



2006-07 AFA Nominees



Largent



Sutter



Church



Dierlam



Lundgren

The Air Force Association Nominating Committee, which consists of the five most recent past National Presidents (not serving as National Chairman of the Board) and one representative from each of the 14 US regions, met in Dallas on April 22 and selected a slate of candidates for the four national officer positions and six elective positions on the Board of Directors. This slate will be presented to the delegates at the National Convention in Washington, D.C., in September.

Robert E. "Bob" Largent of Harrison, Ark., was nominated for his first one-year term as Chairman of the Board. He is presently serving as AFA National President. He is a Life Member and has been active in AFA since 1974. He has served as the Carl Vinson Memorial Chapter Vice President and Vice President for Leadership Development; Georgia State President and Vice President for Awards and Leadership Development; Southeast Region President; and as a member of AFA's Membership Committee, the Long-Range Planning Committee, and the AFA Organizational Review Group. In addition to chapter and state awards, he has received the national Medal of

Merit, Exceptional Service Award, and Presidential Citation.

Largent was commissioned through AFROTC in 1968 and served for more than 24 years in various strategic missile operations assignments, including Minuteman Combat Crew, Squadron Operations Officer, Chief of Wing Training, Chief of Wing Plans, Squadron Commander, and Assistant Deputy Commander for Wing and Group Operations. He has also served in a variety of staff assignments, including Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff, USAF; in the Office of the Director, Joint Staff, Joint Chiefs of Staff; Military Assistant to the Commander in Chief Pacific; and Chief, Strategy Division, Headquarters US Pacific Command. Largent retired in 1992 as a colonel and has received, among other awards, the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (two times), and the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal (two times).

He currently is the owner and principal of an organizational and leadership development consulting firm with a practice that includes an array of national and international clients. Largent is involved in a variety of local civic and community activities, including Rotary

and his local Chamber of Commerce, as well as those of AFA.

Largent graduated from the University of Arkansas with a degree in business administration and has a master's of public administration from the University of Oklahoma. He is also a resident graduate of the Air War College.

He currently resides in Harrison, Ark., with his wife, Becky.

Joseph E. Sutter of Knoxville, Tenn., was nominated for his first one-year term as National President. He is a Life Member and has been active in AFA since 1987. He has served as a member of the Aerospace Education Foundation Board of Trustees and in AFA at the chapter, state, and national levels. He has served as President of the Gen. Bruce K. Holloway Chapter, as both Chapter and State Vice President for Aerospace Education, and as Tennessee State President. At the national level, he has served as both a member and the Chairman of the AFA Strategic Planning Committee and currently serves as a National Director and Chairman of the afa21 Governance Team. He has received the AFA Presidential Citation, Exceptional Service Award, and Medal of Merit and was named AFA Tennessee



2006-07 AFA Nominees



Hannam



Davoren



Nelson

Volunteer Member of the Year in 1996 and 2004.

Sutter has been active in the civilian community. He is a past President of the Rotary Club of Knoxville and the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council, past Chair of his parish council, and served on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Knoxville. While maintaining active involvement in those organizations, he also currently serves as member of the Board of Directors of Covenant Health.

He served on active duty for 28 years at various USAF locations: Minot AFB, N.D.; Vandenberg AFB, Calif.; the Pentagon; Offutt AFB, Neb.; Whiteman AFB, Mo.; and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. His primary military duties were in ICBM operations; he commanded an ICBM squadron, operations group, and missile wing. Other military duties included Staff Officer assignments at the Pentagon, including two years in Air Force Legislative Liaison; Hq. Strategic Air Command, Chief of the Advanced ICBM Requirements Division; and Senior Controller, SAC Command Center. He graduated from the Naval War College, College of Command and Staff, with Highest Distinction, and from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces as a Distinguished Graduate.

His decorations include the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters; Meritorious Service Medal with four OLCs; Air Force Commendation Medal with one OLC; and the Air Force Achievement Medal.

Sutter graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and from the University of Southern California with a master of science degree in systems management. He works as a consultant on national security matters, serving USAF and other clients in the Washington, D.C., area.

He and his wife, Geri (who is currently serving as the Tennessee State Secretary), have three grown children and three grandchildren.

The Nominating Committee is submitting two names—Judy K. Church and Mark Dierlam—for consideration for a one-year term as National Secretary:

Judy K. Church of Lenexa, Kan., is a Life Member and has been active in AFA since 1987. Her involvement with the association began through her late husband, National Treasurer Charles H. Church Jr. She was active at the chapter level and also gained national experience as she traveled with him to national meetings and events throughout the country.

She has served AFA in appointed and elected positions at all levels. She held the position of Chapter Treasurer of the Harry S. Truman Chapter and has served as Missouri State President, Vice President, and Vice President for Communications. She is currently serving as the Midwest Region President. At the national level, she serves as a member of the Constitution Committee and has served as both a member and Chairman of the Credentials Committee.

She has also maintained a full commitment to other volunteer work through service on many civic boards. She is a current member of the NE Johnson County Kansas Republican Women's Board, past member of the Kansas City Symphony Board, and past member of the University of Missouri Kansas City Women's Council Board.

She was named the 2003 Midwest Member of the Year and was made a Charles H. Church Jr. Fellow by the state of Missouri. At the national level, she has received the Medal of Merit and Exceptional Service Medal.

Church graduated from Southland Girl's High School, Invercargill, New Zealand. She attended Otago University in Dunedin, New Zealand, and has a diploma in early childhood education. She has two children.

Mark Dierlam of Montgomery, Ala., is a Life Member and the current Alabama State President. He has concur-

rently served for the past five years at the national level on the AFA Finance Committee. He has served the Montgomery Chapter as Chapter President, Vice President, and Secretary. He has received the AFA Medal of Merit and the Exceptional Service Medal.

Dierlam was a leader of and continues to participate in the Wright Flyers, a Maxwell Air Force Base support organization that provides assistance to the base leadership, service members, and their families. He has served in many civilian leadership roles including being the Rotary International District Governor for 49 Alabama clubs, President of the Montgomery Rotary Club, and board member of the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, Frazer Memorial Methodist Church, Montgomery Education Building Authority, YMCA, and Baptist Hospital.

Dierlam served 26 years in the Air Force in numerous military leadership roles. He served as a Wing Commander, Vice Wing Commander, Group Commander, Hq. SAC Chairman of the M-X Missile Ad Hoc Planning Group, Deputy Wing Commander for Resources, B-52H Instructor Pilot, Base Civil Engineering Chief of Programs, Maintenance Control Officer for 150 B-52 aircraft at Andersen AFB, Guam, Officer in Charge of a 565-man Jet Engine Repair Facility, B-52D Instructor Pilot, and Wing Staff Officer.

Since retirement from the Air Force, Dierlam has led an award-winning financial advisor business currently serving more than 400 clients.

He graduated from Texas A&M University with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering and has a master of science degree in operational research from the Air Force Institute of Technology.

He and his wife, Kay, have three children who are Air Force Academy graduates and are currently serving the Air Force as lieutenant colonels—two as squadron commanders.



Zimkas



Horlen



Schowalter



White

Steven R. Lundgren of Fairbanks, Alaska, was nominated for his second one-year term as National Treasurer. He is a 20-year member having begun as a Community Partner. He has served AFA in many leadership positions, including Chapter, State, and Region President. He currently chairs the AFA Finance Committee. Lundgren is the AFA Alaska Leadership Development Director and the Fairbanks Chapter Community Partner Vice President. He has received an Exceptional Service Award and the national Presidential Citation.

Lundgren is a member of the Alaskan Command Civilian Advisory Board, Vice Chairman of the Alaska State Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), and member of the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee. He is also active as a leader in other civic organizations, serving as Vice Chairman of the Fairbanks Economic Development Corp. and on the Board of Directors of the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce. Lundgren has also served as a Director of the Interior Alaska Builders Association and the United Way of the Tanana Valley as well as President of the Fairbanks Sunrises Rotary Club. He has received numerous awards, including the 2004 ESGR Spirit of Volunteerism Award, and he was recently honored with the 2006 Annual Honorary Iceman Award from Eielson AFB, Alaska.

Lundgren's entire professional career of more than 25 years has been in the financial services industry. He is currently Senior Vice President and member of the Senior Management Committee for Mt. McKinley Bank, the largest community bank in the Fairbanks area. His primary day-to-day job as a commercial lender requires budget analysis, financial statement analysis, trend analysis, risk analysis, and general oversight of a \$75 million-plus secu-

rities portfolio and \$75 million-plus commercial loan portfolio.

He graduated from Oregon State University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and has completed graduate studies at Portland State University and the University of Alaska. He attended the American Bankers Association National Commercial Lending School in 1991 and the ABA National Commercial Lending Graduate School in 1992 at the University of Oklahoma.

He and his wife, Susan, have three children.

The AFA Constitution directs that one-third of the 18 elected Directors be elected at the National Convention each year. For the 2006 election, the Central East, Far West, North Central, Rocky Mountain, and Texoma Regions have Director positions open, and there is one Director position open to be elected at large.

The nominees for Director to be chosen by their regions are:

Central East: **James Hannam**, Virginia. Former Region President, State Secretary and Vice President, and Chapter President and Vice President. Current member of the Strategic Planning Committee.

Far West: **Dennis R. Davoren**, California. Former Leadership Development Director, State President, Vice President, and Area Vice President, and Chapter President and Vice President for Membership. Current Region President.

North Central: **Charles A. Nelson**, South Dakota. Former National Treasurer, Region President, State President and Vice President, AEF Board of Trustees member, and Chapter President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

Rocky Mountain: **Charles P. Zimkas Jr.**, Colorado. Former Region President, State President, Vice President, and Vice President for Aerospace Education, AEF Vice President, AEF Board of Trustees member, and Chapter President, Vice

President, and Vice President for Aerospace Education. Current Chairman, AFA Membership Committee.

Texoma: **Buster Horlen**, Texas. Former State President, Vice President, and Vice President for Leadership Development and Chapter President, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President for Membership, and Vice President for Communications. Current Region President.

The Nominating Committee is submitting two names—Paul W. Schowalter and Jerry E. White—for consideration for the office of National Director to be chosen at large:

Paul W. Schowalter, North Carolina. Former member of the Board of Trustees, AEF, Co-Chairman of the AEF Development Committee, member of the AEF Audit Committee, and member of the afa21 Governance Team as part of the afa21 Task Force. He retired as a colonel after 30 years of active and reserve service in the Air Force that included combat duty in Vietnam. He has extensive experience in marketing and sales with a variety of companies and also started and ran his own business which sold and operated companies in a three-state area. He has also served on the board of several churches and as manager and director of youth sports programs.

Jerry E. White, Colorado. Former member of the Board of Trustees, AEF, Co-Chairman of the AEF Development Committee, and member of the afa21 Tax Status Team as part of the afa21 Task Force. He retired as a major general after serving in the Air Force for 37 years in both active and reserve assignments and was a member of the Reserve Forces Policy Board. He holds a Ph.D. in astronautics, has served as CEO, President, and Chairman of the Board of a large nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, Chairman of a management association of several hundred 501(c)(3) organizations, and Co-founder of CEO Dialogues facilitating interactions among their leaders. ■