



The Vault

The AFCEA Fort Knox Gold Vault Chapter Newsletter

Vol. 11, No. 2
July 2020

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www.afcea.org / Membership

Table of Contents

1. Upcoming Event
2. President's Page
3. Regional Vice-President
4. March Women in AFCEA
5. April Veteran Spirit Parade
6. May Online Hack the Hackers
7. June STEM Teacher Grant Bowl
8. 2020 Scholarship Report
9. 2020 Scholarship Winners
10. Education; 2020 Chapter Leadership; AFCEA Internat'l; Chapter Goals; Upcoming Events
11. Connect with AFCEA; Benefits of Membership; About Us
12. Welcome New & Renewing Members!

July 21, 2020 Webinar Featuring SAIC Vice President of Practice, Bob Ritchie *Sponsored by SAIC*

Greetings Members and Guests,

You are invited to register for our webinar featuring SAIC Vice President of Practice, Mr. Bob Ritchie, presenting IT MOD –APP MODERNIZATION AND CLOUD MIGRATION. In this webinar, Mr. Ritchie presents an informational session to learn more about how cloud-native development can bring application agility and the corresponding benefits of modernizing government legacy applications through a variety of development techniques. Mr. Ritchie leads SAIC's software practice, bringing a combination of commercial leadership and government services expertise. He is responsible for strategy and investment in software solutions; the development, integration, and sustainment of software applications; and the migration of legacy code and apps to new environments. Mr. Ritchie earned his Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering from Virginia Tech and holds eight Amazon Web Services Certifications. Please visit our website to register and view this webinar here: ftknox.afceachapters.org SAIC Webinar

-The AFCEA Fort Gold Vault Chapter

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President's Page

Dear Gold Vault Chapter Members,

2020 has thrown us some incredible curve balls to say the least. We pray that all of our members, friends, sponsors, and their families are safe and sound. Despite the disruptions the Gold Vault Chapter has been diligent to continue to advance our goals and make an impact in our Community. As a result we have some positive news to report.

A review of the Chapter's 2019 performance was completed and with flying colors, our chapter won the 2019 AFCEA International Model Chapter Award for another year in a row. Congratulations to President Michael Tague and all of the members of the 2019 Executive Committee for your hard earned achievements!

Our current Executive Vice President, Richard Roda, was nominated and subsequently selected by AFCEA International for the AFCEAN of the Month Award which recognized his achievements in managing the chapter's website at ftknox.afceachapters.org.

The 2019 VP of Scholarships, Maura Enright, received a nomination and two recommendations for the AFCEA International Exceptional Contribution to STEM Education Award by VP of Awards Christopher Aycock, GVC Chairman Martin Harbolt, and Regional Vice President David Hart.

We launched the 2020 Lift Off Scholarship Campaign in the month of May. We successfully received qualified applicants, evaluated, processed, and notified the winners. Four Scholarships in the Amount of \$1500.00 were awarded and accepted. The students were Nicholas Najjar, Naiya Sims, Trinity Buchanon, and Ethan Haley. We congratulate them for their hard work and wish the best for their college careers.

In the month of June we launched our STEM Teacher Grant Campaign and have successfully received applicants. We will be evaluating the applicants during the month of July.

Coming up in August, we hope to return to in-person events if current events allow. We will also begin recruiting in the month of August for nominations for officers to lead the chapter in 2021. The Election of 2021 Officers will be held in December.

We'll be hosting our Annual Golf Scramble Fundraiser in September.

We are recruiting volunteers! Would you like to build your network, demonstrate your skills outside of your current responsibilities, and give back to the Fort Knox professional community? Whether you have a few hours or lots of free time, we have an opportunity for you to participate. If you are interested in taking advantage of all of the opportunities that membership in our chapter offers, please contact me or visit our website [here](#).

--Angela Alexander-Mendoza, President



Angela Alexander-Mendoza, President

Volunteer Opportunities!

Many volunteer opportunities are available which will accentuate your professional development and leadership experience.

For more information, contact me at: President@ftknox.afceachapters.org

AFCEA International Regional Vice-President - Midwest David Hart



David Hart
AFCEA International
Regional Vice-President - Midwest

AFCEA Members,

Well we are half way through the year, and what a crazy one! A few trends have become apparent to me as a result of the pandemic and quarantine. They represent two sides of the same coin, one takes us away from live professional interaction and one pulls us together:

We have shown that teleworking can work effectively for both government and industry. It will be interesting to see how best practices evolve for remote working.

Relationships and human interaction or huge, and the absence of it can be depressing. AFCEA is a great resource for bringing folks together with common ground. Can't wait until we can all meet person again.

Be Well!

David Hart, AFCEA Regional Vice President – Midwest

About David Hart

David Hart is Segue's Vice President of Business Development and Strategic Partnerships, using his expertise in team building, market intelligence, and establishing and leveraging strong partner relationships to feed revenue growth and maintain an active pipeline of opportunities. He works collaboratively across Segue's business leadership and verticals identifying, qualifying, and building pursuits that align with value-added partners to create strong information sustainment support solutions for our Federal Clients.

David is actively engaged in leadership roles across the United States in DoD Communities. He is currently serving as Regional VP of AFCEA International, the AMMO Committee Chair on the AFCEA Board of Directors and previously served as Chapter President (2010, 2015, 2016), Vice President of Networking (2009), Director of Awards (2008), and Associate Director of the AFCEA International Board of Directors (2011). In addition to his service, David has received both the AFCEA Meritorious Service Medal (2016) and AFCEA Small Business Person of the Year (2017). He has served as Vice President of Dayton Defense, organizing two IT Dialogues with Industry Leaders. David also founded the Miami Valley Presidents Round Table, a base and community leadership meeting, and Fast Rope with nearly 300 members in Dayton, Washington, D.C., Tampa, St. Louis, and San Antonio, TX.

David is Co-Founder of the Blue Skies For Good Guys and Gals Warrior Foundation 501c3, which annually hosts over 50 Combat Injured/Purple Heart Warriors and Fallen Hero/Gold Star Families for over four days of bonding, healing and life-enriching activities during Warrior Weekend to Remember.

David is a former US Army Ranger, Master Parachutist, and Pathfinder. He graduated from the University of Cincinnati. He has been instrumental in launching several start-ups, serving one as CEO, leveraging his extensive sales and marketing experience. David is an accomplished skydiver with over five thousand of jumps and uses this experience as a keynote speaker on teamwork and leadership. He is the author of Jump! Leaps in Organizational Performance and Teamwork. David believes that people accomplish great things when they collaborate as a team, working towards a shared vision with common goals. His number one team is his wife Lori and three young boys, Peter, Jake, and Ben; who reside with him in Mason, Ohio.

Event Highlights

March Women in AFCEA Event at the Saber & Quill

Shown Right: Mark Webb of CoreSys Federal, Julian Mendoza, Guest Speaker Heather French Henry, VP Women in AFCEA Gina Dowell, Executive Vice President Richard Roda, VP Programs Derek Massey



L to R: Chairman Martin Harbolt, Regional Vice President David Hart, Treasurer Michael Tague, VP of Programs Derek Massey, Executive Secretary Karen Barry, Executive Vice President Richard Roda, Guest Speaker Heather French Henry, VP Operations Domanic Ledbetter Sr, President Angela Alexander-Mendoza, VP Membership Jessica Camacho, VP Women in AFCEA Gina Dowell

The March Women in AFCEA Event with guest speaker Heather French Henry was sponsored by CoreSys Federal. Heather share her experiences as a woman in leadership, her advocacy for veterans, and showed everyone the Miss America 2000 Golden Tiara. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet this great lady.

Event Highlights

Gold Vault Chapter Spirit Parade celebrating Veterans at the Radcliff Veterans Center April 2020



The AFCEA Fort Knox Gold Vault Chapter hosted a Veterans Appreciation Parade at the Radcliff Veterans Center on April 25 during the COVID 19 pandemic quarantine to bring some cheer to the veterans and to let them know they were not alone. Thank you to everyone who joined in to support the parade! The turn out was great, and there were lots of donations for the veterans to enjoy.

#COVID19 #HealthyatWork #HealthyatHome #ActsofKindness #Veterans #Appreciation



Gina Dowell



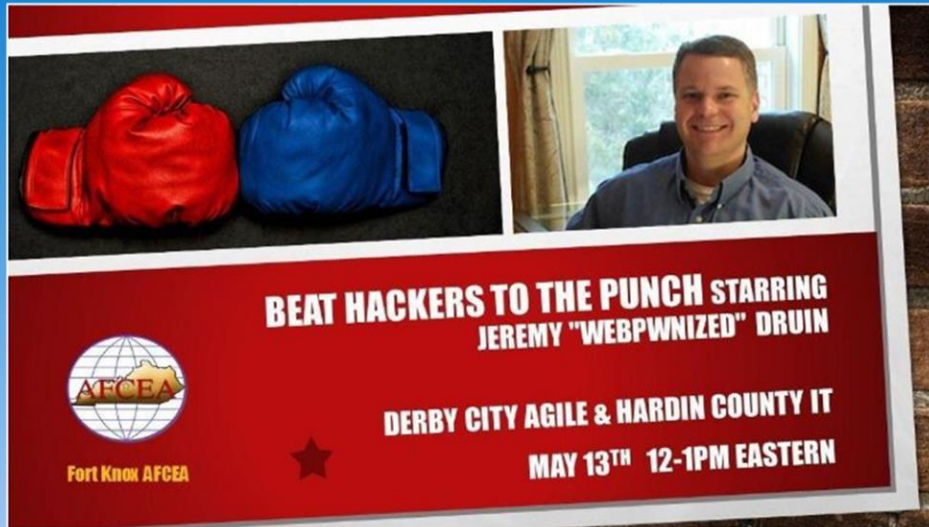
Domanic Ledbetter, Sr.



*Jessica Johnson &
Family, Gina Dowell*

Event Highlights

Beat Hackers to the Punch - May 2020



In May, the Gold Vault Chapter partnered with Derby City Agile and Hardin County to provide our members access to this online community event featuring Jeremy “WEPWNIZED” Druin.

STEM Teacher Grant Bowl – June 2020



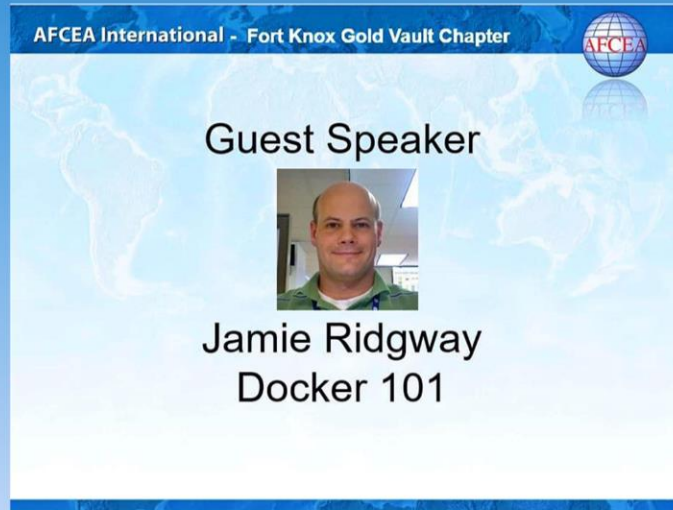
Julian S. Mendoza, Noah G. Mendoza, Domanic Ledbetter, Jr., Domanic Ledbetter, Sr., Dawn McGee-Frye

Gina Dowell, Domanic Ledbetter, Jr., Angela Alexander-Mendoza, Domanic Ledbetter, Sr., Noah G. Mendoza, Dawn McGee-Frye, Young Mr. Dowell

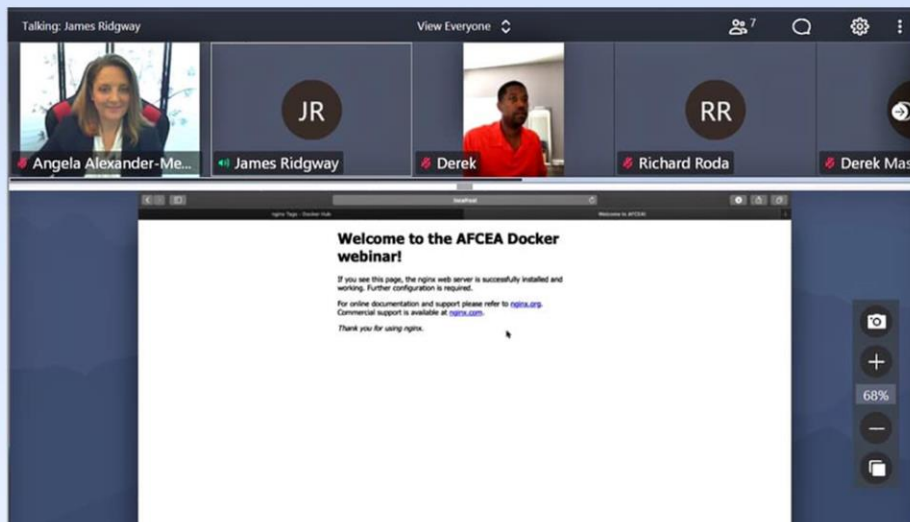
Thank you everyone who came out to participate in our Bowl for STEM Teacher Grant! We had a great time together, gained a new member, and raised some funds toward the Teacher Grant.

Event Highlights

Gold Vault Chapter Online Meeting with Jamie Ridgway presenting Docker 101 June 2020



In May, the Gold Vault Chapter hosted an online meeting with special guest speaker Jamie Ridgway presenting on Docker 101. Jamie Ridgway is currently a Project Delivery Lead supporting Fort Knox. With over 20 years of experience, his past projects include technology such as Java EE, Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA), Internet of Things (IoT), and Cloud. This was an excellent event for those wishing to learn more about Docker 101.



The AFCEA Gold Vault Chapter provided an online meeting experience with GoToMeeting which supports up to 150 attendees who can participate by making themselves visible, sharing their microphone, and by entering comments in the chat window.

2020 Scholarship Report

Greetings from beautiful Fort Knox, Kentucky and the Gold Vault Chapter. Given the current worldwide pandemic, Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) has become more relevant than ever. As an organization that is dedicated to increasing knowledge of STEM it is imperative to invest in the future. One investment that can return huge dividends, is the investment in our youth. Providing educational incentives and opportunities to recent High School graduates not only assists the student financially, it also ensures the future of STEM. This year the Gold Vault Chapter awarded four students with a 1,500.00 Lift-Off Scholarship.

Every year the applicants get stronger and more impressive. This year was no exception. The average GPA was 3.9, with an average ACT score of 29. Every applicant was a National Honors Society member and heavily involved in their community volunteering. Despite the intense competition, four applicants rose to the top. The Gold Vault Chapter, 2020 Lift-Off Scholarship award winners are Trinity Buchanan, Ethan Haley, Nicholas Najjar, and Naiya Sims.

Trinity Buchanan is a graduate of South Oldham High School in Crestwood, KY. She will be attending the University of Kentucky majoring in Civil Engineering. Trinity's career goal is to be an imaginer and design new structures for Disney.

Ethan Haley is a graduate of Central Hardin High School in Cecilia, KY. He will be attending the University of Louisville majoring in Astro/Physics. Ethan enjoys the field and robotics and would like to eventually solve some of the mysteries in science today.



*MSG Randall Leek
VP of Scholarships*

Nicholas Najjar is a graduate of Central Hardin High School in Cecilia, KY. He will be attending Murray State University-Honors College majoring in Biological and Biomedical Sciences Wildlife and Conservation Track. Nicholas' goal is to mix his love of science and outdoors to study wildlife to improve habitats.

Naiya Sims is a graduate of John Hardin High School in Elizabethtown, KY. She will be attending Western Kentucky University majoring in Biological and Biomedical Sciences. Naiya finds medicine an intriguing topic and hopes to become a Medical Doctor in the future.

Congratulations to our four 2020 Lift-Off Scholarship award winners. It was a very competitive field this year and these four certainly earned it.

To our members, sponsors, and supporters, thank you for making it possible for our chapter to make a difference in our community with your generous support of our education fund.

-MSG Randall Leek, VP of Scholarships

2020 Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the following students who were selected by our Scholarship Committee and approved by the Board of Directors to receive a \$1,500 .00 scholarship towards their STEM major.



*Angela Alexander-Mendoza, Nicholas Najar, Richard Roda
Photo by Randall Leek*

*Nicholas Najar
Biology Major at Murray State University*



*Angela Alexander-Mendoza, Naiya Sims – Biology Major at
Western Kentucky University
Photo by Randall Leek*

*Trinity Rose Buchanon
Engineering Major at University of Kentucky*

*Not Shown: Ethan Scott Haley
Physical Sciences Major at University of Louisville*



Education

is an AFCEA core value. The Association, in partnership with the AFCEA Educational Foundation, Chapters and Members worldwide, presents \$1.5 million annually in scholarships, grants and awards to students in the science and technology majors as well as those fields related to intelligence and homeland security. For information about future opportunities, visit [our Scholarship page](#).

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2020 Chapter Leadership

Board of Directors

Chairman of the Board:
Mr. Martin Harbolt

Vice Chairman of the Board:
Mr. Mark Thompson

Directors at Large:
COL Roberto R. Castillo
Mr. Mike Tharpe
Mr. Carlos Medina
Mr. Raymond Bernhagen
Mrs. Billie Giles
Josh Richardson

Chapter President:
Mrs. Angela Alexander-Mendoza



Chapter Goals

- ***Membership**-Increase Membership Total, Membership Retention, and Membership Participation
- ***Scholarships/Educational**-Award four scholarships-*Accomplished!*
- ***Events**-Host three general membership meetings
Host one Women in AFCEA event-*Accomplished!*
- ***Awards**-Submit at least one chapter award through the Regional Vice President
-*Accomplished!*
- ***Corporate Involvement**-Gain at least two corporate sponsors

Upcoming Events

For more information about upcoming events, please visit the Chapter Web site: ftknox.afceachapters.org.

July 21th Online Webinar – Guest Speaker Bob Ritchie, SAIC Vice President of Practice presenting IT MoD –App Modernization and Cloud Migration, at ftknox.afceachapters.org – Sponsored by SAIC

July 23rd Online Young AFCEAN Event – Guest Speaker Kathy White – How to Catch the Attention of Your Leaders and Self-Promote! - see ftknox.afceachapters.org for details

Aug 6th Online Meeting with Guest Speaker Shamlan Siddiqi - Data Defined, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly – see ftknox.afceachapters.org for details

Aug 20th General Membership Meeting – Sponsored by Perspecta – Speaker and Venue TBD

For information on Sponsorship, Volunteering, or Participation, contact: VP Programs at Programs@ftknox.afceachapters.org or President@ftknox.afceachapters.org

Executive Committee

President:
Mrs. Angela Alexander-Mendoza
Executive Vice President:
Mr. Richard Roda
Treasurer: **Mr. Michael Tague**
Secretary: **Ms. Karen Barry**
Vice President, Awards:
Mr. Christopher Aycock
Vice President, Membership:
Ms. Jessica Johnson
Vice President, Operations:
Mr. Dominic Ledbetter
Vice President, Programs
Mr. Derek Massey
Vice President, Publicity:
***Vacant**
Vice President, Scholarships:
Mr. Randall Leek
Vice President, Women in AFCEA:
Mrs. Gina Dowell
Vice President, Young AFCEAN Affairs: **Ms. Sydney Tague**

Chapter Webmaster:
***Vacant**
Programs Subcommittee:
Ms. Anna Kepshire



Connect with AFCEA

For the latest information about AFCEA and the Chapter, visit us at:

AFCEA Website: afcea.org

Chapter Website: ftknox.afceachapters.org

Chapter Facebook page:

facebook.com/pages/Afcea-Gold-Vault-Chapter

Chapter [Twitter feed](#)

Chapter [LinkedIn page](#)

About Us: AFCEA can bridge the gap between government, industry, and academia by exploring relevant, common issues and sharing knowledge within the local IT community.

We are looking for dynamic presentations showcasing successful and proven practices in Software Development, Project Management and Process Improvement. Whether you manage projects, architect software or manage processes, we want to hear from you. Submit a proposal for consideration to present at one of upcoming events.

Contact us

Programs@ftknox.afceachapters.org

President@ftknox.afceachapters.org



*Gold Vault Chapter Spirit Parade at the Radcliff Veterans Center, March 2020.
Photo by Angela Alexander-Mendoza*

What are the Benefits of AFCEA Membership?

Subscription to SIGNAL Magazine – A professional journal on communications, electronics, intelligence and information systems.

Young AFCEAN Events – Short seminars offered on a quarterly basis geared for those less than or equal to 40 years of age on topics of interest to developers.

General Membership Meetings – These provide a sponsored lunch and a guest speaker who leads a discussion on a topic of interest with the Chapter membership. Normally, we have 3 per year.

Professional Development Opportunities: We strive to create events such as the AFCEA Fort Knox Industry Day, and the Fort Knox Professional Development Day. There will be several sessions of interest to project managers, and software developers.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Scholarships are awarded to teachers and students graduating from High School and enrolling in a college in a STEM discipline.

Access to AFCEA's Professional Development Center.

Networking – Access to an extensive network of government and industry professionals.



Fort Knox Gold Vault Chapter Member Recognition

Welcome New Members and Renewing Members!

Dawn M. Frye
 Julian S. Mendoza
 Gerri Willis
 Nadine Johnson
 Heather L. Sidebottom
 Brett Wilkinson
 Anna Kepshire
 MAJ Camellia McKinney
 DeMetria M. Smith
 Nathan T Stopinski

Bowling to support the Teacher Grant June 2020



Domanic Ledbetter Jr.



Julian S. Mendoza



Gold Vault Chapter Members making a difference in our community. Summer 2020
Photo by Angela Alexander-Mendoza

If you are interested in volunteering, networking with area professionals, and contributing to the goals of the Gold Vault Chapter please contact our Officers, learn more at our [website:](http://www.fiknox.afceachapters.org)

[fiknox.afceachapters.org](http://www.fiknox.afceachapters.org)

