



# WINGS SOCIETY BULLETIN

CELEBRATING  
OUR 70<sup>TH</sup>  
BIRTHDAY!

ISSUE No. 8

## “An Inspiration to Us All”

### 92-Year-Old Twins Awarded French Legion of Honor

It's been more than 70 years since retired Air Force Reserve Majors Raymond “Glenn” Clanin and Russell “Lynn” Clanin served as pilots during World War II. But just this past December the brothers were awarded the French government's highest distinction as a veteran, The Legion of Honor medal.

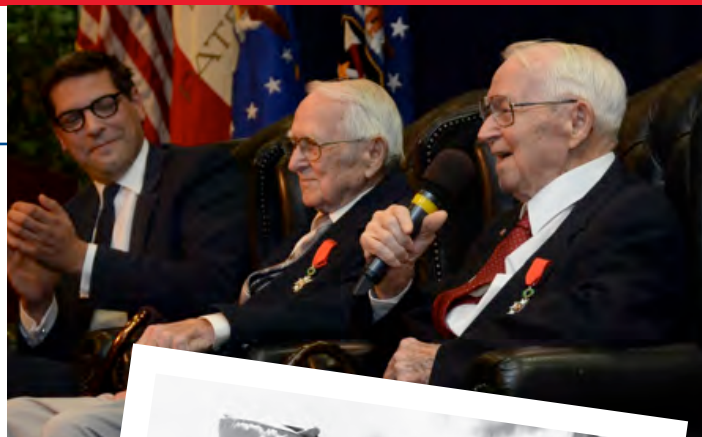
The Clanins both flew the B-26 Marauder nicknamed Flak-bait with the 449th Bombardment Squadron while stationed in Beauvais, France. Glenn flew 26 missions in the twin-engine bomber while his brother flew 21 missions.

During the ceremony Christophe Lemoine, the French general consul in Los Angeles, thanked the brothers for their role in restoring France's freedom.

“You are an inspiration to us all and to the younger generations. ... On behalf of the French government, as well as on behalf of the people of France, I would like to tell you very sincerely, from the bottom of my heart, thank you. Thank you for your heroism and your sacrifice,” said Lemoine. ★

*Airmen like the Clanin brothers have been fighting for freedom for generations – and we're fighting for them! Please renew your support and help the Air Force Association support our veterans, active duty Airmen, wounded Airmen, and their families with a gift today.*

(top) Retired Air Force Reserve Majors and 92-year old twin brothers Raymond “Glenn” Clanin (right) and Russell “Lynn” Clanin discuss their experience flying the B-26 Marauder on several missions with the 449th Bombardment Squadron, while stationed in Beauvais, France. Air Force photo by Van De Ha.



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PLEASE SUPPORT  
THE AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION



Give today and help us  
honor the service and sacrifices  
of the men and women of the  
United States Air Force.

# Honoring Two Vietnam Heroes

## Retired Airmen Receive Silver Stars 16 Years Later

**A**daring rescue mission. An Airman was thrown from a helicopter and still managed to return fire while dangling from a harness. The actions of retired CMSgt Ronald Brodeur and retired Sgt Eric Roberts II during Vietnam are right out of a movie.

This past December, thanks to declassification of the mission details, the two men were finally honored with Silver Stars for their rescue of an Army Special Forces patrol in Duc Lap on Feb. 20, 1969.

“It is incredibly important, finally, that we have the opportunity to thank you,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh during the ceremony. ★



Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen Mark Welsh speaks during a Dec. 17, 2015, presentation of the Silver Star to retired CMSgt Ronald Brodeur and retired Sgt Eric Roberts for actions in Vietnam. Staff photo by Brian Everstine.

## CyberPatriots Prepare for National Finals

**M**ore than 3,300 teams representing schools from all 50 states recently participated in CyberPatriot's VIII National Youth Cyber-Defense state competitions, and 28 teams will soon be deemed finalists for the National Finals Competition in April.

The finalists earn an all-expense paid trip to Baltimore, MD for the competition where they can earn national recognition and scholarship money.

Through the CyberPatriot program, students are encouraged to pursue careers in cybersecurity or other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines that are critical to our nation's future. ★



Through your support of AFA, you are helping inspire the next generation of cyber defenders. Please continue your support with a gift today!

## Providing for New Families

**I**n addition to extending maternity and paternity leave for new parents, the Pentagon recently announced five more initiatives as part of Defense Secretary Ash Carter's "Force of the Future" initiative. It's an important step toward retaining troops looking to start families and protecting our whole Air Force family.

Among the new initiatives are mandatory mothers' rooms for breastfeeding, extended childcare development center hours, allowing service members to remain at certain stations that are better for families, and increased Tricare coverage.

*You provide a voice on Capitol Hill to push forward important initiatives that prepare and support Airmen and their families.* ★

## “SHARE YOUR STORY WITH US”

The strength of the Air Force Association lies with the inspiring men and women who support the Air Force. We want to hear more from you!

To highlight you and your work for the AFA, earlier this year we launched “We Are AFA,” a social media initiative to gather stories and photos from the AFA community.

Share your stories and pictures with us using #WeAreAFA on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.





# 70 Years of Supporting Airmen

*You Make Everything AFA Does Possible*

**T**his year marks the 70th birthday of the Air Force Association, but it's really all about people like YOU.

Through your support we are able to fight on behalf of the entire Air Force family.

Veterans who fought courageously during World War II ...

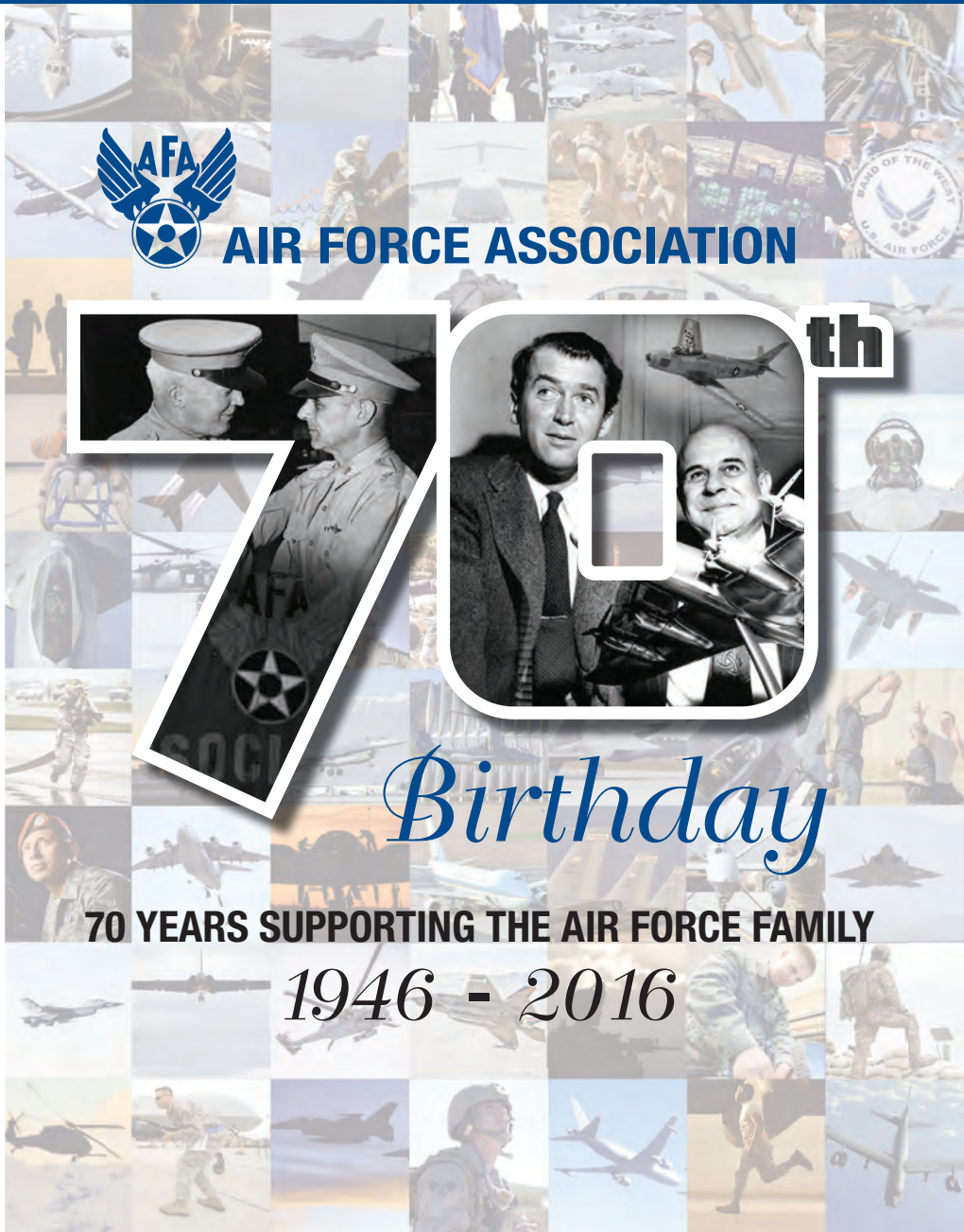
Wounded comrades who gave so much in service to our great nation...

Active duty Airmen putting their lives on the line in the name of freedom even as you read this ...

The families at home awaiting their Airmen's safe return ...

We support their families, protect their benefits, and do our best to bring them home safely by ensuring they have the best training, equipment, and support possible.

*Please give today and help us fight for our Air Force family through advocacy, support, and education. We're all counting on you! ★*



## Your Gifts at Work

Together we are changing lives.  
In the last 5 years alone thanks to  
your support:

## IMPACTING LIVES

Thanks to your support over  
the last five years:

**\$190,000**

in support to wounded  
Airmen and their families



**\$1 million**

in scholarships to  
Airmen, cadets, and  
their families



**23,000**

Students transformed  
into cyber-defenders

**DONATE TODAY**

**Just think about the impact you're making for Airmen and their families and please continue your support today!**



# CAPTURING AMERICA'S VOICE

## US Air Force Band Releases New Album

This past November the United States Air Force Band released their latest album, "American Voices."

The entirely instrumental album captures American life and culture – resilience, faith, beauty, service.

"The Band was really excited to record this album," said SMSgt Brian McCurdy, a clarinetist. "We really take pride in this product." ★



You can find  
the album online at  
[www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil)  
to stream and share with  
fellow music lovers.

# THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!



Your support makes the essential work of the Air Force Association possible. Please continue your support with a generous gift today. Just return your donation with the enclosed form in the envelope provided or give online at [www.afa.org/2016Bulletin](http://www.afa.org/2016Bulletin).