



# The Vector

Newsletter of AF309: Space Coast Chapter of the Air Force Association  
Jan & Feb 2021



## Chapter President-Dwyer Dennis

Clearly 2020 was indeed different in many ways and while challenging and Our mission of education, advocacy, and support of and for US Air and Space Forces continues – and the Space Coast Chapter continues to step up to the bar. We closed out 2020 with a solid positive position in the Chapter’s bank account while being able to contribute in so many ways, from TOY recognition, Enlisted Awards, US Space Force birthday, etc. The generous support of Chapter members and our Community Partners help make it all possible. It also takes the energy and time of people. We have gained new members (another one just this week) and look for opportunities and the best ways to tapped into the incredible expertise, experience, energy, and passion of our members.

We have shared some of the plans for 2021 both through the Vector and our Chapter Facebook page, be sure to review them and visit the AFA National website to get the latest on upcoming events and insight into exciting initiatives relative to our nation’s Air and Space Forces. The annual Air Warfare Symposium normally held in Orlando will now be virtual. Registration is now open. Details can be found at [2021 Virtual Aerospace Warfare Symposium \(afa.org\)](https://www.afa.org/2021-Virtual-Aerospace-Warfare-Symposium)

Last Saturday the State Winter Meeting was successfully held virtually, and all is in good order. Chapters had an opportunity to provide updates. I tried to not hoard the time, but I have to admit it was difficult narrowing things down to a handful of activities and contributions the Space Coast Chapter made to the AFA mission this year. I believe we are just getting started! We plan to expand our efforts in the area of promoting STEM and looking at opportunities to partner with AFA National on specific US Space Force outreach activities.

In order to make truly significant contributions to the AFA mission, in addition to financial support, we always need and welcome your engagement and participation

as you are able. Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the chapter officers with your ideas, comments, or questions.

As always - Be SAFE! Be Well!

## Executive VP – Jerry May

Jerry has reached out to all six Melbourne area High School Junior ROTC detachments and the three Civil Air Patrol units in the area. Two JrROTC unit Senior Aerospace Instructors responded to our message; Vero Beach High School and Eau Gallie High School. The others have not yet responded. The Vero Beach detachment has an AFA CyberPatriot team in need of support and mentoring. Eau Gallie High School has a sixteen-person Honor Guard that has been contacted to formalize the opening of local events. They also have a meeting facility which needs repair on which the unit is working. CAP units have not yet responded. Jerry will continue to see if there are any other unit events or activities that the AFA can help with in the future.

## Community Partners VP-Randy Turner

Our Chapter continues to solicit the Space Coast business community to become Community Partners. All donations and fees go toward our Chapter and AFA National youth education programs. It is a two-way street: we build relationships with local businesses and they get to show their support for our Air and Space Forces. If you are a local business or know of a business that might be interested, please let us know. See separate page for article on our single Platinum Community Partner, TSSC Solutions.

## Aerospace Education VP-Russ Lewey

In spite of the pandemic, the Space Coast Chapter has continued to pursue and expand its aerospace education efforts. This year we had 14 teams (of more than 4,800 around the world) competing in



**AIRMEN FOR LIFE**



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CyberPatriot. We are waiting to see who goes to the finals. Special salute goes to the Florida Prep Academy AFJROTC unit as they take on some of the nation's best in the StellarXplorers Competition. Speaking of competition, do you know a teacher along the Space Coast that is going above and beyond to help inspire young people to pursue Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)? If so, you may look to nominate or encourage them to compete for Teacher of the Year. The Chapter will select one Secondary (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>) and one Elementary (K – 8<sup>th</sup>) this Spring. The deadline to submit their application is 19 March 2021. For more information and a copy of the application go to this link: [Teacher of the Year](#).

## Chapter Treasurer-Ahna Arcturus

As of January 2021, our bank balance is positive, and finances are in good order. The Chapter Financial Report (Jul-Dec 2020) and Chapter Financial Plan (2021) have been submitted to AFA National. We anticipate the need for donations and fundraisers in 2021, as we support our AFA mission. In addition to end of the year financial reports, we are pleased to announce Chapter coins are now available! Our coins are uniquely designed to reflect AFA's heritage and commitment to the future United States Air Force and Space Force missions, Airman, Guardians, and families. Chapter members donating \$20.00 or more (\$25.00 for non-chapter members) will receive a chapter coin from the Executive Council as a "thank you" for your generous contribution to the AFA and Space Coast Chapter's core missions of advocacy, education, and support.

## Chapter Secretary-Jordan Arcturus

Minutes from the Nov and Dec EC meetings were approved by the Executive Council during the Dec and Jan EC meetings, respectively. The 2021 Chapter Activity Plan was approved by the EC and submitted to State and National. All members are encouraged to update contact information with AFA National.

## Events

**Dec 8** EC held virtually.

**Jan 12** EC held virtually.

**Jan 23** AFA Florida State Winter Meeting held virtually.

**Feb 9** Chapter Executive Council Meeting (always open to members: invite for virtual attendance available upon request)

**Feb 24-26** AFA Aerospace Warfare Symposium (virtual)

## Executive Council Decisions from Dec/Jan ECs

1. Proceeds from AFA Florida Virtual Happy Hour processed and donations to AFA COVID Airman Assistance Fund (\$1077.08) and to Region IV Arnold Air Society/Silver Wings (\$1000) have now been completed
2. Established and purchased Space Coast Chapter Challenge Coin for recognition (see separate page).
3. Funded advertisement via electronic highway billboard to celebrate 1st Birthday of US Space Force (see separate page).
4. Approved 2021 Activity and Financial Plans and submitted to AFA National.
5. Provided support to Patrick SFB Annual Awards via \$250 donation IAW annual budget.
6. Go to [www.canaveral.afaflorida.org](http://www.canaveral.afaflorida.org) to get updates and access The Vector online. New Facebook site is active: <https://m.facebook.com/AFA SpaceCoast/>.
7. For written correspondence or donation by check, our Chapter mailing address is:

Space Coast Chapter – Air Force Assoc  
PO Box 254657  
Patrick SFB, FL 32925

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## Space Coast Chapter Community Partner Launchpad

### Platinum Level Community Partners

TSS Solutions;  
Melbourne, FL  
Web: [www.tsssolutions.com](http://www.tsssolutions.com)

### Gold Level Community Partners

(Looking for our first!)

### Silver Level Community Partners

Craig Technologies;  
Melbourne, FL  
Web: [www.craigtechinc.com/](http://www.craigtechinc.com/)

The Grove Church,  
Titusville, FL  
Web: [www.thegrovechurchfl.org/](http://www.thegrovechurchfl.org/)

Businesses and organizations across the Space Coast participate in the Chapter's Community Partner Program. By their participation they demonstrate their support for a strong defense sufficient to ensure peace and security for our Nation. More than this, through their partnership, they help enable us to support our Air and Space Forces, their families, and the community. We encourage you to express your thanks by visiting these valued members of our Chapter and to encourage other businesses to join our team. For more information on our Community Partner Program contact Randy Turner, VP for Community Partners, at email [Randy.Turner@tsssolutions.com](mailto:Randy.Turner@tsssolutions.com).

*This issue we are "spotlighting" our Platinum level Community Partner: TSS Solutions*

The Space Coast Chapter is pleased to highlight one of our Platinum Level Community Partners; TSS Solutions is located at 720 North Dr, Melbourne, FL 32932. 321-2242-0000.



TSS Solutions is a professional defense electronics engineering and manufacturing company specializing in the upgrading, re-engineering, repair and operation of ground-based tactical and fixed position radar and SATCOM systems. They serve the global defense, telecommunications, and commercial industries. Since 1991, TSS Solutions has evolved its designs and incorporated technology advancements and improvements into systems originally developed by some of the most powerful aerospace and defense brands in the world.

TSS Solutions innovation and engineering expertise are supported by their full-service in-house Depot operations. As owners of several radar systems, and providers of systems for lease, TSS Solutions is uniquely positioned to provide the optimal mix of the low cost of acquisition and leasing, fast delivery, service life extension, and ongoing maintenance and operations support services anywhere.

**AIRMEN FOR LIFE**



# The Vector

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## Space Coast Chapter Challenge Coin



An initial lot of 50 coins were purchased and will be used for appropriate recognition of contributions to Chapter activities and events (guest speakers, etc.) They are also available as a “Thank you” to chapter members, upon request, for donations of \$20 or more and to non-chapter members for donations of \$25 or more.

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Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday US Space Force!



Lamar Electronic Billboard Advertisement (3 billboards in local area for one week 16-22 Dec) were made possible by the generous donations of Space Coast Chapter Members – Thank you!

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