

2013-14

# AFA Nominees

**T**he Air Force Association Nominating Committee met on April 20 and selected candidates to send forward for five national officer positions and three elective National Director positions on the Board of Directors. The committee comprises three most recent past Chairmen of the Board, one person selected by each of the two Vice Chairmen of the Board, two persons representing each geographic area, and one person each representing the Total Air Force, Air Force veterans, and aerospace industry constituencies. The slate of candidates will be presented to the delegates at the National Convention in National Harbor, Md., in September.

## Chairman of the Board

**George K. Muellner**, Huntington Beach, Calif., nominated for a second one-year term. He is a Life Member and has served as Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education; a National Director; a member of the Compensation Committee; and a member of the Aerospace Education Council. He is a past recipient of the AFA Theodore von Karman Award. Muellner retired from

Boeing in 2008 as President of Advanced Systems, with previous positions as VP-GM of Air Force Systems and as President of Phantom Works. He served for 31 years in the Air Force, retiring as a lieutenant general, as Principal Deputy for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition. Key Air Force assignments included Program Executive Officer for the Joint Strike Fighter program and Deputy Chief of Staff for Requirements, Air Combat Command. Muellner spent most of his career as a fighter pilot, fighter weapons instructor, test pilot, and commander. He flew combat missions in Vietnam and commanded the JSTARS deployment during Operation Desert Storm. He is Past President of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. He holds a bachelor's degree in engineering from the University of Illinois; master's degrees in engineering from the University of Southern California and from California State University; and an M.B.A. from Auburn University. He consults in the aerospace industry, is a Director on several boards, and serves as a Fellow of the Scientific Advisory Board.

## Vice Chairman Field Operations

**Scott P. Van Cleef**, Fincastle, Va., nominated for a second one-year term. He is a Life Member and was Central East Region President before assuming his current duties. While President of Virginia's Roanoke Chapter, it was named AFA Medium-size Chapter of the Year for 2005 and winner of an AFA Unit Exceptional Service Award in 2006. He was the State President when Virginia was named the Outstanding State Organization of the Year for 2008. He was a member of the AFA Board of Directors, 2008-2011. He served on the afa21 Internal Review Group in 2005 and afa21 Field Structure Team in 2006. He was also a member of the Field Council and Strategic Planning Committee, which he chaired for two years. Van Cleef was Virginia's Member of the Year in 2004 and 2010 and recipient of the Central East Region President's Award, AFA's Medal of Merit, Exceptional Service Award, and Chairman's Citation. Van Cleef served for more than 29 years in USAF. He commanded an F-16 squadron, was Vice Commander of an F-16 training wing, and Commander of a fighter wing. He is



**Muellner**



**Van Cleef**



**White**



a self-employed maker of fine furniture, chapter officer in MOAA, and a Civil Air Patrol senior member and pilot. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Virginia Museum of Transportation and on the Board of Visitors for the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership at Mary Baldwin College.

#### **Vice Chairman Aerospace Education**

**Jerry E. White**, Colorado Springs, Colo., nominated for a second one-year term. He is a Life Member, member of the Thunderbird Society and a Platinum Member of the Wings Society, and has served for several years on the Aerospace Education Foundation and AFA Boards. He was Chair and Co-Chair of the Development Committee. He served one year as an appointed member of the AFA Executive Committee. He serves on the Aerospace Education Council. He was active in the combining of AEF and AFA organizations and boards. White served for 37 years, Active and Reserve, in USAF, retiring as a major general. His Air Force career had been primarily in space and development. He is the co-author of the Air Force Academy's primary text on astrodynamics. As a former Air Force Academy faculty member, he remains engaged with the academy and technical education. White has extensive experience in leadership of nonprofit organizations, with 18 years as CEO and Board Chair of a large nonprofit (4,500 employees). He was Chair of an association of several hundred nonprofits. He was a member of the congressionally mandated Reserve Forces Policy Board. He holds degrees from the University of Washington and AFIT and a Ph.D. from Purdue University. White chaired the Rhodes

Scholarship Colorado Selection Committee for three years. He is President Emeritus and Chairman Emeritus of an interdenominational Christian ministry.

#### **Secretary**

**Angela M. Dupont**, Haverhill, Mass., nominated for a first one-year term. Dupont is the Vice President for Corporate Development, Director of Air Force Programs, Technical Engineering and Operations Sector, Alion Science and Technology. In this role she is responsible for all aspects of account management and business development activities regarding the Air Force. She joined Alion in April. Prior to that, Dupont was the Vice President of Business Development, C2 Programs, and the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center/Hanscom, Account Manager for SAIC and was responsible for all C2 business activities. She is active in organizations that promote the exchange of ideas within the defense industrial community. She is a Life Member, and her primary focus has been as a leader in the Paul Revere Chapter, serving eight years on the Executive Committee. Dupont entered the aerospace and defense in-

dustry when she joined the Titan Corp. in 2002. Before that, she spent six years at the Massachusetts Port Authority, as deputy director, international marketing and administration, responsible for developing new direct international routes to Boston's Logan Airport. Rep. Martin T. Meehan (D-Mass.) chose her to serve as his Director of Finance from 1993 to 1995. She represented the Congressman at public events, acted as primary liaison for contributors, and recruited and trained volunteers. As Director of Marketing and Sales Development for an international marketing company from 1989 to 1993, Dupont created new sales territory and served on the company's Advisory Board to develop strategies for corporate growth.

**Justin M. Faiferlick**, Fort Dodge, Iowa, nominated for a first one-year term. Faiferlick was formerly the Vice Chairman of the Board Field Operations, as well as an AFA National Director at Large. He is a Life Member and has been active in AFA, chartering the Fort Dodge Chapter and serving as Chapter President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and as a State Vice President and President. He serves in the AFA



**Dupont**



**Faiferlick**

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Wounded Airman Program and the AFA Senior Leadership Advisory Group. His national awards include the Medal of Merit and the Exceptional Service Award. In Iowa, he has received the Governor's Volunteer Award and was one of the Top 40, under the age of 40, outstanding community leaders. He started his military career as an enlisted member in the Active Duty Air Force in 1987. He continued his enlisted career in the Iowa Air National Guard in 1991 and received his commission in 1998. He was deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Faiferlick holds a bachelor's degree from Buena Vista University and a master's degree in management, with a concentration in organizational leadership, from American Military University.

## Treasurer

**Leonard R. Vernamonti**, Clinton, Miss., nominated for a fourth one-year term. An AFA member since 1964 and a Life Member since 1984, he has served as a Chapter, State, and Region President and was on the Board of Directors. He has been active at the national level since 1989, having served on the afa21 Field Structure Team, Field Council, and Constitution and Nominating Committees. He was Chairman of the Audit Committee and is Chairman of the Finance Committee. He has received the Exceptional Service Award and two Medals of Merit. Vernamonti's more than 40-year military and civilian professional careers have focused



**Vernamonti**

on management and finance. He was the Comptroller for all USAF ballistic missile programs and President, CEO, and CFO of a nonprofit with an operating budget twice that of AFA. He serves as a Senior Consultant to the aerospace industry, specializing in strategic planning, acquisition, and budget and cost analysis. Vernamonti has a bachelor's degree in economics from the Air Force Academy and a master's degree in systems engineering from the University of Florida. He is a graduate of the National War College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

## National Director at Large

The Nominating Committee submits four names—**William J. Begert**, **Kevin L. Jackson**, **Peter E. Jones**, and **David B. Warner**—for National Director at Large. Two will be elected for a three-year term.

**William J. Begert**, New Gloucester, Maine. He has been an AFA member since 1970 and is a Life Member. Begert retired from Pratt & Whitney in 2012, after seven years as Vice President of Business Development and Aftermarket Services. He served in the Air Force for 36 years, retiring in 2004 as a general. Key Air Force assignments include Pacific Air Forces Commander, Air Force Assistant Vice Chief of Staff, and Vice Commander of US Air Forces in Europe. He spent most of his career as a mobility pilot. He served in Vietnam, flying the O-2 as a Forward Air Controller, logging more than 900 combat hours and more than 300 combat missions. Begert consults in the aerospace business; serves as a Trustee at the Falcon Foundation; is a Board Member of the Foundation Board at the National Museum of the US Air Force; and is a member of the Sabre Society of the Air Force Academy. Begert holds a B.S. degree in international relations from the Air Force Academy and an M.P.A. from the University of Colorado. He is a graduate of Air Command and Staff College and the National War College. He also attended executive courses at Harvard's JFK School of Government,



**Begert**

the Katz Graduate School of Business at the University of Pittsburgh, and the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia.

**Kevin L. Jackson**, Washington, D.C. Jackson has been a member of AFA since 1994 and is a Life Member. He has served AFA as the Vice President of the Donald W. Steele Sr. Memorial Chapter and is the President of the Nation's Capital Chapter. His national-level AFA awards include the Medal of Merit and two Exceptional Service Awards. He has served at the national level on the Nominating Committee and the Business Development subcommittee. Jackson is the Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Air Domain, for Saab North America. He is an Associate Fellow at AIAA and the former Vice Chairman of the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) Corporate Advisory Panel. Jackson holds a bachelor of science degree in business and economics from Lehigh University.



**Jackson**



**Jones**

**Peter E. Jones**, Potomac Falls, Va. Jones is a Life Member. In the last 10 years he has served AFA in multiple roles, including manager of the Virginia AFA Hospitality Suite at the National Convention from 2003 to 2008; as Vice President, and later President, of the Donald W. Steele Sr. Memorial Chapter in Northern Virginia; and as VP for Virginia State AFA. He is the Virginia State President. He is in his third year as a member of the AFA Strategic Planning Committee. He is also a member of the Field Council, chairing the e-business subcommittee, and leads a Field Council/Aerospace Education Council joint committee, which oversees all reviews and updates of the AFA Field Operations Guide. He has received numerous Chapter, State, and Region awards, and his national awards include the Medal of Merit, the Exceptional Service Award, and AFA Fellowship for exceptional leadership at the chapter and state level. Jones served on Active Duty for 28 years, including tours in Alaska, Hawaii,



**Warner**

Germany, Italy, and CONUS. He retired from the Air Force in 1997 at the end of his assignment at the Defense Information Systems Agency, Washington, D.C. Jones holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Grove City College and a master's in systems management from the University of Southern California. He holds an FAA commercial rating in gliders and a private rating in single engine aircraft. In addition to AFA, he is a member of AFCEA and American Mensa.

**David B. Warner**, Colorado Springs, Colo. A Life Member, active since 1980, and son of a chief master sergeant, he grew up Air Force before experiencing his own 30-year career. After being a distinguished graduate from ROTC at Southwest Texas State and being a Senior Executive Fellow at Harvard's JFK School of Government, he went on to a career ending as a brigadier general as AFSPC/A6 and retired in 2010. He was responsible for planning/security of network/information systems for the Air Force (AFSPC and USAFE), Joint Forces Command, and in other capacities while leading at the squadron and group level. He was instrumental in integrating the AFSPC cyber mission through stand-up of 24th Air Force, establishing a new AFSC career field and developing Undergraduate Cyber Training. He participated in AFA's second CyberPatriot competition. His strength is in serving and building teams. He serves as CEO of a nonprofit organization, 17,000 strong and growing, of Active Duty, retired military, and family members. He leads 50 paid and 300 volunteer staff across the nation and wherever the US military is located. He regularly travels to major military bases and visits with cadets, junior officers, Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, and families and knows their needs. He serves on the Christian Services Charities board, raising \$8 million annually through Combined Federal Campaign activities, and is active in his local church.

**National Director**

The Nominating Committee submits one name—**David A. Dietsch**—for National Director, Central Area.



**Dietsch**

**David A. Dietsch**, Arlington, Tex., nominated for a first one-year term. A Life Member active in AFA since 1992, he has served as Executive Vice President of the Lubbock Chapter, President of the Fort Worth Chapter, Texas State President, and Texoma Region President. He is Vice President for the state of Texas for Industrial Relations and Government Relations. He co-founded and became the first Chairman of the Board of the AFA Texas Aerospace Education Foundation. Dietsch has served at the national level on the Constitution Committee, Membership Committee, and Nominating Committee. He is on the Field Council. He has been AFA Texas Member of the Year twice and has received the AFA Texas Claire Chennault Patriotism Award. He also received the AFA Medal of Merit and three AFA Exceptional Service Awards. Dietsch served for 27 years in USAF in aircraft maintenance and logistics positions. Following retirement in 1992, he managed the aircraft maintenance contract workforce at two USAF flying training wings. He received a bachelor's degree in American diplomacy and foreign affairs from Miami University in Ohio and a master's degree in public administration from Golden Gate University. He graduated from the resident courses of Squadron Officer School, Armed Forces Staff College, and Air War College and completed the Lockheed Advanced Management Institute and the W. Edwards Deming Quality Management Institute. He serves on the local Salvation Army Management Committee and is a part-time consultant. ■