



AFSA DIVISION 3

Heartland of America

“Recruit, Retain, Educate”



Members of Division 3 enjoying the “Favorite Team” Theme on the Opening Night at the 2016 AFSA International Convention/ Airman’s Conference in San Antonio, TX. Everyone’s favorite team was our own Division 3.

Inside this issue:		AFSA’s Legislative Update	AFSA Membership
Z-Talk	2	<p><i>“Remember we are only as politically strong as our membership strength and the level of involvement we expect from it. Each member we add strengthens our position and helps our lobbyist gain the attention of congress. Now is the time to recruit, retain, and engage. As always, thanks for all you do for our Air Force and our beloved association.”</i></p> <p><i>CMSgt (Ret) Mark Clark</i> Division 3 Legislative Trustee</p>	<p>“Our division currently stands at only 12K members compared to 13,960 at the end of last year. We have a tough road ahead of us entering the last quarter of CY15. With only three months remaining we have an opportunity to rebound our numbers. Division 3 has been a benchmark in recruiting and retentions efforts, lets continue striving for that mark again this year.”</p> <p>MSgt Jared Langenstein Division 3, Membership Trustee</p>
Executive Council	3		
Chapter Listing	4		
Recruit/Retain	5-6		
Award Winners	7-6		
Convention Pics	9		
Reports	10-15		
Airman Talk	16		
Chapter Happenings	17-23		
2016 Div 3 Conv	24		



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Straight Talk, Division 3 President, SMSgt (Ret) Steve Zalesky



Greetings from your Division 3 President,

I recently returned from a great Professional Airmen's Conference (PAC) and AFSA International Convention in San Antonio, Texas. The PAC was a great opportunity for our members to come together for camaraderie and discuss important AFSA business. I'm proud of every member in our division; our members continue to lead the way for our association. Our division was fortunate to have some chapters and members recognized for their tireless efforts in ensuring AFSA remains relevant.

Our division is fortunate to have chapters that continue to make a lasting impact in the communities they serve in. This past week Chapter 804 hosted their annual POW/MIA Ceremony, Chapter 972 held POW/MIA luncheon to honor former POW and held a 24-hour Vigil Run, and Chapter 951 raised well-over \$8,000 to donate to different charities. These are just a few examples of many worthy events that all our chapters are involved with. Volunteerism is what makes a difference and it seems to never fail that our chapters continue to support great causes and accordingly are making a giant impact in the local community.

Membership is the key to any successful organization. That is especially true with AFSA. Your membership dues continue to support our cause - ensuring our voice is heard at all levels of govern-

ment. With that in mind, I keep asking myself why every current and former enlisted Airmen doesn't belong to an organization whose #1 concern is taking care our enlisted corps and their families. As I speak to people who are not members I get responses like, "I have never really heard that much about AFSA or what the organization does." I have a hard time believing this, but it must be true. So this is where our association needs your help in talking to your co-workers and ask them if they are a member or not. If they are not a member ask them why and then educate them on what AFSA has accomplished for our enlisted corps. Then consider asking them to join AFSA! The great thing about AFSA is that our voice is heard from the bottom-up. Every member, from Airman Basic to Chief Master Sergeant, Active Duty, Reserves, Guard, Retiree, and Family Member has a voice.

In closing, I would thank every member for their support and commitment. Together we will make a difference and do great things for AFSA.





May—Aug 2015

AFSA DIVISION 3

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Division 3 Executive Council



President

SMSgt (Ret) Steve Zalesky

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Vice-President

SMSgt (Ret) Gary Swanson

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Trustee 2

MSgt (Ret) Terry Turner

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Trustee 3

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Trustee 4

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Family Matters Chair

Mrs. Patti Dalzell

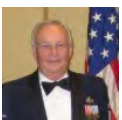
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Communications Chair

MSgt (Ret) David A. Bamberg

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MSgt Amber Callahan

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Senior Advisor

SMSgt (Ret) Dale Lutzen

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How are you Communicating?

Cruzing the Web

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Internet</u>
	AFSA HQ	
	Division 3	
804	Kansas City, MO	
851	Milwaukee, WI	
858	Minneapolis, MN	
872	Scott AFB, IL	
881	Whiteman AFB, MO	
951	Ellsworth AFB, SD	
959	Minot AFB, ND	
964	Grand Forks, ND	
972	McConnell AFB, KS	
984	Offutt AFB, NE	
985	Tinker AFB, OK	
988	Altus AFB, OK	
990	Vance AFB, OK	



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TOP 10 DIV 3 RECRUITERS FOR 2015

NAME	CHP	YTD	LIFETIME
Hefferon, Mary	F0959	91	143
Mitchell, Donnail	F0984	85	97
Francis, Stephan	F0988	83	2,130
Zalesky, Steven	F0872	54	836
Short, Steven	F0872	41	46
Gralewski, Michael	F0872	39	56
Dorsey, Markeisha	F0959	36	48
Simes, Shonta	F0881	35	37

	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
F0804	3	5	1	
F0851	5	12	5	9
F0858				
F0872	37	20	25	13
F0881	14	4	3	6
F0951	10	12	1	2
F0959	29	26	7	18
F0964	3	2	1	6
F0972	5	6	2	1
F0984	30	17	21	19
F0985	5	6	8	1
F0988	8	11	13	3
F0990	4		2	3
Total	153	121	89	81

1,001 People Recruited!

There are some great recruiting tools on HQ AFSA web-site.

<http://www.hqafsa.org/recruiting-tools.html>

<http://www.hqafsa.org/exclusive-afsa-member-benefits.html>



AFSA DIVISION 3

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Top 10 Division 3 Retainers for 2015

NAME	CHAP	YTD	LIFETIME
Kolwitz, Roland	F0851	110	3,059
Kolwitz, Jean	F0851	70	1,289
Zalesky, Steven	F0872	39	939
Dalzell, Patricia	F0804	32	39
Rojas, Audrye	F0988	23	40
Bamburg, David	F0951	11	66
Bailey, Courtney	F0984	9	19
Gralewski, Michael	F0872	9	13

	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
F0804	9	1	11	4
F0851	25	22	28	23
F0858				
F0872	7	8	7	5
F0881				
F0951	4	3	1	
F0959		1		
F0964	1	1	1	1
F0972			1	
F0984	9			2
F0985		1		
F0988	4	6	2	
F0990				
Total	59	43	51	35

368 People Retained!

Message from , MSgt Jared Langenstein, Membership

"Today more than ever it is critical for our membership base to continue growing. We are facing budget cuts that are targeting our benefits, retirement, health care, and other quality of life benefits.

Our division currently stands at only 12K members compared to 13,960 at the end of last year. We have a tough road ahead of us as we enter the last quarter of CY15."



AFSA International Award Winners



AFSA Family Member of the Year
Mrs. Patti Dalzell
Chapter 804, Kansas City, KS



AFSA International President's Achievement Award
MSgt (Ret) David A. Bamburg
Chapter 951, Rapid City, SD



2014 AFSA International Award Winners Cont...



AFSA Exemplary Performers
Division 3: Bud and Jean Kolwitz

AFSA Chapter of the Year, Over 500
Chapter 872, Scott AFB, Ill

AFSA Chapter Newsletter of the Year
Chapter 984, Offutt AFB, Neb

AFSA Division Newsletter of the Year
Division 3

AFSA VAVS Award
Adeline Davidson
Chapter 804, Kansas City, MO

AFSA Legislative Award (Chapter)
Chapter 985, Tinker AFB, OK

AFSA Legislative Award (Individual)
TSgt Richard Porter
Chapter 985, Tinker AFB, OK

DIVISION 3
TAKES
SAN ANTONIO BY STORM





AFSA State of Membership

By MSgt Jared Langenstein, Div 3 Membership Trustee



Entering this year AFSA had high hopes for an amazing membership campaign. The new campaign 5 for \$25 was to yield exponentially higher recruits than previous years by offering 5 years of membership for only \$25. This new campaign was designed to not only jump-start our membership strength, but to reduce costs by eliminating the traditional paper magazine and replace it with a digital version that was located on the AFSA website. This membership class offers all of the same incentives as the traditional membership minus the hard copy magazine through the mail.

Unfortunately, despite our effort to increase our association's membership base with an innovative new program, numbers continued to fall at an alarming rate. Currently in Division 3 we are losing roughly 110 members a month. Some chapters have continued to grow with steady recruiting and retention numbers while some chapters have slowed to as little as zero recruits and retentions during CY15. In CY14 the division recruited and retained an average of 11 members a month. In CY15 this has risen to 42 members a month. However, this increase is primarily due to the activity of a few chapters; 872, 881 and 988 who have shown a considerable increase in recruiting and retentions efforts. Unfortunately, we have a substantial number of members who are not renewing their membership from some of our large chapters which is contributing to our membership decline.

Today more than ever it is critical for our membership base to continue growing. We are facing budget cuts that are targeting our benefits, retirement, health care, and other quality of life benefits. There are bills proposed in Congress to restructure our retirement, health care, and base facilities. It is critical that we continue to combat these reductions. However, our ability as a professional organization to continue fighting these issues lies solely with our membership numbers. As we in AFSA drop below One-hundred thousand our voice begins to soften.

Our division currently stands at only 12K members compared to 13,960 at the end of last year. We have a tough road ahead of us as we enter the last quarter of CY15. With only three months remaining we have an opportunity to rebound our numbers. Division 3 has been a benchmark in recruiting and retentions efforts, lets continue to strive for that mark again this year. We must work collaboratively to ensure we maintain the powerful and credible voice we currently have on Capitol Hill. Let's continue to push and finish CY15 on top!!

AFSA Division 3

Family Matters

May-August 2015



The goal of the Family Matters program is to create a sense of “family” within the Chapter where people come together to socialize and interact with one another. This can be accomplished by encouraging Family Members to attend Chapter meetings and social events and to volunteer in community-service projects sponsored by the Chapter.

During this time frame, weekly updates have been sent out to Family Matters Chairpersons and their Chapter Presidents. These updates included fund-raising ideas and events to involve our Family Members, such as family picnics, bingo night, bowling night, game night, sock hops, arts & crafts, mouse races, etc. Many web sites were included to help Chapters come up with their own activities.

Each Chapter’s Facebook page has been reviewed in order to share ideas with other Chapters. I encourage ALL Chapters to keep up with their Facebook page and post pictures of events/activities involving Family Members.

FAMILY MEMBERS are an important part of this organization. Their membership helps AFSA keep a family perspective as they advocate for Airmen, Veterans and their Families on Capitol Hill.

Take care, God Bless, thanks for all you do for AFSA, but most of all **Thank You for Your Service!**

Patti Dalzell

AFSA Division 3 Family Matters Chair



Jennifer Davis
Air Force wife,
Mother,
Full-time student,
AFSA Member.

“AFSA takes my concerns and my family’s concerns to Capitol Hill. They fight for issues that affect our everyday life. AFSA membership helps me to stay informed, connected and involved.” —Jennifer Davis



Division 3 Senior Advisor Dale Lutzen



What a Professional Airman's Conference (PAC) we had this year in San Antonio, great speakers, fantastic entertainment, upbeat tempo, changed agenda with more fun time for the delegates.

This year after stepping down as the Division 3 President (after 12 years) I decided to run for the trustee of Veterans and Retired Affairs position on the AFSA International Council, after a grueling caucus I was elected to the trustee position.

Being a member on the International Executive Council I was given the task to chair the Communication and IT committee and stand up and chair the Education and Training committee.

The Retired and Veterans Affairs Trustee position is tasked to ensure the Association represents all AF retirees and veterans to the best of our ability. The Trustee additionally supports all key Committees ensuring legislative, membership, communications, and fraternity needs and issues are effectively addressed. The Retired and Veterans Affairs Trustee serves the International President and the AFSA Executive Council as focal point for all issues relative to retirees and veterans. The Trustee position is representative of all Air Force Retirees and Veterans regardless of component.

As the committee chair for IT and Communications I am tasked to measure how we communicate with our members, improve the associations' web page and IT infrastructure, expand the use of social media and implement the use of new technology with in our association.

As the committee chair for the Education and Training committee I am tasked to promote professional development for Division and Chapter Officers, provide training to new members and Division/Chapter officers as to their roles and responsibility as board members. Implement written and web based training materials

I do need some assistance from Div 3 members to provide ideas and thoughts for both the Education and Training and the Communication and IT committees. Looking forward to a great year making our association better, please contact me with any issue or concern.

Dale Lutzen SMSgt (ret)
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AFSA Division 3

Electronic Communications



All AFSA members should know the third of our four pillars is communications. This pillar is the glue that holds our organization together and helps to ensure that all our members are educated on the aims and objectives of our organization. While there are many mediums of communication, I want to concentrate on electronic communication in this article and how AFSA Chapters can effectively use e-mail to keep their membership informed and stay within the lines of Air Force guidance.

Many of our Chapters operate on an Air Force Base and have access to Department of Defense computers and email systems that can be used to communicate to the general membership of a Chapter. Chapters need to be aware of what they can and can't do when conducting AFSA business using a government computer.

There are several governing documents that Airmen need to be aware of when using government e-mail systems:

AFMAN 33-152, para 3.1.3.4, specifically gives approval for members to send e-mail on behalf of a "Chartered" organization. Although this approval is given, AFSA members must make sure their communications are in accordance with para(s) 3.2.1 through 3.2.13 since these restrictions apply to everyone using a government computer system.

AFI 34-223, para 11.1.3 covers Private Organizations using electronic systems and specifically prohibits the use of e-mail for "Off-Installation" unofficial fundraising.

Members also need to be smart about how they use these information systems. While conducting discussions via e-mail on meeting minutes, agendas, schedules, and other planning may be appropriate, discussions on legislative issues where a particular position is being pushed, is in most instances going to be inappropriate. The main thing is for members to use common sense and think about the content of an e-mail before sending it out to the general membership. Remember that ethics training you receive each year (see the Joint Ethics Reg)? Ask yourself, if there is a chance the topic of the email could be considered controversial or in contrast to DoD objectives.

AFSA leadership is aware that there are some challenges out in the field and our CEO has had discussions with AF/JA to help define proper use of electronic information systems. Several take away from that meeting should be applied by all AFSA Chapters.

Meeting minutes should be centrally located and emails should provide a link to the location rather than attaching the document to the email. This provides a way for members to receive the information without putting strain on government IT systems.

Chapters are encouraged to use Chapter email address to send emails from, but you are not prohibited to send from a .mil address. When using a .mil address ensure you specifically identify the email as being "unofficial" and contain a disclaimer (example at the end of this document) so those receiving the email know it is not from an official source.

If you run into resistance, make sure you address the issue as a professional. Open a dia-



logue with the individual questioning the legality of using the e-mail system to conduct AFSA business. Identify the Air Force publications that give authority to Chartered Private Organizations to use e-mail systems on a limited basis. Give examples of other organizations that use government e-mail to distribute information to their members. Remember, the rules must be enforced across the board, AFSA can't be singled out while other organizations are allowed to freely operate. If there is still an issue, use the chain of command to work the problem and if necessary work it through your AFSA Division President who will make a determination if HQ AFSA needs to get involved to help with resolving the problem.

Some other thoughts I'd like to share is for you to look at your entire communications program and ask yourself, how are we communicating with our general membership? Are you simply using the .mil e-mail system? If you are, you are most likely ignoring a big portion of your Chapter membership. Remember that many of your Chapter members don't have access to a .mil e-mail address. Have you taken steps to ensure those folks are contacted via email? Are you making sure they are aware of a meeting cancellation or do they just find out when they show up and no one is there?

Your entire communications process should include a website, and Facebook page at a minimum. You can also take advantage of other electronic mediums such as Twitter to get your message out and Mail Chimp to manage email lists to keep membership and especially those retirees and veterans in the loop.

Remember your communications program is what builds fraternity because it keeps members involved. Involved members are members that will in most cases continue to be members down the road. Communications is also vital for AFSA when it comes to legislation, when we need to get the word out, our members are able to engage their elected officials. Without effective communications, we fail as an organization so please get those folks outside the .mil system into the loop.

- Gary Swanson, Division 3 Vice President

General E-mail Disclaimer:

AFSA is a Non-Federal Entity (NFE) chartered by Congressional under PL 105-85 to aid in maintaining a superior Air Force and serving the interests of service members, veterans, and families. It is not part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and has no governmental status.

If a link to an outside web address (such as for minutes), add:

The appearance of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement by the United States Department of Defense of the linked web sites, or the information, products or services contained therein. For other than authorized activities such as military exchanges and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) sites, the United States Department of Defense does not exercise any editorial control over the information you may find at these locations.

Legislative News

Time for Congress to Do Its Job



[Download the 2015-2016 Legislative Platform here.](#)

[Download the Legislative Program Brochure Here.](#)



As we approach the end of another federal fiscal year we can expect more of the same politically divisive rhetoric as each party seeks to position itself as the “protector of the little guy” as budget negotiations bog down. Our responsibility is to fight through this madness and demand our elected officials put America first and stop the political infighting which only hurts our military. Sadly, the reality is that there is little hope of actually passing a full federal budget but there is a very real opportunity to get the 2016 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) passed which would be great for our Air Force, our Airmen, and their families.

Currently the NDAA is in joint committee as Congress seeks to reconcile the differences between the house and senate versions. I cannot stress this strongly enough but as an association we want our elected officials to back the house version of the bill which soundly rejects the administrations continued assault on our promised benefits. It would also provide our active duty troops the pay raise they deserve and would protect our commissary system from the deep cuts requested by the DoD.

The senate version is much more “administration friendly” and if passed as written would be disastrous for our Airmen and their families. It would place our TRICARE, Commissary, and retirement benefits as we know them at risk. It would deny our active duty Airmen the pay-raise they deserve and it would pass even greater costs for healthcare to our retirees and our active duty family members. The time for action is now!

So, how can you help us ensure that Congress does its job? You can call, write, or email your elected officials and let them know you are paying attention and that you expect them to make good on the promises made to our Airmen both past and present. This is an election year so right now your opinion has real weight. Don't hesitate to make your opinion part of your elected official's legislative agenda. Please visit the Legislative Action Center at <https://www.votervoice.net/AFSA/home> and make your voice heard!

Remember we are only as politically strong as our membership strength and the level of involvement we expect from it. Each member we add strengthens our position and helps our lobbyist gain the attention of congress. Now is the time to recruit, retain, and engage. As always, thanks for all you do for our Air Force and our beloved association.

Mark R. Clark, CMSgt, USAF, Retired
President, AFSA Chapter 804
Legislative Trustee, AFSA Division 3



Through the Eyes of an Airman



I am Airman First Class Coral Rojas, stationed at Altus AFB, Oklahoma and I am the Plans and Programs Trustee for AFSA Chapter 0988. Last month I had the privilege of attending the AFSA International Professional Airmen's Conference in San Antonio, Texas, along with the rest of my AFSA chapter's executive council.

My experience at the conference was without question an unforgettable one. The conference was comprised of many great events like Senior Leader Panels, Professional Development Forums, Training Workshops, Honor's Banquets, and even a concert series. I was fortunate enough to meet various influential people, for instance eight former Chief Master Sergeants of the Air Force, the current Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, along with the Secretary of the Air Force; a rare opportunity that unfortunately not many young airmen get to experience.

By attending senior leadership perspective meetings, legislative forums, and AFSA business training meetings, I gained valuable information that I can now utilize and distribute amongst my peers. I learned about the four pillars of AFSA, which are legislation, membership, communications, and fraternity. I also learned a lot about the many benefits that AFSA is fighting hard to protect for us past, present, and future military members and families, every single day.

Even though the conference focused on professional growth and development, we had fun with events such as pool and patio parties, live band shows, and not to mention it was a great chance to socialize and network

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Chapter 804

Kansas City, MO

Chapter 804, the "Heart of America" Chapter continues to lead the way in the greater Kansas City Metropolitan area. From volunteering at the Kansas City Veterans Administration Medical Center to supporting homeless



vets the Kansas City AFSA Family is actively engaged in supporting our nation's warriors both past and present. This quarter our Chapter held its annual POW/MIA Remembrance

Ceremony at the Belton Memorial Park in Belton, MO. Local elected officials as well as representatives from the American Legion, VFW, and DAV were on hand to speak and to assist with reading the names of our nations missing. The JROTC from Less Summit West High School posted the colors and WWII POW and Charter Chief Charlie Sibert told his story which added honor and dignity to the ceremony. Chief Sibert was a pioneer in our Air Force and having him speak was the highlight of our ceremony.

Chapter 804 has partnered with Catholic Charities to provide much needed assistance with the food pantry at the St. Michaels Homeless Veterans Center in Kansas City. Chapter members volunteer to pick up and deliver large quantities of food from Harvesters to the center and members then sort the food for distribution to the veter-



ans living in the center. This partnership will allow AFSA to have a permanent and visible presence in the community supporting veterans. Chapter 804 is scheduled to provide a pot-luck dinner for

the residents of the center over the Veterans Day week and will host a Christmas Party for the residents over the holiday period.

Chapter 804 continues to have a vibrant and active membership that gives back to the community every chance it gets. From highway clean-up to holiday help for needy Airmen you can count on Chapter 804 to be there. On behalf of the over 1100 members of Chapter 804 I wish all of our AFSA Division 3 family a healthy and happy holiday season.

v/r Mark

Mark R. Clark, CMSgt, USAF, Retired
President, AFSA Chapter 804
Legislative Trustee, AFSA Division 3



Team 851

The Badger Chapter



Chapter 851 had two delegates, Bud and Jean Kolwitz, attending the Division 3 Conference at Deadwood SD.

Chapter 951 received the Top Retaining Chapter for the Division with 278 retentions for the year 2014. "Team Kolwitz" (Bud and Jean Kolwitz)

received an award for 251 retentions and 19 recruits in the year 2014. Their Lifetime total is 4160 retentions and 378 recruits. At the Conference, Jean gave a report on our Chapter's activities last year during a "working lunch".

We're still involved with the "Cents' Off" Manufacturers Coupon Project, pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House, cancelled stamps for the Lions Club "Stamps for the Wounded" program, and, Box Tops for Education.

We donated cloths to the Homeless Vet Shelter for the women veterans who were there and donated popcorn and snacks that were sent overseas to the Pat Tillman USO, given locally to the Homeless Vet Shelter and to a local coffee house gathering



place for vets who just come and sit and talk with their fellow vets. In June we are taking the "show on the road". Due to not being able to hold our monthly meeting at the 128th ANG in Milwaukee, we are going to the 115th in Madison where we are going to hold a meeting there and then have a membership drive afterwards. We went there last year for a membership drive and it went over so well that we are planning on making this a yearly event so that their members can attend a meeting.



Team 872

The CMSAF Bud Andrews Gateway Chapter



Chapter 872 led Team Scott in celebrating the life of Former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James C. Binnicker with a remembrance run held on July 31st, 2015. The inaugural "Bear Claw Run", named for a story from early

in Chief Binnicker's career, was the first combined effort of the newly reformed Scott Air Force Base Professional Organizations Council.

Forty-eight volunteers from AFSA Chapter 872, Chiefs Group, and First Sergeants Council, Top 3, NCO Council, and Airman's Council combined to organize the event, man safety stations and direct traffic control points. Air Mobility Command's own Command Chief Master Sergeant Victoria Gamble opened the event by providing a her own comments honoring the iconic Airman before accepting a donation of \$400 on behalf of the Air Force Enlisted Village, an organization that Chief Binnicker had supported since 1992.

As the run began over 210 participants from the Scott AFB community competed in six categories across both 5 kilometer and 10 kilometer courses circling the majority of Scott Air Force Base. MSgt Mathias Gassen, one of the run coordinators stated, "Whether it be within the service, or with his active support for private organizations like the Air Force Enlisted Village and the Air Force Sergeants Association, Chief Binnicker has always been there for us. Today's a wonderful opportunity for us be here for him and support something that held so close to his heart: the Air Force Enlisted Village".

SMSgt Michael Galewski, President of the Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 872, closed the event by presenting medals to the winners and welcomed everyone to return next year





Team 951

The Mt. Rushmore Chapter

After a whirlwind start to the year, putting on an awesome Division 3 Convention, Chapter 951 continued its momentum going into the summer. We set our sites on planning for our next big event which would be the "Honor the Patriots" and POW/MIA 5-K on Main Street, downtown Rapid City, SD.

As many saw during the convention our task was to raise money for Wounded Warrior charities by raffling off a Victory motorcycle from Rice Honda of the Black Hills and a \$500 Gift card from Cabela's. CMSgt (Ret), Kevin Ott, Legislative Trustee and Event Guru, worked to make this a success by pulling all the Private Orgs together, such as the Top-3, 5/6, Airmen's Council.

This was a way for AFSA to help each Private Org raise funds by giving them a \$1 for each ticket sold. Ott seem to enjoy the adventure because he got to ride the Victory to each of the events the Chapter attended and put it on display.



A couple of those events took place in August. As the Black Hills enjoyed close to a million Bikers for the 75th Sturgis Rally we set up at the Air and Space Museum were close to 500 bikers registered for the Dakota Thun-

der Run. We passed out information on AFSA, sold some coins and of course Victory raffle tickets include to a few people from as far away as Alaska and Hawaii.

Next on the agenda was the Ellsworth AFB Airshow, a 2-day event that saw close to 60,000 people. We sold several raffle tickets and made \$165 raffling a Start Quilt handcrafted by a Native American from the Lakota tribe.

Senior Advisor, MSgt (Ret) Super Dave Bamburg and his wife Marny represented the Chapter during the AFSA International/Air Force Professional Airman's Conference in San Antonio, TX. Dave saw his efforts pay off when Division 3 won the Division Newsletter of the Year and he received the AFSA President's Excellence Award for work on the Division Convention, as a part of the Division Council and numerous contributions to AFSA on Legislation issues and continuous efforts to improve AFSA's standing as a Veterans Organization working on an Air Force base.

While Chapter 951 continues staying engaged with the base and community. We have a steady presence in ALS (helps that our President is the Commandant), speaking to other groups about AFSA, members of both the Veterans Coordinating and Military Affairs Committee and regular visitors to the offices of our two Senators and Congresswoman.

Also our relationships with the Wing Leadership is looking up. Ellsworth's new Wing Commander signed up in AFSA, taking a year membership to get the AFSA magazine for his office table and the new Command Chief arrive. A past FTAY at Sheppard AFB, she transferred over and renewed, taking advantage of the 5/25 Campaign.



Team 985

The Thunderbird Chapter



Over the past four months Chapter 985 has lived up to its name through community involvement across many facets. We consistently dedicate our time to essential programs such as Kylee's Kitchen, where we cook a meal with a special needs child to Regional

Food bank, where we package up food to be sent across Oklahoma to feed the needy. Our efforts are not just focused off base. We also contribute to Tinker during promotion release parties, CCAF graduation ceremonies, and Quarterly Awards.

But, this year so far we have been reflecting as a chapter and we are looking to evolve. We are currently looking for better and more efficient ways to do things, just as the military is doing as a whole. We have numerous projects in the works to make our recruiting and briefings run smoother for our council and especially for our members. So, be on the lookout for those changes in the near future. So far we have acquired two Fire HD 7s and two Square Readers in order to take faster more secure payments after our briefings around base. We have also standardized our briefings with Keyword outlines so that any member can use it to head out to an event and provide a confident and informed briefing with some of the AFSA YouTube videos. Our hope is that in the next few months we can get our membership numbers back to where we know they should be.

In June, we were also proud to expand our council with a Family Matters Chair. This committee member's goal is ensure that the family members of our Active, Guard, and Reserve members are invited to volunteer events and welcomed into the AFSA family. Please give a warm welcome to our newest committee chair Tracy Morrill. She has gladly taken on the role and is currently developing a tackle plan to easily keep family members informed on upcoming chapter events.

Finally, as we started closing out the summer, we had the pleasure of welcoming in our newest AFSC Command Chief, Chief Master Sergeant Jason France. He has had the opportunity to work at the Pentagon and has seen AFSA in action! He is a great advocate of AFSA and everything it fights for all veterans past, present, and fu-



ture. We look forward to all of the experience he will bring to Tinker.

Chapter 985 is never lacking in places or events to be involved in. We love our Tinker Community and look forward to what the rest of the year has to hold for us, both in volunteerism as well as membership.



Team 988 The Twister Chapter

The Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 988 at Altus Air Force Base is encouraging enlisted members to join this worthy organization. Over the past five decades, the Air Force Sergeants Association has built a reputation as a stalwart advocate for Air Force enlisted members, past and present, and their families.

AFSA's Mission is to advocate improved quality of life and economic fairness that will support the well-being of the Total Air Force (Air Force Active Duty, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve Command) enlisted personnel and their families. The organization strives to protect those who serve, and have served. AFSA represents its 100,000 members by advocating for their interests to America's elected and military leaders. As a federally-chartered Veteran Service Organization, AFSA is able to lobby on Capitol Hill on behalf of its members. A global association with local impact, AFSA is organized in seven divisions across the U.S. and overseas; the heart of AFSA is its 132 chapters.

Plans and Programs Trustee, Airman First Class Coral Rojas, had the privilege of attending the AFSA International Professional Airmen's Conference in San Antonio, Texas, along with the rest of the AFSA chapter's executive council. Here's what she had to say about it, "My experience at the conference was without question an

unforgettable one. The conference was comprised of many great events like Senior Leader Panels, Professional Development Forums, Training Workshops, Honor's Banquets, and even a concert series. I was fortunate enough to meet various influential people, for instance eight former Chief Master Sergeants of the Air Force, the current Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and the Secretary of the Air Force; a rare opportunity that unfortunately not many young airmen get to experience.

By attending senior leadership perspective meetings, legislative forums, and AFSA business training meetings, I gained valuable information that I can now utilize and distribute amongst my peers. I learned about the four pillars of AFSA, which are legislation, membership, communications, and fraternity. I also learned a lot about many benefits that AFSA is fighting hard to protect for us past, present, and future military members and families, every single day.

Even though the conference focused on professional growth and development, we had fun with events such as pool and patio parties, live band shows, and not to mention it was a great chance to socialize and network with fellow AFSA chapters. Having been presented with the opportunity to take part in such an enlightening event at an early stage in my career has been a blessing, and something that I will never take for granted. "





Team 990 The Red Carpet Chapter

On 2 May 2015, Chapter 990 of the Air Force Sergeant's Association, AFSA, held their annual Run A Thon fundraising event in Enid, OK. This year, in addition to the run, Chapter 990 added a Bike A Thon event for cyclists to participate as well. They teamed with Vance Cycling Club and 13 other sponsors to put on the event that drew almost 50 participants and raised nearly \$1000 for AFSA sponsored initiatives for Vance AFB and Enid, OK.

This year's run Champion is A1C Jacob Ray from 71 OSS RAPCON. A1C Ray raised \$583 in pledges for his impressive 11 mile run. Coming in second place was SMSgt Brian Pillatzke, a 3 time event participant, who ran a total of 19 miles over 3 hours. Also from 71 OSS RAPCON, A1C Sterling Doiron took third in his first Run A Thon.

The cycling event had winners for the 12 and 33 mile routes. The 12 mile route 1st place winner was Aaron Hopper, 2nd place went to Cedric Starks while Justin Messenger placed 3rd. For the 33 mile route, the winner was Josh Feltner, 2nd place was Micah Stone, and 3rd place went to Chris Sussmann.

Please take a moment to congratulate our new Executive Council on their recent selection to positions. Also, take a moment to thank the previous leaders, they did a lot for Chapter 990 and will still be an integral part of the team.

President - Rodney Groom
Vice President - Brad Hancock
1 Trustee - Hal Johnson



2016 DIVISION 3 CONVENTION

GRAND FORKS, ND

APRIL 21—23, 2016

CANADA INNS

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Distance</u>
804	Kansas City, MO	677 mi
851	Milwaukee, WI	653 mi
858	Minneapolis, MN	316 mi
872	Scott AFB, IL	949 mi
881	Whiteman AFB,	750 mi
951	Ellsworth AFB, SD	653 mi
959	Minot AFB, ND	211 mi
964	Grand Forks, ND	_____
972	McConnell AFB, KS	798 mi
984	Offutt AFB, NE	509 mi
985	Tinker AFB, OK	966 mi
988	Altus AFB, OK	1,090 mi
990	Vance AFB, OK	920 mi

