

Greetings Eagle Chapter Members and Friends!

Another superb Memorial Day is on the books and I want to take just another opportunity to thank Trudy Hannah who custom designs and makes each wreath unique to every location that they are placed and Staff Sergeant Joyce Bray, Chapter Secretary, and Staff Sergeant Janice Aninsman for helping me with laying wreaths on Memorial Day. Please see more details below.

In addition to laying wreaths in the DC area, Trudy also laid a wreath at the Pheobus National Cemetery near Langley and she helped us with recognizing Airman TJ Richardson who valiantly fought cancer and is now laid to rest at Phoebus. Trudy each year designs wreaths that we place during Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Again - thank-you so very much!

A friendly reminder - we're in need of a Vice Chairperson for our Delaware Wing and Vice Chair for our Tidewater Wing (Langley area). We can't really get our luncheon plans underway at these locations without filling these spots. If you or you know someone who can help, just let me know and I'll take it from there.

Very respectfully,

Lee

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

We published our previous chapter newsletter on May 26, 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. <u>Join us.</u>

Eagle Chapter Participates in Wreath Laying Ceremonies at the Women's Memorial and Air Force Memorial

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Above, (left) Eagle Chapter Secretary, Staff Sergeant Joyce Bray, Brigadier General (Retired US Air Force) Wilma Vaught President Emeritus Womens Memorial and Staff Sergeant Janice Aninsman following wreath laying program on Memorial Day.

It is a real pleasure to have volunteers - especially those that drive down from Dover Air Force Base DE - to participate in wreath laying ceremonies. We participate in two wreath laying ceremonies. In the morning at the Air Force Memorial and in the afternoon at the Women's Memorial.



The Women's Memorial is extra special as we have an opportunity to caste rose petals in the memorial fountain in honor of Air Force Security Forces Women Airmen who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Following the wreath laying ceremony, SSgt Bray recognized Airman First Class Kcey Ruiz who died last year in a C130J crash after take off while SSgt Aninsman recognized Airman First Class Elizabeth Jacobson, the first Security Forces Airman and first female Air Force Airman to be killed in action in Iraq.

Below, SSgt Bray reads a short statement about Airman Ruiz following the wreath laying ceremony.



Earlier in the day, Eagle Chairman, Lee Chambers, laid the Eagle Chapter Wreath at the Air Force Memorial. The Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, James Cody, always provides key note remarks. For this Memorial Day - the first time ever, the Air Force Chief of Staff attended. General Mark A Welsh III, retiring July 1 stands below left with Eagle Chairman at right, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James Cody.



Eagle Wreaths Placed at Military Memorials on Memorial Day in Washington DC



In addition to participating in two formal wreath laying programs on Memorial Day, thanks to Trudy (and our donors) Eagle Chapter tribute to our fallen on Memorial Day includes placing wreaths at military memorials in Washington DC and Hampton VA. Above, Korean War Veterans Memorial and below Vietnam War Veterans Memorial. We also lay wreaths at the Vietnam War Women's Memorial and the World War II Veterans Memorial in Washington DC. On the back of each wreath, Trudy writes a note to guide me in placing the wreath on the correct location where she has designed it to go.



In Honor of Our Fallen at Memorial Day - Arlington National Cemetery



Section 60 at Arlington National Cemetery always has the most visitors. This is the location where casualties of Iraq and Afghanistan are placed. In addition, it also is the area where we have the most members and spouses placed including our first Vice Chairman of Eagle Chapter's Delaware Wing - Chief Master Sergeant (Retired) James Goudie.



The Army's Old Guard Regiment places Old Glory at each grave the week prior to Memorial Day. The Saturday prior to Memorial Day, we place Defensor Fortis flag to recognize our 17 - four are Security Forces Airmen who have been killed in action. The photo above show flags placed at the group burial in honor of Technical Sergeant Jason Norton and Staff Sergeant Brian McElroy who were both killed in action in Iraq.

To see more photos of our wreath layings and flag placements please click here or go to the Eagle Chapter website and look under Events Memorial Day 2016

Updated Location Guide - Visiting Our 17



I finally got around to creating a better guide to finding the locations of our 17 who are interred at Arlington National Cemetery. It takes three and half hours to check in at the registration desk, pick up the vehicle pass and complete the visit to all grave site locations. We've always had a map but it still was a challenge to find our 17 among the 300,000.

I created this guide that will help to place flags at future Memorial Days and lay wreaths at the end of the year.

The location guide is too large to place here; but, you can download it from our website. Click on the Resources Tab then select option 2. . <u>Click here to go to the page.</u>

Transition - Joyce Bray - Chapter Secretary Moving On



Our congratulations to SSgt Joyce Bray, Chapter Secretary. Joyce has accepted a great position at Eglin Air Force Base FL and will be leaving Dover Air Force Base and Eagle Country on July 1. She has made quite an impact in the short period that she has served as our chapter secretary. She will be greatly missed.

Shown above with Brig Gen (Ret USAF) Wilma Vaught, Joyce has found her possible replacement. I am interviewing him in the days ahead. On behalf of Eagle Chapter, we wish her the very best and who knows - she just might return some day.

Eagle Chapter's Excellence - Recognized in May



A great privilege it is to be recognized for our chapter's excellence. In May we had two occasions. Brigadier General Allen Jamerson, recently retired, presented the Security Forces Coin of Excellence to me at the chapter luncheon that we held

during Police Week to recognize his support on the occasion of his retirement. The coin reads

Presented for Excellence - All SF... in One Direction! - United States Air Force Director of Security Forces.

At the Air Force Memorial, I see folks each year - it's like a family reunion. This year, one of our old friends presented me with their organization's coin of excellence. Below, the coin reads:

The Chairman of the Saint Patrick's Day Parade - Chairman's Coin of Excellence Celebrating Irish faith, culture & heritage Since 1762 - NYC St Patrick's Day Parade Since 1762.



Again, it is a great privilege for me to accept these coins in recognition of our chapter's performance. Thanks to you all.

Eagle Chapter Board Meeting - July 6

Our next chapter board meeting will be held on Wednesday July 6 at 8:00PM. Eagle Chapter Board Meetings are open to members and significant others who would like to join us.

Email Chairman for more information.

<u>In closing</u>, thanks again for your continuing support. Any questions about how you can contribute, <u>just click here</u> to start the conversation. I look forward to hearing from you.

I hope to see you at a future chapter event.

Thanks.

Very best regards,

Lee

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