

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



Happy New Year All,
I am sure many of you are wondering "Why did I get a paper copy of the chapter newsletter? Well, there are two related reasons. First, we must annually communicate with ALL chapter members via mail or email, so we send email-only newsletters three times a year. But once a year, we send paper copies to every member for which we DO NOT have an email address. Which brings me to the second reason; **we do not have your email address!** Please help us improve the timeliness of our communication and also save on printing costs by

providing us with your email address (see bottom of this page).

I'll wrap with a short synopsis of the chapter accomplishments last quarter.

- (1) Gave a presentation to Greenfield Elementary students.
- (2) Attended the VA Tech commissioning ceremony.
- (3) Spoke about AFA to cadets at VA Tech and VMI.
- (4) Presented perfect fitness score plaque to VA Tech cadets.
- (5) Attended the William Byrd High School drill competition.
- (6) Sponsored three veterans for Operation Holiday Spirit.

Feel free to contact me with any questions about the chapter.

Upcoming Events

- > 21 January 09, 6:30pm- William Byrd H.S. Recognition Ceremony in the W.B.H.S. Cafeteria
- > 4 Feb EXCOM Meeting
- > 7 Feb-AFA State and Chapter Meeting, Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke VA
- > 21 Feb-Joint Service Military Ball—Bassett H.S. (Franklin County H.S. AFJROTC)

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Chapter 285 Quarterly Dinner 7 February

SEND YOUR DINNER RESERVATION FORM ASAP.

We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting the Virginia State AFA quarterly meeting on the same day as our quarterly dinner, 7 February 2009. Our guest speaker is BGen Charles Lyon from Headquarters, USAF—See his biography at <http://www.af.mil/bios/bio.asp?bioID=8309>. Note the **different** location—Hotel Roanoke, 110 Shenandoah Avenue. William Byrd High School AFJROTC will provide the honor guard. Please come out in force so we can show just how great this chapter is. The reservation form is on page three.

Please send your reservations and payment by 4 February to Kevin Fuccella (mailing info is on the form).

State Meeting Schedule

8:00 am—Business
2:00 pm—(Tentative) D-Day Memorial Tour

Chapter Dinner Schedule

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

PLEASE SEND US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

Send an email to: james.mcguire@rkeng.com and dr.robin.thompson@gmail.com.

If you prefer a paper copy of the newsletter, please call Robin Thompson at 540-460-7143.

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 cadets dinner cost, please send contact Jim Tubbs at CCMstpats@embarqmail.com or 540-463-7024. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

Ring, Ring, Ring in the New Year!



In the next few days you should receive a phone call from one of our local AFA representatives. When they call, please set aside a few minutes to talk with him or her. We are attempting to update our local AFA Chapter records with accurate information and would also like to discover your thoughts on how we can become a stronger AFA chapter. We also prefer to send out the quarterly newsletter and Chapter 285 information out to our members via email, so please provide the caller an updated email address.

Volunteers Still Needed

The chapter is still in need of more volunteers for several officer positions. If you can sacrifice just 2-3 hours per month, you can make a vital contribution to the chapter and the community.

Operation Holiday Spirit



Bill Van Thiel (VA Center Administrator), Jim McGuire, and Kevin Fuccella (from Chapter 285)

Jim McGuire, Chapter President, and Kevin Fuccella, Chapter Treasurer, from Roanoke AFA Chapter 285 presented a \$200 check to Bill Van Thiel an Administrator with the VA Veteran's Care Center in Roanoke for Operation Holiday Spirit. The Chapter sponsored three veteran's and the money is used to purchase necessary items for the veteran.

Book Donations

We are still collecting books for distribution to the Veterans Hospital and Veterans Care Center. Bring them to the chapter meeting and give them to George McKay, he will take care of the distribution.



**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:

Kevin Fuccella 540-529-8127 (afa285@comcast.net)

V.P. Aerospace Education:

Paul Richardson 540-966-4477 (paulthebulldog@aol.com)

V.P. for Programming

Scott P. Van Cleef * 540-473-8681 (spvancleef@gmail.com)

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Robin L. Thompson 540-460-7143 (dr.robin.thompson@gmail.com)

V.P. Veterans Affairs:

William T. Harry 540-387-0866 (88harry@comcast.net)

V.P. Special Programs

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

* National Director

** State Vice President (West Region)



VP for Newsletter

Robin Thompson

120 Serenity Drive

Glasgow, VA 24555

Phone: 540-460-7143

Quarterly Virginia AFA Chapter Meeting Reservation Form**Saturday 7 Feb 09 (CUT-OFF DATE: 4 Feb 09)****New Location: Hotel Roanoke, 110 Shenandoah Avenue, Roanoke, VA 24016**

Name: _____ Phone. No: _____

Email address: _____

Menu choice (choose one):

herb crusted chicken or herb crusted beef loin

Members & Guests = \$35.00 # of dinners: _____ X \$35.00 = \$ _____

Cadets = \$27.00 # of dinners: _____ X \$27.00 = \$ _____

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

Donation for Cadet Sponsorship Program = \$ _____

Total Submitted:**\$ _____**

Reservations are required for the meeting. Please return form by 4 Feb 09

(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 Robin L. Thompson, VP Newsletter
120 Serenity Drive
Glasgow, VA 24555

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AFJROTC Drill Competition Schedule

- 17 Jan** Martin Luther King Drill Meet, Richmond, VA (EC Glass H.S. attending)
- 14 Feb** Big Blue Freeze, Bassett HS (Franklin County H.S. attending)
- 7 Mar** Mustang Drill Meet, Charlottesville, VA (EC Glass H.S. attending)
- 28 Mar** Roanoke Valley Drill Competition (EC Glass H.S. & Franklin County H.S. attending)
- 3 Apr** Air Force Nationals Drill Competition, Upper Marlboro, MD (EC Glass H.S. attending)
- 25 Apr** AFA State Championship Drill Meet, Richmond, VA (AFJROTC Teams from across Virginia attending)
- 1-3 May** Junior ROTC Nationals, Daytona Beach, FL (E.C. Glass attending)

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS