

AFA Chapter #144
 PO Box 757
 Merced, CA 95341

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Third Quarter 2009
 July - September

Please Support our Community Partners

- Challenger Learning Center – Castle Airport
 Castle Air Museum
 Gemini Flight Support-Castle Airport
 Guaranty Federal Bank, Atwater
 MFA Medical Group
 ServiceMaster of Merced
 WestAmerica Bank, Atwater
 TOYOTECH – Toyota & Honda Service/Merced

Upcoming Events

AFA CHAPTER 144 / UC Merced / Challenger Center 2009 FRONTIERS OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING LECTURE SERIES 10 AM in the Challenger Center Auditorium (209) 726-0296	
19 SEPTEMBER 2009	“Recent Advances in the Scientific Study of Consciousness” presented by Dr. Jeffery Yoshimi, University of California - Merced
17 OCTOBER 2009	“Genetic Insights into the Conservation of California’s Biodiversity in a Changing Environment” presented by Dr. Andres Aguilar, UCM
14 NOVEMBER 2009 (Second Saturday)	“Academic Frontiers: How Anthropology Studies Science” presented by Dr. Robin M. DeLugan, University of California - Merced

Please join us for our monthly #144 Board/Chapter Meetings

14 July 2009 11 August 2009 8 Sept 2009 13 October 2009	Location: Castle Air Museum Time: <u>10:30 am – 11:30 am</u>
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OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL EVENTS OF INTEREST TO NOTE:

- Castle Air Museum: July 25 – ROARING 20’s Dinner & Dance – Merced Golf/Country Club
 Castle Air Museum: September 18 – POW/MIA Day – 1:00 pm
 Castle Air Museum: October 4 – Omelet Brunch – 8:00 am to 1:00 pm



PRESIDENT'S LETTER 2009: JULY - SEPTEMBER

Chapter 144 Officers

President

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Nelson Howlett, MD

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Ed Nacey

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Nelson Howlett, MD

Calif. AFA Website

<http://cal-afa.org>

AFA National Website

www.afa.org

AFA National member

Toll-free telephone:

1-800-727-3337

The Saturday lecture series at the **Challenger Center** – the third Saturday of the month – will be taking a break during July and August. However, be sure to mark your calendar to attend the September lecture set for the 19th. These highly educational lectures are FREE and open to the public. If you have an opportunity, please be sure to attend and to invite others.

The California Air Force Association held its 2009 State Convention from May 28 to 30, 2009, at March Air Reserve Center. It was well attended and highly successful. The tours that were provided proved to be both entertaining and educational.

As the new fiscal year approaches, it is important that we watch the Federal budget process with keen interest to see what changes will occur regarding the military budgets. Obviously, much debate is taking place regarding weapons systems. However, another debate is taking place regarding the costs of active-duty and retiree military health care. Organizations supportive of the military (such as the Air Force Association) are voicing their concerns that the answer is not limiting access and/or making large increases in premium payments.

Your local Chapter can always benefit from your willingness to participate in chapter activities and meetings. **Don't hesitate; have a fun time as a participant and enjoy seeing what you can do to be a more active part of the chapter. Come to the next meeting to help ensure Chapter 144 remains an active AFA chapter helping to promote and support the Air Force which in turn helps its active and retired personnel. There is strength in numbers so maintaining a strong AFA is a great investment.**

Remember, "Air Power will always be the business of every American citizen."

Frank D. Walterscheid
President

