

Viper Vigilant

Viper Vigilant is published quarterly for members of the Frank Luke Chapter AFA. Members with Internet access may view digital copies at www.afaluke.org.



Chapter Council

President - Joseph Marvin
602-677-9761
Co-Vice President - Holly Gramkow
623-956-6752
Co-Vice President - Mads Brandt
480-473-9676
Treasurer - Sharon Marvin
623-853-0829
Secretary - Sarah Hood
256-453-3804
VP Aerospace Educ - Harry Bailey
623-846-7483
VP Communications &
Community Partners - Luisa Bailey
623-846-7483
VP Leadership Devel - Adam Voci
623-856-5740
VP Membership - Mads Brandt
480-473-9676
VP Programs - Doris Goetz
623-327-3798

Frank Luke Chapter, Air Force Association

c/o 1300 S. Litchfield Rd, Box 1 Ste A1020
Goodyear, AZ 85338



Volume 18, Issue 1

January-March 2012



2012 Council. Chapter leaders elected to office Dec. 20, 2011 are (from left) president Joe Marvin, treasurer Sharon Marvin, co-vice president Holly Gramkow, secretary Sarah Hood, and co-vice president Mads Brandt (also VP/Membership).

Chapter leaders elected for 2012

At the December executive council meeting held Dec. 20, 2011, members elected the following officers for the current year:

President - Joe Marvin, president & CEO of Prime Solutions Group Inc. (PSG-INC) in Goodyear. An Air Force veteran, he has served as chapter president since Oct. 1, 2008.

Vice President - for the second time in the chapter's 31-year history, two vice presidents were elected, one from the military community and another from the East Valley. **Co-Vice President Holly Gramkow** is an active-duty first lieutenant at Luke AFB who lives in Surprise. **Co-Vice President Mads Brandt**, also VP/Membership, lives in Scottsdale.

Treasurer - Sharon Marvin, also PSG-INC, returns to the post she held previously. She and Joe live in Waddell.

Secretary - Sarah Hood, a second lieutenant at Luke AFB and Buckeye resident, returns as secretary.

Other council positions are appointed. See list at left.

President's Message



Highlights for quarter: Key activity support, planning for upcoming events

Chapter plans to conduct a quarterly member and community partner event resulted in a planned visit to Luke maintenance facilities March 29. The visit starts with a luncheon at Club 56. These important events bring together community partners, AFA chapter members and Luke AFB to focus on the key Luke mission areas. We are grateful to Luke AFB organizations willing to fit us into busy operational schedules to help educate the public on Luke's critical mission.

The State AFA was asked by the Arizona Technology Council to help publicize the first annual Arizona Aerospace, Aviation and Defense Requirements Conference. The highly successful conference, held Jan. 25-26, featured Gen. Philip Breedlove, Air Force vice chief of staff, as the keynote luncheon speaker. AFA supported communications and participation by Air Force commanders throughout the state.

Many of you responded in support of public meetings conducted by the Air Force on the F-35 draft environmental impact statement for Luke AFB. These meetings, held in three local communities in February, were well attended, and your support continues to demonstrate that AFA is the "Force Behind the Force" in the face of changing national priorities for our Air Force.

Our primary AFA mission – aerospace education – continues to take front-and-center attention. We've begun the Teacher of the Year nomination and selection process. If you are aware of K-12 teachers with outstanding accomplishments in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) subjects, get them in touch with the chapter. We're soliciting nominees until April 11 and will select the chapter winner shortly thereafter.

Another key aerospace education activity is teaming with Agua Fria High School on a student mentoring program (see story, p. 8). The school has selected AFA's CyberPatriot competition as its computer club centerpiece – great local recognition for this national AFA program. AFROTC cadets from the Arnold Air Society at Det. 25, Arizona State University, are partnering with our chapter to support this mentoring program, which could expand, perhaps even nationally. If you are interested in volunteering time, treasure or talent, please contact me. This is an important opportunity that requires our best efforts!

Finally, please welcome our newest Chapter Community Partner, Michael Dezember, VP/Business Development at Lockheed Martin's IS&GS (Information Systems & Global Solutions) facility at 1300 S. Litchfield Rd., Goodyear. We appreciate their support!



Joseph W. Marvin
President, Frank Luke Chapter



Join the Frank Luke Chapter discussions through social media!



LukeAFA



Air Force Association Luke Chapter



Air Force Association Frank Luke Chapter



Members invited to tour Luke maintenance facility March 29

Chapter members — especially community partners — are invited to spend an afternoon at Luke AFB, learning about the 56th Fighter Wing’s aircraft maintenance efforts.

The AFA visit begins with lunch at Club 56 on Thursday, March 29, 2012, and continues with a mission briefing in the maintenance conference room, followed by visits to various maintenance facilities and ending around 5 p.m. at the flightline.

Interested attendees may call 623-853-0829 to learn if space is still available.



Annual benefit golf tournament is May 4 at Falcon Dunes Course

Golfers, circle Friday, May 4, on your calendar now!

The 13th annual AFA benefit golf tournament will start at 6:30 a.m. at Falcon Dunes Golf Course, on Northern Avenue just west of its intersection with Litchfield Road.

Details are still being developed, but traditionally this event brings the military and civilian communities together for friendly interaction, rather than true competition.

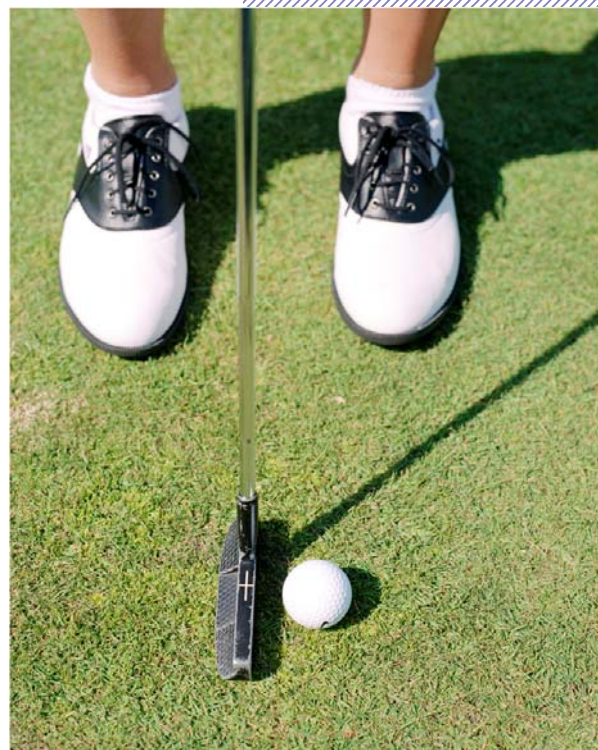
This year the chapter is trying something different — partnering with a military group at Luke AFB that distributes donated funds to deserving base units or organizations.

AFA golf tournament proceeds have always been used to support Team Luke activities throughout the year, including \$25 awards to the “Thunderbolt of the Week” published in the base newspaper and donations to base events such as Black, Hispanic, Asian and Women’s History lunches, along with sponsorship of Deployed Spouse dinners. Now, proceeds will be shared directly with military units as well.

Player fees remain low to attract maximum participation. Fundraising comes from t-hole sponsorships and from ticket sales for the accompanying drawing of items donated by businesses and individuals.

Information on fees and prizes and signup sheets, either as teams or individual players, will be posted at the golf course and on the chapter’s website, www.afaluke.org.

If you have any questions, call 623-853-0829.



Chapter News



Chapter representative Harry Bailey talks with guest speaker Air Force Lt. Gen. Judith Fedder

Chapter nominee at maintenance event

A chapter officer was among the 60 nominees for Maintenance Professional of the Year awards in 17 categories at the MPOY banquet at Luke AFB March 3.

1st Lt. Holly Gramkow, chapter co-vice president, was one of five officers nominated for Maintenance Officer of the Year.

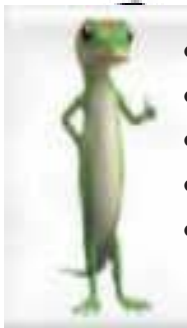
Guest speaker Lt. Gen. Judith Fedder, Air Force deputy chief of staff for logistics, installations and mission support, recapped the evolution of the maintenance field for some 700 attendees. A career maintainer, the general was a 1980 distinguished graduate of the ROTC program at Michigan State University.

Among award highlights, one of two Singapore Air Force teams nominated won the Weapons Load Crew of the Year Award – twice in a row.

Annual awards went to the maintenance officer; senior NCO (direct and indirect sortie support); dedicated crew chief & assistant; specialist NCO & airman; equipment technician NCO, airman & civilian; aircraft technician NCO, airman & civilian; and support professional NCO, airman & civilian.



I give you more than just insurance.



- Discounts to active-duty and retired military
- Convenient payment plans
- Round-the-clock claim service
- Coverage available by phone
- Auto and motorcycle insurance

GEICO
Local Office®

AUTO • HOME • RENTERS • MOTORCYCLE • BOAT

John Nix

9515 W. Camelback Ave. (east of Loop 101)

Phoenix, AZ 85037

Across the street from Walmart - close to Luke AFB

623-931-0766

Open 8-6 Mon-Fri, 9-4 Sat



Volunteers sought to present AFA medal at AFJROTC units

It's time once again for volunteers to represent the chapter in presenting the AFA medal to deserving AFJROTC cadets at local high schools.

Of the 19 units in the Valley, Maricopa High School's program is too new to to present an award, and four are already spoken for. The following schools need presenters:

April 20 - Gilbert HS.

April 26 - Mesa HS.

May 1 - Sandra Day O'Conner HS, 35th Ave.

May 2 - Agua Fria HS, Avondale; Desert Ridge HS, Mesa; and Hamilton HS, Chandler.

May 4 - Dobson HS, Mesa.

May 8 - Shadow Mt. HS, Shea Blvd.

May 9 - Westwood HS, Mesa.

May 10 - Higley HS, Gilbert.

May 11 - Campo Verde HS, Gilbert; & Deer Valley HS, 51st Ave.

May 21 - Chandler HS.

May 24 - Basha HS, Chandler.

Interested volunteers may call Harry Bailey, 623-846-7483 and indicate a preferred school, to learn details of their event.

Units will be informed of assigned volunteer, and both will be requested to contact each other to confirm details of each event.



You CAN Get Banking Services WITHOUT the BIG BANK Charges

Credit Union West is the **BEST ALTERNATIVE** to high fees, high loan rates and low service banking options

- **FREE Visa Debit Card**
no monthly fees
- **FREE Checking**
with no minimum balance
- **Low Rate Loans**
for autos, home, RV, vacations and more!

Become a member-owner and enhance your quality of life! Visit any one of our branches or call 602.631.3200, 928.778.7156 or 800.621.0287. For branch locations and hours visit www.cuwest.org.

Membership is open to anyone who lives, works or worships in Yavapai or Maricopa Counties and to family members of existing members. New Credit Union West accounts opened pursuant to the USA PATRIOT Act and are subject to our normal approval process. Credit report must remain in credit union possession. All loan rates and approvals based on credit qualifications and performance. Certain restrictions apply. See a Member Service Officer for complete details. Programs subject to change without notice.



602.631.3200
928.778.7156
800.621.0287
www.cuwest.org



New pilots honored - Four top pilot graduates of Class 11-DBG receive awards March 2 from (left) Joe Marvin, chapter president; Mads Brandt, vice president, and (far right) Gen. Philip Breedlove, Air Force vice chief of staff, who was guest speaker. Honorees (from left) 1st Lts. Stephen Jude, air-to-ground top gun, Jesse Horton, air-to-air top gun; and distinguished graduates Erick Kitaif and Luke Weyhmuller received complimentary 1-year AFA memberships, citations of accomplishment and copies of the air combat maneuvering bible, "No Guts, No Glory." Also among the graduates was the chapter president's son, 1st Lt. Jared Marvin, who won the academic award. The 13-member class trained 10 months on the F-16 with the 309th Fighter Squadron and now continues mission qualification training at operating bases. Horton and Marvin report to Kunsan AB, Korea; Kitaif goes to Aviano AB, Italy; and Weyhmuller to McEntire ANGB, S.C.



La Loma Village

The best retirement choice

Independent Living, Assisted Living and Health and Rehab all on one campus. Plus resort-style amenities, outstanding dining and all inclusive Life Care

Our nationally recognized Sun Health Senior Living Home Exchange Program was featured in the **Wall Street Journal** on December 19, 2011.



La Loma Village
Sun Health

A Nonprofit Sun Health Senior Living Community

For more information
or a personal tour call
(623) 537-7521

sunhealthseniorliving.org



14154 Denny Boulevard • Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

Falcon Flight wins Team Spirit award

Twelve members of the Airman Leadership School's Falcon Flight won AFA's Team Spirit Award, sponsored by Credit Union West.

The flight, one of four in ALS' Class 12-2, which graduated Feb. 9, won the award for working best as a team.

Falcon Flight member SrA. Ray La Strape Jr. won the school's highest honor, the John L. Levitow Award, presented to the student with the highest cumulative score in all evaluations who demonstrates leadership, teamwork, military bearing and dedication to the spirit and mission of the ALS, as well as the NCO corps.

Other members of Falcon Flight were Senior Airmen Brian Corso, Kurtis Buchawiecki, Beatrice Carrasco, Mathew Halm, Irma Kamysz, Derek Kreiner, Christopher Lester, Devin McCree, Joshua Schools, Steven Stockfish and Verner Tye Jr. Each received a Team Spirit coin and a complimentary 1-year AFA membership.

The chapter first presented the Team Spirit Award in February 2008. Credit Union West has been sponsoring the award's distinctive coin for the past two years.



Levitow winner - CMS Jamie Parker (left), president of the Chiefs Group, presents the Levitow Award to Falcon Flight's SrA. Ray La Strape Jr.

Community Partners

Please patronize the following area businesses/organizations, our valued Chapter Community Partners, who proudly display a plaque as evidence of their support of AFA's goals and mission. Take time to stop by and thank them for their support of AFA, Team Luke, and other military units in our chapter's area of responsibility.

AEROSPACE & DEFENSE

AEROTURBINE, MRO FACILITY

Skip Maiorana, VP/Gen Mgr and Mark Keefer, Mat. Mgr.
1658 S. Litchfield Rd., Goodyear 85338, 623-792-9865

LOCKHEED MARTIN, IS&GS (Info Sys & Global Solutions)

Michael J. Dezember, VP/Business Development
1300 S. Litchfield Rd., Goodyear 85338, 623-925-7090

PRIME SOLUTIONS GROUP (Aerospace Consulting)

Joseph W. Marvin, Pres/CEO
1300 S. Litchfield Rd, Box 1, Ste A1020, Goodyear 85338, 623-853-0829

AUTOSERVICES

SANDS CHEVROLET - Jerry Moore, VP

5148 NW Grand Ave., Glendale 85301-623-931-9331

SILVER STAR MOTORS - Johnny Hreniuc, Owner

6609 N. 59th Ave., Glendale 85301, 623-842-1107

WILHELMAUTOMOTIVE - Chris Garman, Gen Mgr

8241 Grand Ave., Peoria 85345, 623-979-3740

BANKING/FINANCIAL SERVICES

ARMED FORCES BANK - Rosemary Dotson, Asst VP/Br Mgr

13877 W. Thunderbird, Luke AFB 85307;
Base Exchange Branch, 623-535-8604

AXA ADVISORS LLC - Benjamin Santerre, Financial Pro

14851 N. Scottsdale Rd #103, Setsd 85254, 480-444-3751

CREDIT UNION WEST - Robert MacGregor, Pres/CEO

P.O. Box 7600, Glendale 85312, 602-631-3200

Includes following branches: Arrowhead, Avondale, Cactus, Cottonwood, Heritage, Luke AFB, N. Mountain, Prescott, Prescott Valley, Sun City West and Surprise

CIVIC/GOVERNMENT

MARICOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS -

Max Wilson, Chair/Dist 4, 301 W. Jefferson 10th Flr, Phoenix 85003

CITY OF AVONDALE - Mayor Marie Lopez-Rogers

11465 W. Civic Center Dr #280, Avdl 85323, 623-333-1900

TOWN OF BUCKEYE - Mayor Jackie Meck

530 E. Monroe Ave., Buckeye 85326, 623-349-6012

CITY OF GLENDALE - Mayor Elaine Scruggs

5850 W. Glendale Ave., Glendale 85301, 623-930-2249

CITY OF GOODYEAR - City Mgr John Fischbach

190 N. Litchfield Road, Goodyear 85338, 623-882-7775

CITY OF LITCHFIELD PARK - Mayor Thomas L. Schoaf

214 W. Wigwam Blvd, LP85340, 623-935-5033

CITY OF PEORIA - Mayor Bob Barrett

8401 W. Monroe, Peoria 85345, 623-773-7306

CITY OF SURPRISE - Mayor Sharon Wolcott

16000 N. Civic Ctr Plaza, Surprise 85374, 623-222-1300

TOWN OF YOUNGTOWN - Mayor Michael Le Vault

12030 Clubhouse Square, Youngtown 85363, 623-933-8286

CONVENIENCE ITEMS

7-11 STORES - Rocky Singh, Owner

5901 & 4302 W. McDowell Rd, Phoenix 85035, 602-750-0711

EVENT MARKETING

New Wave Event Marketing - Doris Goetz, Owner

P.O. Box 6284, Goodyear 85338, 623-327-3798

GRAPHICS

MOORE GRAPHICS - Kevin Moore, Owner

13425 Westgate Dr, Surprise 85374, 623-972-8161

HEALTH CARE

DR. CHRIS JARON, O.D. - Optometrist

12725 W. Indian School Rd, Avondale AZ 85392, 623-512-4052

DR. VICTOR KISSIL, D.O. FACOG - Deer Valley OB-Gyn

19636 N. 27th Ave., Ste 201, Phoenix 85027 - 623-879-8161

LA LOMA VILLAGE

Susan Davis, Exec Dir

14154 Denny Blvd, Litchfld Pk 85340 - 623-537-7521

NCPDP (Natl Council for Prescription Drug Programs)

Phillip Scott, Sr VP/Business Development
9240 E. Raintree Dr., Scottsdale 85260 - 480-477-1000

SUN HEALTH

Ronald D. Guziak, President

P.O.B. 2015, 13180 N. 103rd Dr, Sun City 85351, 623-876-5660

HOTELS

JW MARRIOTT DESERT RIDGE -

Mike Collette, Govt Acct Exec

5350 E. Marriott Dr., Phoenix 85054, 480-467-8505

INSURANCE

GEICO - John Nix, Local Rep

9515 W. Camelback #134, Glendale 85037, 623-931-0766

MUSEUM

ARIZONA WING, COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE -

Richard Exler, Tour Coordinator

2017 N. Greenfield Rd, Mesa 85215, 480-924-1940 X116

NEWSPAPERS

USA TODAY - Jeanine Rogers, Account Mgr

9035 S. Kyrene Rd. Ste 106, Tempe 85284, 602-444-6143

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

PARAGON BUSINESS EQMT - Frank Cerda, Owner

540 N. Bullard Ave., Goodyear 85338, 623-932-0360

SONORAN TECHNOLOGY - Paul A. Smiley, President/CEO

15655 W. Roosevelt, Ste 201, Goodyear 85338, 623-932-7926

STATE TECH & MANUFACTURING - Ruben Cadena, CEO

2555 E. University Dr., Phoenix 85034, 602-275-0990

REALESTATE

CHAMPION PARTNERSHIPS - Adam Lyons, COO

10450 N. 74th St. #100, Scottsdale 85258, 480-751-5182

DMB ASSOCIATES INC. -

Karrin Kunasek Taylor, VP Entitlements

7600 E. Doubletree Ranch Rd, Scottsdale 85258, 480-367-7000

RESTAURANTS

KISS THE COOK - Roger Hagadorn, Owner

4915 W. Glendale Ave., Glendale 85301k, 623-939-4663

U.S. LEGISLATORS' LOCAL OFFICES

U.S. SEN. JON KYL - Sandy Ledy, 602-840-1891

2200 E. Camelback #120, Phoenix 85016

U.S. SEN. JOHN MCCAIN - Tom McCanna, 602-952-2410

2201 E. Camelback #115, Phoenix 85016

U.S. REP. JEFF FLAKE - Kelly Hedman, 480-833-0092

1640 S. Stapley Dr. #215, Mesa 85204

U.S. REP. TRENT FRANKS - Dan Hay, 623-776-7911

7121 W. Bell Rd, #200, Glendale 85308

U.S. REP. ED PASTOR - Mari Herrera, 602-256-0551

411 N. Central Ave #150, Phoenix 85004

U.S. REP. BEN QUAYLE - Erica Hittner, 602-263-5300

2400 E. Arizona Biltmore Circle #1290, Phoenix 85016

U.S. REP. DAVID SCHWEIKERT - Daniel Caldwell, 480-946-2411

10603 N. Hayden Rd, #108, Scottsdale 85260



**Frank Luke Chapter
Air Force Association**
c/o 1300 S. Litchfield Rd.
Box 1, Ste A1020
Goodyear, AZ 85338

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage Paid
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340
Permit No. 10

Viper Vigilant



www.afaluke.org

Mentoring/tutoring partnership planned with Agua Fria HS

The chapter plans to partner with the Agua Fria High School District, and Agua Fria HS, for new mentoring and tutoring projects intended to help high school students succeed both academically and socially.

This ground-breaking program will use a team approach to support the overall success in the student's life through a focus on:

- > Academics (from passing to excelling) – STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and literacy.
- > College/career opportunities (setting goals and developing a plan to get there).
- > Successful social interactions (putting your best foot forward) – public speaking and outings sponsored by the chapter to athletic events, Luke member tours, plays, etc. All outings will have a mathematic component developed for that activity.

> Mentoring clubs – computer club (AFA's CyberPatriot program is the centerpiece), Toastmasters Jr. (used to build self-confidence), golf jrs. (introduce a new sport and explore scholarship opportunities), chess club (create a pattern or thinking system that breeds success), book reading/writing (create improved skills in vocabulary and concentration; focus on improved memory, discipline and creativity) and photography.

Volunteer mentors' or tutors' time and efforts will not only improve students' lives, but will yield immense personal satisfaction in influencing our future citizens as leaders in our communities.

This mentorship program hopefully will develop into a model for use at other schools, perhaps even nationwide.

Anyone interested in volunteering for this program may contact chapter president Joe Marvin at 623-853-0829.