

AFSA DIVISION 3

Heartland of America

“Recruit, Retain, Educate”



Every December members of AFSA’s South Dakota Chapter, 951 along with people from Team Ellsworth, go to SD Veterans Home in Hot Springs to decorate their residence for Christmas. This year they went to all 3 floors to spread the Holiday Cheer in every corner. Pictured in the middle is one of their most famous residents, Clarence. Each year he shows up with a different Christmas hat which either claps or plays music. Clarence, a Korean War Veteran, has been a resident for over 30 years.

Want anything put into the Division History, send pictures with dates, names, event, etc. to Charlie Dalzell, cod1996@kc.rr.com

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Membership

Volunteers are truly the backbone of this Association; people we need, trust and value. Volunteers at the chapter level immeasurably improve and enhance our Association. There are no two better examples that represent the spirit of AFSA than that of Bud and Jean Kolwitz from Chapter 851 (Milwaukee, WI). “Bud and Jean are the first to be there and last to leave.”

Legislative Issues

Now is not the time to quit, but it is in fact the time to get involved. I encourage each of you to contact your elected officials and to let them know the time for partisan one-upmanship is over and it is now time to work together to put America first. These are serious times and we need serious people to solve the issues affecting our citizens both here at home and abroad.



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

First off, I want to thank each and every person in our division for their membership, hard work, and enthusiasm that they have put forth to our Association this past year. Our committed volunteers are worth their weight in gold. We must remember AFSA is a volunteer service based organization and our members give back without any compensation or expectations. Without their contributions our Association would cease to exist... I salute you and thank you!

This past year was not a successful year for our division with our membership efforts. I know many of you have heard me say this, but we need every member to help recruit/retain in order to grow our Association. Our membership strength is down as we lost nearly 450 members. We continue to struggle year after year to meet our membership goals.

It's not hard to recruit and retain members, but it does take some effort and the results have a purpose/impact. First off, we grow AFSA. Next, we have more members to represent on Capitol Hill. Membership strength plays an important role in the AFSA's lobbying presence on the Hill. The larger the Association is the more access and influence AFSA will have. Lastly, chapters gain more members to volunteer with community service projects.

Volunteers are truly the backbone of this Association; people we need, trust and value. Volunteers at the chapter level immeasurably improve and enhance our Association. There are no two better examples that represent the spirit of AFSA than that of Bud and Jean Kolwitz from Chapter 851 (Milwaukee, WI).

Bud and Jean have a legacy of giving back and expect nothing in return. Since joining AFSA 27 years

ago they have recruited and retained nearly 5,500 members. Jean served as a Division Auxiliary Coordinator for 17 years (1995-2011) and Bud as a Division President (2003-2005), and they both continue serve our division as our Family Matters Chair and Division Trustee. As quoted by Chapter 851's Chapter President, "Bud and Jean are the first to be there and last to leave"!

There are a number of other members like Bud and Jean, but the random acts of kindness of all our volunteers are not random at all; they are deliberate, intentional, well thought-out, and the ultimate gift the act of kindness.

Lastly, our 2018 Annual Division 3 Professional Airmen's Conference is quickly approaching and this year's conference host chapter is Chapter 972, McConnell AFB, KS. Our conference is set for April 5-7. Chapter 972 is working hard to make this an enjoyable conference and I hope all our chapters can send as many delegates as possible. See you in Wichita!





AFSA DIVISION 3

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Division 3 Executive Council

	President	SMSgt (Ret) Steve Zalesky	president@afsadiv3.org
	Vice-President	SMSgt (Ret) Gary Swanson	vice@afsadiv3.org
	Trustee 1, Communications	MSgt (Ret) David A. Bamburg	trustee1@afsadiv3.org
	Trustee 2, Legislation	CMSgt (Ret) Mark Clark	trustee2@afsadiv3.org
	Trustee 3, Programs	CMSgt (Ret) Kevin Ott	trustee3@afsadiv3.org
	Trustee 4, Retentions	MSgt (Ret) Bud Kolwitz	trustee4@afsadiv3.org
	Family Matters Chair	Mrs. Jean Kolwitz	family@afsadiv3.org
	Historian	SMSgt (Ret) Charlie Dalzell	historian@afsadiv3.org
	Senior Advisor	SMSgt (Ret) Dale Lutzen	senior@afsadiv3.org
	Secretary/Treasurer	MSgt Jennifer M. McIntosh	secretary@afsadiv3.org



AFSA DIVISION 3

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How are you Communicating?

Chapter	Location	Media Type									
	AFSA HQ										
	Division 3										
804	Kansas City, MO										
851	Milwaukee, WI										
858	Minneapolis, MN										
872	Scott AFB, IL										
881	Whiteman AFB, MO										
883	Ft. Leonard-Wood, 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										

Click the links above to access the social media sites of D3 Chapters. If your chapter also has a site not listed, please email the link to afsadiv3@gmail.com so we can get it added to the next newsletter and in the future our website, www.afsadiv3.org



Membership Recruiting/Retention



Hello from your Division 3 Membership Trustee,

I have been working retentions for many years and I have noticed a lack of renewals the past couple of years. If you look at the numbers, you will see three Chapters only had one renewal each. This year, as in the past years, there are three Chapters that stand out—

- 804 (Kansas City, MO) which has no base at all near them,
- 851 (Milwaukee, WI) which has ANG bases
- 872 (Scott AFB) which is Active Duty. It is always these three Chapters with the most renewals.

But where are the rest of you AD bases?

You should be able to have one-on-one contact with a lion's share of your membership.

It takes work admittedly, so you should get yourself a committee together and divide up the roster.

And check to see if a person's membership is running out at the end of the current month (February as an example).

Contact all those members and get them to renew before they are dropped. Last year I saw one Chapter lose over 30 members in one month. I am seeing Chapters with members not even renewing thru AFSA. Check with them and find out why they are not renewing.

Are they not renewing because no one in the Chapter has contacted them?

Do they even know when your meetings are?

I found that was the case a few years back with a Chapter in our Division.

Make them feel welcome and when you see a young airman on the roster, **touch base with them.** Those are the ones we are losing. They sign up for a year and then that is it.

Let's all get out there and retain. Last year AFSA had the special Member for Life, the recruiting numbers were way up there, but how many of you contacted your present members and got them to renew? Not near as many.

Yours in AFSA,
Roland "Bud" Kolwitz
Division 3 Membership Trustee



Bud Kolwitz
Division 3
Membership Trustee



AFSA DIVISION 3

Heartland of America

2017 Division 3's Top 10 of Recruiting

Recruiter	Chapter	YTD	Lifetime
Kazmir	F0985	48	49
Manuel	F0985	45	47
Weavers	F0872	39	40
Zalesky	F0872	35	908
Francis	F0988	27	2,203
Depuy	F0883	25	55
Cantu	F0964	22	29
Stalder	F0972	21	32
Kolwitz	F0851	19	351
Love	F0964	19	43

**523 People
Recruited!**

There are some great recruiting tools on HQ AFSA website.

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

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



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2017 Division 3's Top 10 of Retaining

Retainer	Chapter	YTD	Lifetime
Kolwitz, Roland	F0851	142	3,360
Kolwitz, Jean	F0851	103	1,518
Dalzell, Patti	F0804	86	212
Zalesky, Steven	F0872	67	1,052
Cantu, Marquia	F0964	24	25
Weavers, Ben	F0872	20	20
Pitts, Jeremy	F0959	14	15
Manuel, Blake	F0985	12	13
Love, Amanda	F0964	12	13
Kazmir, Bobby	F0985	12	12

**557 People
Retained!**

There are some great recruiting tools on HQ AFSA website.

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

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



AFSA DIVISION 3

Heartland of America

2017 Recruitment by Chapter

2017 Retention by Chapter

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Yearly Total</i>	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Yearly Total</i>
F0804	20	F0804	97
F0851	26	F0851	246
F0858	0	F0858	1
F0872	98	F0872	93
F0881	11	F0881	6
F0883	74	F0883	5
F0951	19	F0951	16
F0959	26	F0959	17
F0964	58	F0964	38
F0972	27	F0972	1
F0984	24	F0984	1
F0985	103	F0985	29
F0988	35	F0988	4
F0990	2	F0990	3



Family Matters 2017 in Review



Chapter 804, Kansas City

Sent 40 pounds to the commissaries in Japan and Korea for the families there.

August 14th 6 Members cut coupons to mail overseas to the commissaries.

August 24th, We had 12 members and 2 guests at our meeting. We collected \$7.00 for AF Village and \$3.50 on half and half. 5 Members volunteered 85 hours at VA Hospital.

Erika VanDyne volunteered 39 hours knitting Baby Caps for Hospital for community service.

Chapter 804 had its POW/MIA ceremony on Saturday, September 16. Chapter and Family Members read the names of those POW/MIAs from the states of Missouri, Kansas and Iowa. 4 members volunteered 80 hrs. at VA Hosp. We had about 50 people at our POW/MIA service. The mayor of Belton, Mr. Jeff Davis, and Belton Fire and Police Depts. 6 members cut coupons. Donation to Veteran Community Projects were made \$1000.00. \$800 from clothing drive and \$200.00 from 804. Our Luncheon had 17 members attend. Louise Hicks won the 1/2 and 1/2. We collected \$11.00 for AFEV and Helen Hatz won the Bingo black for \$5.00. Erika VanDyne volunteered 25 hrs. Knitting baby caps for hosp. Chapter donated \$500.00 to Heart to Heart for Hurricane Relief. Past Aux. Pres. Addy Davidson donated \$5000.00 to Veterans Little Houses. Received a letter from Dr. Army Community Services Kristin James thanking us for all the coupons we send overseas for military families.

3 Members volunteered 70 hrs. at VA Hosp. On the 16th, 6 members cut coupons for Manufacturer Coupon Program to send overseas. On the 16th, 12 members attended a card party for charity for K.C. Rehabilitation Institute. On the 26th, 14 members signed Christmas cards for service members overseas. We collected \$11.00 for AFEV. Kathy Oden won the ½ & ½. Wanda Keefer won Bingo Blackout. On the 30th, 24 ladies attended fund raiser for 804. Thanks go to Helen Hatz and Wanda Keefer for their hard work. Received Thank You letters from AFEV and Veteran Community Project. Erika Vandyne volunteered 20 hrs. for knitting caps for hospitals. 2 members volunteered 24 hrs. at St. Michaels. Helen Hatz volunteered 6 hrs. at Little Sister of the Poor.

Three members volunteered 69 Hrs. at VA Hosp. On the 7th Wanda Keifer mailed 1335 stamps to Wounded Vet. Project. The 11th the Chapter donated \$100.00 for Vet. Day. The 14th the Chapter voted to donate \$100.00 to Hope Haven and \$500.00 for patients at the VA Hosp. for Christmas. Then on the 16th 15 members attended the monthly luncheon. We collected \$10.00 for AFEV and \$9.00 for 1/2 and 1/2. Barbara Gregory won Bingo Blackout. The 20th 7 members cut coupons for the Manufacturers Coupon Project for the overseas Commissaries. Erika Vandyne volunteered 20 hrs. knitting baby caps for a Hosp. Helen Hatz and Susan Keips each volunteered 25 hrs. at St. Michaels. Barbara Gregory volunteered 4 hrs. at Belton Museum.

Chapter 851, Milwaukee, WI

Sent out 2 boxes of coupons and travel size toiletries last week to Germany to their commissary.

April 13, 2017 sent 4 boxes to Germany. One box of coupons and 3 boxes of popcorn products and travel size shampoo/conditioners valued at \$281.50. Postage was \$69.40.

April 15, 2017 took \$410.00 worth of popcorn products to 128th Air Refueling Wing. Besides Family Matters activities, the Chapter is busy with Community Service projects.

May 13, 2017 Picked up travel size toiletries, playing cards, Girl Scout Cookies, and granola bars from Support the Troops in Hartford, WI.



Jean Kolwitz
Division 3 Family
Matters Chair



Family Matters 2017



Sent 4 boxes of manufacturer's coupons, playing cards and travel size toiletries to Kaiserslautern, Germany. Value: \$254.00; Weight: 38 lbs. 7 oz.; Postage: \$69.40 (6/12/17). One of the members in Illinois always sends manufacturer coupons to the Family Trustee for this project.

Their Community Service Projects include working with a Homeless Vet Shelter in Milwaukee and they donated to the USO in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

Member contacted government officials (Governor Scott Walker, Congresswoman Gwen Moore, and Congressman Paul Ryan all of Wisconsin) stating she opposes the closing of two veteran homes. All three emailed back for her to look at their web sites to see their views on various items. Nothing was mentioned on the web sites of the closing of the two homes. Governor Walker did say that she could contact him by postal mail for a further response to her questions.

Member is crocheting plastic bags to be made into a mat for homeless vets. Mat will be put down with sleeping bag on top of it. This will provide a barrier between the ground and sleeping bag.

Sending toiletries, etc. to deployed 128th ANG members. Working with Homeless Vets in Milwaukee.

Sue Metzger continued to make mats out of plastic bags for homeless vets. Next project will be crocheted winter hats. Canceled stamps to Stamps for the Wounded were mailed out. Coupons were sent to someone who will be sending them overseas to the commissaries to help us out at this time. We have been working to get a POC for the deployed Guardsmen from Milwaukee.

The Chapter sent three care packages overseas. Working with the 128th ANG to make sure our deployed personnel know they are being thought of. Two Chapter members donated winter coats and clothing for a Homeless Vet Shelter in Milwaukee and one member gave a bag of pull tabs that were given to the Girl Scouts for the Pop Tab Patch the girls can earn for collecting pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House.

Chapter 951

To catch you up--our chapter held a back to school bash on 27 Aug. We had over 50+ attendees. We provided food (hamburgers, hot dogs, chips), beverages, and desserts. We also had about 10 outdoor family activities for all ages to enjoy. Our next event is 27 Oct and will be our 2nd annual Halloween Kids Fest. This is a fun time had by all where we dress up, have many activity stations, and provide Halloween treats and pumpkins as prizes. We also support Feeding South Dakota at this time and collect cans of food during this event. Our final event for the year will be a Christmas movie and hot cocoa spent with families (date and time TBA) in December. I will email you an update of each event at a later time.

Chapter 964

Made plans to decorate and man a booth for the base Halloween event on 27 October. They made plans to help the kids make slime and to hand out candy.

Chapter 984

March 3: AFSA Coloring Contest social (approx. 30 attendees)

April 21: Deployed Spouses & AFSA family dinner (approx. 40 attendees)

June 2: Deployed Spouses & AFSA family dinner



Don't Quit!



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



**Mark R. Clark, CMSgt,
(Ret), USAF**

Legislative Trustee,

816-536-2784

mandlclark@comcast.net

In today's partisan political environment where each party grandstands for all the wrong reasons it is easy to get disheartened and give up on the legislative process. Sadly, this is exactly what many of our elected officials want us to do so that they can continue to get rich while ignoring the needs of the people. This is why our organization and others like it matter, because we won't be silenced or ignored. Each of us has a responsibility to protect the republic we swore an oath to defend and that responsibility does not end at the end of the day when we take off our uniform or when they read our retirement order. The oath we each took has no expiration date and we continue to serve our great nation by staying engaged in our local, state, and federal political process.

Today's youth know virtually nothing of our nation's founding nor of the struggle that has kept us free for the past 242 years, so it is up to us, the adults in the room to safeguard the republic. We do this by engaging with our elected officials and reminding them that we are paying attention to the issues that affect us, our families, and our armed forces. We demand that those we elected represent the values of the people that elected them, and we hold them to it on election day. We are fortunate here in AFSA because our legislative team provides is the means to contact our elected officials, a report card on those in congress and how they support our legislative agenda and dedicated legislative campaigns for us to rally behind using Voter Voice. If you haven't visited the AFSA Legislative Action Center lately I encourage you to do so at <https://www.votervoice.net/AFSA/home>.

Now is not the time to quit but it is in fact the time to get involved. I encourage each of you to contact your elected officials and to let them know the time for partisan one-upmanship is over and it is now time to work together to put America first. These are serious times and we need serious people to solve the issues affecting our citizens both here at home and abroad. Together we can move the needle in Washington DC but it will take all of us to get involved and stay involved. I am counting on you to join me and I ask that you get your family and friends involved as well.

This will be my last article as the Legislative Trustee for Division 3. It has been an honor to serve you and I will always be proud of what we have done together. I still work full time and my job has me traveling quite a bit, so it is time for me to step aside and allow someone with the time and energy needed to fill this critical leadership role in Division 3 step in. Thank you for all you do and please don't quit engaging your elected officials. I promise you I won't.

What you “Ott” to Know



Have you ever read something that was “factually correct” but was “factually incomplete” or misleading?

I’ve always wondered why so many Airmen are unaware of how their annual basic pay raises are determined, and in turn how we as the Air Force Sergeants Association could do a better in job in educating the force while being better and stronger advocates for Airmen as well. Perhaps if Airmen knew what they were “supposed” to receive in an annual pay raise (based on Federal Law) they would be more inclined to join and support the one Air Force-recognized National Military Association (NMA) who has fought for all Airmen’s Quality of Life for the past 57 years.

Like so many things the Air Force has a pretty solid process in place for immediate supervisors to speak with their Airmen each and every year during their formal feedback process concerning all of their Earned Benefits. It is at this time that each supervisor is directed to provide their Airmen with a copy of the current year’s Air Force Benefits Fact Sheet. The current one is dated 3 January 2018 and is also available to everyone on the Air Force Portal at www.my.af.mil. Unfortunately, there are two big problems with this otherwise solid process: 1) Very few supervisors provide their Airmen with a copy and 2) The definition of the annual pay raise falls way short of completeness by failing to mention compliance (or non-compliance) with Federal Law (37 United States Code 1009). Here’s what the current Benefits Fact Sheet says: *“The military pay increase for fiscal year 2018 is identified as 2.1 percent. This was based on the Department of Defense’s recommendation and President Trump’s guidance outlined in the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget proposal sent to Congress.”* No mention of the Federal Law.

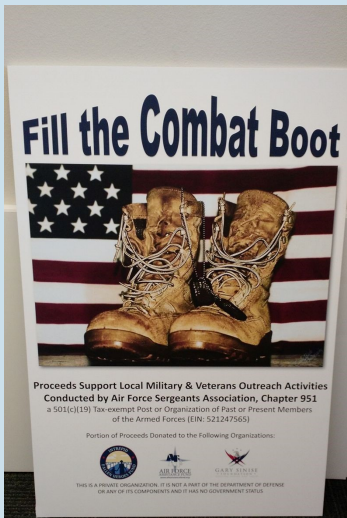
Oh, it’s also interesting to note the official military pay website www.militarypay.defense.gov also falls a little short in their definition of the annual pay raise, but they did do a much better job than the Air Force: *“ECI is the Employment Cost Index, which is a measure of the increase in private-sector wages and salaries. It is calculated by the Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated every three months. The ECI, reported each October, is used to determine the pay raise for the next fiscal year. The raise was set at ECI + 1/2% for 2000 through 2006. The FY2004 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) established that the military pay raise will be equal to ECI after 2006. Of course, Congress can enact raises that exceed these percentages as they did for 2008 and 2009.”* Again, factually correct but still factually incomplete as it too fails to mention compliance (or non-compliance) with Federal Law.

Another great source for career development used by every enlisted Airman is of course the Airman Handbook (AFH1), which most folks would refer to as the Professional Development Guide (PDG) or us old timers would call it the Promotion Fitness Examination (PFE) study guide. It is there in the 2015 edition (para 16.3.1.1) where I found this definition: *“Annual military pay raises are set by Congress and the President in the National Defense Authorization Act. In the past, the raises have usually been linked to increases in private sector wages, as measured by the Employment Cost Index.”* Again, a factually correct statement, but factually incomplete as it leaves the reader to think that linking to the ECI is a coincidence, or something “nice to do” as opposed to following (or not) the Federal Law.



Kevin Ott
CMSgt (Ret), USAF,
AFSA Division 3, Trustee

[Click picture for Details](#)



Honoring our Patriots

[Click picture for Details](#)

What you "Ott" to Know Cont....



Quick history lesson time...I learned something about how the PDG (as it was called then) was written when I served on a PFE test-writing team back in 2009. The Air Force Occupational Management Squadron (AFOMS), now known as the Airman Advance Division (AAD) of the Air Force Education & Training Command (AETC) is responsible for publishing the new publication every two years. However, they are not the Subject Matter Experts (SME) for the information contained within. Each area of the publication has an Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) assigned to review and change or update their area every two years...however like anything in life some folks are just better at their job than others.

Here's the "secret" I learned...if you (the reader) finds an error (or simply finds something to be "incomplete") you can make a recommended change. AAD will then track each suggestion to ensure the OPR reviews and accepts the suggestion or rejects with (with applicable supporting reference). So, I thought I'd give it a try and send them an email (pdg@us.af.mil) with a recommended change to add the verbiage about the Federal Law. I never got a response, so I figured my suggestion found its way to the "retired Chief Inbox" (aka delete folder). Imagine my surprise when I recently looked at the 1 Oct 2017 edition and read this updated para 16.3.1.1: *"Annual military pay raises are set by Congress and the President in the National Defense Authorization Act. In accordance with Federal Law (37 United States Code 1009) the January 1 annual pay raise will automatically match the private sector wage increases, as measured by the Employment Cost Index for the previous year. If, because of national emergency or serious economic conditions affecting the general welfare, the President may submit a plan to Congress requesting a lower annual pay raise."* My suggested change, verbatim.

So what does all this mean? It means that any of us, each of us, can affect change. Seeing something wrong, something out-of-place, something "just not right" ...if we don't identify it, fix it (if it's ours to fix), or notify those who can fix it to do so...if we do nothing we accept it.

There are three types of people:

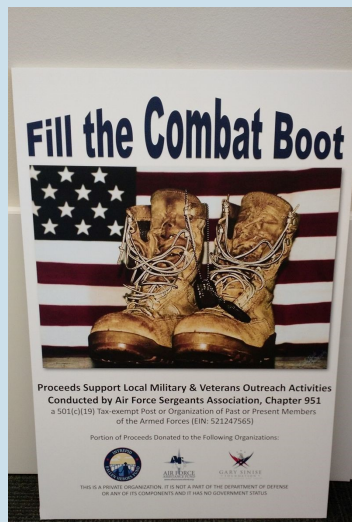
- 1) Those who make things happen,
- 2) Those who watch things happen,
- 3) Those who say "What just happened?"

AFSA overflows with #1 people!



Kevin Ott
CMSgt (Ret), USAF,
AFSA Division 3, Trustee

Click picture for Details



Honoring our Patriots

Click picture for Details





AFSA Division 3 Electronic Communications

MSgt (Ret) Super Dave Bamburg



What if someone donated enough money to AFSA to cover a free trip to the AFSA PAC but the link was sent out by email on a Saturday and you had to respond by the end of the weekend. Would you get the message and be able to respond in time?

Chances are many of you would not because the email on the AFSA roster is your Air Force work email. I noticed this recently when I updated the email listing I send out to the leadership of each chapter requesting information for the newsletter. Many of the emails I entered were their Air Force email. Considering I sent my email out on a Saturday many of them would not receive it until Monday, unless Monday was a holiday then it would be Tuesday.

In the past this was not always a bad thing because AFSA has always been part of the Air Force community and that is just how we did things. Even over the last few years the Air Force has simplified things by giving you an email that would transfer every time you moved.

However, things are changing. Air Force servers are becoming more secure and sometimes that means AFSA related emails being sent in are filtered out, especially if they contain attachments. Also some bases/legal offices frown on using your Government email for AFSA business.

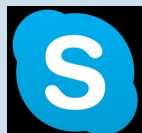
This is why AFSA encourages you to list your personal email for your membership information. Most of us have a smart phone and you can easily add your personal email accounts such as Gmail, Yahoo, Comcast, etc. When you do this it is easier to get those important AFSA emails and respond.

I encourage everyone, starting with each person, first starting with the Executive Council of each chapter to update their email on the roster using their personal email. Next, when you sign up a new member or get in a transfer, ask for their personal email and get it to AFSA. After that have your Membership Trustee and those helping them go over the roster and contact the members to do the same.

Replacing an old habit with a new one can help guarantee we can get the AFSA information out in a timely fashion. Also it makes it harder to ignore those emails from Dale Lutzen because now he knows they come straight to my phone.

Once you've embraced this idea then you can move on to the next social media idea to start learning. Trust me, if Bud and Jean, more Jean, can master emails, Facebook and putting together something for the newsletter, then anyone can do it. It doesn't mean you have to learn everything that is out there but at least find a few of the most popular and get involved.

Who knows, if everyone updates at least their email address then just maybe AFSA will send out a mass email on a Saturday. If not for a free trip to the AFSA PAC then maybe a chance to tour with Jeff Ledoux in his retirement trailer.





AFSA
DIVISION

3

Heartland of America

WE ARE AFSA

UNITED IN STRENGTH | DEFENDING THE ENLISTED CORPS AND THEIR FAMILIES SINCE 1961

WE ARE 100,000 MEMBERS STRONG | WE REPRESENT OUR MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES IN CONGRESS, the DoD, the VA and More
WE ARE THE NATION'S MOST INFLUENTIAL ASSOCIATION DEVOTED TO THE TOTAL ENLISTED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES
WE ARE INDEPENDENT, NON-PROFIT & POLITICALLY NON-PARTISAN | WE FIGHT FOR YOUR PROMISED BENEFITS & SERVICES
WE DEFEND THOSE WHO DEFEND US | WE ARE AFSA | JOIN THE FIGHT... JOIN AFSA TODAY!

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IS YOUR LOGO ON HERE? IF NOT, LET US HELP YOU BUILD THE

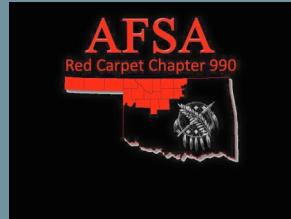


BADGER CHAPTER 851
Milwaukee, WI

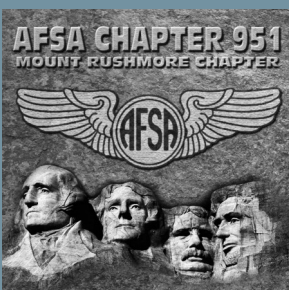
IS YOUR LOGO ON HERE? IF NOT, LET US HELP YOU BUILD THE



SCOTT AFB
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force
Bud Andrews
Gateway Chapter 872



SPIRIT CHAPTER 881
WHITEMAN AFB, MO



Chapter 804

The Heartbeat of America Chapter

Kathy Oden, President

The year passed quickly and was a busy present membership. Our total for the year was 21 re- one for our Chapter. We started 2017 with new leader- cruits and 97 retentions. We are extremely lucky to have ship. Our officers were as follows: President Kathy Oden, Patti Dalzell who works diligently in both of these areas. Vice President Harry McLane, 1st Trustee Barbara Veach, Several of our members accepted the International Presi- 2nd Trustee Curtis Gist, 3rd Trustee Hershell Spurlock, Sec- dent's challenge to recruit individuals from our present retary Tony Berter, Treasurer Charlie Dalzell, and Senior membership as well as recruit new ones to join the Mem- Advisor Mark Clark. ber for Life Team. Our total was 10.

Our Chapter continues to keep our Membership updated on all important legislative issues at the federal, state and local levels vital to our Air Force, Veterans, and their Families and encourage them to stay in contact with their Congressional Leaders. We accomplish this through our monthly meetings and our quarterly newsletter.

One of our annual Legislative activities is our POW/MIA Recognition Program that was held on September 16, 2017. We were extremely fortunate to have as our speaker, Charlie Sibert, a World War II POW as well as the Belton Mayor, Jeff Davis. Members of the various Veterans Organizations read the list of MIA names from Missouri, Kansas, and Iowa as a bell tolled.



a lifetime member of AFSA

Another important issue for our Chapter is stress- ing recruitment of new members and retention of our

On Veterans Day, Charlie Dalzell drove with the Grand Marshall of the Belton, Missouri Veteran's Day Pa-rade, Charlie Sibert,

Our Chapter hosted this year's Division Conven- tion in Kansas City. Charlie and Patti Dalzell donated 120 hours of their time to prepare for the coming event. There were informative work sessions and an excellent choice of festivities. A great time was had by all. One of the challenges each chapter was assigned during the con- vention was bringing donated items such as clothing, bed linens, towels, etc.



Once collected these items were taken to a special donation center and the Division was paid \$800.00 which was donated to the Veteran's Community Project for Tiny Veteran's Homes. Our Chapter added \$200.00 for a total of \$1,000.00 and presented the gift on September 25th.

Chapter 804

The Heartbeat of America Chapter cont...



Seven members represented our Chapter at the AFSA International PAC in Reno, Nevada. While there, three of our members were honored. Barbara Veach was selected the AFSA International Family Member of the Year, Patti Dalzell was reappointed the AFSA International Family Matters Trustee, and Dale Lutzen was reelected AFSA's Trustee of Retired and Veterans Affairs.



Family Matters continues to be an important part of our Chapter. There are six members who volunteer at the VA Hospital weekly and have accumulated over 1,000 hours since the first of the year. Eight to ten individuals clean a mile section of roadway two times a year. We have two members who serve on the St. Michael's Homeless Veterans Center Council and another two who are members of the VAVS Board. We cut, sort, and package cents off coupons for Military Families overseas. During 2017, we sent 260 pounds to 15 bases. We had 143 Members who worked over 7,735 hours doing this project. The one program I would like to highlight is the Adopt a US Soldier Project. Our Family Members collected and signed 435 Christmas cards to send to this project. These cards were sent to Military Members serving overseas. Our Ladies spent their whole luncheon time doing the cards.

In closing, we here at Chapter 804 would like to wish all of you a marvelous 2018.





Chapter 851

The Badger Chapter



Installation of Chapter 851 officers this past February at the 128th ANG, Milwaukee, WI. Ryan Lawrence, Trustee; Dalelynn Lombardo, Vice President; Sonya Janicki, Trustee; and Mike Gordon, Trustee.



Chapter President Rheingans getting his new sunglasses from Wisconsin Vision—sponsor for our newsletter

Some of the Chapter Projects are:

1. Received a thank you from Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Services for items donated
2. Picked up travel size toiletries/playing cards/ Girl Scout Cookies/ granola bars from Support the Troops in Hartford, WI.
3. Delivered to Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Services \$1200.00 worth of playing cards, travel size toiletries, Girl Scout Cookies and granola bars
4. Sent 4 boxes of manufacturer's coupons, playing cards and travel size toiletries to Kaiserslautern, Germany. Value: \$254.00; Weight: 38 lbs. 7 oz.; Postage: \$69.40
5. Received thank you for items donated to Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Services valued at \$1200.00

Last fall two members donated several winter coats, a snowmobile suit, a vest and various other clothing items for the homeless vets.

As a fundraiser, the Chapter has been selling Chapter coins.



Chapter 851

The Badger Chapter



The Junior Enlisted Officers Program (JEOP) is an annual 3 day event that allows 33 first term airmen to experience all three WIANG bases. The JEOP allows airmen to see the contribution that all three WIANG bases have in both foreign and domestic missions. During the week the members participate in team building exercises, F-16 tours, Blackhawk flights and a refueling mission. AFSA is happy to play a part in supporting such a valuable event that supports retention and exposes airman to the varying missions of the Wisconsin Air National Guard. Chapter members give a briefing on AFSA and what it can do for them, they help serve lunch and give out water bottles, pens, etc. as a token of their appreciation.



Example of what goes into a care package that the Chapter sends to the deployed members overseas. These items are donated by the various Chapter members. The travel size toiletries come from members who have stayed in various hotels and motels in their travels. The items are laying on a crocheted mat make of plastic bags that the homeless vets can lay on the ground under their sleeping bags.

#951



THE MOUNT RUSHMORE CHAPTER

As 951 ends another year, we can't help but look back on the things we have accomplished and look forward to new horizons ahead.



This quarter was a busy quarter with many events. Our most memorable every year is taking a group of people from both the chapter and Team Ellsworth down to the Veterans Home in Hot Springs, SD to help decorate for Christmas. Now it is a bigger challenge as we have gone from just decorating a small auditorium to now in their new facility, decorating 3 floors.

In addition, we received a tour from the Home's director and a briefing on what went into decisions on how the resident was developed. Funny how putting the TV used for showing family videos in the hot tub room can get the "men" to take baths and stay in longer..



As with each quarter, Chapter 951 hosted a Legislative Forum and had local directors from the offices of Senators Thune and Rounds and Congresswoman Noems. Our Legislative Trustee CMSgt (Ret) Kevin Ott moderated a roundtable discussion with those in attendance and Sen-

ior Advisor "Super Dave" Bamburg again reminded them why it is important to keep the promises made to the active duty/retirees and those promises should never be a bargaining chip during negotiations.

Some of the highlights for 2017 include our trademark event, cohosting "Salute the Patriots" during the summer concert series in Rapid City. What started



out a few years ago as just some brainstorming between Super Dave and Kevin Ott has turned into a wonderful undertaking where Ott has build not only the support from most of the base Private Orgs but also businesses in the local community. 2018 may be even bigger as Chapter 951 is now a part of the Rapid City Chamber of Commence.

Speaking of Private Orgs, this is something Chapter 951 is not. We continue to be recognized by the base as a National Military Organization and grow our support with the base's Leadership.

Another milestone was being able to again send more members to the Division and International Conventions where Super Dave and Kevin Ott were elected to Division Trustee positions. At the International Convention Super Dave was asked by the International President to brief on how a chapter could become an NMA and have more of an impact on not only the base but in the local community Not to mention the chapter took advantage of

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THE MOUNT RUSHMORE CHAPTER

the Member for Life Campaign by signing up the Secretary of the Air Force as a member of Chapter 951.

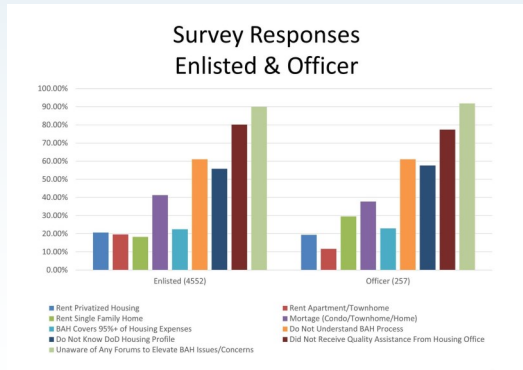


In December we held elections and chose the Chapter's Leadership who will take us into 2018. President, TSgt Abigail Philbrick; Vice-President, TSgt Ryan Mitchell; Trustees, CMSgt (Ret) Kevin Ott, MSgt Jessica Young, and TSgt Will Price. Staying on as Secretary is SSgt Philbrick and Treasurer, MSgt Roy Pinkley. And of course, still Senior Advisor, the legendary "Super Dave" Bamburg.

Once again our chapter will strive to improve on the things we do best but also meeting our weaknesses head-on, those being recruitment and retention. While we do good when it comes to capturing the new arrivals

to Ellsworth and getting them transferred to our chapter, we need to do better in maintaining the members we have and bring in new people.

In addition we will continue to think outside the box for ways we can help our airmen currently serving. Just one example is the BAH survey that Kevin Ott put together and send out. Almost 5,000 people took advantage of an opportunity, helping to compile information that Kevin presented to our local base leadership, Congressional leaders and AFSA.



2017, State VA Home

Chapter 984

The 6th CMSAF James M. McCoy Chapter



Here are a few things Chapter 984 did in Oct-Dec.

- Monthly Bingo at Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home
- Pumpkin Carving Contest for a Family Matters event
- Put together and distributed 270 Thanksgiving Baskets for Families on base (First Sergeants identify members they think could benefit from a meal in a box)



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