



Northeast Texas - AFA Chapter 416 Chapter Executive Committee Meeting

🏠 **Location:** Oaks Country Club, Greenville, TX
📅 **Date:** 260107
🕒 **Time:** 1130-1230

Attendees:

President – Zachary Hill
Vice President – Ted Oats
Secretary – Chad Chaffee
Members: Steve Macclaird, Choya Shanahan, Rich Holsinger

VP Community Partners – Terry Thomas
VP CAP – Chuck Meador
Treasurer – Vance Clarke

Virtual: Vance Clarke (in person at end)

Agenda

I. Minutes Review, vote to submit

- a) Open Discussion (Meeting at Oaks CC in Ballroom).
- b) Reviewed and approve last month's minutes.
- c) Minutes are now being posted to website for review by all: www.netxafa.org/events
- d) At bottom of 2026 events find the 6 page and 1 page 2025-2026 **Impact and Plans documents**.

II. 2026 Activity and Financial Plans

- a) Will post the Activity and Financial Plans for 2026 online by 15 Jan and inform where located. These are our guiding documents. Both have been submitted to State and above.
- b) Developing area in ABOUT US to post on Website. Determine if we should password protect in some way. Working to complete by end of Jan 2026.
- c) Semiannual reports were turned in to State by Zach and Vance on 2 Jan. Will post these on new page. These show you what we did Jul-Dec 2025.

III. Finances

- a) **Start:** \$45,696.54 **Commitments:** \$22,630.67 **Available:** \$23,05.87
 - i) Annual expenditure sheet available for review at meeting. Can share by request.
- b) Donor IRS letters (Donations of \$250 or more); emailed before end of Dec 2025. Few responses from donors, not even read receipts. Will follow-up on some in January 2026.
- c) Working to get full capability from new QuickBooks Online. Working with Wildcatter to improve. Purchased a second book to help with this. Spent \$34 for the book. Vance Board agreed with expenditure.

Vance will post baseline data in protected area of website, and offer an in-person review to anyone who asks

IV. Awards

- a) **TOY – due to us by 30 Jan 2026.** Helene (Admin) sent out week of 15 Dec. Please talk up for ones you know. Work with Helene to send out repeat announcements including offer from CAP for a free orientation flight for the winner.
- b) **Chapter/State/National Awards** need to be worked hard in Jan-mid Mar. If we can complete most inputs will make **1 April National and State requirements** easily. If you are interested in helping lead this effort, we would love your help.
 - i) **Military awards** – Zach can you see which ones you can fill
 - (1) **Did we ever present the Org Year to Squadron?** Yes, Zach presented, award on display.
 - ii) State Awards – MOFs, others, Chapter of Year? review and plan
 - iii) National Awards - MOMs, Academic Achievement, ???
 - iv) Zach and Vance will ask for help as needed.

V. Membership – Carlos Hernandez

- a) Working techniques to send letters and automate more of it. Carlos and Vance will talk and see how best to do this. Focus on New Members, Members with Expiring Membership and New AIMS Members letter to send out regularly. Monthly/Quarterly.
- b) New membership model coming to AFA in 2026 with 3 levels; FREE, Premium, Legacy. Is a good time for us to start beating drum to get folks to sign up. Working to find FREE Membership sign-up link we can start using.

VI. Essay Contest (Helene Hernandez leading)

- a) **Essays are due Jan 9, 2026.**
- b) **Judges** email sent week of 15 Dec. Pretty good response so far. Expect first round late Jan, early Feb. Goal is to be done with judging by end of Feb, or sooner. Share with friends we need judges.
 - i) Word out to all schools in contact lists, TOY nominees working multiple drafts. No one with contacts for the STEM schools. Steve to push essays in CAP in the future.

VII. 25 April 2026 Spring Thing

- a) April 25 Date set and Oaks Ballroom reserved. Believe Carlos Hernandez may be interested in helping lead this. Zach will help steer things and if we start early, we can lessen the workload.
- b) Briefers/Attendees: 1) **Congressman Self** will attend and speak. 2) **Judge Travis Ransom** from Cass County; will speak on service – he is Army Command Sgt Maj also. 3) **Hughes Springs Library**, 5 min on their programs. 4) **Mandy Eckhardt** 5 min on her science efforts in Sulphur Springs and others. 5) **GVL Solar Car** – Joel Pitts. 6) Asking **GVL**

Christian School Rocket program to speak (Joint CAP/GCS effort, possibly with assistance from Choya/Steve)

- c) **Recommend first meeting of team in early Jan 2026.** We can start working on presentations, scripts, and other items. Are you willing to help? Board ready to chip in and begin working scripts and presentations. Zach leading this effort and if you want to help, reach out to him.
- d) Review awards we present like CP MOFs. Order awards for Medals of Freedom and Exceptional Service (if possible) earlier so that CPs can participate in award observances. Would like to present as many awards as possible at the ST.

VIII. 15 May 2026 – Tentative for Support & Inspire Tournament

- a) **Reached agreement with Woodbridge GC. Will press with Wylie and date. Will be \$80-\$85 per player. Will put together advertisement, etc. Jan-Feb 2026. Zach will build QR code and poster by the end of Jan.**
- b) Sponsors – sharing with **SJ / FW Chapters** (sponsors only). Zach will build the player list and pre-block planned sponsors, opening as they don't fill.
 - i) WW Lan Tec – signed up as \$3000 sponsor.
 - ii) UHU – signed up for \$1000 sponsorship.
 - iii) Mercer advisors – hole sponsors and teams. Vance talking with Anna on increasing sponsorship.
- c) Vance offered up hole sponsorship to Dallas chapter, offering to share returns.
- d) Chad looking into like-kind exchanges with other charities.

IX. Golf Thing and Auction

- a) Efforts in work to plan, set date, etc.

X. Community Partners (CPs)

- a) Please keep soliciting. If you need help, check out website and tell Vance what you cannot find.
- b) Reducing workload with AFA Natl. We are moving to electronic Debit payment with national and are testing now. Will let you know how it works. Terry/Vance
- c) Need to plan visit to UHU Technologies and WWLT but both have signed on as sponsors along with Mercer Advisors.

XI. Community Based AFA

- a) **Sulphur Springs** – Pat HeideIman has agreed to begin efforts. Working with her and programs in SS. Hope to set up community meeting in Jan 2026. Vance planning meeting January 22, 2026. Choya, Pat and teachers have been invited. **Anyone else interested in attending the GROW event and meeting?**

- b) **Rockwall** – Chad – *would like to develop tasks and plan.* Vance sent email to the 31 members in Rockwall. 7 so far have responded and 4 stating willing to help. Going to go slow and see what we can do here.
- c) **Commerce** – Ted – if yes, would like to develop tasks and plan
- d) **Greenville** – Terry – We are working in area well. Can we get another person to help Terry and help look at building a plan to gather others to attend, etc.
- e) **Working with Carlos on areas; good candidates based on members.** Still working.
- f) **Vance gave update and orientation on mail merge applications to membership.** Discussion on membership effort.

XII. Civil Air Patrol

- a) TX-645: Simulator status update... input pictures and Steve's update here. Walls ready for paint, most electrical complete (outlets remain, and access control is in question).
- b) Working upgraded aircraft, possibly including G1000 aircraft.
- c) Quarterly reports being turned in. TX-645 and TX-345 complete.
- d) **Need a CAP Liaison for chapter.** See if we can find someone knowledgeable/interested.

XIII. AFA Advocacy Efforts

- a) Vance and Chad to work on Texas Legislative work; litigation.
 - i) Congressional engagement will have to be reset with updates: maps, AOR, districts, high schools, etc.
- b) 344th Rec Sq – grant approved for \$1000 and donating \$500 to help with annual plan for \$1500 to support spouse, childcare, etc. for unit quarterly and semi-annual functions. Sam Johnson chapter providing \$250 back to us and we will partner in future efforts.

XIV. Events

- a) **Rockwall CyberPatriot:** Gene Burton Career & College Academy on John King has 5-teams participating. 1100-1300; Chad and Vance attended. Provided pizza!
 - (1) **TX 645 CP Team:** Selected at Gold Level for State Competition. Sessions at Majors FBO on contest weekends.

XV. Future Events (See calendar at www.netxafa.org/events to see minutes, dates)

- a) 22 Jan – GROW Event at Sulphur Springs Elementary school 3-4pm.
- b) ~~23 Jan~~ - GBCCA CyberPatriot. **could be another if teams make it to next level. Unfortunately no teams made it to finals.**
- c) 26 Feb – GROW Event at Sulphur Springs Elementary school 3-4pm.
- d) Next meetings is scheduled for **11 February at The Oaks, 1130-1230.** Stay tuned for meeting invites.

Action Items	Owner(s)	Deadline	Status
<p>Map of Zip Codes</p> <p>AFA416 is allocated.</p>			