



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

FORT WAYNE CHAPTER 143



# ***BRIEFING NOTES***

1st Quarter 2019

**AFA CHAPTER 143 LUNCHEONS**

**NO MARCH OR APRIL LUNCHEON**

**MAY 6, 2019 LUNCHEON**

**11:30 AM**

**HALL'S GAS HOUSE**

**305 SUPERIOR STREET**

**FORT WAYNE, IN**

**GUEST SPEAKER**

**BOB WEARLEY**

**AFA CHAPTER 143**

**TRANSFORMING SMITH AIRFIELD HANGAR 2  
INTO A NATIONAL AIR MAIL MUSEUM**

**AFA'S MISSION**

**Our mission is to promote a dominant  
United States Air Force and a strong  
national defense, and to honor airmen  
and our Air Force heritage**

**Chapter 143 Welcomes**

**15 new Cadet/Student 3-yr e-Memberships  
(compliments of AFA National)**

**and**

**four new 3-yr and life memberships**



**Air Force Association  
1501 Lee Highway  
Arlington, VA 22289**

**AFA CHAPTER 143 OFFICERS**

President – Brandon Monticue  
260-758-9070

Vice President – Jeffrey Wepner  
260-246-0082

Secretary – Natalie Ross  
260-486-2556

Treasurer – Jeffrey Wepner  
618-535-9457

VP Aerospace Education  
Jeffrey Wepner  
260-246-0082

VP Communications  
Bill Howard  
260-494-9044

VP Program Speakers  
Samuel Conte  
260-432-2481

VP Leadership Development  
Bill Howard  
260-494-9044

VP Veterans Affairs  
Vacant

VP Community Partners  
Vacant

VP Government Relations  
Vacant

Banquet Coordinator  
Vacant

**AFA CHAPTER 143 CALENDAR  
Staff Meetings, 6:30 pm  
Smith Field Airport Terminal  
902 W Ludwig Rd, Fort Wayne, IN  
Apr 11, May 9, Jun 13, 2019**

**“GOLD COMMUNITY PARTNERS”**

**Fort Wayne Chapter 143**

**25 YEARS SUPPORT**

\*The Thistle Group LLC

**20+ YEARS SUPPORT**

\*Community State Bank  
\*Legacy Heating & Air Conditioning  
\*Parks Automotive Inc.  
\*Snyder Food Services, Inc.  
\*Summit City Electric

**15+ YEARS SUPPORT**

\*Bushey’s Windows  
\*Country Court Estates  
\*Enviro-Clean, Inc.  
\*Hoagland Electric  
\*Park Plastic Products  
\*The Party Stores, Hamilton, Indiana  
\*Zumbrun Construction

**10+ YEARS SUPPORT**

\*Pizza Hut of Fort Wayne, Inc.

**5+ YEARS SUPPORT**

\*Beer & Mervar Realtors  
\*Lindenwood Cemetery  
\*Stemen Align & Brake  
\*Wells Fargo Advisors  
(Paul Lyons)

**1-4 YEARS SUPPORT**

\*Steffen Group

*Please patronize our Community Partners.  
Without them, our programs/projects could  
not be carried out.*

**AFA CHAPTER 143  
PATRIOTISM CAMPAIGN  
USA & STATE FLAGS  
ARE AVAILABLE**

*All high quality and made in America  
3' x 5' for home  
6' x 10' for business  
Other sizes also available*

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Natalie Ross 260.486.2556  
afaw143@frontier.com*

**Garrett High School CyberPatriots  
Advanced to Gold Division  
Their top team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in State Round  
and their 2<sup>nd</sup> team placed 7<sup>th</sup>**



From left are coach Bill Thomas, Logan Brewer, Katline Cook, Josh Blessinger, Creigh Dircksen, Dawes Dircksen, Caleb Thimlar, Noah Dapp and Nicholas Yoder

**(Article & photo contributed)**

**ARLINGTON, Virginia,**— For the first time in school history, Garrett High School had two teams competing in the Gold Division during the State Round of the Air Force Association’s National Youth Cyber Defense competition on January 11, 2019. Their top team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the State in the Gold Division and their other team finished 7<sup>th</sup> in the Gold Division. Neither team scored high enough to advance to the Semifinal Round, so they are finished competing for the season. Their next competition date will be a practice round in May.

Established by the AFA in 2009, CyberPatriot is designed to excite, educate, and motivate students toward careers in cyber security and other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines critical to our nation’s future. CyberPatriot’s core program challenges students from across the United States and several foreign countries to find and resolve cybersecurity vulnerabilities in simulated environments.

The group is sponsored by Air Force Association Chapter 143 of Fort Wayne.

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Also competing during the State Round were

Fort Wayne Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol (coached by Tony Vining, Chapter 143) who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Gold Tier

and

Howe Military Academy Army JROTC who placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the State-level All Service Platinum Division.

**Congratulations, teams  
Chapter 143 is proud of you**

**(there were 6,387 registered teams this season)**



**Bob Wearley, AFA Chapter 143, (center) receives the 2018 Linda & Jerry Vandevener Impact Award presented by the Allen Co. Commissioners**

**Also shown: Jerry Vandevener (left) & Sarah Rippe, Fire-Police City-County Federal Credit Union (right)**

**(Article & photo contributed)**

**Following taken from the September 25, 2018 presentation:**

The Allen County Commissioners announced establishment of the award in 2016 to be presented annually to an individual or individuals who reside in Allen County and have lived a life of service to our community outside of their regular profession, in the example and tradition set by the Vandeveners.

Bob is a community advocate who has worked tirelessly to keep Smith Field open. He has assisted in strengthening the Allen County Jail ministry and continues to fight for those who have succumbed to drug addiction. He now serves as president of the Allen County Jail Chaplaincy and is a board member of Faith Based Mentoring Ministries.

He also served on the Fort Wayne-Allen County Airport Authority’s board of directors and spent five years as marketing director for Fort Wayne International Airport.

Bob retired as a lieutenant colonel after 17 years with the Air Force.

The ceremony was held at the Smith Airfield Hangar 2, which Bob hopes someday to have transformed into a national air mail museum. He is working with Congressman Jim Banks and Senator Todd Young and former Senator Joe Donnelly to obtain funding for a feasibility study.

**Congratulations, Bob!**



U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds

**Fort Wayne Air Show  
June 8-9, 2019  
Indiana Air National Guard Base**

**Free Admission**

**Parking begins and gates open  
at 8:00 AM**

**Flying begins at 12:00 PM  
and ends at 4:15 PM  
Gates close at 5:00 PM**



U.S. Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt II  
(122nd Fighter Wing)

Following excerpt taken from The Journal Gazette, Thursday, July 12, 2018

1. Featuring a “world-class lineup of performers”, including the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds.
2. Also scheduled are other military air demonstration teams, civilian stunt pilots, demonstrations by the fighter wing’s A-10 combat jets and ground displays of military aircraft from WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.
3. “The great thing about this air show is it allows our community to come out and see what the 122<sup>nd</sup> does on a daily basis,” said Col. Michael Stohler, Commander of the 122<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing.
4. You’ll get to see some of our airmen performing their real jobs. Loading aircraft munitions, launching & servicing aircraft, our fire-fighters, our security forces, and multiple other entities on our base will be open for people to see and enjoy.
5. Organizers hope to raise at least \$50,000 from the show to donate to the Wounded Warrior Project, a nonprofit organization that provides programs and services to wounded military veterans.

check [www.fwairshow.com](http://www.fwairshow.com) for updates

Following taken from [www.fwairshow.com](http://www.fwairshow.com)

Want to Volunteer? Volunteers to be available for a minimum of 8 hours each day.

Want to lend your time and energy to making the FW Air Show a reality? Here’s your chance to be a part of the behind the scenes action AND be a person “in the know” all weekend long. We promise the best volunteer experience you’ll have all year! Click here to fill out a volunteer form and join the fun.

While you are working, you can feel, hear, and see the excitement all around you!

[Learn More](#)

We are delighted to have several of our hometown A-10 Thunderbolts that will be flying at the show. The 122<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing flies the A-10 Thunderbolt II out of the Fort Wayne Air National Guard Base in Fort Wayne. Known as the “Black Snakes”, Fort Wayne’s A-10s will proudly display our local Air National Guard aircraft assets.

The A-10 was designed for close-in support of ground troops, close air support, providing quick-action support for troops against helicopters, vehicles, and ground troops. It entered service in 1976 and is the only production-built aircraft that has served in the USAF that was designed solely for CAS. Its secondary mission is to provide forward air controller – airborne (FAC-A) support, by directing other aircraft in attacks on ground targets. Aircraft used primarily in this role are designated OA-10.

The A-10 was intended to improve on the performance of the A-1 Skyraider and its poor firepower. The A-10 was designed around the 30 mm GAU-8 Avenger rotary cannon that is its primary armament. Its airframe was designed for durability with measures such as 1,200 pounds (540 kg) of titanium armor to protect the cockpit and aircraft systems, enabling it to absorb a significant amount of damage and continue flying. Its short takeoff and landing capability permits operation from airstrips close to the front lines, and its simple design enables maintenance with minimal facilities. The A-10 served in Operation Desert Shield, and Operation Desert Storm, the American intervention against Iraq’s invasion of Kuwait, where the A-10 distinguished itself. The A-10 also participated in other conflicts such as Operation Urgent Fury in Grenada, The Balkans, Afghanistan, Iraq, and against the Islamic State in the middle east.

The A-10A single-seat variant was the only version produced, though one pre-production airframe was modified to become the YA-10B twin-seat prototype to test an all-weather night capable version. In 2005, a program was begun to upgrade remaining A-10A aircraft to the A-10C configuration with modern avionics for use of precision weaponry. With a variety of upgrades and wing replacements, the A-10’s service life may be extended to 2028.