

AFA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

11 March 2026

Attendees

Mark Chapman Dann Mattiza

Max Friedauer Fred Gross

Eddie Arroyo Les Matheson

Susan Ault-Davis

Presidential Report

- There is a requirement for W-9s to be available for Teacher of the Year and Pitsenbarger monetary awards.
- Chapter members would like to ensure veterans buried in Jesse Rogers cemetery in Mary Esther are recognized under the Wreaths Across America program. Records are not available to determine how many veterans are buried there. Will look into contacting the FWBHS to see if their JROTC members would be interested in counting the veteran sites.
- Dann will be traveling 12 Mar – 7 May. Eddie is the primary cover for the Chapter; Max is the POC for Unsung Heroes; and Mark will handle the meeting if Eddie is unavailable.

Treasurer Report

- The Treasurer's report was presented. The chapter remains financially solvent.
- Eddie will be the focal point for any Chapter payments made during Dann's absence.

Communications Update

- Newsletter will be published the first week in April. Please provide inputs to Mark on Unsung Heroes, Science Fair, Pensacola activities (Joe Kinego), and ToY activities. Eddie will provide an updated Community Partner list.
- The new Chapter website has been updated: <https://hurlburt.afa.org/>.

Aerospace Education

- So far, we have 3 nominations for Teacher of the Year. Teachers have until the end of March to submit any additional nominees.
- Final selection will be discussed at the April 8th meeting, and award presentations will be scheduled.
- State deadline for nominations is 15 April.
- Remind local schools about the opportunity for requesting grants through the Chapter.

Community Partners

- Awaiting renewal from FNBT.
- Update the CP listing.

Unsung Heroes Luncheon

- Luncheon is scheduled for March 20th at Soundside Club. There will be 14 Heroes recognized. Three are currently deployed. The chapter voted to award a BX gift card to those who are deployed since they will not be able to attend the lunch in their honor.
- Max will sign the certificates, have coins for winners, and have the Chapter Debit/Credit card to pay Soundside.
- Chapter will obtain Brick (AFEV) for the guest speaker. (\$100 donation)
- Boeing will sponsor the Unsung Heroes. John Hillsman will attend and bring the Boeing banner.

Annual Award Packages

- Decision made to nominate Lt. Gen. Conley for the Waterman Award. Max is putting the nomination package together.

Miscellaneous

- A pancake breakfast will be held on Armed Forces Day, 16 May, at the Harvey F. Eckhoff VFW Post 7674, 213 Carol Ave NW, Fort Walton Beach. Active duty military will eat for free. Chapter approved a donation and some Chapter members will be volunteering their time to support the event.

Next Meeting

- Apr 8 @ 1130 at the Clubhouse Grill