

attended this banquet. Schlitt said of the awardees, "These are kids who've already expressed a love for country and an interest in serving. We're just helping them move forward."

While in the area, Schlitt met six aerospace teachers, including Tom D. Godbold, named the Eglin Chapter's 2009 Teacher of the Year, and Leo F. Murphy, AFA's 2008 National Aerospace Teacher of the Year.

**Apollo 10 Commemoration**

In Oklahoma, the **Central Oklahoma (Gerrity) Chapter** carried out a special request from the guest of honor of a 40th anniversary spaceflight commemoration.

Retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Stafford, who was Apollo 10's commander for the May 1969 mission, was the main honoree of the anniversary, held in May in his home state. Apollo 10 was, in effect, a dress rehearsal for

the Moon landing that took place two months later.

As planning for the 40th anniversary got under way, Stafford asked that 10 high school students be invited to the celebration. Chapter member Rick A. Buschelman said that the chapter—headed by James F. Diehl—took on the task and set Mark L. Tarpley, aerospace education VP, to work. Tarpley contacted schools that had ties to AFA through the teacher of the year program, Air Force JROTC, or the Visions of Exploration Program. Visions is a joint effort by AFA and USA Today to interest students in studying science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through newspaper articles on those subjects.

The chapter paid all costs for the 10 students selected to attend the banquet and assigned them escorts: Buschelman, James Putnam, Jennifer Condon-Pracht, and Marcia Walker.

Before a reception that opened the evening's commemoration, the students met Stafford and former astronaut Eugene A. Cernan, who was the lunar module pilot for the mission. The students also received commemorative coins and were formally introduced to the audience of some 350 guests.

**Convention: California**

The **Bob Hope Chapter** hosted an event-filled California State Convention at March Air Reserve Base near Riverside, Calif., over three days in May.

A Thursday evening reception at the base's Hap Arnold Conference Center kicked off events. Friday's golf tournament raised funds for the state's AFA aerospace education foundation. Convention-goers toured the base to take in the Predator unit, a C-17 simulator, the Air and Marine Operations Center, and the F-16 alert area.

An awards ceremony that evening took place at the March Field Air Museum, where David T. Buckwalter, AFA's executive vice president, was guest speaker. Thirty-one awards went to the state's outstanding AFA members that night.

AFA state leaders were elected at Saturday's business session: Martin W. Ledwitz from the **San Gabriel Valley Chapter**, as president; George E. Williams, from the same chapter, secretary; Nancy J. Driscoll—currently president of the host Bob Hope Chapter—treasurer; and as area VPs, Enrico R. Valencia from the **Brig. Gen. Robert F. Travis Chapter**, Frank D. Walterscheid from the **Maj. Gen. Charles I. Bennett Jr. Chapter**, and Louis J. Kridelbaugh of the **General Doolittle Los Angeles Area Chapter**.

Norman A. Marous of the **Robert H. Goddard Chapter** was master of ceremonies for the evening's Military Awards Ceremony, also held at the Hap Arnold Conference Center. The 4th Air Force commander, Brig. Gen. Eric W. Crabtree, served as guest speaker, addressing the convention's theme, "Women in Flight History and the Air Force." Awards that evening went to outstanding personnel and units of the Total Force, AFROTC, AFJROTC, Civil Air Patrol, and—for the first time—the California State Military Reserve. The CSMR is the state defense force, controlled by the governor, trained to handle National Guard responsibilities.

Educational scholarships and area and state Teachers of the Year received recognition at the awards ceremony, as did Driscoll—named Member of the Year—and Brig. Gen. Robert P. Otto, the Person of the Year. Otto is 9th Reconnaissance Wing commander at Beale

**More photos at <http://www.airforce-magazine.com>, in "AFA National Report"**

**AFA Conventions**

Aug. 1	<b>Massachusetts State Convention</b> , Cape Cod AFS, Mass.
Aug. 1	<b>Pennsylvania State Convention</b> , Carlisle, Pa.
Aug. 29	<b>Washington State Convention</b> , Ellensburg, Wash.
Sept. 12-13	<b>AFA National Convention</b> , Washington, D.C.
Sept. 14-16	<b>AFA Air &amp; Space Conference</b> , Washington, D.C.

**Reunions**

[reunions@afa.org](mailto:reunions@afa.org)

**307th ARS**. Oct. 15-18 at the Dedham Hilton Hotel in Dedham, MA. **Contact:** Dix Howard ([dixhow@aol.com](mailto:dixhow@aol.com)).

**340th BW**, including all **Whiteman AFB** personnel (1950-63). Sept. 10-13 in Branson, MO. **Contact:** Bob Barnhill, 277 Sandhill Rd., Lonoke, AR 72086 (501-676-2305) ([rjbarnhill@aol.com](mailto:rjbarnhill@aol.com)).

**610th/618th ACW Sq**, including the **527th ACW Gp, 43rd AD**, Japan (1945-60). Sept. 27-30 in Branson, MO. **Contact:** John Rosso (661-832-6036) ([godfather1501@hotmail.com](mailto:godfather1501@hotmail.com)).

**1198th Operational Evaluation & Tng Sq**. Oct. 25-27 at the Rio Hotel in Las Vegas. **Contact:** Norm Pfeifer, 9201 Fallworth St., San Antonio, TX 78254 (210-522-1309) ([npfeifer@satx.rr.com](mailto:npfeifer@satx.rr.com)).

**7405th and 7580th Ops Sq**, Rhein-Main AB, Germany. Oct. 2-4 at the Holiday Inn in Fairborn, OH. **Contact:** Michael Hushion (937-320-1998) ([mhushion@woh.rr.com](mailto:mhushion@woh.rr.com)).

**B-57 Canberra Assn**. Sept. 17-21 in Colorado Springs, CO. **Contact:** Gayle Johnson (920-261-3879) ([gaylepj35@att.net](mailto:gaylepj35@att.net)).

**Lockbourne AFB, OH**. Oct. 15-18 at Nativo Lodge, Albuquerque, NM. **Contacts:** Betty Cea (740-392-7750) ([bcea@roadrunner.com](mailto:bcea@roadrunner.com)) or Gus Letto (505-821-8740) ([lettog@att.net](mailto:lettog@att.net)).

**Pilot Tng Class 61-D**. Oct 18-22 in San Antonio. **Contacts:** Lee Taylor ([leroyctaylor@earthlink.net](mailto:leroyctaylor@earthlink.net)) or Dick Trzaskoma ([texasrtr@aol.com](mailto:texasrtr@aol.com)).

E-mail unit reunion notices four months ahead of the event to [reunions@afa.org](mailto:reunions@afa.org), or mail notices to "Reunions," *Air Force Magazine*, 1501 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22209-1198. Please designate the unit holding the reunion, time, location, and a contact for more information. We reserve the right to condense notices.

AFB, Calif., site of next year's convention in the Golden State.

### You Will Be Impressed

In encouraging the **Tennessee Valley Chapter (Ala.)** members to volunteer to present AFJROTC awards to local cadets, Chapter President Frederick Driesbach wrote that they would see "great things the ROTC instructors have accomplished in making some 'True Blue' citizens out of some otherwise Xbox-oriented kids—You will be impressed."

He added, "Being in uniform is not a requirement, but wear of dress blues is appropriate if they still fit."

The uniform still fit retired Col. John R. Phillip, chapter aerospace education VP. He presented three Air Force Junior ROTC cadets in the Huntsville, Ala., area with \$500 college scholarships from the chapter.

At Huntsville High School, Anya Mullins was the recipient. Marcell Battle received the award at Butler High School. At Bob Jones High School, chapter members Russell V. Lewey and Otha H. Vaughan Jr. joined Phillip to present Matthew Jones with a scholarship. Phillip said this is the third year that the chapter has awarded these scholarships. They are "a performance motivator among the seniors within each ROTC unit," he said.

### More Chapter News

■ In May, Iowa's AFA chapters, including the **Gen. Charles A. Horner**

**Chapter** and the **Fort Dodge Chapter**, paid tribute to a hometown hero, Medal of Honor recipient retired Col. George E. Day. Born in Sioux City, Iowa, Day now lives in Florida, a member of the Eglin Chapter. In August 1967, he was a forward air controller-pilot on an F-100 that was shot down over North Vietnam. He became a POW but managed to escape to the demilitarized zone before being recaptured. He spent 5.5 years in captivity. Day became an attorney and championed Tricare for Life—military health care coverage to beneficiaries 65 years of age or older. Iowa's AFA dinner for Day took place at a hotel in a Des Moines suburb and, along with a presentation by Day, featured the musical group Raptor from Offutt AFB, Neb. As State President Marvin L. Tooman said, "It was a gala evening."

■ The **Charleston Chapter (S.C.)**—headed by Ronald I. Powell—hosted the South Carolina State Convention in May, with James R. Lauducci, AFA's Vice Chairman of the Board for Field Operations, as the awards luncheon guest speaker. Charleston Chapter VP Arthur J. Rooney Jr. reported that Lauducci encouraged chapters to offer activities that will interest younger USAF and defense-industry personnel to become involved in AFA. State President Rodgers K. Greenawalt took home the state's Member of the Year award. USAF awardees from Charleston Air Force Base were SSgt. Daniel Gutowski, 15th Airlift Squadron, named both Outstanding Aviator and Outstanding Air Force

Person, and a husband and wife team: Capt. Heather Mueller, 437th Aerial Port Squadron, who received the logistics award, and Capt. Frederick Mueller, 437th Airlift Wing, receiving the mission support award. Conventioneers included **Strom Thurmond Chapter** President Victor Janushkowsky, **Swamp Fox Chapter** President David T. Hanson, and **Columbia Palmetto Chapter** President Deborah L. Marshall.

■ With chapter members handling key elements, the **Tidewater Chapter (Va.)** hosted a major event, its second annual Aviation Heritage Gala. First, Community Partner Gerald Yagen provided the program and the venue: the Military Aviation Museum in Virginia Beach, Va. Second, chapter member retired Lt. Col. Gordon R. Strong organized his AFJROTC cadets from Grassfield High School in Chesapeake for setup, serving, and cleanup duties. A Kiwanis Club provided the food, and some 250 guests enjoyed music from an Army band. The museum is located at the Virginia Beach Airport and comprises about 30 World War II and Korean War aircraft. Chapter President William M. Cuthriell noted that another 30 are undergoing restoration and that Yagen told the gala audience that more buildings are planned for the museum.

■ In Alabama, **Tennessee Valley Chapter** and State Teacher of the Year, Lynn Toney, received such an abundance of awards at a school board meeting in May that at least two local newspapers highlighted the presenta-

## NEWS ABOUT THE AIR FORCE: DELIVERED DAILY

*Air Force Magazine's Daily Report is the premier electronic newsletter delivering the most current news about the U.S. Air Force to your desktop. Each day more than 50,000 readers receive the Daily Report. If it is important to USAF, you will find it in the Daily Report.*

- **U.S. AND THE WORLD:** The Daily Report's news staff reports airpower news that is happening on Capitol Hill, at the Pentagon, and around the world.
- **AIRCRAFT & WEAPONS SYSTEMS:** The Daily Report has comprehensive coverage of the aircraft, weapons, and other systems that are vital to the USAF mission.
- **PERSONNEL AND BASES:** The reporters for the Daily Report stay in contact with USAF bases and their personnel. If there is news within the ranks you will find it covered in the e-newsletter.

To receive the Daily Report via email, visit [airforce-magazine.com](http://airforce-magazine.com) and click on **Email Subscription** at the top of the page.



**airforce-magazine.com**  
ONLINE JOURNAL OF THE AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

To advertise in the Daily Report:  
[bturner@afa.org](mailto:bturner@afa.org)/703.247.5820