

# FLORIDA WEST COAST CHAPTER of the AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION



Vol. 9, Issue 4

NEWSLETTER

JUL - SEP 2020

## AIR FORCE SUPPORT

### CHAPTER HONORS CAP CADET OF THE YEAR

By: CAP 1LT Julie McDonald

VENICE, Florida – **Cadet Major Justin McDonald** of Civil Air Patrol's Venice Cadet Squadron was chosen to receive the Air Force Association's "Civil Air Patrol Outstanding Cadet of the Squadron" Award for 2020. This award is presented annually in a special awards ceremony to recognize the achievements of the most accomplished cadet that year. The Air Force Association is proud to support outstanding

cadets, like McDonald, at the squadron level with an award package that includes a silver medal accompanied by a sky-blue ribbon and a certificate (pictured at left).



Cadet Major Justin McDonald of Civil Air Patrol's Venice Cadet Squadron

The award was presented virtually on May 19, 2020 by **Colonel Henry Pugh**, United States Air Force (Ret.) of the Florida West Coast Air Force Association Chapter 429. The Air Force Association (AFA), a long-term partner with the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), has established grants and awards to recognize the efforts of CAP members in their leadership skills and to promote aerospace education to today's youth. Colonel Pugh was delighted to recognize McDonald's exceptional Civil Air Patrol accomplishments and academic achievements.

Civil Air Patrol is the longtime auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and as such is a valued member of its Total Force. In its auxiliary role, CAP operates a fleet of 560 single-engine aircraft and 1,550 small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS). It performs about 90% of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and is credited by the AFRCC with saving an average of 82 lives annually.

CAP's 66,000 members also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. Operating as a nonprofit organization, CAP also plays a leading role in STEM/aerospace education, and its members serve as mentors to 28,000 young people participating in CAP's Cadet Programs. Visit [www.CAP.News](http://www.CAP.News) or [www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com](http://www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com) for more information.

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

### DAVE DOWNER NAMED CHAPTER MEMBER OF THE YEAR

The chapter is pleased to recognize **Dave Downer** as its 2020 Chapter Member of the Year. Dave has been with us since the original organizational meetings back in 2011 and did yeoman's work setting up our Air Force Anniversary dinners at Rosebud's Restaurant. Recently he has been most visible organizing the chapter's participation in the Sarasota County Memorial Day and Veterans Day parades.

Downer came to Sarasota as a five year old and subsequently graduated from Sarasota Senior High School in 1959. He attended Harvard University and participated in the Air Force ROTC program. A Distinguished Military Graduate, Dave was commissioned a Second Lieutenant Force when he graduated June 1963 with a degree in Architectural Sciences. He was selected for an experimental Air Force program which sent him to a two year graduate architecture program.

He went to his first base assignment with the Civil Engineering Squadron (CES) at Lockbourne AFB near Columbus Ohio. From there, he went to the 5010<sup>th</sup> CES at Eielson AFB near of Fairbanks AK.

Dave was then selected to serve as a Missile Combat Crew Commander and completed a four year tour at Minot AFB, ND. He completed his Master's degree in Public Administration while at Minot.

He met Judith DeWolfe -- an Air Force Flight Nurse -- during his missile training and they were married shortly after he completed training. They are still married after more than 50 years.

Following his tour in Missiles, Dave returned to the Civil Engineering field -- initially with the 8<sup>th</sup> CES at Ubon, Thailand and next at Langley AFB, VA where he was initially in charge of the facilities work required to bed down of the first operational wing of F-15 fighters.

Dave's next assignment was to the Air Force Liaison Office of the Military Assistance Group in Iran. And then on to Headquarters Strategic Air Command, Offutt AFB, NE where he was a Division Chief in the Directorate of Engineering and Services. He then served as Commander of the Civil Engineering Squadron at Sembach AB, Germany.

Upon returning to the United States, Dave was assigned to Headquarters, 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force, at March AFB, CA as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Engineering and Services. He retired from active duty in September, 1986.

With his retirement from the Air Force, Dave took a series of facility operations and management jobs; first at Swarthmore College, then at Vanguard and lastly at Johnson Controls. In 1998 he became a Financial Advisor for Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. with his office here in Sarasota until he retired in 2014.

Dave joined the Air Force Association as a Life Member in 1978.





### SENATE CONFIRMS BROWN TO LEAD AIR FORCE IN HISTORIC VOTE

By Rachel S. Cohen

Senators confirmed Air Force **Gen. Charles Q. Brown Jr.** as the first Black military service chief in American history in a 98-0 vote on June 9. Brown is expected to begin his four-year term as the Air Force's top uniformed officer later this summer. His confirmation came as the military responded to nationwide protests over police brutality and systemic racism, spurred by George Floyd's death in Minnesota on May 25th.

He has pledged to carry out the service's sweeping modernization plan while continuing to fight insurgents in the Middle East and Africa and posturing against Russia and China—all while adjusting to life during the coronavirus pandemic.

Gen. Brown was commissioned in 1984 as a distinguished graduate of the ROTC program at Texas Tech University. He has served in a variety of positions at the squadron and wing levels, including an assignment to the U.S. Air Force Weapons School as an F-16 Fighting Falcon Instructor. His notable staff tours include Aide-de-Camp to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force; Director, Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff Executive Action Group; and Deputy Director, Operations Directorate, U.S. Central Command. He also served as a National Defense Fellow at the Institute for Defense Analyses.

Gen. Brown is a command pilot with more than 2,900 flying hours, including 130 combat hours. He has commanded a fighter squadron, the U.S. Air Force Weapons School, two fighter wings and U.S. Air Forces Central Command. Prior to his selection as the Chief of Staff he served as the Commander, Pacific Air Forces; Air Component Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command; and Executive Director, Pacific Air Combat Operations Staff, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

### BASS TAPPED AS AIR FORCE'S FIRST FEMALE ENLISTED LEADER

June 19, 2020 | By Rachel S. Cohen (Edited for length and clarity.)

**Chief Master Sgt. JoAnne Bass** will become the 19th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, and the first female enlisted Airman to lead one of the U.S. armed forces. Bass is scheduled to take over the CMSAF post in an Aug. 14 ceremony. She beat out more than a dozen other candidates based on her experience, recommendations, and career performance. As CMSAF, she will oversee more than 410,000 enlisted Airmen.

**Gen. Charles Q. Brown Jr.**, who is slated to take over as Chief of Staff in August picked Bass to follow outgoing **CMSAF Kaleth Wright**. In a June 19 press release, Brown said Bass brings the right skills, temperament, and experience to the job, plus "an outlook on leadership that meshes with his own."



*Continued on next page.*



“Gen. Brown knocked it out of the park with this selection,” Wright posted on Twitter. “Proud moment in history, great to be an Airman!”

Bass’s selection sets up a historic leadership slate for the Air Force: It will become the first military branch run by a Black Chief of Staff and a female enlisted Chief. Bass will be the first Asian American to serve as the highest-ranking non-commissioned member of a U.S. military service as well.

Bass previously served as command chief master sergeant for Second Air Force at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. She was the top non-commissioned adviser for Air Force-run training courses that graduate 150,000 military personnel each year.

“Throughout her career, she has held a variety of leadership positions serving at the squadron, group, wing, and major command levels,” according to her 2AF biography. “She has significant joint service and special operations experience and has participated in several operations and exercises as well as deployments in direct support of Operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom.” The decorated leader most recently served as chief of Air Force enlisted developmental education at the Pentagon.

With Bass and Air Force Secretary **Barbara Barrett** in two of the service’s top three leadership positions, [women will occupy seven of the 49 highest posts](#) across the Air Staff, Secretariat, and major commands. *(As Irene commented, 7 of 49 is still only about 14%. We have made a lot of progress, but there is still room to go.)*

## U.S. AIR FORCE UNVEILS CONOR DALY’S INDIANAPOLIS 500 CAR

(INDIANAPOLIS) May 15, 2020 – *(Edited for length and clarity)* **Ed Carpenter** Racing and the U.S. Air Force today unveiled **Conor Daly’s** No. 47 U.S. Air Force Chevrolet for the 2020 Indianapolis 500. Daly’s Indianapolis 500 entry pays homage to the beginning of today’s U.S. Air Force and one of its most iconic aircraft, the Bell X-1.

The No. 47 selected for Daly’s car has double significance. The U.S. Air Force was officially founded on September 18, 1947 with the passage of the National Security Act of 1947. That legislation would separate the U.S. Air Force from the U.S. Army and allow the U.S. Air Force to become a separate branch of military service. Less than a month later, on October 14, 1947, an experimental U.S. Air Force rocket plane became the first crewed aircraft to exceed the speed of sound.

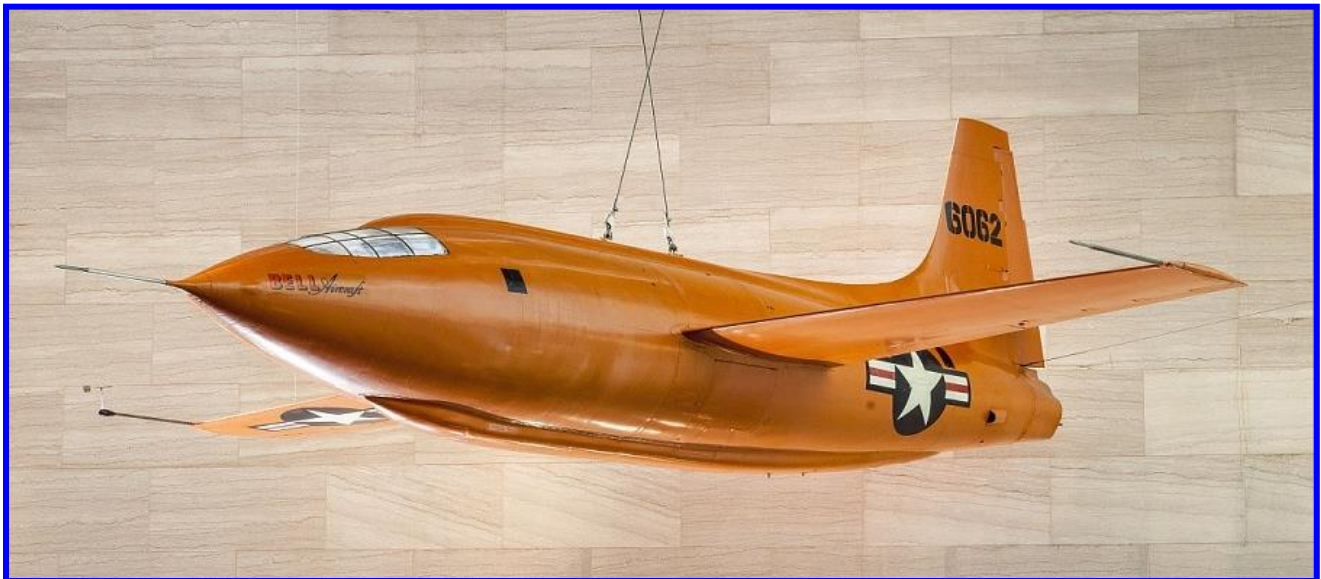


*Design of Daly’s No. 47 Pays Tribute to Chuck Yeager’s “Glamorous Glennis” Aircraft*

Flying the Bell X-1, U.S. Air Force **Capt. Charles “Chuck” Yeager** became the first pilot to break the sound barrier. The aircraft was painted bright orange so it could be seen in test flights and named “Glamorous Glennis” by Yeager as a tribute to his wife. The aircraft reached Mach 1.06 (700 mph) at an altitude of 43,000 feet over the Mojave Desert in California.

Daly and the U.S. Air Force are continuing a partnership that originated three years ago. The Noblesville, Indiana native and Indianapolis-based Ed Carpenter Racing work alongside the U.S. Air Force to use Indy car racing to inspire young adults, communicate the service’s mission and build awareness about career opportunities. Daly will be attempting to qualify for his 7th Indianapolis 500 in 2020. Last year, he had his most successful Month of May to date by setting the fastest lap of all practice sessions and earning his career-best “500” finish of 10th.

The 104th Running of the Indianapolis 500 was originally scheduled to run on May 24, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event has been re-scheduled to August 23, 2020. ECR’s three-car lineup for the 500-mile race will feature Daly, three-time Indy 500 pole winner Carpenter and rookie **Rinus VeeKay**, the team’s full-time driver of the No. 21 Chevrolet. Following a three-month delay, the NTT INDYCAR SERIES season was scheduled to begin on June 6, 2020 at Texas Motor Speedway.



The Bell X-1 is now owned by National Air and Space Museum and is on display in Washington,

## SPACE FORCE NEWS

### U.S. SPACE FORCE TO EXPAND PRESENCE INSIDE THE PENTAGON

The headquarters of former Air Force Space Command in Colorado Springs, Colo., will be phased out. The Space Force headquarters is being stood up in the Pentagon.

### SPACE FORCE’S PLAN FOR CYBER WARRIORS



The Space Force is hashing out how to incorporate offensive cyber operations into its future combat plans, as the new service charts a path forward for the cyber-focused Airmen who transfer in, officials said during a recently livestreamed town hall. The Space Force at first is looking at bringing in about 130 cyber officers and around 1,000 enlisted members. Those transfers will largely handle defensive cyber operations, though Space Force cyberspace operations division chief **Col. Aaron Gibson** indicated that may change. Offensive cyber operations are “definitely something we’re looking at as we’re starting to write our cyber strategy,” Gibson said.

## SPACE FORCE ATTRACTS THOUSANDS IN FIRST TRANSFER WINDOW

By Rachel S. Cohen

More than 8,500 Airmen applied to formally transfer into the Space Force during the month of May, about half the number of people who currently work for the fledgling service. Space Force officials will choose about 6,000 of those satellite operators, intelligence analysts, cyber professionals, and others to join the service for a two-year term, according to a June 9 release.

### AIR FORCE TRIVIA

#### MEA CULPA, MEA CULPA

Seems the last newsletter identified the location of Scott AFB as being near Belleville, Missouri. As was quickly pointed out by **Bill McKinney** and **John Wild**, Belleville is located in Illinois – not Missouri. My mistake. Great to see our membership reads far enough into the newsletter to catch errors like that.

Now see if you can match names to the faces of these famous individuals who served in the Air Force or its predecessor organizations. There are a couple of curve balls thrown in here so good luck.

Answers are on page 7.



1. \_\_\_\_\_



2. \_\_\_\_\_



3. \_\_\_\_\_



4. \_\_\_\_\_



5. \_\_\_\_\_



6. \_\_\_\_\_



7. \_\_\_\_\_



8. \_\_\_\_\_



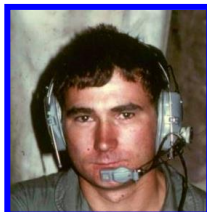
9. \_\_\_\_\_



10. \_\_\_\_\_



11. \_\_\_\_\_



12. \_\_\_\_\_



13. \_\_\_\_\_



14. \_\_\_\_\_



15. \_\_\_\_\_

Benjamin O. Davis Jr., Charles A. "Chuck" Horner, Curtis LeMay, Daniel "Chappie" James Jr., Eddie Rickenbacker, Henry H. "Hap" Arnold, Jeanne M. Holm, James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle, John Levitt, Joseph C. McConnell Jr., Paul W. Airey, Robin Olds, Sheila Widnall, William "Billy" Mitchell, William H. Pitsenbarger



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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

AFA Chapter Choice: Florida West Coast Chapter #429

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS OPTIONS

☐ \$20.00 Intro Rate for new members  
(Includes Electronic (E) copy of Air Force Magazine)

☐ \$35.00 for 1 year E-membership  
(Includes E-copy of Air Force Magazine)

☐ \$85.00 for 3 year membership  
(Includes E-copy of Air Force Magazine)

☐ \$50.00 for 1 year membership  
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☐ \$400.00 Single payment for e-life membership  
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For an additional cost, Life Members can choose to subscribe to receive the hard copy magazine.

☐ \$40.00 for a one year subscription

☐ \$100.00 for a 3 year subscription

## MAKE A DONATION

I wish to include a charitable donation to support AFA.

☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions to AFA are fully tax deductible for federal income tax purposes.

## METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ Check enclosed (not cash) ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ AMEX

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVC # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this application – with a check if applicable – to:

Air Force Association  
ATTN: Membership  
501 Lee Highway  
Arlington, VA 22209-9963

For quicker service, visit [www.afa.org](http://www.afa.org) or  
call 1- (800) 727- 3337, option 3.  
Mon-Fri 8:30am-5:00pm EST

## HELP THE CHAPTER BY SHOPPING AT AMAZON SMILE



Once again we want to ask you to help support the chapter financially by doing your online shopping at Amazon smile.

### What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that provides a simple and automatic way to support the chapter every time you shop – and at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the chapter.

### How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. So be sure you reach out to the primary shopper in your house and give him/her the info necessary to start using AmazonSmile – and to start making a financial contribution to Florida West Coast Chapter of AFA.

To find out more about AmazonSmile go to:  
[Learn more about AmazonSmile](http://smile.amazon.com)

## AIR FORCE TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Eddie Rickenbacker
2. Billy Mitchell
3. Hap Arnold
4. Jimmy Doolittle
5. Benjamin Davis
6. Joseph McConnell
7. Curtis LeMay
8. Robin Olds
9. William Pittsnbarger
10. Paul Airey
11. Chappie James
12. John Levitow
13. Jeanne Holm
14. Chuck Horner
15. Sheila Widnall



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**Our mission is to promote dominant U.S. Air and Space Forces as the foundation of a strong National Defense, to honor and support our Airmen and families, and to remember and respect our enduring Heritage.**

*AFA Mission Statement as approved by the Executive Committee 30 April 2020.*

The Florida West Coast Chapter of the Air Force Association is incorporated in the State of Florida as a qualified 501(C)(3) charitable organization. Our Registration Number is CH48270.

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