



MISSION BRIEF

Air Force Association
ARK-LA-TEX Chapter #159



June 2008

President's Corner – Jack Skaggs

Your chapter has been successful during the last quarter in maintaining membership relatively well – not increasing, but not losing members either. We have been active in supporting the Bossier Parish Middle School Aerospace Science Flight Simulator Program, in awarding AFA Medals to Competitive and deserving Hugh School AFJROTC Students, in supporting Barksdale annual Military Retiree Golf Tournament, in awarding National AFA Pitzenbarger Scholarships on a competitive basis to active duty AF enlisted members, in presenting annual and quarterly awards to active duty AF airmen, NCO'S and junior officers, and in maintaining and increasing our valuable Community Partner members. So we've been busy!

But now we come to a really fun time! Our next quarterly social will be held at the Barksdale Club on Saturday, 28 June. Our Guest of Honor will be the final competitors for our annual Chapter 159 "Teacher of the Year" and the winner will be announced during the evening. I know that you'll want to make a special effort to attend and jointly honor our very important and hard-working teachers who are "the best of the best" in nurturing our children and grandchildren. Major General Floyd Carpenter, Vice Commander, 8th Air Force, will also be our guest and will brief us on what is going on with our Air Force. Details and a Reservation Request for our banquet meeting are printed on the back of this Mission Brief. See you at the Barksdale Club on Saturday, 28 June!!



O. K., Guys – I know you've seen this KC-97G before! But I'm proud of it!
After all, I've flown it over 2,500 hours! Your editor, Ivan L. McKinney

No Marine Gets Left Behind

During a recent trip to Chicago, an Iraq-bound Marine Reservist was unfortunate to be on the receiving end of some despicable, anti-military behavior.

On a Dec. Saturday morning, Marine Corps Sergeant Michael McNulty drove to meet a friend for breakfast before departing for his soon-to-be second combat tour. He parked his car, rang the bell for his friend, then turned and noticed a man leaning against his car.

According to Tom Sullivan, a college buddy of McNulty and witness to the event, McNulty shouted, *"Hey, what are you doing to my car? Open up your hand!"* It quickly became apparent that the man was in the process of vandalizing the sergeant's car by using a key to scratch the paint. Sullivan indicates that the man then said, *"[Blank] you! Just because you're in the military you don't run the roost."*

After further cuss words from the offender and a number of other derogatory comments launched against the Marine Corps and the Armed Forces in general, Sgt McNulty called the police.

Now most people would conclude that the "keying" of the Sgt's car was done by some common street thug or gang-banger. But when police wrote the citation, it turns out that the man was a lawyer. That's right, a 55-year old Chicago attorney, named Jay Robert Grodner.

On the hearing date, Grodner and a State's Attorney, representing Sgt McNulty who couldn't attend because of deployment, went into a side room to work out a plea arrangement.

The deal, agreed to by Sgt McNulty's family, directs Grodner to pay \$600 to the Marine Corps Semper Fi fund (a fund for the wounded), to commit 30-hours of community service and to report to Social Services on probation once a month for a year.

At court proceedings, Judge William O'Malley, who served in the Marine Corps from 1961 to 1964, asked defendant Grodner if he had knowingly committed the damage to McNulty's car. The accused agreed he had and Judge O'Malley read the facts of the event into the record.

After the admission, Judge O'Malley scolded the defendant, saying that Marines like McNulty protect and defend our nation's very existence *"so people like you (Grodner) can enjoy freedom."*

The Judge then noted the many people in the courtroom and said, *"That's because there is a little principle that the Marine Corps has had since 1775: No Marine gets left behind."* He continued, *"So Sgt McNulty couldn't be here (McNulty had deployed), but other Marines showed up in his stead."*

NAUS brings this case to your attention to underscore a basic concept. Whether you agree or not with this nation's civilian-directed military policy and strategy, there is no justification to demean or insult members of this nation's Armed Forces who make great sacrifice to defend our freedom and our way of life. Freedom is not free. And at NAUS we remember our veterans and honor our uniformed services.

Reprinted from Uniformed Services Journal March/April 2008

The Last Fighter Pilot

He was born in the skies over France in nineteen-sixteen,
A daring young man in a flimsy old flying machine,
Ed Rickenbacker, The Baron, Frank Luke and the rest,
Paving the high road for those who would follow the quest.

In the twenties and thirties he stood against short-sighted men
Who clipped back the wings, saying they'd never him again.

Then he strapped on a Spitfire and climbed in the bright English blue
To the cheers of the many who owed so much to the few.
From the white cliffs of Dover to islands of jungle and sand,
An entire world at war, but for him it was man versus man.

And when it was over and he stood against short-sighted men
Who clipped back his wings, saying they'd never need him again.

He climbed in a Sabre and flew through the Korean skies,
Up to Mig Alley with courage to fight and die
Then in Thud and in Phantom he called down the thunder again
But this one was different, **they wouldn't allow him to win,**

And when it was all over he stood against short-sighted men
Who clipped back his wings, saying they'd never need him again

The last fighter pilot is just like the first of his kind,
And when duty calls he's the first to step over the line.
A child of the heavens, a grandson and son of the best,
Still riding the high road, still trying to follow the quest.

And as the century passes he stands against short-sighted men
Who've clipped back his wings, saying they'll never need him again

For you short-sighted bastards who kill with the stroke of a pen,
He stands at the ready, 'till the day that you need him again.



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
Retiree Activities Office (2BW/CVR)
P. O. Box 134
Barksdale AFB, LA 71110
Phone (318) 456-5976/4480 – Fax: (318) 456-3520
Toll Free # 1-866-544-2412
Email” RAO@barksdale.af.mil



INVITATION TO LARGEST WWII LUNCHEON IN OUR NATION

All World War II veterans and their families are invited to what may be the largest World War II luncheon in our nation. It will be held at Barksdale Air Force Base on 16 August 2008 at 12 noon. The Guest Speaker will be Colonel Robert Wheeler, Commander, 2nd Bomb Wing and the 156th LA Army NG Band will be playing. Lots of military pomp, pageantry and the ceremony. Free gifts of “T” shirts, WWII coins and caps for all WWII veterans. The cost is only \$10 person. For an invitation write: Retiree Office, P. O. Box 134, Barksdale AFB, LA 71110 or fax 318-456-3520 or call toll free 1-866-544-2412 or email” RAO@barksdale.af.mil . For many, this may be the last chance to participate in a WWII event due to aging. Quarters will be available at the base on 15 & 16 August.

Upcoming September Events

8 September - Retiree Military Ball 6pm, Barksdale Club

**11 September - Public Broadcasting (PBS) Premier Program "World War (TheWar)
"Hors D'oeuvres - 6:30 Hoban Hall. No charge for WWII veterans**

15-17 September: Be a part of the Air Force Association's Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition in Washington DC. This is truly a one of a kind event where AFA brings together Air Force leadership, industry experts, academia and current event specialists, from around the world to discuss the issues and challenges facing America and the aerospace community today. Register today online at www.afa.org



Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps



AFA Award

Lees Broome, represented the AFA Chapter 159 in presenting the National AFA JR ROTC Certificate and Medal to Cadet Captain Jeff Lofton.

The award was presented at Parkway High School in Bossier City, LA on April 22, 2008. The ceremony is an annual event when all awards are presented to the Parkway High School AFJRROTC Unit.



Have you seen our Chapter 159 Web Page yet?

The address is www.afa159.org

Take a look! Webmaster is Board Member Gordon Ward

We are especially proud of our
AFA Community Partners.

They support us and we should support them!

Leone Shoe Shop - Dick Whittington
2412 Line Ave., Shreveport, LA

Ernest's Orleans Restaurant - Ernest Palmisano
1601 Spring Street, Shreveport, LA 71101

Woolman Enterprises - Gerry Woolman
5721 Shoreline Dr., Shreveport, LA

McCary's Jewelers - R. McCary
1409 E 70th Street, #118, Shreveport, LA 71105

Cyber Innovation Center - Craig Spohn
6220 E. Texas St., Bossier City, LA 71111

Roadrunner Car Wash
2615 Youree Drive, Shreveport, LA 71104

Starbase Louisiana - Kathy Brandon
1000 Davis Avenue East, Barksdale AFB, LA 71110

Dr Walter Schneider, DDS
50 Briar Hollow, Suite 150W, Shreveport, LA

McVicar and Son Printers - R McVicar
1226 Shreveport Barksdale Highway, Shreveport, LA

OK Cleaners - Ernest Demopulos
127 E. Kings Highway, Shreveport, LA

Chianti's - Giacalone Brothers
6535 Line Ave., Shreveport, LA

Reservation Request – AFA Chapter 159 Quarterly Social

Barksdale Club (formerly Officers' Club)

Saturday, 28 June 2008 – Cocktails 1800, Dinner 1845

Send (before 24 June) to: **Dick Kittler, 2522 Spruce Drive, Bossier City, LA 71111**

Phone: 746-1796

Your Name: _____ Phone #: _____ Guest: _____

**Menu: Burgundy Beef Tips over Rice, California Medley,
Tossed Salad, topped off with Bread Pudding**

Cost: \$20.59 per person

I have Barksdale AFB Entry Privileges: () Yes () NO *** **Important:**
If you checked "No", please enter Barksdale AFB thru the NORTH GATE

Check for \$ _____ is enclosed, or, please charge my () Visa or () Mastercard
_____, expiration date _____

Signature: _____

-----Clip & Mail-----

**Air Force Association
Chapter 159
5527 Hickory Ridge
Bossier City, LA 71111**

MISSION BRIEF - NEWSLETTER

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
SHREVEPORT, LA
PERMIT No. 657