



# Air Force Sergeants Association Division 89

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## Inside This Issue

- 1 President's Forum
- 2-3 PAC Update
- 4 PAC Awards
- 5-6 PAC Program Info
- 7-8 Recruiting Stats
- 9-10 Comm Program
- 11 CAPWIZ Flyer
- 12-16 Around the Division
- 17 Commentary
- 18 Internet Directory



## Division 89 President's Forum

Another successful year for Division 89 is in the books and as we close this year, we will emerge in 2013 as AFSA Division 3. While we will have a new name, we will continue to be the same outstanding division.

At this point in time our focus should be on preparing for the Division 3 Professional Airman's Conference in Council Bluff, Iowa, April 11-13, 2013. While Chapter 984 will be accomplishing much of the heavy lifting for this event, it is important that every chapter does its part to make sure this is a first class event.

The first thing that each chapter can do is to ensure that your chapter is represented at the conference. This is important because your local membership needs a voice at the table. We will also be conducting elections for Division officers and your membership should have a say in who is representing them at the Division level.

Secondly, I expect each chapter president to submit appropriate awards for their local membership. Every chapter in our division does truly outstanding work. This can only happen because of the dedication of your members. Because of this, you must take the time to en-

THE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF CHOICE FOR AIR FORCE ENLISTED



sure your members are properly recognized.

I realize that some of our chapters do not have blue suiters among their membership and will not have the ability to submit as many award inputs. That said, there are still plenty of other awards that can recognize the hard work of your members.

At a minimum, all chapters should have a Member of the Year and a Chapter of the Year input. Please do what ever you can

to meet this standard, you owe it to your membership.

I hope to see all of you in Council Bluffs in April. Our division conferences are always an outstanding event, I expect nothing less this year.

In closing, I thank each and everyone of you for being a member of AFSA. I encourage all of you to spread the word about our organization. Thank you for all you do.

## DIVISION 3 PROFESSIONAL AIRMAN'S CONFERENCE

**April 11 –13, 2013**

**Hosted by Chapter 984, Offutt AFB**

We are getting real close to our annual division conference. This year's PAC will be held in Council Bluffs, Iowa at the Holiday Inns and Suites/Ameristar Casino. The deadline for making reservations is 25 March 2013, so make sure and get your reservations taken care of as soon as possible.

As always, we will have a full schedule including professional development, training, division elections, and also some fun things sandwiched in between.

All attendees will need to register for the event, you can download the registration on the division website. Your registration fees will cover the cost of your meal on Thursday night, Friday's lunch, the Honor's Banquet, and snacks.

Each night will be capped off in the Hospitality Suite where folks can unwind and partake of some "adult beverages".

Please consider attending the event. Not only does this provide a great opportunity to see old AFSA friends, but it also gives us an opportunity discuss important AFSA business and elect our leaders for the next year.

Hope to see you in Council Bluffs!



## General Information

- Dates: April 11-13, 2013
- Location: Holiday Inn & Suites, 2202 River Road, Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501
- Phone Number: 712-322-5050

## Register

- Complete your [registration form](#) and mail along with your payment.

## Make your Reservation

- Online: <http://www.holidayinn.com/hotels/us/en/council-bluffs/cbfrb/hoteldetail?groupCode=AFS>
- By Phone: 888-645-4329, Group Code: AFS

## Critical Dates

- Event Dates: April 11 - 13, 2013
- Pre-Registration Deadline: 28 March 2013
- Final Registration Deadline: 6 April 2013
- Reservations at the Guaranteed Rate: 25 March 2013

## Awards

- [AFSA Awards Newsletter #1](#)
- [AFSA Awards Presentation](#)
- [AFSA Awards Nomination Form](#)
- [AFSA Awards Submission Matrix](#)
- [AFSA Awards Manual](#)

## Annual Scholarships

[Primary Scholarship Application](#) (Adobe PDF) - This is the primary form applicants should use to apply for the Division 3 Scholarship. This form can be completed and saved using the Adobe Reader program. If you do not have this program, you can download it from Adobe. If you can't complete .pdf form, you can use the alternate form in Microsoft Word or print it and complete the form with legible handwriting.

[Alternate Scholarship Application](#) (Microsoft Word) - Use this form if you do not have access Adobe Reader or if you want to hand write your application.

## Hotel Information

- [Hotel Website](#)

We will have a selection of Division 3 T-Shirts available for purchase during the Division PAC. Shirts will cost \$10 and will be available in White and Ash. There are two designs, which are printed on the back of the shirt. The AFSA emblem is printed on the left chest area of the front of the shirt.



## Division 3 PAC Award Inputs

It's time to start drafting annual awards packages! This is your opportunity to recognize your chapter's team and individual accomplishments which will be recognized during the Division 3 Convention in Council Bluffs, IA, on April 11-13, 2013. The deadline for submitting packages this year will be Friday, March 9, 2013.

The [AFSA Award Nomination Form](#) must be used for all Chapter and Individual Nominations, with the exception for the Airman & NCO of the Year which will use the AF Form 1206. All award information, forms, award matrix, and nomination cover letters can be downloaded at AFSA's website under "AFSA Manuals".

The criteria for submitting awards can be referenced in [AFSA Manual 100-4\(2\)](#) and Awards [Submission Matrix](#). These two sources clearly illustrate the format for each award submission and description of each award category. The Airman & NCO of the Year is limited to 35 bullets, this does not include the four category headings. Any submissions not following this format will be returned for correction(s) or not scored, time permitting.

Award submissions can either be sent via E-mail or mail on a CD. All submissions must arrive on or before this date to allow adequate time to have everything judged, mementoes ordered, and scripts prepared for the division convention. Again, as in years past, there will be no leeway for late submissions. All submissions must be e-mailed or postmarked on March 9, 2013 to be considered. I intend to convene the board(s) immediately following the deadline to permit timely scoring of all award submissions. Packages received after the suspense date will not be scored!

NOTE: All individual nominees must have been members of AFSA prior to 1 July of the year in which they are being nominated! Therefore, make sure your nominees were members prior to this date before submitting them.

Most chapters will elect, appoint and install new officers over the next couple of months, so you may not be the chapter president when the packages are due. As in the past, the chapter president holding the office for 2012 should bear the responsibility for submitting his/her chapter's nomination packages. If there are any changes during this time please let me know who the new chapter president is.







*Air Force Sergeants Association  
Division 3 "Heartland of America"*



January 20, 2013

Sir/Ma'am,

The Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) is a non-profit international organization that has over 110,000 members worldwide. It represents the professional and personal interests, especially quality of life issues, of the United States Air Force Active Duty, Air Force Reserves, Air National Guard enlisted personnel (active duty and retired) and their families. Since its foundation in 1961, AFSA has earned the recognition and respect of our nation's leaders for its role as the "Voice of the Enlisted."

This coming year, AFSA's local Offutt Chapter 984 will host the Division 3 Professional Conference at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 2202 River Road, Council Bluffs, Iowa, April 11-13, 2013. Chapter 984 members are very involved in community projects on-base and off, committed to supporting whatever our limited resources permit. Division 3 Conference and mail with your ads by March 1, 2013 or email digital copy to [chapter984president@cox.net](mailto:chapter984president@cox.net); or give to the representative that contacted you.

AFSA Chapter 984, last year among the some humanitarian requests we responded to were; Bellevue Food Pantry, Adopt-A-Highway, the Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home, Annual High School ROTC/CAP Award Programs, Thanksgiving food baskets for our Airmen, as well as member appreciation awards and events.

Division 3 encompasses a 10-state area with chapters in Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. The division has a total membership of over 13,000 members, including Offutt's local chapter over 1,400. Conferences are a favorite forum to conduct business and exchange ideas that will enhance our representation of the enlisted force, so we always have a good turnout.

Cost of these conferences is mostly defrayed by the members themselves. To offset this cost we sell and publish advertisements in our conference program. A full page is \$100, ½ page \$50, ¼ page \$25, and a business card size \$15. Your participation will be greatly appreciated and will help make this event a huge success. If you would like to place an advertisement, please do so with the representative currently before you, or please contact **Nicholas Melenka @ 210-452-9322 or by email @ [chapter984president@cox.net](mailto:chapter984president@cox.net)**. Our Tax ID number is: 52-1246862.

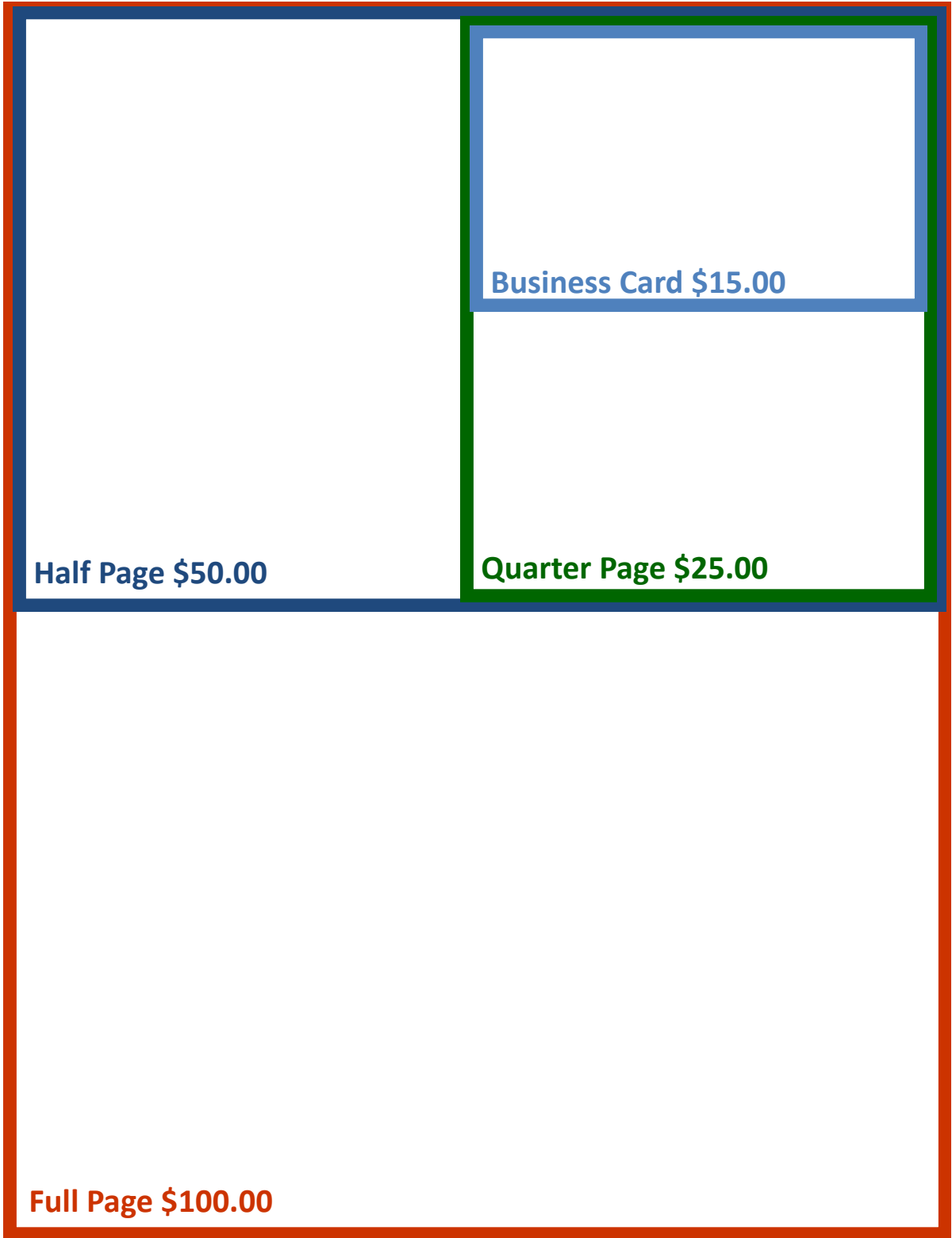
AFSA understands the great demand brought on by numerous organizations soliciting donations, and we would like to thank you for your time and your support of the Air Force Sergeants Association. Its companies like yours that makes Nebraska a great place to live. Please make your checks payable to AFSA Chapter 984, Attn: AFSA Division 3 Conference, P.O. Box 13472, Offutt AFB, NE 68113.

Respectfully,

///signed, nrm, 21 Jan 13///  
NICHOLAS R. MELENKA, MSgt, USAF  
AFSA Chapter 984, President



Division 3 PAC Program Ad Costs



## 2012 AFSA Division 89 Top Recruiters/Retainers

### Top Recruiters

Recruiter	Chapter	Number of Recruits in 2012	Lifetime Total
Michael Parente	984	110	1,963
Steve Francis	988	107	1,817
Terry Turner	985	106	700
Shaun Lewis	959	104	207
Raphael Parker	984	102	107
Steven Ekker	959	102	102
Lowell Bynum	985	101	116
Steve Zalesky	872	101	646
Hilda Findley	985	101	101
Angelique Tetrault	988	100	100
Ronal Reed	881	100	274

### Top Retainers

Recruiter	Chapter	Number of Retentions in 2012	Lifetime Total
Roland Kolwitz	851	163	2,621
Steve Zalesky	872	131	675
Nichole Link	872	108	125
Jean Kolwitz	851	107	983
Willa Hyde	804	103	1,703

**1,922 People  
Recruited!**

**809 People  
Retained!**



2012 End of Year Membership Stats

**DIVISION 89 ACTIVE MEMBERS**

	AFSA	AUX	LIFE	Total	Total (30 Sep)	Delta
F0804	493	119	680	1,292	1,314	-22
F0851	560	68	520	1,148	1,132	16
F0856	195	27	167	389	391	-2
F0858	397	41	430	868	877	-9
F0872	1,176	39	784	1,999	2,002	-3
F0881	672	5	188	865	821	44
F0951	357	16	211	584	600	-16
F0959	1,073	4	85	1,162	1,061	101
F0964	209	3	96	308	311	-3
F0972	524	16	315	855	868	-13
F0984	892	25	449	1,366	1,297	69
F0985	1,017	32	582	1,631	1,707	-76
F0988	381	1	96	478	429	49
F0990	86	12	68	166	144	22
F0991	123	9	175	307	299	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,155</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>4,846</b>	<b>13,418</b>	<b>13,253</b>	<b>165</b>

**Active Members End of 2011: 13,809**

**YTD Net Growth: -391**





## Division Programs

Our Division communications program has enjoyed great successes over the last three years. We have developed several outstanding products that have far out paced other divisions in our organization. To keep us out on the forefront, we have decided to implement another improvement to our communications program.

In our fast paced world of today, the sharing of information is paramount for getting our message onto the street quickly. Currently, we aren't doing very well in this area by asking for inputs at the end of each four month period.

In our worse case scenario, we are publishing information to our website and Facebook page that is up to four months old. We really need to be publishing this information in near real time.

To accomplish this goal, it will be up to each chapter's communication trustee to feed information to the division communications trustee so it can be published in the division webpage, Facebook, and newsletter. It is also important that we up channel this information to HQ AFSA so it can be included in their publications.

The communications team will be drafting a proposal to present at the upcoming PAC that will define roles and responsibilities within our division to greatly improve the way we share information and get our story out there for everyone to see.

As a brief overview, we see this process working similar to this.

When a chapter holds some type of event, they will complete the Division News Release form with a description of the event. The chapter will also include any pictures of the

event and document that information on the news release form also. Once completed, the chapter will forward the form to the division communications trustee. The chapter can forward the documents to HQ AFSA or ask the Division trustee to take care of that for them.

The communications team greatly appreciates everything our chapters have done to make our job easier to create these great products. Please help us out further by proactively sending in your stories as they happen. This should push our program to an entirely new level.

### Division Website Overhaul

In conjunction with our new division name, our website went through a complete overhaul. While most of the site structure remained intact, we rebuilt how we present our news to site users.

Previously, we had four different news and blog feeds. This could create confusion for the user so along with our makeover, we re-structured how we present our news and blog articles.

Our website now has only one information feed call the "Division News Feed". You can access the News Feed by selecting "News" from the top menu. The list on this page shows the 12 latest articles that have been published to the site.

Instead of having four independent news feeds to categorize articles, we now use a "Tag" system for categorization. For those that have never used tags, think of them as a point and click search feature for high level topics. For instance, if you wanted to read the listing of blogs, simply click on the "Blog" tag



## Division Programs

and you will be presented with the list of all blogs. If you want to read about the latest information on HQ AFSA news, simply click on the tag with that name.

One of the best advantages of this system is that articles can be tagged with multiple tags. For instance, a particular subject area might be covered under the NDAA tag, but also under the 113th Congress tag. Clicking on either of these will bring up the related material.

Additionally, you can still use the standard searching function of the website. We think this will be a positive improvement to the website and will improve the user's ability to find information they are seeking.

We will also be giving a demonstration of the new website at the Division PAC. If you are unable to attend, but have question, feel free to [contact us](#) at any time.

### Division 3 Web Resources



[Division 3 Website](#)



[Division 3 Facebook](#)



[Division 3 Twitter Feed](#)

### Legislation

As most of you know, all bills on the books at the end of the 112th Congress die when the congress adjourns. While some view this as having to start over from scratch, another way to view this is a fresh start to pursue our desired legislation.

There are several critical steps for the AFSA team to undertake as we start to engage the 113th Congress.

The first is to get important legislation reintroduced in one or both houses. While HQ AFSA does much of this heavy lifting, members can also help with this process by contacting their elected officials and asking them to introduce bills if there is nothing currently on the books for a specific issue.

The next step, and probably the most important step when there is current legislation, is to inform and educate your elected official on why this is important and ask them to support the legislation.

The easiest way to do this is to use the AFSA [CAPWIZ application](#) on the AFSA website. All bills that AFSA currently supports will be listed in the application and it is a simple process that just takes a few minutes of your time to make sure your elected officials are informed on what is important to AFSA and its members.

We have included a flyer on the next page to assist you on using CAPWIZ, if you have any questions, please [contact us](#) and we will answer any questions you may have.

The last step is to inform your chapter membership on current legislation and to make sure they all know how to use CAPWIZ.



## What is CAPWIZ?

AFSA recently added the CAPWIZ application to its website. CAPWIZ is designed as an easy to use tool for contacting your elected officials but it is more than just that. CAPWIZ is also an excellent research tool so you can find out what is happening on Capitol Hill and most importantly, find out if your elected officials are looking out for your best interests.

How to access CAPWIZ.

CAPWIZ can be accessed through this link:

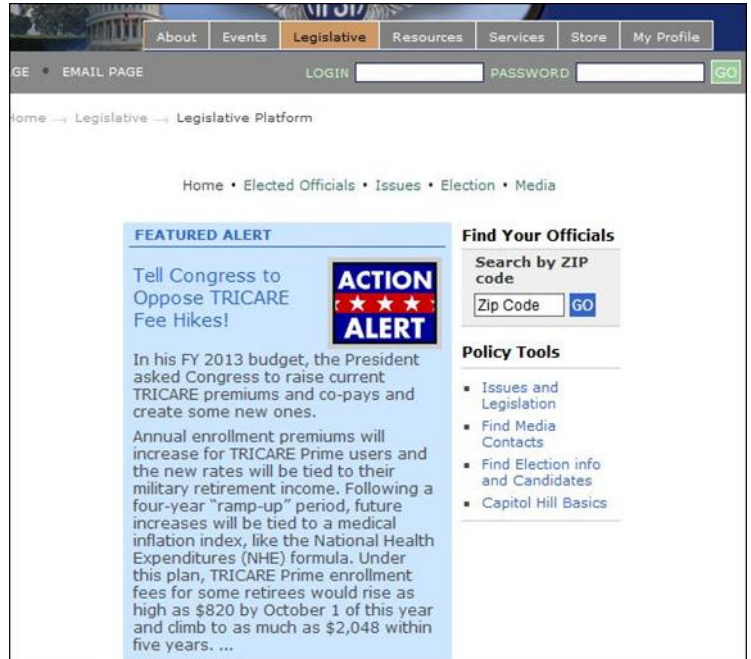
<http://www.capwiz.com/hqafsa/home/>

## What can I do on CAPWIZ?

- Send an email to your elected officials about an issue that is important to you
- Research candidates for public office at the state and federal level
- Research federal government agencies
- Research all legislation currently before congress
- Sign up to receive voting records for your elected officials
- Learn basic etiquette for contacting Congress
- Follow political races for each state and the federal government
- Register to Vote
- Contact local media outlets to let inform the public on matters concerning the enlisted Airman

## Why is all this important?

If our organization is going to be successful in our lobbying efforts, our membership must be proactive and contact their elected officials. If we do not actively engage our politicians, we run the risk of losing key benefits won during the last 40 years.



## How to contact your elected official using CAPWIZ

- Go to the main CAPWIZ Page at: <http://www.capwiz.com/hqafsa/home/>
- Click on the "Issues" link in the main menu
- Click on "Current Legislation"
- Click on one of the bills that you want to contact your elected officials about
- Enter your ZIP Code and press GO, CAPWIZ will load your elected officials
- Edit the letter as you desire or send the preformatted text
- Enter your personal information
- Click on Send Message

In just a few minutes, you have helped AFSA to protect your earned benefits.



Chapter 881

On 14 September 2012, the 509 BW/AFSA Chapter 881 hosted a POW/MIA remembrance ceremony. With over 200 people in attendance, active duty, retired, Guard, Reserve and some Vietnam Veterans, AFSA paid respect to those members that have returned and those still missing and unaccounted for from our nation's wars. As the 509 BW Honor Guard placed the hats representing the five branches of the U.S. military at the empty POW/MIA table a solemn salute was rendered in respect to those members unable to be with us for they had paid the ultimate sacrifice for their countries "FREEDOM". The bugler sounded his horn and rendered TAPS for those members



509 BW/CV COL ROBERT S. SPALDING III, THANKING RET. CMSGT MARK CLARK FROM AFSA CHAPTER 804 FOR BEING THE GUEST SPEAKER AT THE WHITEMAN AFB 2012 POW/MIA REMEMBRANCE DAY.

KIA w/n the last 365 days. As the ceremonial portion of the event wrapped up, guest speaker Ret. CMSgt Mark Clark, Vice President of AFSA Ch 804 gave a heartfelt speech on our responsibility as a Nation to ensure that we account for each service member and not rest until they are brought home.

Chapter 959

AFSA Chapter 959 hosted Team Minot's POW/MIA Remembrance Day September 21, 2012. The 24 hour run started at 0700 with the goal

to keep a special POW/MIA baton moving around the clock. A ceremony was held at Bud Ebert Park with guest speaker, Mr. Arnie Havelka, Commander American Legion Post 26. The guest of honor was Mrs. Arlene Berdahl, mother of POW Private First Class David Berdahl that was lost January 20, 1972. Also in attendance were 30 veterans from the area,



MSGT MIKE SHELLEY, DIVISION 89 TRUSTEE, NARRATES SPECIAL READINGS DURING THE MINOT AFB POW/MIA DAY.

friends and family of POW/MIAs, along with about a hundred Team Minot Warbird and Roughrider Airmen. The event included a UH1 "Huey" landing, static display, and take-off, a B52 fly over, Missing Man Table, free BBQ lunch for the base, Retreat, and entertainment by a local band named "Red Ball". Children in attendance were entertained with bouncy castles, glow sticks, and roasted marshmallows while they waited for dusk and the professional fireworks display. Every hour on the hour AFSA paid tribute to POWs and MIAs by sharing some history and heritage reading scripts on topics such as: Huey history and wartime contributions, Operation Linebacker II mission with B52 lost crews, Code of Conduct, Taps, North Dakota POW/MIA list, Bataan Death March, CMSgt Paul Airey biography, POW story, and obituary, and Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC).

October was also an exciting month for AFSA





### Chapter 959

Chapter 959. CMSgt (ret) Dan Yeomans, AFSA International President, came to Minot AFB to visit the chapter and to meet and greet as many team Minot members as he could.



CHAPTER 985 SIGNED UP 95% OF FTAC ATTENDEES DURING THEIR APRIL 24TH BRIEFING. THESE AIRMEN ARE KEY TO THE FUTURE OF OUR ORGANIZATION.

Spanning over three days, CMSgt Yeomans visited the 5 BW Command Chief, Minot's Airman Leadership School, 372nd Training Squadron, 5th Logistics Readiness Squadron, and the First Term Airman's Center. CMSgt Yeomans also had an opportunity to meet with many Professional Organizations such as Minot's 5/6 council, the base's enlisted airman's council, and AFSA Chapter 959.

### Chapter 872

The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center knew people at Scott Air Force Base were willing to donate blood, but the problem was getting access to a blood donating facility.

The solution came in the form of Senior Master Sgt. Rebeca Gabel, base coordinator for MVRBC, who was presented the Illinois Innovative Blood Drive Coordinator award by Illinois Senator Kyle McCarter and Illinois State Representative Paul J. Evans Sept. 27 at a ceremony at Scott AFB for her efforts.

Since June 23, 2011, Gabel has facilitated 16 blood drives, collecting more than 500 units of blood and affecting more than 1,500 lives in the surrounding community.



ILLINOIS SENATOR KYLE McCARTER PRESENTS SENIOR MASTER SGT. REBECA GABEL, CHAPTER 872 PRESIDENT, THE ILLINOIS INNOVATIVE BLOOD DRIVE COORDINATOR AWARD

Gabel became MVRBC's coordinator for Scott AFB more than a year ago. The Scott AFB Blood Program officer, Thomas R. Gray, asked Gabel how to get the MVRBC access to units after the 375th Air Mobility Wing commander signed a Memorandum of Understanding allowing MVRBC to collect donations on Scott AFB. The first MVRBC blood drive was held at AFNIC where Gabel was the first sergeant at the time. After that experience, Gabel agreed to be the Scott AFB coordinator because she enjoyed working with the MVRBC staff.



CHAPTER 872 CONTINUED ITS SUPPORT OF THE MISSION CONTINUES BY RIPPING UP AND REMOVED CARPET AND PAINTING CLASSROOMS FOR THE COMMUNITY LINK ORGANIZATION.

Chapter 872 continued its support of The Mission Continues by ripping up and removed



Chapter 872

carpet and painting classrooms for The Community Link organization. The Community Link, Inc. is a non-profit organization in which it allows individuals with disabilities to work and earn money by shining shoes and preparing the hangers for a local tuxedo rental place in Fairview Heights, Illinois. There are 99 individuals that participate in this program; these folks live on their own and come to the Community Link, Inc. to work and interact with friends they have made there.

Chapter 951

Thousands of people lined the streets of downtown Rapid City, South Dakota to watch the annual Festival of Lights Parade Saturday.

The idea started 15 years ago with organizers hoping just 10 businesses would make floats and help create a holiday parade. Sixty-seven businesses signed up and now the event has grown to become a staple of the holiday season.



ELLSWORTH AFB SHOWS IT'S PRIDE AND SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY BY ENTERING IT'S "B1 Bomber" FLOAT, SPONSORED BY AFSA CHAPTER 951.

Each year, Ellsworth AFB shows it's pride and support of community relations by entering it's "Home of the B1 Bomber" float, sponsored by the Air Force Sergeant's Association,

Chapter 951. This year was no exception. Fifteen AFSA volunteers spent hours reconstructing the float, to ensure it gleamed holiday cheer with it's over 50,000 lights affixed to the flying B1!

Chapter 951 President, SMSgt Elaina Soluri and her proud volunteers received their normal loud cheers from onlookers along Main Street.

Chapter 985

Chapter 985 sponsors a Quarterly Supervisor Excellence Award for the Tinker Air Force Base Junior Enlisted Council (JEC).

The JEC sends out requirements to over 1K members to nominate a supervisor that has shown great leadership and mentoring to the junior enlisted force.

The third quarter recipient for the Supervisor Excellence Award is TSgt Randall Blackburn from the 72 Comptrollers Squadron (CPTS).

Vice President A1C Aaron Collins presented plaque to TSgt Blackburn at monthly JEC meeting which took place at Latte Lounge on Tinker AFB, Oklahoma along with other JEC members in attendance.



JEC VICE PRESIDENT A1C AARON COLLINS PRESENTS TSgt RANDALL BLACKBURN WITH THE QUARTERLY SUPERVISOR EXCELLENCE AWARD. AFSA CHAPTER 985 SPONSORS THIS AWARD EACH QUARTER.

In addition to sponsoring the Supervisor Ex-



Chapter 985

cellence award, Chapter 985 also takes great pride in sponsoring the John Levitow Award at the local Airman Leadership School.

In September, Chapter 985 President Terry Turner helped present the John Levitow Award to SrA Jimmy Queen.



L TO R: MSGT STUART SAUNDERS, ALS COMMANDANT, COL STEVEN BLEYMAIER, 72 ABW/CC, SRA JIMMY QUEEN, JOHN LEVITOW AWARD WINNER AND MSGT (RET) TERRY TURNER, PRESIDENT CHAPTER 985

In October, President Turner helped to present the award to SrA Lee Wilson.



L TO R: COL STEVEN BLEYMAIER, 72 ABW/CC, SRA LEE WILSON, JOHN LEVITOW AWARD WINNER, MSGT (RET) TERRY TURNER, PRESIDENT CHAPTER 985, AND MSGT STUART SAUNDERS, ALS COMMANDANT

Chapter 985 recently sponsored 7 Angel Tree Families during holiday season to ensure Tinker Families would have a nice Christmas.

Chapter Secretary Rachael Long, Michelle Herrera and friend Jasmine shopped for each family and spent approx. \$450 to support First Sergeants Council base wide event. The Tink-

er First Sergeant's Council coordinates the annual event to help make the holiday season a little brighter for those military families who need assistance.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT : SSGT RACHAEL LONG, CHAPTER 985 SECRETARY AND SRA MICHELLE HERRERA

Chapter 985 was out in force at the 507 Air Refueling Wing Family Day. The chapter set up a booth to attract new members and educate them on what AFSA does to support their enlisted members.



CHAPTER MEMBERS TSgt LINDSTROM AND MSGT BARTELS WORK HARD TO SIGN UP THE OKLAHOMA CITY BARRON'S MASCOT "DERRICK" AS AFSA'S NEWEST MEMBER.



TINKER AFB, DORM COUNCIL HOLIDAY PARTY, UGLY SWEATER CONTEST WINNERS, SRA CADAVID, A1C SMITH, A1C LANHAM, AND SRA HENDERSON





### Chapter 984

Thanksgiving Day Food Basket Drive that does not just help our Airmen, but helps soldiers, marines, and sailors assigned to Offutt AFB.

During a two-week period over 200 volunteers give 275 man-hours to come together as a team to make this day of giving happen. It first starts by soliciting donations at the commissary for hours at a time every day for two weeks straight.



CHAPTER 984 COLLECTED LARGE QUANTITIES OF FOOD STORES FOR ITS ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE.

Once the food drive ended, Chapter 984 collected over 12,000 items of food. The food is then separated, organized and is put on stand-by for the last piece of the puzzle, the TURKEY!!!

With the support from other base organizations like Offutt's Top III, Chief's group, First Sergeant Council, Air Force Association and Officers Spouses Club giving monetary donations the turkeys were purchased. This allowed us to purchase 280 turkeys for the drive.

The Monday before Thanksgiving more people are



CHAPTER 984 MEMBERS SORT FOOD DURING THEIR ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE.

joined together at the ALS building to build the food boxes for delivery. The First Sergeants and supervisors from each unit request the number of boxes they need for their troops. This is our way of saying thanks to the troops and their families to save money during the holidays and celebrate Thanksgiving with their family and friends...

With over 280 boxes built and ready for delivery to the junior ranking service members of Offutt AFB, 7,000 items remained. The rest of the items were donated to the Bellevue Food Pantry where they give food for families in need. This is AFSA Chapter 984 way of GIVING....

### Chapter 851

Chapter 851 has been busy as usual with all their various projects. Manufacturer coupons are still being sent to the overseas commissaries, cancelled stamps to the Stamps for the Wounded, Box Tops for Education to a local school, and pull tabs to Ronald McDonald House. We are still sending needed items to Bagram AB and the Pat Tillman USO at Bagram. When they request something, we go all out to see that they get what they need.

In October several of our members worked our annual Membership Drive at the 128th ANG in the club on the base. Free brats, burgers and hot dogs were available for all who came thru. We were able to get some recruits from this annual drive and we are in the process of planning the next one in the near future.

At Christmas several of our members worked the 128th Annual Christmas party with Bill Rheingans and Mike Gordon overseeing the Bounce House—think they had as much fun watching the kids in the Bounce House as the kids themselves had being in it. Our "resident tattoo" artist, Gail Katutis, was tattooing the kids. And the line "formed to the rear" for their tattoos. Nancy Behr and Patti Conners helped the kids decorate cookies—and themselves. Mary Gordon worked the registration table. And Bud and Jean Kolwitz manned the Arts and Crafts table. Those were the "official" ones, but there were many other members (who were Guardsmen from the 128th) who helped with the set-up and the take down.





## "Vance AFB Air Force Sergeant's Association 2013"

By SMSgt Bob Woodin, 71 Communications Squadron Superintendent

What a great way to start out 2013! To be elected as the Chapter 990 Air Force Sergeants Association President or most commonly referred to as AFSA President is an honor. Along with this election came a great panel of executive officers: Vice President MSGT Phil Brandley and elected trustees TSgt Linell McKissick, SrA Evan Gillespie and SrA Alisha Jones all well deserved.

As we sat and discussed AFSA and where we are and where we want to be, it seems by the low number of members here at Vance that many don't really understand the importance of this organization or what they do for each of us every single day. Most of us really don't think things are important until someone or something hits our pocket books. Guess what, that is exactly what AFSA does for us; they help protect our pocket books.

They fight in congress on many different playing fields; they fight for our pay raises, they fight for our moving allowances, and they fight to keep our health care from being raised or taken away. All of which directly impact our pocket books! These are just a few and we should all be more involved in the fight. The first step is becoming a member which boosts AFSA's voting numbers, which in turn, helps us affect change.

So where are we now: We have 402 enlisted members at Vance and only 167 total active AFSA members? Of those 167, a third are retirees which means we have plenty of room to grow. I have been attending our meetings here at Vance since my arrival in April and have not seen a single retiree at the meetings; we need to get our retirees here. Lastly, we have not sent our leadership team to Division and International conferences nor have we recognized anyone this entire year for their contributions to the chapter, which will change.

Where do we want to be: We have some incredibly motivated Airmen here at Vance. It is time to educate and organize. I have some very specific goals for our chapter which include not only 50 new members and bringing our retirees back on board, but also recognizing our significant contributors with individual and team awards. We need to mentor our new airmen as they need to know that their buy-in to AFSA now only helps solidify their future. We are going to mentor leadership skills by putting them into trustee positions that they can learn and understand the importance of their contribution and learn how to affect change in their future. To do this, my goal is to put a senior mentor in each trustee position and their main objective will be to develop the junior trustee. I only see a win/win from this plan and the mentors are very excited about the chance to directly impact the lives of these young trustees and the positive changes in our chapter.

I am very excited about this chapter's future and our contribution to the big picture. This is going to be a great year, we will recruit more than we ever have, we will fill all trustee positions, we will fund-raise and send our folks to conferences and recognize our superior performers. We will seek the knowledge of those who have contributed before us and we will educate and train those who will come after us.



DIVISION PRESIDENT LUTZEN WITH THE NEW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR CHAPTER 990, L TO R, PRESIDENT: SMSGT WOODIN, VP: MSGT BRANDLEY, TRUSTEES: TSgt MCKISSICK, SRA GILLESPIE, AND SRA JONES .



## Leader Board

<u>2012 Recruits</u>	
M. Parente (984)	110
S. Francis (988)	107
T. Turner (985)	106
S. Lewis (959)	104
R. Parker (984)	102
S. Ekker (959)	102
S. Zalesky (872)	101
H. Findley (985)	101
L. Bynum (985)	101
A. Tetrault (988)	100
R. Reed (881)	100
M. Shelley (959)	78
F. Lawrence (951)	45
R. Gabel (872)	38
L. Doughty (959)	28
<u>2012 Retentions</u>	
B. Kolwitz (851)	163
S. Zalesky (872)	131
N. Link (872)	108
J. Kolwitz (851)	107
W. Hyde (A804)	103
T. Turner (985)	31
T. Sidel (988)	22
M. Thyne (872)	20

## Division Leadership Directory

<b>President</b>	SMSgt (ret) Dale Lutzen	<a href="mailto:president@afsadiv89.org">president@afsadiv89.org</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	SMSgt (ret) Steve Zalesky	<a href="mailto:vice@afsadiv89.org">vice@afsadiv89.org</a>
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<b>Trustee</b>	MSgt (ret) Terry Turner	<a href="mailto:trustee2@afsadiv89.org">trustee2@afsadiv89.org</a>
<b>Trustee</b>	MSgt (ret) Roland Kolwitz	<a href="mailto:trustee3@afsadiv89.org">trustee3@afsadiv89.org</a>
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<b>Secretary</b>	SSgt Nichole Link	<a href="mailto:secretary@afsadiv89.org">secretary@afsadiv89.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	MSgt Paul Wagner	<a href="mailto:treasurer@afsadiv89.org">treasurer@afsadiv89.org</a>
<b>Senior Advisor</b>	SMSgt (ret) Charlie Dalzell	<a href="mailto:senior@afsadiv89.org">senior@afsadiv89.org</a>

## Internet Directory

### Legislative Websites

- Legislative Information from the Library of Congress: <http://www.thomas.gov>
- AFSA Capwiz: <http://www.capwiz.com/hqafsa/issues/?style=D>
- U.S. House of Representatives: <http://www.house.gov>
- U.S. Senate: <http://www.senate.gov>

### AFSA Websites

AFSA Homepage	<a href="http://www.hqafsa.org">http://www.hqafsa.org</a>
Division 3, Heartland of America	<a href="http://www.afsadiv3.org">http://www.afsadiv3.org</a>
Chapter 858, Minneapolis, MN	<a href="http://www.afsa858.org">http://www.afsa858.org</a>
Chapter 872, Scott AFB	<a href="http://www.afsa872.org">http://www.afsa872.org</a>
Chapter 881, Whiteman AFB	<a href="http://www.afsa881.org">http://www.afsa881.org</a>
Chapter 951, Ellsworth AFB	<a href="http://www.afsa951.org">http://www.afsa951.org</a>
Chapter 985, Tinker AFB	<a href="http://afsa985.org/">http://afsa985.org/</a>

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