

By Frances McKenney, Assistant Managing Editor

Did You Serve in the Korean War?

Genesee Valley Chapter member Betty Perkins-Carpenter might have a photo of you.

A few years ago, a veterans organization in upstate New York received some 150 photos taken by DOD photographers during the Korean War. The photos were turned over to Perkins-Carpenter, who served as an Air Force sergeant in the war and understood their historical significance. She wanted to identify the service members in the photos and give them copies of the images, so she appeared on WUHF, a Fox television station in Rochester, and showed some of them to viewers.

Rochester city employee Tiana Stephens saw the TV segment and thought she recognized her late grandfather, Crawford Flynn, in one of the 8-by-10 black and white photos. She eventually visited Perkins-Carpenter and on seeing the original image knew right away that it was indeed her grandfather, shown doling out soft drinks to troops. By the caption in back of the photo, she learned that it had been taken in August 1950, making her grandfather only 16 years old at the time. Stephens told Perkins-Carpenter that the images needed to be posted on the web if she wanted to identify others in them.

Kodak Alaris, a document imaging company in Rochester, took on the task of reproducing the photos with a Picture Saver Scanning System. It scanned—and enhanced—the images, taking about a second for each one. It also captured the caption a ditto machine had printed on the back of some photos.

The *Democrat and Chronicle*, a Gannett-owned Rochester newspaper, placed all the photos on their website, entitling the project “Snapshots From the Korean War.” The website shows the captions as well.

The photos depict action among all services, but at least 20 of them—not counting bird’s eye views—have a clear Air Force tie.

Identifying the people in the wartime photos “can bring families together to learn things they never discussed before,” Perkins-Carpenter told the TV show hosts in a return appearance this past August. “We are all in our 80s, so time is of essence.”

See the photos at: <http://koreanwar.democratandchronicle.com/>.

Convention in the Golden State

The **Robert H. Goddard Chapter** in California received Chapter of the Year honors at the California State Convention, centered around Vandenberg Air Force Base.

Aside from hosting the very convention where it collected the honor, the chapter’s achievements include producing AFA state leaders this year: TSgt. Timothy J. Tichawa who served as aerospace education VP and MSgt. Jill Higgins who has been state secretary. It also carried out successful chapter activities, such as cohosting an awards reception where some 100 extra guests showed up (See “Party Crashers,” in “AFA National Report,” June, p. 72.).

The Golden State’s AFA convention brought together leaders from 13 chapters. Events kicked off with a casual icebreaker



Screen grab courtesy of Kodak Alaris

Genesee Valley Chapter member Betty Perkins-Carpenter (left) and Tiana Stephens read the caption for a Korean War-era photo of Stephens’ grandfather. Perkins-Carpenter wants to identify people in 158 Korean War photos that have been posted on the web.

on a Thursday evening. A charity golf tournament took place the next afternoon, to raise money for AFA scholarships. That Friday evening, conventioners gathered at a country club for a tri-tip beef sirloin dinner.

During Saturday’s business sessions, conventioners elected Goddard Chapter President Juan E. Cruz as California State President; Martin W. Ledwitz of the **Gen. B. A. Schriever Los Angeles Chapter** as VP; Rhoda E. Weiss of the **General Doolittle Los Angeles Area Chapter**, as secretary; and Nancy J. Driscoll of the **Bob Hope Chapter** and Leigh Kelly of the **William J. “Pete” Knight Chapter** as co-treasurers.

Col. Max Lantz, commander of the 381st Training Group at Vandenberg, was guest speaker for the AFA Awards Luncheon that day.

CMSgt. Christopher L. Barnby, command chief for the AFRC 403rd Wing at Keesler AFB, Miss., addressed the convention’s culmination Saturday night Military Awards Banquet. The chief is the brother of Lee Barnby, the state’s immediate past president.

At the banquet, more than two dozen awards went to Total Force members, plus cadets and teachers of the year.

Wounded Airman Program Outreach in South Carolina

The **Swamp Fox Chapter’s** July meeting in Sumter, S.C., featured Paula Roy, the Air Force Association Airmen and Family Programs director, who spoke about AFA’s Wounded Airman Program.

“An Air Force wounded airman is any seriously or very seriously wounded, ill, or injured airman identified on a casualty report or recommended by the medical community as having complex medical conditions,” Roy told the audience.

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How to Involve the Chapter Newcomers

Many hands make light work, as the saying goes.

In organizing and carrying out the California State Convention, the **Robert H. Goddard Chapter** made sure some of the help came from its ranks of newcomers.

Chapter President Juan E. Cruz listed how they were involved:

- **Mentored as future leaders.** In the photo at right, chapter member TSgt. Timothy J. Tichawa (at left) chats with SSgt. Timothy Lombardi before the Military Awards Banquet. Tichawa helped new member Lombardi write the script for the evening. Cruz said they hope to “grow” Lombardi into a leadership position.

- **Tapped as talent.** Chapter VP Norman A. Marous found A1C Leo Lanier, shown below left, through the local Air Force Sergeants Association group. Lanier played the keyboard for both the AFA Awards Luncheon, as well as the Military Awards Banquet. That’s six hours of performing, Cruz pointed out. He secured an AFA membership for Lanier in September.

- **Matched to the job.** For the convention’s guest relations task, “we needed someone who gets along easily with people, is hard working, and is always looking for a challenge,” stated Cruz. MSGt. Craig Rispoli fit the bill. He went to work, ironing out base access and billeting for the convention-goers. At far right, new member Rispoli listens to longtime member Martin W. Ledwitz, the state’s Area 3 president.

Involving new and potential members in this way can pay off: Tichawa didn’t even belong to AFA when his commander asked him to help plan a state convention a few years ago. Tichawa went on to become an AFA Emerging Leader in 2013.



Photos by Juan E. Cruz



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In Colorado, a Wounded Airman athlete pours on the barbecue sauce, while Sijan Chapter members serve the side dishes. Left to right: Chapter VP Linda Aldrich, Lynn Dibben, and Kyle Shiller. Below: On the bleachers and on the gym floor, athletes and Wounded Airman Program staff members consider their next moves in training sessions.



Photo by P. Z. Przybyla



In its coverage of Roy's address to the chapter, the 20th Fighter Wing public affairs office at Shaw AFB, S.C., reported that USAF has more than 3,300 wounded airmen.

Established in 2011, the AFA program receives requests to fill in gaps other sources can't cover, helping wounded USAF members by providing adapted equipment, lifestyle and accessibility items, financial aid, and caregiver support.

One focus of the Wounded Airman Program is the Warrior Games. This week-long sports competition for wounded military personnel was scheduled to take place Sept. 28 to Oct. 4 at the US Olympic Training

AFA Airman and Family Programs Director Paula Roy checks her notes as she speaks to the Swamp Fox Chapter in South Carolina.

Center and the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. Roy told the AFA chapter that the Wounded Airman Program estimates donating \$20,000 to the sports event, this year, to be used for team and family support.

Airmen Athletes Prep in Colorado

Wounded Airman Program competitors descended on Colorado Springs in August to train for this fall's competitions, and the **Lance P. Sijan Chapter** helped host the athletes.

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USAF photo by SrA. Kentavist P. Brackin

Daphne Nelson displays her Mike and Gail Donley Spouse Scholarship. The wife of a 1st Special Operations Security Forces Squadron member, Nelson is studying nursing. Formerly called the AFA Spouse Scholarship, the \$2,500 award was renamed a year ago for the 22nd Air Force Secretary and his wife. Twelve scholarships were awarded in July. Hurlburt Chapter President Fred Gross made this presentation at Hurlburt Field, Fla.

The airmen first attended a reception and dinner at the Antler's Hotel, where chapter leaders gathered to welcome them, said Chapter VP Linda S. Aldrich. She reported that John Register was the evening's motivational speaker. Register had been a member of the Army's World Class Athlete Program as a hurdler and long jumper until a training injury led to amputation of his left leg. He went on to become a Paralympic sprinter and silver medalist in the long jump.

The Sijan Chapter later hosted a lunch at the academy during a training break for the athletes. Aldrich said the chance to mingle with the wounded airmen was "a wonderful opportunity."

West Virginia's Leadership School

Chuck Yeager Chapter and other AFA leaders always come away impressed after watching the graduation ceremonies for the annual Mountaineer Cadet Officer Leadership School, held at Concord University in Athens, W.Va.

And it's not just because the chapter provides so many trophies and plaques for the outstanding AFJROTC cadets.

Search "MCOLS 2014" on YouTube to see why the students make even casual observers proud. A trio of videos on that website document how more than 250 AFJROTC cadets from six states, including South Dakota, worked on leadership skills during a week of training this past June. One YouTube

In Vermont, Green Mountain Chapter President Ray Tanguay, ANG Brig. Gen. Joel Clark, wife Chris Clark, Chapter VP Dick Lorenz, and Secretary John Roach (left to right) were among the half-dozen chapter members attending the promotion ceremony for the new general in July. Clark is a former chapter president and was VP until recently.



Representing the Chuck Yeager Chapter in West Virginia, Paul Hamrick (far right) presented a Civil Air Patrol Outstanding Squadron Cadet of the Year award to Jonah Lopez. At left is Gerald Wedemeyer, commander of Lopez's CAP unit, the Clarksburg Composite Squadron.



compilation of images shows the students at physical training, undergoing inspection, and during classroom instruction. Another video shows them heading to their dorm—flight after flight of cadets from 19 high schools, marching in formation, paced by cadence calls and jody songs. Another video shows the youngsters practicing for their graduation ceremony's pass-in-review.

At the Saturday graduation, cadet Jacob Newman from Hixson High School in Tennessee took home the overall Outstanding Cadet trophy.

MCOLS got its start in 2001, organized by David F. Slaughter, then the chapter's aerospace education VP and now a member of the **Gen. Bruce K. Holloway Chapter (Tenn)**. Some 40 cadets attended that inaugural session. Retired Col. Randall Cantrell, then of North Carolina's **Tarheel Chapter**, and retired Lt. Col. Steven H. Boyd, a **Ronoake Chapter (Va.)** member, have served in turn as MCOLS commandants. This year retired Col. Catherine Bacon of the **Donald W. Steele Sr. Memorial Chapter (Va.)** led the school.

The Difference: Friedauer in Florida

In August, the *Northwest Florida Daily News* highlighted **Hurlburt Chapter's** Community Partner director as part of its series on "people who make a difference in their communities."

The short profile on E. Max Friedauer included his background as a retired lieutenant colonel and recent recognition as AFA Florida State Member of the Year and also Chapter Member of

the Year, but it focused specifically on his chapter aerospace education work.

The newspaper said Friedauer most enjoys AFA's outreach to teachers, hosting workshops, and arranging tours of Hurlburt Field.

"They take that back to the classroom, and they are just so excited," he told the reporter. ✪

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USAF Military Training Instructor Assn. Oct. 20-24 at Lackland AFB, TX. **Contact:** John Pavey (828-226-2409) (j.pavey@pdlawnc.com).

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Super Sabre Society. April 9-12, 2015, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dayton, OH. **Contact:** Bob Hopkins (540-460-4718) (harmonyhse@yahoo.com).

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