Fellow Schriever Chapter Members:

We did it! Thanks to all who assisted with the planning and those attending our recent Salute to SMC Awards Banquet. If you couldn’t attend, you missed a great party. From my vantage point at the podium, the room was buzzing. On occasion, the buzz overwhelmed attempts to stay on schedule. Even so, it was a real joy for me to see everyone having a good time and enjoying networking with their dinner companions.

After dinner, the Chapter recognized Lt Gen Ellen Pawlikowski’s contributions to National Military Space Programs through presentation of our General Bernard A. Schriever Space Leadership Award to her. Additionally, we recognized Mr. Dave Madden with a Schriever Fellowship Award and also honored the best from SMC by presenting awards in 13 individual categories and one unit award. A list and pictures of awardees appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thanks to Alison Schneider and Elaine Knauf, our co-chairs of the planning Committee, for taking care of the details with the hotel and notifications of table assignments to industry. After the usual anxiety over slow table sales and registration of military and civilian members of SMC, it all came together, assuring we met commitments to the LAX Marriott. Without the toil of Don Tomajan and Arnie Streland pulling the award nominations from SMC and leading the evaluation process, we would not have had a reason to party. Thank you, fellow board members for evaluating the hundreds of nomination packages and selecting the best. A tough job done well!

On a more somber note, we will need to stay on top of the evolving restrictions being placed on government participation in events sponsored by non-government organizations such as our Chapter. So far dinners are OK, but who knows what the future will bring. Additionally, increased stress placed upon government personnel, both military and civilian, due to sequestration and budget cuts will only add to uncertainty. It was tougher this year than any I can remember in getting military and civilian participation. Bottom line is we need to be vigilant and stay appraised of changing regulations to ensure our next events, the Executive Reception on the 21st of November and the Air Force Ball on the 22nd, are successful. In discussions with AFA National, they anticipate no problem getting the necessary approvals from the Air Force Secretary’s office. We shall see…

I look forward to the many activities we participate in as part of the Air Force Association. We must all remember what our association stands for above all – A strong Air Force and support to Air Force families. I encourage all of you to tell the Air Force story to all you encounter in your daily lives. Make a special effort to make presentations to civic organizations such as Rotary and Kiwanis in your neighborhoods. Appropriate materials are available at afa.org. Also let your Congressional representatives know where you stand in this trying time. Washington needs our help to get their act together to make the right decisions for the good of our nation.

Ed Peura
President
Schriever Chapter 147 (AFA)
The Schriever Chapter has had a very busy and productive Quarter.
Take a look:
Whale Watching
Membership Mixer
ROTC News
Salute to SMC

WHALE WATCHING:
From Jerry Saunders, Community Relations Chair -

Chapter 147 does many things most folks just aren’t aware of. Here are a few photographs of the Whale Watching for the Veterans. It couldn’t have gone more perfectly! We had veterans from New Directions, US Vets in Long Beach, US Vets in Inglewood, Veteran’s Village Recovery Center in Long Beach, and the Gardena Vets Center. We even had 12 from the Blind Rehab center who had a wonderful time with the smell of the ocean, feel of the ocean, and hearing everything. It was such a great day - the support of Chapter 147 was so very appreciated!

OK, so it’s not a whale, but I’ll bet they got the idea.
MEMBERSHIP MIXER:

We have a Membership Mixer twice a year; the first was early April. We tried an experiment by shifting it to Thursday because Fridays are tough for people to stick around, but we think we'll shift back to Friday in the fall. On the other hand, with civilian furloughs the new reality, Thursday is the new Friday on the base, so we'll have to see. Even when the new FY changes, schedules may still be pretty crazy. The only thing we know for sure is that we'll have a Mixer in the fall and you should be there!

Maj Gen Feehan was our speaker – pretty fresh off shoulder surgery, but he was a trooper and gave a rousing talk supporting AFA. Ed Peura, Chapter President, is in the background not wanting to upstage the General, and Nancy Insprucker, who arranged the Mixer, is in the second picture.

A real treat for us, Cadet Travis Jordan, one of our local ROTC students, came to see what all the fuss was about. He has since been to a Board meeting as well. A wonderful young man; the future USAF is in good hands. L to R: Chapter Sr VP Steve Scott, Rolando Ventura, and Board members Arnie Streland and Ed Alexander.

Tom Lasser, Ed Peura, John Parsons sharing war stories….. or bottles of Geritol.
From ever-alert Board Member Bob Marohn, who knows a good article when he sees it:

Pictured are AFA Schriever Chapter 147 Board Members, Steve Scott, Senior Vice President, and Nancy Fitzgerald, Past President/ROTC Programs Coordinator, welcoming to our June Board Meeting Lt Col Joe Gordon, incoming Commander and Professor of Aerospace Studies, AF ROTC Detachment 040, Loyola Marymount University. Lt Col Gordon is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy (go Falcons!) and holds a Masters Degree in Materials Engineering from Auburn University (War Eagles) and a PhD in Applied Physics from the Air Force Institute Of Technology (mascot removed due to sequestration). In support of the AFA Education Mission, the Schriever Chapter supports the AF ROTC Detachments at LMU, UCLA, and USC. The Chapter works closely with the Detachment Commanders to assure that an effective relationship is maintained. For many years a significant portion of the Chapter Education Foundation funds have been provided to the three ROTC Detachments for scholarships and other programs to encourage the cadets to opt for Air Force careers. Last year $10,000 and this year $7,000 was provided to each of the three Detachments. Lt Col Gordon succeeds Colonel Charles P. Corley, who has retired from active duty after a long and distinguished Air Force career.

In a related ROTC story from Treasurer Rick Reaser, your Chapter gave two $500 scholarships to two San Pedro HS AFJROTC Cadets — Cesar Olvera and Lexas Granger. Not only are they younger than Rick by a country mile, they have more medals than he ever hoped to receive.
2013 SALUTE TO SMC

Your Chapter hosted the 39th Salute to SMC on 31 May. Although operating with sequestration restrictions on attendance, we were able to recognize some fantastic SMC professionals, and the industry panels earlier in the day discussed cost considerations and satellite ground systems in detail. SMC provided the moderators, Col Beidleman from XR, and Ms. Joy White from contracting, and they guided two very valuable discussions during the session. In the evening, Chapter 147 presented awards to 13 extremely deserving folks. As always, the competition was keen — and every Directorate plus Staff vied for the awards. Congratulations to every nominee and many thanks to the supervisors who took the time to submit their people for an award.

FORUM

AFA Executive Forum Discusses Ground Systems, Overhead Efficiencies

Friday morning, May 31, the Schriever Chapter hosted its annual Executive Forum, bringing together about thirty industry executives and about twenty SMC senior leaders to discuss topics of interest to the Commander. This year’s theme was “Succeeding in a Cost-Constrained Environment.” The Forum comprised panel discussions on two topics: “Opportunities/Challenges with our Satellite Ground Systems” and “Achieving Greater Indirect Cost and Overhead Efficiencies.” Both panels provided spirited, candid presentations and suggestions for SMC actions to improve performance and reduce costs to the Government, and generated many questions and comments from the audience. The “Satellite Ground Systems” panel featured Col Scott Beidleman (SMC/XR) as moderator, with Jeff Benesh (Deep Sky Solutions), Steve Bergjans (Northrop Grumman Information Systems), Gerry Fasano (Lockheed Martin Information Systems & Global Solutions), Jim Simpson (Boeing Space & Intelligence Systems), and Bob Canty (Raytheon Intelligence, Information & Services) as panelists. The “Overheads and Indirect Costs” panel featured Ms. Joy White (SMC/PK) as moderator, with Rick Ambrose (Lockheed Martin Space Systems), Craig Cooning (Boeing Space & Intelligence Systems), Mike Gutto (Scitor Space & Launch), Chris Long (Orbital Sciences Advanced Programs), and Jim Takayesu (Tecolote Research) as panelists. Other distinguished visitors participating included three former SMC Commanders, Lt Gen (ret) Tom Sheridan, Lt Gen (ret) Mike Hamel, and Lt Gen (ret) Gene Tattini; Dr. Wanda Austin (Aerospace Corporation); and former SMC Executive Director Bill Maikisch.

1st panel – Satellite Ground Systems
Col Scott Beidleman, Mr. Gerry Fasano, Mr. Steve Bergjans, Mr. Rob Canty, Mr. Jim Simpson, Mr. Jeff Benesh

2nd panel – Overhead Cost Efficiencies
Ms. Joy White, Mr. Rick Ambrose, Mr. Jim Takayesu, Mr. Craig Cooning, Mr. Mike Gutto, Mr. Chris Long

Lt Gen Pawlikowski speaking at the Forum
AFA Schriever Chapter Celebrates SMC’s “Best of the Best”

The chapter honored SMC’s Commander, Lt Gen Ellen Pawlikowski, with its most prestigious award, the General Bernard A. Schriever Space Leadership Award, for outstanding leadership in the national security space enterprise. The chapter also honored SMC Vice Commander, SES Dave Madden, with a Schriever Fellowship Award, whereby a deserving student will be given a fellowship in his name for academic studies of interest to AFA. Further, the SMC Commander selected a SPO Director of the Year (the O’Neill Award), and the chapter presented thirteen individual awards and the Unit of the Year Award.

- Lt Gen O’Neill SPO Director of the Year: Col Janet Grondin, Range & Satellite Control Network Division
- Lt Gen Schultz Outstanding Program Manager: Ms. Charlotte Gerhart, MILSATCOM Systems Directorate
- Lt Gen Henry Outstanding Leader: MSgt Michael Zarter, Jr., Space Superiority Systems Directorate
- General Phillips Outstanding Young Engineer/Scientist: 1Lt Michael Nayak, Space Development & Test Directorate
- Dr. Rockefeller Outstanding Civilian: Ms. Tracy Stroud, Contracting Directorate
- Lt Gen McCartney Outstanding Senior Company Grade Officer: Capt Christian Balmaceda, Contracting Directorate
- Lt Gen DeKok Outstanding Airman: SrA Jett Bryan, Space Development & Test Directorate
- Maj Gen Taverner Outstanding Reservist: Lt Col Elizabeth Ward, Developmental Planning Directorate
- Chapter Award of Excellence (Staff/Supporting Member): Mr. James Hageman, Contracting Directorate
- Chairman’s Award (Outstanding Field Grade Officer): Lt Col David Conley, Launch Systems Directorate
- President’s Award (Outstanding Non-Commissioned Officer): TSgt Mindy Howard, Space Superiority Systems Directorate
- Outstanding Junior Company Grade Officer: 1Lt Spenser Lee, Infrared Systems Directorate
- Kathleen L Landis Outstanding Volunteer: 2Lt Ryan Campbell, Infrared Systems Directorate
- Unit of the Year: MILSATCOM Systems Directorate

All SMC Winners
1st Row: Ed Puera, Chapter 147 President, Lt Col Beth Ward, Tracy Stroud (winner & accepting for James Hageman), Jeannine Madden (accepting the Schriever Fellowship for her husband, Dave), Charlotte Gerhart; Lt Gen Pawlikowski, Lt Ryan Campbell, Tav Taverner, Chapter 147 Board Chairman. 2nd Row: Col Xavier Chavez, Lt Col David Conley, Col Janet Grondin, Lt Col Russ Teehan (accepting for Zarter & Howard), Capt Spenser Lee, Michael Nayak. Note: Capt Christian Balmaceda is not pictured.

2nd quarter, 2013
AN INDEPENDENT NON-PROFIT AEROSPACE ORGANIZATION
P.O. Box 394
El Segundo, CA 90245
At least they all got the memo on the tie. Pictured: Arnie Streland, who did a wonderful job in his first year as the Awards Chairman, Steve Quilici, immediate past Chapter President, Ed, and Don Tomajan, who organized the nominations and selections.

DeKok Award
(SSgt Jett Bryan received his award at Kirtland at the SD Dining Out the same evening) Ed, Tav, Carolyn DeKok (widow of Lt Gen Roger DeKok), and Lt Gen Pawlikowski with the perpetual DeKok award

Schriever Award
Ed, Lt Gen Pawlikowski, & Tav

McCartney Award
Capt Christian Balmaceda, Worthy McCartney (daughter of Lt Gen Forrest McCartney), Hallie Bodey (daughter of Worthy McCartney)
General Air Force and AFA news from the last Quarter that may be of interest to you:

**Donley Bids Airmen Farewell**

Air Force Secretary Michael Donley bid farewell to airmen during a departure ceremony at JB Andrews, MD, on June 21. Donley was confirmed as the 22nd USAF Secretary on Oct. 2, 2008—a contentious point in Air Force history. He had served as the acting Secretary since June of that year, as well as for seven months in 1993, making him the longest serving Secretary in the history of the Air Force. During the ceremony, he was praised by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, Deputy Defense Secretary Ash Carter, and Chief of Staff General Mark Welsh for "reinvigorating the nuclear enterprise," overseeing a successful contract award for the KC-46A tanker replacement, and establishing Air Force Global Strike Command and 24th Air Force, among other accomplishments. "Brick by brick, Donley…has re-established the reputation and morale of our Air Force," said Carter. Welsh said, "America is stronger because Mike Donley chose to serve," Donley used the occasion to make one final appeal to Congress to repeal sequestration, and he thanked airmen and their families for serving. "It's been an honor to serve with you in the world's finest Air Force," said Donley. Air Force Undersecretary Eric Fanning will serve as acting Secretary until the Senate confirms a replacement.

**Modernization Faces the Knife**

Air Force Secretary Michael Donley laid out the price of Congress' continued refusal to accept hard choices and set budgets that the service can plan to. "If there continues to be resistance to force structure changes, to base closures, to constraining growth in compensation, and given our current focus on trying to improve readiness," continuation of the sequester into the next fiscal year likely would require "disproportionate cuts to our modernization programs," said Donley during a May 24 press briefing in the Pentagon. "These cutbacks in modernization would put at risk the Air Force capabilities this nation will need in the decades ahead," said Donley. He noted that in answering the last call for $487 billion in Defense Department-wide cuts, "the cancellation or delay of modernization programs accounted for 65 percent of total Air Force reductions" across the future years defense program. Chief of Staff General Mark Welsh, appearing with Donley, said the sequester has "driven us over the readiness cliff," and the Air Force can't even think about new starts until its "readiness crisis" is addressed. "We've entered a period from which we must first recover before we can think about what else might be possible down the road," said Welsh. (Donley-Welsh transcript)
On the Offense in Space

Despite budget cutbacks, Defense Department officials believe that there are critical areas where they must make investments in the new strategic environment, said Deputy Defense Secretary Ash Carter. This includes building resilient space systems and having the ability to challenge others in space, he said during a May 7 speech at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. As with cyber warfare, DOD needs to figure out where to defend, when it is possible and when it is not possible across its various space systems, such as weather and navigation satellites, and how to operate without the availability of these capabilities, said Carter. "We are also developing options to counter space capabilities of potential adversaries," he noted. For the first time, DOD is integrating experts into its space programs who understand anti-satellite and counterspace threats and are helping to develop plans of action to make space systems more survivable, he said. "This is a new effort and we are devoting resources to that in this budget," said Carter. DOD is also making investments in capabilities to "deny the use of space against our forces," he said. (Carter transcript)

Yes, I Admit, It's Getting Better, a Little Better

The Defense Department's newest selected acquisition report (SAR) includes "zero Nunn-McCurdy breaches," said Frank Kendall, Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics. The report demonstrates "there is some evidence that things are getting better" in the acquisition process, said Kendall during a speech at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, DC, on May 23. The SAR is the Pentagon's periodic assessment of the cost of its major weapons programs. A Nunn-McCurdy breach informs Congress that a program's cost has shot up 15 percent or more. Rolling out "Best Buying Practices 2.0," a new slate of initiatives to reduce costs and improve results, Kendall noted, "We're getting some complimentary reports from the [Government Accountability Office] for the first time in my memory," as well. While he doesn't want to "make too much of two data points," he said the milestones indicate that DOD is "moving in the right direction." Kendall said he believes in evolutionary, rather than sudden, transformational steps to improve processes. "Evolutionary, yes, but transformational over time. If we continue to make improvements on the margin—and that's what this is all about—we will get transformational results," he said.