



Air Force Association

General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 2018, Issue 3

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Message from the Chapter President

Dear Gabriel Chapter and AFA Members and Friends,

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

For the great work being done by our members, the Gabriel Chapter was selected for AFA National Unit Awards: the AFA Exceptional Service Award for Overall Programming, the AFA Exceptional Service Award for Communications and an AFA Aerospace Education Achievement Award. Five Gabriel Chapters Officers also received AFA Individual Awards: an AFA Chairman's Citation, two AFA Medals of Merit, and two AFA Individual Exceptional Service Awards. I was honored to accept the Unit ESA Awards at AFA



Field Awards Dinner on September 15th during the National Convention from our AFA Chairman of the Board and former Secretary of the Air Force Witt Peters, Vice Chairman of the Board for Field Operations Gavin "Mac" MacAloon, and Vice Chairman of the Board for Field Operations Brig Gen (ret) Dick Bundy.

As my term ends on September 30th, I have been honored to serve as your Chapter President these past two years. I would like to thank our EXCOM members for being great team mates and doing a super job in their elected and appointed positions. I would also like to thank our Community Partners and Corporate Sponsors, without whose support our many programs, especially our Aerospace Education support to youth, would not be possible. Last but not least, I would like to thank my wife Ann for her great support while I served in this position.

We have a great slate of new Chapter Officers who were elected and appointed for the October 2018 to September 2020 term. I am delighted to transfer leadership of the Chapter to Colonel (ret) Mike Winters. He is an able leader with a great vision for the future and I look forward to serving with him as a member of the Chapter Executive Committee (EXCOM).

In addition to our new EXCOM taking office on October 1st, the Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter will also be merging into our Chapter. The Gabriel Chapter AOR will extend from the beltway through the Dulles Corridor to Front Royal, Winchester, and Martinsburg, WV. Our Chapters have been working together on the Cold War Museum Community Partner initiative, and we look forward to having the Northern Shenandoah Valley members joining our Chapter and working together to EDUCATE, ADVOCATE, and SUPPORT across the entire AOR.

I ask that you please consider how you can serve the Chapter, by attending an event or helping at one of many program activities we have going across our expanded AOR. You can also help with recruiting, by asking a friend or coworker to join AFA. How many of us have friends or coworkers who are on active duty in

the Air Force, in the Air National Guard, the Air Force Reserve, are an Air Force Civilian employee, contractor, retiree, or veteran. Ask them if they are in AFA. If they aren't a member, ask them to please consider joining us. There has never been a better time to join our Air Force Association.

Please join us on October 12th at our next AFA Gabriel Lunch Meeting at Falcons Landing in Sterling, VA. Our guest speaker is General Stephen "Seve" Wilson, the Vice Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force. I hope to see you at one of our upcoming events.

Joe Burke

President

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



AIR SPACE CYBER
CONFERENCE
A Professional Development Event
**Multi-Domain Operations:
Leveraging the Full Spectrum**

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The banner features a central image of a soldier in a high-tech helmet with digital overlays. To the right, a globe graphic is partially visible. Below the main text, there are three small inset images: a naval ship, a military aircraft, and a rocket launch. The bottom of the banner has a dark blue bar with white text and a 'Register Now' button.



CYBERPATRIOT XI
Register your team before Oct. 3, 2018

The banner shows a group of people, likely students, working at computers in a classroom or lab setting. The text 'CYBERPATRIOT XI' is prominently displayed in large, white, bold letters. Below it, the text 'Register your team before Oct. 3, 2018' is written in a smaller font. On the right side, there is a graphic of a circuit board with a large 'XI' integrated into it. The bottom of the banner has a dark blue bar with white text and a 'Register Now' button.

Gabriel AFA Community Partner Program

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

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

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

Chapter Activities

Maj Gen Steve Denker Retires as Deputy Director of NRO

Major General Stephen T. Denker retired from his position as Deputy Director, National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), Chantilly, Virginia, completing a 32-year career in service to the Nation and the US Air Force. His responsibilities included assisting the Director and Principal Deputy Director in managing the strategic and tactical operations of the NRO. Also, as the Commander, Air Force Element, he manages all Air Force personnel and resources assigned to the NRO and serves as the senior adviser to the NRO Director on all military matters.



Gabriel Chapter President, Joe Burke, congratulates Maj Gen Steve Denker on his retirement after 32 years of Air Force service

General Denker entered the Air Force in 1986 after graduating from the University of Minnesota and receiving a commission as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program. He began his career as a spacecraft engineer at Los Angeles Air Force Base, California, followed by acquisition assignments with the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization, now known as the Missile Defense Agency, and the Special Programs organization at the Pentagon. General Denker's operations experience includes developmental test and evaluation activities and specialized operations on a variety of space and ground systems. He has commanded at the Squadron, Group and Wing level and has served as executive officer, deputy division chief on the Assistant Secretary

of the Air Force (Acquisition) staff and served as the Commandant, Air Command and Staff College and Vice Commander, Spaatz Center for Officer Education, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. Prior to his current assignment, he served as the Director of Integrated Air, Space, Cyberspace and Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Operations, Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado.

On Monday June 4th, Chapter President Joe



Gabriel Chapter President, Joe Burke, presents General Denker with a certificate recognizing his support to the Gabriel Chapter and securing the relationship with the Air Force Element of the National Reconnaissance Office

Burke and his wife Ann attended and represented the AFA Gabriel Chapter at Maj Gen Steve Denker's retirement dinner. Joe presented Maj Gen Denker Deputy Director of the NRO and the NRO Air Force Element Commander a Certificate of Appreciation for his support to the Air Force Association and a General Gabriel Chapter Challenge Coin. The following day, June 5th, Joe and Gabriel Chapter VP Mike Winters represented the Chapter at Maj Gen Denker's retirement ceremony at the NRO. Best wishes to Maj Gen Denker and his family on his retirement from the Air Force!

Associate Director of Operations at the NGA Briefs Gabriel Membership At July Luncheon

The July Membership Meeting of the AFA Gabriel Chapter was held on July 11, 2018 at Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant in McLean, VA. Our guest speaker is Major General Linda R. Urrutia-Varhall, who is the Associate Director of Operations at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in Springfield, Virginia. The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)

delivers world-class geospatial intelligence that provides a decisive advantage to policymakers, warfighters, intelligence professionals and first responders. NGA is a unique combination of intelligence agency and combat support agency. It is the world leader in timely, relevant, accurate and actionable GEOINT. NGA enables the U.S. intelligence community and the Department of Defense (DOD) to fulfill the president's national security priorities to protect the nation. NGA also anticipates its partners' future needs and advances the GEOINT discipline to meet them.



Maj Gen Linda Urrutia-Varhall discusses current operations with Lt Gen (ret) Chuck Heflebower, Gabriel Chapter Member and AFA National Director, at the Gabriel Chapter luncheon on July 11, 2018.

General Urrutia-Varhall was commissioned in 1984 as a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. Following her initial assignments at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, she was selected to participate in the Professional Military Graduate Intelligence Program in Washington, D.C. After completion, she was the first Air Force representative to the National Military Intelligence Center. Her service at the Pentagon included executive support duty to three Secretaries of Defense and as an international politico-military affairs officer on the Somalia Task Force. The general has held

command and staff positions in the wing, major command, headquarters and joint environments.

General Urrutia-Varhall presented an exciting audio-visual presentation on the mission and people of the NGA around the world, highlighting the role of the NGA in prosecuting operations in Syria and Afghanistan while assuring the accurate and timely intelligence from North Korea and other potential adversaries.

Chapter President Joe Burke presented Major General Urrutia-Varhall with a Gabriel Chapter challenge coin, in appreciation for her frank and informative presentation.

Electronic Warriors Recognized With Marker at Vint Hills Farm

On Saturday, September 1st, AFA Gabriel Chapter President Joe Burke attended the dedication of a Commonwealth of Virginia Historic Marker at the former U.S. Army Vint Hill Farms Station. The inscription on the marker reads, "In June 1942 the U.S. Army established a top-secret post at Vint Hill Farms to intercept enemy radio transmissions. These barns housed the monitoring station. The Signal Corps' cryptographic school, which taught personnel to encode, decode, and translate messages, was moved here. Pvt. Leonard A. Mudloff is credited with intercepting a message here from Oshima Hiroshi, the Japanese ambassador to Germany, on 10 Nov. 1943. It described German coastal fortifications in



Gabriel Chapter President, Joe Burke, poses with Virginia North Region President, Tom Shepherd at the commemoration of the Virginia Historic Marker at Vint Hill Farm Station

western France, troop strengths, and contingency plans. The "Oshima Intercept" was

a crucial contribution to the planning for D-Day, the Allied invasion of Europe. The post operated through the Cold War, closing in 1997.” Today the Cold War Museum occupies a former supply building at Vint Hill Farm.

The following day, Sunday, September 2nd, at the Cold War Museum, AFA, Virginia VP North Tom Shepherd, Joe Burke and his wife Ann Burke attended the presentation “Art as a Cold War Weapon” by Dr. Julia Tatiana Bailey, who is a British art historian and curator, specializing in the visual culture of the Cold War. Dr. Bailey is the founder of Espionart (espionart.com), a blog and research platform that uncovers the response and contribution of painting, sculpture, photography, and other visual arts to the unique geopolitical and psychological circumstances of the Cold War. From 2013-2014, she was based in Washington, D.C. as a pre-doctoral fellow at the Smithsonian American Art Museum. If you have not been out to the Cold War Museum, please consider attending one of their events and touring the museum.

The tremendous contributions of these pioneering cyber warriors of the Greatest Generation help us appreciate the freedoms we too often take for granted and the personal sacrifices that were made to preserve those freedoms. We salute our veterans and their families!

[Air Staff Chief Data Officer Speaks at Gabriel Chapter August Luncheon](#)

The Gabriel Chapter’s Monthly Lunch Meeting was held August 8, 2018, at Maggiano’s Little Italy Restaurant in McLean, Virginia. Our guest speaker was Our guest speaker is Colonel Nevin J. Taylor, who is the Air Force’s Deputy Chief Data Officer. Founded in summer 2017, the Chief Data Office remains focused on unleashing the value of data across the Air Force. The Chief Data Office was established to fill a critical role for the Air Force: to harness data and operationalize it so Airmen everywhere have access to data to make data-driven decisions.

Thirty chapter members and Chapter Sponsors attended the presentation in which Colonel Taylor laid out the Air Force’s challenges and priorities for performing proof of concept use cases that tackle important

operational problems, like getting the right amount of Airmen through the development pipeline in time to fill manpower shortages.

“Data is the future of our force,” according to Colonel Taylor. “Being part of the CDO (Chief Data Office) team is an exciting venture... unlocking and unleashing the power of our data is going to keep the Air Force at the forefront of technological advancement. We must take advantage of today’s technology so we can learn faster than our adversaries and ensure the maximum effectiveness of our force.”



Colonel Nevin Taylor accepts Gabriel Challenge Coin from Chapter President Joe Burke

Gabriel Chapter President Joe Burke credited Chief Data Office with mining the Gold of the Air Force’s future. Burke presented Colonel Taylor and his assistant TSgt Janitza Colon with Gabriel Chapter Challenge Coins in appreciation for their presentation to the Chapter and their continued service to the Air Force.



[Nuclear Deterrence Series Features JCS Vice Chairman](#)



General Paul Silva spoke to members of the Mitchell Institute Nuclear Deterrence caucus about modernization of nuclear forces and modernization efforts in missile defense and space.

On Friday, August 10th, General Paul Selva, USAF, Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff spoke at Mitchell Institute Breakfast on Capitol Hill. The breakfast was part of the Mitchell Nuclear Deterrence Series and was well attended by a number of AFA Gabriel Chapter members. General Selva gave an update on Nuclear Deterrence issues and laid out priorities for future developments in Missile Defense, and Space.

[Gabriel Chapter Leaders Recognized At Central East Region Caucus](#)



Gabriel VP for Communications Sam Shelton accepts CER Leadership Award form Virginia AFA President Ken Spencer

At the AFA National Convention, Central East Region Caucus Meeting on Saturday, September 15, 2018, Mike Winters, Chapter VP and Sam Shelton, Chapter VP Communications

were presented with AFA Central East Region Citations from AFA Virginia State President Ken Spencer for their exceptional service to the AFA over the last year.



Gabriel Chapter Vice President Mike Winters accepts CER Leadership Award form Virginia AFA President Ken Spencer

[70th Anniversary Celebration of the Berlin Airlift](#)

AFA hosted our annual Memorial and Wreath-laying service at the Air Force Memorial on September 15th from 3:00-3:30 p.m., a tribute to departed comrades and to Airmen who fell in service to the Nation over the past year. That ceremony was followed by a ceremony from 4:00-5:00 p.m. to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the Berlin Airlift hosted by the German Embassy, AFA, and the Berlin Airlift Veterans Association.

The 1948-49 Berlin airlift, launched in June , 1946 by the World War II Allies, can be remembered for rescuing West Berlin from starvation, as a bighearted act with strategic underpinnings, and for striking the first blow in the Cold War.

So-called "Operation Vittles" saved the city from falling to the Soviets during the post World War II contest for control of the city. Britain and the United States organized the airlift, and countries as far away as Canada, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand also contributed men, machines and supplies to the operation. They flew 278,000 flights to Berlin, delivering over two million tons of food, fuel, machinery, and other supplies. At the height of the airlift, Apr 16, 1949, some 1,400 planes carried in nearly 13,000 tons of supplies over a 24-hour period. Frequently, landings were just minutes apart. The airline supplied some two million

West Berliners with food and fuel until September 30, 1949.



Colonel (ret) Gail "Hal" Halverson, aka the Berlin Airlift Candy Bomber speaks to the crowd at the 70th Anniversary of the Berlin Airlift.

Speakers at the commemoration on September 15, 2018, included the German Ambassador Dr. Emily Haber, Secretary of the Air Force Dr. Heather Wilson, Major (ret) Ray Roberts President of the Berlin Airlift Association and Colonel (ret) Gail "Hal" Halverson, AKA "The Berlin Airlift Candy Bomber". Other dignitaries attending included Former Secretary of the Air Force F. Whitten "Whit" Peters, AFA Chairman of the Board; General Seve Wilson, Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force; General (ret) Larry Spencer, AFA President and Former Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

Gabriel Chapter President Joe Burke and his wife Ann, Chapter President-Elect Mike Winters and Chapter Treasurer-Elect Justin Thomas attended from our Chapter along with AFA delegates from across the United States and Europe.

Gabriel Chapter Recognized At AFA Field Awards Dinner

On Saturday, September 15, 2018 at the Annual AFA Field Awards Dinner at our National Convention, the Gabriel Chapter received an Exceptional Service Award for Overall Programming and an Exceptional Service Award for Communications. The Chapter was also recognized with an AFA Aerospace Education Achievement Award. Chapter President Joe Burke accepted these awards on behalf of the Chapter from our AFA Chairman of the Board and former Secretary of the Air Force Witt Peters, Vice Chairman of the Board for Field Operations Gavin "Mac" MacAloon, and Vice Chairman of the Board for Field Operations Brig Gen (ret) Dick Bundy.



Gabriel Chapter Member Gina Giles accepts the AEC Chairman's Citation from AFA Chairman of the Board F. Whitten "Whit" Peters, Vice Chairman for Field Operations Gavin "Mac" MacAloon, and Vice Chairman for Aerospace Education Dick Bundy

Chapter Officers were also recognized with National level individual awards. Gina Giles was awarded the Aerospace Education Council Chairman's Citation for her ongoing efforts in supporting STEM and Aerospace Education. Chapter President, Joe Burke, was recognized for his leadership of the Gabriel Chapter and support to Field Operations with the AFA Exceptional Service Award. Chapter VP, Mike Winters, was recognized for his leadership to the chapter and, in particular his leadership with the local AFCEA Chapter for the Air Space and Cyber Information Technology Day. Mike was awarded the AFA Medal of Merit. Jack Diamond, Chapter Secretary and Chapter and

Virginia Member of the Year, was also awarded the AFA Medal of Merit. Congratulations to the Gabriel Chapter and the individual awardees for their exceptional service to AFA!

Gabriel Chapter Members Attend AFA Air Force Birthday Dinner

The Air Force Birthday Dinner was held September 18th during the AFA Air Space and Cyber Conference at the Gaylord Hotel at National Harbor, Maryland. A number of Gabriel Chapter Members attended, including Brig Gen Scott Goldstein, USAFR, Chapter President Joe Burke, and David Joslin, COO of AFA Community Partner KaylaTek.



Gabriel Chapter members celebrate the 71st birthday of the US Air Force during the AFA Air Space and Cyber Conference at National Harbor, Maryland. Pictures (l-r) are Brig Gen Scott Goldstein, Chapter President Joe Burke, and Gabriel Chapter Community Partner Dave Joslin, from KaylaTek.

USAF Missileers Gather at AFA Conference

As AFA Gabriel Chapter President, Joe Burke hosted Air Force Missileers, including a number of Missileer leaders past and present in the Virginia AFA Hospitality Suite at the AFA Air, Space and Cyber Conference. On Tuesday, September 18th, 2018, the 2nd annual Missileer Gathering was held at the AFA Air, Space and Cyber Conference. AFA Gabriel Chapter President Joe Burke and Jock Dodson of AFA Southern Utah Chapter co-chaired the event. Joe Burke recognized a number of Missileers present including the Gen Thomas Power Outstanding Missile Crew of the Year from the 742nd Missile Squadron and Missile Maintenance NCOs working in Air Force Global Strike Command HQ. Maj Gen Fred Stoss, 20th AF/CC thanked all for attending and led the annual toast. Joe is a former Nuclear and Missile Operations Officer, who was assigned as

a Student Missileer at Vandenberg AFB, CA and Missile Combat Crew Commander at Minot AFB, ND, and served with a number of the officers who attended this gathering.



741st SMS Gravelhauler reunion at the Missileer Gathering, from left to right Bob Daugherty, Lt Gen Tony Cotton, Brig Gen (ret) Russ Anarde (741st SMS/CC "back in the day"), Scott "Scooter" Gilson (742nd SMS crew member), Jim Gault, and Gabriel Chapter President. Joe Burke

As many of you know, Joe Burke was assigned as a student missileer and graduated from Minuteman III CDB Initial Qualification Training at the 4315th Combat Crew Training Squadron (CCTS), Vandenberg. AFB, California. After Initial Qualification Training (IQT), he served in Missile Operations as a Deputy Missile Combat Crew Commander, Stan/Eval Deputy Missile Combat Crew Commander and Missile Combat Crew Commander in the 91st Strategic Missile Wing (SMW) and the 741st Strategic Missile Squadron (SMS) at Minot AFB, ND. Joe served with Maj Gen Tony Cotton, current Commander,



Gabriel Chapter President Joe Burke hosted Missileer Senior Leaders, Brig Gen Chris "Boots" Coffelt, USSTRATCOM/J3N, Maj General Fred Stoss, 20th AF/CC, Lt Gen Tony Cotton, Air University/CC, Brig Gen (ret) Russ Anarde, former Director of Plans for Air Force Space Command

Air University, as 741st SMS "Gravel Haulers." They both served in Stan/Eval in 91st SMW/DOV. Brig Gen (ret) Russ Anarde, former Director of Plans and Programs for AFSPC was Commander in the 741st SMS when he was a lieutenant colonel.

Many of the men and women who attended the AFA Conference served as Missileers in Strategic Air Command (SAC) and are also members of the Association of Air Force Missileers. These are just a few of the leaders who made Flag Rank in the missile career field.

Cold War Museum Event - Deputy Chief Scientist for the NSA Dr. John O'Hara



Dr. John O'Hara spoke to a Cold War Museum event at the Old Bust Head Brewing Co. Dr. O'Hara is the former Chief Technology officer of the National Security Agency and spoke on "Technology...the Key to NSA Success"

On July 22nd, Chapter President Joe Burke, Chapter Secretary Jack Diamond and AFA Virginia VP North Tom Shepherd attended a Cold War Museum event "Technology...the Key to NSA Success" with the Former Deputy Chief Scientist for the National Security Agency Dr. John O'Hara. Dr. John O'Hara has held many significant positions at NSA, including design engineer for special purpose systems, Chief of a major satellite program, Chief of all worldwide ELINT (electronic intelligence) programs, Chief of NSA Advanced Research, and NSA Deputy Chief Scientist. He has received many rewards from NSA and from AOC, the major professional organization of those engaged in electronic intelligence and electronic warfare. His Air Force service was in the Strategic Air Command. Dr. O'Hara has an MS in Electronic Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania;

his Ph.D in Electronic Engineering is from the Catholic University of America.

Gabriel Volunteers Support Virginia Hospitality Suite

More than a dozen volunteers from the Gabriel Chapter and others across the State were among the Virginia AFA members who supported the Virginia AFA Hospitality suite at this years' National Convention. JC Conner, the Hospitality Suite Chairman from the DW Steel Chapter, organized the effort and solicited support from Virginia AFA Chapters. JC reported that by all accounts, the Virginia AFA Hospitality Suite was a huge success. Although the final bills were not in at press time, we believe the State will exceed its goal for this year. The sponsorships from various contributors and hard word of volunteers will make a significant impact on the Aerospace Education programs in primary and secondary schools throughout Virginia, e.g., AFJROTC, AFROTC, CAP and others. Thanks again for supporting the VA AFA Hospitality Suite.

Heather Celano led the Gabriel team with Chris Batterton, MSgt Steven Coates, Jack Diamond, Gina Giles, Jonathan Kim, Rick and Karla Larson, Bob & Sandy Lentini, Lee Rizzo, MSgt Waylon Ross, Mike Winters, and Howard Wieland. Many thanks for your support. See you next year!

Upcoming Events

Save the date for these upcoming Chapter activities:

- Wednesday, Oct 3, 1900 to 2000 Gabriel Chapter EXCOM Virtual Meeting
- Friday, Oct 12, 1130 to 1330 Gabriel Chapter Lunch Meeting at Falcon's Landing – Speaker TBA
- Wednesday, Nov 7, 1900 to 2000 Gabriel Chapter EXCOM Virtual Meeting
- Wednesday, Nov 14, 1130 to 1330 Gabriel Chapter Lunch Meeting at Maggiano's in Tysons Corner – Ms. Lauren Knausenberger, AF Director, Cyberspace Innovation
- Wednesday, Dec 5, 1900 to 2000 Gabriel Chapter EXCOM Virtual Meeting

- Wednesday, Dec 12, 1130 to 1330 Gabriel Chapter Holiday Lunch Meeting – Speaker TBA

Next Chapter EXCOM meeting will be Wednesday, October 3, 2018: 1900 to 2000 hours.

Chapter Council Vacancies

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

- VP Chapter Events – Vacant
- VP Awards and Recognition – Vacant
- VP Airmen and Families / Wounded Airman Program – Vacant

Other Items in the News

Gabriel and Northern Shenandoah Chapters to Merge

Dear Gabriel Chapter Members,

The Northern Shenandoah chapter has been unable to meet the minimum criteria to maintain its active status due to a lack of qualified candidates to serve as officers of the Chapter, and their officers have recommended to the Virginia AFA State President to begin the process to suspend the chapter and merge the Chapter into our General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter 433. Our two Chapters already have a close working relationship in Northern Virginia participating in a number of programs, including Chapter events, Cold War Museum events, Aerospace Education and visits to local Congressional representatives. The combined Chapters will continue these programs, including support to members and to Aerospace Education in the Northern Shenandoah Valley.

In the absence of new leadership to satisfy the minimum criteria for maintaining the chapter's charter, we will commence the closure and merger process for the two Chapters effective October 1, 2018. We plan to re-affiliate Northern Shenandoah Chapter members with Gabriel Chapter 433.

We welcome the AFA Members coming to Gabriel from Northern Shenandoah and look forward to participating together in the Mission of the AFA to Educate, Advocate and Support.

Sincerely,
Joe Burke | Air Force Association
President, General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter

AFA and Virginia Veterans

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

Veteran's Corner

These are two items of interest from the Virginia Department of Veteran Services to pass along to our AFA members.

The Virginia War Memorial Foundation presented the 5th Annual Commonwealth's Patriot Day Ceremony, Tuesday, September 11 in the Memorial's Heilman Amphitheater in Richmond. The ceremony honored nearly 3,000 who perished during the terrorist attacks in New York City, on Flight 93 in Pennsylvania, and at the Pentagon in Arlington on September 11, 2001. September 11 is officially designated as Patriot Day by the U.S. Congress as a national day of mourning and remembrance.

The keynote speaker for the ceremony was Melvin D. Carter, Chief of Fire and Emergency Services for the City of Richmond. Chief Carter

is a Marine veteran and serves in the Virginia National Guard. The program included patriotic music performed by the 380th Army Band Ensemble and soloist Bethany Gates. Sailors from Navy Recruiting District, Richmond were ushers and supervised parking.

The VWM Walkway of Honor was established many years ago when JLC members and BVS members pooled resources to purchase paver bricks. The Foundation's Development Coordinator, Brenna Magette encourages Virginia Veterans I to buy a brick to support the War Memorial. More information on their website:

<http://vawarmemorial.org/bricks>

Veterans Corner is submitted by Tom Wozniak, State VP for Veteran Affairs and the State AFA Representative to the Joint Leadership Council (JLC) of Veteran Service Organizations. For questions about the JLC or to make input, contact Tom Wozniak wozniakTA@cox.net or Gabriel Chapter VP for Veterans Affairs, Bob Austin at bob.austin@afa-gabriel.org.

Honoring Our Fallen Comrades

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

Many Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors

Chapter Corporate Sponsors

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

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



Gabriel Chapter Bronze Level Sponsors

Technica®



In addition, Silver-Level Sponsors receive:

- One reserved seat at monthly membership luncheons

Gold-level sponsors receive:

- Two reserved seats at monthly membership luncheons

Platinum-level sponsors are recognized with:

- Four reserved seats at monthly membership luncheons

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



Gabriel Chapter Silver Level Sponsors

CSRA

DSA
Employee-Owned, Mission-Driven

TRACE
SYSTEMS

HSI
HEALTHSTAR INFORMATICS



Gabriel Chapter Platinum Sponsor

GENERAL DYNAMICS
Mission Systems

Gabriel Chapter Community Partners

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

Partners' designated members receive AFA's monthly publication, Air Force Magazine. The magazine allows them to keep abreast of AF matters through an informative and entertaining mix of articles on a wide variety of subjects,

including new weapons and aircraft, national defense issues, legislative reports, first-person accounts of air operations, book reviews, and much more.



South Riding
COSMETIC & FAMILY DENTISTRY



Chapter Finances

Gabriel Chapter Treasurer, Dallas Kennedy, reports on the Chapter's Finances:

Chapter Financial Activity

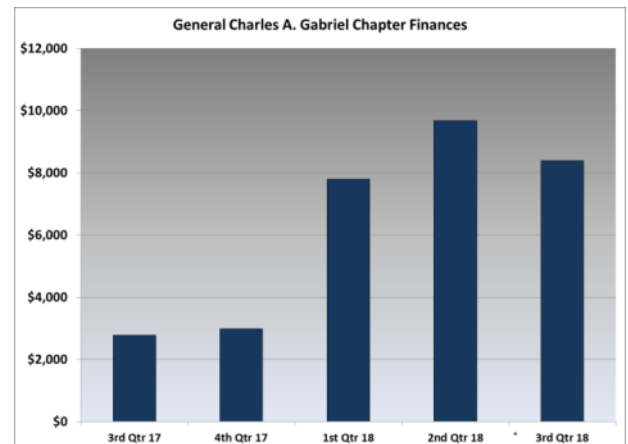
Current values are as of date of newsletter publication

Inflow:

- Chapter Membership Meetings
- Silver Level Chapter Sponsors

Outflow:

- Chapter Membership Meetings
- Cyber Patriot Team Registrations
- Doolittle Brick Campaign
- Administrative Expenses



Gabriel Chapter Top Ten Tips for Recruiting and Retaining Members

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

Here are the Gabriel Top Ten Tips for Retention:

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



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

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

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

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

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

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



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Update Your Information

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

Suggestions?

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

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