



LOG BOOK

*The Quarterly Newsletter Of
AFA Chapter 134
Palm Springs, CA*

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Chapter Executive Officers

President: Bill Bramer

Vice President: Alan Tripp

Secretary: Cissie Bramer

Treasurer: Bill Bramer

Program and Committee Chairs

Aerospace Education: Alan Tripp

Cyberpatriot: Jim McFarlin

Community Partners: Lisa Slam

Membership: Lisa Slam

MOAA/CAP Liaison: Jim McFarlin

Old Bold Pilots Liaison: Howard

Fredricks/Jim McFarlin

Veterans Affairs: Dr, Dan Lieberman/

Bill Young

Government Relations:

Bill Bramer

Communications: Mick Brady

T-34 Flyin: Gene Rameriz

PSAM Liaison/Outreach: Lisa Slam/

Judy Hauseur

Program Events:

Lisa Slam/Cissie Bramer **Nominating**

Committee:

Bill Bramer/Jim McFarlin/Dan

Lieberman

Awards: Executive Officers

General Council

Howard Fredricks

Gordy Jenkins

Bob Lilac

Jim Smith

From the President's Desk

2017 is shaping up to be a good year for AFA Chapter 134 Palm Springs. As global tensions increase around the world the demands on our armed forces and in particular our USAF are ever increasing. The wear and tear on our resources and strain on our personnel has been severe. Our January 2016 Air Force Magazine high-lighted the fact that our USAF has been at war non-stop for 25 years. All active Air Force Association members receive this very popular and highly informative Air Force Magazine each month as part of their membership. The continuing role of the Air Force Association in support of our men and women in our armed services in general and USAF in particular is extremely important and remains in high demand. As the "Force behind the Force", our mission is to:

- EDUCATE the public about the critical role of aerospace airpower in the defense of our nation.
- ADVOCATE public and congressional support for initiatives critical to air force mission objectives
- SUPPORT initiatives that foster leadership development and care for those who have served.

For those of you who were previously active, please know that we have been working to get back on track. And, with our current leadership and member commitment, we are doing a going job of doing so. Our current membership numbers close to 350. We have an active and committed Council Board and Executive Committee with all key program positions held by individuals committed to advocating for our USAF men and women in blue while reaching out to the public on many fronts.

Many of our AFA Chapter members are also active Volunteers and Docents at The Palm Springs Air Museum where we have been able to promote and support a number of joint initiatives through the years underpinning a continuing and close working relationship with the Museum. Most notably is our Annual "Gathering of Mentors", known generally as the Annual T-34 Fly in. During the weekend of January 27-29, 2017, we had 167 aircraft on display, giving rides and conducting flight demonstrations for the Museum as well as making a number of fly bys up and down the Coachella Valley. Chapter personnel were available throughout this event staffing our AFA Chapter 134 Booth to answer questions, sign up members and support the event. This has proven to be a long running, highly entertaining fly in that our members enjoy and it has provided a great opportunity to interact with the public promoting and advocating for our USAF.

For those who may be interested, for this coming year, we have identified the following possible outings for our membership to participate in:

- 1) Reagan Library, Simi Valley, schedule TBD.
- 2) Midway Museum, San Diego, schedule TBD.
- 3) Edwards AFB Flight Test Center, schedule TBD.
- 4) Nellis AFB and related Firepower Demonstration, schedule TBD (Overnighter).
- 5) Regional Airshows: USAF (Thunderbirds) and USN (Blue Angels)



In addition, we are exploring potential trips to accompany PSAM Aircraft to their scheduled airshows which this past year included Chino, Camarillo, Miramar, Gillespie, and El Centro.

Progress in promoting the AFA CyberPatriot Program continues. under the direction of EC Directors, Jim McFarlin and Vice President Alan Tripp. Competition teams are currently being organized at Cathedral City High School and considerable interest is being shown by Boys and Girls Club of the Desert. Jim McFarlin is currently serving as Cybersecurity Commissioner for the City of Rancho Mirage.

Our Chapter meets monthly, 1 st Thursday of each month, 8:30am – 10:00am, at The Palm Springs Air Museum, 745 N. Gene Autry Trail, Palm Springs, CA92262. Members are invited to attend. If you are interested in attending, or would be interested in participating and attending any of the above programs, please contact:

Bill Bramer, President
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March 31, 2017

T-34 Mentors Return to the Desert January 30-31, 2016

The Palm Springs Air Museum and Air Force Association Chapter 134 cosponsored their annual T-34 “Gathering of Mentors” Fly in at the Palm Springs Air Museum on January 27-29, 2017. Built by Beechcraft as a replacement trainer for the training planes of WWII, the T-34 Mentor developed into an aircraft cherished by military and civilian pilots alike. It remains in service more than six decades after it was first designed. This year’s event brought crowds of visitors to see the planes and talk to the pilots. A total of 17 T-34s participated in a weekend of flight exhibitions, cross-valley formation flying, and a best-of-show contest. On arrival, PSAM and AFA volunteers hosted a reception in the PSAM B-17 Hangar for T-34 aircrews.

Next day, following an aircrew flight briefing by FAA personnel, the aerial activity began. Between air demonstration flights morning and afternoon, planes were parked on the Museum Airport Ramp for visitors to have an up close and personal view of the aircraft as well as chat with the aircrews. Visitors cast their ballots for Best of Show aircraft which considered flight performance, aircraft colors and crew interaction with the public; always a difficult choice. Next year’s 15th T-34 Fly-in is

scheduled for Friday-Sunday, January 26-28, 2018; so mark your calendars to attend and participate in this outstanding “Gathering of Mentors”. Leadership for this annual event began in 1999 under the direction and coordination of Gene Ramirez, former PSAM T-34 pilot and current PSAM volunteer, AFA Executive Committee Director and active pilot.

Following are several AFA Chapter 134 Members and Palm Springs Air Museum Volunteers enjoying rides offered by the pilots on a volunteer basis.



Cissie Bramer, AFA Chapter 134 Secretary and Museum Annual Gala Committee Member gets set for a flight.



Cissie Bramer



Alan Tripp, AFA Chapter 134 Vice President and Palm Springs Air Museum Docent is checked out before his flight.



Shirley Powell, 2015 Palm Springs Air Museum Gala Honoree and Treasurer for AFA Chapter 134 ready for takeoff.