



Airfield 858

The newsletter of the Air Force Sergeants Association—Chapter 858 Winter 2003

From the president

Happy Holidays to everyone! All in all I think Chapter 858 has had a good year. We participated in many events, we gained approximately 76 new members and we have money in the bank. Who could ask for anything more? Thanks to all my helpers!

Thanks to Tech. Sgt. William Cox for volunteering to be our Membership Retention Trustee, with the help of his wife, Julie. Bill is a reservist with the 934th Security Forces Squadron. They have already sent out over 50 letters and are doing a great job.

I also want to thank our Vice President, Doug Altrichter, for filling in until someone stepped forward. Thanks to his efforts, we've already retained 66 members this year (May-Nov.). I have asked Doug to work on developing our awards program until we find someone interested in being our Awards Trustee. Let me know if you're interested. And I'm still looking for a Guardsman to be the ANG Legislative Trustee. Anyone interested should contact me at (612) 330-7193.

Looking out for you

AFSA represents the interests of past, present and future military personnel. The association lobbies on behalf of its members for pay raises, cost-of-living increases, and many other benefits, including reducing the retirement age to 55. AFSA also offers member benefits in health, travel and insurance discounts, scholarships and access to a federal credit union. Taking advantage of one of these discounts can pay for your membership. Plus it's a great way to meet new people and to support an organization that supports you.

Guard, Reserve retirement age update

Last year, over 160 congressmen signed on as co-sponsors of H.R. 3831. The author of H.R. 3831, Representative Jim Saxton, R-NJ, will resubmit this bill early next month; it will be assigned a new bill number. Senator Jon Corzine, D-NJ, sponsor of the Senate companion bill, S. 2250, is expected to follow suit.

AFSA will focus on recapturing past supporters as well as gaining new ones. A few more co-sponsors are expected to generate hearings on this issue, which would be a major step towards the inclusion of this



provision in the FY 2004 defense bill.

This is an excellent opportunity where you can help shape legislation by speaking out. As AFSA prepares for the start of the 108th Congress, let your elected officials know where you stand on this important issue.

For an update on other pending legislative issues, visit our website at

<http://afsa858.home.att.net>.

To identify and get contact information for your representative in the U. S. House and Senate, go to <http://www.visi.com/juan/congress/ziptoit.html>.

Joint AFSA, AFA awards dinner successful

The Air Force Sergeants Association and the Air Force Association Joint Annual Awards Dinner was held Nov. 2nd, and was very successful. As a result of our great turn out, our cost this year was only \$75.00, compared to \$225.00 last year.

We had approximately 50 AFSA and 60 AFA members attend this year. Mark and Lin Davidson were presented with plaques for their outstanding sup-

port to Chapter 858 over the years.

My only regret was that we didn't take the opportunity to honor our AFSA Division 8 awardees: Chief Master Sgt Tom Foss was named Volunteer Service Person and Senior Master Sgt Dave Hammer, our Chapter Webmaster, is responsible for our Website being named Web Site of the Year Runner Up. Sorry guys ☹ I'll know better next year.

Next Chapter membership/trustee meeting

Thanks to Col. Terry Tripp, the new 133rd ANG Wing Commander, we will hold our next membership meeting during the January ANG weekend, Saturday, Jan. 18th, 2003, at 4:00 pm, in the 133rd Airlift Wing Headquarters Building, in the Wing Commander's Conference Room.

Refreshments will be provided, however there will be no beer during this meeting. ☹

Among other things, we will be electing a chapter president during this meeting. If you are interested in running, or would like to nominate someone, please be sure to attend.

Remember that your vote is your voice and all votes count, so please be sure to attend.



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Air Force Sergeant's Assoc. Chapter 858
Vicky Kuntz-President
760 Military Highway
Mpls/St. Paul IAP ARS, MN 55450-2100

Air Force Sergeants Association
Chapter 858

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Officers

President – Vicky Kuntz
Vice President – Doug Altrichter
Secretary - Sherrill Beecher
Treasurer - Patty Boettner

Trustees

934th Legislative Trustee –
Richard Grewe
ANG Affairs Trustee - Dave Himmer
Boy Scout Trustee and Webmaster -
Dave Hammer
Membership Trustee - Mark Davidson
Membership Retention Trustee -
William Cox
Senior Advisor – Lin Davidson
Veterans Trustee – Tom Foss
Trustee - Clayton Pyle
Trustee - Thomas O'Keefe

Auxiliary Chapter:

President – Becky Borgarduf
Vice President - Rose Hill
Secretary/Treasurer – Fern Schneider

Airfield 858 Editor:
RJ Bruno

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AFSA little update bits and pieces

Dome Night is a grand slam

Our dome night fundraiser, held Sept. 26th was very successful. We had 23 people participate, including the 934th Wing Commander, Col. Gary Cook, and earned over \$1,300. Everybody worked hard, but I think everyone would agree that it was fun as well.



This is a great way to raise money, so we will definitely have another one sometime this spring or summer.

Newsletter mailing costs

Thanks to member and former president, Master Sgt Al Eakle, for suggesting a publishing company that we could use to mail our quarterly newsletter to members.

As a result, we will be saving approximately \$200 per mailing. Good job Al!



St. Paul Veteran's Home

We've had several members volunteer their time helping out at the Veteran's Home in St Paul. Several of our

members accompanied residents to the Minnesota State Fair, while others regularly visit residents or help in other ways such as grilling burgers and dogs and wrapping gifts.

If you would like to get involved in this activity, please call our Veteran's Trustee, Chief Master Sgt Tom Foss at (612) 713-1718.

New membership rates

Don't forget that the new membership rates are now in effect.

The new annual rates are \$25 for AFSA and \$16 for the Auxiliary. Refer to the fall newsletter for new rates for longer terms or give me a call at (612) 330-7193.

934th AW Family Day

A big thanks to all the volunteers who worked at the sno-cone and popcorn booths at the 934th Family Day event.

It was a pretty warm day so the Auxiliary ladies were very busy at the sno-cone booth. They gave away approximately 900 sno-cones. The popcorn also proved to be a great treat.



Thanks to everyone who helped.

Next meeting is Saturday, Jan. 18, 4:00 pm ,at the 133 Airlift Wing Headquarters, Conference Room. Refreshments will be provided.