



FEBRUARY 2018

28 February 2018

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Chapter 872 Gets Involved! Here's How...

AFSA started its "Chapter Social" initiative, where the council members get involved with the local military populace and hold informal meetings out of uniform and off base. The intent is to provide a mentor for those in need and to spread general awareness about AFSA for those that may not be familiar. Our first event was teamed with Panera Bread Co.



AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 872

WHERE 3120 Green Mount Crossing Drive, Shiloh, IL 62269

WHEN Wed, Feb, 28th FROM 4:00pm - 8:00pm

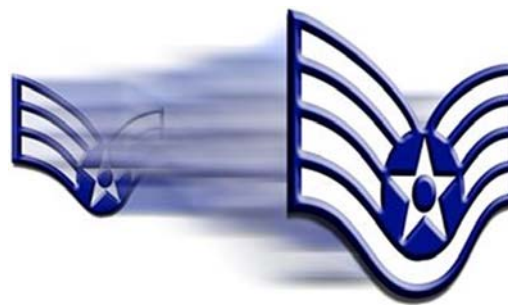
Bring this flyer or show an electronic version to the cashier when you place your order and we'll donate a portion of the proceeds from your purchase.*

Ordering Online for Rapid Pick-Up or Delivery?
Enter "FUND" as your Promo Code to have a portion of your proceeds donated to your organization.

Learn more at PaneraBread.com/fundraiser

*Gift card purchases and catering orders are excluded and will not count toward the event.
Rapid Pick-Up and Delivery only where available.

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AFSA Members are invited to mentor young Airmen in both Airman Leadership School (ALS) and First Term Airman Center (FTAC). Each month we attend these events to give insight on AFSA and the future that each Airman can impact!

POC: [SSgt Jarrell Johnson](#)



We volunteer too! On Sunday, 27 February 2018, we supported the Scott Dome Center during their Monster Truck Rally!!



"ULTIMATELY, LEADERSHIP IS NOT ABOUT GLORIOUS CROWNING ACTS. IT'S ABOUT KEEPING YOUR TEAM FOCUSED ON A GOAL AND MOTIVATED TO DO THEIR BEST TO ACHIEVE IT, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE STAKES ARE HIGH AND THE CONSEQUENCES REALLY MATTER. IT IS ABOUT LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR OTHERS' SUCCESS, AND THEN STANDING BACK AND LETTING THEM SHINE.

- CHRIS HADFIELD



[Volunteer Here](#)



[Get Involved](#) with the Missouri Veterans Home

Free Food

Dorm Dinner

Presented by:

AFSA Chap. 872

When: 5-6pm 13 Feb 2018 (Tuesday)

Where: Belleville Dorm Common Area

Main Dishes: Japanese Curry, Chicken Tikka, Samosa

Each event holds an abundance of opportunities to lead and to interact with Airmen from each enlisted tier. We pride ourselves on getting our Chapter involved and being at the forefront of Airmen's lives. These are just a few examples in one month that AFSA hosts and participates in.



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February 2018

Upcoming Events



AFSA is hosting a [Volunteer](#) event at the Scott Dome Center on March 17 during the Motocross Event selling food and drinks!

Scott AFB Family Advocacy Program



Open to all expectant parents who are active duty members, dependents/TRICARE beneficiaries

Thursday - April 5th - 11:00 AM

[Volunteer to assemble cribs!](#)

Division 3 Conference

Your AFSA Executive Council will be in attendance representing Chapter 872! Below is are photos of our Chapter Annual Award Winners who are eligible for Division Level Awards:



Plans & Programs

Ongoing AFSA Sponsored Events:

MO Veterans Home Outings – POC: MSgt Jered Pieschke/618-229-4961

- ⇒ Address: 10600 Lewis and Clark Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63136
- ⇒ Volunteer by Email with name, personal phone number and event interested in

Meals on Wheels – POC: SSgt John McGahan/618-256-2369

- ⇒ Pickup Location: Saint George Episcopal Church/Saint Mark Lutheran Church, 410 N High St, Belleville, IL 62220

“CHANGE
YOUR
THOUGHTS
AND YOU
CHANGE YOUR
WORLD.”
-MAYA
ANGELOU

Memberships & Meetings

Please get the word out and let our Airmen know that the strength of our numbers is a vehicle to help educate our elected officials on what we deal with day-to-day.

To become an AFSA Member:

1. Visit [Membership](#) Page
2. Fill in Information:
 - Recruiter ID: 96849
 - Recruiting Ch: 872
 - Term 36/1 = \$36/1 Yr
3. Press submit!!

**Our next General
Membership Meeting is:**

**13 March 2018
At 1130**

**Location: DFAC
on Scott AFB, IL**

UPCOMING WAYS & MEANS EVENTS

17 March 2018: [Super Motocross](#)

Legislation

Top Legislative Advocacy Campaigns

[Prevent Disproportional Health Care Cost Increases](#)

The administration's FY2018 budget request includes large increases to TRICARE fees across the board. These fee increases are a direct result of the repeal of the 2017 National Defense Authorizations grand-fathering clause. The intention of the grand-fathering was to keep fees where they currently are for beneficiaries in the service prior to January 1, 2018. These fee increases are disproportional and do not reflect the service and sacrifice of the beneficiaries who have earned the health care benefit. Please send your legislators this AFSA suggested message to prevent these hefty fee increases from negatively impacting service members and their families.

[Uniformed Service Members Deserve a Full Pay Raise](#)

In an August 31 letter to House and Senate leaders, President Trump formally notified Congress he intends to set the 2018 military pay raise at 2.1 percent. While this matches last year's raise, it falls short of the 2.4 percent pay raise allowable under current law. A number of "modest reductions" in pay over the past few years have created a growing pay gap between the uniformed services and their civilian counterparts. Left unchecked, this gap will grow to 2.9 percent.

[Stop Senate Proposal to Slash Housing Allowances for Dual-Military Couples](#)

Section 603 of the Senate Armed Services Committee's FY 2018 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), S. 1519, includes a provision that would cut BAH for dual-military couples to the "without dependents rate" even if they have children. In effect, a service member married to another service member with children would lose hundreds of dollars each month.

[Support "The Military Patron Protection Act" \(H.R. 2850\)](#)

A lot of changes are taking place to our commissaries and exchanges. That's why we are fighting to increase transparency and oversight of how the Department of Defense (DoD) manages our commissary and exchange contributions.

Congressman Walter Jones (R-NC) and Tim Walz (DFL-MN) are leading the fight with the introduction of a bipartisan bill aimed at safeguarding valuable military family support programs including the commissary and exchange benefit. H.R. 2850, "The Military Patron Protect Act", would provide commissary and exchange patrons, like yourself, with a voice in how DoD manages the earnings generated by your patronage of these programs.

[Action Alert for H.R. 846, Repeal the SBP-DIC Offset](#)

Our AFSA legislative team needs your help in honoring military spouses and survivors. When they retire, military members often invest in the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), paying into it each month. Once they die, their survivors receive a monthly SBP annuity from DoD. However, if that retiree was disabled as a result of military service, their survivor may also be eligible for dependency and indemnity compensations (DIC) from the VA. Under current law, DoD is allowed to implement a dollar-for-dollar reduction in SBP payments to a survivor, if that survivor is also receiving DIC.

[S. 66, the "Retired Pay Restoration Act"](#)

Due to legislation achieved over the years by AFSA and our Coalition partners, military retirees with a service-connected disability of at least 50 percent (as rated by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)) are able to concurrently receive all of their military retirement pay and all of their VA disability compensation without offset. Unfortunately, those with disabilities rated below 50 percent still lose one retirement dollar for each compensation dollar received from the VA. It is time to correct this unfair situation.

[H.R. 303, the "Retired Pay Restoration Act"](#)

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[H.R. 333, the "Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act"](#)

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Bud Andrews

Gateway Chapter 872

Contact Us:

[Headquarters AFSA](#)

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[Chapter 872](#)

Email: AFSA.ch872@gmail.com

[Facebook Page](#)

[EIM Sharepoint Site](#)

AFSA is a group of people who serve as the voices of the many. We fight to make changes for our fellow airmen, both active and retired, to ensure their rights & benefits are not taken away. We strive to leave the military and it's families better than when we found it.