At the Air Force Anniversary dinner, AFA celebrated the 50th anniversary of its Outstanding Airmen of the Year program. Here, Outstanding Airmen past and present gather on stage for a lengthy standing ovation.
The Air Force Association’s annual National Convention and Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition, held Sept. 22 through 27 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C., celebrated AFA’s six decades of existence and its 50-year history of bestowing the outstanding enlisted airmen award. It was a week in which the national headquarters building was rededicated, and participants got a “first look” tour of the new Air Force Memorial.

On Friday evening, Sept. 22, AFA
hosted the ceremony rededicating its newly renovated national headquarters building, followed by a reception. About 100 guests, including delegates and AFA officials, attended. The rededication featured the unveiling of a plaque paying tribute to Gen. Jimmy Doolittle, who pioneered the establishment of a national association to support the United States Air Force; Gen. Russell E. Dougherty, who envisioned a national headquarters building for AFA; and national officers, past and present, who supported and sustained AFA’s ownership. The plaque, which marks the building’s entrance, reads in part: “This building stands as a permanent reminder that the Air Force Association is still on the job—working to maintain the kind of aerospace power required to ensure the freedom of future generations of Americans.”

Assisting AFA Chairman of the Board Stephen P. “Pat” Condon was former AFA Chairman of the Board David L. Blankenship, who was AFA’s National President at the time the building was first dedicated in 1984.

For the second year in a row, AFA hosted students from USAF’s Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., at the Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition. The Class of 2007, all 587 students, attended the workshops, speeches, and briefings. Their participation was made possible by a grant to AFA from Boeing. Accompanied by faculty members, the students arrived Sunday, Sept. 24, and stayed through Wednesday, Sept. 27. They became acquainted with...
with AFA, met with current USAF leaders, and conversed with defense and aerospace industry representatives and executives. They also attended panels and seminars and visited the various exhibits at the Technology Exposition.

The students were joined by more than 1,250 attendees registered for the Air & Space Conference, along with hundreds of AFA members and delegates who gathered on Saturday and Sunday to participate in the AFA National Convention preceding the Air & Space Conference.

Many delegates, conference attendees, and ACSC students attended a memorial service on Sunday at the hotel. Donald J. Harlin, AFA National Chaplain, officiated. He gave the invocation, offered a message highlighting the new Air Force Memorial, and concluded with a closing prayer. AFA Chairman of the Board Condon, and National President Robert E. “Bob” Largent read the 2006 Memorial Tribute List. After the service, many boarded chartered buses for an Air Force Memorial tour, conducted by Memorial Foundation President Maj. Gen. Edward F. Grillo Jr., USAF (Ret.). Following a tour of the memorial, attendees visited the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War memorials.

Gen. T. Michael Moseley, Air Force Chief of Staff, welcomed delegates, Air Force attendees, and members of industry at the conference opening on Monday morning, Sept. 25. The opening ceremony also featured a video highlighting 60 years of AFA service and accomplishments as “The Force Behind the Force.” Later that evening, AFA honored the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year, with an address by Gen. John D.W. Corley, vice chief of staff. CMSAF Rodney J. McKinley was toastmaster. The next day, Tuesday, Sept. 26, the Outstanding Airmen met with their Congressional representatives on Capitol Hill.

Tuesday evening’s festivities began with a reception, underwritten by a donation from Lockheed Martin. At the Air Force Anniversary Dinner following the reception, AFA honored retired Gen. Lance W. Lord, former commander of Air Force Space Command, with the H.H. Arnold Award, in recognition of the year’s most significant contribution to national security.

Ronald D. Sugar, chairman and CEO, Northrop Grumman, was honored with the John R. Alison Award for industrial contributions to the nation’s security.

AFA officials also thanked members of the aerospace industry for their support of the Air Force Memorial, set to be officially dedicated Oct. 14.

To mark the 50th anniversary of AFA’s Outstanding Airmen program, 90 award recipients, representing each of the five decades, were honored on stage during the evening. The honorees reciprocated by presenting a plaque to Condon, as well as to AFA, in gratitude for the association’s support of the program, which has honored 715 distinguished enlisted airmen during the last half-century. Largent also received a thank you gift of USAF artwork from Moseley.

A birthday cake celebrating AFA’s 60th year was cut and served to guests. A musical presentation narrated by Tim White, and featuring the singer Andy Childs, rounded out the evening.

At the National Convention, there were 252 registered delegates rep-
resenting 45 states, the District of Columbia, and the European area. The Air & Space Conference’s Technology Exposition drew some 6,850 attendees and 85 news media representatives.

Holding meetings were trustees of the Air Force Memorial Foundation. Also meeting were the Air Force’s Air National Guard Council, Civilian Advisory Council, Company Grade Officer Council, Enlisted Council, and Reserve Advisory Council. The conference marked the 50th anniversary of these councils: In 1956, then Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Nathan F. Twining met with association members to establish the advisory councils to provide Air Force and association leaders with input on issues of importance.

Over the years, many former council members have gone on to assume senior leadership positions in the Air Force. At the joint council meeting, Gen. Lloyd W. “Fig” Newton, USAF (Ret.), representing all former council members, spoke about his tenure on the Company Grade Council and how it influenced his Air Force career.

**Election of Officers**

Robert E. “Bob” Largent, Harrison, Ark., was elected Chairman of the Board for a first term. Joseph E. Sutter, Knoxville, Tenn., was elected National President, for a first term. Judy K. Church, Lenexa, Kan., was elected National Secretary for a first term, and Steven R. Lundgren, Fairbanks, Alaska, was re-elected National Treasurer for a second term.
Pursuant to changes in AFA’s governance structure approved by the delegates (see “Other AFA Business”), Sutter on Oct. 1 assumed the title of Vice Chairman of the Board, Field Operations, and L. Boyd Anderson, who was serving as Vice Chairman of the Board, became the Vice Chairman of the Board, Aerospace Education.

**Other Elections**

Elected to the Board of Directors for three-year terms were Dennis R. Davoren, Woodland, Calif., James Hannam, Burke, Va., Buster Horlen, San Antonio, Texas, Charles A. Nelson, Sioux Falls, S.D., Paul W. Schowalter, Hickory, N.C. (at large), and Charles P. Zimkas Jr., Colorado Springs, Colo.

Five new Region Presidents were elected. Newly elected are Marvin L. Tooman (Midwest Region), Michael J. Peters (Far West Region), Maxine Donnelly, (Northeast Region), Leonard Vernamonti (South Central Region), and Edward W. Garland (Texoma Region).

For a complete list of AFA National Directors and Region Presidents, including those re-elected, see “This Is AFA,” p. 76, and “Field Contacts,” p. 103.

**Other AFA Business**

AFA delegates ratified transition documents approved earlier by the Board of Directors at their December 2005 and February 2006 meetings that were necessary to merge AFA and the Aerospace Education Foundation into a single organization and to create the AFA Veteran Benefits Association (AFAVBA). (These changes took effect April 1, 2006.) These included an AFA Transition Constitution, an AFA Operations and Procedures Manual, and an AFAVBA Constitution. This was a necessary first step to considering a more permanent governance structure.

Delegates also ratified a permanent-governance-structure AFA Constitution and Operations and Procedures Manual. The new structure is to be phased in over a number of years. Among its more important features are the following: It reduces the size of the Board of Directors; establishes a Field Council to function in a similar manner to the Aerospace Education Council set up by the transition documents; and realigns titles and responsibilities of the national officers. In addition to the Oct. 1 elected officer title changes noted above, the Executive Director assumes the title of President.

Delegates also approved changes to the way the AFA Nominating Committee is constituted and functions. The new procedures are to be phased in over a number of years, parallel to the board phase-in schedule, and require some further approvals by the board and delegates. The first steps, however, will be taken during the 2006-07 operating year.

Other actions included directing the newly created Field Council to develop ways to streamline the AFA field organizations and to monitor several administrative changes approved by the delegates to be incorporated into the operating policy for field units.

**Congressional Activity**

AFA state delegations sponsored 14 Congressional Breakfasts on Tuesday, with 44 members of Congress participating. Among them were Sen. John Cornyn (R-Tex.), Sen. James Talent (R-Mo.), and Sen. John R. Thune (R-S.D.), members of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee attending the breakfasts included Sen. Wayne Allard...


Other Senators attending the breakfasts included: Sen. Max Baucus (D-Mont.), Sen. John DeMint (R-S.C.), Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), and Sen. Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.).


Gen. Kevin P. Chilton, commander of Air Force Space Command, attended the Montana breakfast.

AFA Education Awards

Videos on the theme of “How Skills Learned in Air Force ROTC Build Character and Better Citizens” competed for AFA’s annual Jimmy Stewart Aerospace Education Award. The winning entry, from AFJROTC Unit VA-20011 at Franklin County High School, Rocky Mount, Va., explored the role that the Air Force core values of integrity, service, and excellence play in forming effective AFROTC cadets, and the effects of that development on their collegiate and post-collegiate life.

Susan Rippe, from Olathe, Kan., won AFA’s National Teacher of the Year Christa McAuliffe Memorial Award as the year’s outstanding teacher of aerospace science, mathematics, or computer science.

Acknowledgements

Parliamentarian for the AFA National Convention was Joan L. Blanekenship. Inspectors of Elections were Robert Rutledge (Chairman), William R. Goerges, and James W. Simons. Lynn Morley chaired the Credentials Committee, serving with Joan Sell and Patricia J. Snyder.

The association is particularly grateful to a corps of volunteers who assisted the staff in convention support: Jason R. Baseil, Cecil G. Brendle, Molly Mae E. Potter, Charlie Tippett, Leola Wall, and 2nd Lt. Robert Wray.

Susan Rippe of Olathe Northwest High School in Olathe, Kan., received the Christa McAuliffe Memorial Award as AFA’s National Teacher of the Year.
Air Force Councils

Air National Guard Council

Lt. Gen. David B. Poythress (Chair)
CMSgt. Lori Ashness
Capt. Robert T. Botkin
CMSgt. Kevin M. Gadd
CMSgt. Michael W. Meyer
Lt. Col. Craig A. Noll
Brig. Gen. Charles V. Ickes II (Advisor)
Lt. Col. Randy D. Johnson (Liaison)

Civilian Advisory Council

Jeffrey C. Allen (Acting Chair)
Sheila Barboza
James Hamilton
Laura L. Loflin
Ray Pablionia
Sharon B. Seymour
Karen Thomas
James H. Carllock Jr. (Liaison)

Company Grade Officers Council

Capt. Christopher Raines (Chair)
Capt. Alonzo Bray
Capt. Jason Calhoun
Capt. Mary Carnes
Capt. Eric Crowell
Capt. Tammy Haley
Lt. Manny Hauck
Capt. Robert Jackson
1st Lt. Joshua Logie
Capt. Marc Meyer
Capt. Megan Schafer
Capt. Joshua Zaker
Brig. Gen. K.C. McClain (Advisor)

Enlisted Council

CMSgt. Trenda L. Voegtle (Chair)
SSgt. Timothy A. Bishop
SrA. Polly-Jan Bobseine
SSgt. Daniel F. Dierickx
SSgt. Jeffrey M. Hansen
SMSgt. Michael T. Lemke
SMSgt. Henry Parker III
SrA. Eric J. Pena
SSgt. David L. Plachno
MSGt. Bradley T. Reilly
SSgt. Elizabeth E. Sewell
TSGt. Billy D. Tramel Jr.
MSGt. Renee L. Williams
MSGt. Michael E. Harris (Liaison)

Reserve Advisory Council

Brig. Gen. Wallace W. Farris Jr. (Chair)
Capt. Melanie Davis
CMSgt. Alan Gingras
SSgt. Dominique Hogan
SMSgt. Phyllis Joyner
Capt. Jennifer Kowalski
Maj. Robert Palmer
SMSgt. Anthony Rittwager
Col. John C. Silvia III
Lt. Col. Raymond Stuermer
Lt. Col. Meleah Whetstone
SrA. Kris Winder
CMSgt. Valerie Barnes (Liaison)
Wayne Gracie (Advisor)
Col. Michael LoGrande (Advisor)

Veterans/Retiree Council

Walter S. Hogle Jr. (Chair)
Gloria J. Crawford
Richard E. Fitzhugh
David A. Guzman
Charles E. Lucas
Jimmy L. Miller
John T. Park
Robert E. Patterson
Elia T. Vasilopoulos
## National Aerospace Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFA’s highest honor in national security</td>
<td>(no presentation this year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to a member of the armed forces</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W. Stuart Symington Award</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ronald D. Sugar</strong>, Chairman and CEO, Northrop Grumman, Los Angeles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFA’s highest honor in national security</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to a civilian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>John R. Alison Award</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFA’s highest honor for industrial</td>
<td><strong>James Ingo Freed</strong> (posthumously), Pei Cobb Freed &amp; Partners, New York, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leadership</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>David C. Schilling Award</strong></td>
<td><strong>Scott Crossfield</strong> (posthumously), Herndon, Va.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding contribution in flight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Theodore von Karman Award</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lt. Col. Maurice McDonald</strong>, 3rd Logistics Readiness Sq., Elmendorf AFB, Alaska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding contribution in science and engineering</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gill Robb Wilson Award</strong></td>
<td><strong>Alan Sumitomo</strong>, National Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding contribution in arts and letters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hoyt S. Vandenberg Award</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding contribution in aerospace</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thomas P. Gerrity Award</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding contribution in logistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Veterans Affairs</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employee of the Year</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sen. Ted Stevens Leadership Award</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**At the Air Force Memorial site, AFA Chairman of the Board Pat Condon (left) thanks Jack Metzler, Arlington National Cemetery superintendent, for his past support of AFA’s annual Memorial Service. At right is AFA Chaplain Donald Harlin.**

**Gen. Lance Lord**, who retired in April after 37 years of active service, received the H.H. Arnold Award for ushering in a new generation of space professionals supporting joint combat forces.

**USAFA Outstanding Squadron**

Cadet Squadron 9  
**“Viking 9”**  
Fall Cadet Commander  
Cadet 1st Class Andrew Gray  
Spring Cadet Commander  
Cadet 1st Class Hunter Grunden
## Crew Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airborne Battle Management Crew</td>
<td>Crew Two, Joint STARS, 16th Expeditionary Air Command &amp; Control Sq., Robins AFB, Ga.</td>
<td>Best airborne battle management crew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lt. Gen. Claire L. Chennault Award</td>
<td>Capt. David J. Berkland, 4th Fighter Sq., Hill AFB, Utah</td>
<td>Best aerial warfare tactician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brig. Gen. Ross G. Hoyt Award</td>
<td>Crew of Guts 31, 8th Special Operations Sq., Eglin AFB, Fla.</td>
<td>Best air refueling crew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen. Curtis E. LeMay Award</td>
<td>Crew of DOOM 02, 9th Expeditionary Bomb Sq., 7th Bomb Wing, Dyess AFB, Tex.</td>
<td>Best bomber aircrew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen. Jerome F. O'Malley Award</td>
<td>Crew of Guss 01, 488th Intell Sq., USAFE; 343rd Recon Sq., 97th Intell Sq., 55th Ops Gp., Offutt AFB, Neb.</td>
<td>Best reconnaissance crew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space Operations Award</td>
<td>STS-114 Return to Flight Crew, 45th Space Wing, Patrick AFB, Fla.</td>
<td>Best space operations crew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lt. Gen. William H. Tunner Award</td>
<td>Crew of Talon 04, 15th Special Operations Sq., Hurlburt Field, Fla.</td>
<td>Best airlift aircrew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAF Test &amp; Evaluation Team of the Year</td>
<td>Multi Aircraft Control Ground Control Station Test Team, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio</td>
<td>Best test team</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Professional, Civilian, and Educational Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul W. Myers Award for Physicians</td>
<td>Lt. Col. David L. Smith, Lackland AFB, Tex.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verne Orr Award for Human Resources</td>
<td>50th Operations Support Sq., Schriever AFB, Colo.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuart R. Reichart Award for Lawyers</td>
<td>James W. Russell III, Bolling AFB, D.C.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Manager of the Year</td>
<td>Capt. Casey J. Vile, Spangdahlem AB, Germany</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civilian Wage Employee of the Year</td>
<td>Michael E. Hartsfield, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civilian Program Specialist of the Year</td>
<td>Kathryn A. Burge, Vance AFB, Okla.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civilian Program Manager of the Year</td>
<td>William H. Grozdanich, Lackland AFB, Tex.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civilian Senior Manager of the Year</td>
<td>Monique F. Botting, Langley AFB, Va.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFROTC Cadet of the Year</td>
<td>Patrick D. O’Dell, University of Oklahoma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAP Aerospace Education Cadet of the Year</td>
<td>Haley Blevins, Lexington Park, Md.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joan Orr Award for Air Force Spouse of the Year</td>
<td>Doris M. Lankford, Holloman AFB, N.M.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force Chaplain Service Award</td>
<td>SSgt. Daniel T. Krautheim, Lackland AFB, Tex.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christa McAuliffe Memorial Award for Teachers</td>
<td>Susan Rippe, Olathe, Kan.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy Stewart Aerospace Education Award</td>
<td>VA-20011 Unit, Franklin County High School, Rocky Mount, Va.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## USAF Team of the Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SrA. John J. Hitchens</td>
<td>375th Services Sq., Scott AFB, Ill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1C Ashley N. Sakurai</td>
<td>35th Services Sq., Misawa AB, Japan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Citations of Honor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recipients</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8th Special Operations Sq., Eglin AFB, Fla. (AFSOC)</td>
<td>Deployed MC-130Es and their crews to four separate missions in Southwest Asia, Gulf Coast, and Latin America. Transported Iraqi military leaders to combat zone. In orbit off Mississippi coast, refueled search and rescue aircraft for Hurricane Katrina victims. Trained Peruvian paratroops in high-altitude, low-opening operations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSgt. Jason L. Graves, 8th Information Warfare Flt., Barksdale AFB, La. (ACC)</td>
<td>First enlisted airman assigned to Marine Camp Fallujah, Iraq. Created targeting information operation plans and briefed senior Marine leadership. Managed the redesign of the special technical operations facility. Provided training for USAF air and space expeditionary force follow-on deployment forces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugenio G. Pino, Peterson AFB, Colo. (NORAD-USNORTHCOM)</td>
<td>Spearheaded a network of military, federal, and civilian academic institutions to support education in homeland defense and security. Wrote a brief on US Northern Command’s wartime missions. Wove lessons learned from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita into national civil support exercise Ardent Sentry 2005.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David K. Russell, SATCOM Operations Manager, Offutt AFB, Neb. (USSTRATCOM)</td>
<td>Engineered recovery of operations after two satellites temporarily failed, affecting coverage of Southwest Asia. Fought for and secured funding for future capability of aging ultra high frequency satellites. Devised and implemented standardized requests for narrowband satellite access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capt. Bernard R. Sprute, 48th Security Forces Sq., RAF Lakenheath, Britain (USAFE)</td>
<td>Served as protection policy officer and base security planner, normally a lieutenant colonel-level position, while deployed for six months to Iraq. Responsible for implementing Iraqi installation access control policy and managing the program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>309th Aircraft Maintenance Gp., Hill AFB, Utah (AFMC)</td>
<td>Expedited repairs and maintenance on nearly 500 A-10s, C-130s, and F-16s in record time. Their work garnered the Silver Shingo Prize for F-16 modifications. Chosen for the F-22 repair assignment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd Security Forces Sq., McConnell AFB, Kan. (AMC)</td>
<td>First USAF security forces team to support US Army detainee operations in Iraq. Managed more than 3,000 detainees, quelled prison riots, discovered escape tunnel, thwarted escape attempt. Trained Afghan security forces.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Management and Environmental Achievement Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFMC Executive Management Award</td>
<td>Col. Robert M. Stambaugh, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFMC Middle Management Award</td>
<td>Kevin G. O’Connor, Tinker AFB, Okla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFMC Junior Management Award</td>
<td>1st Lt. William C. Williams II, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Command Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maj. Gen. Earl T. Ricks Award</td>
<td>CONR-1AF (AFNORTH) Operation Noble Eagle Team, Tyndall AFB, Fla.</td>
<td>Best ANG unit airmanship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Air National Guard Unit</td>
<td>148th Fighter Wing, Duluth Arpt., Minn.</td>
<td>Top ANG unit of the year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Air Force Reserve Unit</td>
<td>482nd Fighter Wing, Homestead ARB, Fla.</td>
<td>Top AFRC unit of the year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President’s Award</td>
<td>Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center, St. Joseph, Mo.</td>
<td>Best AFRC aircrew of the year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2006 AFA Membership and Activity Awards

AFA Member of the Year
Craig E. Allen

D.W. Steele Sr. Memorial Award
(AFA Unit of the Year)
Enid, Okla.

Arthur C. Storz Sr. Membership Awards
Chapter Award
Charlemagne, Germany

Individual Award
(no presentation)

Jack Gross Award
Small Chapter
Meridian, Miss.

Medium Chapter
Fairbanks Midnight Sun, Alaska

Large Chapter
Ute-Rocky Mountain, Utah

Extra Large Chapter
Montgomery, Ala.

Chapter Larger Than 1,500
Lance P. Sijan, Colo.

USAF 1st Lt. Adam Shaw traveled from Germany to accept the Charlemagne Chapter’s Storz award for membership recruiting. Condon (left) and Largent presented the honor to Shaw, the chapter VP, at the AFA Presidents’ Reception and Awards Dinner.

AFA Member of the Year Craig Allen (left) meets up with last year’s Member of the Year, Charles Nelson. Allen is from the Northern Utah Chapter and Nelson is from the Dacotah Chapter.

Board Chairman Pat Condon (left) and National President Bob Largent (right) present George Pankonin of the Enid Chapter with the AFA Unit of the Year award.

Recipient

Achievement

Best ANG maintainer
Best ANG unit airmanship
Top ANG unit of the year
Top AFRC unit of the year
Best AFRC aircrew of the year
## 2006 AFA Membership and Activity Awards (cont.)

### Special Recognition—Sustained New Member Recruitment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ark-La-Tex, La.</td>
<td>Falcon, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Sky, Mont.</td>
<td>Fort Dodge, Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Florida, Fla.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Oklahoma (Gerrity), Okla.</td>
<td>Gen. B.A. Schriever Los Angeles, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlemagne, Europe</td>
<td>Gen. Charles A. Horner, Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Hudson, Calif.</td>
<td>Gen. David C. Jones, N.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David D. Terry Jr., Ark.</td>
<td>Golden Triangle, Miss.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earl D. Clark Jr., Mo.</td>
<td>Happy Hooligan, N.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward J. Monaghan, Alaska</td>
<td>Harry S. Truman, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enid, Okla.</td>
<td>Hurlburt, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lance P. Sijan, Colo.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Unit Activity Awards

#### Outstanding State Organization
- Iowa

#### Outstanding Small Chapter
- Fort Dodge, Iowa

#### Outstanding Medium Chapter
- Red Tail Memorial, Fla.

#### Outstanding Large Chapter
- (no presentation)

#### Outstanding Extra Large Chapter
- Lance P. Sijan, Colo.

#### Exceptional Service—Community Partners
- Central Oklahoma (Gerrity)

#### Exceptional Service—Community Relations
- Northern Shenandoah, Va.

#### Exceptional Service—Overall Programming
- Eglin, Fla.

#### Exceptional Service—Veterans’ Affairs
- Mercer County, N.J.

#### Exceptional Service—Best Single Program
- Hurlburt, Fla.

#### Exceptional Service—Communications
- Roanoke, Va.

### Community Partner Membership Awards

#### Gold Award
- Altus, Okla.
- Carl Vinson Memorial, Ga.
- Central Oklahoma (Gerrity), Okla.
- Cheyenne, Wyo.
- Cochise, Ariz.
- Col. H.M. “Bud” West, Fla.
- Contrails, Kan.
- Del Rio, Tex.
- Enid, Okla.
- Fairbanks Midnight Sun, Alaska
- Fort Wayne, Ind.
- Gen. David C. Jones, N.D.
- Golden Triangle, Miss.
- Happy Hooligan, N.D.
- High Desert, Calif.
- Lance P. Sijan, Colo.
- Leigh Wade, Va.
- McChord, Wash.
- Mercer County, N.J.
- Meridian, Miss.
- Montgomery, Ala.
- Northeast Texas, Tex.
- Richard D. Kisling, Iowa
- Steel Valley, Ohio
- Swamp Fox, S.C.
- Ute-Rocky Mountain, Utah

#### Achievement Award
- Bob Hope, Calif.
- Charles Hudson, Calif.
- Chautauqua, N.Y.
- David D. Terry Jr., Ark.
- Eagle, Pa.
- Fort Dodge, Iowa
- Gen. B.A. Schriever Los Angeles
- Hurlburt, Fla.
- Joe Walker-Mon Valley, Pa.
- Mel Harmon, Colo.
- Mount Clemens, Mich.
- Palm Springs, Calif.
- Pioneer Valley, Mass.
- Roanoke, Va.
- Robert H. Goddard, Calif.
- Shooting Star, N.J.
- Tucson, Ariz.
- Wright Memorial, Ohio

#### Named in Memorial Tribute
- Deaths during the past year that were formally recognized at the convention
- CMSgt. Kenneth Beers, USAF (Ret.)
- SMSgt. Eugene M. Brudnicki, USAF (Ret.)
- Col. Charles C. Carr, USAF (Ret.)
- Robert L. Carr
- Col. Harry Chrisman, USAF (Ret.)
- Scott Crossfield
- Lewis M. Epperson
- SMSgt. Edmund J. Gagliardi, USAF (Ret.)
- MSgt. Winston S. Gaskins, USAF (Ret.)
- C. James Gleason
- Lt. Gen. Harry Goodall, USAF (Ret.)
- Col. Jack B. Gross, USAF (Ret.)
- Col. Clarence Hand, USAF (Ret.)
- CMSgt. Ronald C. Heise, USAF (Ret.)
- Col. Bruce Herrstrom, USAF (Ret.)
- Harry Henry
- Grace M. Lizzie
- Howard T. Markey
- Robert Puglisi
- CMSgt. Clayton C. Pyle, USAF (Ret.)
- Maj. Alfred D. Richter, USAF (Ret.)
- Brig. Gen. Robert L. Scott, USAF (Ret.)
- CMSgt. Walter E. Scott, USAF (Ret.)
- Daniel M. Sheehan Jr.
- Maj. Jack Shotwell, USAF (Ret.)
- Robert A. Trivalos
- Billie E. Thompson
- Lt. Col. Allan V. Wexler, USAF (Ret.)
- Robert Young
### Individual Activity Awards

#### Presidential Citation
- Richard Bundy, Del.
- Judith K. Church, Kan.
- Janet Cowley, Wyo.
- Lee Greer, Calif.
- Raymond Klosowski, Minn.
- George Pankonin, Okla.
- Richard Schaller Jr., Fla.
- Richard Seiber, Wash.
- Michael Winslow, Ohio

#### Central East Region

**Medal of Merit**
- Nicholas Abate, Va.
- Peter Gavares, Va.
- Jim Holtz, Va.
- Dave Kolodzinski, Va.
- Jerry Levesque, Va.
- Matt O’Kane, Va.
- Ronald Perkins, Md.
- Gordon Strong, Va.
- Harold “Hap” Harris, Md.
- Joe Price, Va.
- Scott P. Van Cleaf, Va.
- James P. Delaney III, Calif.
- Nora Feuerstein, Hawaii
- Ben James, Calif.
- Wayne Kauffman, Calif.
- Barbara Konieczny, Calif.
- Edith A. Magerkurth, Calif.
- Rick Reaser, Calif.

**Exceptional Service Award**
- Robert W. Barrow, Calif.
- Beverly Brumley, Calif.
- Bob Darling, Calif.
- Tom Dwelle, Calif.
- Robert F. Cutler, Fla.
- Theresa Kemp, Fla.
- Edward J. Madden, Fla.
- Dave Schantz, Fla.
- John E. Schmidt Jr., Fla.
- Timothy D. Wieck, Fla.
- Sandra S. Wood, Fla.
- E. Grady Jordan, Fla.
- Gary Sharpe, Fla.
- Kevin Sluss, Fla.

#### Far West Region

**Medal of Merit**
- Phil Barger, Calif.
- Joseph Battaglia, Calif.
- Holly Branch, Calif.
- John P. Delaney III, Calif.
- Nora Feuerstein, Hawaii
- Ben James, Calif.
- Wayne Kauflman, Calif.
- Barbara Konieczny, Calif.
- Edith A. Magerkurth, Calif.
- Rick Reaser, Calif.

**Exceptional Service Award**
- Robert W. Barrow, Calif.
- Beverly Brumley, Calif.
- Bob Darling, Calif.
- Tom Dwelle, Calif.
- Robert F. Cutler, Fla.
- Theresa Kemp, Fla.
- Edward J. Madden, Fla.
- Dave Schantz, Fla.
- John E. Schmidt Jr., Fla.
- Timothy D. Wieck, Fla.
- Sandra S. Wood, Fla.

#### Florida Region

**Medal of Merit**
- Milton A. Arneson, N.D.
- Matthew Leardini, Mont.
- Thomas Nelson, N.D.
- Glenn Shult, Minn.
- Carol Wolosz, Minn.

**Exceptional Service Award**
- Edwin C. Culbert, Minn.
- Leo Wittenberg, Minn.

#### Northeast Region

**Medal of Merit**
- Robert Braverman, N.Y.
- Edward A. DeFalco, N.J.
- Robert Hodges, N.J.
- Kenneth Kibler, Pa.
- Gary Lewi, N.Y.

**Exceptional Service Award**
- Robert Nunamann, N.J.
- Cathy Ward, N.Y.

#### Northwest Region

**Medal of Merit**
- Stepheni Butler, Wash.
- Roger Fogelman, Idaho
- Shana Medford, Wash.
- Matthew Pollock, Alaska
- Butch Stein, Alaska
- Tom Traver, Ore.

**Exceptional Service Award**
- James Drew, Alaska
- William P. Moore, Wash.

#### New England Region

**Medal of Merit**
- Daniel W. Caron, N.H.
- Richard Codling, Mass.
- Louis Emond, N.H.
- Daniel R. Scace, Conn.
- Don Sutton, N.H.

**Exceptional Service Award**
- John W. Hasson, Mass.
- Donald G. Jones, Vt.

#### Rocky Mountain Region

**Medal of Merit**
- Robert Ekstrom, Utah
- Teresa Tafoya, Colo.
- Don Wardle, Utah

**Exceptional Service Award**
- James Aadland, Utah
- Jeri Andrews, Colo.
- Tom Cavalli, Colo.
- Brian Curtis, Colo.
- Debbie Estrem, Colo.
- Ronald A. Geurts, Colo.
- Jason Unwin, Colo.

#### South Central Region

**Medal of Merit**
- David A. Bird, La.
- Larry Carter, Ala.
- Ron Gaston, Ala.
- John Hefner, Ark.
- Claude Morse, Tenn.
- Andy G. Potter, Ala.
- Bill Rodgers, Tenn.

**Exceptional Service Award**
- John Logan Burrow, Ark.
- Mike Clowers, Ala.

#### Southeast Region

**Medal of Merit**
- Greg Bricker, Ga.
- Arthur D. Cartwright, Ga.
- Sandy Edge, S.C.
- Joyce W. Feuerstein, N.C.
- Tom Halfhill, N.C.
- Ralph R. Hightower, N.C.
- Millie L. Hudgins, N.C.
- Corlyn J. (C.J.) Troyer, S.C.

**Exceptional Service Award**
- Elizabeth McLaughlin, Ga.
- Daniel B. Mitchell, N.C.

#### Southwestern Region

**Medal of Merit**
- Ramon A. Barajas, Ariz.
- Adolphus Bledsoe Jr., Ariz.
- Lloyd W. Howerton, Ariz.
- Nancy Melendez, Ariz.
- James F. Record, Ariz.

**Exceptional Service Award**
- James M. Fitzsimmons, Ariz.
- Karen Halstead, Ariz.

#### Texoma Region

**Medal of Merit**
- Jack E. Beam III, Okla.
- Ralph Chalfant, Tex.
- Ric Hamer, Tex.
- Ross Lampert, Okla.

**Exceptional Service Award**
- Jack E. Beam III, Okla.
- Ralph Chalfant, Tex.
- Ric Hamer, Tex.
- Ross Lampert, Okla.