



# AFA Wright Memorial Chapter Board Meeting Agenda April 26, 2024



*This document represents the minutes from the Air & Space Forces Association, Wright Memorial Chapter, Board Meeting held on Apr 26, 2024.*

## **Attending:**

Dave Babcock	President
Jake Parker	Vice-President
Mark Sobota	Treasurer
Brenda Baker	VP - Awards & Leadership
Vita Eonta	VP - Veterans Affairs
Adrianna Templeton	Deputy VP – Events
Rafi Rodriguez	Special Advisor

## **Not Attending:**

Joni Ahlers	VP - AF Ball
Christina Combs	VP - Events
Richard Hughes	VP - ROTC Cadet Programs
Anna Schulte	VP - JROTC/CAP Cadet Programs
Carl “Shof” Shofner	VP - Aerospace Education
Yvonne Vermillion	Secretary
Jim Yankel	VP - Air Show Operations

## **Opening Comments and Discussions (President, Dave Babcock)**

Dave thanked everyone for attending and highlighted his activities, calls-to-action, and reminders of upcoming events:

### *Activities*

- Answering sponsor questions and engaging new sponsors
- Maintaining our website and LinkedIn page
- At the request of AFA Great Lakes Region President (Craig Spanburg) and AFA State President-Ohio (Kent Shin) he’s submitting the Chapter for National AFA-sponsored awards for Chapter recognition
- Advised the Board of major events Chapter leaders participated in since the last Board meeting (please see attachment 1 for a more detailed list)

### *Calls-to-Action*

- Asked the Board member support to find a speaker for our May 2024 Networking luncheon as General Richardson (AFMC/CC) had to reschedule due to mission requirements
- Please promote our AFA WMC Social Media sites
  - Website: [AFA WMC’s Website](#) (please provide feedback)
  - LinkedIn: [AFA WMC LinkedIn](#) (please “*Follow*” us – plus provide feedback)



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### Upcoming AFA WMC events

- May 15      Networking Luncheon (Speaker TBD)
- June 19     Networking Luncheon (Ms. Alexis Bonnell (AFRL/CIO))
- June 22-23   Dayton Air Show (AFA Chalets)
- Sep 06      Air Force Ball

### Comments and Discussions (Vice President, Mr. Jake Porter)

- Jake mentioned he looks forward to learning more from each Board member on what they're doing and how he can best support them in their AFA WMC positions. He hopes to have one-on-one sessions with each person to facilitate this goal. He understands he's coming in 'late' into the Vice-President role and will only serve nine months, rather than the normal two years (due to family-personal related resignations), so he has a lot to learn; thus he appreciates the Boards support and willingness to make than happen so he can hit the ground running.
- Jake also mentioned he'd like to find a way to do more for the military Airmen/Guardians on both Wright-Patterson AFB and the Springfield ANGB; those improving the support the Chapter provides to programs such as the Air Force's "Five and Thrive" program and AFA's "F2 (Force & Family) program.

### Treasurer Remarks (Mr. Mark Sobota)

- Mark provided a financial update to the Board, and an overview is provided in below:

AFA WMC Financial Overview (Feb 2024 - Apr 2024)					
Categories/Data	Checking	VISA Card	Money Mkt	CDs	Totals
Last Reported (2 Feb 2024)	\$3,204.50	\$0.00	\$23,671.23	\$80,470.97	\$107,346.70
Current (25 Apr 2024)	\$907.50	\$1,599.06	\$54,422.40	\$81,140.42	\$138,069.38

- Mark added the Chapter's financial position is strong:

### Board Member Discussion

Rather than "go around the room" with each attending Board members updating other attending members on recent activities, accomplishments and future plans - there was an excellent discussion on two major topics: 1) how do we make AFA WMC *more relevant* to the Wright-Patterson AFB and our Greater Miami Valley Community, and 2) how do we increase 'activism' across our 2,700+ AFA WMC Chapter members. While no firm plans or decisions were made during this Board meeting, *highpoints* of the Board members' discussion are as follows:

#### *Regarding how we make AFA WMC more relevant to Base and Community*

- Better promoting AFA WMC's past involvement in the community
  - Published articles (targeted messaging), social media campaigns, or in-person presentations using testimonials as well as data visualization to better showcase the Chapter's impact/results, program support, volunteer hour, etc.
  - Picture Posters in the AFA Chalets at the Dayton Air Show depicted our past support (a picture can speak a thousand words)



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- Better promoting AFA WMC's *potential/future* involvement in the community
  - Build better relationships with key stakeholders so they understand they AFA WMC is available to help them
  - Speak or participate at other organization events to promote how we can help as well as listen to what support is needed
  - Bringing the educational community (Superintendents, Principals, Teachers) to the Dayton Air Show/AFA Chalets to showcase how we can support STEM in their ecosystem
  - Create meaningful volunteer opportunities that allow people to contribute their skills and feel connected to AFA and/or the specific community support

*Regarding how to increase 'activism'*

- Find out 'why' members joined
- Determine a member's willingness to be more active; and if so, identify their main interest areas of support
- VPs need must be prepared to specifically explain how a new volunteer's support can be utilized in a meaningful way – then give the volunteer the tools and guidance to make that happen
- The Executive Council and all VPs must be prepared to explain the tangible and intangible benefits of becoming more involved in AFA and AFA WMC

**Closing**

Dave thanked the attending Board members for their thought leadership and inputs, and the meeting adjourned at 12:58PM.

Minutes Approved on Apr 30, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David Babcock'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line underneath.

David Babcock  
President



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**Attachment1**

***Recent Events or Meetings Attended or Supported by AFA WMC Leadership***

- Feb 8: Met with areas leaders from AFIT, Sinclair, Wright Brothers Institute, and Air Camp regarding joining forces to apply for a STEM-related grant
- Feb 9: Attended 88 ABW Annual Awards program, which we also supported financially
- Feb 14: Hosted AFA Networking Luncheon and guest speaker Mr. David Tillotson (SES, Director, National Museum of the United States Air Force)
- Feb 15: Spoke to 200+ AFRL scientists and engineers regarding “Navigating an AI Solution”
- Feb 27: Met with 88ABW/CC (Colonel Travis Pond) and 88ABW/JA (Colonel Benjamin Martin) on how AFA WMC can better support the Base, as well as their opinion on limitations in how AFA can advertise or recognized on WPAFB
- Feb 27: Met with AFRL/CIO (Ms. Alexis Bonnell) to provide AFA support and feedback on how the “AI Adoption” meeting went earlier in the month
- Mar 01: Met with B-21 leader (Colonel Tim Spaulding) on future support to the Doolittle Raider Ball)
- Mar 04: Participated in all-day Digital Transformation/Digital Management Roundtable hosted by the Dayton Development Coalition
- Mar 19: Participated on a Section Board to choose five awardees for the AFIT-AFA Awards to be presented at a later date
- Mar 21: Participated in a ½ day Workforce Forum hosted by the Dayton Business Journal
- Mar 21: Attended AFIT Graduation Ceremony, help at the NMUSAF
- Mar 22: Hosted AFA Networking Luncheon and guest speaker Major General Scott Cain, Commander, Air Force research Laboratory
- Apr 04: Met with General Duke Richardson, Commander, Air Force Material Command on how AFA can better support the command, as well as ascertain advocacy issues important to the Command
- Apr 09: Represented AFA at the Assumption of Command Ceremony for the new 88ABW/CC, Colonel Dustin Richards
- Apr 13: Participated in JROTC event honoring the “Bataan Death March”
- Apr 18: Sponsored and attended the “Dayton Aerospace and Awards” Ceremony, hosted by the Dayton Business Journal
- Throughout Feb, Mar, and Apr 2024, participated in multiple:
  - JROTC Award Ceremony Events
  - National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) events
  - Presidents Club of Dayton events
  - Technology First Events

**Attachment1**