

# THE STAR



## ROANOKE CHAPTER 285 OF THE AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

*AFA's "Medium Size Chapter of the Year 2005 and 2009" National Award Winner*

*"Exceptional Service, Communications 2006" National Award Winner*

### President's Message



The start of a new decade prompted me to reflect on why I agreed to take on the duties of the President of our AFA Chapter. For me, the answer was simple

– to get better connected with the extended Air Force family in our area. We have a uniquely diverse Air Force community in the greater Roanoke Valley, as exemplified by our quarterly chapter meetings. At these meetings you will see JROTC and SROTC cadets sitting with active duty and retired Air Force veterans. Our quarterly programs reflect this diversity, with presentations on DoD space capabilities, a look back at our Vietnam legacy, and next month a look to future Air Force capabilities with a dis-

cussion of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

Our other Chapter activities are similarly diverse. This past quarter we honored our war veterans as we presented a \$200 gift for the VA Veterans Care Center in Roanoke to purchase Christmas gifts for three veterans. Several Chapter members also attended a function honoring chapter member and WWII fighter pilot Bill Overstreet as he was presented the French "Legion of Honor," France's highest honor, for his exploits as a P-51 pilot during WW II. We also had several programs to support cadet activities. Tracey Carter (Lt Col, Ret) spoke to approx 50 Civil Air Patrols and later that month I spoke to the AFROTC Leadership Lab at VMI presenting the "AFA 101" briefing and discussing the top AFA issues for 2010. Past president Jim McGuire also

### Upcoming Events

- < 2 Feb - E XCOM in Lexington
- < 10 Feb - Quarterly Dinner
- < 20 Mar— Roanoke Valley JROTC Drill Meet
- < 10 Apr—VMI JROTC Field Day

### Inside this issue:

Guest Speaker bio	2
Community Partners	4
News to Know	3
JROTC News	4
Board Member Info & Websites	5
Dinner Reservation Form	5

### Upcoming AFA Quarterly Meeting

The next AFA Chapter meeting will be **10 February 2010, 6:30pm at the Vinton War Memorial**. The Guest Speaker will be Colonel Daniel P. Conroy, USAF (Ret). He is the Director, USAF F-35 Program, Washington Operations and will be speaking about the development of the newest fighter.

### SEND YOUR DINNER RESERVATION FORM ASAP.

The form is on the back page of this newsletter. Send your reservations and payment by **3 Feb 2010 to Kevin Fuccella (mailing info is on the form)**. Cadet sponsorship information and speaker bio is on page 2.

#### Agenda

- 6:30pm—Social
- 7:00 pm—Welcome/ Business
- 7:15 pm—Dinner
- 8:10pm—Speaker
- 8:45 pm—Final comments
- 9:00 pm —Adjourn

**President's Message continued**

collected 60 sets of BDUs and 10 pairs of combat boots for EC Glass High School JROTC. Finally, we had an active presence in our local communities. Scott Van Cleef spoke to the Charlottesville Aviation Lovers Club in November on "Current AF Issues" and also gave two Veteran's Day presentations to kindergarten and fifth grade students at Greenfield Elementary School in Daleville, VA. We also had two retired Air Force officers lay a wreath at the WWII memorial in downtown Lexington on Veterans Day.

As I discussed in the last newsletter, my biggest goal this year is to expand the opportunities for chapter members to actively participate in our many Chapter activities. For starters, it would be good to see a strong attendance at the next quarterly meeting on 10 February. At this meeting I hope to outline the many activities coming up over the next few months that you might find a way to support. If you have a special interest area, a unique story to tell an eager group of ROTC cadets or civic group, or would just like to be more active in our chapter, please let me know. I look forward to the new decade, and to seeing you at our quarterly meeting next month.



## ***Daniel P. Conroy, Colonel, USAF (Ret)***

**Director**

**USAF F-35 Program**

**Washington Operations**

The guest speaker for the quarterly AFA dinner meeting on 10 Feb will be Colonel Daniel Conroy, USAF (Ret), who is the Director of the USAF F-35 Program, Washington Operations. Colonel Conroy retired from the US Air Force at the rank of Colonel after 30 years service. He was a Command pilot with over 3,000 fighter hours flying the F-4 and F-16. He served as Commandant, USAF Weapons School and during his last active duty assignment he developed USAF requirements for the Joint Strike Fighter while assigned to Air Combat Command at Langley AFB, VA.

Prior to his current job as the F-35 Program Director, he was based in Marietta GA, on the Lockheed Martin Business Development team for the F-22 Raptor. He has been in his present position at Washington Operations since August 2006 as the F-35 business development interface with HQ USAF, the Joint Strike Fighter Program Office, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense.



## News to Know

### AFA Daily Report

<http://www.airforce-magazine.com/subscriptionmanager/Pages/default.aspx>

**AFA Blog.** Issue of interest from AFA  
<http://www.airforceassociation.blogspot.com>

### Contact Elected Officials

<http://www.usa.gov/contact/elected.shtml>

### Defense Accounting and Finance Service.

Stay up to date on pay issues.

<http://www.dfas.mil/>

**Post 9/11 GI Bill.** Provides financial support for education and housing to individuals with at least 90 days of service on or after 11 Sep 2001. <http://www.gibill.va.gov>

## Upcoming AFJROTC Drill Competitions & Events

<b>19 Mar</b>	<b>Air Force Nationals</b>	<b>Macon GA</b>
<b>20 Mar</b>	<b>Roanoke Valley Drill Meet</b>	<b>Franklin Co HS</b>
<b>27 Mar</b>	<b>Mustang Drill Meet</b>	<b>Monticello HS, Charlottesville</b>
<b>10 Apr</b>	<b>VMI Field Day</b>	<b>VMI, Lexington</b>
<b>24 Apr</b>	<b>Virginia AFA State Meet</b>	<b>Atlee HS, Richmond</b>
<b>1-4 May</b>	<b>National HS Drill Championships</b>	<b>Daytona Beach FL</b>
<b>20-26 Jun</b>	<b>MCOLS Summer Leadership School</b>	<b>Concord Univ, WV</b>

## Cadet Sponsorship Program

Through the generosity of our membership, approximately 15-20 high school and college AFROTC cadets typically attend our dinner meetings. If you would like to sponsor all or a part of a cadet's dinner cost, contact Robin Thompson at [dr.robin.thompson@gmail.com](mailto:dr.robin.thompson@gmail.com) or call 540-460-7143. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

## News From William Byrd HS AFJROTC

For the last two years, William Byrd HS AFJROTC cadets have provided security services for Vinton's Enchanted Eve, an alcohol free celebration of the New Year. The cadets braved the subzero temperatures until midnight to ensure all the venues were properly monitored. All the cadets truly exemplified the Air Force's second core value, "Service Before Self," but Cadet 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Daniel Valladarez, Commander of the Color Guard, really went above the call. He showed his colors when asked to don a peacock costume for the finale of the event and he led the processional candlelight parade ceremony to the fireworks at midnight.

The unit is heavily involved in recruiting for the coming year with their numbers down. The unit completed three key recruiting events in January which were critical to reaching the magical 100 cadet number for next year. The school system also approved the unit's request for a "Drill Only Class" for next year which could increase interest with potential new cadets and strengthen an already great drill team!

## News From EC Glass HS AFJROTC

The Glass Guard Drill Team has gotten to a great start again this school year. On Halloween the drill team competed at the Big Orange Drill Classic and came away with a real treat—the American Legion Western Region title. The win qualified the team to compete for the state title in March, but the team elected to allow the runner-up team to go to the state meet since Glass will be competing at the Air Force Nationals in Macon, GA. Glass followed up the Oct win with a first place overall finish at the CD Hylton Bulldog Meet two weeks later, taking 1st in Armed Reg, 2nd in Inspection, and 4th in Color Guard among 16 schools. The team will cap the 2009-2010 school year with a repeat appearance at the National High School Drill Championships at Daytona Beach in May.

The significant accomplishments of the unit were recently recognized during a HHQ unit evaluation conducted on 12 Jan. Col Phillips, Area 1 Administrator, evaluated the unit's finances, curriculum, cadet operations, equipment management, and observed aerospace classes, drill performances during the day-long evaluation. While the unit is still waiting for the report to be reviewed by AFJROTC Headquarters, the cadets and instructors believe the unit has a real good shot at the top "Exceeds Standards" ratings.

Because VA-32 is definitely on the move and going places, the unit just recently purchased a 7' x 16' cargo trailer to haul it all. The trailer will come in handy to move drill equipment and personal gear to the out-of-state meets and camping excursions. Glass should have the logo on the trailer by the time it makes its debut at the Air Force Nationals in March.

### **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 LINKS

AFA National: ([www.afa.org](http://www.afa.org))

Virginia AFA: ([www.virginiaafa.org/VAAFA](http://www.virginiaafa.org/VAAFA))

Roanoke Chapter 285 AFA: ([www.virginiaafa.org/Chap285](http://www.virginiaafa.org/Chap285))

Air Force Association  
Roanoke Chapter 285

Star City of the South

## Roanoke Chapter 285 Officers - Year 2009-2010

<b>President:</b>			
Jim Tubbs	540-463-7024		(CCMstpats@embarqmail.com)
<b>Vice President:</b>			
Robin Thompson	540-460-7143		(dr.robin.thompson@gmail.com)
<b>Secretary:</b>			
Tom Moncure	540-463-9316		(moncuretb@vmi.edu)
<b>Treasurer:</b>			
Kevin Fuccella	540-529-8127		(afa285@comcast.net)
<b>V.P. Aerospace Education:</b>			
Paul Richardson	540-966-4477		(paulthebulldog@aol.com)
<b>VP Membership:</b>			
James H. McGuire***	540-343-7300		(jim.mcguire@rkeng.com)
<b>V.P. for Programming</b>			
Scott Van Cleef *	540-473-8681		(spvancleef@gmail.com)
<b>V.P. Communications:</b>			
John Ree**	540-772-4446		(jree@cox.net)
<b>V.P. Newsletter:</b>			
Jay Thompson	540-460-0608		(jay.thompson.vmi@gmail.com)
<b>V.P. Veterans Affairs:</b>			
Jeff Pruitt	719-325-6262		(jeffrey.pruitt@yahoo.com)
<b>V.P. Special Programs</b>			
George W. McKay	540-365-7208		(gwmckay@hughes.net)*
*National Director    ** State Vice President (West Region)    ***State EXCOM			



VP for Newsletter

Jay Thompson  
120 Serenity Drive  
Glasgow, VA 24555

Phone: 540-460-0608

## Quarterly Roanoke AFA Chapter Dinner Reservation Form Wednesday 10 Feb 2010

Location: Vinton War Memorial 814 E. Washington Street, Vinton, VA 24179

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone. No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Members & Guests = \$23.00    # of dinners: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$23.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cadets = \$18.00    # of dinners: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$18.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Donation for Cadet Sponsorship Program = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Submitted:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations are required. **Please return form and payment by 3 Feb 2010.**

**(Make checks payable to AFA Chapter 285)**

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