

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

From Your Eagle Chapter Board of Officers



Seasons Greetings Eagle Chapter Members and Friends!

On behalf of our board of officers, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year! We've had an exciting year and with your continued support we look forward to a superb 2017!

Our previous newsletter was just before Veterans Day and wow what a Veterans Day! The great support from our active duty Airman at Andrews just made the day absolutely excellent. Please read our Veterans Day article below.

I want to take this opportunity to thank two who stepped forward to take leadership position on our board; but, found that their time did not permit. Thanks to Ed Sulinski who had stepped up to be our Vice Chair Public Information and Chris Ricks who had volunteered to be our Vice Chair of the Tidewater Wing. We look forward to your contributions in some other manner.

The amount donated for our annual donation drive for November exceeded the November of 2015 and Nov 2014 amounts; but, **we lag behind the year to date total for 2015**. If you need to make another charitable contribution this year, there are only a few days left and we greatly appreciate your support. Thank-you again to our donors. You make it possible for us to serve. In closing, many of us served on active duty, away from our families as Airmen and our military do today. Please take a moment of your day and pray and remember them and their families. Thank-you for your continuing support.

Very respectfully,

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Lee

Elia C. (Lee) Chambers
Chairman/Chief Executive Officer
Eagle Chapter
Air Force Security Forces Association

We published our previous chapter newsletter on November 10, 2016.

Eagle Chapter membership is free to all Air Force Security Forces Association members who work or live in DC, DE, MD, VA and WV. [Join us.](#)

AFOSI - Security Force Joint Wreath Laying Commemorates 2015 Darkest Day



Above Brigadier General Keith Givens, Commander AF Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) and David Beecroft, Deputy Director Security Forces HQ US Air Force, lay a wreath at the Air Force Memorial along with Airmen and one Marine who participated in the fateful mission in 2015 that resulted in the deaths of four AFOSI Special Agents and two Security Forces Airmen December 21, 2015.



Above, following the wreath laying military members pose for a group photo.



My thanks to Brigadier General Givens (second from left) who modified the AFOSI wreath laying to add Security Force representation. Also shown above, Eagle Chairman (left), Staff Sergeant Chris Walker, Eagle Chapter Secretary (second from right), and Mr. Dave Beecroft, (right), Deputy Top Cop. General Tullos was at Minot.

AFOSI / SF Commemorated "Darkest Day" Dec 21



On Dec 21, Brigadier General Keith Givens, Commander, Air Force Office of Special Investigation, along with Mr. Dave Beecroft, Deputy Director AF Security Forces HQ USAF, laid the wreath for the four AFOSI agents and two Security Forces Airmen who were killed Dec 21 2015 near Bagram Airfield Afghanistan.

The Airmen who were remembered are (shown above from left to right, top row):

- **Special Agent Adrianna M. Vorderbruggen**, 36, of Plymouth, Minnesota. She was assigned to the Air Force OSI, 9th Field Investigations Squadron at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.
- **Special Agent Michael A. Cinco**, 28, of Mercedes, Texas. He was assigned to the Air Force OSI, 11th Field Investigations Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.
- **Special Agent Peter W. Taub**, 30, of Philadelphia. He was assigned to the Air Force OSI, Detachment 816 at Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota.
- **Special Agent Chester J. McBride**, 30, of Statesboro, Georgia. He was assigned to the Air Force OSI, Detachment 405 at Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

Security Forces Airmen killed that day were:

- **Technical Sergeant Joseph G. Lemm**, 45, of the Bronx, New York. He was assigned to the 105th Security Forces Squadron at Stewart Air National Guard Base, New York. Joe was also a police officer with the New York Police Department (NYPD).
- **Staff Sergeant Louis M. Bonacasa**, 31, of Coram, New York. He was assigned to the 105th SFS, Stewart ANGB.

Our appreciation to General Givens, Chief Stephens, and Chief Vanburger for remembering these great American heroes who gave their full measure of devotion in service to our country. Remember their families and survivors on Veterans Day.

**Submitted: 66th Security Forces Squadron
Submits Ruiz and Sartain Applications - National
Law Enforcement Officers Memorial**



Above, Airman First Class Kcey E. Ruiz and Senior Airman Nathan C. Sartain died in the October 2, 2015 crash of a C130J in Afghanistan.

Staff Sergeant JR Robbins, 66th SFS Investigations and squad leader for Airman Ruiz and Sartain along with Chief Master Sergeant Scott Pepper, Security Forces Manager, have submitted the package - AWESOME - A very quick turn from their October start. Also thanks to our Chapter Secretary, Chris Walker, for lending his support in getting the process started.

The NLEOM has confirmed with me of their receipt of the package. So we wait the board's review and acceptance of these Airmen.

Congratulations Chief and JR. We look forward to your success of this endeavor in 2017.

A Veterans Day to Remember



Above, our volunteers, Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Sarah Ritz and SSgt Chelsea Jury, of the 11th Security Forces Group, Joint Base Andrews MD volunteered to lay the Eagle Chapter Wreath at the Air Force Memorial and later in the day at the Womens Memorial.

When I arrived at the Air Force Memorial, Chief Master Sergeant (Retired) Barbara Taylor, Director of Operations Air Force Memorial, told me to ditch the camera you're laying your own wreath! It was a windy day, and the Chief needed someone to make sure the flags remained in place and - let's face it - who would you ask? Our SF Airmen are superb. I was happy to concede.



Above, posting of the colors - SSgt Ritz and SSgt Jury performed as if they did this every day. I am so proud of them!!!



Above, under the watchful eye of Chief Taylor, I found another volunteer, Airman John Szanto, also assigned at Andrews. accompanied me in laying the chapter wreath.



Above, SSgt Ritz (left), Lieutenant General Stayce D Harris, Assistant Vice Chief of Staff, HQ US Air Force (special guest speaker for the wreath laying), SSgt Chelsea Jury, and Eagle Chairman, Lee Chambers, meet following the service.



Above, Eagle Chairman Lee Chambers presents Eagle Chapter Coin to Lt Gen Harris.

[Gen Harris' bio can be found by clicking here.](#)



Above, SSgt Ritz and SSgt Jury, lay the Eagle Chapter Wreath at the Women's Memorial. They set aside their entire day, SSgt Ritz with husband and two young children, to help us on Veterans Day. As a small token of our appreciation, we presented them with \$25.00 gift cards to help offset their cost for the day.

For more photos, [of our Veterans Day wreath laying at the AF Memorial and Women's Memorial and at memorials in Washington DC](#), please [click here](#) or go to our web page and look under the Archive Events tab.

A special, special thanks to Eagle Member Trudy Hannah for your tireless efforts in designing a customized wreath for each location. Thank-you so much!!!

A Spirit of Giving During the Holidays



Every year, Eagle Vice Chair Maryland Wing, Bill (Sarge) Garlitz, leads an effort to send care boxes to deployed military members. This year was a banner year!

This year, he (and his wife Rosey) have sent 631 boxes for our men and women plus 3 boxes for deployed K-9.

The cost, \$16.75 per box, comes from his [American Legion Synepuxent Post #166 Ocean City MD](#) plus the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks #2645 in Ocean City, MD (50 boxes).

All of the labor is his - and his wife Rosey! Thank-you Sarge for your eager and tireless support of our deployed troops!!

Our January Events

January 1 - Vietnam War Veterans Memorial 2017

Schedule - January we submit our requests to schedule two wash events. Our plan is to schedule the same week-ends as we had this year. Will keep you posted as we lock in these days. The National Park Service asks that we wait until January to make our request.

January 4 - Eagle Chapter Board of Officers Meet via conference call. [Contact our Chapter Secretary for more information.](#)



January 9 - National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. We encourage all members to reach out to express your appreciation of both our active duty and civilian law enforcement officers on January 9. In addition, there are several ways that COPs ask people to show their appreciation of our police:

- Fly a blue ribbon on your car antenna, mailbox, motorcycle, or anywhere it can be tied

on

- Shine blue lights from your home
- Wear blue all day
- Send a card or have local schools make cards for the local department
- Host or attend a local rally in support of law enforcement
- Share your support on social media and change your profile picture to this image
- **Most importantly, if you see a Police Officer, THANK a Police Officer**



January 31 - Wreath Laying Maisey Building Joint Base Anacostia Bolling Washington DC. Led by our Vice Chair Air Force District of Washington, Karl Blinksop, we will again

commemorate the heroic achievements of Captain Reginald V Maisey JR on the anniversary of his death on this day in 1968 by laying a wreath in his honor. We'll have more about this in a January chapter update.

Eagle Chapter Visits Arlington National Cemetery During the Holidays



Each year, we visit Arlington National Cemetery to lay wreaths at our SF KIA Airmen, members, spouses and family member grave sites as well as SF who've we've been asked to visit. Our visit is to ensure that a wreath is placed on their graves. For the second year in a row Wreaths Across America had covered every grave or internment site.

They don't lay a wreath for the family member who may be buried also at the site. We laid four wreaths, one for a son and three for spouses (wives).

The above photo shows the grave of Eagle Member Lieutenant General Howard W. Leaf and his son Patrick. I laid a wreath for Patrick plus three spouses who were also buried with their partner. These are Effie (with Eagle Member Major (Retired Luther (Luke) Duffield), Judith (with Eagle Member Colonel Retired Kenneth Rasmussen), and Emily (with Colonel (Retired) Roderic Moses. Though I visit all graves or internments, we only laid wreaths for the four family members so that they can be recognized as well.

Eagle Chapter Board Meeting - January 4

Our next chapter board meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 4 at 8:00PM. Eagle Chapter Board Meetings are open to members and significant others who would like to participate.

We hold our chapter board meetings on the first Wednesday of the month at 8PM via conference call.

[Email Chairman](#) for more information.

In closing, I want to give a special thanks to the seven donors that gave in November. Without your support, we could not serve in the capacities shown here in this newsletter. Your continuing support, will help us continue to serve in 2017.

To donate, go to any of our chapter web pages, scroll down and click on the donate button to donate or send a check or money order to our post office box. See below.

Any questions about how you can contribute, [just click here](#) to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Another special thanks to the men and women who serve in our military and our civilian law enforcement officers who keep our communities safe here at home. Thank-you for your continuing support.

We need volunteer leaders on our board. Dover and Langley Vice Chair positions are vacant and our Vice Chair Public Information and Director of SF Airmen and Family Programs are also vacant. Just contact me if you are interested and are eager to serve.

Thanks.

Very best regards,

Lee

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You can donate by clicking at this link. Go to our website and scroll to the bottom of any page. Click on the "Donate" button. Eagle Chapter is a 501(c)(19) Veterans Services Not for Profit Organization.

Please consider Eagle Chapter in your tax-free donation support. Again, you can click on the "Donate" button on any chapter web page to donate via PayPal or send your donation to our P O Box at the address below.