



Chapter 851 Newsletter Air Force Sergeants Association



August 2018

Volume 28, Issue 2

FROM YOUR CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Greetings fellow AFSA members. I hope you all are enjoying this beautiful summer. Unfortunately, fall is closing in. Enjoy it while it is still here.

Recently at one of our monthly meetings, the topic of "sponsorship" was discussed. Within the last couple of years, we have noticed that AFSA International is not supporting us monetarily as much as they used to. On an average, AFSA Int used to pay us approx. \$350 a quarter due to our chapter membership, retention and recruitment efforts. Our last quarterly receipt was approx. \$180. Therefore, less money is being received from our quarterly rebates. Our chapter continues to be very active in the military community and we don't plan on reducing our activities or events.

We support that and AFSA Mission Statement supports that. So, one must ask themselves how we will make up that difference. For the last two years we have been asking for donations from our members. Many of you have graciously donated to our chapter. Our chapter thanks you. We will happily accept more donations. Another source of revenue for our chapter has been Wisconsin Vision. The money they donate pays for this newsletter (materials, labor, postage). We recently recognized Wisconsin Vision for their continued support. Hopefully, you too can support Wisconsin Vision by purchasing your eyecare products and services.

So, what is next on our agenda? Sponsorship! We are looking for sponsors (individuals, businesses, or organizations) that would graciously sponsor us for any monetary amount. These sponsors would create a continuous flow of monies to our chapter. If you know of any potential sponsor(s), please forward that information to any member of our chapter leadership team, including myself. Our 2018 goal is to have approx. \$2,000 in sponsorship monies. Hopefully, you as a member can help us reach our goal. In closing, thank you for your continued support and being a loyal AFSA member. If there is anything I can do for you, please do not hesitate to call me.

Serving You,
Bill Rheingans, Chapter 851 President
wrheingans@gmail.com

262-232-8484

MEMBERSHIP

Again, thank you for renewing thru me this past year. This is what helps keep our organization strong and viable. As I have stated so often, let me, or AFSA, know if your address changes. Remember, the Chapter is charged for every returned newsletter. This insures you get all necessary mailings. Also, in case of a death, notify me or AFSA.

As you know, I send out the renewals six months in advance because that is the same time AFSA does. Renewing thru a Chapter member gets the retainer and Chapter credit. Renewing thru AFSA does not give us credit.

Roland "Bud" Kolwitz
budjean3@gmail.com

262-673-7503

Chapter 851 Membership Chairman



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Six cases of Girl Scout Cookies were taken to DryHootch. Estimated value \$360.00.

Volunteer hours were approximately 50.

Have been in touch with the spouse of a recently deceased Chapter 851 member to help her however she needed it. Sympathy card and a donation of \$50.00 in the member's memory was sent to the spouse.

Pull tabs from soda cans go to Ronald McDonald House. Also, Betty Crocker points and cancelled stamps are also welcome as part of our Community Service projects.

Reminder: It costs \$17.35 for each box mailed. It would be greatly appreciated, if you can help offset this cost by donating \$17.35 for the mailing of one box. For those who donated previously, thank you.

And on behalf of the troops serviced, thank you.

Thanks!

Sue Metzger, Community Service Trustee
smpsalm1@aol.com

414-353-1529



DEATHS

AFSA cannot officially recognize a person's death without a copy of the death certificate. It has been found some deaths occurred several years ago. Please let someone know. The following passed away:

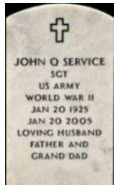
Joseph Fortunato—erroneously in the last newsletter.
Thanks to those who corrected me.

Ronald Christianson
Ronald Long

Howard Kilroy
Joseph Pelczynski



HEADSTONES, MARKERS AND MEDALLIONS



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) furnishes upon request, at no charge to the applicant, a Government headstone or marker for the unmarked grave of any deceased eligible Veteran in any cemetery around the world, regardless of their date of death.

A Government-furnished headstone or marker may be provided for eligible Veterans who died on or after Nov. 1, 1990 and whose grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone. A Government-furnished medallion may be provided for eligible Veterans who served on or after Apr. 6, 1917 and whose grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker.

Flat markers in granite, marble, and bronze and upright headstones in granite and marble are available. Bronze niche markers are also available to mark columbaria used for inurnment of cremated remains. The style chosen must be permitted by the officials in charge of the private cemetery where it will be placed.

When burial or memorialization is in a national cemetery, state Veterans' cemetery, or military post/base cemetery, a headstone or marker will be ordered by the cemetery officials based on inscription information provided by the next of kin or authorized representative.

Spouses and dependents are not eligible for a Government-furnished headstone or marker unless they are buried in a national cemetery, state Veteran's cemetery, or military post/base cemetery.

Note: There is no charge for the headstone or marker itself, however arrangements for placing it in a private cemetery are the applicant's responsibility and all setting fees are at private expense

You may call our Applicant Assistance Unit between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (ET), Monday through Friday, at **1-800-697-6947**.

Please Note: The above telephone number is for questions related to headstones, markers and medallions only ordered for private cemeteries.

For assistance in obtaining Veterans' records or for information on other VA benefits, please call your local Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office at **1-800-827-1000** or click on "Contact Us" above.

(Thanks to Mike Gordon for providing the above information.)



PENTAGON ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO POST-9/11 GI BILL

The Department of Defense issued a substantive change today to department policy on the transfer by service members in the Uniformed Services of "Post-9/11 GI Bill" educational benefits to eligible family member recipients.

Effective one-year from the date of this change, eligibility to transfer those benefits will be limited to service members with less than 16 years of total service (active duty service and/or selected reserves as applicable). Previously, there were no restrictions on when a service member could transfer educational benefits to their family members. The provision that requires a service member to have at least six years of service to apply to transfer benefits remains unchanged in the policy.



VETERANS SEEKING MARIJUANA FOR MEDICAL USE MUST GO AROUND VA

Many states have legalized marijuana and cannabis-based products for medical use, but veterans who want to use medical marijuana must go outside the VA system to obtain it. A bipartisan House bill would order the VA to study the drug's efficacy and safety for treating PTSD and chronic pain, potentially resulting in rule changes that would allow VA doctors and clinics to prescribe medical marijuana.





Chapter member, CMS Dalelynn Lombardo, presenting the SRNCO award for 2017 to MSGT Kenny



Chapter member, CMS Dalelynn Lombardo, presenting the 2017 NCO award to TSGT Branz



Sue Metzger with Jean Kolwitz that Jean & Bud Kolwitz donated for the Milwaukee Homeless Vets



Deployed 128th ANG members with care packages from Chapter 851





NEWS YOU CAN USE

By now you should have received a postcard from "Take Command" in regard to Tricare changes. If not, here is the information---

TRICARE Retiree Dental Program ends December 31, 2018

If you are enrolled in or eligible for the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program or TRICARE Retired Reserve now what? You may qualify for Federal Employment Dental and Vision Insurance Program FEDVIP for 2019—now including DENTAL AND/OR VISION.

Get Ready: You may enroll during Open Season—from Nov. 12 through Dec. 10, 2018—visit tricarebenefeds.com to learn more about FEDVIP open season and to sign up for e-mail alerts.

NEW Starting 2018—TRICARE Health Benefits Open Season

Prime and Select Enrollees may switch benefit plans during open season from Nov. 12 through Dec. 10, 2018. If you choose to do nothing, your plan will remain the same for the next year. Remember you can only change between Prime and Standard Plans during Open Season or with a Qualifying Life Event. Learn more by visiting tricare.mil/openseason.



AIR FORCE MAY LET STAFF SERGEANTS SERVE 20 YEARS, TOP ENLISTED SAYS

"The U.S. [Air Force](#) is reviewing the possibility of extending the time staff sergeants may serve in that rank on active duty before they face separation.

"During a recent town hall with airmen at [Spangdahlem Air Base](#), Germany, Chief Master Sgt. Kaleth O. Wright, the chief master sergeant of the Air Force, addressed a rumor that staff sergeants would be allowed to extend their service from 15 years to 20.

"You guys heard about that? You think it's a good idea? Absolutely, it's a good idea," Wright said. A [video of his speech surfaced on the Facebook page](#) Air Force Amn/Nco/Snco, which is popular with airmen but is not run by the service.

"We have a little bit more work to do. ..." he said Friday. "We like to do a little bit of data analysis, we want to make sure we do the correct research, we want to make sure we understand the second- and third-order effects before we pull the trigger."



SENATE PASSES \$716B DEFENSE BILL

The Senate on Wednesday passed a \$716 billion defense policy bill that includes a pay raise for troops, \$40.8 billion for equipment, and authorization for 77 new F-35 Joint Strike Fighters and 15 KC-46 Pegasus aircraft.



LAWMAKERS DEMAND PENTAGON DROP GI BILL TRANSFER LIMITS

"A bipartisan group of 83 House lawmakers are blasting a Defense Department plan to [change rules on troops transferring their GI Bill benefits to dependents](#), calling it unfair and devastating for military morale.

"Once a service member meets the requirements for transferring Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to an eligible family member, we must uphold our end of the commitment," the group stated in a letter to Defense Secretary Jim Mattis last week. "This change in policy is unacceptable, and we call upon you to swiftly reverse this decision."

"At issue are [plans in place for next year](#) that would block servicemembers who have been in the ranks for more than 16 years from transferring their [GI Bill benefits to dependents](#). Pentagon officials said the move is being made 'to more closely align the transferability benefit with its purpose as a recruiting and retention incentive.'"





Chapter 851 members. Mike Gordon, Dalelynn Lombardo, Patti Conners, Jean Kolwitz, Nancy Behr (partially hidden), Sonya Janicki, Sue Metzger, and Bud Kolwitz with 4 jars of soda pull tabs donated to the Chapter for Ronald McDonald House and snacks from Support the Troops to be distributed



At the 128th Commander Call at Volk Field, Lt. Col. Western (Commander), Chapter 851 President Bill Rheingans, SRA. Petersen and CMS Ted Ostroski. SRA Petersen received the Airman of the Year for AFSA Chapter 851

WisconsinVision

The Air Force Sergeants Association – Chapter 851
has arranged the following
discount plan for your
eye care needs.
We endorse this program and
strongly encourage you to use
Wisconsin Vision
for your eye care needs.

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Milwaukee
1920 W. Layton Ave.
Milwaukee 414-325-8600
1401 S. 108th St.
West Allis 414-476-0200
7528 W. Burleigh St.
Milwaukee 414-873-9090
8225 S. 27th St.
Franklin 414-761-2269
12876 W. Bluemound Rd.
Elm Grove 262-432-0052
4818 S. 76th St.
Greenfield 414-431-0385
5530 N. Port Washington Rd.
Glendale 414-897-0152
301 N. Water St.
Milwaukee 414-539-3524

Madison
5505 Odana Rd.
Madison 608-277-9393
2612 E. Washington Ave.
Madison 608-249-5100

Waukesha
203A East Sunset
Waukesha 262-524-1130
2205 Wilvernail Rd.
Waukesha North 262-436-0884

Menomonee Falls
N85 W16033 Appleton Ave.
Men. Falls 262-251-1900

Green Bay
2158 W. Mason St.
Green Bay 920-490-9860

Fox River Valley
1510 Koeller Rd.
Oshkosh 920-235-7789
351 N. Casaloma Dr.
Appleton 920-749-1101
459 W. Johnson St.
Fond du Lac 920-922-5990

Sheboygan
2229 S. Memorial Pl.
Sheboygan 920-458-9301

Janesville
1837 Lafayette St.
Janesville 608-756-0728

Racine
3905 Douglas Ave.
Racine 262-639-5360
6035 Durand Ave.
Racine 262-544-8600

Kenosha
Prairie Plaza, 5725 75th St.
Kenosha 262-694-5553

Grafton
1260 N. Port Washington Rd.
Grafton 262-546-0234

1220 N. Miller Park Way, West Milwaukee
414-383-4250

AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION – SPECIAL PRICING

SERVICE	SPECIAL AFSA DISCOUNT	RETAIL
COMPREHENSIVE EYE EXAM	\$41.00	\$59.00
FRAME	\$34.00	up to \$79.00
DESIGNER FRAMES	30% OFF RETAIL	FULL PRICE
LENSES:		
SINGLE VISION	\$41.00	\$60.00
LINE BIFOCAL	\$65.00	\$95.00
LINE TRIFOCAL	\$85.00	\$125.00
PROGRESSIVE LENSES:		
BASIC	\$110.00	\$160.00
PREMIUM	\$170.00	\$235.00
ULTRA-PREMIUM	\$225.00	\$295.00
ALL OTHER PROGRESSIVE LENSES RECEIVE A 20% DISCOUNT		
PACKAGES:		
SINGLE VISION & FRAME (single vision plastic lenses and \$59 frame)	\$49.00	\$100.00
BIFOCALS & FRAME (bifocal (ft-28) plastic lenses and \$59 frame)	\$79.00	\$135.00
PROGRESSIVE LENS PACKAGE (AO Easy plastic lenses and a frame up to \$139) *with a \$139.00 frame	\$259.00	\$364.00
EYEGLASS LENS OPTIONS:		
HI-INDEX 1.60 (thinner lens)	\$50.00	\$70.00
HI-INDEX 1.67 (ultra-thin lens)	\$95.00	\$130.00
POLYCARBONATE (impact resistant)	\$30.00	\$40.00
TRANSITION LENSES (darken and lighten)	\$80.00	\$100.00
POLARIZED SUNGLASS LENSES	\$65.00	\$85.00
TEFLON CLEAR COAT WITH ANTI-REFLECTIVE COATING	\$89.00	\$109.00
ZEISS ANTI-REFLECTIVE COATING	\$75.00	\$79.00
CONTACTS:		
CONTACT LENS PACKAGE (Exam, fitting fee, and 3-month supply of select spherical contacts)	\$99.00	\$153.00

*NON-INSURANCE ORDERS ONLY!

20% DISCOUNT IS AVAILABLE ON MOST OTHER PRODUCTS AND SERVICES NOT NOTED IN THE ABOVE PRICE SCHEDULE

Air Force Sergeants Association
N24W24210 Saddle Brook Dr. Unit A
Pewaukee, WI 53072

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Thanks to Ken Ubert of Hometown Publications Express News
for printing our Chapter 851 Newsletter

CHAPTER ITEMS

We have Chapter Coins in now. They are \$7.00 plus S&H. Chapter bottles are \$5.00 plus S&H and Chapter polo shirts at \$10.00 plus S&H. There are 4 M, 2 L and 4 XL. If you are interested, contact Chapter President Bill Rheingans at 262-232-8484 or wrheingans@gmail.com

Thanks to LouAnn & Bob Rogowski, Mike Gordon, Dalelynn Lombardo, Sonya Janicki and Bill & Jackie Rheingans for helping put the previous newsletter together for mailing and to Sonya Janicki for providing her home for the meeting
Jean Kolwitz, Newsletter Editor

2018 Schedule

September 8th – 128th ARW
October – date & location TBD
November – date & location TBD
December – date & location TBD

Watch this section for changes. Meetings are at the 128th HQ Building in the Senior Staff Meeting Room.

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