

Division 89 Newsletter

2009 AFSA Division Newsletter of the Year



Volume 2, Edition 2
May 2010 - Aug 2010

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Convention Update

President Dale Lutzen:



We had a great AFSA International PAC (Professional Airmen's Conference) in August. Before I get into briefing you on the changes we can expect from the conference, I want to say HUAH and congratulations to the Division 89 **International Awards Winners!** You may have seen them already on the AFSA or Div. 89 website, but I want to feature and salute them again for their hard work and achievements last year.

I'm very pleased to pass on that Division 89 took the three top awards given at the AFSA Division level. Our Website, Newsletter, and Auxiliary Newsletter were best in the association. My thanks to our communications team.

AFSA 2009 Award Winners

AFSA Member of the Year

- MSgt (Ret) Terry Turner, Chap. 985, Tinker AFB, OK

AFSA Veteran Affairs Volunteer Service

- Barbara Veach, Chap. A804, Kansas City, MO

AFSA Legislative Award (Individual)

- MSgt (Ret) Terry Turner, Chap. 985, Tinker AFB, OK

AFSA Top Retainer

- MSgt (Ret) Roland Kolwitz, Chap. 851, Milwaukee, WI

AUX Top Retainer

- Willa D. Hyde, Chap. A804, Kansas City, MO

AFSA Legislative Award (Field)

-Chapter 985, Tinker AFB, OK

AFSA Exemplary Achievement Award

- Chapter 985, Tinker AFB, OK



Convention Update



DIVISION 89 GROUP DINNER



GRAND FORKS CONTINGENT



TERRY TURNER, KELLY RODRIGUEZ, AND DALE LUTZEN SPORTING THEIR NEW DIVISION 89 POLO SHIRTS



AFSA BUSINESS MEETING



CHIEF ROY WITH THE FORMER CMSAF



GENO CONDUCTING THE PARADE OF CHECKS



THE BAD GIRLS OF AFSA WERE OUT IN FORCE



AFSA'S TOP RETAINERS



Convention Update

Awards Continued...

AUX Chapter Newsletter (over 125)

– Chapter A804, Kansas City, MO

AUX Top Retaining Chapter

– Chapter A804, Kansas City, MO

AUX Chapter Membership Award

– Chapter A851, Milwaukee, WI

AFSA Division Newsletter

– Division 89

AFSA Division Website Award

– Division 89

AUX Division Coordinator Newsletter

- Division 89



DIVISION 89 AWARD WINNERS

2009 Highfliers

Bud Kolwitz (851) 223 Retentions

Willa Hyde (A804) 146 Retentions

Jean Kolwitz (A851) 103 Retentions

HQ AFSA Election Results

President—Jeffrey Ledoux

Trustee, Retiree & Veteran Affairs—Dale Nelson

Trustee, ANG Affairs—Mindy Anderson

Trustee, Reserve Affairs—David Henry

Airman Activity Coordinator—Peter Hill

2009 Skyhighers

Terry Turner (985) 135 Recruits

Mike Parente (984) 128 Recruits

Buddy Gerhardt (972) 107 Recruits

Jonathan Bennett (985) 104 Recruits

Bryan Thompson (985) 103 Recruits

Candace Desa (984) 103 Recruits

Steve Francis (988) 102 Recruits

Kimberly Widener (988) 102 Recruits

Bridget Sleepy (959) 101 Recruits

Lawrence Bach (985) 101 Recruits

Bob Young (872) 100 Recruits



DIVISION 89 SKYHIGHERS

Auxiliary Election Results

President—Marie McDowell

Trustee—Cari Mansfield

Trustee—Patricia Parrish

AFSA Fiscal Year Changes

For years we've been operating under a dual year concept; calendar year for Awards and Membership and fiscal year (May through April) for financial and all reporting requirements. Beginning January



AFSA Business Information

1, 2011 all AFSA business will be calendar year. That means the way we do things won't change, but when we do them will. Thus, FY2011 which started May 1, 2010 will be a short year. Our last quarter will comprise of 2 months of the 3rd quarter (November-December). **Expect further instructions on this soon.**

AFSA Quarterly Reports Change

AFSA needs the quarterly reports (Activities/Americanism and Financial) in a more timely fashion. To accomplish this, the 45-day due date rule following the end of each quarter will be reduced to 30 days. You will recall in Division 89, Standing Rule 2010-3 on reports shortened the 45 days to 35 to afford the Division President time to monitor your progress and help you be timely, thus helping you qualify for your much earned/needed rebate. This Standing Rule will be changed to reflect the division requiring 5 days of the new requirement versus 10 days. Therefore, quarterly reports will be due no later than 25 days following the end of the reporting quarter. **More will follow on this also.**

Bank Accounts

Reference AFSA Manual 100-4(1) Bank Accounts (checking and saving). Briefly, current procedures outlined in 100-4(1) requires 2 authorized signatures at the division/chapter level on check disbursements and savings account withdrawals. You can continue this practice, or establish a process requiring a 2-person review/approval of all disbursements/withdrawals. Some chapters can transition into this change easily because they already prepare and submit a treasurer's report of all financial transactions for review/approval to the entire executive council and general membership each month at their respective meetings. The change will require written policy for at least a 2-person review/approval process. This can be done with a Standing Rule.

Group Tax Filing Authorization

This year was the second year IRS has required AFSA to obtain authorization from divisions/chapters to incorporate their financial information into the AFSA tax return. This form is a mandatory annual requirement now. It is only a few lines plus the division/chapter president's signature. Failure to file it means you have to file your own tax return. We should not be having problems

with this reporting requirement. Some are confused when to file it. When we go to the Calendar Year January 1, 2011 – you can file it immediately. There's no reason to wait. If you need a copy of the Group Filing Form, it can be downloaded from the HQ AFSA website.

2011 Division Conference

Our annual conference attendance appears to be getting smaller, even though we double in size when merging our two divisions. Chapters 804/A804, Kansas City, MO and 881, Whiteman AFB have agreed to host our 2011 annual conference so that it will be more geographically centered toward the middle of our division to afford more members the opportunity to attend. This adds even more importance to the 2011 attendance, and planning for future conferences.

The 2011 Conference will be held April 21 through April 23 at the Hilton Garden Inn, in Independence, Missouri. Once the contract is finalized, members will be notified on the details of the event and how to register.

Please check the division website, www.afsativ89.org for all conference details.



DIVISION PRESIDENT LUTZEN ACCEPTS ONE OF MANY DIVISION AWARDS



THE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF CHOICE FOR AIR FORCE ENLISTED



AFSA By-Law Changes

Along with the change to the AFSA fiscal year, there were several other by-law changes adopted by the membership during AFSA business meetings.

- Starting in 2012, the AFSA President will now serve in office for a term of 2-years.
- The membership committee will now have the authority to increase membership dues without the vote of the general membership.
- Retentions will now pay out \$2 to the chapter for each retention. In the past, there was no payback to the chapter for retaining members.

New Manuals Out Soon

New Bylaws, P&P and Operations manuals (AFSA Manual 100-1, 100-2 and 100-4(1)) will be published by the end of September 2010 and will incorporate the PAC approved changes mentioned in paragraphs 3, 4 & 5 above. The effective date of the changes will be October 1, 2010. President Lutzen will notify chapter presidents when the manuals are available for download from the AFSA Website.

AFSA Auxiliary

Over the past few months there has been several plans circulating on the future of the AFSA Auxiliary. It had been indicated that due to financial reasons, the Auxiliary membership might be merged into the general AFSA membership. After a second look at the Auxiliary's finances, it was determined that the Auxiliary is on firmer financial ground than was previously thought so there are no plans at this time to merge the Auxiliary into the general membership.

Legislative Update

During one of our business meetings at the 2010 PAC, AFSA leadership has said they will go back

and take another look at integrating the CAPWIZ legislative service for our membership. CAPWIZ is a program that can be accessed via the web that greatly reduces the effort to contact your elected officials. This capability would be a great improvement to our #1 goal, legislative involvement. Please take the time to review the features of CAPWIZ at their website and you can even test drive the program via the Military Officers of America website. If you like how this program works, contact HQ AFSA to let them know this is an important feature needed for our organization.

- CAPWIZ website: www.capwiz.com
- MOAA website: <http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/bills/>

The following pieces of legislation are currently being considered by the US Congress. Please contact your elected officials and ask them to support the following legislation.

House of Representatives

HR 5826—Expands the active duty service of a National Guard member to receive benefits under the Post 9-11 GI Bill. If this bill is signed into law, National Guard members will be able to receive benefits if they are on active duty for the purpose of organizing, administering, recruiting, instructing, or training the National Guard and when authorized by the President or Secretary of Defense for the purpose of responding to a national emergency declared by the President and supported by Federal funds.

HR 3787—Would allow National Guard and reserve retirees not yet receiving retired pay to officially be considered "veterans," although no new benefits would come with the title.

HR 6132—Veterans Benefits and Economic Welfare Improvement Act of 2010," would establish a transition program for new veterans and improve the disability claim system.

HR 333—To amend title 10, United States Code,



Legislative Update, cont.

to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation, to eliminate the phase-in period for concurrent receipt, to extend eligibility for concurrent receipt to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service, and for other purposes.

Vice President's Note

What a great time to be a member of Division 89! In just the first year of our annual awards our division chapters and Auxiliary walked away with numerous awards during the AFSA Professional Airmen's Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. These awards recognize all the great accomplishments that our chapters and members accomplished in 2009. I believe that our division has already accomplished more this year than the last and we still have three months left to do even more.

On sad note, our association's membership strength continues to decline every month. Membership is the life blood of any organization, and our association is no exception. There can many contributing factors—death, lack of interest in AFSA or just forgetting to renew their membership. I believe it falls to us, the individual members in our chapters, to work and recruit new members and retain those members whose membership is about to expire. Because of your membership, AFSA continues to employ full time lobbyists and staff to protect the interests of Air Force enlisted personnel. A strong AFSA membership equates to a strong lobbying presence on the hill. I challenge you to do more than attend meetings; I challenge you to get involved and recruit & retain!

Together we can achieve more for our division and AFSA.—Steve Zalesky, SMSgt (ret)

Division 89 Auxiliary Coordinator

Well, it is hard to believe that summer is over and fall is here. Up here in southern Wisconsin the trees are turning color. Beautiful, but it only means one thing—snow won't be too far behind.

Also, another PAC is behind us and Atlanta lived up to its reputation of being "Hot!" A lot was discussed and accomplished. When I do my Coordinator newsletter, I will go into details.

One thing on everyone's mind was the proposed merger of AFSA and the Auxiliary. I am sure all of you saw the proposed motion in the Sergeants Magazine before PAC. It was announced that we would not vote on the merger at this time. International AFSA President Ledoux and International Auxiliary President McDowell announced the forming of a committee to look into all aspects of the proposed merger. They want to make certain all i's are dotted and all t's are crossed before anything is done.

At the Parade of Checks \$6,950 was donated to the Auxiliary General Fund. It was also announced that there appears to be enough money in the Auxiliary treasury to keep the Auxiliary going for two more years. But, we need to recruit new members and retain the ones we have. We need to recruit the younger members. The average age of an Auxiliary member is 73.

There are several inactive Auxiliary Chapters in our Division and they are all at Active Duty bases. Even though the picture doesn't look good for the Auxiliary, I still would love to see these Auxiliaries reactivated. Like just about everyone else, I want to see the Auxiliary continue as the Auxiliary. I am willing to come and visit you at your convenience. At Division Conference, there was interest expressed by several Chapters in reactivating the Auxiliaries.

I am the eternal optimist—I always seem to see the glass as half full rather than half empty. But I am a realist, too. It is going to take a lot of hard work to get the Auxiliary back on good footing again. I have my sleeves rolled up ready to work. Anyone care to join me? - Jean Kolwitz



The Mad-Dog Blog

For the past several months most of my time has been encompassed prepping for a major inspection. As you may know, it is never a pleasant thing as it usually means extra long hours, high stress, creating/revamping program books, cleaning, painting, not to mention deciphering through the seemingly never-ending checklists associated with "Getting' It Right". There is an old saying, "What gets checked gets done" and that's what we have all been doing for a very long time.

Doing a great job does not happen overnight. It happens over a period of time, through trial and error, practice to proficiency. Just like the preparation associated with military inspections, AFSA involvement deserves our commitment and each one of us has a vital role in making good-GREAT! It starts with the STRIPES wearers! Now, I am not discounting the civilian force or officer corps as many have dawned a military uniform and worn stripes of one sort or another at some point in their lives. Stripes make it happen! STRIPES are what are going to get us through inspections and it's what is going to make us thrive as a professional military service organization. In fact, EVERYONE associated with AFSA belongs to the "STRIPES Club"...

S – Standards—AFI 36-2618 is the solid foundation of the stripes WE wear and the standard WE MUST live up to!

T – Teamwork – NOTHING is accomplished in the Air Force or in AFSA by any one individual...it takes a team!

R – Responsibility – WE are responsible to take care of our GREATEST national asset—the PEOPLE we lead everyday!

I – Integrity – The foundation of trust on which EVERYTHING we do is built on!

P – Professionalism – WE are part of the Profession of Arms...and WE ARE professional warriors!

E – Excellence In ALL We Do – 100% of OUR effort—NOTHING less will do!

S – Service Before Self – It is NOT about you or me...It IS about our Country, our Air Force, OUR organization and the PEOPLE we serve!

Now, in all actuality it is NOT about the stripes we wear or don't wear on our sleeves... It's about the "STRIPES" we have in our spirit, in our soul—it's the engine that drives our motivation, dedication and commitment to doing a GREAT JOB everyday... As a senior enlisted Air Force and AFSA leader, I want to ensure you that ALL your efforts are appreciated, valued and needed!

If you are not involved—GET INVOLVED...If you are involved—GET OTHERS INVOLVED! Your desire to excel is what we need...Keep up the OUTSTANDING work, stay flexible, focused and professional. Collectively, WE hold the keys to success! STRIPES!!!!!!! - SMSgt Matt Becker

Lackland Gateway Heritage Foundation

The Lackland Gateway Heritage Foundation, Inc. has been commissioned by the Commander, 37th Training Wing to design and construct an 80,000 square foot facility to replace the current heritage center on Lackland AFB. All funds raised for the construction of this facility must come from the private sector; it is estimated that this facility will cost approximately \$25M. For this grand idea to become a reality, the foundation needs your help through donations and the brick paver program.



The brick paver program consists of a standard size paver etched with 3 lines of up to 14 characters. Pavers dedicated to your service member will be installed in the courtyards and walkways around the Lackland AFB Parade Field. This is a great way to recognize the outstanding achievements of a special Airman in your life. Pavers cost \$55.00 each and can be ordered online or by mailing the paver form to the foundation. This facility will be a lasting legacy to all Airmen of the United States Air Force.

Foundation Website: <http://www.myairmanmuseum.org/>

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AFSA: What's in it for me?

I know that most of us have faced this question from fellow Airmen when we talk to them about joining the association. I think it is a valid point, at a minimum we are asking them for \$25 of their hard earned money. Sometimes it is hard to put things into a perspective that folks can understand and I always see that glassy eyed, deer in the headlights expression take over when I start talking about legislative issues. I have started taking a new tact when telling people why the organization is important to them as an enlisted Airman. I use the historical aspect of where the enlisted Airman was in 1962 to where our Airmen are today. Although I'm sure there might have been some initial wins for the founding members of AFSA, those charter members were really stepping up to take care of a future generation of Airmen. Additionally, the Airmen that were members in the 1970s did so to improve quality of life for those of us that came into the Air Force in the 1980s, and it was part of my responsibility to be a member to help the Airman that came in after me. Because of the efforts of the association, living conditions and pay have changed drastically over the decades. AFSA's membership in the Military Coalition is vital to ensure that voice of the Air Force Enlisted Airmen is heard at the table. It is important to reinforce that being a member is to not only protect your benefits today but to take care of future generations of Airmen. So when you get asked, "What's in it for me?" , show them their dorm room, outstanding base housing, educational benefits and their bank account. I think this association can take great pride in the hand it had to improve these aspects of military life.—Gary Swanson, SMSgt (ret)

1950s Dorm life meant lots of people and no privacy. Open bay barracks with group latrines while functional did not make for ideal living conditions.



By the 1980s dorm rooms with 2-3 room mates were the primary standard. Walls were normally cinderblock and who can forget the El-Rancho furniture.



Today, most Airman live in a dorm pod consisting of a private room w/private bath. Most pods have four bedrooms, a common living room and kitchen area.



In the 1960s base housing was pretty basic and in most instances for young married Airmen, unavailable.



The advent of the Wherry and Capehart housing programs of the cold war era did little to provide quality housing for military members. Today Airmen enjoy modern housing that rivals many civilian houses in quality along with a dramatic increase in square footage over former housing units



Who doesn't love the 1st and the 15th of every month? Each year the DoD recommends a percentage pay raise for the military and Congress has the final say on what we get. Since 1991, the difference in what DoD has requested and what Congress has approved is over 20% greater. This means more money in your pocket every month.

E1(0yrs) = extra \$298/month

E5(6yrs) = extra \$531/month

E7(15yrs) = extra \$793/month

Over a 20 year career, AFSA is a \$500 investment. You will never find a better return on your money. Invest in AFSA!



Around The Division

Chapter 872



STEVE ZALESKY AND JOYDETTE GALLOWAY SIGN UP SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE 932AW AT SCOTT AFB

Chapter 872 was on hand during the 932d Airlift Wing's recent NCO Induction Ceremony. Chapter 872 Senior Advisor, SMSgt (ret) Steve Zalesky and Chapter 872 Sergeant at Arms MSgt Joydette Galloway talked to the unit's newest NCOs on the importance of AFSA and how it relates to members of the Air Force Reserve.

Chapter 985

Each month, Chapter 985 rewards members that bring another person with them to their general membership meetings. Each person that brings someone is entered into a drawing for \$25, \$15, or \$10. The next membership meeting for Chapter 985 is on 14 Oct, make sure and bring a friend and get entered into the drawing.



CHAPTER 985 PRESIDENT TERRY TURNER PREPARING TO PULL THE WINNING TICKETS FOR THIS MONTH'S "BRING A FRIEND" DRAWING

Chapter 985



CHAPTER 985 RECRUITING MEMBERS AT THE TINKER AFB 507 ARW (RESERVE) FAMILY DAY ON SEPTEMBER 11TH

Members of Chapter 985 were also out in force recruiting members during the Tinker AFB 507 ARW (Reserve) Family Day.

Chapter 964



CUSTOM MADE COIN HOLDER CHAPTER 964 AUCTIONED OFF TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Chapter 964 teamed up with the local wing during a fundraiser in support of American Cancer Society Relay for Life event. GFAFB raised over \$1500 towards cancer research, and over 100 base members and families came out to walk/support the AFSA booth at the event. Chapter 964 sold glow necklaces and bracelets, making over \$280. TSgt Hatto and team hand-crafted a coin rack representing GFAFB and all supporting Groups/Sq coins. Sold for over \$300 at the silent auction, all proceeds went towards ACS research for cure.



Around The Division

Chapter 964



MEMBERS OF CHAPTER 964 WORK THE FOOD BOOTH DURING THE GRAND FORKS AFB AIR SHOW

Chapter 951

"Positive interaction" was the phrase A1C Marilyn Brandt of the 28th Contracting Squadron used to describe an AFSA-sponsored visit to Black Hills Children Home on July 29th that gave the youthful residents a chance "to be kids."

The visiting airmen were from various career fields and were members of service organizations on base including Active Airman Council and Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA). A1C Brandt estimated about 50 airmen contributed their time and energy to making the event a success. Some of these contributions were making lunch for the children and serving them, and facilitating recreational activities such as tug-of-war, soccer, kickball, and face-painting.



MEMBERS OF CHAPTER 951 VISITING THE BLACK HILLS CHILDREN'S HOME

Chapter 984

In August, 150 AFSA members and their families enjoyed the chapter's annual outing to Rosenblatt

Stadium to watch the Omaha Royals. During this year's event, chapter President Matt Becker participated in the "Fast Food" race during an intermission. Matt dressed up as steak and competed against Beer and Corn. We are happy to say that Matt won the race.



CHAPTER 984 PRESIDENT MATT BECKER SHOWING HIS WINNING FORM DURING THE "FAST FOOD" RACE AT OMAHA'S ROSENBLATT STADIUM

Air Force Heritage



On 21 Sep 2010, President Obama posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, to the family of CMSgt Richard Etchberger for his heroic actions in Laos in 1969. Chief Etchberger had originally been awarded the Air Force Cross in a secret medal presentation at the Pentagon shortly after he gave his life while protecting escaping service members at Lima Site 85. The medal did not become publically known until the late 1980s when information about the Top Secret program was declassified.

On this occasion I think it is also important that we take a moment and remember the 10 men that died that day on the mountain who are still listed as KIA, body not recovered. Those still missing from the greatest loss of Air Force life during ground operations in Vietnam: LtCol Blanton, MSgt Calfee, TSgt Holland, SSgt Kirk, SSgt Gish, SSgt Hall, SSgt Davis, SSgt Price, SSgt Springsteadah, and SSgt Workey. RIP Airmen.



Leader Board

Recruits	
M. Parente (984)	104
T. Turner (985)	102
S. Francis (988)	102
S. Zalesky (872)	77
T. Halaney (988)	60
R. White (985)	38
A. Matteson (984)	35
M. Becker (984)	22
J. Brandt (959)	19
B. Thompson (985)	18
W. Greene (872)	17
M. Roberts (972)	17
F. Lawrence (951)	14
P. Hill (881)	12
N. Hildebrand (881)	11
Retentions	
B. Kolwitz (851)	173
S. Zalesky (872)	122
W. Hyde (A804)	114
J. Kolwitz (A851)	60
B. Thompson (985)	10
D. Lutzen (984)	7
T. Turner (985)	7
B. Gerhardt (972)	6
M. Becker (984)	6

Division Leadership Directory

President	SMSgt (ret) Dale Lutzen	president@afsadiv89.org
Vice President	SMSgt (ret) Steve Zalesky	vice@afsadiv89.org
Trustee	MSgt (ret) David Bamburg	trustee1@afsadiv89.org
Trustee	MSgt Buddy Gephardt	trustee2@afsadiv89.org
Trustee	MSgt (ret) Roland Kolwitz	trustee3@afsadiv89.org
Trustee	SMSgt Gary Swanson	trustee4@afsadiv89.org
Secretary	TSgt Denise Cox	secretary@afsadiv89.org
Treasurer	SMSgt Matt Becker	treasurer@afsadiv89.org
Senior Advisor	SMSgt (ret) Charlie Dalzell	senior@afsadiv89.org
Auxiliary Coordinator	Jean Kolwitz	auxiliary@afsadiv89.org
Historian	SMSgt (ret) Don Sullivan	history@afsadiv89.org

Internet Directory

Legislative Websites

- Legislative Information from the Library of Congress: <http://www.thomas.gov>
- Legislative Information from MOAA.org: <http://www.moaa.org>
- U.S. House of Representatives: <http://www.house.gov>
- U.S. Senate: <http://www.senate.gov>

AFSA Websites

AFSA Homepage	http://www.hqafsa.org
Division 89, Heartland of America	http://www.afsadiv89.org
Chapter 858, Minneapolis, MN	http://www.afsa858.org
Chapter 872, Scott AFB	http://www.afsa872.org
Chapter 951, Ellsworth AFB	http://www.afsa951.org
Chapter 984, Offutt AFB	http://www.afsa984.org/
Chapter 985, Tinker AFB	http://afsa985.org/

Division 89 Merchandise

Division 89 Polo Shirt	Division 89 Koozie	Division 89 Coin	2010 POW/MIA Coin
			
\$25.00	\$2.50	\$12.00	\$12.00

The next shirt order will be done approx Jan 2011, all other items are available now, please contact Dale Lutzen, president@afsadiv89.org to purchase these items. All prices include shipping.

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