



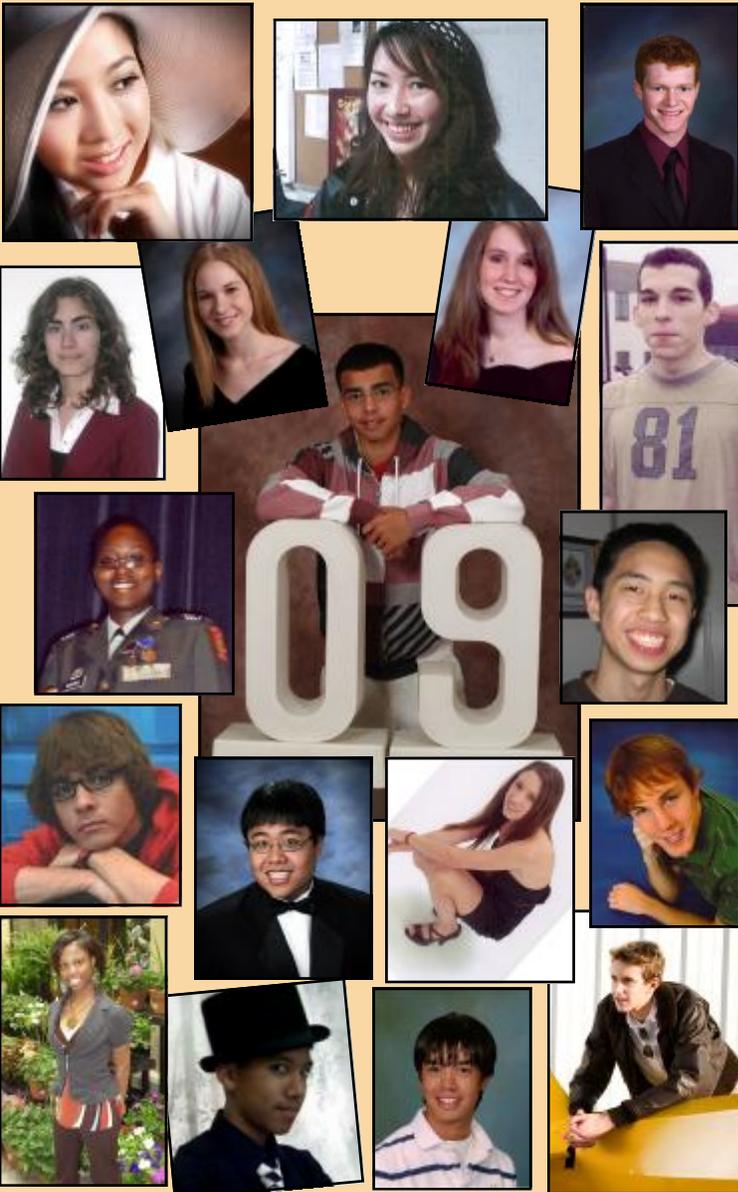
JULY 2009

NEWSLETTER

SUPPORTING THE INTERESTS OF AAFES, ITS RETIREES AND THE PEOPLE IT SERVES

AREA Scholarship Program 2009

18 winners announced—see pages 12-17



AREA members vote in officers; OK constitution, bylaws changes

AREA members voted in May to reelect three officers and approve changes to AREA's constitution and bylaws.

President Chuck Poffenbarger will serve another term as will Gerry Peterson, Treasurer, and Don Smith, Secretary. The three incumbents took office on June 1.

The position of President-Elect remains vacant, but a search is on for someone to fill the position. Tom Harmon, board member, agreed to head the search committee. As with all officers on the AREA Executive Board, the person in this position must be a resident of the Dallas-Fort Worth area and able to attend board meetings in Dallas.

The man or woman who will become President-Elect will serve the remaining period of time in the 2009-2011 term of office.

The incumbent will then be in position to run as AREA President in the next AREA election in 2011.

The four elective officers on the Board of Directors serve two-year terms.



CHUCK POFFENBARGER, PRESIDENT

AREA & Chapter Goings On

Bit O' This
Bit O' That

Welcome to the July 2009 edition of AREA's Newsletter, and the second month of Summer.

**"peeling pears-
sweet juice drips
from the knife blade"**

- Shiki

I was again elected AREA president during the voting period in May. For those who voted for me, I appreciate it. For those who didn't vote, I'll add you to my tally also as I'm sure you just didn't have time to get to the post office to purchase the additional \$.02 stamp needed for the \$.44 mailing. So, to all of you, thank you.

The Constitution and Bylaws changes passed overwhelming also. The revised documents should be on our web site, www.aafes.com/area, by the time you read this.

The July edition of the Newsletter is a special one for us - we get to show you the pictures and bios of the outstanding students who are the recipients of the 2009 AREA Scholarship Program. We have some remarkable young people in this country, and many of them are right here in the AAFES family. Academic standing was exceptional again this year. All applicants should be justifiably proud knowing they reflect great credit on themselves and the families who support them. Congratulations to them all, and our best wishes for a successful scholastic career.

Scholarship Committee members are Tom Gallagher, Director, and Jim Sawyer, Duane Walsh, Vivian Skalsky, Richard Sheff, Darryl Richards and Mat Dromey. Thank you for performing this difficult task so well.

Our third annual Scholarship booklet is a 60-page publication on the 2009 scholarship program. It's distributed to scholarship recipients, chapters presidents, senior AAFES personnel and vendors who provided the financial support thru their ad purchases to make it all possible. There are a lot of people and companies who support this program. Ask your chapter president to bring copies to your next meeting so you and others can browse through it. The list of students and vendors who support this program is impressive.

Our 2nd quarter Community Recognition recipients were equally impressive in the ways in which they volunteer their time and donate other resources, such as personal knowledge and expertise, to help improve the economic, civic, and social health of the communities where we live and work. Congratulations to them all.

Lastly, my thanks to the AAFES Chief Operating Offices (COO), Mike Howard, for his continuing contributions to the Newsletter. See his article on page 11. Mike is a very busy man, as you can well imagine, and we really appreciate his support for retirees and their families. Thank you, Mike, from all of us.

I'll see you next in October.

Chuck

YOUR AAFES BENEFITS...

Social Security Benefits Everyone

Social Security reaches almost every family, and at some point touches the lives of nearly all Americans. It has an impact on the very fabric of the American economy.



Social Security helps not only older Americans, but also workers who become disabled and families in which a spouse or parent dies. Today, about 162 million people work and pay Social Security taxes and more than 51 million people receive monthly Social Security benefits. In 2008 alone, those benefits came to about \$614 billion.

In one way or another, Social Security benefits everyone. The payments made to beneficiaries help individuals and families to stay afloat. But Social Security goes beyond that. In many areas across the nation, Social Security is essential to keeping the economy going. Take, for example, the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. Over 656,000 persons receive Social Security benefits in the Metroplex. These benefits total \$710 million a month.

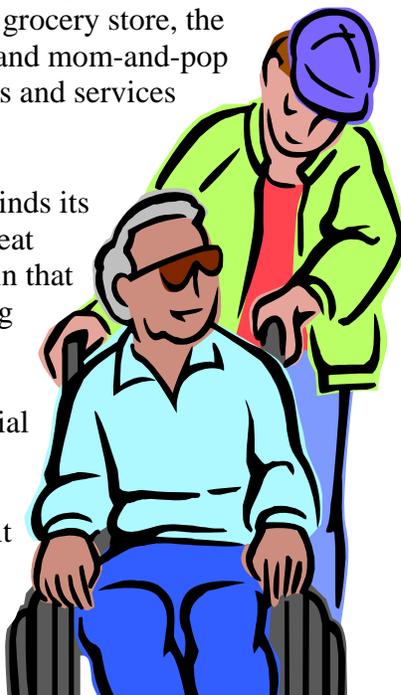
In the Dallas-Fort Worth area and around the nation, the benefits paid don't stop at helping the beneficiaries who depend on them. These people spend their benefit payments at the local grocery store, the local clothing stores, department stores, and mom-and-pop shops. Benefits are used to pay for goods and services that sustain the local economy.

It's no coincidence that Social Security finds its origins in another financial crisis: the Great Depression. The program played a part in that recovery and it's playing a part in helping the current economy as well.

It's clear that in one way or another, Social Security benefits everyone.

To learn more about Social Security, visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

Tom Clark
Social Security Public Affairs Specialist



AAFES RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

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YOUR AAFES BENEFITS...

AAFES health benefits claims jump 10.6% in '08

The total claims cost for AAFES in the Department of Defense NonAppropriated Fund Health Benefits Program (DoD NAF HBP) for plan year 2008 was **\$145.5M** compared to **\$131.5M** in 2007. The 2008 claims cost increased 10.6% from 2007.

AAFES 2008 Total Claims Cost

Medical	\$98.1M
Pharmacy	\$38.0M
Dental	\$9.4M
Total	\$145.5M

Key drivers of the claims cost were the treatment of chronic illnesses and prescription drug cost. In 2008 the top 5 chronic diseases and drugs were:

2008 Top 5 Chronic Diseases & Drugs	
Chronic Diseases	Drugs
Hypertension	Nexium (heartburn and ulcer)
Hyperlipidemia (cholesterol)	Lipitor (high cholesterol)
Diabetes	Prevacid (heartburn and ulcer)
Nonspecific Gastritis/Dyspepsia	Plavix (heart disease)
Allergy	Actos (diabetes)

Hypertension and *Hyperlipidemia* (high cholesterol) are both precursors to more serious heart disease.

Ways we all can help control cost

- Utilizing the preventive services that are offered in the plan
 - Covered at 100% no copay/no deductible.
- Use urgent care facilities instead of the emergency room (ER)
 - Use ER only in the case of emergency
- Use mail order drug (MOD) benefit
 - Use MOD for your maintenance drugs – 90-day supply (medications you are taking on a regular basis such as high blood pressure; cholesterol; diabetes and etc.)
- Using MOD you'll pay less for medication because you can order up to a 90-day supply of medication for the cost of a 60-day supply...you **save** one copay
 - Use generic prescriptions if available
- A generic is the equivalent for a brand name drug; however it **costs less** than the brand name
 - Using generics **save** on cost for you and the medical plan
- Participate in the disease management program, if applicable
- Change to a healthier lifestyle

Note: The DoD NAF HBP is a self-insured program. Self-insured means the employers assume the risk for paying the claims and administrative fees to a company that administers the program. Aetna is the third party administrator that processes/pays the claims for the DoD NAF HBP.

YOUR AAFES BENEFITS...

Aetna Navigator

You can use this helpful tool just like a compass to find your way to doctors, health information, wellness programs and much more...

Perhaps one of the most beneficial tools available to Aetna members is the Aetna Navigator. The Aetna Navigator places health information and tools at your fingertips to help you make informed health care decisions.

The Aetna Navigator allows you to track claims and find participating providers. For those of you in the Aetna PPO (Open Choice Plan), you can find participating in-network health care professionals and facilities which can make a huge impact on your out-of-pocket cost. You can also request and print ID cards as well as send secure email messages to Aetna Members Services.

Know before you go! The Aetna Navigator includes a Health Information Guide. The Health Information Guide directs you through a collection of invaluable resources for those of us wanting to find out about diseases, medical conditions and probable treatments. The Health Information Guide also provides information on medications, their side effects and comparable lower-cost generics to assist in reducing your cost. It also provides helpful tips on what to expect when having medical tests to help you make informed decisions.

Resource on IntelliHealth® compliments the Health Information Guide with greater detail on diseases and medical conditions. It also provides possible treatments and preventive measures for many health problems. Comprised of articles, news updates and the latest information from medical experts, the resources on healthcare alone is worth a closer look. Additionally, you can access information on healthy lifestyles, specific health care information targeted to men, children, women and seniors. Lastly, you can look up terms in the medical dictionary and drug resource center.

Estimate your Cost of Care before obtaining the service! Saving money on health care is always useful. The 'Estimate the Cost of Care' tool assists you in planning for probable health care expenditures by estimating the cost of procedures, office visits, medical tests and services for both in and out-of-network providers. You can get reasonable assessments of expenses and potential savings allowing you to budget for your healthcare cost.

Simple Steps to a Healthier Life is an interactive online health and wellness program that provides a tool for you to assess your health and to help you take a proactive role in managing your health care needs. This program creates tailored health reports to help you understand potential health risk and what to do about them. Simple Steps to a Healthier Life gives you a personalized action plan; suggested healthy living programs; and easy to find health information resources.

Personal Health Record (PHR)* powered by Aetna's patented CareEngine® technology connects you with detailed, claims-driven data gathered from across the health care spectrum. Data is analyzed, along with information you provide and actively searches for medical interactions, complications, and opportunities for improving care. It can also send e-mail alerts of any updates on the latest improvements in treatments all within a secure environment.

The Aetna Navigator can help simplify complicated medical data and help you take control of managing your health-care needs by increasing your understanding of health issues. So take advantage of this secure Website (www.aetna.com) and make the best informed healthcare decisions. This is a great resource to a healthier you.

**Personal Health Record is available in CONUS only.*



<http://www.aetna.com>

We want you to know®





AREA...contributing to the future

AREA Community Service Awards 2nd Quarter '09

AREA recognizes retirees and AAFES Associates who volunteer their time and devote other resources, such as personal knowledge and expertise, to help improve the economic, civic and social health of the communities where they live and work. The Community Service Review Committee, Richard Fregoe, Chairman, and members Chuck Poffenbarger, Jerry Cloud and Don Streeter reviewed the nominations and, along with the entire AREA membership, are pleased to recognize AAFES active and retired people for their commitment to their communities' well-being.

Recipients were provided with an AREA Certificate of Appreciation, and prizes from Watt Spohn Universal, a leading, worldwide Exchange Broker headquartered in Dallas, Texas. WSU specializes in representing brand name manufacturers in the Power Zone, Automotive, Hardware, Housewares, Sporting Goods, and Consumables categories. They have a long history of supporting AREA through their active involvement in the DFW and HRALA Chapters. We wish to thank Watt Spohn Universal for their sponsorship of these AREA retirees and AAFES Associates, and invite you to visit them at www.wattspohn.com



COMMUNITY AWARD RECIPIENTS, 2nd QUARTER, CALENDAR YEAR 2009

Jeanne Streeter: Jeanne was the Historian for the Nottingham Neighbors Club during 2007-2008. As such, she was responsible for capturing the pictorial history of all the Club's activities. She developed a record of each activity by using scores of pictures taken of each event, and designing a theme to fit each event. For her efforts and her expenditure of approximately 500 hours, Jeanne was selected as the Nottingham Neighbors Club Woman of the Year for 2007-2008.

Keiko Guy: Keiko gives generously of her time to Mid-County Community Center (her local Senior Center where she is a member) as a volunteer in many areas. She donates her time to MCCC two days a week at our Mealsite on a regular basis. She also volunteers to help at Fundraisers and other activities. When time and items are needed, she is first to volunteer.



Gil Betts: Gil wears several leadership hats in the AARP Tax-Aide program to include: Local Coordinator, District Coordinator, Instructor and District Technology Coordinator. Gil has been involved in Tax-Aide since 1994, the year after he retired. Gil serves as Secretary of the Board of Directors for our local library in Seven Points, TX, and volunteers there often. He is a past President and Treasurer of the Best Friends of the Library. Gil has served for more than five years as Secretary/Treasurer for our Emergency Services District in Trinidad, TX.

Ursula Foust: Ursula purchased yarn and crocheted 60 baby hats for newborns for local churches. She also graded papers, completed art and crafts projects at the Gloria Dei Christian School and volunteered at the nursery at the Ivy Memorial Baptist Church.

Joanne Gates: Joanne is a sales associate in the Wiesbaden Military Community. Untiring efforts on her part promote safety and educate children about shoplifting through Community Awareness and Community Outreach programs.

Nancy Evans: Nancy is a children's footwear buyer in the Sales Directorate (SD), HQ, AAFES. She is a member of the Catholic Women's Organization, which supports several organizations in her area. Their activities include supporting

unwed mothers, supporting the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry, as well as visiting the sick and senior citizens. One of the organization's major events is the Jesse Tree, in which they provide gift wrapped presents for over 300 children in need. Additionally, four times a year Nancy helps with the Knights of Columbus fund-raisers.

She also volunteers in October with another fundraiser, the St. Jude Church bazaar. She is a Eucharist minister and Sacristan at St. Jude Church. She also serves on several different Church committees such as the Welcoming Committee, First Communion, Breakfast Committee and Seasonal Environment. Nancy is a member of the Christian Foundation and sponsors a young boy in Bolivia. Nancy is also a member of the Mary Jo Sheppard PTA.

Robert F. Haver: As an AAFES retiree, Bob has stayed active in his community through participation in several fund raising events over the past year. Through his leadership the Desoto Masonic Lodge has been able to raise money from a yard sale, fish fry, chili lunch and a BBQ to support the Lodge's effort to contribute \$500 each to the Desoto Public Library and the DeSoto Public Schools.



This money has provided needed assistance to the students and teachers for the purchase of books and other education related items. He has also been actively involved in support of The Bridge in Dallas, volunteering his time every month to the service of that organization by serving meals to the not-so-fortunate residents in the Dallas area.

Tony Hutchinson: Tony is an AAFES associate who volunteers as coach of two area Basketball teams, even though he has no children of his own:

Age 8 Team Name: Titans. These team players are based out of the Plano/McKinney areas (Suburban based) and are part of the Plano Sports Authority Sports League.

Ages 14-16 Team Name: Next Step Basketball. These young men are based out of Pleasant Grove (Dallas), East Dallas (Urban based). This organization is part of the National & Select American Amateur Union (AAU).

Tony has coached for 3 years and views coaching as an opportunity to mentor and teach young men the game of basketball, and to prepare them for life's challenges.

Michael Sean Raich: Sean is an AAFES Associate. He is a 12 year member currently serving as president of the North-east Tarrant County Kiwanis Club. He has held the position for six years as the Texas-Oklahoma District Chair on Circle K, acting as the District Administrator to each year's 9-12 member collegiate district board for Circle K International. He also serves as a voting member of the board for the Texas-Oklahoma District Kiwanis Foundation.

Nomination form for October 2009

Do you know people who have done things to help out their community? We have streamlined the process to make it even easier to nominate someone. All we need are four pieces of information:

1. Nominee's name: _____
2. What's the eligibility status* of this person? _____
3. What is the nominee being recognized for? (A few short sentences are sufficient.):

4. Where should the recognition certificate be mailed (name, address):

Take the time to provide the four pieces of information to Chuck Poffenbarger by e-mail at cpoffen@earthlink.net For further information, visit AREA's web site at www.aafes.com/area

*People eligible for the award are AREA and chapter members and their family members; and AAFES Associates and assigned military personnel and their family members.

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

Alamo Chapter starts year with dinners, picnic and golf tournament—On February 8 about 40 Alamo Chapter members met at Johnny Carino's Restaurant for a Valentine's dinner. We all enjoyed a great meal and lots of good company. **Joe and Adele Lima** did a fantastic job arranging and hosting this event as all had a great time.



Overall views of Alamo Chapter members enjoying the Valentine's Dinner



Foreground: Tony and Ella Trevino, Back: Jackie Robinson, Ingrid and Mike Villyard



Javier Cerna and Virginia Thomas



Steve and Gail Evans



Marilyn Cerna and Retha Stackleather

About 36 members of the Alamo Chapter met together on Saturday, April 18 for our annual picnic at a neighborhood clubhouse. The chapter provided fried chicken, coffee and paper goods, and all attendees brought side dishes, desserts, soft drinks, and ice. We visited and ate, and then listened as our guest speaker, **Ruth Lown**, a local attorney (and daughter of our late Alamo Chapter member, **Russell Lown**) spoke about durable powers of attorney and medical powers of attorney. Her talk was very informative, and she fielded a number of questions about the subject. Our newest chapter member, **Ms. Mary McCormack**, was in attendance (with her son, Mike) and was warmly welcomed to our group.

On May 27, **Tony Trevino** once again hosted the Alamo Chapter AREA golf tournament at Canyon Springs Golf Course, which has now become a much-anticipated annual event. Six 4-person teams participated this year. Everyone indicated they enjoyed themselves and want a second tournament in the fall. First place honors went to the team of Roy and Debbie Hines, Abdul Mijad and Tony Trevino with a score of 64. Second place honors went to the team of Val Gomez, Bob and Ron Askew and Javier Alvarez with a score of 67. Third place honors resulted in a three-team tie with a score of 68. Those teams included **Dan Forsch, Richard Grona, Francis Burgon and Ray Falke; Dick LaPorte, Bill and Janice Dobbs and Steve Hafner; and Jim Russell, Bill and Kay Krebs and Carl Fuller**. Closest to the pin contest winners were **Dan Forsch** for Hole 3, **Val Gomez** for Hole #7, **Dick LaPorte** for Hole #13 and **Jim Russell** for Hole #17.



Alamo Chapter golf tournament photos show in left photo, Ron Askew, Tony Trevino and Val Gomez; and right photos, Val Gomez, Ron Askew, Bob Askew and Javier Alvarez

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

The Alamo Chapter AREA hosted a dinner at China Harbor Restaurant (shown in the photos below) on Thursday evening, May 28, with about 34 attendees. We enjoyed a very well-prepared and tasty variety of Chinese food at a reasonable price, and spent a couple of hours visiting together in a private room. During the dinner, **Bob and Virginia Askew** were presented certificates recognizing their community service related to volunteer activities at their church, and numerous things they've done for the local Fisher Houses.



Walter Hagan, Ann Kaufman, Ann Brogan, Tim Brogan, Ralph Thompson



Mike McCormack and Mary McCormack (new member & her son)



Julia Ibsen and Joe and Adele Lima



Tony and Ella Trevino



Mike and Ingrid Villyard



Bob and Elayne Ottinger



Javier Cerna and Roy Hines



Dan and Moretta Forsch



Bob Askew and Judy Rux



Lee Rux and Virginia Askew



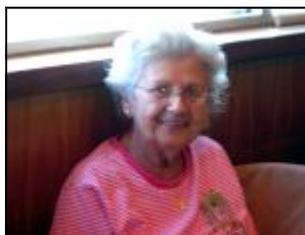
Coy Muennink (widower of Maxine Muennink)



Debbie Hines



Jack Cagan



Julia Ibsen



Virginia Thomas & Ella Trevino

Upcoming events for Alamo Chapter: Ladies Luncheon at 11:30 on June 17 at Macaroni Grill on 1604 at Hardy Oak, and a Casino Trip to Coshatta Casino in Kinder, Louisiana July 13-15. If you're a current AREA member, live in the San Antonio area, but are not a current Alamo Chapter member, please join us! Contact **Marilyn Cerna** at marilyncerna@hotmail.com or at 210-845-1854 to join.

—Marilyn Cerna

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

Aloha Chapter—Easter was the theme for the Aloha Chapter’s Spring Luncheon held on Sunday, March 29th at the Chao Phya Thai Restaurant in Kaneohe. Only in Hawaii would you combine Thai food with Easter – but that’s the beauty of diversity in the Islands. An adventurous bunch, a total of 32 members and guests attended. Our annual Easter Hat parade was again presented this year although fewer “brave souls” donned their finest Easter apparel. **Vesta Will** won \$5 for the “prettiest” hat and **Conner Hummel** (8-year old son of **Katie & Bill Hummel**, friends of **Philip and Charlotte Roach**) won \$5 for his “chicken hat” (funniest). Turned out **Conner** was also the sharpest in our group correctly (and apparently effortlessly) answering the Easter Trivia contest questions...but that was attributed more to his youth and superior intellect versus the age, experience (and ‘senior moments’) of all those retired AAFES associates!!!! A very successful plant/bake sale and auction of Easter Baskets provided by some of the chapter members concluded the days activities.

While the August meeting has not yet been set, everyone was reminded the annual Christmas Party is already confirmed for Sunday, December 6 at the Pearl Country Club.

—**Bill Allgire**

It’s election time, and new officers have been elected by two chapters:

Virginia Lovers Chapter—Newly elected officers of Virginia Lovers Chapter are Betty Thorne, president; Sue Lawrence, vice president; and Monika Macon, secretary.

Metro-Montgomery Chapter—At our Jan 2009 meeting of the Metro-Montgomery Chapter, an election of officers was conducted. As a result, a new President was elected to replace outgoing president Larry Grewelle. . Houston J (Joe) Fuller was installed as President during the March 2009 meeting. All other officers, Nathan Williams, vice president; Judy Hooper, treasurer; and Clif Howitz, secretary, remained in office.

Northern California Chapter—The chapter’s bake and book sale was held April 11 and was a big success, raising \$378.50 from the sales and donations. President Jerri Thomas congratulated members in the May newsletter, saying “Thank you just doesn’t seem adequate, but please know how much your contributions meant to the success of the sale. Yes, the sale was a success thanks to the members who worked, baked, donated books and cash, helped set up and clean up or spent the day working the sale.” Members who participated were **Doris Aplass, Bob and Nan Bohn, Lisa Denny, Dianne Hobbs, Ken Keim, June Lamming, Gloria Masse, Phoebe Merrill, Margaret Scheatzle, Aliye Smith, Mary Spinella, Jerri and Ron Thomas, Ron Hayes, Arlene Ferry** and her daughter, **Debbie**. The book sale was held between the commissary and the food court at the McClellan Exchange. Members were also encouraged to take time to look over the newly renovated facility.

The chapter was also planning a bus trip to San Francisco Pier 39 on June 13. A total of 45 seats were available on the trip which features free time for lunch and shopping at Pier 39 or other areas of San Francisco.

Chapter news needed!

As you can see in this issue the Alamo Chapter has been very busy the first half of the year and showed what was going on in picture and word. This space would have gone to another chapter if the news and photos had been submitted. So the readers can only imagine what’s going on in your chapter and what might have been written on these lines:

COO reports on strong AAFES performance

Much has happened since the last time I had the privilege of writing an article in this newsletter. We finished one of the most difficult years in our nearly 114-year history with challenges all around us.

As you are aware, the U.S. economy has been in recession for at least the past year, the war in Iraq is drawing down, and military operations in Afghanistan are building up. Simultaneously, AAFES is keeping the focus on providing the best customer service possible as evidenced by our strong Customer Satisfaction Index score. In addition, our Associate Satisfaction Index also remains strong for the third straight year in a row.

You'll be happy to know that AAFES continues to meet our mission of providing goods and services at competitive prices while returning a dividend to Soldiers and Airmen and their families.

In fact, 2008, despite the challenges presented by a declining economy, AAFES' performance was truly outstanding. Sales and earnings for 2008 were 2 percent and 1.10 percent respectively higher than in 2007. These figures go against the retail industry trend with very few exceptions

Industry retail sales (excluding autos, gasoline and restaurants) showed improvement for the first three months of 2009. However, retailers will continue to face challenging economic conditions and sales gains will be difficult to achieve for the balance of this year. The strongest quarter this year should be the fourth quarter as comparisons to last year are the easiest and the economy should be strengthening. Even though the quarterly pattern of sales will improve as the year progresses, for the year as a whole, sales are anticipated to be down .5 to 1% from last year.

AAFES compared to its key competitors was well positioned for the economic downturn. We have been diligent in strengthening our value proposition which has resonated with our customers. Additionally, job security, one of the key factors influencing consumer spending, has not been as important with our customers.

For the first three months, AAFES has continuously outperformed most of its competitors and together with Wal-Mart stayed in the positive territory.

RETAILER	Feb	Mar	April
Target	-4.1%	-6.3%	0.3%
Wal Mart	5.1%	1.4%	5.0%
J.C.Penney	-8.8%	-7.2%	-6.6%
Kohl's	-1.6%	-4.3%	-6.2%
AAFES	2.2%	-0.1%	0.8%

AAFES Associates continue to proudly carry on your legacy of service.

The year 2009 also is proving to be yet another year in which we face a struggling U.S. economy. I'm pleased to tell you that AAFES continues to rise to the occasion with an increase in net

earnings through April, ahead of the same period for 2008. The increases in our sales and earnings are because our customers have rediscovered the value of shopping at AAFES. With increased emphasis on solution selling, we've increased the number of customer transactions and number of items purchased with each transaction.

And our increases don't only come at our brick-and-mortar exchanges. AAFES' Web site, www.AAFES.com, is growing every year.

In 2009, online sales on the Web site so far are trending upward about 2 percent. The site's 18 million products provides customers with "endless aisles" of choices.

If you haven't shopped www.AAFES.com lately, you could be missing some great bargains.

This year will also see new shopping centers and other retail and food facilities open. The Kaiserslautern Military Community Center (KMCC) will open in the fall, a long anticipated facility that will become a reality for Soldiers, Airmen and their families across Europe.

In addition to numerous restaurants around the AAFES world, other facilities that opened recently include the Fort Riley Shopping Center, Eielson AFB Shopping Center, mini-malls at Fort Bragg, Beale AFB and Fort Bliss.

The first-ever AAFES Lifestyle Center will begin construction this year at Fort Bliss, Texas, and will incorporate the best of AAFES facilities with the best of industry and the military community to bring world-class convenience and service to our customers. In addition to traditional AAFES facilities, they can enjoy a multiplex movie theater, name-brand casual dining, and a first-class food court with all the popular brands. The commissary, fitness center and other community activities also will be located within the Lifestyle Center.

As always, I count on our AAFES retired community to continue to be goodwill ambassadors and faithful customers. Together, we can continue to move this organization we love in a positive direction and make life easier for military members and their families around the world.

I look forward to visiting with you again in the fall. Until then, stay healthy and strong.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL P. HOWARD
Chief Operating Officer, AAFES



AAFES Retired Employees Association (AREA) 2009 Scholarship Program

This year AREA awarded scholarships totaling \$42,500. Although the Board initially approved twelve scholarship awards earlier in the year, it was obvious during the evaluation process that there were more than twelve deserving applicants. The Scholarship Committee asked the board to approve six additional \$1,000 awards. The board unanimously endorsed the proposal. We were able to award scholarship monies to eighteen qualified applicants. I am proud to tell you that \$388,795 in awards has been made to 221 deserving students since the AREA scholarship program's inception in 1985. A brief recap of each 2009 awardees accomplishments and aspirations is shown on the following pages.

This was another banner year for the AREA Scholarship Program. With sixty-six applications received and thirty-nine of those meeting AREA criteria, 2009 proved to be the highest participation rate since the program began. Having said that, I would be remiss if I failed to mention how funds have been and continue to be made available for this outstanding "AAFES Employee Oriented" program. The program garners support from both industry partners and from many within our own ranks who choose to recognize loved ones with a donation to the AREA Scholarship fund. Industry support and individual donations are key factors to the program's past and future success.

Here is a summary of this year's process. All applicants were screened to assure minimum requirements were met. After meeting the "AAFES Employee, Son or Daughter" and minimum academic criteria, each application was assigned a file number used to track applications throughout the evaluation process. Qualified applicant files were reviewed privately by each member of the evaluation committee and ranked using academic achievement, awards, school and outside activity participation, letters of recommendation and finally, an essay themed on "why I deserve this scholarship..."

All scores were aggregated, ties were broken and the award roster finalized. After that, an applicant summary together with the committee's additional awards recommendation was sent to Chuck Poffenbarger, AREA President. The AREA BOD reviewed the committee's recommendations and by vote approved the six additional awards. Chuck Poffenbarger then sent congratulatory letters to each awardee detailing the scholarship.

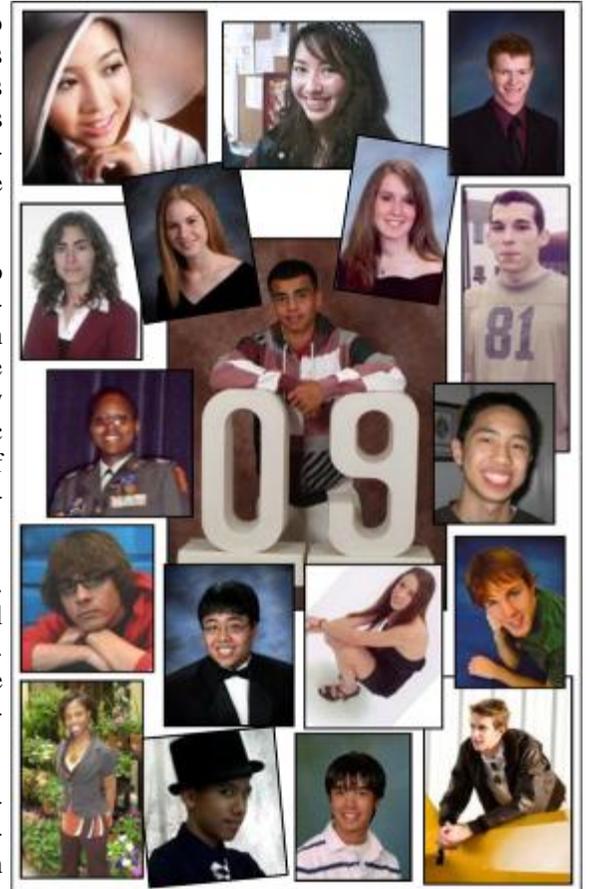
Applicant academic standing was exceptional again this year. All applicants, including those not meeting AREA's minimum scholarship requirements, should be justifiably proud knowing they reflect great credit on themselves and the families that support them. It is obvious that I was impressed with the high quality of each and every applicant and more importantly, committee members were impressed as well. Speaking of the evaluation committee, I personally thank all five members of the committee who voluntarily took time and applied exceptional judgment to the evaluation process. The members are: Jim Sawyer, Duane Walsh, Vivian Skalsky, Richard Sheff, Darryl Richards and Mat Dromey.

And finally, don't forget about next year. If you know a qualifying student entering his or her first college semester in 2010, make sure they review our Scholarship Program at www.aafes.com/area

Regards,



Thomas Gallagher
Director, AREA Scholarship Program





TRACY HUYNH

\$5,000 Marilyn Iverson Scholarship award

Parents:
Dung and Trang Huynh

High School:
Flower Mound HS
Flower Mound, TX

Career Interest:
Chemical Engineering



MARK BRATTON

\$5,000 Scholarship Award

Parents:
Larry And Susan Bratton

High School:
Duncanville HS
Duncanville, TX

Career Interest:
Engineering

Tracy, daughter of Dung and Trang Huynh, is the recipient of the 2009 Marilyn Iverson Memorial award. This \$5,000 endowment is given to the top AREA scholarship recipient for outstanding academic achievement and community involvement. This fall Tracy enters college seeking a degree in Chemical Engineering.

During her high school career, Tracy, served as president of the Math UIL Club and VP of the English Honor Society, was a member of the Mu Alpha Theta math honor society was recognized as an Academic Decathlete and was a member of the National Honor society. Tracy received recognition as a member of her school's "Top Scorer Academic Decathlon", participated in a TMCA statewide math competition was commended as a National Merit Scholar and recognized as an AP Scholar with Distinction.

In addition to her scholastic accomplishments Tracy found time to tutor elementary school students and serve as a volunteer in the local library while pursuing her interest in sculpture, ceramics and photography.

Mark, the son of Larry and Susan Bratton, has been awarded a \$5,000 AREA scholarship. He enters college this fall seek a degree in Engineering. In his high school career Mark was a member of the National Honor Society, nominated for the National Honor Roll and had membership in Who's Who Among American High School Students. In addition to academic recognition, Mark was recognized by The Midwest Clinic for Outstanding Performance as a member of the wind ensemble in his HS award-winning band.

Outside of school, Mark actively supported his community. He was a volunteer at the DFW National Cemetery; he helped build benches and picnic tables for a local middle school and participated in numerous other community-oriented activities.

While excelling academically and actively contributing to his community, Mark found time to attain Eagle Scout status and become an accomplished baseball player as a four year member of his HS squad.

"It is an honor for Tracy and our family that she was awarded the Marilyn Iverson Scholarship"

Dear Mr. Poffenbarger and Mr. Gallagher

My name is Dung Huynh who works at AAFES HQ. I am writing this email to thank you and the AREA to award the scholarship to my daughter, Tracy Huynh. It is also an honor for Tracy and our family that she was awarded the Marilyn Iverson Scholarship. She was very happy and would like to write Mrs. Iverson a letter to personally thank her. Will there be a way for Tracy to do that?

Once again, we appreciate the Association that helps Tracy personally and all other wonderful students for the brighter future.

Sincerely,

Dung "Young" Huynh
AAFES Logistics Technology Manager



KIMBERLY MICHELLE DEBLOIS

\$4,000 Scholarship award

Parents:
Gregory and Lucy DeBlois

High School:
Timberview HS
Arlington, TX

Career Interest:
Forensic Medicine

Kimberly received a \$4,000 AREA scholarship award. She intends to use that award to pursue a career in Forensics Medicine as she enters college this fall.

Kimberly, the daughter of Gregory and Lucy DeBlois, ranked second in her class of 480, was a member of the National Honor Society for High School Scholars, an AMVETS Award recipient, the Flight Commander of her school's AFJROTC unit and an active member of her HS band. Kimberly was invited to and participated in summer seminars at both the Air Force and Coast Guard Academies during her time in High School.



**KENESHA RENEE
BOURNS**

\$2,500 Scholarship award

Parents:

Kenneth and Patricia Bourns

High School:

Yokota HS
Yokota AB, JAPAN

Career Interest:

Business Administration

Kenesha, recipient of a \$2,500 AREA scholarship award, is the daughter of Kenneth Earl and Patricia Marie Bourns. She enters college this fall as a Business Administration major.

During her high school career, Kenesha distinguished herself as a member of the High Honor Roll, recipient of the Gold Medal for Spanish Poetry, as battalion Executive Officer of her Army JROTC unit, and as recipient of the JROTC Scholastic Excellence Award, as an JROTC National Sojourners Essay Winner and as recipient of the JROTCS Scholastic Excellence Award.

Aside from her school involvement, Kenesha is quite active within her community. She is a Special Olympics volunteer, tutors younger children as a volunteer in the Read Across America program and volunteers as an Instructor at a base-sponsored basketball camp for children. With all of this, Kenesha found time to play varsity basketball and sing an original song at a Black History Month celebration.



JEREMY CHEN

\$2,500 Scholarship award

Parents:

Jing Jong and Chyu Chyn Chen

High School:

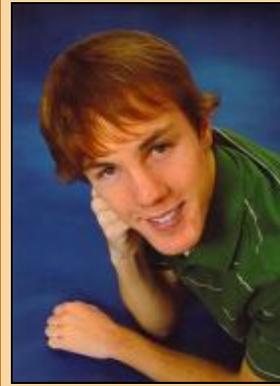
Plano West Senior HS
Plano, TX

Career Interest:

Biology

Jeremy, the recipient of a \$2,500 AREA scholarship award, is the son of Jing Jong and Chyu-Chyn Chen. As Jeremy enters college this fall, he will be pursuing a degree in Biology.

Jeremy is a member of the National Honor Society, the Spanish Honor Society and his HS's Key Club. While participating in HS band, Jeremy was recognized as a member of the TMEA All Region Orchestra, received solo and ensemble superior ratings and was a named Concert Master of his high school's Legacy Orchestra. In addition to his academic and musical accomplishments, Jeremy is active of his community. He volunteers in community-sponsored therapeutic walking programs, he's a Food Allergy Walk volunteer, he helps with the community Turkey Trot program and volunteers in the God's Food Pantry program at his church.



TRENT BROCK

\$2,500 Scholarship award

Parents:

Jonathan and Mary Brock

High School:

Fort Campbell HS
Fort Campbell, KY

Career Interest:

TV Broadcasting

Trent, recipient of a \$2,500 AREA scholarship award, is the son of Jonathan and Mary Brock. He plans to study TV Broadcasting in college.

During his time in high school, Trent was a member the National Honor Society, selected KY American Legion Boys' State Delegate, earned an Outstanding Achievement Award from the KY House of Representatives and a received the prestigious Certificate of Recognition from the KY Governor's Scholars Program.

While excelling academically he was active in other areas. Trent was yearbook, editor-in-chief, school TV show producer, a member of his HS Student Council, ran varsity track and played varsity tennis.

In the community, Trent volunteers at a local nursing home, works with Cystic Fibrosis prevention and participates in local canned food drives.



SEAN DIAZ

\$2,500 Scholarship award

Parents:

Generoso and Olivia Diaz

High School:

The Academy of Irving
Irving, TX

Career Interest:

Biology

Sean received a \$2,500 AREA scholarship award. He is the son of Generoso and Olivia Diaz. Sean will enter college this fall as Biology major.

While in high school, Sean was recognized as an AP Scholar, a National Merit Scholar and Medical Specialty Student of the Year. He is a member of the National Honor Society, was designated Senior of the Month and received the ELK's Club Student of the month award. Sean is the Science Olympiad president, a member of the Student Council and captain of his HS's Speech and Debate Team.

Sean received perfect evaluations while working as an intern at a local day-surgery medical facility under a school-sponsored program. Outside the classroom Sean volunteers at his church, plays tennis and pursues his interest in photography.



HEIDI LYNN DINGWELL

\$2,500 Scholarship award

Parents:

David and Lynn Dingwell

High School:

South View HS
Hope Mills, NC

Career Interest:

Secondary Education with Math

As Heidi enters college this fall, she will be seeking a Secondary Education degree with emphasis on Math. Heidi, the daughter of David and Lynn Dingwell, received a \$2,500 AREA scholarship award.

During her HS career Heidi garnered the English III honors award, the German I award and was listed on her HS's Honor Roll for four consecutive years.

Heidi is a member of the National Honor Society and the Academy of Scholars. She was an alto in her HS's Chorus and played soccer on the HS team.

Heidi is active in her church and community. She volunteers at the church's nursery and plays on its' softball team. She works with the Girl Scouts and volunteers as a tutor at a local elementary school.

RYAN ELLIS

\$2,500 Scholarship award

Parents:

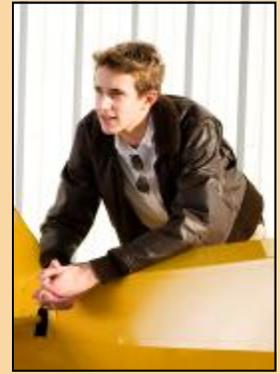
Robert and Christin Ellis

High School:

Aledo HS
Aledo, TX

Career Interest:

Physics - Space Science



Ryan, the recipient of a \$2,500 AREA scholarship award, is the son of Robert and Christin Ellis.

As Ryan enters college this fall, he will be pursuing a Physics-Space Science major. Ryan was chosen by Texas Christian University to participate in its' special astrophysics apprenticeship program at for select high school students. Ryan is a member of the National Honor Society, was Teacher Selected Physic Tutor, selected for the UIL Academic All District Swimming Award and as a four year member of his HS swimming team, won 2 Gold medals a Silver medal and a Bronze medal at a recent region finals competition.

In addition to these accomplishments, Ryan is an Eagle Scout, is active in his church youth group program, mentors young swimmers at the local YMCA and plans will participate in a church-sponsored mission trip this summer.

“My dad has told me about the AREA program since I was 4 years old,”

—Ryan Ellis

President Poffenbarger, Mr. Gallagher,

Please accept my sincere appreciation for the AAFES Area Scholarship award. My dad has told me about the AREA program since I was 4 years old and what an honor for me to live up to the requirements for the AREA Scholarship.

I'm looking forward to my freshman year at UTSA and then I move up to UT Austin the following school year where I will major in Physics. I'm currently finishing up my private pilot license and looking for a short summer break before I head off to my next venture in life. Thanks for all the wonderful things you have done for the military and their families and the wonderful efforts you continue to support for AAFES families.

Very Respectfully,

Ryan C. Ellis

ASHLEY FITZPATRICK

2,500 Scholarship award

Parents:

John and Debbie Fitzpatrick

High School:

Plano Senior HS
Plano, TX

Career Interest:

Dual Major: Biology & Spanish



Ashley enters college this fall in pursuit of a dual major: Biology and Spanish.

Ashley, recipient of a \$2,500 AREA scholarship award, is the daughter of John and Debbie Fitzpatrick. She is a member the National Honor Society, sits' on her HS's Student Congress, is an honor student and has earned a Nurse Aid certificate.

She volunteers as a teacher's aide, volunteers as a nurse's aide 25 hrs per week, volunteers at an assisted living center and participates in a program welcoming troops back from war zones. Ashley assists with daily care of an Alzheimer's patient and tutors fourth graders in math and reading. Additionally Ashley pursues an interest in figure skating and in fact is the VP of a local ice skating club.

**CHASE HATTERSLEY**

\$2,500 Scholarship award

Parents:

Kevin Hattersley and Lisa Lamars

High School:Nolan Catholic HS
Fort Worth, TX**Career Interest:**

Film and English

Chase received a \$2,500 AREA scholarship award. He is the son of Kevin Hattersley and Lisa Lamars. Kevin will be pursuing a degree in Film as he enters college this fall.

Chase, a National Honor Society member, garnered recognition during his high school career as a National Merit Finalist and recipient of the prestigious Rensselaer Medal for outstanding achievement in math and science. He was also recognized for outstanding achievement in Biology, was listed on the "Academic Highest Honors Roll" throughout HS and was selected moderator for school-sponsored English and literature forums.

Chase was Sergeant at Arms for his German club, an officer in the poetry club and a member of the ecology club.

In his free time, Chase volunteers at community-sponsored events, works with his church's youth camp and pursues an interest in movie collecting.

**CELESTE BRITTANY MENCHACA**

\$2,500 Scholarship award

Parents:

Arthur and Teresa Menchaca

High School:Killeen HS
Killeen, TX**Career Interest:**

Advertising

Celeste is the daughter of Arthur Lewis and Teresa-Willett Menchaca. Having been awarded a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship, Ashley enters college this fall seeking a degree in Advertising.

Celeste is a member of the National Honor Society, sits' on the Student Council, is president of both the Art and Film Clubs and is an active member of the Debate Team.

She is listed on her HS Honor Roll, is designated an AP Scholar and recognized as "Scholar" by the National Hispanic Program Recognition and earned a posting on her high school's Wall of Honor.

Celeste supports her community by volunteering at the local library, volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and by helping with her community's beautification programs. On top of all of that, Celeste ranks fourth in her class of 338.

**TERRILYN BRADLEY**

\$1,000 Scholarship award

Parents:

Ronald and Monica Chidester

High School:Rockwall HS
Rockwall, TX**Career Interest:**

Dual Major: Accounting & Marketing

Terrilyn, recipient of a \$1,000 AREA scholarship award, is the daughter of Ronald and Monica Chidester. Terrilyn plans to enter college this fall seeking a double major in Accounting and Marketing.

In high school, Terrilyn was a member of both the National Honor Society and National Art Honor Society. She was an AP Scholar, an All American Scholar, a National Achievement Scholar and was a Who's Who Award winner. Terrilyn was a member of her HS's Youth & Government organization, a member of Key Club International and a DECA Historian officer.

Outside of school, Terrilyn volunteered in the Girls Reaching Out program and was a member of her church's dance team.

**JOHN MICHAEL CASE**

\$1,000 Scholarship award

Parents:

Thomas and Lucina Case

High School:O'Fallon Township HS
O'Fallon, IL.**Career Interest:**

Music Education

John received a \$1,000 AREA scholarship award. He is the son of Thomas and Lucina Case. John will enter college in the fall seeking a Music Education degree.

John, a National Honor Society member, was recognized separately for Academic Excellence by both senators from Illinois and he was selected as a State Scholar by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission. In addition to being listed on its Honor Roll, John sat on his high school's Student Council, was a member of its' marching band, was a member of its' Robotics Team and a member of its' Jazz band.

When he's away from school, John works as a volunteer at a Shriners hospital and at a local children's center.

**SARAH CATLIN GLENN**

\$1,000 Scholarship award

Parents:

Todd and Katherine Glenn

High School:

Mansfield HS
Mansfield, TX.

Career Interest:

Sarah, recipient of a \$1,000 AREA scholarship award, enters college this fall seeking a degree in Animal Science. Sarah is the daughter of Todd and Katherine Glenn..

Sarah is an active member of her high school's FFA club. During her HS career she excelled at various FAA and United Kennel Club competitions. In that time she rated 11th in an Entomology Regional Contest, her hen took 3rd in a local FFA poultry competition and her dogs won Best Male, Best Female and Best In Show at United Kennel Club competitions.

Sarah also excelled in sports. She made the 1st team All-District and 2nd team All-State basketball teams. Outside of school, Sarah participates in the Adopt-A-Highway program and works as a nursery volunteer at her church.

**BO RYAN PORTILLO**

\$1,000 Scholarship award

Parents:

Jon and Kelly Portillo

High School:

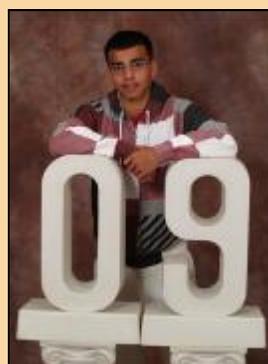
Biloxi HS
Biloxi, MS.

Career Interest:

Chemical Engineering

Bo received a \$1,000 AREA scholarship award. He is the son of Jon and Kelly Portillo. Bo will be entering college this fall as a Chemical Engineer major.

In his high school career, Bo excelled in science and mathematics. In that time, he was a finalist in the Mississippi Science and Mathematics Tournament Division I competition. In another Mississippi Science and Mathematics Tournament, he was in the top 10% for Biology and the top 15% in Math. Bo also received the Student Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) and Limelight awards from his HS. He is a member of the National Honor Society and was recognized for achieving a 4.0 GPA throughout his four year HS career. Bo is the Director of Madrigal Choir, a member of the Show and Chamber choirs and VP of the Junior Civitans Club. When Bo is not at school he is providing math tutoring and pursuing his musical interests.

**BRUCE JONES, JR.**

\$1,000 Scholarship award

Parents:

Bruce and Analy Jones

High School:

Fountain - Ft. Carson HS
Fountain, CO

Career Interest:

Astronomy & Mathematics

Bruce received a \$1,000 AREA scholarship award. Bruce, son of Bruce and Analy Jones, enters college in pursuit of a dual major in Astronomy and Mathematics.

During his time in high school Bruce attained membership in the National Society of High School Scholars, received Distinguished Honors recognition, was an honor student and received a Certificate of Recognition from the Congressional Leadership Conference.

Bruce as a member of his HS soccer team received an All-Region Honorable Mention and on two occasions, was selected to the Academic All-State First Team (Varsity Soccer). Outside school, Bruce volunteers as a soccer coach and is an active member of his church youth group.

**STEVIE RAY ROBINSON**

\$1,000 Scholarship award

Parents:

Carl and Josephine Robinson

High School:

Millennium HS
Goodyear, AZ.

Career Interest:

Computer Science

Stevie, the son of Carl and Josephine Robinson, received a \$1,000 AREA scholarship award. As he enters college in the fall, Stevie will major in Computer Science.

During high school, Stevie distinguished himself as an AP Scholar, as a member of the National Honor Society and as the recipient of the prestigious Arizona State University Presidential Scholarship.

Also noteworthy, Stevie was a founding member of the Mu Alpha Theta National Mathematics Honors Society at his HS and a four member of its' varsity marching and concert band.

During non-school hours, Stevie is active in his church as a member of its youth group and pursues his musical interests as a drummer in a local band.

RVing with Chappy



Chappy vacations with Roy and Linda Dean in rolling doghouse.

By Linda Dean

When Roy and I retired from AAFES we wanted to continue traveling, but with pets as family members we were limited. A recreational vehicle was our answer. We call our RV an expensive doghouse, but it allows us to travel the continent with our pets.



Roy and Linda Dean have been RVing for six years.

We've been RVing for the past 6 years and have seen the most wonderful parts of our beautiful country. However, owning an RV is like owning a boat... you always have to carry a screwdriver, duct tape and a pair of pliers. This little story is about our latest RV adventure traveling with Chappy our elderly dog that just recently went totally blind. We started out on Friday the 13th. That should have been a clue. Before we could leave town we had to meet the ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out) for our weekly Friday morning coffee at la Madeleine. We had breakfast, solved the world's problems, said good-bye to the GOOF (gang of old farts) and went back to the house to pick up the RV and the dog. We had just started the engine on the RV and heard a loud CRACK! Now what? We finally found the culprit... a crack in the upper corner of the windshield. Since there wasn't any reason for the windshield to crack, we assumed it was a stress crack and added it to our list of warranty work that we want done at the fac-

tory. Okay, it wasn't a showstopper so we're on our way.

By now the rain had started, and for 3 days it didn't let up. We continued our driving. The RV does well in the rain... the blind dog does not. It was pouring down rain for our first bathroom stop, and Chappy needed out. I had my raincoat and hood on with an umbrella in one hand and his leash in the other. The first challenge was to get him to come down the steps of the RV. I managed that and then he was concerned with all the heavy traffic noise, but he finally had to do what he had to do. My next challenge was to bag the poop while managing the umbrella, the raincoat hood, and the blind dog on a leash. It must have been a hilarious site from the highway. The grand-finale was trying to push a 100-pound dog up the steps into the RV. He was nervous, we were both wet, and it was a struggle. We finally got back in the RV. I was beginning to think that this was never going to work, but after that first disaster we managed just fine.

We stopped in Enterprise, AL to visit retired AAFES friends Marty Maston and Don Allen. They have two Shelties, and one is blind. Chappy was welcomed into their home, and he did fine as long as he was velcroed to my



The Dean's RV at an RV park.

leg. Don and Marty shared their “blind dog” stories with us, and we had a great visit. One of the nice things about traveling in an RV is that you already have your own place to stay when you visit friends and family.

The next day we drove on to Perry, GA for the big RV Rally. Like I said, we had rain for 3 days. By the time we arrived at the rally the grounds were puddles and 3,000 RVs had to park in those mud puddles. It was a mess! Several of the big rigs got stuck in the mud. We thought it would be a disaster trying to get them out, but by the end of the 5-day rally it had dried up enough that they were able to drive out on their own. The rally was interesting and we learned a lot, but we also spent a lot of money on neat stuff for the RV that we didn't even know we needed.

After the RV Rally we drove to Jupiter, FL to see retired AAFES friends John and Tamara Aull. They have two dogs and Chappy was welcomed into their home. The dogs got along great with each other. One evening we were going out to dinner and returned Chappy to the RV parked on their RV pad next to the house. We thought he would be more comfortable staying in his own familiar space. Then we re-

turned to their house so we could all ride together in their car. Roy started playing with their dogs and the dogs started barking. Suddenly we heard a very mournful howling coming from the RV. Poor Chappy heard us having fun in the house with the other dogs and couldn't understand why we shut him away in the RV. He was very sad, but I'm sure we felt just as bad. Don't worry; you know we made it up to him. We enjoyed our visit with John and Tamara and then drove on to Miami to visit family.

We had a wonderful visit with family and then moved on to Orlando, FL. The RV Park where we stayed had a couple of feral cats that hung around because there was always someone with a hand-out. When I took Chappy out for a walk around the park the small black feral cat hid under a picnic table watching him. We walked very

close to the cat but Chappy never made an aggressive move toward the cat... of course that's because blind dogs don't see cats. The next day I took Chappy out for a walk and the same little black cat came right up to us. The cat rubbed under Chappy's chin and rubbed up and down his body, and Chappy was very interested in befriending the cat. A woman who was out walking had to stop and watch their interaction. She couldn't believe how comfortable they were together. The woman told us that she had spent the winter in the park and the cat never let anyone get near it. It was such an amazing thing to watch the feral cat and the blind dog bonding. They were totally infatuated with each other. Suddenly without warning the cat surprised me when it charged away from us and caught a bird. She was either letting us know she was still a wild animal capable of catching her own food, or she was trying to impress Chappy.

Next we went to Gaffney, SC. Roy signed up to take a 2-day RV course. We arrived on Saturday and the next day was Easter. Easter Sunday we woke up to a very unpleasant surprise! I know I didn't do it, so it had to be Roy, Chappy, or the Easter Bunny. I'm going to give Roy the benefit of the doubt on this one. Either the Easter Bunny paid us a visit and had diarrhea on Chappy's rug or



John and Tamara Aull



Linda Dean and Chappy show off opposite ends of their RV.

Chappy woke up and had a sunrise service of his own. The only good news about the whole mess was that it was confined to Chappy's own little rug next to the door and it was easy to clean up. Chappy has a dog door at home so he can go outside whenever he needs to and he's never had to learn how to wake us up to let him out. We always wondered what would happen if he had an emergency in the middle of the night. Now we know, and we're going to have to work on a better solution. Normally he sleeps through the night, but obviously something had upset his stomach and he had to go. The RV has ceramic tile flooring so we are prepared for messes, but that's not a mess that I want to repeat. I'm sure we can teach an old dog a new trick.

Our next stop was Red Bay, AL at the Tiffin factory. Our new RV is a Tiffin manufactured coach and we had some warranty work that we wanted to get done. About the only thing there is to do in Red Bay, AL is to visit the Tiffin factory and see the Coon Dog Cemetery. Once you've done that you just have to get comfortable in the customer lounge and wait for your RV work to get done. They were extremely busy this time of year so it's like sitting around the campfire and telling RV stories. Okay

instead of a campfire there was a TV, and instead of a log to sit on there were comfortable leather lounge chairs, but we still enjoyed the RV stories. At this point in our life our idea of camping means roughing it smoothly with all the comforts of home. The good news was that the cracked windshield and everything else on our list was covered under warranty.

On our last evening in the factory RV park with about 150 other RVs we had some really bad weather. The winds kicked up and started blowing in gusts over 50 mph. It was a Sunday after-

pouring and then came the hail. We got pounded! The hail was golf ball size, but some of the chunks were baseball size. We wondered if we had made the right decision to stay in the RV. We certainly didn't want to make a run for cover with that kind of hail battering us. The hail was so loud hitting the roof of the RV that if the sirens went off I don't know if we would have heard them. It only lasted about 5 minutes and then blew past us. Okay, lesson learned... always have a shelter plan whenever the weather is suspicious and take action before the storm arrives!

About the only thing there is to do in Red Bay, AL is to visit the Tiffin RV factory and see the Coon Dog Cemetery

noon and we were concerned about the possibility of a tornado. Tiffin management decided to open up the customer lounge, a certified tornado shelter. The camp host drove around the park to let everyone know that the shelter was open and we could take cover then or take cover immediately if we heard sirens. Pets were allowed in the shelter. Torrential rain started

The next day we were all out checking on the damage. We had a broken skylight on the RV and the car has some hail damage, but it wasn't as bad as what we thought it would be. We got the skylight taped up with duct tape and headed home. Thank goodness our trip home was uneventful. We like to drive the smaller highways and back roads instead of interstate driving because we get to see more of the countryside and the small towns. On our trip home the beauty of our country again amazed us. We drove for miles down a state highway that was bordered with a 4' stretch of blooming red clover that led to brilliant yellow canola fields. Isn't life wonderful!

Audited Financial Reports for 2008:

Our two financial statements are audited annually to make sure that our fiscal procedures are consistent with generally accepted accounting practices. The 2008 review found no irregularities to these accounts.

**AREA Scholarship/ER Fund
Audited Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2008**

ASSETS	
AAFES FCU Checking	\$ 28,012.28
AAFES FCU Savings	\$ 2,609.43
Accounts Receivable	\$ 680.00
Vanguard Money Market	\$105,559.32
Vanguard Index 500	
Fund *	\$104,726.55
Vanguard Wellington	
Fund **	\$116,760.81
TOTAL ASSETS	\$358,348.39

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

EQUITY

Opening Balance Equity	\$150,423.16
Retained Earnings	\$188,391.29
Net Income	\$ 19,533.94
TOTAL EQUITY	\$358,348.39

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY \$358,348.39

* Market Value : \$73,954

** Market Value: \$90,650

**AREA General Fund
Audited Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2008**

ASSETS	
AAFES FCU Checking	\$ 1,747.21
AAFES FCU Savings	\$ 2,582.24
Accounts Receivable	\$ 2,255.00
Returned Checks	\$ 30.00
Vanguard Money Market	\$ 26,951.73
Vanguard Index 500 Fund *	\$ 11,453.69
Vanguard Wellington Fund**	\$ 12,690.84
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 57,710.71

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$ 22.02
Life Members	\$ 1,422.00
Prepaid Dues	\$ 6,575.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 8,019.02

EQUITY

Opening Balance Equity	\$ 20,661.44
Retained Earnings	\$ 25,861.58
Net Income	\$ 3,168.67
TOTAL EQUITY	\$ 49,691.69

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY \$ 57,710.71

* Market Value : \$9,055

** Market Value: \$10,457

**AREA Scholarship/ER Fund
Audited Income & Expense Statement
January through December 2008**

Income	
Scholarship Contributions	\$49,986.90
Interest/Investments	\$9,447.55
Scholarship Booklet	\$7,672.00
Total Income	\$67,106.45
Expense	
Scholarships Awarded	\$46,500.00
Attorney Fees	\$623.29
Miscellaneous	\$449.22
Total Expense	\$47,572.51
Net Income	\$19,533.94

**AREA General Fund
Audited Income & Expense Statement
January through December 2008**

Income	
Membership Dues	\$ 20,780.00
Interest/Investments	\$ 1,482.91
Contributions	\$ 387.00
Total Income	\$ 22,649.91
Expense	
Printing & Reproduction	\$ 11,669.93
Postage & Delivery	\$ 3,912.31
Contract Labor	\$ 3,600.00
Insurance	\$ 243.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 56.00
Total Expense	\$ 19,481.24
Net Income	\$ 3,168.67

IN REMEMBRANCE

PHELPS FREDRIC POND, 93, of Dallas, died on May 25 in Dallas. Born on January 29, 1916, in Middlebury, Vermont, the son of Ira and Edith Coolihan Pond, he was preceded in death by his three brothers.

At a young age he began to caddy at the local golf course and developed a love for the game of golf that would last a lifetime. He was blessed with the good health to play his favorite game until the age of 88. Phelps graduated from the University of Vermont and was a member of the Sigma Phi fraternity. After college he worked for GE and later served in the Army during the War. He was stationed in Atlanta, Georgia where he met his future bride, Mary Lewis.

On June 7, 1944, one day after the invasion of Europe and nearly 65 years ago Phelps and Mary were wed in Atlanta. During the war Phelps worked for what would one day become the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES). Phelps and Mary raised three children, Mia, Tom, and Fred. After many years of living in New Jersey and working at Hq. AAFES in New York City, Phelps was transferred to the European Headquarters of AAFES in 1965. The Pond family lived in Nurnberg, Germany until 1968 when they returned to the US, this time to Dallas, Texas, the new home of AAFES. Phelps completed his distinguished AAFES career as the Assistant to the Commander, AAFES, the highest-ranking civilian position (which is now the Chief Operating Officer).

Phelps and Mary settled in Duncanville and built their dream home in 1971. Phelps retired as a Colonel in the Army Reserve, and later from AAFES, filling his days with his passion for golf. A charter member of AREA, he served as AREA president from 1978-80. In 2002 Phelps and Mary moved to a retirement community, The Forum at Park Lane, in Dallas. Phelps was a member of the Presbyterian Church, a volunteer for Meals on Wheels for many years, and a contributor to numerous charitable causes. Phelps is survived by his wife, Mary, a daughter Mia Pond, and sons Thomas Pond and his wife Joann, and Lt. Colonel Phelps Pond, Jr. and his wife Zameena. Other survivors include grandchildren Lee Pond, Stacey Pond Harth, Iman Woods, Nadia Haddad, Jack Pond, Laila Pond and two great grandchildren.

ROBERT BARLOW, 83, died March 15 in Leominster, Mass. The former Fort Devons Retail Manager retired in 1982.

ALEXANDER CONNORS, 76, died March 8 in Niceville, FL. The former Elgin AFB Exchange Manager retired in 1989.

LYNN YURIKO HAMORA, 80, died February 23 in Waipahu, Hawaii. The former Schofield Barracks assistant combined activity Manager retired in 1996.

FRANCIS A. SERINA, 76, died March 28 in Penn Valley, CA. The former HQ AAFES Associate retired in 1987.

CHARLON M. SMITH, 80, died Feb. 22 in the Colony TX. The former HQ AAFES Associate retired in 1989.

ANDREW TYLER, 86, died March 7 in Columbus, GA. The former Fort Benning Associate retired in 1972.



SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

DONORS	IN MEMORY OF	
Eugene Wheeler	Alex Connors	\$50.00
Larry Grewelle	Elsie Traina	\$50.00
Bob Van Loan	Phelps Pond	\$50.00
Bob Van Loan	James Van Loan	\$50.00
Ken Thompson	Phelps Pond	\$100.00
Elizabeth Hussey	Donald Larsen	\$50.00
Alamo Chapter	Betty Cook	\$100.00
George Heil	Ralph Buck	\$50.00
DONATIONS OTHER		
Tampa Bay	General Donation	\$544.41

Email Address Changes

BIRKMEYER, JO ANN birkmeyer55@yahoo.com
SCANAPICO, ANTHONY J tkscan@cvctx.com
GRUNSBY, FREDERICK R fredgrunsby@q.com
KULAKOFF, ALBERT alkulakoff@verizon.net
WHITTINGTON, FRAN franwhitt@verizon.net
MARTIN, PHILLIP martinsintexas@charter.net

New AREA Members

DOREY, KEN (LIZ)
812 VILLAGE LANE
SOLUMBIA SC 29212-7923 Ph: 803-749-7908

KING, WILMA JEAN (WARREN)
6026 CLEARWATER CIRCLE
LOUISVILLE KY 40219 Ph: 502-439-0547

MARTIN, PHILLIP (PATRICIA)
3 TALLON CT
MANSFIELD TX 76063 Ph: 682-518-9401

O'NEAL, JAMES K
1150 COLLIER RD NW UNIT E-3
ATLANTA GA 30318 Ph: 404-275-2027

WHITTINGTON, FRAN
1609 HAWKINS CT
CARROLLTON TX 75010 Ph: 972-492-0625

LISTING CHANGES A(Address) T (Telephone) Z (Zip Code) M (Marital Status)

BOLEN, PAUL M (KERRY)
8800 TANGLEWOOD CT
NORTH RICHLAND HILLS TX 76180-1322 Ph: A

BRONSON, WILLIAM F (NANCY)
2104 MORGAN DR
FLOWER MOUND TX 75028-8358 Ph: 214-368-6666

BROWN, SHARON L
911 MOMOSA AVE.
VISTA CA 92081-8147 Ph: 760-597-1850 A

GORDON, CHARLES E
233 CARMEL DR APT. 306
FT WALTON BEACH FL 32547- Ph: 850-243-0627 A

JONES, DENNIS R
806 KATHERINE CT.
CEDAR HILL TX 75104- Ph: A

KIRSCHEN, PEARL
4002 BENTWAY
SAN ANTONIO TX 78240-1536 Ph: 210-558-4999 A

MANDEL, HAROLD
C/O SHARON SELF 3406 AINSWORTH CT
ARLINGTON TX 76016-2303 Ph: 817-429-7204 A

MANGOLD, MARNELL D
11412 MURRAY RD
THEODORE AL 36582-8499 Ph: 251-973-9021 A

PANSZA, GILBERT A
1 COURTNEY PLACE # 701 PO BOX 3234
BIG SPRING TX 79721-6568 Ph: 817-455-4913 A

RICHESON, JOHN M (HIDEKO)
5019 NORTHCREST DR
FORT WAYNE IN 46825-5630 Ph: 260-484-1405 T

WITT, RICHARD J
7949 SUNMOUNT DR. APT 40
EL PASO TX 79925-5140 Ph: 915-593-1724 A

WOMACK, WANDA J
1015 HUNTINGTON RIDGE RD. # E
RALEIGH NC 27615-5342 Ph: 919-368-5104 T

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

The following telephone numbers are provided as a convenience to members wishing to contact certain HQ AAFES offices and the AAFES Federal Credit Union.

HQ SWITCHBOARD
(214) 312-2011

FOR RETIREMENT and GROUP INSURANCE BENEFITS:
HQ. AAFES BENEFIT BRANCH REPRESENTATIVES (800) 519-3381

GENERAL COUNSEL:
COLONEL ERIC E. WEISS, USAF (214) 312-3126

EXCHANGE POST:
BARBARA KIRSCH (214) 312 3831

SALES TABLOIDS:
LEAH MILLER (800) 733-5142

ID CARD, PRIVILEGES
HR-L/H Servicing Personnel Office (214) 312-3330
ID Cards issued Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:30-10 a.m.

DOD VEHICLE STICKERS:
DOD stickers are issued in AD from 7:30-11 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

AAFES FEDERAL CREDIT UNION: TOLL FREE SERVICE
NORTH AMERICA (800) 452-7333
UNITED KINGDOM 0800-89-7490
GERMANY 0130-81-1187

FOR OTHERS NOT LISTED:
PAT WEAVER (972) 780-9810

For other information, check out the AAFES Web site at: <http://www.aafes.com> and the AREA web site <http://www.aafes.com/area>

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE FORM

Type of Change (Check All Boxes Below That Apply)

Address <input type="checkbox"/>	Telephone <input type="checkbox"/>	FAX <input type="checkbox"/>
E-mail <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>

Enter New Address in "Current Address" block BELOW and List Other Changes Here--

(Printed Name) _____ (Signature) _____ (Date) _____

Check here if you would like to be put on the mailing list for future membership directories, which are published in even-numbered years and provide you a listing of names and addresses of AREA members.

TO: AREA (ATTN: Membership Director)
P.O. Box 380614
Duncanville, TX 75138-0614

CURRENT ADDRESS:

AREA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

DONATION FORM

To: AREA		From:	
P.O. Box 380614			
Duncanville, TX 75138-			
		Telephone	
This donation is (check one box below)			
<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor of	(Name)		
<input type="checkbox"/> In Memory Of	(Name)		
<input type="checkbox"/> An Annual Pledge*			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Send Card to:			
NAME			
ADDRESS			
ADDRESS			
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE			
TELEPHONE			
Amount of donation (check enclosed)		\$	
* I wish to pledge \$_____ each year to the AREA Scholarship Fund. My donation for the current year is enclosed.			
Your donation will be acknowledged to both the donor and to the recipient or the survivor. All donations are income tax deductible.			
DONOR NAME (Printed)		SIGNATURE	
COMMENTS:			

AREA EXECUTIVE BOARD (EXEC OFFICERS + PROGRAM DIRECTORS)

June 1, 2009

EXEC OFFICERS Voting Members	NAME	SPOUSE	ADDRESS	PHONE	E-MAIL / FAX
1. PRESIDENT	CHUCK POFFENBARGER	LINA	5535 MONA LANE DALLAS, TEXAS 75236	972.296.0388	CPOFFEN@YAHOO.COM 972.692.5176
2. PRESIDENT ELECT	Vacant	--	--	--	--
3. TREASURER	GERRY PETERSON	MARLENE	1609 GLASGOW DR. ARLINGTON, TX 76015	817.557.1520 C: 817.676.4594	GERRY@PETERSONCLAN.NET
4. SECRETARY	DON SMITH	PAT	6359 Farm Road 660 BRISTOL, TX 75119	972.846.9916 C: 214-729-4060	DonaldSmith7@aol.com
5. INFORMATION DIRECTOR	LARRY PHILLIPS	SUZANNE	1200 LAURIE DESOTO, TX 75115	972.224.8116	AREA-Newsletter@tx.rr.com
6. MEMBER-AT- LARGE / CHAIR, EMERGENCY RELIEF	TOM HARMON	LOIS	207 N VENICE DR. DUNCANVILLE, TX 75116	972.296.8224	harmonta@sbcglobal.net
7. MEMBER-AT- LARGE	MILT BERGMAN	CAROL	24030 WOODHOLLOW DR. WB BOX 109 WHITNEY, TX 76692	254.694.5038	MILTBERGMAN@MSN.COM
8. MEMBER-AT- LARGE	BOB HAVER	DEAN	807 GRANADA DR. DUNCANVILLE, TX 75116	972.780.7064	rfh807@swbell.net
PROGRAM DIRECTORS (non-voting appointees)					
1. FINANCIAL ADVISOR / VEBA TRUSTEE	MARTY HANDEL	UTA	9022 EMBERGLOW LN DALLAS, TX 75243	972.680.1912	handelmr@tx.rr.com 972.680.8016
2. AUDITOR	GENE MILLER	Mary	18 E. HUNTINGTON, ST. EASTBOROUGH, KS 67206	316-681-3815	gene15mary15@att.net
3. COMMUNITY SERVICE	DICK FREGOE	GISELA	2709 SPARTACUS DR. GRAND PRAIRIE, TX 75052	972.641.2981/ 5783	rfregoe@gptx.org 972.641.2069
4. MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR	PAT WEAVER	KEN	110 N VENICE DR. DUNCANVILLE, TX 75116	972.780.9810	KEN-PAT@SBCGLOBAL.NET 972.780.9810
5. LEGAL ADVISOR	TOM REAGOR	LINDA	1119 SPYGLASS HILL LANE FRISCO, TX 75034	214-469-2423	thomasreagor@att.net
6. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	TOM GALLAGHER	MARY	7045 REMBRANDT DR. PLANO, TX 75093	972.862.8099	gall.tom@verizon.net

BOARD QUORUM: 4 VOTING MEMBERS



AAAFES RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 380614
DUNCANVILLE, TX 75138-0614

PRSRST STD
US POSTAGE PAID
DALLAS, TX
PERMIT #1478

DUES ALERT! Please check the expiration date above (next to your address). If the date is June 2009 (or earlier) please send your \$15 dues PAYABLE to AREA to continue your membership.

AAAFES RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Help Us Save Money!



Get the Newsletter online rather than through the mail.

The difference in cost is significant, and you'll enjoy these advantages:

- Get the Newsletter first, before anyone else. E-mail is faster than snail-mail.
- The Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format is in color and you can transfer/save the file as you desire.

Send an e-mail to me at cpoffen@yahoo.com and state that you would like to get the Newsletter on line and I'll do the rest. Give it a try. If you don't like it, we can always add you back to the snail-mail list.

AREA ...*JUST FOR YOU*