



Mission Brief



ARK-LA-TEX Chapter #159

www.afa159.org

September 2008

Quarterly Social

Those of you who missed our quarterly social on Saturday, 28 June, missed a great opportunity to hear a good speaker, and also to recognize three of our outstanding public schoolteachers. The 8th AF Vice Commander, Maj Gen Floyd Carpenter, brought us up to speed on what is going on militarily with our Air Force. A Chapter 159 Board of Officers selected the Chapter 159 “Teacher of the Year” from strong competition. The winner was Mrs. Therese Kniepp, of Sun City Elementary; she received an AFA check for \$250 and a lovely wall plaque. “Runners up,” tied for second place, were Mrs. Linda Finimore of Airline High School and Ms. Brenda Lauw of Rusheon Middle School. Each received a Chapter 159 check for \$200 and a beautiful wall plaque suitable for display in their classrooms.

Mrs. Kniepp was also named as “Louisiana State Teacher of the Year,” and for this honor, she received an AFA check for \$500, a tote bag, a certificate of excellence and a personalized jacket.

Photos of the Quarterly Social may be viewed at www.159.org/photo.htm



Teacher of the Year – Therese Kniepp accepting awards from Paul LaFlame, AFA Louisiana State President



Maj. Gen. Floyd Carpenter and wife Melissa our guest speaker

President’s Corner – Jack Skaggs

Dear Fellow Members: I want to keep you abreast of some of the high points your Executive Board is and has been working on. In a previous Mission Brief, we mentioned our involvement to help the Cyber Innovation Center (CIC) move along. Well, here is your chance to get the story straight from the top. Mr. Craig Spohn, executive Director of the CIC will be our guest speaker at our 27 September quarterly Social. We hope you can make it to hear a great presentation and enjoy the camaraderie as well.

In other areas, three members of your Chapter 159 Executive Board participated in an exceptional scholarship event. Capt Judy LaValley, a member of the Barksdale Civil Air Patrol Squadron, received an AFA-FCEF Air Force Excellence Scholarship for 2008, valued at \$3,000. Capt LaValley is a 1989 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy and a

Continued on next page

former member of the USAFA's Parachute Team. She intends to attend the University of Birmingham in Birmingham, England and pursue a Master's Degree in International Security Studies. Congratulations to Captain LaValley!

Also, in the near future our Mission Brief will be accessed via the electronic media world. This is a great thing for our organization, but a bit bittersweet, in that, Lt. Col. (ret) Ivan McKinney prepared our Mission Brief for so many years with care and quality. Without his input we would not be where we are today. Great job Colonel McKinney, we appreciate you!

Finally, your chapter has honored the 2nd BW and the 917th Wing's Quarterly Award Winners with a year's membership to the Air Force Association for their awesome achievement. Your support of the Air Force Association made this possible. Thanks for your support and we hope to see you at the Social.

Craig Spohn To Speak At Quarterly Social

Our speaker at our quarterly dinner, September 27, 2008 is Craig Spohn, a native of San Antonio, Texas and a 1987 graduate of LSU-S, with a Bachelor of Science in Finance. He has twenty years of experience in the Information Technology field, working in international, commercial and federal government markets. Currently, Craig is the Executive Director of the Cyber Innovation Center, (CIC). A public/private initiative whose mission is to support research, educational and technological advancement for the Cyber mission and to foster collaborative and strategic alliances between governmental agencies, private and academic institutions. Before serving as the Executive Director of CIC, Craig was the Director of an Information Technology Consulting Group for a Shreveport-based technology company. Prior to returning to Shreveport-Bossier, Craig was with Science Applications International Corporation, (SAIC) a large defense contractor. At SAIC, Craig served as Vice President for Middle East Business and Coordinated SAIC's Saudi Arabian business activities as General Manager of the Saudi Joint Venture.

Craig is a member of AFCEA, Biomedical Research Foundation of NW LA, The Military Affairs Council, Committee of 100, Consortium for Education, Research and Technology Rotary of Shreveport, Louisiana Tech Computer Advisory Board, LSU-S Science and Technology Council and was Vice Chairman for Governor Jindal's Transition Team for Higher Education.

Craig and his wife, Stacy have two daughters, Caroline and Sarah-Catherine.

The Quarterly Social will be held at the Barksdale Club with cocktails at 1800 and dinner at 1900. Details and a Reservation Request for our banquet meeting are printed on the back of this Mission Brief.

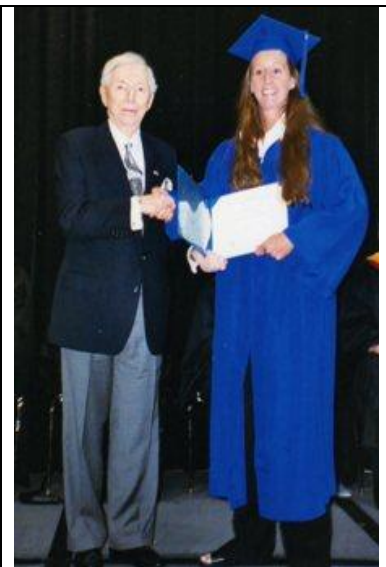


Lees Broome of Chapter 159 presenting a Pitzenbarger Scholarship to: T/Sgt Wayne Bullock, USAF

Pitzenbarger Scholarships

Twice a year, your Chapter presents \$500 Pitzenbarger college scholarships, funds provided by AFA National, to deserving active duty AF and AF Reserve enlisted personnel who are graduating from the Community College of the Air Force with an Associates' Degree. Pitzenbarger Scholarships are named in honor of Medal of Honor winner Airman First Class William H. Pitzenbarger, a para-rescue jumper who perished during the Vietnam War in the act of saving fellow airmen's and soldiers' lives.

Chapter 159 officers participate in the process of selecting the scholarship winners, along with active duty senior enlisted and 2nd Bomb Wing Base Education Officer. Winners are competitively selected and must be enrolled in a part-time college program enroute to a 4-year college degree.



Lees Broome of Chapter 159 presenting a Pitzenbarger Scholarship to: T/Sgt Pamela Marshall, USAF

Louisiana State President Corner – Paul LaFlame

Just a quick briefing about the status of the State Organization here in Louisiana. We have had a very busy time at the State level with getting our organization back in shape. We are now in the computer age with all of our chapter and state reports being turned in electronically instead of on paper. The Major General Oris B. Johnson Chapter 156 is back on line and doing some outstanding work down in the Baton Rouge area. Hats off to Phil Jones and the officers of the chapter. The Ark-La-Tex Chapter 159 has been outstanding in its support of the State and National Organizations. We had a State Convention on June 28th followed by a great Social that night hosted by Chapter 159. Len Vernamonti the South Central Region President was in town for the convention and social and was very impressed by the day's events and the evening's awards presentations. Once again Chapter 159 made it happen with a lot of hard work and attention to details by the officers of the organization, Thank You each and everyone. AFA is going thru some modernization growing pains which translates to we are entering the computer age. As with all changes I hope you will bear with us as we work past the problems. We have some good people working to make this a painless as possible endeavor. I would like to personally thank Gordon Ward for his outstanding work and efforts with the State and Chapter 159 Web Pages. Also Gordon Thank You for your outstanding work with the newsletters. One last thought until next time, Membership and involvement is the key to any organizations success we need to work on recruiting new members and stay involved in the activities of our chapters. In closing remember those in harm's way and Thank them for the freedom that you enjoy everyday.

Scholarship Award Presentation to Local CAP Commander - July 7, 2008

The Air Force Association (AFA), along with the First Command Educational Foundation (FCEF), provides five \$3000 Air Force Excellence Scholarships each year to members of the Air Force family who are seeking a Bachelors or Masters Degree. AFA LA State and local Chapter 159 was honored to present the Scholarship Certificate, and a plaque, to Capt. Judy LaValley, local Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Squadron Commander. The presentation was conducted at a Barksdale Composite Squadron's July 2008 monthly meeting - with all of her Cadets and squadron members in formation. She was selected from over 400 applicants for one of the five scholarships.

Capt. LaValley is a 1989 graduate of the Air Force Academy and a former KC-135 and RC-135 pilot. While at the Air Force Academy, she was a member of the Academy Parachute Team, "Wings of Blue". After separating from the Air Force, Capt. LaValley attended the University of Oklahoma and received a master's degree in Human Relations.



Jim Huggins, Chapter Secretary, presenting Chapter 159 plaque to Capt LaValley



Paul LaFlame, AFA State President, presenting AFA/FCEF Scholarship award to Capt LaValley

She has been a member of the CAP for two years and the Squadron Commander for the Barksdale Composite Squadron since May 2007. Under her leadership, the Squadron has received numerous awards.

In September 2008, Capt. LaValley will enter the masters program for International Security Studies at the University of Birmingham, Birmingham, England - with aspirations of working with NATO upon completion. All members of AFA Ch. 159 wish her "God's Speed" - in all she does. Additional photos may be viewed at www.afa159.org/photo.htm



**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 71104 318-221-0723	Ernest's Orleans Restaurant Ernest Palmisano 1601 Spring Street Shreveport, LA 71101 318-226-1325
Woolman Enterprises - Gerry Woolman 5721 Shoreline Dr. Shreveport, LA 71119 318-635-7689	Cyber Innovation Center - Craig Spohn 6220 E. Texas St. Bossier City, LA 71111 866-380-2746 http://www.cyberinnovationcenter.org/
McVicar and Son Printers - Matthew McVicar 1226 Shreveport Barksdale Highway Shreveport, LA 71105 318-219-9963	Roadrunner Car Wash – Walter Smith 2615 Youree Drive Shreveport, LA 71104 861-7660
Starbase Louisiana - Kathy Brandon 1000 Davis Avenue East Barksdale AFB, LA 71110 456-1315 http://www.917wg.afrc.af.mil/units/starbaselouisiana	OK Cleaners - Ernest Demopulos 127 E. Kings Highway Shreveport, LA 71104 318-868-5417
Chianti's – Enrico Giacalone 6535 Line Ave. Shreveport, LA 71106 318-868-8866	John Gibbs Roof Systems - John Gibbs P. O. Box 6384 Bossier City, LA 71111 318-747-3571
Dr Walter Schneider, DDS 50 Briar Hollow, Suite 150W Houston, TX 77027	Johnson's Furniture – Chris Johnson 921 West Gate Dr. Bossier City, LA 71112 318-742-1621

Membership Directory

Find old friends who may be AFA members in the online directory. Most AFA members are listed here (not those that requested to be excluded). You can view your own listing and determine what you want to display to other AFA members or to have no listing at all.

NOTE: This information is NOT available to the public, only to other AFA members in good standing.

Check it out at: <http://www.memberconnections.com/AFA/>

New Newsletter Procedures

The AFA has approved new procedures for publishing Chapter newsletters. These are:

Option 1 – Chapters must distribute a copy of the newsletter to each chapter member each quarter via email or regular mail.

Option 2 – Once a year, send all members the newsletter via email or regular mail and in this yearly newsletter solicit email addresses to keep the chapter listing up to date and ask those members desiring a hard/paper copy to notify the chapter accordingly. For the remaining three quarterly newsletters, chapter newsletter would be distributed electronically except for those members that had requested a hard/paper copy. Electronic distribution means an email telling the member that the newsletter is posted on the chapter web page with a link to retrieve the newsletter. If a member does not provide an email address or ask for a paper/hard copy, no newsletter will be provided to them until the following year's annual communication.

The ARK-LA-TEX Chapter 159 will gradually phase into the new procedures as follows:

For the September and December newsletter, all members will receive a copy via regular mail and for those that have an email address on file with AFA will also receive an email with instructions on how to retrieve the newsletter online. The newsletter may be viewed online at www.afa159.org and will be in a PDF file. All computers should be able to open the file, if not instructions will be given in the email on how to obtain a free version of Acrobat Reader which will allow you to open the file. Each member is requested to fill out the below form and select your newsletter preferences.

Members that can receive emails are encouraged to select Option 1 as it will reduce our printing and mailing costs and that savings can be used to promote additional Chapter programs in the Ark-La-Tex area. Email addresses will not be used for any other purposes unless you state otherwise in the form below.

-----Clip and mail or send email-----

Chapter 159 Newsletter Request Form

Name: _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please circle **one** of the following options:

Option 1 - Electronic copy via email

Option 2 - Printed copy via US mail

Option 3 - Printed copy via US mail and a electronic email copy

Would you like to receive emails about other Chapter events? Yes No (Circle one)

Please clip and mailed to: Gordon Ward, 219 Walnut Lane, Bossier City, LA 71111 or send email to gordon@ward.org and in the email state what option is requested.

Reservation Request

AFA Chapter 159 Quarterly Social

Barksdale Club

Saturday, 27 September 2008 – Cocktails 1800, Dinner 1900

Send (before 23 September) to: **Dick Kittler, 2522 Spruce Drive, Bossier City, LA 71111**

Phone: 746-1796

Your Name: _____ Phone #: _____ Guest: _____

Menu: Pork Medallions – Tender Pork in a Mushroom Wine Sauce

Parsley Buttered Potatoes, Italian Blend Vegetables and Apple Pie A La Mode

I have Barksdale AFB Entry Privileges: () Yes () NO * Important:**

If you checked "No", please enter Barksdale AFB thru the NORTH GATE

Cost per person: Check box - member: \$19.45 non-member \$21.45

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

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID

SHREVEPORT, LA
PERMIT No. 657

MISSION BRIEF - NEWSLETTER