



# Air Force Association

## General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter

### Quarterly Newsletter

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<http://www.afa-gabriel.org/>

Volume 2009, Issue 2

## Message from the Chapter President

Dear Gabriel Chapter and AFA Members and Friends,

The General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter of the Air Force Association continues a very successful year with activities in all our focus areas. Below is a short summary of our 2009 activities:

1. Salutes and Military Affairs – Our Chapter helped recognize the top performers during two very successful Salute to Space events--the first for the Deputy Undersecretary of the Air Force for Space (SAF/US) and the second for the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO). We hosted the SAF/US Salute on March 26 at the AFA Headquarters and welcomed over 95 attendees. We hosted the NRO Salute at NRO Conference Center on May 4, for more than 175 staff and family members. I would like to thank our loyal industry partners—their generous support allowed the Gabriel Chapter AFA to host two ceremonies to honor these award winners. We also presented the AFA Citation of Honor to the NRO Enterprise Operations Squadron for their exceptional work supporting the Air Force mission. Next event: a summer Wounded Warrior outreach jointly sponsored by your Chapter and NRO for injured military members and their families from all US services.
2. Education and Teacher of the Year – Our committee worked with six local high schools to select Karen Malloy from Chantilly Academy as the Chapter's Aerospace Education Foundation (AEF) Teacher of the Year. She proved we made the right choice when she donated our \$500.00 award to fund a student's research project at the College of William & Mary. We sent her nomination forward for State and National recognition. We worked with NRO to again encourage completion of education by providing a \$500 scholarship funding to the top NRO graduate from the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) two-year associate's degree. Our most recent awardee was SSgt Jonathan E. Besko.
3. Chapter Lunches and VA State AFA support – We held a very successful lunch on March 30 where our AFA President retired General Mike Dunn challenged the audience to take a deeper view of the emerging threat and challenges. The next Chapter Luncheon will be scheduled in the Chantilly area and focus on our NRO partner.
4. Membership and Community Partners – We continue to strengthen our chapter and AFA to provide better value to our members and Air Force constituency. We actively recruited ten new individuals for industry and the Air Force last quarter and plan for the same this quarter. We are actively recruiting people who will form the next generation of aerospace professionals to join AFA and the Gabriel Chapter. We are also actively

soliciting community partners to share the support for the military organizations and companies in our AOR.

5. Chapter Communications – This newsletter is one example of how we strengthen our ability to communicate with our membership, community and Air Force constituency. Please go to our new enhanced chapter web site ([www.afa-gabriel.org](http://www.afa-gabriel.org)) to find other news about our chapter, AFA and the Air Force.

Our chapter goals are to support our military constituency, grow our partnership with our industry colleagues, and reach out to the young people who will form the next generation of aerospace professionals. These activities depend on our dedicated volunteers to provide the planning and execution support to make them successful. I solicit your support for these worthy activities by volunteering your time to help one of these activity teams. Four to six people on each of these activity teams will enable us to spread the volunteer workload and successfully accomplish our Chapter goals. We appreciate your AFA membership and your active involvement to make these goals a reality. Our contact data is posted on the Headquarters AFA website. Please find an area of interest and get involved. Together we can make a difference for our Gabriel Chapter and the United States Air Force.

Thank you for your support.

Ken Spencer

*President, General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter  
Air Force Association*

## Chapter Activities

### AFA Gabriel Chapter Recognizes Top CCAF Graduate

The General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter is pleased to have established and funded a \$500 scholarship for the top CCAF graduate from the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), SSgt Jonathan E Besko, who intends to pursue an undergraduate degree. Additionally the Chapter will fund a one-year membership in the AFA for the awardee, for a total value of \$536

(scholarship and AFA membership). The NRO Senior Enlisted Advisor conducts the award recipient selection process. All NRO members in the current CCAF graduating class are eligible for this award.



*Chief, retired, Gary Coleman presented the CCAF Top Graduate Award to squadron representative for SSgt Jonathan E. Besko, NRO*

This scholarship is presented in honor of Colonel Matthew Monczewski, USAFR (Retired), who passed away on 13 November 2008. Colonel Monczewski served his country with distinction for 30 years as both an Air Force Reserve officer and as a Foreign Service Officer in increasingly responsible positions at nine U.S. embassies and installations in Russia and former Soviet Republics, East and West Europe, Africa and Southeast Asia. An active life member of the Air Force Association, Colonel Monczewski ably represented the noteworthy qualities of our Chapter namesake, the late General Charles A. Gabriel, who was a distinguished combat leader and U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff from 1982-1986.

### AFA Gabriel Chapter Participates in Memorial Day Ceremony



On Memorial Day, 25 May 09, the extended Air Force family marked the annual day of remembrance to honor our fallen heroes with a wreath-laying ceremony. About 175 citizens participated; the attendees included active duty, veteran and retired service members plus families, visitors and many uniformed members of allied Air Force organizations. The special event was conducted at the AF Memorial, which provided a stunning morning view of the

Pentagon, our Nation's Capitol area, and a sweeping view of the Potomac River valley.

The Air Force Association and the Air Force Sergeants Association hosted the commemorative Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony. The event included the national anthem, an invocation, the laying of the wreath and the sounding of Taps. CMSgt McKinley, the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, served as the key note speaker. Our Air Force Honor Guard participated and many uniformed attendees

underscored the significance of this commemoration of the men and women who have died in service to our nation.



### **Gabriel Chapter Conducts Fourth Annual Salute to Space: National Reconnaissance Office**

The Gabriel Chapter successfully conducted the fourth annual Salute to Space: National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) ceremony on Monday, 4 May 2009, at the J.D. Hills Conference Center, Westfields Complex in Chantilly, VA. The Salute was established to provide recognition of annual award winners from the entire NRO organization who made significant contributions to the national reconnaissance mission in CY 2008.

There was strong participation from the NRO leadership and across the entire organization. Major General Ellen Pawlikowski, the Acting Director, NRO, presided over the ceremony. General Pawlikowski highlighted the importance of the NRO mission, the superb work of the individual and team annual award winners, the value of the Air Force Association and the support of the Gabriel Chapter and our industry partners.

Representing the Gabriel Chapter AFA were Mr. Ken Spencer, Chapter President, Captain DeWitt Latimer, Chapter Vice President, and Mr. Fred Knowles, Chapter Treasurer.

This year's top individual and team winners for 2008 from NRO included:

- NRO Field Grade Officer of the Year: Major David M. Ashley, USAF
- NRO Company Grade Officer of the Year: Captain Brian L. Chatman, USAF
- NRO Senior Enlisted of the Year: Master Sergeant Robert L. Jones, USAF
- NRO Middle Enlisted of the Year: Staff Sergeant Marical B. Villegas, USAF
- NRO Junior Enlisted of the Year: Staff Sergeant Jesse Joe Y. Rubbo, USAF
- NRO Senior Civilian of the Year: Mr. Mario Jimenez
- NRO Civilian of the Year: Mr. Scott M. Horan
- Director's Team of the Year: Swift Cane Team

Our industry sponsors helped the Gabriel Chapter to present this annual event. Our industry partners in the aerospace community continue to be strong supporters of our Gabriel AFA military outreach activities, including our SAF/US(D) and NRO Salute programs and Wounded Warrior events. Our Gabriel Chapter Platinum sponsors this year include: The Boeing Company, Booz Allen Hamilton, Integrity Applications Incorporated, Lockheed Martin Corporation, Orbital Sciences Corporation, and USIS. Our Silver sponsor was Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). Our Bronze sponsor was Cassidy and Associates on behalf of their partner, Boston University Photonics Center.

The Gabriel Chapter participates in planning and provides the presentations and refreshments for these annual award events reflecting outstanding achievement in the space fields. We especially encourage supervisors, colleagues, and family members to attend. This year, in excess of 125 persons from NRO, including family members, Gabriel Chapter and our sponsors attended.

MSgt Deb Graham, the NRO representative to the Gabriel Chapter AFA, volunteered as the on-site Gabriel Chapter Salute project officer for planning. She was assisted in this superb

award ceremony by numerous colleagues from the NRO Top Three organization. The NRO Company Grade Officers Council was actively involved in the planning and execution of the event as well.

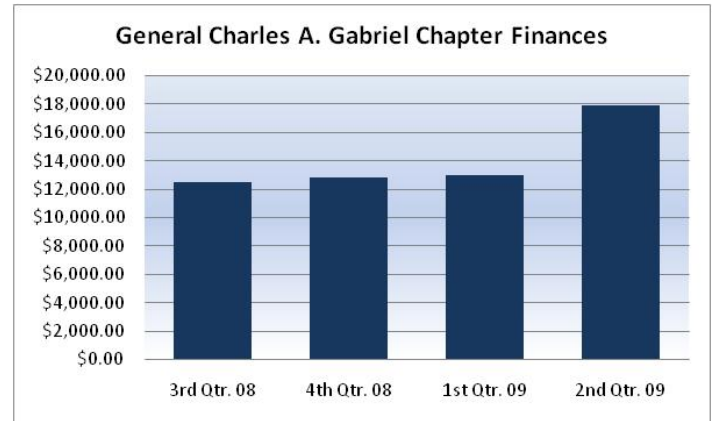
The Salute to Space: NRO preparation and presentation continued the tradition of outstanding organization and leadership by the NRO Top Three Senior Enlisted Council, and our own Gabriel Chapter Salute members: Al Childers, Nancy Cribb, Filip daSilva, Bert Lassiter, Thea Lehming-Brandt, Nick Strocchia and Terry Young.

For details or to volunteer to plan and conduct Chapter events, please go to the Gabriel AFA website at <http://www.afa-gabriel.org/>.

## Chapter Finances

Gabriel Chapter Treasurer, Fred Knowles, reports on the Chapter's Finances:

### Chapter Financial Activity



*\*Current values are as of date of newsletter publication\**

#### Inflow:

- AFA Quarterly Rebates
- Salute Sponsorship
- Chapter Luncheon

#### Outflow:

- EXCOM Meeting Administrative Expenses
- Teacher of the Year
- Salute to Space- NRO Supplies, Catering, and Plaques

**The General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter of the Air Force Association**

Thanks our Sponsors

Platinum:

Integrity Applications Incorporated

Booz | Allen | Hamilton

delivering results that endure

Silver:

Bronze:

## Update Your Information

Please visit the Chapter web site at <http://www.afa-gabriel.org/> to update your contact information and gain access to additional information on the Gabriel Chapter's history, meetings, and events.

## Suggestions?

Do you have a suggestion for the newsletter or a Chapter initiative? Please feel free to contact us at [afa\\_gabriel\\_chapter@afa-gabriel.org](mailto:afa_gabriel_chapter@afa-gabriel.org).

### Executive Committee

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