



Air Force Association

General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 2019, Issue 2

Message from the Chapter President

Dear Gabriel Chapter and AFA Members and Friends,

As you will see in this newsletter, your Chapter has been busy and we continue to run many programs and events to achieve the mission of the AFA to EDUCATE, ADVOCATE, and SUPPORT.

We are now entering the summer months and have several Chapter and National events coming up here in the National Capital Region, including the AFA National Convention, the AFA Field Awards Dinner, the AFA Air Space and Cyber



Gabriel Chapter leadership joined attended the Virginia AFA State Convention and EXCOM Meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia, hosted by the Langley Chapter

Conference, the AFA Air Force Anniversary Dinner and the AFA Outstanding Airmen of the Year Dinner, all in September. If you have never attended these events, I recommend that you consider attending. As this Newsletter goes to press, we have been notified that the Gabriel Chapter was selected for AFA National Awards: the AFA Exceptional Service Award for Best Single Program and the AFA Aerospace Education Achievement Award. Two of our EXCOM members will be recognized with the AFA Medal of Merit and the AFA Individual Exceptional Service Award. These awards will be presented at the AFA Field Awards Dinner on September 14th.

I ask that you please consider how you can serve the Chapter, by attending an event or helping at one of many program activities, we have going on in the National Capital Region. You can also help with recruiting, by asking a friend or coworker to join AFA. How many of us have friends or co-workers, who are on active duty in the Air Force, in the Air National Guard, the Air Force Reserve, are an Air Force Civilian employee, contractor, retiree, or veteran. Ask them if they are in AFA. If they aren't a member, ask them to please consider joining us. There has never been a better time to join our Air Force Association.

At our June Chapter Meeting, we re-elected out Chapter leadership for the second year of our two-year term. Thank you for your confidence in our leadership team. We still have vacancies on our executive committee (EXCOM) and always can use help on our committees. Many hands make light work. Our ability to serve the chapter membership and the goals of the Association are only as great as those who volunteer. In addition, to our Chapter Officers and volunteers, I would like to thank our Community Partners and Corporate Sponsors, who continue to provide the financial support that allows us to run our many programs supporting the total Air Force family and aerospace education here in Northern Virginia.

Please join us on August 14th at our next AFA Gabriel Lunch Meeting at Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant in McLean, VA. Our guest speaker is Colonel Matthew J. Butler, USAF, Chief, C2 Functional Integration Team HAF/A5A (Air Force Warfighting Integration Center). I hope to see you at one of our upcoming events.

We in the AFA Gabriel Chapter continue to promote a dominant Air Force here in Northern Virginia whenever and wherever possible. As you will see in this newsletter, your Chapter continues 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.

Mike Winters

**President
General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter
Air Force Association**



Gabriel AFA Community Partner Program

During these times of constrained resources and new emerging threats, our Air Force needs the Air Force Association to educate the public on the importance of air power and strong national defense. One of your AFA tools to help spread the message is the Community Partner Program. I strongly encourage each AFA Gabriel Chapter member help the Chapter actively recruit new Community Partners. As a chapter member you do business in the local community. Identify those businesses that you support and ask them to become a community partner with the Gabriel Chapter. Here are the top 10 reasons for a business to become a community partner:

1. \$90 A YEAR is affordable and your money supports Grants and Scholarships for local schools to promote science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) – a national priority.
2. You become part of an Organization with volunteers dedicated to connecting with active duty military, veterans, and their families thru events, activities, and networking!
3. Your local AFA Chapter provides you advertising in publications, events, activities, newsletters to the local AFA members.
4. Your business will have opportunities to advertise at local, regional and National AFA events!
5. Your business receives a plaque to hang up, a decal for your entrance - use your Membership in local advertising (print, radio, television); the Military likes doing business with those who support them!
6. Your business will be recognized for your support and involvement in the local area
7. Your business becomes a supporter of key National Programs such as Pilot4aDay, Cyber Patriot, STEM, ROTC
8. Your business becomes a Strategic Partner in our National Defense thru Aerospace Education and Advocacy
9. You save hundreds of dollars with discounts and savings visit: www.afavba.org or visit services@afavba.org
10. You get AFA Magazine, Chapter Newsletter, and email updates

Bottom Line: Being an AFA Community Partner is an opportunity to increase business and make a tremendous difference in the local community at the same time!

Chapter Activities

Gabriel Chapter Cold War Veterans Recall Missiles of October

Colonel (ret) Charlie Simpson brought the tension of the Nation's closest brush with global thermonuclear war to life from personal experience in a presentation at the Cold War Museum attended by several members of the Gabriel Chapter. On April 14, 2019, members of the Air Force Association (AFA) Gabriel Chapter and the Association of Air Force Missileers



Colonel (ret) Charlie Simpson brought the tension of the Nation's closest brush with global thermo nuclear war in a presentation at the Cold War Museum attended by several members of the Gabriel Chapter.

(AAFM) gathered at Vint Hill, Virginia for a Cold War Museum presentation on the *The Cuban Missile Crisis – Missileers, SAC and DEFCON 2* by Colonel (ret) Charlie Simpson, a founder and Executive Director Emeritus of the AAFM.

In October 1962, the United States faced the Soviet Union in a nuclear crisis that became known as the Cuban Missile Crisis, when the Soviets placed medium-range ballistic missiles in Cuba. During the confrontation, US military forces were put on their highest war footing --- Defcon 2 – the closest we have ever been to global thermonuclear war. The USAF intercontinental ballistic missile force sat ready to respond at a moment's notice, on the edge of nuclear war. The presentation was originally given to the participants in the 2012 Air Force Global Strike Challenge, the annual Air Force Global Strike Command Bomber and Missile Competition where Colonel Simpson presented to more than 800 young missile and bomber crew members, maintainers and security forces. The



AFA Gabriel Chapter and AAFM Cold War veterans pose with Colonel (ret) Charlie Simpson at the Old Bust Head Brewery in Vint Hill, Virginia. The Cold War Museum hosts many events ayt the brewery during their year.

presentation covered the events leading to the crisis, the US response and the resolution. Reliving those days brought out some of the tension and anxiety felt by most Americans – particularly those in the Strategic Air Command – who lived through those terrifying times.

An AFA Gabriel Chapter Community Partner, the Cold War Museum® is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to education, preservation, and research on the global, ideological, and political confrontations between East and West from the end of World War II to the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Located in Vint Hill, VA, the Museum Collection is housed in one of the former Vint Hill Farms Station buildings used during the Cold War by the US Army, the National Security Agency, and the Central Intelligence Agency to intercept and interpret coded messages. Museum collections are particularly strong with unusual artifacts in signals intelligence, image intelligence, aerial



The Cold War Museum is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. CWM is a Gabriel Chapter Community Partner and we are proud to recommend the excellent educational and professional developemnt opportunities at the Museum.

surveillance, civil defense, Berlin, the East German secret police (STASI), the Cuban Missile Crisis, and events such as the Pueblo and Liberty incidents.

Maj Gen Clint Crosier is Guest Speaker for the May Chapter Meeting and Annual Awards Presentation

Our Chapter Professional Development Luncheon and Annual Awards Luncheon was held on May 8th at Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant in McLean, VA. Our guest speaker was Major General Clinton E Crosier, the Deputy, DCS for Strategy, Integration and Requirements, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Arlington, Virginia. As Deputy, General Crosier is responsible to the secretary and chief of staff of the Air Force for developing the Air Force strategy and multi-domain operating concepts, integrating through centralized design, validating, and prioritizing operational capabilities-based requirements to achieve national defense objectives and deliver timely and effective capability to the warfighter. Maj Gen Crosier is leading the Air Force's Task Force to stand up the new Space Organization, reporting to Hon. John Stopher, principal assistant to the SECDEF for space policy.

Maj Gen Crosier presented an overview of threats to US Space and Air Force capabilities. He emphasized the need for a robust technical industrial base, including a workforce educated in



Maj Gen Clint Crosier accepts a Gabriel Chapter challenge coin from Chapter President Mike Winters in appreciation for his presentation to the Chapter.

science, technology, engineering and math. He praised the work of the Chapter in recognizing teachers and encouraging STEM education with

chapter programs supporting CyberPatriot, StellarXPloers, and the Chapter's close relationships with area schools, AFJROTC units, and CAP squadrons.

At this special luncheon, Maj Gen Crosier presented annual awards to Chapter Members and to our AFA STEM Teachers of the Year of Northern Virginia.

Gabriel and Steele Chapters Collaborate to Honor Region's Top Teachers

Gabriel Chapter and Steele Chapter jointly recognized four teachers of the year from across Northern Virginia at our Gabriel Chapter Annual Awards Lunch in May. Our speaker at the Awards Lunch was Maj General Clint Crosier, who also assisted Chapter President recognize the following teachers of the year. Northern Virginia teachers of the year recognized at our May event were:

General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter

K - 8 **Ms. Megan Tucker**

9 - 12 **Professor Gail Drake**

D. W. Steele Chapter

K - 8 **Ms. Tosin Adetoro**

9 - 12 **Mr. John Zacharias**

Justin Thomas is Gabriel Chapter Member of the Year

At our Chapter Awards Luncheon in May, Justin Thomas, Gabriel Chapter Treasurer, was honored as the Gabriel Chapter Member of the Year. Justin joined Gabriel as a new member when he recently PCS'd from Ramstein Air Base. Although he is a USAF Reservist with extensive time commitments, he displayed an active interest in supporting the chapter. Due to changes within our EXCOM and movement of our Treasurer to VA State, we asked Justin to not only step up to EXCOM, but to step up to Treasurer! Although this was a new position, Justin took the time to work through a transition with our existing Treasurer for a chapter with \$15K in annual revenues. The transition was fully successful and allowed our new Chapter President to fully meet all Financial Report and Financial Plan requirements and timing, even with entirely new reporting procedures. Justin's efforts to take on this demanding position at a critical time are

worthy of recognition as the Gabriel Chapter 2019 Member of the Year.

Gabriel Chapter Recognizes Teachers of the Year

As we have for the last several years, the Gabriel Chapter recognized two outstanding educators for their contributions to science and math education that contribute to the AFA's Aerospace Education mission and improve the Math and Science aptitude and abilities of our young people. Each of our Teachers of the Year received a pin recognizing their selection and a folio embossed with the AFA logo.



Mrs. Megan Tucker accepts her certificate as Gabriel Chapter Teacher of the Year from Maj Gen Clint Crosier and Chapter President Mike Winters

Mrs. Megan Tucker -- Megan Tucker has recently relocated from California to Loudoun County, and is excited to raise her daughter closer to family! Mrs. Tucker followed the story of Hillsboro Charter Academy when she was looking to make the move to Loudoun, and was inspired by the tenacity of the HCA Board of Directors, teachers and families who had the vision for pursuing a charter rooted in STEAM and PBL. Megan comes with 12 years of teaching experience and holds a M.S. in Science Education K-8, as well as her B.S. in Elementary Education and an A.S. in Animal Management. She has been instrumental in spreading the power of STEM as a teacher, curriculum writer, and grant writer in both Florida and California, as well as doing numerous professional development workshops related to STEM and Aerospace. Career highlights include having been awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching and being

selected to fly with NASA's SOFIA Program. As a National Board Certified Teacher, Megan instills in her students the motto "Your attitude is your altitude!" It is time for us to recognize her as one of those rare heroes who choose to spend their lives living the values and achieving the dream that the Air Force Association shares with them. We proudly recognize Mrs. Megan Tucker as one of our two Chapter Teachers of the Year.



Gail Drake, from Battlefield High School in Haymarket Virginia is the 2019 Gabriel Chapter Teacher of the Year. Professor Drake was also selected as the Virginia AFA Teacher of the Year and will compete for National honors as the AFA Teacher of the Year at the AFA National Convention in September.

Gail Drake was selected as the Gabriel Chapter High School Teacher of the Year and received several cash awards including a check for \$250 from the Chapter, which was matched by a \$250 grant for the Virginia AFA and a \$250 grant from AFA National Headquarters. Professor Drake was also recognized as the Virginia AFA Teacher of the Years and received an additional grant of \$1,000 from the Virginia AFA and a \$1,000 award from AFA National Headquarters. Professor Drake was the first person hired when Battlefield High School (BHS) opened as an Information Technology (IT) specialty school in August of 2004 and she has been there for the last 14 years. She leads an amazing variety of STEM education programs including CyberPatriot, robotics competition, and 3-D printing. Professor Drake has a long association with the Gabriel. She has been named our Chapter Teacher of the Year twice before and was the Virginia Teacher of the Year in 2016. Her recent achievements in inspiring students in the STEM disciplines are unmatched with recognition of her and her students at the region, state, national and global levels:

- Prince William County Teacher of the Year 2018
- Bethesda MD FIRST Robotics Competition 2019 Tournament Champion
- USCyberPatriot XI Virginia State Awards for Open Class and All-Service
- FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Woodie Flower Award 2018 for the single mentor that exhibits the most inspiration and leadership globally!

In addition to these awesome individual and team achievements, Gail earned a Masters in CyberSecurity from Marymount University in 2018. Her impact on students, especially in the STEM fields, is felt strongly now and will be felt strongly far into the future.

Her dedication to sharing knowledge seems to have no bounds. In addition to influencing her high school students, Ms. Drake provides instruction at the Northern Virginia Community College for young students and adults refreshing their job skills. While preparing this package, a member of Gabriel's EXCOM found some old e-mail correspondence with her from an online programming course he had taken many years before.

Gail's unwavering devotion to the students has helped bring home awards at regional and national competitions, raised the standardized scores and launched careers in STEM for many students. Her STEM leadership improved the future for hundreds of students and her community.

It is with great pleasure that we recognize Gail Drake as our Chapter High School Teacher of the Year for 2019! In addition, we should also recognize that in 2019 Professor Gail Drake is once again the Virginia AFA Teacher of the Year.

Gabriel Chapter Members Recognized at Annual Awards Luncheon

At our May membership event, the Gabriel Chapter luncheon featured our Annual Awards Presentation and announcement of the Gabriel Chapter Teachers of the Year. Chapter President Mike Winters announced that Justin Thomas, Chapter Treasurer, was recognized as 2019 Chapter Member of the Year. Other chapter members were recognized for their enthusiastic support for Chapter programs and contributing their time and talents to various activities throughout the year. Individuals who received Chapter awards were also recommended for

recognition at the State, Region, and National levels.

2019 Chapter Member of the Year	
Justin Thomas	
Chapter Exceptional Service Award	
Joseph M. Burke	Melanie Jones
Heather Celano	Lee Rizzo
Filip DaSilva	Patrick Rocke
Jack Diamond	Samantha Shelton
Regina M. Giles	Brad Wilkins

Some individuals were not available to receive certificates and Chapter Challenge coins at the Awards Banquet. They will be recognized and presented with certificates and Chapter coins at a future Chapter event.

Gabriel Chapter Members Receive State Recognition

In consideration of their contributions to the Virginia State AFA and the Gabriel Chapter, Virginia State AFA President Ken Spencer recognized the following chapter members at the State AFA meeting in June 2019.

Virginia President's Award	
Jack Diamond	
Virginia Special Achievement Award	
Joe Burke	Pat Rocke
Heather Celano	Samantha Shelton
Lee Rizzo	Justin Thomas
Brad Wilkins	
Virginia Leadership Recognition Award	
Melanie Jones	Tom Shepherd

Gabriel Chapter Members and Community Partners Support AFA's Wounded Airmen Cycling Challenge

The AFA Gabriel Chapter encouraged its members to participate in the AFA's Wounded Airmen Cycling Challenge on May 19th. AFA is committed to caring for our Wounded Airmen. Join AFA at their first annual Wounded Airmen Cycling Challenge in Arlington to raise funds in support of our Airmen and their families, while enjoying one of Arlington's premier indoor cycling and spin venues. This event was held at the CycleBar, a premier indoor cycling venue, and AFA's goal was to raise \$50,000 for AFA's Wounded Airmen and Family Programs. They'll have two cycle classes with 47 riders each and

have requested (optional) each rider secure \$500 in donations.



AFA President General (ret.) Larry Sepencer poses with riders at the Wounded Airmen Cycling Challenge, exceeding their goal of \$50,000 for the one-day event.

Deputy Commander of AF District of Washington Speaks as Chapter Event

Our Chapter Professional Development Luncheon was held on June 12th at Ciao Osteria Restaurant in Centreville, VA. Our guest speaker was June lunch meeting speaker was Colonel Kevin M. Eastland, who is dual-hatted as the Vice Commander of the Air Force District of Washington and the 320th Air Expeditionary Wing, headquartered at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland. AFDW is the Air Force component to the Joint Forces Headquarters-National Capital Region and is responsible for organizing, training and equipping combat forces for aerospace expeditionary forces, homeland operations, civil support, national special security events and ceremonial events. AFDW also provides major-



Colonel Kevin Eastland accepts a Chapter Challenge coin from Chapter President Mike Winters. Colonel Eastland was our guest speaker at our June Chapter Meeting and Professional Development event.

command-level support for 33,000 military and civilian personnel assigned worldwide.

Colonel Eastland is a Command Pilot with more than 3,100 flying hours in various aircraft including the C-17A, C-141B, KC-10, and UH-1N.

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This event is one of monthly programs that the Gabriel Chapter hosts for the professional development of our AFA membership. Many of our members are corporate partners who



Gabriel Past President Joe Burke poses with newly-minted Second Lieutenant David Wilkes.

advance the AFA mission.

Chapter Celebrates Commissioning of New Second Lieutenants.

Two Gabriel Chapter members were commissioned as 2nd lieutenants in the USAF at a ceremony at the Air Force Memorial. AFROTC cadets from Detachment 330, at the University of Maryland, include students from across the



Second Lieutenant Marc Granville reviews his Certificate of Commission with AFA National Director, Major Tyler Johnson.

region, including students at George Mason University. Cadet David Wilkes is the cadet liaison to Gabriel Chapter. He as commissioned

by his father Maj Gen (ret) Bobby Wilkes, also a member of the Steele Chapter.

Gabriel Chapter members also know Cadet Marc Granville. Granville participated in the Color Guard at last year's Virginia AFA State Convention and Gabriel Chapter Annual Award Banquet. Cadet Granville took the oath of commission from AFA National Director Tyler Johnson, who is a Major in the Air Force Reserve. Chapter Past President and VP for Membership, Joe Burke, was invited by both cadets to attend their Commissioning Ceremony.

[Gabriel Chapter Members to Be Recognized at Annual Field Awards Banquet](#)

At the Field Awards Banquet during the AFA Annual Convention 14-15 September 2019, two Gabriel Chapter members will be recognized at the event. The awardees for the Individual Medals of Merit and Individual Exceptional Service Awards will be listed in the program for the AFA Convention in September. The award elements, however, will be sent to the Chapter president for presentation at the local level.

Patrick Rocke will be recognized with the AFA National Medal of Merit. Pat's steady leadership, unflagging commitment, and steadfast support to the Chapter, despite a grueling work and travel schedule, directly contributed to the Chapter's continued success and achievement. In December 2018, for the 6th year in a row, Pat organized a Truck Crew for the annual Wreaths Across America event to respect and honor our veterans buried at Arlington National Cemetery. He was one of more than 50 crew chiefs for tractor-trailers bringing wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery. Gabriel Chapter members joined volunteers, family and friends to distribute more than 250,000 wreaths on gravestones with a mission to Remember, Honor, and Teach. Pat's leadership, enthusiasm, and commitment to excellence on behalf of the Gabriel Chapter and the Air Force Association bring credit upon himself, the Gabriel Chapter, and the Virginia Air Force Association.

John "Jack" Diamond is to receive the AFA National Exceptional Service Award. During the past year, John Diamond, Chapter Secretary, organized advertising, notifications, and

registration for more than two dozen events for Chapter members from Gabriel and across Northern Virginia and the National Capital Region. He led Gabriel Chapter Communications and Social Media team. In addition, he volunteered as a consultant and Beta Tester for the National AFA Salesforce business enterprise modernization effort. John has gone above and beyond in serving his Chapter, leading Chapter, State and National level programs of the Air Force Association. His efforts have produced national impact for the AFA. John coordinated communications activities with Gabriel VP for Chapter Events, completing all of the details for our outreach lunch events to bring senior field grade, general officers and SES level speakers serving in the Air Staff and Joint assignments to forums for AFA members, industry representatives, and the public to inform them about the Air Force mission, people, and challenges. These events have had National Advocacy and Education impact as AFA members, Hill staffers and industry leaders have flown into Northern Virginia from around the United States to attend these events. Working with the Chapter Web developer, John led the modernization of Gabriel Chapter website and working with the VP Communications, assured that the Chapter communications were timely and consistent across the Chapter's website, constant contact emails, and social media on Facebook and LinkedIn. As Gabriel Chapter events attract a National following with more than 10,000 followers on their Facebook site, this provided National level impact for AFA Advocacy and Education. He has also coordinated, attended and represented the Gabriel Chapter at the Cold War Museum Events. As a retired Air Force communications/cyber operations officer and Gabriel Chapter Beta Tester of the new AFA Membership Systems, John provided significant review and input on the new system to the AFA Chief Information Officer and our AFA National Beta Testing team.

[Gabriel Chapter Receives National Honors](#)

AFA Central East Region (CER) President Peter Jones informed the Virginia AFA and chapters throughout the State announced that CER has had another very successful awards season. President Jones received the list of National awards (Medals of Merit, Exceptional Service

Awards, etc.) won by CER individuals and units and share those with Chapter and State leaders.

The Gabriel Chapter was selected for two awards:

- AFA National Exceptional Service Award, Best Single Program
- AFA National Aerospace Education Achievement Award

Congratulations to all who contributed to these successes.

[Virginia AFA Selected as AFA National Outstanding State Organization](#)

AFA Central East Region (CER) President Peter Jones informed the Virginia AFA that the Virginia AFA was selected as the AFA National Outstanding State Organization. This is a tremendous achievement and a testament to the outstanding efforts of all our volunteers. Congratulations to the Virginia AFA for your contributions to preserving a dominant United States Air Force.

[Upcoming Events](#)

Save the date for these upcoming Chapter activities:

- **Wednesday, 14 August 2019 — Monthly Membership Luncheon**, Colonel Matthew J. Butler, USAF, Chief, C2 Functional Integration Team HAF/A5A (Air Force Warfighting Integration Center). This will also be at Maggiano's Little Italy in Tysons Corner.
- **Saturday and Sunday, 14-15 September** -- AFA National Convention
- **Monday through Wednesday, 16-18 September** – AFA Air, Space, and Cyber Conference
- **Wednesday, 9 October** – Annual Luncheon at Falcons Landing Lt Gen Richard M. Clark, Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration, Headquarters U.S. Air Force. You will not want to miss this.
- **Wednesday, 13 November** -- Monthly Luncheon. TBD. We will return to Maggiano's Little Italy in Tysons Corner (if we have not closed them by then).

Next Chapter EXCOM meeting will be Wednesday, April 3 2019, 1900 to 2000 hours.

[Chapter Council Vacancies](#)

We are looking for volunteers to fill other vacancies on the Chapter Council, as well. Interested members should contact Chapter President Mike Winters at va433.gabriel@afa.org or any member of the Chapter Council.

- VP Chapter Events – Vacant
- VP Awards and Recognition – Vacant
- VP Airmen and Families / Wounded Airman Program – Vacant
- VP Veterans Affairs – Vacant
- Web Development Intern - Vacant

[Other Items in the News](#)

[AFA and Virginia Veterans](#)

Your AFA is represented by Governor's appointment to the Joint Leadership Council (JLC) of Veterans Services Organizations. This Council gives one voice to the interests of more than 840,000 Virginia veterans. The JLC supports the Department of Veteran Affairs and provides direct input to the Governor and General Assembly for annual budget items and legislation to further the interests of veterans and their families in Virginia. The stated goal is to make Virginia the most "veteran friendly state in the union." Major programs of interest are the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (not to be confused with the national Wounded Warrior Project), the construction of two new Veteran Care Centers (one in Hampton Roads), the maintenance of three Veteran Cemeteries (one in Suffolk), support for the Virginia War Memorial, and specific programs like the Veterans, Education, Training and Employment. For questions about the JLC or to make input, contact Gabriel Chapter VP for Veterans Affairs.

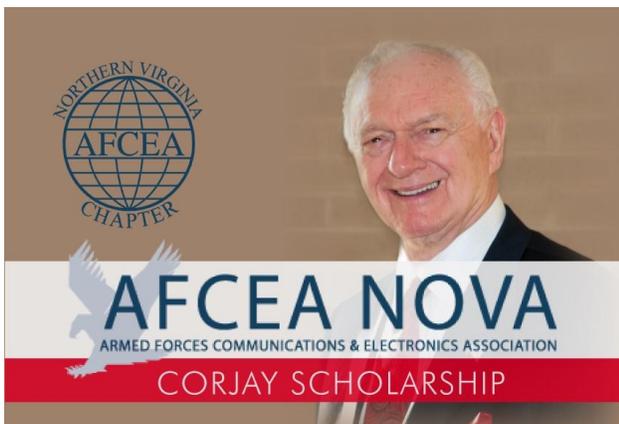
[Veterans' Corner](#)

Veterans Corner is submitted by Tom Wozniak, State VP for Veteran Affairs and the State AFA Representative to the Joint Leadership Council (JLC) of Veteran Service Organizations. For questions about the JLC or to make input,

contact Tom Wozniak wozniakTA@cox.net or Gabriel Chapter VP for Veterans Affairs.

Honoring Our Fallen Comrades

This section of our newsletter is to recognize the service and sacrifice of our fellow airmen and Gabriel Chapter members, who have gone to their final reward. If you would like to recognize a fallen comrade or family member in these pages, please send information to our VP Communications at afa_gabriel_chapter@afa-gabriel.org



Charles (Chuck) R. Corjay April 3, 1932- March 17, 2019

Charles (Chuck) R. Corjay passed away peacefully on March 17, 2019, with his beloved wife Diane Clark at his side. He was born in Springfield, MA, on April 3, 1932 to John and Helen Solenski. He was the youngest of three sons and grew up in Springfield, MA.

Chuck served in the U.S. Air Force, active and reserve for 7.5 years. Airman First Class Corjay completed all of his active duty service at Lowry AFB, Colorado. He was honorably discharged after earning the National Defense Service Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Colorado State Teachers College. Chuck is survived by wife Diane, and daughter, Marcy Corjay.

The Air Force values of Integrity, Service before self and Excellence in all we do, guided him throughout his life. Chuck was a Patriot, and his life reflected his values. His efforts to assist Wounded Warriors, foster government/industry technology interaction, encourage math and

science education, and assist retiring military personnel with career transition are legendary.

Chuck forged a lifelong career in the IT business, where he built a reputation of honesty, integrity, and consummate professionalism. He retired from CACI in September 2012 as an Executive Vice President, concluding an almost fifty-year career in Federal Government business development. He worked with clients across the Department of Defense, the Federal government, and state and local governments. Within DoD, his experience includes automation; computer hardware and software; management information systems for large weapon systems; command, control, communications, and intelligence systems; and modeling and simulation programs. In 2007, he received the coveted Federal 100 Award for his pivotal role in the federal IT community.

Prior to the CACI/SofTech years, Chuck held a number of executive-level positions, including Computer Sciences Corporation, General Research Corporation, Control Data Corporation, Sperry Univac/Unisys and Philco-Ford. In each of these positions, he delivered high value through enterprise process redesign, systems reengineering, software development, and systems integration.

Chuck Corjay devoted a lot of time and energy to the advancement of the Northern Virginia professional cyber community. In many ways a pioneer, in promoting an engaged and ethical community of professionals, committed to excellence in government, service to community, and respect for those who served in the military and civil service. He was a life member of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA); he formed, led, and supported the Northern Virginia Chapter of AFCEA, giving life and purpose to this important organization.

For 12 years, he served as the Regional Vice President for AFCEA International, supporting multiple chapters in the Midwest, Mid-South, and NCR. In 1993; he received the General James Rockwell AFCEAN of the Year Award. In 1998, he earned the Admiral Boyes Medal for Distinguished Service to AFCEA; and in 2001, he received the AFCEA Chairman's award for Superior Performance. Chuck is the only person to have received ALL three OF AFCEA'S

HIGHEST awards. He has been AFCEA International Director, President of the Northern Virginia chapter, and Board member of the AFCEA/NOVA Chapter, the largest in AFCEA. He is also a Harry C. Ingles Award winner and has been a Distinguished Faculty Member for AFCEA Career Transition training for retiring military. Most notably, in 1994 he was the first recipient of the Northern Virginia AFCEAN of the Year Award, now known as “The Corjay Award” in his honor.

Chuck, affectionately called “Godfather,” was a friend, a mentor, and a coach to ALL those who came into his orbit. He was especially happy helping young leaders grow. His spirit and character are reflected in his vast network of friends from all walks of life—personal and professional, at CACI and at AFCEA. Each considered chuck a close friend, mentor, family member. Chuck’s devotion to his friends and love of his family were legendary and are universally reciprocated. Chuck Corjay’s memory will live on in all who met him.

Chapter Community Partners Recognized

At our June Meeting, we were pleased recognize several of our Community Partners and Chapter Sponsors. Identification as a Chapter Sponsor at the Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum level provide the financial support that allows us to run our many programs supporting the total Air Force family and aerospace education here in Northern Virginia. By affiliating with AFA, our Community Partners join with other AFA members worldwide to support policies and programs that provide the Air Force



Kayla Sailer, Director, TekSynap, accepting the 2019-20 renewal medallion for their AFA Community Partner Plaque from Chapter President, Mike Winters.

with the trained men and women and the modern weapon systems needed to fulfill its missions and help assure America has a deterrent force sufficient to ensure this nation’s peace and security.

Partners’ designated members receive AFA’s monthly publication, Air Force Magazine, to keep abreast of AF matters through an informative and entertaining mix of articles on a wide variety of subjects, including new weapons and aircraft, national defense issues, legislative reports, first-person accounts of air operations, book reviews, and much more.



Chapter President Mike Winters presents the Community Partner Plaque and 2019-20 medallion to Platinum Sponsor, SAIC. Accepting the plaques is Vinnie DiFronzo, VP AF Programs and Lee Rizzo, VP Government Relations at SAIC. Mr. Rizzo is also Chapter VP for Government Relations and member of the Gabriel Chapter EXCOM.



Al Moore, Director, Air Force Programs for General Dynamics Mission Systems shows of the Chapter challenge coin and annual renewal medallion presented by Gabriel Chapter President, Mike Winters. GDMS, is a long term AFA Gabriel Chapter Community Partner and Platinum Level Sponsor, and renewed at the highest level for another year.



Chapter President Mike Winters presents the Community Partner Plaque and 2019-20 medallion to representatives from Platinum Sponsor, LeidosC. Accepting the plaque is Daryle Wingerter, Vice President, Business Development, C4ISR Solutions in the Defense Group.



Ciao Osteria our venue for the June Lunch meeting is owned by Sal Speziale, an Air Force Academy Class of 78 Grad and F-15 Gulf War Fighter Pilot. Sal and Ciao support AFA and has been an AFA Community Partner since the restaurant opened. At the meeting, Chapter President Mike Winters presented Ciao with their 19-20 medallion for the plaque, which they proudly display near the host stand at the front door of the restaurant.



Dr. Steger accepts the 2019-20 renewal medallion from VP Membership, Joe Burke. Dr. Steger is a former AF dentist. South Riding Family Dentistry had been a Gabriel Chapter Community Sponsor since 2016



Your business can become a Gabriel Chapter Community Partner. If you would like more information on the Gabriel Chapter Community Partner or Corporate Sponsor program, contact VA433.gabriel@afa.org

Many Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors

Chapter Corporate Sponsors

In recognition of designation at the Bronze-Level, Chapter Corporate Sponsors receive:

- Identification as a Community Partner of the Gabriel Chapter with a Cherrywood plaque and two individual memberships to the Air Force Association
- Recognition as a Chapter Corporate Sponsor on the Chapter Website afa-gabriel.org
- Invitations to all Chapter events and Chapter membership meetings



Gabriel Chapter Bronze Level Sponsor



In addition, Silver-Level Sponsors receive:

- One reserved seat at monthly membership luncheons

Gold-level sponsors receive:

- Two reserved seats at monthly membership luncheons

Platinum-level sponsors are recognized with:

- Four reserved seats at monthly membership luncheons

If you would like more information on the Gabriel Chapter Corporate Sponsor program, contact VA433.gabriel@afa.org



Gabriel Chapter Silver Level Sponsors



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**Become a Gabriel Chapter
Gold Level Sponsor
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Gabriel Chapter Platinum Level Sponsors

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Gabriel Chapter Community Partners

By affiliating with AFA, our Partners join with other AFA members worldwide to support policies and programs that provide the Air Force with the trained men and women and the modern weapon systems needed to fulfill its missions and help assure America has a deterrent force sufficient to ensure this nation's peace and security.

Partners' designated members receive AFA's monthly publication, Air Force Magazine. The magazine allows them to keep abreast of AF matters through an informative and entertaining mix of articles on a wide variety of subjects, including new weapons and aircraft, national defense issues, legislative reports, first-person accounts of air operations, book reviews, and much more.



Chapter Finances

Gabriel Chapter Treasurer, Justin Thomas, reports on the Chapter's Finances:

Chapter Financial Activity

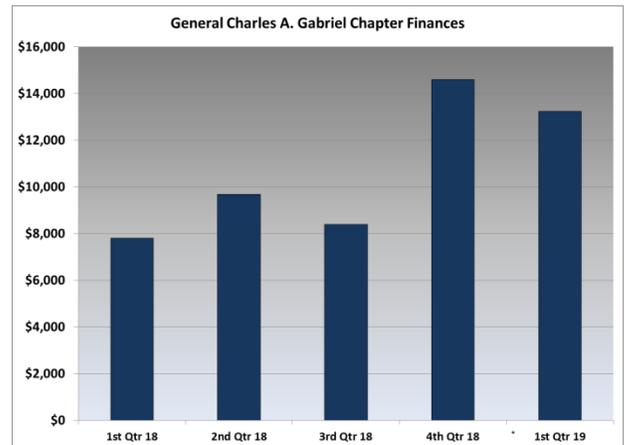
Current values are as of date of newsletter publication

Inflow:

- Chapter Membership Meetings
- Silver and Platinum Level Chapter Sponsors

Outflow:

- Chapter Membership Meetings
- Community Partner Memberships
- Teacher of the Year Grants
- Donation to Wounded Airman Cycling Challenge



Gabriel Chapter Top Ten Tips for Recruiting and Retaining Members

The General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter has been recognized for a successful retention program. AFA Field Operations asked Chapter President Joe Burke for his secrets to success. Here are ten tips that Joe shared with our AFA National Field Operations Staff. How has the Chapter been so successful at growing new members and retaining existing members? Joe said, "My usual answer is that there is no magic to retention, that it just takes some commitment and to remember it's a contact sport."

Here are the Gabriel Top Ten Tips for Retention:

1. **Chapter Programs and Events That Offer Value to Members** - People join the Association for different reasons and have varying interests in AFA programs. Retention starts with running balanced Chapter programs that advance the AFA mission -- Advocating for Airpower, developing Aerospace Education and supporting Airmen and Families – while offering "something for everyone." Our membership events bring active duty and reserve component speakers who present on topics that serve the AFA mission. We have at least one Chapter social event a year and we run monthly meetings in different locations throughout our AOR to make it easier for members to attend.
2. **Communicate with our Membership.** We have a great communications team with VP for Communications, Jack Diamond, and VP for Social Media, Sam Shelton. Every week we notify members about upcoming Chapter events through our Quarterly Newsletter, Chapter website, Facebook page, and Constant Contact email notifications.
3. **Reach Out to First Year Members and Transfers** – We download the Chapter membership roster monthly (or whenever it's updated by national) and contact new members to make sure they know we are their Chapter and are ready to help them get active in our Association.
4. **Don't Take Attendance** -- We understand that they can't get to some or even most of our events due to active duty, work or family commitments. We make it clear that if they can participate in only one of our events, they are still making a difference. Even for our Executive Committee Members, we consider participation voluntary – whatever time they can commit is valued and appreciated.
5. **Track Status with AFA Provided Reports** - We download our Roster from the AFA website when it is updated around mid-month. The Update Roster lists all members who are coming up for renewal or whose memberships are expiring. The roster also tells us whether or not a member we previously contacted about re-upping has actually renewed his or her membership.
6. **Watch the AFA Retention Training Module** - The Retention training module on the AFA website goes through the entire process, including the how to use the rosters for Chapter retention.
7. **Assign a Chapter Lead for Membership** – Our Chapter VP for Membership is currently vacant. Nevertheless, one person needs to lead the Retention effort. So our Chapter President has stepped in, assisted by other Executive Committee (EXCOM) members. The Chapter President owns and leads our program. It takes a group of people to implement, but one person is responsible.
8. **Retention is a Contact Sport** – We personally contact each member. Usually the member has already been contacted by AFA National, with letters and emails. We assign a real person to reach out with personal contact – by telephone or email -- to each member who is up for renewal.
9. **Retention is Also a Team Sport** – Whenever possible; we make sure that the person who recruited the member, or who knows him or her best, reaches out to make the contact. For all others, we divvy up the list among the EXCOM. In the end, an assigned sponsor (retention committee or a member who knows them) contacts the member and provides that personal touch.
10. **Follow-up** – Every month our VP for Membership audits the membership roster to see who renewed. We follow-up with any disconnects and confirm the member's status. Sometimes a member confirms that they renewed their membership even though they do not show up on the roster. So we have to call AFA HQ membership and resolve the issue. AFA HQ is always ready to assist us!



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

The Air Force Association is proud to announce that we are furthering our partnership with the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) to promote aerospace education and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) careers.

"The partnership between AFA and CAP offers a great opportunity for members from both organizations to stay connected and advocate for the future of our Air Force," said General Larry Spencer, AFA President. "Education is one of AFA's top priorities, and we believe this relationship supports that mission by granting our members access to invaluable information on the rich history of our great Air Force."

As a thank you to AFA members, CAP is extending a special opportunity for AFA members to become involved as "Friends of CAP" for \$15 instead of the usual \$35 cost. AFA "Friends of CAP" pay \$15 as a tax deductible gift to further support Civil Air Patrol without volunteer membership obligations. Friends will receive the Civil Air Patrol magazine twice a year, as well as periodic emails with updates from the national staff and development office. Friends are also eligible to take advantage of member benefits and discounts. To become an AFA Friend of CAP [click here](#) and use discount code AFACAP on page two of the online form.

If you know of any CAP members who are not currently AFA members, please encourage them to join AFA at a special price for new CAP members. [Click here](#) for more info.

We look forward to partnering with CAP and working together to promote aerospace education and a dominate Air Force.



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Update Your Information

Please visit the Chapter web site at <http://www.afa-gabriel.org/> to update your contact information and gain access to additional information on the Gabriel Chapter's history, meetings, and events.

Suggestions?

Do you have a suggestion for the newsletter or a Chapter initiative? Please feel free to contact us at va433.gabriel@afa.org.

Executive Committee		
President Emeritus	Gen (Ret.) Ralph "Ed" Eberhart	
President	Mike Winters	va433.gabriel@afa.org
Vice President	Brad Wilkins	va433.gabriel@afa.org
Treasurer	Justin Thomas	va433.gabriel@afa.org
Secretary	Jack Diamond	va433.gabriel@afa.org
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VP Airmen and Family Programs/Wounded Airmen	VACANT	
VP Awards and Recognition	VACANT	
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VP Community Partners	Joe Burke	va433.gabriel@afa.org
VP Events	VACANT	
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