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Prez Prose

Jason VanOverbeke, President

To all USAFA Grads in the Minnesota area:

It's March – I think I can count this as one successful New Year's resolution (unlike my diet plan) of getting these quarterly updates out in a timely manner. We're well into 2022 and members of the Chapter have been busy.

First and foremost, the Twin Cities Area Chapter of the Association of Graduates has been recognized as a Distinguished Chapter for 2021. We have continued our unbroken streak of achieving that honor every year since our founding. This is a testament to the dedicated participation of our membership and the ongoing leadership of the AOG Board. Congratulations to all of the members who helped us achieve this recognition again.

Terry Flower and his wife, Margret, hosted a wonderful “Robert Burns” dinner and Scotch tasting in January. Tom Wilson hosted our annual Lowell Inn Dinner in February. These are just some of the activities we host to serve the local grad community and provide social and networking opportunities for our members.

Speaking of activities, I hope you’re all planning to attend the 2022 Heritage Dinner scheduled for 14 May 2022 and if you’re not, I’d invite you to partake in this event. And if you have never come to this event before, I can’t recommend it enough. It is an opportunity for us old fogies to celebrate the founding of the Air Force Academy and to acknowledge and celebrate the heritage as graduates and members of the Long Blue Line. We also partner with the Minnesota Parent’s Club to recognize the new appointees as well as the current cadets (vicariously, through their very proud parents). The Air Force Academy is a space and experience that binds us all together; past, present and future - cadets and graduates tied together by that bond and by our collective commitment to the Academy, the Air Force and Space Force and the United States of America. I don’t want to spoil the plan, but Rick Knoll and Sandy Carlson have been working tirelessly with the MN Parents’ Club to plan a great event as it always is. We will be sending out more information shortly.

As always, we’re looking for ways to serve you better. If you have ideas, activities or networking ideas, feel free to share them with us. We’ll be posting more activities and plans in the coming months. Keep an eye on Facebook and on our AOG Website to stay apprised of what is going on.

Thanks for all you do and for the opportunity to serve you!

Jason VanOverbeke

Jason VanOverbeke '03, 2022 Twin Cities Chapter

USAFA AOG Distinguished Graduate Award

Jason joined our Chapter around 2016- 2017. In the spring of 2019, he agreed to take over the duties of Program Chairman and to replace Tim Hess on the Board of Directors. He also

assumed Tim's duties as Chair of the Events Committee – a position that he still holds today, along with his duties as President.

Since then, he has literally “climbed the Board ladder.” Jason became the Vice Pres of the Chapter in the summer of 2019 and President in June of 2020. While serving as Vice President, the President came down with serious physical issues and had to step down. Jason, without reserve, took over the position as President. During this period, the covid pandemic hit and things became extremely difficult for our chapter. Jason ended up carrying the chapter successfully through the pandemic while essentially filling all the board positions short of Treasurer and Secretary.

Jason ran for a position on the National AOG Board in 2021. Though not selected, Jason has shown his loyalty and dedication to supporting both our Chapter and the USAFA AOG!!!

Our Chapter was founded in May of 2011 and has had only two presidents before Jason was elected. He is the first Chapter President that graduated in the 21st century. Jason is also the first Chapter president to serve while holding both a full-time civilian employment as well as serving as a Major in the Air Force Reserves with the Office of Special Investigations out of Quantico, Virginia.

He has represented our chapter at the three AOG Presidents Meetings held at the Academy during Parents Weekend, in spite of his busy work schedule. He and his wife, Holli, have attended virtually every event that our Chapter has sponsored. Even to the point that on a couple of occasions, he was the only grad in attendance. Such dedication deserves special recognition.

For the above reasons, I am proud to announce Jason Joseph VanOverbeke as the recipient of the 2022 Twin Cities Chapter Distinguished Graduate Award.

Thomas W.C. Wilson, '61

President Emeritus, TCAAOG Chapter

2022 Heritage Dinner Joint Event with MN USAFA Parents Club

The USAFA Parents Club of Minnesota will host their annual Appointee Orientation for appointees and their parents on May 14, 3:30-5:30 PM at Eden Prairie High School's East Commons area. There will be a combined session and time for the appointees with the current cadets separate from parents. Presentations are designed to clarify expectations for BCT and beyond. These meetings will be finished by 5:30 p.m.

Following that, the Twin Cities Chapter of the USAFA Association of Graduates will host their annual Founders Day to celebrate the founding of the Academy. The dinner will be held jointly with the MN Parents Club at the Flying Cloud Airfield hangar (#15129) of Scott Sather '88 (daughter '25).

This year we are honored to welcome USAFA Commandant of Cadets BGen Paul Moga, '95, as our speaker. Pete Swanson, '95, longtime ALO in MN, will be the master of ceremonies. Dress will be coat, tie optional, for men and cocktail dress for women.

Social hour starts at 5:30 PM with dinner at 6:30 PM. Two cash bars will be available, and the dinner will be catered buffet style. Appointees, current cadets in uniform, and ALO's will our guests. Once catering is finalized, costs and a Cvent sign up will be posted on TCA AOG website along with directions and access instructions for the hanger. Come celebrate the Academy with your fellow grads, parents and incoming cadets!



Cadet Highlight

Did you ever wonder with all your free time at USAFA why you didn't invent and patent a new invention? If surviving the next GRE or SAMI was top of your list as a cadet, you'll be impressed on what our current cadets and future leaders are up to.



Cadet Schlichting is the inventor behind the Aerial Tow Rehookup, an idea born from troop and cargo missions during World War II

Cadet First Class Grant Schlichting, a senior at the United States Air Force Academy, holds a patent-pending for a device that will change how we fight the wars to come.

Schlichting is the creator of the Aerial Tow Rehookup (ATR), an invention with a provisional patent under the US Patent and Trademark Office. The ATR involves the utilization of a military cargo plane to tow multiple aircraft at any given time, from the smallest of unmanned drones to much heavier fighter jets. It has the potential to serve as a long-range extender in and out of strategically hard-to-reach areas. The ATR will increase aircraft range and loiter time, while decreasing the logistical burdens on the fleet.

Schlichting's invention just received unanimous support from the Spark Tank panel on Mar. 4, 2022. Spark Tank is an annual Air Force-wide innovation competition, where Schlichting pitched his invention to both high-ranking military officials and private industry leaders.

He was also awarded the prestigious STAMP Scholarship, enabling him to garner more funding for his research.

See entire USAFA.edu article at link below

<https://www.usafa.edu/five-life-and-innovation-hacks-from-a-cadet-inventor/>



Falcon Football Schedule



Tune in to watch your Falcons play! As a reminder we are only planning viewing parties for the Army and Navy game, but feel free to host your own. All games are initially listed for Saturday. As a result of the contract between Mountain West and broadcasting partners, games may actually be on Thursday, Friday or Saturday of the week shown on the current schedule. While the day of play will be set well in advance, the time of day for kickoff can be finalized as late as 12 days before the game. We will update the schedule on the AOG website events page as information is available.

2022 Air Force Football Schedule

<u>Day, Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	
Sat., Sept. 3	Northern Iowa	
Sat., Sept. 10	Colorado	
Sat., Sept. 17	at Wyoming*	
Sat., Sept. 24	Nevada*	* designates Mountain West game
Sat., Oct. 1	Navy	
Sat., Oct. 8	at Utah State*	
Sat., Oct. 15	at UNLV*	
Sat., Oct. 22	Boise State*	
Sat., Oct. 29	OPEN	
Sat., Nov. 5	vs. Army&	& = Commander's Classic, Arlington, TX
Sat., Nov. 12	New Mexico*	
Sat., Nov. 19	Colorado State*	
Sat., Nov. 26	at San Diego State*	

Chapter Events: Past And Future

In an effort to keep the membership informed of events that our Chapter sponsors or co-sponsors, here is a list of the recently held events:

29 January: Scotch Tasting at the home of Terry and Margaret Flower. Thanks to Terry and Margaret for hosting another well received and informative event that was enjoyed by all.



5 February: The annual Lowell Inn Dinner in Stillwater. Thanks to those that coordinated this successful get together.

Upcoming Events

14 May: The annual Heritage / Founders Day Dinner. The speaker this year is the new USAFA Commandant, Brig.Gen. Paul D. Moga, 95. This event is co-hosted with the MN Parents Club. See article above, and look for Cvent sign up and directions on AOG event page soon.

Monthly: 2022 Service Academy networking breakfasts

Check out the events page; monthly westside breakfasts in St Louis Park and eastside in Lake Elmo are scheduled through the Dec 22. Come have breakfast and realize that those Annapolis and West Point grads are people too (except on game day!)

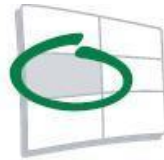
STAY TUNED FOR ADDITIONAL PLANNED EVENTS AS WE PROGRESS THROUGH THE YEAR AND FOR UPDATED INFO ON THESE PLANNED EVENTS.

Please think seriously about these events and contact me personally if any of you have additional events that you think we should consider.

Tom Wilson, 61
President Emeritus



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TCA AOG Key Personnel Roster

Twin Cities Area Chapter - USAFA Association of Graduates March 2022

Chapter Officers

President	Jason VanOverbeke '03 (Holli)	612-382-2602	jasonvanoverbeke@mac.com
Vice President	Chris Sedlacek '97	301-310-3716	csedlacek97@gmail.com
Secretary	Curt Brown, '78	651-295-5834	curtbrown11@gmail.com
Treasurer	Rick Knoll '65 (Kathe)	952-518-3737	rickknoll@msn.com
Legal Advisor	Charlie Nelson '96 (Vanessa)	952-240-2784	mustabusa@gmail.com
President Emeritus	Tom Wilson '61	651-275-5167	twil906k@aol.com

Board Members (10) with term expiration included:

Terry Flower '64 (2022) (Margaret)	651-437-2005	tflower@stkate.edu
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Chris Sedlacek '97 (2024)	301-310-3716	csedlacek97@gmail.com
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Zach Turcotte '00 (2024) (Jessica)	701-610-1736	myzteriouzly@hotmail.com

Committee Chairpersons

Advanced Education	Terry Flower '64	tflower@stkate.edu
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Financial and Budget	Rick Knoll '65/Terry Flower '64	See above
Fundraising	Open	
Membership	Zach Turcotte '00	myzteriouzly@hotmail.com
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