



The **Retrospect**

Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 615

Volume 23, Issue 3

The Leon Donnelly Chapter

Jul 07- Sept 07

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

CMSgt Jeff Ledoux (RET)

This has been a very busy quarter for Chapter 615 and without your support we would not have achieved the level of success we sought. This past quarter we held our annual Spring Picnic and were involved in activities ranging from cleaning cemetery gravestones, painting a house at Paint your Heart Out, Adopt a Road clean-up, and Memorial Day activities. In addition, we participated in several last minute socials and pool parties that allowed us to enjoy each others company. Our chapter is a success because of our active membership and the financial success we achieve through Bingo. One particular issue I'm really proud of is our ability to help others when the need arises. Whether it's helping a airman in need, making contributions to local charities, helping children go to camp, or helping our division and other chapters you are always there to pitch in a hand. Thank you for all you do each and every day.

If you want to become involved in one of the best chapters in AFSA, come to one of our meetings and check us out.

Be sure to visit the Chapter Website for updates between newsletters at: <http://www.afsachapter615.org>

AUXILIARY NEWS

Lisa Byrd, Aux. President

Hi everyone! I hope that you all are enjoying your summer and being safe.

Volunteer opportunities: We have Bingo every Friday evening at the Veteran's Bingo Hall located behind Hong Kong City in Shreveport. We'll also be hosting Bingo at the following two Nursing Homes and you are welcome to come on out to assist. Colonial Oaks Nursing Home bingo it is on the 2nd Monday at 2:00 and Riverview Nursing Home is on the 3rd Tuesday at 2:00. The Nursing Home residents always look forward to the special events and seeing new faces. For directions please contact Libby Swanson at 949-1937.

Don't forget we have our monthly AFSA meeting the last Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. at the Stripes Club. We have a few members who will be attending the AFSA International Convention in August at Orlando Florida. We will be learning new updates and meeting with friends. If you have any issues you want addressed, please let me know. Also, please keep in your prayers and thoughts a few of our Auxiliary members who are sick: Ann Rouse, Doris Yadon and Doris Shogren.

In closing, take care of yourselves and remember to stay safe during the rest of the hot summer days. See you at our next function...

AFSA 615 and ITS MEMBERS GIVE WORLDWIDE!!!



Chief Master Sergeant Jeffrey Melahn, 2nd Security Forces Squadron First Sergeant, and SMSgt Elizabeth Melahn, 2nd LRS deployed to Afghanistan as an Embedded Training Team Supply Mentor made a generous donation of \$1200.00 to purchase 1500 liters of fuel for the poor and widowed woman of Afghanistan on 10 January 2007. This sparked a Pay it Forward affect with **AFSA Chapter 615 donating \$2000.00**, Carole Barton of Langley AFB Virginia donating \$500.00, Jim Roby of Wright-Patterson AFB Ohio, donating \$200.00, Roen Stowell of Camp Phoenix Afghanistan, donating \$100.00, and Chief and SMSgt Melahn donating another \$400.00 for a second fuel distribution of 4000 liters on 8 March 2007. This provided 400 women and men with 10 liters of fuel. The fuel serves many purposes such as fuel for heating, cooking and lighting. The winter months in Afghanistan can be brutal and thanks to the generous contributions many women and men slept a little warmer on those cold winter nights. So many times all you see, and hear, on the news is all the bad things going on in Iraq and Afghanistan. It is so nice to hear about the good things that people are doing. What a GREAT! Humanitarian story. This single act of random kindness made a lasting impression on the people of Afghanistan where the average monthly income is only \$40.00. Hats off to **Chapter 615 of Barksdale AFB**, Carole Barton, Jim Roby, Roen Stowell, and Chief and SMSgt Melahn for giving so generously so others could live a little better. There is a quote by Mahatma Ghandi... ***"I shall pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."***

GOLF TOURNAMENT September 8th Fox Run Golf Course, BAFB

PROGRAMS

CMSgt Jeff Melahn

Roadside clean-up was held each month April- June 07. Participation continues to increase. Thanks for the support! The activity takes less than an hour, typically the first Saturday (unless it's a holiday weekend, then it would be the second Saturday). We meet at Ellis Pottery on Airline Drive at 0845 and typically go to Beams afterwards for breakfast.

Charity Golf Tournament –We will be looking for volunteers for the event. In addition we need volunteers to visit their local establishments for donation support. There's still time, if you are associated or know of a business/company that would be interested in supporting us let me know and I can get you a copy of the request. Sponsorship will be recognized as follows: \$100.00 – sign at the tee box area, \$50.00 - on the official scoreboard in the clubhouse and on the scorecard. If would like to assist in obtaining donations email me at jeffreymelahn@bellouth.net and I will send you our letter of request. These letters will also be available at all General Membership meetings up to the event.

Veteran's Cemetery Clean-up--This project took 2 Saturdays and lots of manual labor. It was all worth it. Over 600 headstones were cleaned and about 300 were reset and straightened. The first Saturday had 9 volunteers and we came on strong the 2nd Saturday with 40 volunteers and finished the project in time for the Memorial Day Ceremony. Thanks to 2nd Services Outdoor recreation for providing a 50% discount on power sprayer and all the volunteers that participated.

DID YOU KNOW

When Chapters recruit more members it helps the chapters by providing:

- More volunteers for chapter activities;
- More influence in state and local legislature;
- More support and new ideas for chapters and AFSA;
- More impact for community and charitable programs;
- And, more local publicity because of your group's strength and the ability to get things done as a team.

Challenge is to recruit one member, also don't forget about the Auxiliary! Non-military spouse and family are eligible!!!!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Be sure to visit the Chapter Website for updates between newsletters at: <http://www.afsachapter615.org>. OR you can email me at jeffreymelahn@bellsouth.net or call 965-0260

INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATIVE TRUSTEE'S TIDBITS

Debby Oesterreich

Hi Members,
I have been on the road a lot this spring, so I apologize for not being so active. I just wanted to say have a happy summer and enjoy yourself. I hope a lot of you are attending the International Convention in Orlando. We have a good legislative platform for you to approve and the meetings are sometimes long but very informative. The training at conventions is vital to the support of AFSA so please get as many members from your Chapter to attend as possible. Take care and see you in Orlando.

RETIREE NEWS!!!

From your VSO, CMSgt Harold Swanson (RET)

The Grand Opening for the North West Louisiana War Veterans Home and the Northwest Louisiana Veterans Cemetery will be held in late July or early August. Be watching the local news, newspaper, or our website for more details. These facilities are open to veterans, for the Home, you must have been on active duty during a time of War; to be interred in the cemetery you must not have been separated with a dishonorable discharge.

AWARDS

MSgt David K. Johnson

Every year this chapter bestows certificates, awards, and funds to support our active duty, guard, and reserve family as well as maintain the growth and development of our student achievers through AFJROTC awards and scholarships.

We recognized the following Airman of the Month award winners: April - SrA Charles Washington, 2d Operations Support Squadron; May - SrA Rachael Williams, 2d Communications Squadron; and June - A1C Sean Cea, 608th Air Communications Squadron.

Chapter 615 also supported the 2d Bomb Wing and 917th Wing quarterly recognition programs. The following enlisted members were recognized: Airmen Category - A1C Thomas Jones III, 2d Medical Support Squadron and SrA Shawn Stoute, 917th Medical Squadron; NCO Category - TSgt Damon Hall, 49th Test and Evaluation Squadron and SSgt Dustin Underwood, 917th Maintenance Squadron; Senior NCO Category - SMSgt Terry Tinsley, 2d Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; First Sgt Category - MSgt Charles Proffitt Jr., 2d Mission Support Squadron; and Honor Guard Member – SrA Shane Ross, 2d Security Forces Squadron.

Our future also looks bright largely due to the dedication of high school AFJROTC instructors! We recognized the hard work of cadets Jerry Emerson and Jake Mauk from Arkansas Senior High School and Joseph Stakes and Lashondra Worsham from Airline High School. Each received an AFJROTC certificate and a medal.

The Airman Leadership School has been active churning out more leaders. Our Chapter is pleased to sponsor the Distinguished Graduate awards program where we recognized SSgt Alberto Gonzalez, 2d Maintenance Squadron, SrA Jose Jimenez-Leon, 2d Maintenance Squadron, and SrA Aaron Nikula, 49th Test and Evaluation Squadron. Our enlisted men and women continue to strive for the stars in pursuit of higher educational goals. We supported the Barksdale Community College of the Air Force graduation ceremony where 26 received their Associates Degrees. Finally, five outstanding students were recognized in our scholarship program and each received a \$500 scholarship:

Ms. Alexis Cain, Louisiana Technical University; Ms. Elizabeth Drobina, Louisiana Technical University; Mr. Chauncey Jolivet, Louisiana State University; Ms. Tatianna Longstratt, Louisiana State University in Shreveport; and Mr. Brian Ledoux, Louisiana Technical University.

Chapter 615 spent more than \$5000 supporting these and other Americanism programs these last few months!



Calendar of Events

**AFSA
General
Membership
And Auxiliary
Meeting**

**Last Tuesday of
each Month
1800 Hrs.**

**@
Barksdale AFB
Stripes Club**

**Bingo
Every Friday
1700 Hrs.
@
Veteran's Bingo
Parlor
868-4170
Shreveport-
Barksdale Hwy**

**Mark Your Calendars!!!
Important Upcoming Events**



**18-22 AUG 07
AFSA
INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE—
ORLANDO , FL**

**8 SEPT 07
20th ANNUAL
CHARITY GOLF
TOURNAMENT.**



Date	Time	Event	Place
JUL 20	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
JUL 21	1700	BIRTHDAY DINNER	TBA
JUL 24	1700	AFSA EXC BRD MTG	STRIPES CLUB
JUL 26		VA CAKES	VA HOSPITAL
JUL 26	1800	AFSA AUX EXC BRD MTG	LISA'S HOUSE
JUL 27	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
JUL 31	1800	AFSA MEMBERSHIP MTG	STRIPES CLUB
AUG 3	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
AUG 10	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
AUG 11	0845	ROAD CLEAN-UP	ELLIS POTTERY AIRLINE DR.
AUG 13	1400	COLONIAL OAKS BINGO	COLONIAL OAKS NH
AUG 17	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
AUG 18	1700	BIRTHDAY DINNER	TBA
AUG 18-22		AFSA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE	ORLANDO, FLORIDA
AUG 21	1400	RIVERVIEW BINGO	RIVERVIEW NH
AUG 21	1700	AFSA EXC BRD MTG	STRIPES CLUB
AUG 23	1800	AFSA AUX EXC BRD MTG	LISA'S HOUSE
AUG 24	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
AUG 28	1800	AFSA MEMBERSHIP MTG	STRIPES CLUB
AUG 30		VA CAKES	VA HOSPITAL
AUG 31	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
SEP 7	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
SEP 8	0800	20TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT	FOX RUN GOLF COURSE, BAFB
SEP 10	1400	COLONIAL OAKS BINGO	COLONIAL OAKS NH
SEP 14	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
SEP 15	0845	ROAD CLEAN-UP	ELLIS POTTERY AIRLINE DR
SEP 15	1700	BIRTHDAY DINNER	TBA
SEP 18	1400	RIVERVIEW BINGO	RIVERVIEW NH
SEP 18	1700	AFSA EXC BRD MTG	STRIPES CLUB
SEP 20	1800	AFSA AUX EXC BRD MTG	LISA'S HOUSE
SEP 21	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
SEP 25	1900	AFSA MEMBERSHIP MTG	STRIPES CLUB
SEP 27		VA CAKES	VA HOSPITAL
SEP 28	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
OCT 5	1700	BINGO	VETERAN'S BINGO PARLOR
OCT 6	0845	ROAD CLEAN-UP	ELLIS POTTERY AIRLINE DR
OCT 8	1400	COLONIAL OAKS BINGO	COLONIAL OAKS NH



The Leon Donnelly Chapter

AFSA CHAPTER 615
P.O. BOX 306
Barksdale AFB, LA
71110

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20TH ANNUAL FALL CLASSIC CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

20th Annual Fall Classic Charity Golf Tournament 8 Sept 2007. Select shot 0800 shotgun start tournament open to all DOD personnel, active duty, reserve, retirees & guest **entry fee is \$17.00** per-person plus green fees & cart. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place teams and for longest, most accurate drive and closest to the hole all proceeds go to charity. **Greens fees:** E-1 to E-4 \$9.75, E-5 to E-7/GS1-7 \$13:00, E-8/GS8+ \$17.00, guests \$24.00, golf cart \$9.00, trail fee (your cart) \$9.00 **MEAL AND DRINKS PROVIDED**, cut off date – 1600 ---31 Aug 2007. . All proceeds will go to Santa's in Blue and Operation Warm Heart. For more information call: Harold Swanson 949-1937, Don Beasley 868-4170, Wenzel Oesterreich 949-5778 or Jeff Melahn 456-2347.

