



## *AFSA – TEAM TINKER NEWSLETTER*

### *Thunderbird Chapter 985, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma*



**Chapter President SMSgt Francisco A. Zamorano Jr. and his Executive Council present the following summary of accomplishments/activities during the year 2018. This edition consolidates 12 monthly newsletters into a format showcasing achievements by category rather than chronologically.**

#### **AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

AFSA Chapter 985 Annual Installation of Officers and Awards--Achievers, chapter supporters, Airman of the Year, NCO of the Year and Chapter 985 grant recipients. -

- Award winners for 2018:
  - AFSA Chapter 985 Airman of the Year – N/A
  - AFSA Chapter 985 NCO of the Year – President MSgt Blake Manuel
  - AFSA Chapter 985 SNCO of the Year – N/A
  - AFSA Chapter 985 Member of the Year – Historian MSgt (Ret) Terry Turner
  - AFSA Chapter 985 Individual Legislative Award – Historian MSgt (Ret) Terry Turner
  - AFSA Chapter 985 Volunteer Service Person (VSP) of the Year – Shelby Platt
  - AFSA Chapter 985 President's Award – N/A
- AFSA Chapter 985 SMSgt (Ret) Donald D. Sullivan Leadership Award – Trustee Hugo Perez
- AFSA Chapter 985 Outstanding Supporter Awards:
  - Michelle Devinney, First National Bank of Midwest City
  - Jamie Schmidt, Tinker Federal Credit Union
  - Brenda Hyland, Tinker AFB Main Exchange
- AFSA Chapter 985 Volunteers of the Year
  - MSgt (Ret) Terry Turner (Retiree category)
  - Shelby Platt (Active Duty category)
  - MSgt Christina Hymes (USAF Air Reserve Component Category)
  - Xavier Turner (Family Matters category)
- Presidential Volunteer Service Award:
  - SSgt Letrice Stewart
  - MSgt (Ret) Betty Worley
  - MSgt (Ret) Terry Turner
  - SMSgt Neel Rodgers
  - SSgt Shelby Platt
  - MSgt Christina Hymes

- Xavier Turner
- AFSA Chapter 985 Education Grant Recipients:
  - SSgt Hugo Perez
  - SSgt Brian Pence
  - Installed New Chapter Officers:
    - President – MSgt Blake Manuel (Assumed by SMSgt Francisco, Zamorano)
    - Vice President – MSgt John Whitfield (Assumed by (T)Sgt Hugo Perez)
    - Trustees
      - SSgt Hugo Perez
      - SSgt Seth Rollins
      - SSgt Jonathan Midkiff
      - MSgt Henry McRoberts
    - Secretary – SSgt Rollins (Assumed by MSgt Morales, Homero)
    - Treasurer – TSgt Jobrieth, Menard
    - Airmen Activity Coordinator – SrA Yewanda, Mohammed
    - Family Matters – N/A
    - Historian – MSgt (Ret) Terry Turner
    - Senior Advisor – SMSgt Neel Rodgers
    - Chaplain – N/A
    - First Sergeant Liaison – N/A
    - Family Matters – N/A
  - Outgoing Historian Presentation: N/A, MSgt (Ret) Terry Turner still holds
- ◆ President Neel Rodgers and Historian Terry Turner prepared and submitted 9 chapter award packages to Division 3 to compete for recognition of excellence at the next level of competition.
- ◆ Member of the Year Nominee Historian MSgt (Ret) Terry Turner, NCO of the Year Nominee Chapter Trustee Blake Manuel. Legislative Individual Historian MSgt (Ret) Terry Turner, Volunteer Service Person of the Year Shelby Platt, the International Legislative Award, Chapter Communication Award, 2017 Chapter of the Year, and the Chapter Community Service Award. President Blake Manuel, Trustee Hugo Perez, and Historian Terry Turner attended the AFSA Division 3 Conference in Kansas City, Kansas. Chapter 985 and its members were recognized with the following Division Awards:
  - Chapter of the Year Over 500
  - Communications Award
  - Legislative Chapter
- ◆ President Blake Manuel, Vice President John Whitfield, Trustee Hugo Perez, and Trustee Manuel, Munoz, attended the International Professional Airman's Conference in San Antonio, Texas. There, on behalf of the chapter he was able to receive the International Awards:
  - Chapter of the Year Over 500
  - International Legislative Chapter
- ◆ 12 general membership-meeting announcements were published via mail list server to 5.5K subscribers.
- ◆ Supported 7 Airmen Leadership School graduations; Chapter 985 is the sole sponsor of the John Levitow Award, \$929.50 total.
- ◆ Chapter 985 events were posted on its Facebook page! These events included many photos as well as 16 videos. The events included the Gift Wrap, Veterans Bingo, Christmas Roadshow, and General Membership Meetings.
- ◆ Posted 13 events on the Chapter 985 Instagram (IG) account with 378 Followers
- ◆ Posted 230 events on the Chapter 985 Facebook account with 372 followers and 369 likes.
- ◆ *There were unfortunately no Skyhighers/Highfliers from the chapter this year. We will continue to increase our recruiting efforts and strive to reach this goal for 2019!*
  - Chap 985 – 1,562

- ◆ Chapter 985 spent \$2,246.92 beyond all the recruiting rebates in membership drives and incentives striving to enlarge our membership base through successful recruiting and retention practices.

### **ATTENDED/ BRIEFED**

- ◆ 23 Total meetings convened for (11)Executive Council and (12)General Membership meetings.
- ◆ The SNCO Professional Education Seminar (PES) and NCO PES were provided breakfast for each of their briefs at a cost of \$95.30 from the chapter.
- ◆ 5 First Term Airmen Center briefings attended to provide 178 of the Air Force' newest members information on the Air Force Sergeants Association and the importance of becoming a member.
- ◆ 5 Airman Leadership School briefings attended to provide 210 of the Air Force's newest supervisors information on the Air Force Sergeants Association, the democratic process to include current legislative initiatives the impact enlisted member and their families and the importance of becoming a member of a professional organization.
- ◆ *Final summary of how members impacted Local Chapter*
  - *111 new members recruited*
  - *9 current retained members*

### **DONATIONS/OUTREACH**

- ◆ \$2,785.25 donated towards coins, flags, snacks, music and port-a-potties for everyone who attended/participated in the 9/11 memorial run and POW/MIA recognition ceremony.
- ◆ \$2,400.00 donated towards the Veterans Bingo in Norman, OK.
- ◆ \$1,500.00 donated towards educational grants for Airman recipients.
- ◆ \$968.00 donated towards OKC Thunder game tickets for Membership appreciation night.
- ◆ \$929.50 donated to provide the John Levitow Award's at Airman Leadership School. Sole sponsor for Levitow award.
- ◆ \$552.45 donated towards AFSA 985 T-Shirts.
- ◆ \$320.00 donated for purchasing General Membership Meeting DoorPrizes.
- ◆ \$300.00 donated towards the AFRC Tinker Food Pantry/Regional Food Bank.
- ◆ \$240.67 donated towards purchasing presidential volunteer service award for deserving chapter member.
- ◆ \$526.55 donated towards purchasing Gift Wrap Supplies.
- ◆ \$392.49 donated towards Angel Tree Donations.
- ◆ \$50.00 donated towards sponsoring an AFSA members attendance/dinner expenses at 7 ALS graduations.
- ◆ \$100.00 donated towards the CMSAF Scholarship at the Professional Airman's Conference.
- ◆ \$100.00 donated towards a golf tournament to support Security Forces Squadron Police Week on Tinker AFB.
- ◆ \$95.30 donated towards the breakfast for SCNOs attending SNCO PES.
- ◆ \$103.00 donated towards SSgt promotion ceremony.
- ◆ \$350.00 donated towards funds for airmen to attend AFSA International Convention.
- ◆ \$250.00 donated towards for SNCO Induction Ceremony to offset cost to attendees.
- ◆ \$100.00 donated towards the Air Force Aid Society at the Professional Airman's Conference.
- ◆ \$100.00 donated towards the Air Force Enlisted Village at the Professional Airman's Conference.
- ◆ \$281.22 donated towards 911 plaques to outstanding sponsors who donated money and resources to the event.
- ◆ \$210.40 donated towards the Air Force Enlisted Village Hurricane Michael relief at Tyndall AFB, FL.
- ◆ \$500.38 donated towards purchasing stuffed animals for residents at locations Roadshow.
- ◆ \$189.42 donated towards movie night to commemorate the passing of Stan Lee, had 100 people attend.
- ◆ \$129.00 donated towards banquet room for awards luncheon.
- ◆ \$435.00 donated towards Division 3 Conference Fees f/3 Chapter Members. Included travel, hotel, and

registration expenses.

- ◆ \$453.81 donated towards plaques for upcoming AFSA Annual Awards Ceremony.
- ◆ \$250.00 donated towards the Chief Induction Ceremony.
- ◆ \$100.00 donated towards funds for Division 3 high school scholarship.
- ◆ \$100.42 donated towards supplies for the Chapter 985 AFSA Membership and Awareness booth at the BX.
- ◆ \$844.32 donated towards sending chapter delegates/awards nominees to division 3 to professional Airman's PAC.

### **Final Summary of Donations**

- ***15,657.18 donated to support Tinker and surrounding community activities that benefit AF enlisted members.***

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES**

- ◆ 259 Volunteers participated in the Annual AFSA Gift Wrap fund raiser event at the BX on Tinker AFB. Raised \$8.6K in donations from customers.
- ◆ 158 volunteers from Chapter 985 attended 12 monthly Veteran's Bingo Night's at the Norman Veteran's Center. Volunteers assisted 206 veterans as they played the game. \$2.4K was spent ensuring prize money for the Veterans.
- ◆ 3 volunteers helped place over 2,500 American flags at the headstones of fallen veterans at Sunnyside Memorial Cemetery in Del City.
- ◆ 1 volunteer was able to help the Regional Food bank for 3 hrs and pack and organize 1280 sack meals for people who need them.
- ◆ 14 volunteers traveled 8 hours to visit 3 mentally challenged adult homes. Volunteers traveled over 140 miles to dance and donate stuffed animals to over 250 adults.
- ◆ 1 volunteers advocated for Airman Against Drunk Driving. They provided 5 hours of service to Airman on the Base and helped save 4 members from driving.
- ◆ 2 Rugged Maniac volunteers organized a team of to dispense fruit and water to runners and award medals to them.
- ◆ 2 volunteers volunteered for the 72 ABW picnic, helped set up/tear down water games, and serve food to active duty member, civilians and their families.
- ◆ 6 volunteers set up/tear down a booth at the BX on Tinker AFB to increase awareness of AFSA and being a member of the chapter.
- ◆ 11 volunteers helped set up/tear down a free movie night on Tinker AFB. There was popcorn, pizza, drinks, door prizes (\$300 in prizes and gift cards) and trivia provided to celebrate the 1st Annual Stan Lee Celebration Tribute. 100 people attended the event.
- ◆ AFSA Chapter 985 contributed a total of **448** volunteers for charitable activities in the OKC area during 2018. Together they donated 1529 hrs. of total community service.

### **FUNDRAISERS/OTHER ACTIVITIES**

- ◆ Prepared, submitted and received base approval to hold month-long annual gift wrap fundraiser at BX. Teamed up with other organizations throughout the base for the gift wrap process.
- ◆ The chapter's month-long gift-wrap fundraiser ran Nov 23–Dec 23 at the main Base Exchange. A successful net proceeds were realized through incredible volunteers that manned the booth 11 hours daily, 7 days a week. 64 AFSA volunteers able to raised \$8,600.31!
- ◆ Prepared/submitted package to 72FSS/JAG requesting and receiving approval to operate on Tinker AFB as a Private Organization
- ◆ For the 18th year in a row, dedicated executive council members ensured annual and quarterly reports were submitted on time
- ◆ Below communications produced and distributed to AFSA members through our website distribution list server

to over 5,309 subscribers from Chapter 985, Chapter President Bobby Kazmir, Former President Rachael Long, and Tracy Morrill:

- *12 monthly General Membership Meeting Reminders with minutes, notices of elections*
- *12 monthly AFSA Team Tinker Newsletters detailing chapter monthly activities*
- *22 Chapter Notices identifying volunteer opportunities*
- *Posted 19 Chapter events on Facebook*
- *Other Items of Interest to include*
  - Benefit cuts alerts
  - AFSA Division 3 Newsletters & PAC Announcements
  - AFSA Division 3 Scholarship Announcements/Applications
  - Notices on Chapter 985 Education Grants, including new social media application
  - Chapter Elections announcement
  - Chapter Airman/NCO of the Year Award submissions announcement
  - Chapter hosted events: reception for newest Tinker Command CMSgt's (all 3 of them!), Veteran Bingo visit, Veterans Day Parade, Chapter 985 Christmas Roadshow, call for giftwrap fundraiser volunteers, two base wide Free Family Movie Nights & chapter elections

### Legislative Issues

- ◆ Trustee/Senior Advisor Historian Terry Turner contacted our elected officials by email letters via the AFSA legislative tool VoterVoice. These individuals wrote a total of 215 letters, 1 survey and received 10 responses in 2018. Responses were received from most detailing their position and sometimes their vote on the issues:
  - 1 members wrote 15 letters to President Donald Trump, with 0 responses received
  - 1 members wrote 15 letters to Vice President Mike Pence, with 0 responses received
  - 1 members wrote 17 letters to U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK), with 8 responses received
  - 1 members wrote 1 letter to U.S. Senator Rob Standridge (R-OK), with 1 responses received
  - 1 members wrote 1 letters to U.S. Representative Frank Lucas (R-OK3) with 0 responses received
  - 1 members wrote 20 letters to U. S. Representative James Lankford, (R-OK5), 0 responses
  - 1 member wrote 18 letters to US Representative Steve Russell, 1 response (R-OK)
  - 1 member wrote 17 letters to US Representative Scott Inman, 0 response (R-OK)
  - 1 members wrote 14 letters to the Edmond Sun Newspaper, 0 responses received
- 1 members wrote 14 letters to the Guthrie News Leader, 0 responses received
- 1 member wrote 14 letters to The Paul's Valley Daily Democrat, 0 responses received
- 1 members wrote 14 letters to The Shawnee News-Star, 0 responses received
- 1 members wrote 14 letters to The Oklahoma Journal Record, 0 responses received
- 1 members wrote 14 letters to The Norman Transcript, 0 responses received
- 1 members wrote 14 letters to The Oklahoman, 0 responses received
- 1 members wrote 14 letters to the Seminole Producer, 0 responses received
- 1 member wrote 14 letters to The Chickasha Daily Express, 0 responses received
- 1 member wrote 1 survey to AFSA HQ, 1 response received
  - ✓ *Prevent Disproportional Health Care Cost Increase*
  - ✓ *S. 66, the "Retired Pay Restoration Act"*
  - ✓ *H.R. 333, the "Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act"*
  - ✓ *Military Compensation is Crucial to Recruitment and Retention*
  - ✓ *Prevent Disproportional Health Care Cost Increases*
  - ✓ *Teacher Pay and Benefit Increase*
  - ✓ *Prevent Disproportional Health Care Cost Increases*
  - ✓ *End the pay reduction for medical retirees*
  - ✓ *Prevent Disproportional Health Care Cost Increases*
  - ✓ *Support Immigration Reform and Stop Separating Families*
  - ✓ *Be Cautious with Military Compensation Reform*
  - ✓ *Support the Concurrent Receipt Amendment in the NDAA*



- ✓ *Support full concurrent receipt for disabled military retirees*
- ✓ *H.R. 4556, Opening VA Dental Care to All Veterans*
- ✓ *H.R. 4898, Keeping Our Commitment to Ending Veteran Homelessness Act of 2018*
- ✓ *Support S. 2565, the Veteran Employment and Child Care Access Act of 2018*
- ✓ *Support The Retired Pay Restoration Act*
- ✓ *Stop Predatory Lending Protections for Military!*
- ✓ *Please Support Medical Cannabis Research for Veterans!*
- ✓ *Thank you for preventing another round of TRICARE fee increases*
- ✓ *Government Partial Shutdown - Stop It - No Additional Border Wall Funds 1*
- ✓ *Government Partial Shutdown - Stop It - No Additional Border Wall Funds 2*
- ✓ *GI Bill Transferability Survey*

## ***ALS John Levitow Award Winners***



18-A SrA Gonzales

18-B SrA Townsell

18-C SrA Reyes



18-D SrA Hickein

18-E SrA Levens



18-F SrA Paul Fourquet-Quinones



18-G SrA Pinto

## President's Comments

Thunderbirds,

I'd like to take this opportunity to say thank-you for allowing me to lead this organization. This will be my last post as Chapter 985 President. Elections are coming up this week, and I have decided not to put my name in the hat for 2019. My family and I will be PCS'ing this Summer and we'll be preparing for the upcoming transition for overseas living. Living overseas again, is a exciting thought, but it will require some lifestyle adjustments and preparation to manage a successful transition.

As military members, transition, seems to be the norm and many of us welcome the idea of seeing new sights and meeting new friends. Although, transitions can very stressful. Something that I've learned over the years, is that preparation (and checklists) can mitigate the stress and allow for a much easier transition. This doesn't only apply to moving, preparation applies to anything we do. You have a test, preparation can minimize your anxiety. You have goals to accomplish, preparation paves the road to meet those milestones. With a new Executive Council coming aboard, our chapter will too experience a transition. However, we will overcome those challenges with teamwork, setting goals and--preparation.

Proudly serving the best members in the world,

Francisco A. Zamorano Jr., President





AFSA Chapter 985 at the International AFSA PAC held in San Antonio,  
Texas, in August of 2018

AFSA Chapter 985 won the International Chapter of the Year Award  
(CMSAF Wright standing with Chpater 985 members)





## AFSA Chapter 985 General Membership Meetings of 2018



## AFSA Chapter 985 Annual Gift Wrapping Event at the BX 23 Nov - 23 Dec of 2018





Chapter 985 Monthly Bingo at the VA Center in Norman,  
Oklahoma in 2018









AFSA Chapter 985 Annual Roadshow in December of 2018

