AFA Awards Dinner Meeting Minutes

Home 2 Suites Hotel, Fort Walton Beach

14 Oct 2026

Attendees

Dann and Jean Mattiza; Max Friedauer; Eddie and Maryanne Arroyo; Joe and Bev Kinego

CPs: Mo Alsid, Denise and Don Bernard, Shari and Darryl Rogers—LMCO; Jimmy Tucker—FNBT Bank; Neko Stubblefield—EFCU

Educators: **Eric Davis** and his wife, TOY Middle School; **Angelica Espeseth**, TOY Elementary School and her husband Eric; and Ms. Anna Prindle, speaker.

Guests: Alan and Carol Stearns

Overall Comments:

- This event was held as our Annual Chapter Awards Dinner to recognize Chapter and Chapter member accomplishments, Teachers of the Year and the Community Partner of the Year.
- Unfortunately, due primarily to Hurricane Isaias visiting us on Oct 9th, our attendee list suffered as many folks had no power, phone or internet, others had to deal with property damage, and local schools and work areas were closed.
- We reserved meals and space for 31 attendees but after several cancellations (and additions) we ended up with only 21 attendees. That said, I believe everyone enjoyed their evening.
- Great shout out to Home 2 Suites for their venue, meal, and service.

Awards

- AFA Chapter, State and National level awards are listed below.
- Teacher of the Year Awards were presented the **Mr. Eric Davis**, TOY Middle School and **Ms. Angelica Espeseth**, TOY Elementary School. Our Overall TOY winner, **Ms. Jennifer Cook** was not at the dinner. She moved to South Carolina shortly after the school year ended. (Her award items have been forwarded to her.)
- The Community Partner of the Year Award went to **The Boeing Company**. Their representative was called away on a family emergency and was unable to attend. (I presented that award to him on 18 Oct.)

Awards Banquet

- Our Guest speaker was Ms Anna Prindle, one of last year's TOYs and a recent graduate from the Educators Space Camp at Huntsville. She gave an interesting presentation of her time there and was very grateful for the Chapter sponsoring her attendance.

- I reminded the folks in attendance of the upcoming AFA/ACA event on 9 November during which we will present Lt Gen Conley his Florida AFA Jerry Waterman Award.
- I thanked all attendees for their attendance and continued support of the Hurlburt Chapter 398.

Next Meeting: 11 Nov (Veterans Day) at 1130 at the Clubhouse Grill

CHAPTER AWARDS

Special Citation	Greg Oglesby (Frames Plus)

STATE AWARDS

Exceptional Service Award	Communications
Exceptional Service Award	Community Partners
Exceptional Service Award	Best Single Program (Unsung Heroes)
Exceptional Service Award	Overall Programming
Extra Large Chapter of the Year	
Chapter Member of the Year	Meredith Coleman
Exceptional Service Citation	Fred Gross
Sustained Service Citation	Susan Ault-Davis
State Teacher of the Year Award	Jennifer Cook
Jerry Waterman Award	Lt Gen Michael Conley

NATIONAL AWARDS

Exceptional Service Award	Community Partners—Extra-Large Chapter
Exceptional Service Award	Community Relations
Aerospace Education Achievement Award	
Medal of Merit	Meredith Coleman
Medal of Merit	Fred Gross