



# THE NORTHEAST FLYER

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHEAST TEXAS CHAPTER 416 AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION



## Sulphur Springs Civil Air Patrol Cadets Render Honor Guard Detail at L-3 MID

### CHAPTER 416 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	TREY JOHNSON
VICE PRESIDENT	SMSGT GREG HAMILTON
TREASURER	JOE GAUTHIER
SECRETARY	SMSGT CURTIS CHISM

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# CALENDAR

<b>JAN. 2014</b>	8 Chapter Meeting	5-24 Cyber Patriot – Semi Finals	23 Dinner – CMSAF #5 Gaylor
<b>FEB. 2014</b>	12 Chapter Meeting	21-23 Cyber Patriot State/Reg. Finals	
<b>MAR. 2014</b>	1 AFA State Meeting	12 Chapter Meeting	26-29 Cyber Patriot Nat'l Finals
<b>APR. 2014</b>	9 Chapter Meeting	26 ENP Awards Banquet	
<b>MAY 2014</b>	14 Chapter Meeting		
<b>JUNE 2014</b>	11 Chapter Meeting		
<b>JUL. 2014</b>	9 Chapter Meeting	TBD Summer TX State Meeting - Abilene	
<b>AUG. 2014</b>	13 Chapter Meeting		
<b>SEPT. 2014</b>	10 Chapter Meeting	12-15 National Conference	TBD Golf Thing
<b>OCT. 2014</b>	8 Chapter Meeting	TBD Chapter Officer CAP Recognition Dinner	TBD Fall TX State Meeting – San Antonio
<b>NOV. 2014</b>	TBD Vets Visit – Bonham	12 Chapter Meeting	
<b>DEC. 2014</b>	10 Chapter Meeting		

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**23 Jan. 2014**

**CMSAF #5  
Gaylor Dinner**



**1 March 2014**

**AFA Texas State  
Meeting**



Greenville, Texas

**26 Apr. 2014**

**ENP Awards  
Banquet**



# PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS



In wishing everyone a prosperous New Year, I have to ask a question.

If Chapter 416 disappeared, would anyone miss it?

We need to periodically ask this question about any organization we belong to or are thinking about joining.

As time and resources become more and more difficult to obtain and maintain, we have to be very selective in targeting organizations and activities that make a difference.

Many of us who are active in our churches know how important these faith institutions are to our communities.

Is this chapter important to our community?

Why not ask Marcy Whited, 2013 Teacher of the Year from the Farmersville Intermediate School? The chapter supported her with awards money and recognition as well as funding for their Physics Phair.

Ask Vicki Mason, teacher at the Dowell Middle School in McKinney. NE Texas is supporting their Visions Program, which is sponsored through USA Today as a subset of the overall STEM effort from AFA.

Ask the many students who have received scholarship money from the chapter through the Earle North Parker Scholarships. These scholarships, in addition to the ENP Banquet held each year, not only honor these recipients, it exposes and challenges them to raise their expectations, performance and awareness to serve their communities for the rest of their lives.

Ask Tom Witt, a science teacher from the Greenville Christian School. The local chapter has supported their Robotics program for years.

Ask the students and volunteers in

the Cyber Patriot program for Rockwall and Rockwall-Heath High Schools that receive NE Texas support.

Ask the FISH (Hunt County Shared Ministries) in Greenville and the PATH (People Attempting to Help People) ministries in Tyler. The chapter has made significant donations for years to these groups who in turn help many folks in need.

Ask the current and former cadets of Texas Wing of the Civil Air Patrol TX-450 Chapter (Sulphur Springs) where they would be without Chapter 416.

Ask the tornado victims in Oklahoma City that received a significant donation from the chapter after that terrible tragedy.

Ask the veterans at the VA Community Center in Bonham that the chapter and our friends (Scouts, CAP Cadets and other uniformed personnel) visit multiple times each year.

Terry Thomas and Ted Oats from the chapter were keynote speakers at Veteran's Day events in both Rockwall and Farmersville, and they did it on short notice!

The list goes on and on.

Rest assured that Chapter 416 supports and is an advocate for airmen, their families and the education of our youth.

Chapter 416, along with our loyal Community Partners and Golf Thing sponsors, will continue these missions and grow them even more over this next year and beyond.

Not only would Chapter 416 be missed if it no longer existed, many people in Northeast Texas count on us to be there.

Chapter 416 counts on YOU to be there, also!

You can contact me at:  
**903-413-1453**  
President@netxafa.org



**Trey Johnson**  
President, AFA Chapter 416

# LIBERTY MEMORIAL DEDICATION

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On the 14th of November, the Liberty Memorial was dedicated at the L-3 Communications facility in Greenville.

The memorial was constructed under the guidance of Lieutenant General Craig Koziol (USAF, Retired), who is now Vice President of ISR Systems, L-3 Mission Integration Division, Greenville, Texas. He had a tremendous team supporting this project and a special thank you goes to Sarah Keeney and Cody Adamek who played a vital role from design to the completion of the project.

The beautiful memorial was dedicated and the ceremony conducted in honor of the four brave crew members who lost their lives while flying onboard Liberty Aircraft 32: "Independence 08". The airmen lost were: Capt. Brandon L. Cyr, 28, of Woodbridge, Va; Capt. Reid K. Nishizuka, 30, of Kailua, Ha-waii; Staff Sgt. Richard A. Dickson, of Rancho Cordova, Calif.; and Staff Sgt. Daniel N. Fannin, 30, of Morehead, Ky.



These outstanding and professional Airmen were deployed with the 361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron, 451st Air Expeditionary Wing at Kandahar Airfield.

Special bronze plaques in honor of each Airman as well as one near the model of Liberty 32, are major features associated with this special memorial. The ceremony was attended by personnel from L-3 Mission Integration Division, the local community, and the United States Air Force.

This very special dedication ceremony was conducted by Mark Von Schwarz, President of L-3 MID. Mr. Von Schwarz

provided his personal thoughts associated with the crew members and the Liberty program. Additionally, he personally thanked all those in attendance and singled out the Air Force Association for its support.

Dedication remarks were also given by Major General John N. T. Shanahan, Commander of the Air Force Intelligence Surveillance Agency, San Antonio, TX; Colonel Phillip A. Stewart, Commander, 9th Reconnaissance Wing, Beale AFB, CA; and Colonel Edward Topps, Commander, 645th Aeronautical Systems Group, Wright Patterson AFB, OH.

Cadets from the Texas Civil Air Patrol Sulphur Springs Composite Squadron (TX-450) served with distinction as the color guard for the momentous occasion. The cadets were led by CAP Capt. (AF CMSgt. retired) Chuck Meador, who was in attendance and also had an important role in organizing the event.

Mr. Von Schwarz, Mr. Koziol and Mr. Meador are all local Chapter members.

## CYBERPATRIOT, YEAR ONE

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We aided in enrollment and in finding additional coaching help during the season. We also worked to get AFA National to approve a slight modification on the CyberPatriot design and have made patches for the competition with our community Partner, Checkmate Embroidery, Rockwall, TX. We are also extremely pleased with the support and donation of nearly \$500 given by AT&T Dallas and David Arbuckle, who represents

AT&T. They aided in partially funding the patches we were able to give to participants.

The teams were led by Todd Manning. Todd and Jean Laswell, Rockwall ISD, Career-Technical Education Coordinator, worked with Bruce Charbonneau, Rockwall Teacher, and Jennifer McDermott to establish the two teams. James Yznaga, L-3 Employee, also came out and supported the teams a few times. Yznaga is a programmer at L-3 and was part of similar programs offered in schools before he graduated. We are so pleased to have teachers and community members like them willing to step up to make a difference for our students, our community, and our nation.

In this year's competition, both teams scored well gaining over

130 points for totals near 260+ for the combined two rounds. "The competition results are not as impressive as the students," Jennifer McDermott said. "The willingness and drive to learn security for new operating systems and have come a long ways," she continued, when referring to the nearly 20 team members from both Rockwall High and Rockwall-Heath high where McDermott teaches.

If you are interested in helping or would like to work with the program in any way, it requires no experience. Vance Clarke was able to help – you can to. We don't need a lot of your time, just some! Contact Vance at 903-274-9981 or [vancemclarke@aol.com](mailto:vancemclarke@aol.com) if you are interested in donating or helping with your time!



# AUSTIN STATE MEETING



The 4th Quarter Executive Committee Meeting for the State of Texas was held on October 18th - 20th at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Austin.

Chapter 416 president Trey Johnson and former president Vance Clarke (now VP of Communications) were in attendance.

State President Gary Copsey called the meeting to order and Austin Chapter president Norm King welcomed all and recognized attendees.

During the president's report, Copsey stated that budget-wise the state was in good shape, but the constant specter of declining membership continues to challenge leadership of the organization. He also emphasized utilization of the online training for chapter reporting, as well as using the Air Power Advocates to influence Congress on behalf of airmen. Support of the Mitchell Institute was a recurring theme.

Bob Gehbauer, State Executive Vice President, gave a report on the October State President's meeting.

Gehbauer mentioned the low attendance for the state at the national conference and looked for suggestions to facilitate in the future. The recruitment of more non-traditional members, partners and corporations in the community was brought out as an objective. The Wounded Airman and Cyber Patriot initiatives were also prioritized for expansion.

Joan Lopez gave the State Secretary Report.

Lopez suggested that each chapter

should include record submissions in their monthly minutes.

Mike Winslow, State Treasurer, briefed the assembly on the Treasurer's Report that was handed out and important issues facing the organization, financially.



Trey Johnson and Colonel Kinsey

Winslow discussed supporting the modernization and simplifying of policies wherever possible.

Paramount in Winslow's brief was the importance of the AFA's evolving relationship with the IRS. Being a 510(3)(c) organization, the IRS is closely monitoring the AFA and our chapters need to closely adhere to the appropriate tax codes. An important facet of the tax process is the Form 990, which provides the government with important information about the filing entity. Each chapter needs to file their 990s in a timely manner. AFA national is working with the IRS to quickly approve and process all chapter Form 990s.

Bill Croom, Member Emeritus on the Advisory Council, encouraged the group to run AFA chapters more like a

business and concentrate on member retention. He stated that we need more decisions and less debate from groups like the Education Boards.

Croom also singled out retired General Dave Deptula as outstanding advocate for the AFA in Washington as well as the Mitchell Institute.

In the afternoon meeting, newly elected National Director at Large Dave Dietsch stated that he had updated legislator and military contact lists and was focused on building strong AFA relationships with those points of contact.

Mike Winslow, who also serves as the State VP of Awards, pointed out that annual state award submittals are due by 30 March of 2014.

After the Vice President and Chapter

President reports, the meeting was adjourned.

The guest speaker at the Saturday night banquet was Col. John Kinsey, Vice Commander for the Air Component Command of the Texas State Guard. Col. Kinsey gave an overview of the State Guard and it was very informative.

There was quite a bit of lively debate during the conference. All in all, the Chapter 416 participants considered the meeting quite productive and look forward to hosting the next meeting in Greenville.

The next State Executive Committee Meeting will be held in Greenville on 28 February - 1 March 2014 at the Best Western Plus Monica Royale Inn and Suites.

# BONHAM VETERAN'S VISIT

On Saturday, November 2, 2013, Chapter 416 sponsored a visit to the Bonham VA Community Center in Bonham, TX. We had 20+ people visit our veterans. We had six members and spouses of Chapter 416, three active duty members and spouses from the 645 AESS located at L-3, and a wonderful group of students from Texas A & M Commerce's War and Memory Project. We gave each veteran a small American flag, and had a great time listening to their stories, talking and joking. For these men and woman, the fact that someone cared to take the time to visit meant so much. A good percentage of the veterans do not have any visitors during the year. It is important to let them know that there are still people who care about them and their service to our country. For those who had not visited the VA previously, they received more out of meeting these veterans than they ever imagined they would.

The group of students from Texas A & M Commerce was headed

up Haley Hasik, lead for the War & Memory Project. The purpose of this group is to contact various active duty and retired members of the military to hear the stories of their many experiences while serving our country and to retain these memories for



others to share. The students talked to several of the veterans at Bonham and solicited discussions with the members of Chapter 416. If anyone is interested in talking to them, the point of contact is Haley Hasik, cell phone (972) 998-3296. She and other students working on this wonderful project would be very happy to talk to any of us and get our stories added to

the archives they are compiling. These records will ensure the memories of our veterans efforts will not fade away. This program started in 2013 and the students have interviewed twenty veterans so far and hope to do many more. This is such a wonderful project and deserves support of us all. We commend the students who are taking the time out of their studies to compile and record all the information and memories regarding the hard work and sacrifice of our veterans, both men and women.

The Chapter is planning on having another visit to Bonham in May of this year. There will be more information on this

visit as time gets closer. We have had some discussion about giving our veterans flag pins or some other type of pin instead of the flags as we have done flags the last couple of years. If anyone has a suggestion, please contact Larry Ratliff (ratliffk@sbcglobal.net) or (972) 782-8488. He will be glad to discuss any suggestions.



## CIVIL AIR PATROL INFO

### Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Releases Familiarization Course

The Civil Air Patrol has released an online familiarization course for Air Force personnel and CAP members intended to inform participants about CAP's capabilities as a non-combatant, all-volunteer "force multiplier," according to a CAP release.

"During my 23-year Air Force career, I had no knowledge of the Civil Air

Patrol. I wish I had been more aware so I could have taken advantage of all they have to offer in support of the Air Force mission and Air Force families," wrote CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Charles Carr in the course introduction. The course covers CAP's role in national defense, its efforts to teach today's youth science, technology, engineering, and math skills, as well as ways the organization can assist the overall Air

Force in a variety of missions, including disaster relief efforts.

"CAP's missions and capabilities are not as widely known within the Air Force as they need to be and this course should help change that. I encourage everyone to take this course so more Air Force units, members and families can take advantage of all CAP has to offer in support of the Air Force mission and Air Force families," said Carr.

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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ALLIANCE BANK, GREENVILLE	GENTLE DENTAL
AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK, GREENVILLE	GILMER HIGH SCHOOL
APEX	HARDMETAL SOLUTIONS INC
BAKERS RIBS, GREENVILLE	HILLIARD FLORIST & GIFTS
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GENERAL DENTISTRY - KYLE SMITH D.D.S.	TIM DRAKE JEWELERS
	TWO SENORITAS MEXICAN RESTAURANT
	WEBB HILL COUNTRY CLUB

# NEWSLINE

Excerpted from December 2013 AFA Newsline



## Community Partner Spotlight

This month we are excited to feature a CP spotlight submission from the Northeast Texas Chapter. Gentle Dental Care is their longest standing Community Partner - they have supported the chapter since 1994. They were recruited to become a Community Partner by one of their dental patients, who also happened to be an

AFA member. Throughout the years, Gentle Dental Care has continually committed to serving their community. In 2007, when current owner of Gentle Dental Care, Brent S. Wehner, took over the practice, the former owner was sure to lay out all their memberships and make sure that they were all carried on after he left. Wehner's family has a long, proud military tradition so he

was excited to learn about the Air Force Association Community Partnership. Wehner and the staff at Gentle Dental Care believe that if they can help promote air power, they are helping their community, state, and country.

Thank you to Gentle Dental Care's continued support of the Northeast Texas Chapter and AFA as a whole!

*Thank you to all of our community partners*

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[www.netxafa.org](http://www.netxafa.org)

LEGAL STUFF: The NORTHEAST FLYER is published more or less quarterly by the Northeast Texas Chapter 416 of the Air Force Association, P.O. Box 8633, Greenville, TX 75404-8633. Chapter hotline 903-457-6605. The AFA is a non profit organization. Chapter President: Trey Johnson Please address correspondence to the Northeast Texas Chapter, including comments on the NORTHEAST FLYER to the address above.

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AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

