

AFA members are reminded that the AFA Chapter Board meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at Sebring's Kenilworth Lodge starting at 4:30 p.m.



AFA BULLSEYE

Official Newsletter of the Florida Highlands Chapter of the Air Force Association

September 2009

COME JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE USAF 62ND BIRTHDAY SEPTEMBER 19

All AFA members and friends are urged to attend the annual birthday observation of the United States Air Force on Saturday, September 19th at the Military Sea Services Museum in Sebring, Florida.

The event will take off at 11:45 a.m. with a Flag Raising and Salute to Old Glory outside the Museum located at the intersection of Kenilworth Boulevard and Roseland Avenue.

Following the ceremonies, a special luncheon and program will be held in the Museum proper. The members of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) chapter will be joining AFA for this special AFA event.

"We have asked the two newest members of the local area Air Force Junior ROTC personnel to be our special guests and to give us some personal information about them selves," said local AFA president William E. Hutchison who recently retired from his AFJROTC spot in Avon Park.

The newest instructors are Major J. Kendall Galloway, USAF (Ret), a navigator, and Chief Master Sergeant Robert Waltich, electronic security operator. Major Galloway has replaced Colonel Hutchison at Avon Park High School while Chief Waltich is joining LtCol Tony Hingle at the Hardee County Senior High School at Wachulla.

It was in 1947 that the U.S. military was reorganized under the Department of Defense with the Army Air Forces transformed into the United States Air Force. From its inception in the early 1900s as a part of the U.S. Army Signal Corps, to the days of the Army Air Service, to the Army Air Corps and finally before 1947 to the Army Air Forces, air power has been an integral part of our national defense.

All AFA and MOAA members as well as spouses are urged to attend this 62nd anniversary of the founding of the United States Air Force.

Luncheon cost is \$15.00 per person and all reservations are needed no later than September 17th, AFA and MOAA officials said.

DIRECTOR OF AIR FORCES' JUNIOR ROTC PROGRAM SPOKE TO LOCAL AFA AND MOAA MEMBERS SATURDAY, AUGUST 22ND AT AVON PARK AFRANGE



Colonel Richard J. Ragaller, USAF

Colonel Richard J. Ragaller, USAF, Director of the Air Force Junior ROTC units world wide, was the guest speaker at the annual "Welcome Back Luncheon" for the local Junior ROTC units.

"We were certainly pleased to have Colonel Ragaller give us an update on the Junior ROTC programs and what is being considered for future," said the event's co-chairman retired Air Force Colonel William E. Hutchison, president of the local Air Force Association (AFA) Chapter.

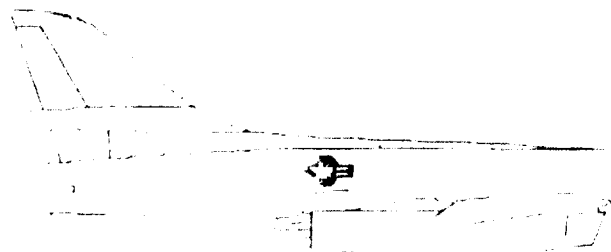
The luncheon was held on Saturday, August 22nd in the Avon Park Air Force Range Dining Facility with the presentation of Colors by members of the Avon Park AFJORTC Color Guard promptly at 12 noon and invocation given by AFA and also a MOAA member retired Major Roger Perkins.

Colonel Ragaller told of his responsibilities for the Air Force's High School Citizenship Training program for more than 102,000 students at over 850 high schools world-wide and , managing over 1,800 instructors. In his capacity, Colonel Ragaller and his staff, based at Maxwell Air Force Base, AL, directs initiatives and policy to implement the world's largest and most comprehensive aerospace science education program.

Instructors welcomed this year include Colonel Warren Johnson and Sergeant First Class Robert Robinson of the Lake Placid High School Army JROTC; School Army JROTC; Major Colonel Robert Smith and Senior Master Sergeant Larry Ferguson at Sebring High School Air Force JROTC; Lieutenant Colonel Tony Hingle and Chief Master Sergeant Robert Waltich at Hardee Senior High School, Major J. Kendall Galloway and Chief Master Sergeant Dennis Green at the Avon Park High School Air Force Junior ROTC. The instructors and their spouses were guests of the two sponsoring organizations.

Following Colonel Ragaller's presentation, attendees were updated on the activities and training exercises at the Avon Park Air Force Range by the Range Commander LtCol Charles "Buck" MacLaughlin.

The Junior ROTC instructors was given an open invitation by Colonel MacLaughlin to utilize the Avon Park AF Range facilities for various types of training for their cadets as long it didn't conflict with a major military forces exercise.



LATE INFORMATION RE: SEPTEMBER 19th LUNCHEON

AFA AND MOAA TO OBSERVE 62nd ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE SEPT 19

Members of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) are joining the local Air Force Association (AFA) to mark the 62nd anniversary of the United States Air Force on Saturday, September 19th at the Military Sea Services Museum in Sebring..

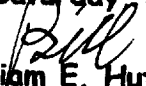
The event will start at 11:30 a.m. with a Flag Raising Ceremony followed by a luncheon which will feature presentations by two Air Force retirees: Major J. Kendall Galloway and Chief Master Sergeant Robert Waltich.

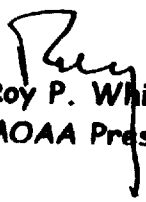
Major Galloway recently assumed command of the Avon Park Air Force Junior ROTC unit while Chief Waltich joined LtCol Tony Hingle at the Hardee Senior High School Junior ROTC at Wauchula.

"We are looking forward to hear Major Galloway, who served as an Air Force navigator, and Chief Waltich, whose Air Force career was primarily in the intelligence field, share with us some of their experiences that carried them to many parts of the world," said AFA president recently retired from the Avon Park AFJROTC Colonel William E. Hutchison, co-chairman of the event with MOAA president Colonel Roy P. Whitton.

It was also announced that the annual AFA Community Service Awards will be presented to several individuals and organizations. These will include the Major Tommy McGuire Outstanding Citizen Award to retired Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Mitchell; Matty Laird Outstanding Support to Civil Aviation to the Avon Park Jet Center Board, AFA News Media Support of Aviation to Larry Levey and Congressman Adam Putnam for Outstanding Support of Aviation, USAF and AFA. Several other awards whose recipients have yet to be notified will be announced later.

"We urge AFA and MOAA members to help us celebrate the Air Force's 62nd birthday on Saturday, September 19th"


William E. Hutchison
AFA President.


Roy P. Whitton
MOAA President