

THE STAR



ROANOKE CHAPTER 285 OF THE AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

AFA's "Medium Size Chapter of the Year 2005" National Award Winner

"Exceptional Service, Communications 2006" National Award Winner

President's Message



For this addition of the Newsletter I decided to take a slightly different approach. I will keep my introductory column short and expand on some ideas with a couple of extra articles.

I was privileged to be able to attend my first Virginia State AFA meeting and Randolph Macon Academy in Front Royal. I was very impressed with all the activity going on within the many chapter of the AFA in Virginia. The topics we discussed ranged from the very successful Cyber Patriot competition that is being expanded for the coming year to exciting developments in establishing the AFA as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. This last development is particularly

important. Once it is implemented at the Chapter level we will be able to accept tax-deductible charitable donations to our aerospace education fund. I'm hopeful that this change will help us expand the level of support we can give to our Senior and Junior ROTC units in the Shenandoah Valley.

Again, my biggest goal this year is to expand the opportunities for chapter members to actively participate in our many Chapter activities. It would be good to see a strong attendance at the next quarterly meeting and awards banquet that will be held on Saturday, 1 May at the Holiday Inn, Tanglewood. Our guest speaker for the event is Maj Gen William L. Holland, Commander of 9th Air Force. This is the Chapter's annual awards banquet at which we will recognize outstanding Chapter members, cadets, active duty officers

Upcoming Events

> 24 January 10
AFA State Drill Meet
Atlee HS, Richmond

> 1 May-Chapter Meeting,
Holiday Inn Tanglewood
Roanoke VA

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If you received this news letter via postal mail then you need to update your email address. Please contact Jay Thompson at jay.thompson.vmi@gmail.com or phone 540-460-0608 with your new email address.

Chapter 285 Quarterly Dinner 1 May 10

The next Chapter quarterly meeting and awards banquet will be held on Saturday, 1 May at the Holiday Inn, Tanglewood. Our guest speaker for the event is Maj Gen William L. Holland, Commander of 9th Air Force. This is the Chapter's annual awards banquet at which we will recognize outstanding Chapter members, cadets, active duty officers and enlisted, and our teachers of the year.

The cash bar opens at 6:00 pm with dinner at 7:00 p.m. Individual buffet dinner costs are \$29 for members and guests who register and pay before the meeting, and \$30 for those who pay at the door. The cost for cadets is \$23. Contact the chapter treasurer, Kevin Fuccella, at afa285@gmail.com to register for the meeting.

Chapter Dinner Schedule

6:00pm—Social
7:00 pm—Dinner
8:10pm—Speaker
8:45 pm—Final comments
9:00 pm —Adjourn

PLEASE SEND US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

Send an email to: jimtubbs@comcast.net and jay.thompson.vmi@gmail.com.

If you prefer a paper copy of the newsletter, please call Jay Thompson at 540-460-0608.

Guest Speaker: MG "Dutch" Holland



Maj. Gen. William L. "Dutch" Holland is Commander, 9th Air Force, Air Combat Command, Shaw Air Force Base, S.C. The 9th Air Force comprises six wings in the eastern United States and two direct reporting units with more than 350 aircraft, and 24,000 active-duty and civilian personnel. The command is also responsible for the operational readiness of 14 9th Air Force-gained National Guard and Air Force Reserve units.

General Holland entered the Air Force in 1976 after receiving his commission through the ROTC program at East Carolina University. He has commanded at the squadron, group and wing levels, and has served in several joint and Air Staff assignments. These include Combined Forces Command/United Nation Command, South Korea; Headquarters U.S. Atlantic Command; Headquarters U.S. Central Command; and the NATO Balkans Combined Air Operations Center during the Operation Allied Force Kosovo air campaign and Joint Task Force 170, Haiti.

Prior to assuming his current position, General Holland was the Vice Commander, 9th Air Force, and Deputy Commander, U.S. Air Forces Central, Shaw Air Force Base, S.C. He is a command pilot with 2,500 flying hours. Aircraft flown: T-37, T-38, A-10 and HH-60.

Air Force License Plates

The Virginia State AFA is supporting an effort to get our State to authorize and produce specialized USAF license plates. This license plate will be for all who are serving or have served honorably in the USAF, including in the ANG or AF Reserve. A lot of work has already been done: we have received approval from HQ USAF to use the new AF logo on the plate, we have a sponsor for the legislation and should get the legislation passed this year. However, the State AFA needs our help. The Virginia DMV requires there be 350 prepaid orders for the new USAF license plate on file on or before 15 Dec 2010 before they will consider the proposal. Richmond AFA Chapter 243 is spearheading the effort to collect 350 prepaid orders. You can support this effort by doing the following:

Go to the DMV website address <http://www.dmv.virginia.gov/webdoc/pdf/vsa10.pdf> and download the License Plate Application form. Fill out the form and under "Type of Plate" select military and write in USAF.

Sign the VSA 10 and send it along with proof of military service (e.g. copy of ID card or DD 214), a \$10 check and a 3.5 card with your name and e-mail address to:

AFA Richmond Chapter 243
Attn: License Plate Application
P.O. Box 2195
Mechanicsville, VA 23116



Chapter 285
Community Partners
Let's Support Them!

R & K Engineering, Inc.
Bob Adams
1700 Blue Hills Drive
Roanoke, VA 24012
Tel: 540-343-7300
www.rkeng.com

Ronald W. Gibbs, MBA,
CLTC
RVA Financial Specialists
2001 S. Main Street, Ste #206B
Blacksburg, VA 24060
Tel: 540-443-3612
www.rvafinancial.com

Marion L. Powell, CPA
3959 Electric Rd. SW, Ste 301
Roanoke, VA 24018
Tel: 540-772-3151

Spring Lake Farm
James T. Lucas, Jr.
4711 Dry Valley Road
Radford, VA 24141
Tel: 540-382-4681

*Do you know a
business or someone
who can support the
AFA mission?*

*Recruit them as a
community partner.*

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION WEB SITE LINKSAFA National: (www.afa.org)Virginia AFA: (www.virginiaafa.org/VAAFA)Roanoke Chapter 285 AFA: (www.virginiaafa.org/Chap285)Air Force Association
Roanoke Chapter 285

Star City of the South

Roanoke Chapter 285 Officers - Year 2008-2009**President/VP Membership:**

James H. McGuire* 540-343-7300 (jim.mcguire@rkeng.com)

Vice President:

Jim Tubbs 540-463-7024 (CCMstpats@embarqmail.com)

Secretary:

Thomas B. Moncure 540-463-9316 (moncuretb@vmi.edu)

Treasurer:

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V.P. Aerospace Education:

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George W. McKay 540-365-7208 (gwmckay@hughes.net)

* National Director

** State Vice President (West Region)



VP for Newsletter

Jay Thompson

120 Serenity Drive

Glasgow, VA 24555

Phone: 540-460-0608

Quarterly Virginia AFA Chapter Meeting Reservation Form

Saturday 1 May 10

New Location: Holiday Inn Tanglewood, 4468 Starkey Road, Roanoke, VA 24018

Name: _____ Phone No: _____

Email address: _____

Members & Guests = \$29.00 # of dinners: _____ X \$29.00 = \$ _____

Cadets = \$23.00 # of dinners: _____ X \$23.00 = \$ _____

Donation for Roanoke Chapter's Education Fund: = \$ _____

Donation for Cadet Sponsorship Program = \$ _____

Total Submitted: \$ _____

(Make checks payable to AFA Chapter 285)

Mail to: Kevin Fuccella, Treasurer, 648 White Oak Dr. Blue Ridge, VA 24064

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION
An Independent Non-Profit Aerospace Organization
Roanoke Chapter 285
C/O Jay Thompson, VP Newsletter
120 Serenity Drive
Glasgow, VA 24555

Non-Profit Org. US POSTAGE PAID ROANOKE, VA PERMIT NO. 78
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Veterans Affairs News

Virginia's Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (JLC). represents 23 Veteran Service Organizations (VSO's) in the Commonwealth, including the Air Force Association. The membership of these 23 VSOs is over 260,000 strong. The JLC's mission is to provide advice and assistance to the Governor and the Virginia Department of Veteran Services on issues of importance to veterans. The JLC identifies issues of concern to the military community and especially to veterans, their spouses, orphans and dependents.

This year the JLC adopted the following six legislative objectives:

1. Provide real estate tax exemptions for 100% disabled Veterans.
2. Gain funding for the Department of Veterans Services Budget. Specifically:
 - Provide \$2 million for the Virginia Wounded Warriors Program
 - Provide \$100,000 for the Automated Claims Processing System for veterans disability claims
 - Provide resources to open and operate the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery.
3. Provide funds to operate the Virginia War Memorial.
4. Provide burial vaults at cost at Virginia state veterans cemeteries.
5. Authorize localities to establish special court programs for veterans and military personnel as a way of helping combat veterans who come in contact with the legal and criminal justice systems.
6. Allow grants from the Military Family Relief Fund to be provided as tax exempt income.

Our continued membership in the AFA helps the JLC work towards achieving these objectives.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS