



Air Force Sergeants Association

Airfield 858

What's Happening for 2007

We are planning even more fun and exciting events for this year. We need your help to plan and run these events! Please contact Michael Vosen if you want to help!

- Feb. 3, Membership night and Sew Much Comfort event.
- Feb.3, Ch 858 Leadership elections and appointments
- 19-22 April Div. 8 convention
- AFSA/AFA Banquet planned for May of 2007 (We need volunteers to be apart of the planning committee) We are also looking for Sponsors for AFSA Tables
- May - Aug. Dome nights (TBT) We need a volunteer to coordinate and take the lead. This Is a GREAT opportunity for one of our members to do something that can really help out our chapter!
- Other fund raisers BX Shoe Shine AFSA Car wash, AFSA Coins
- June Membership meeting and Summer BBQ get together
- Sponsor Summer Softball Team
- July, 934th golf event
- September Family Day
- Nov. Membership meeting
- And MORE

Volunteers Needed!

Our Chapter is in need of a few good people to help out the chapter!

We are in need of a volunteer to help lead and organize fund raising events and activities. Twins Dome nights have been successful in the past. Other ideas: Krispy Kream, AFSA coin sales, Shoe shine, Car Wash etc. We are open to ideas.

We also need a volunteer to lead up a group that focuses on our retired community. Set up activities for our retired AFSA community so everyone can be involved.

We also need to fill some key positions in the leadership team.

Please contact MSgt Michael Vosen if you are interested in volunteering or come to our meeting.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello and a Happy New Year to all!

I am so excited about all the possibilities for this New Year and for our chapter!

We have another exciting year planned for our chapter and for AFSA as an organization. I am planning on even more involvement and exposure of our chapter to our local communities. I need your help. I need each of you to volunteer to help out in your communities. We all can do a little as a representative of AFSA in conjunction with other organizations and events. As an example, we are doing a joint effort with Sew Much Comfort, a non profit organization that helps service members who have special clothing needs, this February at our membership meeting. (See flyer below) Our Chapter is planning many future events, and we are always looking for volunteers. (Dome nights, Awards Banquet, JrROTC and CAP awards, OAY for Air Force Res. and ANG, to name a few) If you don't have the time to help out, you can help with a small donation to our chapter. All the money our organization generates in fund raising goes back into helping out our membership, recognition programs, convention, donations and our to our communities. Thanks for your help and let's make this a great year for our chapter!

MSgt Michael J. Vosen

AFSA Chapter 858 Retention of our AFSA Members

By Mark Davidson (Retention)

Retention and recruiting are important to AFSA just like it's important to the military. You can keep recruiting people but you must find a way and a purpose to keep them in.

About 65-70% of AFSA Chapter 858 is made up of military retirees. We are getting older as a chapter and as an organization. I hope each and every member renews when their membership before they expire so we can keep our chapter membership going strong and continue to maintain over one thousand members.

The more members we have in AFSA the better our chances are of maintaining our hard-earned military benefits because the politicians see numbers of voters when it comes to professional military organizations. I would say that this is the main reason for being a member of AFSA.

Recruiting of New Members:

We all need to do our part in recruiting new members! Ask your unit co-workers if they are members? Buy a one-year membership for your troops. Ask your leadership if they want to be members. Recognize your top performers with a membership. Ask your fellow veterans if they want to join. We all need to do just a little to help our organization grow!

On the Web

Chapter 858 web site:

<http://afsa858.home.att.net>

LOOK for our NEW Web site coming this Spring!!!

Division 8

www.afsa8.org

AFSA Headquarters: www.afsahq.org

Legislative Status: <http://thomas.loc.gov>

All these sites have great links to other informative web sites!



**This year we want to accomplish even more goals than ever. To do this, we need your help.
Please help us with our goals and donate or volunteer your time.**

**Activities planed this year: Annual Awards Banquet, CAP and Jr. ROTC Recognition, OAY Recognition
Plaques, AFSA Division 8 and AFSA International Conventions**

Yes, I would like to help out and volunteer please contact me at:

Yes, I would like to volunteer and I've enclosed a check.
Please contact me at:

No I don't have time to volunteer, but I will donate. I've enclosed a
check.



Please send correspondence to: Michael J. Vosen, 2211 Clearwater Rd. St. Cloud MN 56301
Or call (320) 259 - 0228 or email mjvosen@hotmail.com

[AFSA Ch858 and HQ AFSA Updates](#)

We will be launching a **NEW WEB SITE** this spring. More details to come as we get things finalized!

The **Division 8 Convention** is scheduled for 19-22 April, Kansas City MO. I would like to have a group of members, from our chapter, attend this convention. (Road Trip!). If you are interested please contact Michael Vosen.

Dome Night Training and schedule and fund-raiser: TBD

AFSA/AFA Annual Recognition Banquet: Date and location will be posted soon on our web site (May 07)

As you know over the past few years AFSA and AFA has held a joint recognition banquet to recognize top performers in the local area for the Air Force Reserves, Air National Guard, JrROTC, CAP and other local area programs. We move the Recognition Banquet to the Spring in hopes to increase participation. We need your help. AFSA Ch 858 and the General Rawlings Chapter of AFA is work together to plan this major event. To help offset the cost for the event, we are looking for Sponsors to buy tables. We are asking members to talk with their employers, and units, and ask them to sponsor a table. The cost for sponsorship has not been determined at this time, but as soon as information is available we will post more details on our web site. The sponsorship gives the donator two free tickets to the banquet and table recognition. The money generated by the sponsorship helps to pay for the award winners and their guest and the plaques and certificates. We will be recognizing a larger number of people this Spring because we did not do a Fall banquet. More details will be available soon and posted on email and our web site.

The AFSA International Convention is scheduled for Aug. 2007 in Orlando Florida. We would like to send a team out to represent our chapter in the voting process at the meetings. If you have never been to one of the conventions, you have got to go! Contact Michael Vosen if you are interested.

Spring Jr.ROTC and CAP awards presented at local schools. We need volunteers to present awards, certificates and medals.

Change in Your Status: Reminder to all AFSA members, if you have any change in your status (ie address change, phone number change, e-mail updates, etc.) Please contact HQ AFSA to update records: call: 1-800-638-0594 (ask for membership)

[Legislative Update](#)

It's a brand new year and a brand new Congress and Senate. AFSA will launch their usual request for legislation. See the Sergeants magazine from Sept. 06 for a list of top items of concern. Send e-mail or letters to your Senators and Congress members and voice your concerns on what you feel is needed to help support the needs of military members, retirees and veterans.

Reminder: At the beginning of a new session, bills must be re-introduces into legislation. Our AFSA HQ Lobbyist works with the Congress and Senate to get these items introduces so they become bills.

All items we have perused in the past have to be reintroduced to the new House and Senate. This is NOW the time to contact your Legislators and voice your concerns on what they need to do to help out all current Service Members, Reservist, Guard, Retirees and Veterans. In the last 6 years we have been more involved in supporting our countries needs since WW II. Our leadership needs to understand the commitment and sacrifice we make as volunteers for our country and they need to look after our needs. (Pay, Medical, Retirement, VA, Families etc.)

For information on how to contact your Senator and Congressperson go to: <http://thomas.loc.gov>

You can also go through the HQ AFSA web site: www.afsahq.org

Don't forget about your State Level Reps. MN has introduced a bill to help reduce taxes on Military Retirement pay. Go to www.leg.state.mn.us for more details or contact your state Reps.



AFSA Chapter 858 and A858

And

Sew Much Comfort

Working together to do something wonderful for our fellow service veterans!

Boxer Shorts Donation Drive!
(NEW Boxers! Sizes: Med. Lg. and XL)

Collection points for Box Shorts will be at:
Services Club, BX and Family Services

Meeting activity

We will be cutting materials for adaptive clothing for Service Members
A way to give back to those in need!

Sew Much Comfort is a nonprofit organization who provides adaptive clothing
for wounded service members

For more information, see their web site at: www.sewmuchcomfort.org

We will also be holding our:

AFSA Ch. 858 Winter
Quarterly Membership Meeting and
Leadership Elections

Free Refreshments (beer and soda) and Food

When: Saturday Feb. 3rd at 1645hr (4:45pm) (934th UTA)

Where: Services Club Ballroom

Who: All current members and any who are interested in finding out more about Air Force Sergeants Association! Stay afterwards and enjoy the club activities and live entertainment from the group the Trash Haulers

[Updates from the Auxiliary:](#)

The Auxiliary (A858) has been busy this past year. Volunteers helped out at the 934th AW Family Day event back in September. It was a wet day but we did have many people stop by. The popcorn went very fast! Members also joined in at the membership meetings this past year to give a perspective on the Auxiliary, and what they are doing for AFSA.

Who can be apart of the Auxiliary? Any non-military person can join the auxiliary and help out with AFSA over-all membership. Your spouses and children and even your parents can join and help out. Talk with your family members and ask them to join.

Auxiliary members count as part of our total AFSA membership!

We are trying to organize more activities with the chapter and as an Aux. We are looking for volunteers to help lead a team to plan events.

The Auxiliary would like to work together with our retiree AFSA group to plan more events.

Please contact Becky Borgardus, 320-272-6530 (Pres.) or Rose Hill, 763-425-4266 (VP). Or go to our web page at

www.afsa858.home.att.net or go to AFSA Head quarter home page at www.afsahq.org to register as an auxiliary member!

