



**Northeast Texas Chapter 416  
Air & Space Forces Association (AFA)  
P.O. Box 8633, Greenville, TX 75404-8633**



December 1, 2025

***Mission and community partners, and friends of Northeast Texas AFA416,***

We are pleased to share that your Northeast Texas, AFA416, was named the

**AFA 2025 TOP Large Chapter!**

Thanks to our team for their hard work, and your SUPPORT!



**Thank you!** Your generosity through donations of time, talent, treasure, support, and steady encouragement to stay the course ensured success in 2025. You can see more at [www.netxafa.org](http://www.netxafa.org) for more info on our programs and successes.

*Please, share with and recommend friends, co-workers, and others to come join our efforts.*

**We could use help in many ways. Contact us for info! ([TX416.Northeast.Treasurer@afa.org](mailto:TX416.Northeast.Treasurer@afa.org))**

**2025 – We executed over \$40,000 to military/STEM programs!**

**Support & Inspire Events**



Supported the **645<sup>th</sup> AESS** military members in Greenville, TX, providing over \$3,000 to support their Health, Morale, and Welfare programs that included a year end party with babysitting.



Supported three **Civil Air Patrol (CAP)** Squadrons (Greenville, Rockwall, and Sulphur Springs) [*the Air Force Auxiliary*] with over \$8,100 in support to cadet programs.

**Flight Simulator.** Due to your generosity, we were able to purchase a flight simulator for the Greenville, TX-645 CAP squadron that will provide credit for flight hours as part of its use. This \$12,658 purchase is the first of its kind for the chapter. TX-645 is working with L3Harris to set up a permanent location for the unit with full implementation and use expected in early 2026! We expect a large return on investment for both cadet and senior leader training and are monitoring closely. We will provide more in future reports.



**Educate.** We put over \$16,700+ toward numerous programs. The **Greenville High School** Solar Car and their trip to Australia, three **Rockwall** CyberPatriot teams and the robotics/drone teams, and the **Sulphur Springs Elementary**, Girls Recognizing Own Worth (GROW) program. We supported the **Lone Oak** Tango Flight aircraft build program and the **Commerce** High School robotics/drones, two **Boles** **High School** programs. We did a first at **Hughes** **Springs Library** supporting two events; a robotics High School and a DNA experiment





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that were well attended and highly successful. We are pleased to report that our **Chapter Teacher of the Year (TOY)**, **Dana O'Neal**, was also the AFA Texas TOY, and that we supported her **Simms, TX**, rocket launch, CyberPatriot and StellarXplorer teams. We awarded two other TOY awards to Bryan Cole in Sulphur Springs and Isaac Frazier in Lone Oak, and supported other STEM programs at Greenville Christian School, and more.



**Scholarships.** \$9,700 supported ten Essay Contest scholarships and the Lt Col Larry Ratliff, Commerce HS scholarships in 2025. We recognized these winners along with our Civil Air Patrol Cadets of the Year, and our three Teachers of the Year at our Recognize & Inspire Event in March 2025. What a joy to see these wonderful recipients smile and to hear of their efforts. We could not have done this without your help!

## 2025 Teachers, Scholarship Recipients, and Cadets



**Advocacy efforts.** We are working with legislators to best support our Air & Space Forces. You can learn more at <https://www.afa.org/advocate/> and send self-printed letters at <https://www.afa.org/advocate/letters-to-hill/>.



**Administrative Costs.** Only 12% of donated funds were used to support fundraising and organization business expenses. Your generosity allowed us great success in 2025 and will support our operations and ability to execute our 2026 programs!



## **Fundraising in 2025 to Support 2026 Programs:**

**Support & Inspire Golf Tournament.** Our 2<sup>nd</sup> tournament was held on May 25, 2025, at Woodbridge Golf Course, Wylie, TX. We had 144 golfers participate. Our sponsors were **World Wide Lan Tech** and **UHU Technologies**, along with **Mercer Advisors**. We also had hole sponsors, **Rockwall Eyecare**, **Randy Scheiberle- Keller Realty**, and **Mercer Advisors**. We are looking for new Sponsors (\$250+), Hole Sponsors (\$100), and any other donation targeted towards our support and inspire military service, and to support our area STEM education efforts. Email [TX416.Northeast.Treasurer@afa.org](mailto:TX416.Northeast.Treasurer@afa.org) for more info.

**35<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Thing & Auction.** Our event was held on September 27, 2025, at both the Oaks Country Club and the Wright Park Municipal courses in Greenville, TX. A total of 120 golfers made both the event fully successful along with a host of key sponsors like Dr. Jerry Ransom, the Lt Col Murray Family, Charles & Sharon Helm, Blackjack Disposal, Bartlett & West, McCasland Family, Savage Precision Metal Fabrication and many others (See complete list in this package). We raised over \$16,000 from these events and sponsor donations!

**Direct Donations.** Our tremendous sponsors and mission partners provided over \$34,000 to support our 2026 programs! These donations along with our fundraising will provide for our 2026 programs. Thank you, Dr. Jerry Ransom, the Murray-Feuille Trust, the McCasland Family, Bartlett & West, Blackjack Disposal, Charles & Sharon Helm, Innovation First, Bud & Jeanie Kerner, Chase & Michelle Helm, Turf Solutions, Savage Precision Metal Fabrication, Wildcatter Companies, and so many more! Coupled with our 80+ Community Partners this is great!

***Your donations and fundraising support in 2025 will provide over \$61,000 in program support for 2026!***

### **Support & Inspire 2026**

Support to the **645<sup>th</sup> AEES** military members in Greenville, TX, will continue! We provided \$2,500 to their Health, Morale, and Welfare program for 2025.

We are also providing a \$500 donation to support the **344<sup>th</sup> Recruiting Squadron and family** members that will be added to through an AFA F2 Grant totaling \$1,500.



Three **Civil Air Patrol** Squadrons (Greenville, Rockwall, & Sulphur Springs) [the Air Force Auxiliary] are funded with \$6,500 to support their cadet and operations programs.



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**East Texas A&M, Commerce** was provided with \$1000 to support their Veteran's Vigil and to support their Veterans Activities.

The **Bonham Veterans Center** will continue to be supported with \$500 or more to support veteran activities and events.



### Educate 2026

The **Greenville High School** Solar Car program was given \$2,000 from Bartlett & West donation to support efforts and continue the phenomenal success of this team. The



**Rockwall** CyberPatriot and robotics/drone teams were supported. The **Sulphur Springs**, Charles & Sharon Helm again sponsored girls Recognizing Own Worth (GROW) program to continue showing girls they can be



scientists too! We provided funds to the **Lone Oak** Tango Flight program and are seeing that aircraft be built with completion expected in late 2026 or early 2027. **Jim Bowie HS** in Simms, TX, was awarded \$1,350 to support their rocket launch, CyberPatriot, and StellarXplorer programs. **Commerce High School** robotics/drones were awarded \$1,500 to support programs. **Boles High School** robotics and other programs were supported with \$1,000. **Hughes Springs Library** will host STEM events we are planning with them! We will also support at least one **Teacher of the Year** award valued at \$750!

*And other programs as well. If you want to know more, please contact us!*

### Scholarships 2026

**Essay Contest.** We have \$8,500 planned for our Essay Contest to support a \$2,000, \$1,500, \$1,000, and seven \$500 awards. We hope to receive 40+ essays this year on “**Artificial Intelligence in the Military: Strategic Enhancement or Serious Concern?**” You can Share the contest with High School Seniors:

<https://www.netxafa.org/grants-scholarships/#essay>

*Lt Col Larry Ratliff, Commerce High School Scholarship.*



We are pleased to join the Ratliff family and are supporting a second scholarship! This will provide two \$1,000 scholarships for Commerce High School graduates. The Robotics/Drone programs at Commerce are where several of our past recipients found out about the scholarship. We hope to encourage

more and help another deserving student in their educational endeavors!



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## Fundraising Plan for 2026:



**Support & Inspire Golf Tournament.** Our third tournament is scheduled for **May 15, 2026**, at Woodbridge Golf Course, Wylie, TX. We are shooting for 144 golfers to participate. We are looking for new Hole Sponsors (\$100), Sponsors (\$250+) and any other donation targeted towards our support and inspire military service, and to support STEM education efforts in our area. **Send email to [TX416.Northeast.Treasurer@afa.org](mailto:TX416.Northeast.Treasurer@afa.org) for more info.**



**36<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Thing & Auction.** Is planned for late September or early October 2026. Dates will be released in late January 2026. We hope to have a full slate of golfers and a highly successful Auction!

We will be looking for sponsors, hole sponsors, and more! **Send email to [TX416.Northeast.Treasurer@afa.org](mailto:TX416.Northeast.Treasurer@afa.org) for more info!**

**Advocacy** efforts. We are working with legislators to best support our Air & Space Forces. You can learn more at <https://www.afa.org/advocate/> and send self-printed letters at <https://www.afa.org/advocate/letters-to-hill/>. **Please help support Airmen & Guardians!**

### We need your help!

**Media help.** Like to write? We need help with our newsletter and communications.

**Website content help.** Need help compiling short stories for web posting.

**Financial.** Interested in working with QuickBooks or helping our Treasurer?

**Fundraising.** Like to help us find sponsors and supporters?

**Visiting Programs.** We need some of you to visit the programs in progress in your community. We need people to be faces of AFA and see how these programs matter. If you know someone willing to help, let us know!

**You have skills we can use. 1-hour, 10-hours or just one time at an event. Come help!**  
(903-274-9981 / [TX416.Northeast.Treasurer@afa.org](mailto:TX416.Northeast.Treasurer@afa.org) ).

Again, thank you for your critical role in our success. Your generosity and participation help with a positive influence in our communities, schools, and nation. We are glad to have you as a partner and hope you can help us, help others, and make a difference!

Sincerely,

VANCE M. CLARKE, CMSgt (Ret)  
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[vanceclarke1@gmail.com](mailto:vanceclarke1@gmail.com)  
903-274-9981

# Thank You Players and Sponsors!

Chapter 416, Air & Space Forces Association (AFA) extends our sincere thanks to our sponsors and individuals who have contributed significantly to the success of the 2025 "Golf Thing"

## Individual Sponsors

Dr. Jerry J. & Tommie Ransom  
Ashley Sneed  
Beckie Lindsey  
Bob Bahr  
**Bud & Jeanie Kerner**  
Chase & Michelle Helm  
Chuck Meador  
Civil Air Patrol  
David & Angela Spradlin  
Hanah Lindsey  
HMX-1 / White House Military Office – Katie Mello  
Jason Kessler  
Jay Marinelli  
Jerry & Jeannie Jolley  
Jerry & Marie Kirchman  
Joel Pitts & Mark Johnson (GISD Programs)  
Keith & Jerry Bonham  
L3Harris – Craig Driggers  
Larry Derrington  
Mark Harrison (NTPGA)  
MOAA (Ted Oats)  
**Nancy Murray & Jim Feuille**  
Presidential Pilots' Office – SSgt Sara Abrahamson  
**Randy Tarpley**  
**Randy, Debbie & Phoobie McCasland**  
Rockwall ISD / Leslie Reese  
Terry Thomas  
Tom Cruise (L3Harris)  
Vance Clarke  
Vicki Neese Thomas  
**Wayne O & Debbie Sickels**  
White House Military Office

## Commercial Sponsors

Alliance Bank – Paul Painter & Blake Taylor  
Alltams Building Plus , LLC – Al & Tammy Schaefer  
American National Bank – Shaun Franklin  
Animal Medical Center – Dr. Patricia Rife VM  
**Atmos Energy – Natalie White**  
Bartlett & West – Hallie Zacharczuk & Lee Halencak  
Ben. E. Keith – Mike Williams  
Best Western Plus Crown Colony, Lufkin – C & S Helm  
Best Western Premier Denton-Charles & Sharon Helm  
Blackjack Disposal Services – Dick & Tim  
Blackland Outdoor Power – Jeff Pierce

## Commercial Sponsors (cont.)

Bradford Elite – Julie Sickels  
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Britain Chevrolet – Byron & Misty Britain  
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Buffalo Creek – Brad Dutler  
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**Colonial Lodge – Shane Kubchek**  
D. Earls Tax Services – Daniel & Megan Earls  
Danny Leinart Construction – Danny Leinart  
Edward Jones – Bill Miller & Pamela Vickers  
Eldorado Country Club  
Embark Care - Mindy  
Enterprise Plumbing of TX – Joe Durrett  
Family First Home Care – Jeremy & Kelly Bullock  
Farmers Electric Co-Op  
Freddy's – Jeremy  
GEUS – Kami Williams  
Glenda's Deli Café – Glenda Yost  
Greenville ISD – Dr. Joe Lopez/Natalie Pegg  
Holly Gray – Century 21  
Hunt Regional Health Care – Rose Hayden & Francis  
Innovation First International – Tony, Bob & Larry  
Insurance Group of North Texas – Debbie Sickels  
Integrity Tax – Kathy Stroud  
Lands' End Golf Club – Hunter Smith  
Mainstay Suites & Sleep Inn, Lufkin – Charles & Sharon Helm  
Oaks Country Club – Lisa Brannon  
Pizza Hut – Miguel Acosta  
Royal Oaks Country Club – Dean Larsson  
**Savage Precision Fabrication – Scott Gardner**  
SERVPRO NE Collin County/Greenville – Violette & Keith Atkins  
Shane Sickels Roofing & Construction – Shane Sickels  
Shenaniganz – Jill & Jennifer  
**Splash Kingdom – Johnny Blevins**  
Stone River Golf Club- Trecia Hamilton  
Tony's Italian Kitchen  
**Turf Solutions – Brad Cardwell**  
Visiting Angels – Jaclyn Bunch  
Webb Hill Country Club – Scott  
Whataburger – Tia Love  
**Wildcatters Group- Dennis Carpenter/Denise Griffin**  
Wright Park Municipal – John Weatherford

**BLUE TEXT DENOTES CHAPTER  
COMMUNITY PARTNER**

*All proceeds support Chapter Educate, Advocate, and Support efforts!*

*This year's tournament is dedicated in memory of*

**Betty Williams & Linda Leinart**

