



# AFSA *Heartbeat*

HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER 804

P.O. Box 213  
Belton, MO 64012



[afsachapter804@gmail.com](mailto:afsachapter804@gmail.com)

October-December 2018

## **CHAPTER PRESIDENT**

Hello again, this is Harry, the Vice President, filling in on this newsletter for Chapter President, Kathy Oden.

In Kathy's last newsletter article (Jul-Sep 2018), she updated you on the Awards that our Chapter and members had received at the Division 3 Conference in April, which was held in Wichita, KS. One of our award winners was Barbara Veach for Division 3 Family Member of the Year. Sadly, this is where I must begin this article.

In recent times we have seen the passing of some of our most dedicated and exemplary members. In early July, we also lost Barbara. She was involved in so many of our Chapter programs, such as volunteering weekly at the Kansas City VA Hospital, collecting and cutting coupons to be sent to overseas bases, participating in and calling to remind the Family Members of the monthly luncheons and supporting our weekly Bingo game. In recent years, she received more Chapter, Division & International Awards than I can list in this article. At the recent AFSA International PAC Conference in August held in San Antonio, TX, Barbara was chosen as the AFSA International Family Member of the Year. At our September Chapter meeting, the award was presented to her daughter, Vicki, and son, Chris, by Patti Dalzell and myself.

More news from the Conference -- Chapter Trustee, Hershell Spurlock, won the International Award for VAVS Member of the Year. Also, our Chapter won the AFSA International Volunteer Service Award and our Chapter Membership Chair, Patti Dalzell, was re-appointed as the

International Family Matters Trustee.

The new AFSA President is CMSgt (Ret) Mike Carton. There were two by-law change proposals that were voted on by the delegates at the Conference. Both were approved. The first now makes any current or past member of a uniformed service (Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, Air Force) Commissioned Officer or Enlisted member and their family members eligible to be full voting members of AFSA and to hold an elected office at any level of the Association. The second by-law change proposal was approved to make the International Family Matters Trustee an elected position, starting at the 2019 PAC, with a two-year term and a full voting member of the AFSA International Executive Council.

At this writing, we are preparing for our annual POW/MIA Ceremony of Remembrance on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Belton Memorial Park. We had a very good turnout last year and hope to build on that this year.

On behalf of Chapter President, Kathy Oden, our Chapter Executive Council and myself, I would like to thank you for your dedication to our AFSA Chapter and to wish you a wonderful Fall and Holiday Season.

***HARRY MCLANE, CMSgt, USAF, Retired***  
***Chapter Vice President***

***Home: 816-331-4058***

***E-mail: [macharry@hughes.net](mailto:macharry@hughes.net)***

## MEMBERSHIP

As of September 19<sup>th</sup>, we had 860 active members, which is a decrease of 1 member since last quarter.

Also, as of said date, our Chapter recruited 12 members (increase of 5 from last Newsletter) and retained 60 (increase of 14).

By the end of December, tokens of our appreciation will be sent out to those members who renewed through our Chapter.

For our Chapter to receive credit for the retention, **PLEASE** be sure to renew via the form you receive from me versus the form you receive from Headquarters.

Thanks for all your support.

Wishing you all a safe and blessed holiday season!

**PATTI DALZELL**

*Membership Chair*

*International Family Matters Trustee*

*Home: 816-331-7594*

*E-mail: [afsachapter804@gmail.com](mailto:afsachapter804@gmail.com)*

## BUCK-A-MONTH CLUB

Members of the BAM Club donate \$12 yearly to help us offset the printing & mailing cost of the *Heartbeat* newsletter.

You can also help save the Chapter money by signing up to receive your *Heartbeat* via email by emailing us at [afsachapter804@gmail.com](mailto:afsachapter804@gmail.com) or calling Charlie Dalzell at 816-331-7594.

A HUGE thanks to our recent contributor:

**Dona Baucom**



## LUNCHEONS

Our monthly luncheons are at the **Golden Corral** in Raymore, MO, on the fourth Thursday each month at 11:30 AM (unless otherwise announced).

Our luncheon dates for October thru December are as follows:

- ❖ **October 25**
- ❖ **November 15**
- ❖ **December 20**



**GAYNELLE BARNETT**, 816-779-6732  
*Chairperson*

## CARD DAYS



**October 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**November 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**December 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>**

Pinochle: 10:00 AM at Aaron's Family Fun Ctr  
17070 Aaron Lane, Belton, MO

Bridge: 10:00 AM at RC's Restaurant  
330 East 135<sup>th</sup> St., Martin City, MO

If you are interested in being a regular or sub for Pinochle or Bridge, please give us a call.

**GINNY STAUDINGER**, 816-982-5133 (*Pinochle*)  
**SHARON DAVIES**, 816-331-5581 (*Bridge*)

## **CHAPTER HISTORY**

### ***"Reflections"***

#### **AFSA Heart of America Chapter 804 "Ring of Honor"**

I hope you enjoyed the last Historian article about two of our Chapter members who were instrumental in starting the Chapter in the beginning. In this article, we will highlight the efforts and accomplishments of three very distinguished members of this Chapter, beginning in the early 1970's to the present -- ***George Ward, Erika Van Dyne and Jerry Henkemeyer.***

**George R. Ward:** Originally from Saint Paul, MN, George enlisted in the Army Air Force in 1945 near the close of WWII and served until 1949 when he transferred to the U.S. Air Force and served until 1965. His assignments included two tours in Germany, one of which was with HQ - U.S. Air Forces Europe during the Berlin Wall Crisis in 1961. After retiring from the Air Force, George re-located to the Kansas City area in 1967. He joined AFSA in 1970-71-time frame and became a Life Member in 1973. Beginning in January 1980, George became the Chapter Secretary and served in that position most of the years between then and 2012. Due to his continuity and attention to details, George became the Chapter authority with Recording of meetings, Standing Rule changes and the correct voting process. A special moment for George was when the Honor Flight Network of Kansas City selected and included him with other veterans on an Honor Flight to Washington DC on September 11, 2014, where they toured seven Memorials and Arlington Cemetery among other events. Today, 73 years after he first joined the Military, George and his wife, Billie, reside in Overland Park, KS. He is a regular volunteer at our weekly Bingo fund raiser and attends all monthly membership meetings where he conducts the popular 1/2 & 1/2 drawings.

**Erika O. Van Dyne:** Erika was originally from Munich, Germany. She met and married Jim Van Dyne in 1948 when he was stationed at Wiesbaden Air Base. Their Air Force assignments took them to Andrews AFB, MD, Alaska, back to Germany at Spangdahlem Air Base, Olmsted AFB at Middletown, PA, Stewart AFB at Newburgh, NY, and Scott AFB, IL. They came to Richards-Gebaur AFB in May 1970 when the Air Force Communications Service (AFCS) was being transferred from Scott AFB. During this same time, efforts were underway to re-start the AFSA Chapter, which had shut down one year earlier when it was thought the base might be closed. When the Chapter was re-established on February 28, 1972, Erika's husband, Jim became one of its 122 Charter Members. Then the AFSA Chapter Leadership pushed very hard to establish a Ladies Auxiliary, also. When Chapter President Bob Wright signed the official Ladies Auxiliary Charter, Chapter A-504, with its 21 Charter members, became a reality. One of those Charter members was Erika. She first served as the Vice President and in the 1973-74 season, she served as the Auxiliary President. In 1974, it was recognized as the AFSA Chapter of the Year, a banner year for Chapter 504. Through the many years since then, she has continued to volunteer for countless Chapter activities and fund raisers. Some of her favorites were as the Chairperson for Evening Socials and Luncheons. Today, Erika still lives in Belton and attends all the monthly luncheons. She says, "Come out and join her at the next luncheon".

**Gerald D. Henkemeyer:** Jerry is originally from Brainerd, MN. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and served from 1954-1957 and then switched to the U.S. Air Force from 1958-1977. His Marine assignments included Japan and Okinawa. His Air Force assignments were at Otis AFB, MA; Hurlburt Field, FL; Duluth, MN; Lowry AFB, CO; Nellis AFB, NV; San Antonio, TX and Cam Rahn Air Base, Vietnam. He came to Richards-Gebaur AFB in 1972 until his retirement in 1977. Jerry became an AFSA Life Member in 1973 and credits Jim Van Dyne with getting him involved with the Chapter activities. He first served in the important position as the Legislative Trustee, which he continued to do even during the years that he served as Chapter Vice President and President. Jerry served as President from 2000-2005, which is the longest tenure of any President in our Chapter's 56-year history. A few of his finest accomplishments at both the State and Federal levels during those years were his dedicated efforts with the Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations (MAVO), pressing for expansion and improvements with veterans' homes and cemeteries and working to achieve elimination of State taxes for Military Retirees pensions. At the Federal level, these were the days that the TRICARE-for Life medical benefits program was achieved for military retirees. Jerry kept Chapter members updated through every step of the process. At the local level, Jerry was a regular volunteer at the Kansas City VA Hospital for many years. Jerry and his wife, Marilyn, still live in Belton.

***HARRY MCLANE, CMSgt, USAF, Retired***  
***Vice President and Historian***

**CARD PARTY/SALAD**  
**LUNCHEON**

Monday, October 29, 2018  
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
Belton Christian Church, 409 Airway Lane

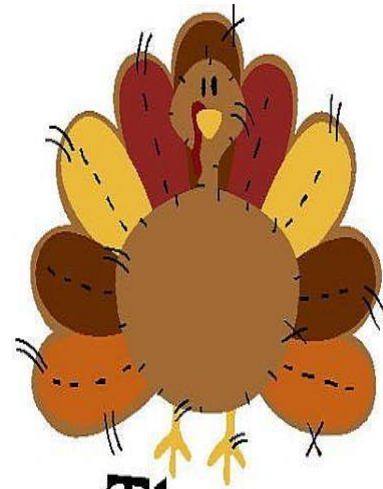
**\$10 donation**

**Members, please bring a salad!**

Please bring your own cards; you may play any card game you'd like.

All proceeds benefit the Kansas City VA Hospital.

***HELEN HATZ, 816-361-4374***



**Happy Thanksgiving**

**CRAFT SHOW FUNDRAISER**

Chapter 804 will be participating in the American Legion Riders Inside Out Craft Fair.

Date: Saturday, October 20  
Time: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Place: Tirey J. Ford Post 21  
16701 East Highway 40  
Independence, MO

All you crafty members out there, if you have any crafts you'd like to donate, let us know. We are also accepting baked goods, which will be given away for a small donation as we cannot sell the baked goods.

For more information, please contact one of the Family Members listed below.

***PATTI DALZELL, 816-331-7594***

Email: [prd1996@kc.rr.com](mailto:prd1996@kc.rr.com)

***MELISSA KNIGHT, 816-765-1109***

Email: [runawaystars59@gmail.com](mailto:runawaystars59@gmail.com)



## **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Date:** Friday, Dec 7, 2018

**Time:** 6:00 PM, Cocktails  
7:00 PM, Dinner

**Place:** Tuscany Italian Restaurant  
811 East North Avenue  
Belton, MO  
(located in Apple Valley  
strip mall)

We will be ordering from the menu  
(<http://tuscanybelton.com/>).

Dress up in your festive holiday garb  
and join us for a great time!

Deadline for Reservations and/or  
Cancellations is Friday, Nov 30.

RSVP: Patti Dalzell, 816-331-7594  
Helen Hatz, 816-361-4374

\* \* \*  
Happy Holidays!  
\* \* \*

Happy  
New Year!

## **EDITOR'S CORNER**

Hi, everyone! Hope you all are doing well these days. Fall is upon us and I am so excited! Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas are my ultimate favorite times of the year! I love decorating the house and baking treats during October, November and December.

Since time is of the essence for most of us, simple and minimal-ingredient recipes are the way to go. They will not keep you in the kitchen too long and you can enjoy time with your family. With that said, check out this one.

### **3-Ingredient Reese's Fudge**

1 container vanilla frosting (not whipped kind)  
10-oz pkg peanut butter chips  
10-oz pkg mini Reese's Pieces

Take foil seal off the frosting & microwave for 30 seconds. Put peanut butter chips in a bowl and microwave for 1 minute. Stir frosting and melted chips together well. Add about 3/4 of the bag of Reese's Pieces. Spread in a greased 8x8 or 9x9 pan. Top with remaining Reese's. Let sit on counter until solid (about 30 minutes). Cut into squares and enjoy!

For more 3-ingredient recipes, check out these sites:

<https://www.makeandtakes.com/recipes-with-only-3-ingredients>

<https://www.epicurious.com/recipes-menus/our-favorite-three-ingredient-recipes-gallery/list>

<https://www.buzzfeed.com/rachelysanders/genius-three-ingredient-recipes>

**PATTI DALZELL, 816-331-7594**

*Heartbeat Editor*

*E-mail: [afsachapter804@gmail.com](mailto:afsachapter804@gmail.com)*



## **LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 2017**

### **Active/Reserve Force Issues**

- Won a 2.4 percent pay raise versus the 2.1 percent requested by DoD and the Administration
- Blocked a Senate proposal to eliminate the “with dependent” rate for dual military families
- Won a provision for equal treatment of 12304a and 12304b orders for reserve components to receive pre-mobilization and transitional health care

### **Health Care Issues**

- Resisted TRICARE for Life enrollment fee
- Won provision for individuals under 21 to receive hospice care services through TRICARE
- Won provision for pre-separation mental health assessments of service members
- Streamlined TRICARE Extra and Standard plans into TRICARE Select
- Defeated proposal to eliminate grandfathering clause that would have increased cost-sharing payments for TRICARE Prime and Select beneficiaries
- Resisted TRICARE enrollment fee on active duty family members

### **Military Family/Veterans/Other Issues**

- Won a provision for pre-separation counseling for service members and their appointed caregivers regarding services and support available through the VA
- Won “Forever” GI Bill which provides:
  - Lifetime benefit
  - Expansion of the Yellow Ribbon Program
  - Extension of benefits to Purple Heart recipients
  - Expansion of transferability to dependents
  - Additional assistance for STEM programs
- Expansion of benefits to reserve component members including those on 12304a and 12304b orders
- Won provision for reimbursement up to \$500 per PCS/PCA for state-to-state licensure and certification costs of spouse due to relocation
- Won \$40 million in impact aid for school districts serving large numbers of military children
- Won provision to authorize a telework pilot program of public-private partnerships with US companies for the purposes of dependent spouses stationed OCONUS maintaining employment
- Won provision for military families in certain circumstances to relocate due to CONUS PCS up to 180 days prior to or 180 days after RNLTD
- Won provision to ensure more flexibility at CDCs to meet the demands of service members and their families - taking into account elements such as mission requirements, unpredictability of work schedules, frequent and prolonged absences due to training, operations and deployments
- Won permanent extension of Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance (SSIA) at current rate through 2018 with COLA increases starting in 2019

# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

## **OCTOBER**

- 4 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron's Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 4 Bridge, 10:00 AM, RC's Restaurant, Martin City, MO
- 8 ***Columbus Day***
- 9 AFSA General Membership Meeting, 7:00 PM, Belton Senior Center, 609 Minnie
- 11 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron's Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 11 Bridge, 10:00 AM, RC's Restaurant, Martin City, MO
- 13 ***Navy Birthday***
- 15 Coupon-Cutting Session, 9:30 AM, Carnegie Village (The Loft)
- 16 ***Boss's Day***
- 20 Craft Show Fundraiser (refer to article)
- 25 Luncheon, 11:30 AM, Golden Corral, Raymore, MO
- 29 Card Party Fundraiser (refer to article)
- 31 ***Happy Halloween!***

**VA Hospital Volunteer Service: 1-2-3-8-9-10-15-16-17-22-23-24-29-30-31**

## **NOVEMBER**

- 1 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron's Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 1 Bridge, 10:00 AM, RC's Restaurant, Martin City, MO
- 4 ***Daylight Savings Time Ends (turn clocks back one hour)***
- 8 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron's Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 8 Bridge, 10:00 AM, RC's Restaurant, Martin City, MO
- 10 ***Marine Corps Birthday***
- 12 ***Veterans Day – Fly Your Flag!***
- 13 AFSA General Membership Meeting, 7:00 PM, Belton Senior Center, 609 Minnie
- 15 Luncheon, 11:30 AM, Golden Corral, Raymore, MO
- 19 Coupon-Cutting Session, 9:30 AM, Carnegie Village (The Loft)
- 22 ***Happy Thanksgiving!***

**VA Hospital Volunteer Service: 5-6-7-12-13-14-19-20-21-26-27-28**

## **DECEMBER**

- 6 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron's Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 6 Bridge, 10:00 AM, RC's Restaurant, Martin City, MO
- 7 Chapter Christmas Party (refer to article)
- 7 ***Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day***
- 4 AFSA General Membership Meeting, 7:00 PM – **NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE**
- 13 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron's Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 13 Bridge, 10:00 AM, RC's Restaurant, Martin City, MO
- 13 ***National Guard Birthday***
- 17 Coupon-Cutting Session, 9:30 AM, Carnegie Village (The Loft)
- 20 Luncheon, 11:30 AM, Golden Corral, Raymore, MO
- 25 ***Merry Christmas!***
- 31 ***New Year's Eve***

**VA Hospital Volunteer Service: 3-4-5-10-11-12-17-18-19-24-26-31**

**Bingo every Wednesday every month, 5:00 PM, Belton Senior Center, 609 Minnie**

**PUBLISHED BY:  
AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION**

**October-December 2018**

**CHAPTER 804  
P.O. BOX 213  
BELTON, MO 64012**

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To find out more about these Member Services go to <https://www.hqafsa.org>