



Awards banquet takes center stage

The 24th Annual Civilian Awards Banquet is 6:30 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Lackland Gateway Club.

Awards will be given to more than 60 Air Force civilian employees from 15 San Antonio organizations.

Award presentations follow dinner. Dress is service dress for military and coat and tie/after 5 for civilians.

Cost per person for pay grades E-1 through E-5 and GS-9 and below is \$10, E-6 through E-9 and GS-10 and above is \$20. Tickets are available

through your organization ticket monitor or at the AFA Office, 210-222-1153.

The banquet is named in honor of Charlotte and Carlton Loos. Charlotte has been the administrative assistant for both AFA Texas and the Alamo Chapter for more than a quarter of a century.

Charlotte is the recipient of an AFA National Presidential Citation and is known throughout the organization as, "Ms. AFA." Her late husband, Carlton, was a retired Air Force civilian employee and an active AFA volunteer at local, state and national levels.

Officers to be elected at awards banquet

The Alamo AFA will elect officers at the Civilian Awards Banquet Oct. 17.

The nominating committee will make the following report:

- President – Daniel O’Neal
- Executive VP – Andy Nodine
- Secretary – Kaye Biggar
- Treasurer – Joyce Hons

Nominations from the floor will be entertained.

AFA hosts Air Force Birthday Ball Sept. 21

The Alamo Chapter of the Air Force Association hosts this year’s Air Force Birthday Ball, Sept. 21 at Mitchell Hall on Lackland Air Force Base. This year’s theme is, "Heroes...Air Force People."

The event, set to begin at 6:30 p.m. with a social hour, celebrates the 55th birthday of the Air Force.

The ball’s guest speaker is retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Robinson Risner.

The ball is sponsored by the Alamo AFA and the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base. Attendance is open to all Air Force Association members and supporters.

Cost for pay grades E-1 through E-5 and GS-9 and below is \$12.50, E-6 through E-9 and GS-10 and above is \$25.

The evening’s meal is green salad with house dressing, roast prime rib, oven-browned potatoes, green bean almandine, hot rolls with butter, birthday ball cake and coffee, tea and wine.

In addition to marking the 55th birthday of the Air Force, the ball is the primary fundraiser for the Alamo Chapter AFA. It supports the chapter’s community outreach and scholarship programs.

All attendees receive a commemorative coin of the event. Professional portraits will be made for an additional charge.

All tickets must be purchased by Sept. 16. To purchase tickets, please see your unit ticket monitor, send check to P.O. Box 76, Randolph AFB, Tx 78148, Attn: AF Birthday Ball, or call Charlotte Loos, 210-222-1153.

Air Force Ball Reservation Form

Name: _____

Number attending: _____

Rank: _____

Telephone: _____

Photo: Yes No

Amount enclosed: _____

Cost per person for pay grades E-1 through E-5 and GS-9 and below is \$12.50, E-6 through E-9 and GS-10 and above is \$25.

All tickets must be purchased by Sept. 16. To purchase tickets, please see your unit ticket monitor, send check to P.O. Box 76, Randolph AFB, Tx 78148, Attn: AF Birthday Ball, or call Charlotte Loos, 210-222-1153. Make checks payable to: Air Force Birthday Ball.

President's Page

Wealth of activities in next months

Recently, I talked with a friend of mine from Virginia who was wondering if San Antonio was under water. I explained the Texas "feast or famine" weather concept, which reminded me that it applies to more than weather.

Feast or famine also applies to local area activities to commemorate the service of military people, past and present.

San Antonio has a wealth of activities coming up in the next few months — opportunities for Alamo Chapter members to renew military acquaintances and chances to volunteer a bit of time.

Alamo Chapter is very engaged in the Visions of Exploration Program, which we sponsor with USA Today. The program puts the newspaper in classrooms for 18 weeks of the school year. It gives students and teachers a varied venue to reinforce the importance of math and technology in America.

The Chapter will sponsor 80 classrooms in the fall and we need 80 volunteers to be VoE classroom sponsors. For more information, see the article on VoE in this issue.

Of course, not to be forgotten, is the 4th Annual Air Force Birthday Ball honoring the 55th Air Force Birthday. The ball is Sept. 21 at Mitchell Hall on Lackland Air Force Base. Tickets are \$25 per person and are sold on a first-come basis.

Our theme this year is "Heroes...Air Force People," and the scheduled speaker is retired Brig. Gen.



Rankin

Robinson Risner. See the ticket form in this DEFENDER.

San Antonio will commemorate America's military with a nine-day celebration beginning Nov. 2 with the Kelly/Lackland Air Show. Opening ceremonies are scheduled for Nov. 4 at the Alamo with Mayor Ed Garza as the speaker.

November 5 is the city-wide celebration of America's Military Golf Tournament followed by the Spirit of America dinner Nov. 6 at the La Villita Assembly Hall.

Your Alamo chapter sponsors a Combat Breakfast Nov. 7 at the VFW Hall on Old Austin Highway. The breakfast is to honor local service noncommissioned officers.

The Veterans Day parade will be downtown San Antonio Nov. 9 and the wreath laying ceremonies concluding the celebration Nov. 11.

Alamo Chapter will be involved in a number of these activities. Please let us

This is definitely a "feast" time of year for the Alamo Chapter. However, we can only do these things if we have your continued support.

— Rankin

know if you would like to attend any of these events and/or to be a volunteer.

There are some exciting new events coming onto our radar screen for early 2003.

The first of these is a Joint Service Commemoration Ceremony honoring members of all services who fought in the Korean Conflict.

Alamo Chapter will work with the Department of Defense Korean War Office and other local veteran's groups to search for veterans to honor and to prepare a suitable ceremony. Please let us hear from you if you have prospective candidates or if you are willing to help.

Finally, 2003 marks the Centennial of Powered Flight. The Air Force is the lead agency for DOD and the Alamo Chapter will be engaged with local city and veterans groups to capture San Antonio's vast history in military powered flight. We are definitely looking for ideas and volunteers to make this a memorable commemoration.

This is definitely a "feast" time of year for the Alamo Chapter. However, we can only do these things if we have your continued

support.

Write, call or e-mail me to let me know what you can do.

Karen Rankin: 141 E. Hollywood Ave., 78212, bgenrankin@msn.com or 210-734-5635.

Scholarships awarded

Three \$500 scholarships have been awarded to Air Force Association family members.

Gilberta Turner, an Air Force spouse, and two Air Force members' daughters, Janell Lott and Amy Antoine.

Nominees had to have a grade point average of 3.5, have been accepted by an accredited university and have a record of community service.

Congratulations to these talented individuals.

Nominations will be solicited again in early 2003.

Alamo chapter has volunteer opportunities

The Alamo AFA has opportunities for those wanting to get more involved in the local community and the AFA.

First, the Alamo Chapter is seeking volunteers for the “Visions of Exploration” program. The 18-week program provides copies of the newspaper, a teacher outline and a student workbook weekly for 30 students in each classroom. The program operates in 80 middle school classrooms in conjunction with the aerospace Education Foundation and the national newspaper USA Today.

This year the Alamo AFA augments the program by providing mentors for each classroom. At a minimum each

mentor is expected to visit the classroom at the kickoff of the program in November and at the end of the program to present certificates to the students.

Other initiatives, such as additional visits, providing guest speakers, arranging field trips, etc., in coordination with the teacher, may be considered as the mentor sees fit.

Touching the lives of these future leaders of our country could well be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life.

For more information, prospective mentors should contact the Alamo AFA Aerospace Education vice

president, Capt. Mark Montague, 210-321-4223 or Mark.montague@jppsosat.randolph.af.mil.

Additionally, the Chapter is looking for a new vice president for Aerospace Education.

Capt. Montague is permanently changing station to Kuwait City International Airport.

The job oversees all of our educational programs, AFROTC and JrROTC scholarships, the Earle North Parker Essay Contest and the Visions of Exploration program.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Dr. Kaye Biggar, 210-696-4591, or e-mail kbiggar@aol.com.

AF extends 14k mobilized Guard, Reserve members

by Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force will be extending the mobilization of more than 14,000 Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members into a second year because of the continuing requirements of operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom.

The plan is to keep these people mobilized just long enough for the active force to realign manpower so that requirements created by the war against terror can be supported by a more predictable steady state process, said John C. Truesdell, deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for Reserve Affairs at the Pentagon.

Despite these tour extensions, Air Force leaders are committed to demobilizing these people as soon as possible, Truesdell said.

There are several initiatives currently underway to transform the active duty force structure to alleviate its stressed career fields and tailor it to meet the new 21st century requirements. These initiatives seek to free up active duty airmen from

nonmilitary-essential tasks and use those assets in stressed specialties such as security forces.

Nearly 67 percent of the air reserve component members who are having their tours extended are filling security forces requirements, Truesdell said.

The Air Force has not been able to meet the increased security forces requirements from within the active duty force and the continued support of the Guard and Reserve is crucial to protecting the force.

“Senior Air Force leaders understand the concerns this announcement may create among extended air reserve component members and one action they are taking is to seek legislative relief in two bills introduced to Congress,” Truesdell said.

“The first bill seeks congressional approval to authorize the Air Force to contract out certain administrative security forces functions to reduce the number of positions that must be filled by active duty or (reserve) security forces,” he said. “The companion amendment, if passed, would allow active Guard and Reserve tours from the Air Force Reserve to be used for security forces functions.”

These two bills aren’t a cure-all, Truesdell said, but combined with ongoing initiatives, they will help bring down the number of people who must be extended through their second year and, hopefully, return some predictability back to Guard and Reserve members.

“This predictability is important if we hope to retain our people, their families and the employers,” Truesdell said.

“We are working hard to constantly improve our communication with the many audiences involved with this war effort, especially our people, their families, employers and every member of Congress. The operative word here is ‘retention.’ We want our whole team to know that we really appreciate all that they’ve done for us already but that we still need their continued support to finish the job.

“We want to retain our Guard and Reserve members and must give them the predictability in their lives they deserve. We know they are patriotic and want to serve the country but we also understand that reality rears its ugly head and they have to pay a mortgage or return to their roles in the civilian sector.”

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Community Partners assist the Alamo Chapter in a number of valuable areas.

- Air Force Credit Union
- Air Force Village
- Airport Hilton
- Apollo Gate Operators, Inc.
- ARINC
- Army-Air Force Exchange Service
- Boeing Autometric
- Bank of America - Fort Sam Houston Branch
- Beldon Roofing Company
- The Biggar Advantage
- Bill Miller Barbecue
- The Boeing Company
- Booz, Allen and Hamilton
- Brite Blinds of Texas
- City Public Service
- Clear Channel Communications, Inc.
- Desktop Consultants
- EG&G Management Services of San Antonio
- Eisenhower National Bank
- Fisher House, Inc.
- Frost Bank
- Goodyear Auto Service Center
- Goodyear # 4762
- GPM Life
- Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce

- GSA/Federal Technology Service
- Guardsmark, Inc.
- H.B. Zachry Company
- Institute for Job and Occupational Analysis
- The Holt Companies
- Jack Winkler Motors
- Karta Technologies, Inc.
- KB Homes
- KPMG
- Lear Siegler Services, Inc.
- Main Street Garage
- Medallion Homes
- Onboard Software, Inc.
- Orbis Online, Inc
- Pentagon Federal Credit Union
- Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union
- Red McCombs Enterprises
- Texas Computer Help
- The Republic of Texas Restaurant
- Robinson Financial Concepts
- San Antonio Credit Union
- San Antonio Lighthouse
- SAIC (Science Applications International Corporation)
- SATYA Tech
- Security Service Federal Credit Union
- Sell Your Home in 9 Days.com
- Southwest Business Corporation

Care to Join Us?

Would you like to join the list of outstanding businesses listed here?

As a community partner you will receive a copy of the *Air Force Magazine* each month, have your company name included here and on programs at our events throughout the year and on our web page.

You will be invited to quarterly breakfasts conducted by Air Force organizations and to all of our events. All for just \$75.00 per year or \$150.00 for two memberships.

Call our Community Partner VP, Tom Peterson at 379-3711, for more information.

- Straus-Frank Company
- Texace Corporation
- Texcorp Mortgage Bankers
- USAA
- X Technologies Inc.

The Alamo Chapter
Air Force Association
World Trade Center Building
Suite 234
118 Broadway
San Antonio, Texas 78205-1945

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 3062
SAN ANTONIO TX 78284