



On Silver Wings

Silver Wings National Headquarters
San Diego State University

Volume 44
Issue 3

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Making an Impact within the Community with a Small Chapter

Regardless of the size of your chapter, there are many resources for you to use at your discretion in order to make and impact on your community. The Internet is a great place to start. By going to such search engines as www.mamma.com (the mother of all search engines), you can find useful information on your campus community and much more. Search for keywords related to the JNP and SNP. Remember to limit the search to sites that mention your campus community.

Don't be afraid to latch on! Look in your local phonebook for national, regional or local charitable organizations that do work relevant to your chapter's service focus. Call, email, or write the organization to offer your help. Be certain to introduce yourself and Silver Wings. Give the organization your full contact information (as the Service Director), the national Silver Wings website (www.arnold-air.org), and your school's chapter website. Explain your purpose, focus and desire to help their organization. Very few organizations will turn away free energetic and enthusiastic help! If possible, request a direct contact with their community service director and give specific windows of availability. **Cont. pg. 2**

Rediscovering the Motto

The May 2001 commencement at the University of Illinois saw its finest Silver Wings members complete their college careers, in other words we saw every single one of our Silver Wings members graduate. The Stephen Nagle chapter no longer had any members, until a miracle happened in the fall semester when we reactivated.

Due to a conscientious POC and a helpful AAS liaison officer, plans began to fall into place with the advisement of our Detachment 190 Commander, Colonel Kurt Bock. Membership went from nil to nine after one meeting, and specifics about Silver Wings were discussed. What is it all about, was the question on everyone's minds.

"Knowledge, Wisdom, and the Courage to Serve," were the first words we heard. The members at the Stephen Nagle chapter are only beginning to comprehend the meaning of this phrase. We merely started with a big black binder labeled "Silver Wings." It had everything needed for our president, which so happens to be the conscientious POC, to brief us—the mission, the history, the objectives, and what was required. We were enticed, but we needed some more. The AAS liaison officer entered at this time of need. With the knowledge of her experiences in AAS and her wisdom, we truly began to understand why we had signed up—to serve that is.

Impact

Continued from Pg. 1

Don't go alone! Show up in numbers! Impress the organization with your enthusiasm to help. Bring friends and significant others along. No one said Silver Wings members are the only people interested in serving the community. Pull all the strings together that you have. Besides, you might inspire others to volunteer more often, or even join Silver Wings because of the wonderful philanthropic spirit you exhibit. Above all, have fun!

Author Unknown

Rediscover

Continued from pg. 1

To those of us who are new to this organization, the most important part of the Silver Wings motto is centered on having the courage to serve. We are mostly all freshmen, just beginning to get the hang of college life, making necessary adjustments, and trying to learn as much as we can. Perhaps this is why we all decided to join Silver Wings. We want to help others, and learn more about ourselves. Along with serve our country and community in the United States Air Force. The bottom line is, we all believe we have the courage to serve! By Nancy Geyer



The Meaning Behind The Symbol

The U.S. Air Force symbol honors the heritage of our past and represents the promise of our future. It retains the core elements of our Air Corps heritage -- the "Arnold" wings and star with circle -- and modernizes them to reflect our aerospace force of today and tomorrow.

The symbol has two main parts. In the upper half, the stylized wings represent the stripes of our strength -- the enlisted men and women of our force. They are drawn with great angularity to emphasize our swiftness and power, and they are divided into six sections, which represent our core competencies -- aerospace superiority, global attack, rapid global mobility, precision engagement, information superiority, and agile combat support. In the lower half are a sphere, a star and three diamonds. The sphere within the star represents the globe. It reminds us of our obligation to secure our nation's freedom with Global Vigilance, Reach and Power. The globe also reminds us of our challenge as an expeditionary force to respond rapidly to crises and to provide decisive aerospace power, worldwide.

The area surrounding the sphere takes the shape of a star. The star has many meanings. Its five points represent the components of our one force and family -- our active duty, civilians, Guard, Reserve and retirees. The star symbolizes space as the high ground of our nation's aerospace force. The rallying symbol in all our wars, the star also represents our officer corps, central to our combat leadership.

The star is framed with three diamonds, which represent our core values -- integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do. The elements come together to form one symbol that presents two powerful images -- at once it is an eagle, the emblem of our nation, and a medal, representing valor in service to our nation.

Courtesy of www.af.mil

The Once Invisible Region B

By Crystal Derschon

Before November 3rd, most Silver Wings members had never heard of Region B. Then came two wonderful, dedicated, and motivated people, namely, Scott Rein and Summer Smith. Scott Rein is the Area II commander. As of now, Area II consists of the same states that Region B is made up of. Summer Smith is the REO for Region C, located just south of the new Region B. These two were determined to start a Silver Wings chapter in Region B. To start off, Summer graciously volunteered to become Region B's REO. Scott and Summer worked closely together to begin making plans to start their Silver Wings chapter. Scott even traveled to Region C ARCON to learn more about Silver Wings, plan more with Summer, and put them one step closer to starting a chapter.

The final step was the Area II ARCON, which was held in Wilkes-Bare, Pennsylvania on November 3rd. Several of the Arnold Air squadrons, who attended the ARCON, did not have a Silver Wings chapter. Due to Scott's speeches and one on one question and answer sessions with the Silver Wings National Representative, all the squadrons were educated on what Silver Wings is and why their squadron could benefit from having a chapter.

The Silver Wings business session was held towards the end of the ARCON. A representative from each squadron was present and all final questions were answered. Each squadron decided to commit to the starting of a chapter.

By the end of the ARCON Scott was completely confident that a Region B Silver Wings chapter would be activated by NATCON. The University of Maryland already has 6 members and is working on the documents to become official. University of Delaware has 15 members interested, most of which are Army ROTC cadets that want to get involved in a community service organization, being that the Army ROTC does not have any such program. The remaining universities, Wilkes-Bare University, University of Virginia, and Penn State all have members that are interested in starting a chapter and are taking the steps to achieve that goal.

The Importance of Continuity

We've all been the recipient or deliverer of poor continuity. As organized as I try to be, I too, have been guilty of dumping a lousy continuity packet on my successor. In fact, my first chapter level office came complete with a nonexistent continuity. I propose we make a change for the better. Let the buck stop here! Or, to quote the current Honorary National President, Nancy Zeher we can plant pecans over peaches.

Here is my "Hitchhikers Guide" to a good, functional, and useful continuity. While parts of this suggestion may not pertain to all chapter offices, the following suggestions should provide you with a good skeleton for your own customized continuities.

The packet should begin with the Welcome Letter. This is the place for the outgoing officer to provide various words of advice, warnings, and encouragement to the incoming officer. This section should provide a concise summary of the duties, challenges, and accomplishments of the office.

Airspace dominance for the 21st Century

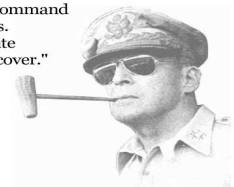


F-22 Facts

History Lessons

"The nation that does not command the air will face deadly odds. Armies and navies to operate successfully must have air cover."

General Douglas MacArthur



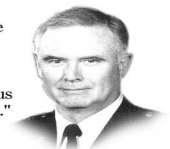
"The enemies' air superiority has a very grave effect on our movements. There's simply no answer to it."

Field Marshal Rommel's observation during the Normandy Invasion



"Air dominance provides both the freedom from attack and the freedom to attack. It is the key to winning wars while minimizing the loss of America's most precious resource—its sons and daughters."

General Michael E. Ryan
Air Force Chief of Staff



Air Force News Service

Continuity Continued from pg.3

The welcome section shouldn't contain specific dates, names, or figures. In short, it should read like an executive summary: helpful and to the point. This section is great for members who have never held an officer position before.

The second order of business is the explanation of office. This section could be a detailed outline of your chapter's structure. The officer's particular duties to the chapter should be spelled out in this section. All this information can come verbatim from your local constitution. This explanation is a particularly helpful tool for secretary/communications officers, who have numerous tasks under their domain.

Next there should be section that contains the chapter's contact information. It should merely include a roster of all active members. On the roster, list the member's names, phone numbers and email addresses. Keep in mind that home addresses and birthdays may also be helpful. Additionally, the contact information for you cadre or university sponsor, ROTC detachment, and AFA chapter may be included in this area. Don't make the officer-elect look for phone numbers and other important contact information when you have been using it all semester. By keeping the contact section up-to-date, outgoing officers can decrease the adjustment period that usually accompanies a change of command.

It is essential to provide officers with relevant manuals and SW Forms. This section should be limited to the portions of SW manuals and chapter manuals that directly relate to the office. For instance, if the officer will be responsible for turning in project reports, include blank copies of Project Form A and B. Additionally, including previously submitted forms can be very useful to new officers unfamiliar with reporting procedures. The form section gives new officers quick access to important SW documents.

In conjunction with the form section of the continuity folder comes office activity reports. The activity reports document the work of the outgoing officer. This information should explain the events regularly or traditionally coordinated by the officer. The activity section, which contains archival correspondence, can serve as a quick-reference for new officers.

Providing a sample budget is extremely helpful for the incoming officer. This section should outline the fixed and variable costs associated with the officer's position. List any recurring expenses such as postage, printing, donations, travel, or social events. It is never fun to "discover" a hidden expense within days of a project or deadline. Also, enumerating office expenses will help guide the chapter in forming the year's budget. The sample budget is often the most overlooked component of good continuity.

Officers should be provided with each semester's calendar to ensure that deadlines and other important events are not overlooked. The calendar should be marked with chapter events, fund-raisers, academic events, ROTC functions and anything else planned for the chapter. Of course, dates and events will change from each semester, but leaving a place for the calendar may assist the officer-elect to schedule events and make preparations.

Region B Cont. from pg 3

Region B will no longer be invisible to Silver Wings members. This March, in Washington DC, every Silver Wings member can look forward to seeing newly activated chapters representing Region B. Silver Wings National Headquarters would like to give a special thank you to Scott Rein and Summer Smith for their continuous dedication to the activation of new Silver Wings chapters.

SPEED READING

Reading hundreds of pages during a time span of one week is not uncommon for college students. In order to make life a little easier, here are some tips on how to speed-read when there just doesn't seem like enough time in the day. (Note: This works best with conceptual material with which you are somewhat familiar with.)

- Read the introduction and the first and last chapters of the book in their entirety.
- Read the entire first and last paragraph of chapter two to the next-to-last chapter, and the first and last sentence of each paragraph in between the first and last paragraphs.
- Read all quotes, tips, and statistics in the margins, and review all graphs and tables.

This method enables you to grasp the essence of the book without reading it word for word - saving time while not missing core information. Courtesy of Amanda Mcroberts

Announcements

NATCON: planning is on track for a super NATCON in Washington D.C. The POTOMACON staff from the Frank P. Lahm Squadron at the University of Maryland is working hard to produce a great event. Registration packets will be out by the end of November. Easter is early this year (31 March) so the registration needs to be mailed in ON-TIME to assure a room in the hotel. Registration fee is \$96 and the hotel for four nights in quad occupancy is \$95. AFROTC is still planning to provide 1000 airline seats to those outside the 500 mile radius. Ticket allocations to the Detachments should be out in January for distribution to AAS and SW cadets; however one concern is that those who say they are going, do so and use the airline seat that is being bought.