



AFSA *Heartbeat*



HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER 804
P.O. Box 213 – Belton, Missouri 64012

afsachapter804@gmail.com

April-June 2017

CHAPTER PRESIDENT

This is my first article as your new Chapter President and I want to thank the members for placing their support in me. I will do my best to continue in the honorable steps of my predecessors.

The first two months of this year have been sad ones. We have lost three of our members and our very sincere condolences and prayers go out to these families. **William Reed** (husband of Mariah Reed) passed away in February. Mariah is a long-time Family Member of our Chapter. Another AFSA member lost was **Dorothy (Dottie) Seidle**, CMSgt, USAF, Retired. She served our Chapter faithfully as its President and on the Executive Board as a Trustee for many years. Our most recent loss was **Gloria Pinksaw**, who was a long-standing member and had worked herself up through the ranks to become an AFSA International Auxiliary President. They all will be sadly missed. I do want to thank Patti Dalzell, as well as all the rest of the individuals, who worked so diligently to get the word out to our membership concerning the passing of these individuals.

As has been this Chapter's continued practice, our members volunteer their valuable time and efforts in the betterment of our community through volunteering at the VA Hospital and St. Michael's Veterans Home, saving education and Campbell's

Soup labels for the Spofford Home, cutting cancelled stamps and sending them to the Wounded Warriors Program to aid in their physical therapy, as well as the many other programs we take part in to enrich the lives of our veterans and their families. This is just a small sampling of areas of our involvement. There are not enough thanks that can be given for your ongoing dedication and compassion to the needs of others; therefore, let me be the first one to express my gratitude for what you do.

Congratulations to our Chapter Award winners:

Member of the Year	Charlie Dalzell
Family Member of the Year	Barbara Veach
Legislative	Curtis Gist
VA Volunteer Service	Shirley Anderson
Volunteer Service Person	Helen Hatz

Let's all take this opportunity to say "Job Well Done" and wish them all the best as they compete at the Division level.

Our AFSA Division 3 Conference is not far away. Our Chapter is the host for this event this year and we will be needing your assistance in many areas. Take the time to call Charlie Dalzell, Convention Manager, at (816) 331-7594 to see how you can help. This is also an excellent opportunity for you to come and see AFSA in action.

Once again, thank you for electing me as your President. I will do my very best; however, this is not a one-person operation. To succeed, we all need to pull together as a Team and I am depending on each one of you. **YOU ALL ARE THE BEST!!**

[Kathryn C. Oden](#)

President, AFSA Chapter 804

AFSA International Past Auxiliary President

Home: 816-331-4058

E-mail: kcoden@sbcglobal.net

LEGISLATIVE

Just a brief introduction to a little different approach to monitoring legislative issues that affect our members and their promised benefits. We will use a team effort in keeping you abreast of ongoing Federal and State legislation issues. Mark Clark, Curtis Gist and myself will work together on future newsletters and urgent bulletins that need to get to you right away so that you can contact your elected representatives. At this writing, we are indeed a divided nation in many ways. Our hope should be that our elected leaders will approach each issue with a non-partisan attitude that is right for our country and our democracy. If you have certain concerns, let us know what is important to you. Thank you for being a member of the Air Force Sergeants Association.

[Harry McLane](#), CMSgt, USAF, Retired

Vice President, AFSA Chapter 804

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E-mail: macharry@hughes.net

Uncertainty Is the New Normal

Following a contentious election, a tumultuous aftermath, it appears that uncertainty has become our new normal. The bruising nature of a political campaign with so much at stake always leaves our nation divided in the short term, but, eventually, our nation has a way of pulling itself back together and each of us has a responsibility to lead that effort. Regardless of who you voted for, we are Americans first and we should all give our new President and our new Congress a chance to lead.

As citizens, we have an obligation to work with our newly-elected leaders to make sure they understand our concerns and that they become advocates for our causes, which is why your involvement in AFSA's legislative agenda is so very important.

The 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) was signed into law on December 23, 2016, by outgoing President Obama. In that bill, there were several important victories for our members and their families. Our active duty members received a 2.1% pay raise, which is the first time in seven years that they received the raise required by law. This was a major item pushed by AFSA and a major victory for our members. The plan to slash BAH for dual military couples was defeated and the proposals for major changes to TRICARE were also defeated. Higher pharmacy co-pays were also limited by Congress, which makes a real difference for our older members living on a fixed income. None of these victories would be possible without your membership and without your involvement and advocacy with your elected officials.

We are less than 100 days into a new administration, but all indications are that the non-stop effort to reduce our benefits we survived the past eight years may be coming to an end. The new administration has signaled a desire to support our nation's warriors and their families and not to forget those who served and retired from the armed forces. This would be a welcome change, but it is up to us to make sure that our elected officials make good on their promises. This is a good time to engage your elected officials through Voter Voice to continue to push the issues important to AFSA and our members. You can find these issues at <https://www.votervoice.net/AFSA/home>.

Thank you for your continued support of AFSA Chapter 804. God Bless and thanks for all you do!

[Mark R. Clark](#), CMSgt, USAF, Retired

Senior Advisor, AFSA Chapter 804

Legislative Trustee, AFSA Division 3

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Air Force Sergeants Association 2017 Division 3 Conference



All Division 3 Chapter Members,

Our 2017 Division 3 Conference will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, 19677 East Jackson Drive, Independence, MO 64057. The dates are 4-6 May 2017. Please join us and show your support for your organization. This year the host will be "Heart of America" Chapter 804, Belton, MO.

Please make your hotel reservations early and get your conference registration form in before the deadline. The deadline for Conference Registration is 18 April at \$85.00. After that date, any late registrations will be \$100. The room rate is \$107 + 15.10% tax per room, per night. The cut-off date is 4 April and, after that date, rooms will be on a space available basis at the prevailing rate. The registration form shows two different ways to make your reservation, but I would suggest doing it by phone to make sure there are no mistakes. Attendees may receive the room rate 3 days prior to arrival and 3 days following the close of the conference. A discount of \$2 will be provided, on a full breakfast buffet per person. (Regularly \$8.95 plus tax per person)

This year the Opening/Welcoming get-together on Thursday evening will be a Cinco-de-Mayo theme (casual dress). The Opening Ceremony Friday will begin after breakfast on your own. The same goes for Saturday morning.

If you have any special meal or room requests, please indicate that on your registration form. Every effort will be made to honor your requests.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the address or phone number listed on the registration form. My email address is cod1996@kc.rr.com.

Yours in AFSA Spirit,

Charles O. Dalzell

Charlie Dalzell, SMSgt (ret)
Conference Manager

AFSA Divisions 3 2017 Conference Registration Form
4-6 May 2017

1. General Information (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION)

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone (____) _____ Chapter _____
Email Address _____

2. Membership/Attendance Status (Check all items that apply)

AFSA _____ Chief Delegate _____ Delegate _____ International Officer _____ Division Officer _____
Chapter Officer _____ Member _____ Guest _____ Airman Award Nominee _____ NCO Award Nominee _____

3. Conference Registration for All Events

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE – 18 APRIL 2017

Complete this section if you will be attending all scheduled events – Please indicate any special dietary requirements.

Registration fee includes: Thursday Presidents Reception, Friday Lunch, coffee breaks, and Saturday Honors Banquet.

I'm Pre-Registering PRIOR to 18 April 2017 for all events Number Attending _____ @ \$85.00 = Total \$ _____

I'm Late-Registering AFTER 18 April 2017 Number Attending _____ @ \$100.00 = Total \$ _____

Friday Lunch Choice-- ___ Ham & Swiss on a Kaiser roll ___ Roast Beef & Cheddar on a Kaiser roll ___ Turkey Croissant

Honors Banquet -- ___ Beef Burgundy ___ Grilled Chicken Marsala ___ Veggie Meal

4. Conference Registration for Individual Events

Complete this section if you will only be attending individual events and not the entire conference

I will attend the President's Reception on Thursday (Mexican Fiesta) _____ @ \$22.00 each = Total \$ _____

I will attend the Friday Luncheon (Indicate Meal Selection above) _____ @ \$16.00 each = Total \$ _____

I will attend the business meetings (Coffee) _____ @ \$10.00 each = Total \$ _____

I will attend the Honors Banquet Saturday (Indicate Meal Selection Above) _____ @ \$29.00 each = Total \$ _____

5. Hotel Information – Hilton Garden Inn, 19677 East Jackson Drive, Independence, MO

- Hotel Room Rate: \$107.00 + tax, 1-4 people per room, King or Double/doubles - \$2.00 discount on buffet breakfast

- To make reservations go to: https://secure3.hilton.com/en_US/gi/reservation/book.htm?inputModule=HOTEL&ctyhocn=MCINGI&spec_plan=AFS&arrival=20170504&departure=20170507&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT **You must use the entire URL & this will take you directly to the hotel reservations**

- You can also contact the hotel directly at (816) 350-3000 & make sure you mention ****Air Force Sergeants Association**** and make sure you get the room rates above.

- Hotel check-in is after 3pm on the day of arrival and check-out is 11am on the day of departure.

(Reservations received after **April 4, 2017** will be provided on a space-available basis at prevailing rates)

During this year's conference, **Friday Night** is open. The KC Royals play the Cleveland Indians. If you want to go, please let us know and we can get discounted tickets. _____ Yes _____ No

There are numerous restaurants within walking distance from the hotel.

6. Total Amount Due

Section 3 Total. This section is for people attending the entire conference **Total \$ _____**

Section 4 Total. This section is for people attending only portions of the conference **Total \$ _____**

7. Mail Completed Registration Form and All Fees To:

Division 3 Conference
Charlie Dalzell, SMSgt (ret)
7107 E. 163rd Terrace
Belton, MO 64012
816-804-5912
cod1996@kc.rr.com

MEMBERSHIP

As of March 25th, we had 942 active members, which is a decrease of 70 members since the last newsletter. This is primarily due to those members being moved from our Chapter to the new Chapter 883 located at Fort Leonard Wood, MO.

Also, our roster showed a total of 18 inactive members covering the months of September 2016 thru February 2017. Since the last newsletter, renewal requests and follow-ups were sent out for the months of February-September 2017. I am currently working on sending thank-you notes to those members who renewed through me and including a little token of my appreciation. In order for our Chapter to receive credit for the retention, **PLEASE** be sure to renew via the form you receive from me versus the form you receive from Headquarters.

Also, from January thru March 25th, our Chapter has recruited 2 members and we received credit for 26 retentions.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at my home number or e-mail listed below.

[Patti Dalzell, 816-331-7594](mailto:816-331-7594)

Chairperson

E-mail: afsachapter804@gmail.com

CARD PARTY/LUNCHEON

Monday, April 24, 2017

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Belton Christian Church, 409 Airway Lane

Salad & Dessert Lunch

\$10 Donation

Members, please bring salads!

[Helen Hatz, 816-361-4374](tel:816-361-4374)

LUNCHEONS

Our monthly luncheons are at the **Golden Corral** in Raymore, MO, on the fourth Thursday each month at 11:30 AM (unless otherwise announced).

Our luncheon dates for the remainder of the year are as follows:

- ❖ April 27
- ❖ May 25
- ❖ June 22



[Gaynelle Barnett, 816-779-6732](tel:816-779-6732)

Chairperson



CARD DAYS



Card Days for April thru June are as follows:

April 6th & 13th

May 4th & 11th

June 1st & 8th

Pinochle: 10:00 AM at Aaron's Family Fun Ctr
17070 Aaron Lane, Belton, MO

Bridge: 10:00 AM at RC's Restaurant
330 East 135th Street, KCMO

If you are interested in being a regular or sub for Pinochle or Bridge, please give us a call.

[Addy Davidson, 816-763-4903](tel:816-763-4903) (Pinochle)

[Sharon Davies, 816-331-5581](tel:816-331-5581) (Bridge)

COUPON CONNECTION

What a great start to the New Year. We have already mailed 50 pounds of coupons to three bases overseas to our military members and their families. I want to give a rousing shout out to all the special individuals who give their time to support this vital program. Every month there are those who assist at the coupon-cutting session at Carnegie Village, those who are always delivering coupons to us at the various events and to those who are always mailing us the coupons they have spent a great deal of time cutting out. We could not continue to succeed every year without you. Everyone plays an integral part in supporting our troops overseas. THANK YOU ALL!!

[Kathy Oden](mailto:kathy@afsachapter804.com), 816-331-4058

Chairperson

6101 East 149th Street
Grandview, MO 64030



Buck-a-Month (BAM) Club

Members of the BAM Club donate \$12 yearly to help us offset the printing & mailing cost of the *Heartbeat* newsletter.

You can also help save the Chapter money by signing up to receive your *Heartbeat* via email by emailing us at afsachapter804@gmail.com or calling Charlie Dalzell at 816-331-7594.

Thanks to our recent contributors –

John Hembree
Charlie Knight
George Lewis
Jane Nelson
Robert Walden



With Honor & Gratitude
We Remember

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

The next outing to the **New Theatre Restaurant** will be Tuesday, **April 4th**, to see “*Boeing, Boeing.*” All tickets are presently sold out for this show. This show promises to be as good as “*The Fabulous Lipitones*”.

Our June trip to the **Ameristar Casino** will be Thursday, **June 15th**. We will plan on meeting at the Falcon Diner at 11:30 AM for lunch and then a day of gaming afterwards.

If anyone has an idea for an outing, please feel free to contact me.

[Kathy Oden](mailto:kathy@afsachapter804.com), 816-331-4058

Chairperson

ADOPT – A – HIGHWAY

Spring is here and it's time to get our walking boots and work gloves out. I am planning the highway cleanup for Saturday, **April 22nd**, at 9:00 AM. This is Earth Day and a good day for our walk in the country. If we have inclement weather, the make-up day will be Saturday, April 29th. Please plan on attending. I will be calling you for assistance.

[Kathy Oden](mailto:kathy@afsachapter804.com), 816-331-4058

Chairperson



CHAPTER HISTORY

"Reflections"

For many months, this *Reflections* article was to be about my memories and a fond look-back to 50 years ago and what was going on at Richards-Gebaur AFB in 1967. Sadly, however, in recent months, we have lost three of the Chapter's most distinguished stars in the Chapter's history. **Robert Wright, Dorothy Avery Seidle** and **Gloria Pinksaw**. These *Reflections* are about those incredible individuals in the History of AFSA Chapter 504, A-504/804, A-804.

Robert Wright:



September 3, 1929 – May 21, 2016 (age 86) – Bob was born in Winnipeg, Canada. He spent most of his early years in Vancouver, BC, and a short period in Ireland. In 1948, he became a United States citizen and joined the Army Air Corps, attending Basic Training at Lackland AFB, FLT 3189, in June 1948. In his 28-year Air Force career, Bob's career fields included Vehicle Maintenance, Sheet Metal Specialist and Management Engineer, rising to the rank of Chief Master Sergeant. He joined AFSA in July 1962. Bob came to Richards-Gebaur AFB in 1970 and soon began coordinating to reactivate the then-deactivated Chapter 504. Bob served as the Chapter President in 1973-74, and was a driving force that propelled the Chapter to be recognized as the AFSA Chapter of the Year in 1974 at the International Convention. Additionally, Bob was very instrumental in establishing the Auxiliary in AFSA and signed the Ladies Auxiliary A-504 Charter on March 31, 1973. After retiring in 1976, Bob worked as a City Planner in Belton until moving to St. Croix Falls, WI, in 1989.

Dorothy "Dottie" Avery Seidle:



March 7, 1934 – January 24, 2017 (age 82) – Dottie was born in Denmark, WI, about 20 miles from Green Bay and, yes, you can bet Dottie was a big Packers fan. She enlisted in the U.S. Army in the mid-1950's and later was in Hawaii in the early 1960's. In 1970, Dottie came to Richards-Gebaur AFB from Scott AFB, IL, with her four children that she was raising as a single parent. She also came as a member of the Air Force Reserves and became part of the 442nd Airlift Wing, retiring as a CMSgt in 1991. Dottie joined AFSA in March 1976 and served in numerous Council positions including Chapter President in 1984-85. In 2009, she was needed again and filled the President position for two months. In her last newsletter article as President, she signed off with these lines, *"I enjoyed serving as your President, if only for a short time. I'd like to write this column like a combination of Andy Rooney and Garrison Keillor, but then you couldn't afford me and I don't have the talent. God Bless!"* Dorothy Avery Seidle, CMSgt, USAFR (Ret).

Gloria Pinksaw:



November 14, 1933 – February 5, 2017 (age 83) – Gloria Cook was born in Kansas City, MO. She married Frank Pinksaw on August 30, 1957, in Prairie Village, KS. They met while Frank was stationed at Whiteman AFB. Both Gloria and Frank were very active and dedicated to the Air Force Sergeants Association and our Chapter. Gloria first joined the AFSA Ladies Auxiliary in January 1977 as Charter Member #944 of the original 1,000 members. She served as the President of Auxiliary Chapter A-504 from 1980-83. Gloria was elected as the AFSA International Auxiliary President and served in that position from 1986-88. Over the years, Gloria continued to support AFSA as a regular attendee at Division and International Conferences, as well as organizing Luncheons and Card Parties for our Chapter. Her expertise in Parliamentary issues and Rules of Order provided me with sound advice many times while I was Chapter President.

I would say that for sure in Heaven today, there are pinochle games being played and Dottie and Gloria are right in the middle of them!

As a final thought, I would be remiss if I did not mention three other individuals that AFSA has lost recently. First, **William Reed** -- in Warrensburg (husband of Mariah Reed), **CMSgt (Ret) Geno Piccoli** -- AFSA International President, 1988-1991 and **SMSgt (Ret) Don Sullivan** -- for many years, the heart and soul of the AFSA Thunderbird Chapter at Tinker AFB, OK. God Speed to all!

[Harry McLane](#), CMSgt, USAF, Retired
Vice President & Historian, AFSA Chapter 804

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Spring is here and I'm so looking forward to some warmer temperatures. I also love listening to the sound of the birds chirping and enjoy seeing the gorgeous colors of the flowers that are growing. Take time to smell the roses, my friends. Life is short -- enjoy every day to the fullest!

I am a peanut butter fanatic and I recently found this very easy recipe with only three ingredients. I hope you enjoy these as much as I do!

3 Ingredient No-Bake Peanut Butter Oat Squares

1 cup peanut butter
½ cup honey
3 cups rolled oats (not the quick oats)

Line a 9x9 pan with foil and spray lightly with Pam.
Melt the peanut butter and honey together in the microwave until smooth. Add the oats to the melted mixture.
Press into prepared pan. Place in refrigerator until set. Cut into 20 squares.

[Patti Dalzell, 816-331-7594](mailto:816-331-7594)

Heartbeat Editor

E-mail: afsachapter804@gmail.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

- 4 New Theatre Restaurant, “*Boeing, Boeing*”
- 6 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron’s Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 6 Bridge, 10:00 AM, Ruby Tuesday, Belton, MO
- 12 AFSA General Membership Meeting, 6:00 PM, **RIGHT AFTER BINGO**, Belton Senior Center
- 13 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron’s Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 13 Bridge, 10:00 AM, Ruby Tuesday, Belton, MO
- 16 Happy Easter!
- 17 Coupon-Cutting Session, 9:30 AM, Carnegie Village (The Loft)
- 22 Highway Cleanup, 9:00 AM
- 24 Card Party/Luncheon, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Belton Christian Church
- 27 Luncheon, 11:30 AM, Golden Corral, Raymore, MO

VA Hospital Volunteer Service: 3-4-5-10-11-12-17-18-19-24-25-26

MAY

- 4 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron’s Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 4 Bridge, 10:00 AM, Ruby Tuesday, Belton, MO
- 9 AFSA General Membership Meeting, 7:00 PM, Belton Senior Center, 609 Minnie
- 11 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron’s Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 11 Bridge, 10:00 AM, Ruby Tuesday, Belton, MO
- 14 Mother’s Day!
- 15 Coupon-Cutting Session, 9:30 AM, Carnegie Village (The Loft)
- 25 Luncheon, 11:30 AM, Golden Corral, Raymore, MO
- 29 Memorial Day – Fly Your Flag!

VA Hospital Volunteer Service: 1-2-3-8-9-10-15-16-17-22-23-24-30-31

JUNE

- 1 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron’s Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 1 Bridge, 10:00 AM, Ruby Tuesday, Belton, MO
- 8 Pinochle, 10:00 AM, Aaron’s Family Fun Center, Belton, MO
- 8 Bridge, 10:00 AM, Ruby Tuesday, Belton, MO
- 13 AFSA General Membership Meeting, 7:00 PM – **NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE**
- 14 Flag Day – Fly Your Flag!
- 15 Trip to Ameristar – meet at Falcon Diner at 11:30 AM for lunch
- 18 Father’s Day!
- 19 Coupon-Cutting Session, 9:30 AM, Carnegie Village (The Loft)
- 22 Luncheon, 11:30 AM, Golden Corral, Raymore, MO

VA Hospital Volunteer Service: 5-6-7-12-13-14-19-20-21-26-27-28

JULY

- 4 Independence Day – Fly Your Flag!

Bingo every Wednesday every month, 5:00 PM, Belton Senior Center, 609 Minnie

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Free SAT & ACT College Prep Programs
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APPLE Systems
Flowers from FTD
Dell Computers
AFJROTC Employment Opportunities
Great Wolf Lodge Discount
AFSA Partners with LegalShield
Rental Car Discounts (Alamo, Enterprise)

To find out more about these Member Services go to <https://www.hqafsa.org>