



The Alamo AFA

DEFENDER

The Newsletter
of the Alamo AFA
Chapter 234

San Antonio, Texas—The Largest Chapter in the World www.alamoafa.org • October-December • Vol. 4, No. 4

COMBAT BREAKFAST

The Alamo AFA Chapter will once again host an exciting combat breakfast at 0700 hours on Thursday, November 10, 2005 at the Kelly Club, Kelly USA. Tickets are \$15.00 per person. The venue this year will be a “gourmet” combat-related sit-down breakfast with an exciting keynote speaker.

The breakfast venue will be comfortable for participants, but the keynote message will encapsulate how our great Air Force team professionally operates amid horrific contingency and environmental conditions. Specifically, Colonel John C. Fobian, Commander of the 433rd Airlift Wing will discuss the commitment and contributions of the men and women of the Alamo Wing to the war on terrorism, the tsunami relief effort, and the victims of the Katrina & Rita Hurricane disasters.

Moreover, our AFA Chapter will host several wounded men and women recovering at Brooke Army Medical Center at the breakfast. These young warriors closely approached “the ultimate sacrifice” in the war on terrorism, and we embrace the opportunity to thank them for their service to our nation.

The Combat Breakfast is part of the “Celebrate America’s Military Week” activities in San Antonio. In addition to this breakfast, our chapter will also participate in the Air Show at Randolph AFB, the Veterans Parade, the wreath laying at Fort Sam Houston Cemetery, and other events. If you wish to share your time as a volunteer in any of these patriotic activities, please contact Kaye Biggar at kbiggar@aol.com.

Tickets are available through your unit ticket monitor, or from Dave Stoltz, 4114 Timberhill, San Antonio, TX 78238-3701 no later than November 1, 2005.

Calendar of Events



Loos Awards Banquet
October 27, 2005

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Veterans Parade
November 5, 2005

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Randolph Air Show
November 5-6, 2005

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AFA Combat Breakfast
November 10, 2005

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Ft. Sam Wreath Laying
November 11, 2005

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Blue Suit Awards Banquet
March 31, 2006

LOOS CIVILIAN AWARDS BANQUET

The Charlotte and Carlton Loos Civilian Awards Banquet will take place on Thursday October 27, 2005 at the San Antonio Airport Hilton Hotel, 611 NW Loop 410.

No host cocktail reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. with dinner following at 7:15 p.m. Dress for the evening is business suit/semi formal for civilians and service dress for military. Price for tickets is \$25.00 a person with a reduced price of \$20.00 a person for GS-09/E-4 and below.

Menu for the evening is tossed salad with house dressing, breaded chicken breast with lemon butter sauce, chef’s selection of seasoned vegetables, quash medley, rice and coffee/tea and dessert. If you have any special dietary requirements, please advise Dave Stoltz.

Tickets are available through your unit ticket monitor, or from Dave Stoltz, 4114 Timberhill, San Antonio, TX 78238-3701 no later than October 25, 2005.

PRESIDENTS PAGE—

This issue of the Defender marks the end of your current Chapter staff's first year of service. And what a remarkable year it has been!

The year started out in November 2004 with the San Antonio Greater Chamber of Commerce Celebrate America's Military week. This observance included the annual Alamo Chapter Combat Breakfast, the Veteran's Day Parade, the air show at Lackland, and a memorial wreath laying at Ft Sam Houston. The Combat Breakfast was clearly the best on record. The superb organizational work of our team, under the leadership of Amona Blackwell, combined with an outstanding speaker, enabled this event to achieve national recognition.

Next was the visit by our National President, Bob Largent. Bob was with us from 30 March until 3 April. The Alamo Chapter team, under the leadership of John Blumentritt and Buster Horlen, came through to organize a packed itinerary of visits with all of the Flag Officer Commanders at Lackland, Randolph, and Brooks. These visits made it clear to these Commanders that the Alamo Chapter is a vital and active organization worthy of their support, and that support has been forthcoming ever since.

On 31 March, we asked President Largent to help us officiate at our annual Joe Kellogg Blue Suit Banquet. Yet again, thanks to a team led by Kaye Biggar, Dave Stoltz, and SSgt Chris Bowling, we set records, handing out some 65 awards to the most outstanding military performers across the greater San Antonio area. The demand for tickets to this event was so enthusiastic that, before we knew it, we had oversold the hall! But through the flexibility of the staff at the Airport Hilton, we were able to accommodate all comers, and no one was turned away.

The AFA Texas Spring Executive Council Meeting followed, at the St. Anthony Hotel, on 1-3 April 2005. President Largent participated and provided much encouragement to our state and chapter efforts. The Alamo Chapter team, this time under the leadership of Mary King, did a superb job of organizing this event. This meeting included a membership panel session that has had an impact at the national level. This panel, populated by both officers and enlisted, both AFA members and not, grappled with the many issues that challenge our abilities to maintain and serve our membership.

More recently, on 17 September 2005, we held our annual Air Force Birthday Ball. Thanks to the outstanding efforts of the joint 37th Training Wing Team and AFA team led by Corey Everage, this event set a new standard for excellence. General Looney's superb address capped off the evening memorably.

So now, we come to the final event in our annual cycle, the Carleton and Charlotte Loos Civilian Awards Banquet. You will find all of the details about this event elsewhere in this newsletter. This event is especially significant because our DoD civilian workers don't enjoy the same diversity of awards and recognition programs provided for our military members. So the recognition we provide at this event takes on a special significance to both the awardees and the Greater San Antonio Civil Service workforce as a whole. Our Alamo Chapter team, once again led by Kaye Biggar and Dave Stoltz, is doing a superb job of arranging this event, and it promises to be a memorable evening.

As you can see, through the energetic and visionary efforts of the Alamo Chapter team, the Chapter is superbly fulfilling its mission of supporting our Air Force and its family.

As you can see, through the energetic and visionary efforts of the Alamo Chapter team, the Chapter is superbly fulfilling its mission of Advocating aerospace power and a strong national defense, supporting the United States Air Force and the Air Force family, and educating the American people about the importance of aerospace power to a strong national defense.

Of course, we are always looking for new talent and new ideas to help us with this all important aspect of our mission, so if you want to become more active in the Chapter and become a part of the great events planned for the coming year, just contact any one of the folks on the Chapter staff.

Hope to see you at a meeting real soon!

Andy

AF BIRTHDAY BALL HUGE SUCCESS

From the formal introduction of the head table to the presentation of the colors and other protocol, to the extremely moving MIA/POW salute to General Looney's informational and inspiring remarks regarding the history of the Air Force and its exponential increases in firepower, the evening went without a flaw thanks to the dedicated work of the members of Team Lackland.

In addition to the sell-out crowd of 350 military and civilian attendees, corporate sponsors of the Ball contributed over \$18,000.00 to the Alamo AFA Aerospace Education Foundation to support our Scholarship and Educational Outreach Programs, noted Dr. Kaye Biggar, Foundation President.

Corporate sponsors included USAA, SBC, Air Force Federal Credit Union, Randolph Brooks, FCU, Security Service FCU, San Antonio FCU, Eisenhower National Bank, Frost Bank, Bank of America Military Bank, Baptist Health System, Karta Technologies, Booz Allen Hamilton, Phyllis Browning Real Estate, Standard Aero, Age Refining, dNovus RDI, Apollo Gate Operators, The Stumberg Foundation and Air Force Village Foundation.

"Helping Hands"

On Sunday, 18 September 2005, the United States Air Force celebrated its 58th birthday of being the world's greatest air power and at that same time a group of students from the University of Texas at San Antonio learned just how proud it was to be part of that family. Just weeks before the Air Force birthday one of our Nations worst natural disasters struck the southern coastline of the U.S. leaving hundreds of thousands homeless without food, water or even clothing. This disaster became known and feared to us all as Hurricane Katrina. Within a week of the hurricane thousands of evacuees were on their way to San Antonio to find comfort and help from this great storm. Kelly USA, formerly known as Kelly Air Force Base, became one of the main staging grounds for taking in evacuees and it was the job for the residents of San Antonio to answer that call for help. The local Air Force ROTC DET 842 based out of UTSA was there waiting with opens arms. Over fifty of the detachments enrolled corps stood up ready to help in any way they could and one of the Air Force's fundamental components "Service before Self" was indeed put to the test. Within twenty four hours of evacuees arriving in San Antonio, members of Detachment 842 were there setting up what would soon become to some what they would call home for the next few weeks. Though what happened just a week earlier was a horror, the sight inside of these shelters was that of hope; for San Antonio was a community coming together, opening their doors and their hearts for those who had lost everything. As the clean ups began and lives started over, the Texas/Louisiana coast fell deafly silent at the news of yet another category five hurricane soon to hit, but this time we would be prepared. Putting all aside Det 842 volunteers once again stood up ready to help.



AFA TEXAS ANNOUNCES AWARDS



Alamo Chapter members set to receive Texas Air Force Association Awards.

- § Msgt Amona Blackwell of the Air Intelligence Agency and senior enlisted Advisor to the Alamo Chapter has been selected as Airman of the year.
- § Lt. Col. John Blumentritt of 19th Air Force and Executive Vice President of the Alamo Chapter has been selected Officer of the Year.
- § Mr. William D. Croom, Jr. Secretary of the Alamo AFA Aerospace Education Foundation and also a Director of the National AEF has been selected for the General Claire Chennault Patriotism Award, the most prestigious award AFA makes.
- § Dee Dee Larson has been awarded the Christa McAuliffe Memorial Award.
- § Additionally the 433 Airlift Wing at LacklandAFB has been selected as the Texas Military Organization of the Year for its worldwide commitment and contribution to the war on terrorism and disaster relief efforts in the tsunami crisis and in the ongoing hurricane Katrina and Rita catastrophies.

The awards were officially announced at the Texas AFA Fall Executive Council meeting in Amarillo October 7-9 and the presentations will be made during the Alamo AFA Loos Awards Banquet at the San Antonio Airport Hilton Hotel on October 27, 1005

ALAMO CHAPTER COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Alamo Chapter wishes to thank all of those businesses who continue to support the AFA and make our programs possible.

We couldn't do it without you!

If you would care to join this elite group, please contact

Alamo AFA Community Partner V.P. John DiPiero, jdipiero@satx.rr.com or (210)945-7874

Air Force FCU	dNovus RDI	One Castle Hills Exec. Suites
Air Force Village	Eisenhower National Bank	Randolph-Brooks FCU
Air Port Hilton	Fisher House, Inc.	San Antonio FCU
Ancira Enterprises	Frost Bank	Security Service FCU
Apollo Gate Operators, Inc.	Four L Ranch	Southwest Business Corp
Bank of America—Military Bank	Greater SA Chamber of Commerce	State Farm Insurance
Beldon Roofing Company	Karta Technologies, Inc.	Texas Computer Help
Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc.	Lockheed Martin	Teksystems Government Services
Boeing	Main Street Garage	USAA
Brite Blinds of Texas	Military Medals & Display	Walker Advertising, Inc
City Public Service		

EVERY MEMBER GET A MEMBER

As of 30 June Alamo AFA has recruited 46 new members, but with deaths, transfers and non-renewals etc., we had a net loss of 64 for a total of 3736 members and the Largest Chapter in the World.

But we need your help. Please go to <http://www.afa.org/forms/joinapp.asp> and down load an application form, write Alamo Chapter #234 on it and give to a friend, co-worker, neighbor, relative or whoever and have them fill it out and give you a check and you mail it for them.

PLEASE DO THIS TODAY,
TOMORROW YOU WILL FORGET !

*Editor—Dr. Kaye Biggar
Publisher—Linda Bjorge*

? SHORT-TIMER ?

Considering a Career Transition
Well AFA Can Help

AFA has two programs to help you find that
Dream Job

For Resume Assistance

Go To

<http://afa.org/AboutUs/member/resume.asp>

Job Seeker Registration

Go To

http://afa.destinygrp.com/destiny/registration_step1.jsp

Alamo AFA is also investigating
starting/coordinating
A Local Job Fair Opportunity

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