Eglin Chapter coordinated with local community partners to provide daily lunches at Eglin for 120 warriors and caregivers. Mac MacAloon, who attended the events, said the Hurlburt and Eglin Chapter support epitomizes the power of the field to support AFA's Mission of Supporting Airmen.

For several years, the Miami-Homestead Chapter has joined with other veterans organizations and local businesses and civic organizations to support Miami's 4th of July Extravaganza. The Extravaganza is a day-long fun-fest with everything, from parking to food, beverages, entertainment and fireworks, and provided at no cost. On July 4, 2016, the event attracted over 500 people.

While I am sure I missed other chapter events, I hope you see I am proud of the many achievements of Chapters throughout Florida and truly believe Florida deserves being named the Outstanding State Organization in AFA.

Teacher of the Year

(continued from Page 1)

national recognition through these organizations. Marlon has coached CyberPatriot, and Cisco NetRiders teams for national competitiveness. For the past two years, his teams have placed and won awards in different tiers and categories. One of his CyberPatriot teams won first place in the State of Florida this year, Platinum tier.

Marlon holds a bachelor's degree in electronics engineering with a computer science concentration from DeVry University. Born in Belize and living in the US for 36 years, Marlon is married with three children.

Air Force Association Mission

The Air Force Association mission is to promote a dominant United States Air Force and a strong national defense, and to honor Airmen and our Air Force Heritage. To accomplish this the Air Force Association strives to:

- **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. Go to www.afa.org.

West Coast Chapter presents “Dr. Y” Awards to science fair winners

Florida West Coast Chapter 429 recently recognized four students for their projects in local science and engineering fairs.

Two students from the Manatee School District were singled out for this year’s recognition. Their awards were presented by Chapter President Mike Richardson at the Feb. 21 awards ceremony for the Lockheed Martin Manatee Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

Beau Cunningham – a student at Brandon River High School – was honored for his project “The Sound Effect.” Beau’s project measured the sound generated by Boeing 737 aircraft taking off and landing at Tampa International Airport. His conclusion was that the aircraft generated more sound during the landing phase.

The second Manatee County honoree was Elijah Engel – a student at R. Dan Nolan Middle School – for his project “Savonius Wind Turbine.” His research investigated how varying the number of blades on a Savonius turbine affected the electrical output.

The Sarasota County Awards ceremony – sponsored by the Education Foundation of Sarasota -- was held March 9. The chapter again recognized two students for its “Dr. Y” award -- and this time “Dr. Y” was there to present the awards. Dr. Y is Dr. Michael Yarymovych, a member of the Florida West Coast Chapter, who served as Chief Scientist of the Air Force from 1973 to 1975.

The high school level award went to Jack Gallahan, a Pine View High School ninth grader, for his project: “Application of Cyclic Space Theory to Transfinite



Dr. Michael Yarymovych (Dr. Y) was on hand with Florida West Coast Chapter 429 President Mike Richardson (right) at a Sarasota County awards ceremony March 9 to present the chapter’s Dr. Y STEM Achievement Awards.

Mathematics.” His project also placed first in the High School Physics and Astronomy category, was selected for the Mu Alpha Theta Award for Mathematics and received one of four U.S. Air Force Awards.

The middle school award recognized Alanna Densmore, a seventh grader from Pine View Middle School. Her project was entitled “Need For Speed” and used her bicycle for investigating the Doppler Effect. Alanna’s project also placed first in the Middle School Physics and Astronomy category and was one of 13 projects selected to compete at the State Science and Engineering Fair.

The chapter presented each of the winners with the “Dr. Y” STEM Achievement Award Certificate, an AFA Achievement Medal, a book -- “The Stars, The Definitive Guide to the Cosmos,” an AFA calendar and a \$50 cash award.



Florida West Coast Chapter 429 President Mike Richardson (left) and Dr. Michael Yarymovych (Dr. Y) (right) stand with Dr. Y Award winners, Alanna Densmore (middle school) and Jack Gallahan (high school).



Air Force retired Maj. Gen. Clay McCutchan gases up an aircraft so teachers attending Hurlburt's Engineers Week could experience flight.

Hurlburt Chapter Celebrates STEM with Engineers Week



Two of the aircraft available to the teachers (above). At right, Hurlburt Chapter Teacher of the Year Erin Cosky explains hot air balloon construction to teachers.



In celebration of Engineers Week 2017, Hurlburt Chapter 398 hosted a Teachers Workshop on Feb. 25. What made this workshop exceptional was that elementary, middle and high school teachers from three different Florida panhandle counties traveled to the George McCutchan Airport in Milton, Fla. to learn about STEM (science, technology, engineering and math).

The day's activities began with teachers dividing into their choice of a Mindstorms EV3 Robotics session or a variety of STEM breakout sessions. Doolittle Institute Director of STEM Education and Engineering

Beth Hanning began a half day study of programming EV3 robots.

Concurrent break-out sessions included an air resistance session that measured the air resistance of differing types of items, a water rocket launching session, and a session explaining the use of telescopes led by aeronautical engineer Dr. John Fay.

After the presentation, Dr. Fay offered to visit the classrooms of teachers and take his telescope and make a grade level appropriate presentation to their students.

During the working lunch grilled by the Chapter officers, retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Mike Wooley gave a presentation about ForeFlight to the assembled group. Then aeronautical engineer and author Ken Blackburn gave presentation of the forces of flight and some

pointers on how to use paper airplanes to engage students. Complimentary copies of his book were presented to the teachers.

After lunch a WeDo 2.0 robotics session ran concurrently with additional STEM breakout sessions.

Flight suits were issued but wind prevented an opportunity for teachers to fly in aircraft flown by retired military pilots until the following afternoon.

However, even brisk winds were not strong enough to keep former World RC champion Steve Rojecki from demonstrating a small quad UAV and graphite frame aircraft in the hangar. Teacher giveaways included LEGO® items, cartons of copy paper, Ken Blackburn book, and water rockets and accessories.

The chapter extended special thanks to retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Clay McCutchan for the use of his hangar and airport for this workshop.

Miami-Homestead Chapter 317 President Rod Huete and Stan Bodner on Feb. 10 presented scholarship awards to 12 Air Force ROTC Det. 155 cadets on the campus of the University of Miami Hurricane Aces.

Miami Homestead Chapter presents scholarships to 12 AFROTC cadets

In addition to financial aid grants received by all cadets, one of the cadets, Cadet Bustamante, was selected to receive the annual Cesar Borron Outstanding Cadet Award, named to honor and memorialize the late cadet, a graduating senior from the class of 2012.

The U.S. Air Force ROTC is a college program offered at over 1,000 colleges and universities across the United States that prepares college students to become Air Force officers.

The mission of the U.S. Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps is to "Develop Quality Leaders for the Air Force."

All University of Miami undergraduates enrolled in the U.S. Air Force ROTC program are assured annual combined University grant and/or scholarship resources amounting to one quarter of the University's tuition for up to four years. Students must maintain continuous enrollment in the U.S. Air Force ROTC program and full time enrollment in one of the University's undergraduate degree programs. No application required. Awards are made automatically based on information provided by the University's U.S. Air Force ROTC detachment.

The South Florida Aerospace Scholarship Corp. (SFASC) is a Florida tax-exempt, non-profit corporation. Established by the Miami-Homestead Chapter, Air Force Association, the foundation supports STEM educational programs in Miami-Dade County Public Schools and provides annual educational grants to deserving Air Force ROTC students from Det. 155.



Miami-Homestead Chapter 317 President Rod Huete (back row, l-r) and Stan Bodner presented scholarship awards on Feb. 10 at the University of Miami campus to Cadets Medina (l-r), Bustamante, Lagrange, Valdes, A. Schibeci, S. Schibeci, Roca, Gonzalez, Ortiz, Diaz, Oropeza, McCoy and Brooks (not pictured).

"Go to your Money"

All of us have specific places and businesses we spend our money. Think of how much you give your car dealership..... Just upgraded my Nissan and as I signed for a bunch of \$\$..... I "offered" the salesman.... if he would like to be part of my *Air Force team*? Got it!!!! I also try and usually am successful by having with me at all times, a new plaque and current year button.

And last, I try to tie my recruitment into folks who just might have children enrolled in one of our four ROTC programs at our four high schools with Air Force, Navy, Army, and Marine Corps. That is a closer most of the time, and you have a new Partner.

John Schmidt

President, Colonel H.M. "Bud" West Chapter 419, Tallahassee

Red Tails applaud CAP CyberPatriot winners

The Marion County Composite Squadron (MCCS) of the Civil Air Patrol recently completed its second season in the CyberPatriot cyber defense competition.

"I would like to congratulate 2nd Lt. Dale Katz and the cadets of the Marion County Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol who recently completed their second season in the CyberPatriot cyber defense competition," Red Tail Memorial Chapter 136 President Howard Burke said. "They ended up the number one Civil Air Patrol team in the state and fifth overall in the country. Great job To Dale (Katz) and his teams."

CyberPatriot is an Air Force Association-sponsored National Youth Program created to motivate students towards careers in cyber security and other science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines. During competitions, students are tasked with identifying cyber security vulnerabilities within computer operating systems (such as Windows) while maintaining critical computerservices.

Over 4,400 teams registered for this year's competition, including over 1,500 teams in the "All-Service" category (Civil Air Patrol, Sea JROTCs). The top 2 teams in the nation from nation out of 528 registered Civil Air Patrol teams, up from 10th place last year. Their goal is to make it to the National Round finals competition next year.



Team 1, left to right: Coach Lt. Dale Katz, C/CMSgt Jonathan Allison, C/Amn Kristopher Scheuren, C/CMSgt Joseph Reynolds, C/TSgt Brandi Yager, Team Captain C/Capt Christopher Katz, C/TSgt David Beckwith. Mentors Michael Roberts & Martin Roberts, not pictured.



Team 2, left to right: Coach Lt. Dale Katz, Team Captain CIAI C Josiah Morales, CADET Ian Price, CADET Nikolas Scheuren, C/Amn Seth Thibodeaux, C/MSgt Donaven Raulerson, and Asst. Coach Capt. Robert Reynolds. Mentors Michael Roberts & Martin Roberts, not pictured.

Central Florida becomes Martin H. Harris Chapter

by Tommy Harrison, Past AFA National Director

The Central Florida Chapter 303 executive committee voted to change the name of the Central Florida Chapter to the Martin H. Harris Chapter.

This move was announced at the 33rd Air Force Gala held on March 2 after a very well presented tribute to Marty. Attending as chapter guests were Marty's two daughters Lori Harris and Barbara Matthews, son-in-law Jeff Matthews, and granddaughters Gwen and Erin Nicholas.

On March 9 the chapter council approved a motion for the chapter to do business as the Martin H. Harris Chapter until the Constitution could be changed.

Marty Harris is a former AFA board chairman and retired

colonel. He died Dec. 9 at 84 and resided in Longwood.

Harris was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., and after graduating from New York University joined the Air Force. He retired from the Air Force Reserve. He worked for Lockheed Martin for 40 years before retiring in 1997.

Harris had served as AFA's chairman of the board (1986-88), national president, and national secretary (1972-76). He was Florida's first AFA state president and chapter president. He also served as vice president and a trustee of the Aerospace Education Foundation and was instrumental in getting the Air Force Memorial constructed without using public funds. He was named AFA Member of the Year for 1972 and was awarded the Exceptional Service Award by the Secretary of the Air Force.."

The Martin H. Harris Chapter is centered around Orlando.

33rd Air Force Gala and AFA Air Warfare Symposium

by Mike Liquori, Gala Chairman

Once again this year, the Martin H. Harris Chapter golf outing, the AFA Air Warfare Symposium and the Air Force Gala were a resounding success. This year's Gala theme celebrated the history of Armed Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) and the chapter recognized military personnel, units and our industry partners who have contributed to this rich legacy. In addition, a special tribute posthumously honored Marty Harris for his outstanding AFA local, state and national activities.

The three-day Symposium and Gala events kicked off on a beautiful Wednesday morning for the annual golf outing at Shingle Creek Golf Club. Over 80 players representing DoD, aerospace companies, AFA, and Air Attachés from foreign countries hit the links. A special thanks goes out to the UCF AFROTC cadets from Detachment 159 and our dedicated sponsors for providing outstanding support to the Chapter.

While no one was lucky enough to win the Chevrolet Corvette that Top Aces sponsored for a hole-in-one, the golf outing's success set the stage for the events that followed.

The next two days were filled with informative exhibits displayed by our innovative industry partners who continue to support the Air Force we know and love. Additionally, the Air Warfare Symposium was fortunate to have the attendance and participation from numerous dignitaries including the Acting Secretary of the Air Force, the Honorable Lisa Disbrow; the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, General David Goldfein; and Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Kaleth Wright.

Also attending were several USAF four-star generals and numerous other flag officers, members of the foreign attaché contingent and industry leaders. AFA senior leaders included Chairman of the Board, Whitten Peters; Vice Chairman of the Board for Field Operations, Mac MacAloon; Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education, Dick Bundy; National Secretary, Tim Brock; National Treasurer, Steve Lundgren; AFA President, Larry Spencer, AFA Executive Vice President, Denise Hollywood; and AFA Florida State and Region President,

Bill Yucuis.

During the Gala various military units and industry partners were recipients of well-deserved AFA recognition. The 432nd Operations Support Squadron at Creech AFB, Nevada was honored for their work supporting armed UAV operations. The unit provides reachback support to 20 squadrons stationed at Creech and locations around the world. For their Outstanding Support to Armed UAVs, they were recognized as a Jimmy Doolittle Educational Fellow in the AFA. The squadron commander accepted the award on behalf of the unit.

The chapter also recognized the herculean efforts of Armed UAV squadrons. We selected the 33rd Special Operations Squadron from Cannon AFB, N.M. for this award. The 33rd SOS operates the MQ-9 Reaper, and in 2016 they maintained three aircraft constantly in the air, providing 23,000 combat hours supporting 1,215 combat missions for 29 joint task force operations. The chapter presented a Jimmy Doolittle Educational Fellowship for Outstanding Armed UAV Operations to the 33rd SOS. The squadron commander and squadron superintendent were able to accept the award.

No event honoring Armed UAVs could be complete without mentioning the historical significance of the first MQ-1 Predator. General Atomics Aeronautical Systems served as the major catalyst for this Air Force journey when they took the RQ-1 Predator, a formerly reconnaissance only platform, and modified it to carry Hellfire missiles. This singular achievement ensured AF units could hold fleeting targets at risk. For this Groundbreaking Technology in Armed UAVs, the Chapter awarded a Jimmy Doolittle Educational Fellowship to the MQ-1 Predator. The Predator team was represented by Dave Alexander, president of General Atomics Aircraft Systems.

The next award of the evening was presented for Outstanding Current or Future Technology supporting Armed UAVs. The Chapter designated the Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) Operations Center from Leidos as a Jimmy Doolittle Educational Fellow in the Air Force Association. The RPA Ops Center is the first fully virtualized RPA operations center

that allows for future growth with multi-level security and cross domain capabilities. Accepting the award was Jay Gardner, Leidos RPA Operations Center Project Manager.

The final award of the evening was presented to a true legend of airpower, Air Force retired Gen. John Jumper. The Chapter honored his tremendous efforts in making the MQ-1 Predator an operational weapon system by recognizing him as an H.H. Arnold Fellow in the Air Force Association. Gen Jumper's role in integrating Hellfire missiles onto the Predator in a relatively short time span made the concept of an armed UAV an operational reality. None of the previous awards would have been possible without his visionary leadership.

After the awards concluded, we were able to properly recognize Marty Harris, for all his contributions to the chapter and the Air Force Association. After a brief slide tribute to Marty over the years, we recognized several members of Marty's family who were attending the gala.

The evening closed with musical entertainment provided by Andy Childs, who has performed at several of galas, and this year's show proved why we keep asking him back. After a medley of songs from his musical heroes, he concluded honored our Air Force heroes with the traditional Air Force song.

Finally, a special thanks goes out to everyone who helped put on this year's events. Despite a few challenges, the chapter gala planning team once again put on a world class event: they included past Gala chairmen Tommy Harrison and Tim Brock; our chapter's proven leadership team of Gary Lehmann and Todd Freece; the dynamic golf duo of Bob Ceruti and Jim DeRose; the unparalleled publication/program support from Ken Kelly; Sharon Branch and her team of chapter escorts; and other contributing members of the Martin H. Harris Chapter and AFA National staff.

I couldn't end this without a big thank you to Col Heather McGee and her AFROTC cadets from Det 159 for their dedicated assistance at all the events. We look forward to next year on Feb. 22 for 34th AF Gala.

Gold Coast's Essay Contest Inspires 20 CAP Cadets to Write about Life

In recognition of Civil Air Patrol's 75 years of outstanding community service, the AFA, Gold Coast Chapter members who are active partners with CAP in Aerospace and STEM Education, proposed an essay competition for CAP cadets at the Crystal Lake Middle School Cadet School Squadron.

Ms S. Phillips, administrator of school gave permission to have a CAP exhibit in the school's entry foyer. The cadets proudly put up the CAP celebration banner; an enlarged poster of CAP's history and a well-known WWII picture of a yellow Piper Cub plane flown by CAP over an enemy submarine.

The AFA Gold Coast Chapter has been closely tied with the Crystal Lake Middle School Squadron since 1995 when Colonel David Mikelson (USAF Ret) and an AFA member started the School Squadron Group in Florida. By 2006, before moving to Vermont, Col. Mikelson started nineteen school squadrons throughout Florida. His first two school squadrons which are the only two still successfully operational are the Crystal Lake CAP Middle School Cadet Squadron and Miramar High School CAP Squadron.

The CLMSCS Commander Capt. Traci Cohen as well as three former commanders have all been AFA members of the Gold Coast Chapter and GCC ToYs. It was at Colonel Mikelson's suggestion that the essay contest was initiated.

The essay was "How has CAP affected my life and how will it change my life". Twenty cadets competed and the essay winner was Cadet Airman Del Campo.

At a CAP Squadron Meeting in February, Capt. Cohen introduced Col. Mikelson and Virginia Montalvo, Gold Coast President to the squadron members. Col Mikelson was delighted to see how the unit had grown. He was especially pleased with the number of cadets who had participated in the essay contest and excited to present the award to the winning cadet. Kudos to Cadet Del Campo!



Essay contest winner CAP Cadet Del Campo is congratulated by retired Air Force Col. David Mikelson while Gold Coast President VS Montalvo and CAP Squadron Commander Capt Traci Cohen applaud. Submitted by VSMontalvo. Photo by Robert Morris

AFA Florida State Officers

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**Air Force Association
2017 Florida State Convention
MacDill AFB, Tampa FL
Saturday, July 15, 2017**



Hotel: MacDill AFB Lodging (<http://af.dodlodging.net/property/MacDill-AFB>)
7637 Bayshore Blvd. Bldg. 350
MacDill AFB FL, Florida, 33621
813-828-4259

The MacDill Wing Commander has approved using the new billeting facility on space available basis. There are over 350 rooms and at this time, there are no conferences planned. Space-A status allows individuals to reserve rooms starting 30 days out. The cost is \$60 per room.

Name _____

Organization _____

Position _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Friday, July 14: Happy Hour Social at Sea Scapes, 1700 – 1900

Saturday, July 15: Breakfast is on your own.

Convention will be held at Bay Palms Golf Course Facility Meeting Room.

Buffet Lunch at Meeting Room from 11:30 – 1:00

Buffet Dinner at the Surf's Edge Club from 1800 – 2100

Registration (includes lunch): _____ X \$25 = \$ _____

Lunch Only: _____ X \$15 = \$ _____

Dinner _____ X \$25 = \$ _____

Vegetarian meal or have other special dietary needs. _____

Total = \$ _____

Make checks payable to AFA Waterman-Twining Chapter Number 316

Mail form and check to: SSgt Joseph Tartaglia
9502 Charleston Lake Dr.
Tampa, FL 33635
Joeytart84@gmail.com

For additional information about AFA Florida 2017 State Convention, contact
Ned Hance, Waterman-Twining Chapter President at ehance05@gmail.com

SEE BASE ACCESS PROCEDURES ON NEXT PAGE

SECURITY/BASE ACCESS: If any individual attending the convention does not have a Military ID which allows them access to the base, they must complete the information below. All attendees in the vehicle must at least 16 years old and all individuals must have a valid driver's license, state issued I.D or U.S. passport. Please list all members that will be attending the event.

Last Name: _____ First
 Name: _____ MI:
 Driver License #: _____ DL State: _

Last Name: _____ First
 Name: _____ MI:
 Driver License #: _____ DL State: _

Last Name: _____ First
 Name: _____ MI:
 Driver License #: _____ DL State: _



Winter Meeting Brings AFA Florida Together in Orlando

Seven chapters were represented at the Florida State AFA meeting in Orlando on March 3-4, with 13 members there on March 3 and 15 on March 4.

In a change, the meeting followed the March 1-3 Air Force Gala and AFA Air Warfare Symposium instead of being tied to the annual AFA Florida AFJROTC Drill Meet.

The stated goal by the AFA Florida President Bill Yucuis was communication."

Present at the March 3 dinner culminating the meeting was AFA President Larry Spencer, retired USAF General and former vice chief of staff; he was the featured dinner speaker. Others from National attending included F. Whitten Peters, chairman of the board and former Secretary of the Air Force; F. Gavin MacAloon, vice chairman of the board; Tim Brock, secretary; and Steven R. Lundgren, treasurer.



Retired General and former Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Larry Spencer was the featured dinner speaker.



*Photos courtesy of
Larry Belge*



Eight Teams compete in AFA Florida Drill Meet in Gainesville

By Sharon Branch

The 2017 AFA Florida state drill meet was hosted by University of Florida in Gainesville on March 18. Eight schools participated in inspection, regulation and exhibition drill and color guard.

SMSGt. Jeff Lewis from West Orange High School in Orlando was the drill meet coordinator.

Bill Yucuis, AFA Florida State President, made opening remarks at the beginning of the awards ceremony. Florida AFA chapters sponsored the first, second, and third place

trophies for the various award categories. The certificates presented along with the trophies recognized people such as General Nathan Twining and Senior Airman Adam Servais. Leaders from many of the chapters came to the drill meet to present the awards. The cadets and family members are appreciative of the chapter involvement.

Students, family members, and chaperones gathered to cheer their teams and individual award winners. A list of the top awards is below. Congratulations to them all!

"Please encourage the JROTC in your areas to participate in next year's drill meet, tentatively scheduled to be held at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University next spring."
— Sharon Branch

School	Award	Individual/Commander
SANDALWOOD	INDIVIDUAL DRILL	JOSHU PRINZI
BELLEVIEW	COLOR GUARD INSPECTION	A. FESSENDEN
TIMBER CREEK	DRILL TEAM INSPECTION	G. SUAREZ
BELLEVIEW	COLOR GUARD REGULATION	A. FESSENDEN
SANDALWOOD	DRILL REGULATION	J. RODRIGUEZ
OSCEOLA	COLOR GUARD ARMY	M. RIVERA
TIMBER CREEK	DRILL EXHIBITION	G. SUAREZ
OSCEOLA	COLOR GUARD COMMANDER	M. RIVERA
TIMBER CREEK	DRILL TEAM COMMANDER	G. SUAREZ
BELLEVIEW	COLOR GUARD EXCELLENCE	A. FESSENDEN
BELLEVIEW	DRILL TEAM EXCELLENCE	J. TORRES
BELLEVIEW	OVERALL/BEST OF MEET	



Bellevue High School AFJROTC wins AFA Florida State Drill Title

By Lt. Col. Terry Dickensheet, Bellevue HS SASI

The Bellevue High School AFJROTC Marchin' Rattlers went to the University of Florida March 18 to compete at the AFA-sponsored state drill meet.

The Marchin' Rattlers dominated the drill pad, winning trophies in every category of drill and first place overall.

"Our cadets trained hard on Thursday and Friday during spring break preparing for the meet and now they have bragging rights as AFJROTC State Drill champions. This is the first time in school history we have gone the whole year undefeated, taking overall 1st place in every drill tournament including the state championship," said Lt. Col. Terry Dickensheet, Senior Aerospace Science Instructor. Bellevue HS went on place 10th out of 27 in its division at the National Drill Championship in Daytona on May 5.

Cadet Kathie Cheney (right) led AFJROTC Det. 150 in hosting the 2017 AFA Florida State Drill Meet and Sharon Branch with AFA Florida State President Bill Yucuis managed the trophy presentations. Below, the Bellevue High School AFJROTC drill team celebrates.





Air Force Association Florida
Bill Yucuis, President
2225 Nottingham Greens Drive
Sun City, FL 33573

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