



**Air Force Public Affairs Association
28th Annual Meeting Information
San Antonio, Texas
October 3-5, 2024**

Greetings! Here is updated information as you plan to join us in San Antonio next week. **Key changes from the last information letter are highlighted in red.**

Facility: The host facility for AFPAA's Annual Meeting this year is the LaQuinta Inn & Suites Riverwalk in downtown San Antonio. The hotel is located within walking distance of the city's famous Riverwalk and the Alamo. The hotel's address and phone number:

303 Blum Street, San Antonio, TX 78205 - Ph. 210-222-9181

Transportation Info: If you are flying into San Antonio International Airport, please note the hotel ***does not provide complimentary shuttle service.*** Transportation options include Uber/Lyft, taxi, or rental car.

Driving Directions: The hotel is situated off US-281/I-37, nine miles south from the San Antonio International Airport. Leaving the airport, follow the US-281 Frontage Road. Keep left and merge onto US-281 South towards San Antonio. Take Exit 141B and turn right onto Commerce Street. The hotel is located on the right. There is a parking lot located next to the hotel. ***There is a daily fee of \$21 for overnight parking.***

Registration: The meeting registration desk will be located in the hotel lobby. The desk will be open from Noon-5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 3rd. Please check into the hotel prior to picking up your AFPAA materials. During registration you will receive your name tags, meal tickets, and meeting information. If you still have lanyards from prior meetings, you are encouraged to bring them with you. Should you arrive after 5 p.m., we will have your registration packet at the Welcome/Icebreaker Reception between 5-7 p.m. If you arrive after 7 p.m., your materials will be at the front desk.

Dress: Casual is the recommended dress for Thursday evening's Welcome/Icebreaker Reception. A question was asked, **"How casual is casual?" Whatever makes you comfortable. Shorts are fine.**

For Friday's tour and the President's Luncheon at Joint Base San Antonio – Lackland, wear business casual, no open-toed shoes or high heels; business casual again for Saturday morning's briefings, the Director's Luncheon, and Membership Meeting; and then coat & tie/dresses/pants suits for the Saturday evening reception and Awards Banquet.

Weather: San Antonio's climate in early October features high temperatures averaging 84 degrees during the day with a chance of moderate rainfall. Overnight lows average 62 degrees. The best times to visit San Antonio are generally April and from September to October. The cooling autumn weather offers a break from the San Antonio heat and humidity.

Pictures: There are no photo restrictions during our activities at Lackland. Dick Cole would like to receive photos taken during the reunion for inclusion in AFPAA's News & Notes. Please send them to dickcole1853@verizon.net NLT December 1st.

– more –

Our Schedule

Thursday, October 3rd *(Note: Events, Times and Speakers are subject to change.)*

- 0800 – **Golf Outing – Cancelled (injuries and too few players)**
- 1200 – 1900 – Registration Open (*Hotel Lobby*)
- 1400 – 1600 – Board of Directors Meeting, Open to all members (*Bowie East*)
- 1700 – 1900 – Welcome/Cocktail Reception (*Fiesta EF Room*)
- 1900 – Evening Open (*No Activities Planned*)

Friday, October 4th

- 0630 - Breakfast (*Fiesta EF*)
- 0730 – 0745 – Board Buses, travel to JBSA-Lackland (*Hotel Front Entrance*)
- 0815 – Arrive JBSA-Lackland – Security Check
- 0815 – 0930 – 37th Training Wing
- 0930 – 0945 – *Comfort Break*
- 0945 – 1100 – 37th Training Wing (*continued*)
- 1115 – 1130 – Group Photo/Board Buses (*Working Dog Monument*)
- 1130 – 1300 – President's Luncheon (*JBSA-Lackland Club*)
- 1300 – 1315 – *Comfort Break*
- 1315 – 1415 – **Col. Tony Wickman, Air Force Public Affairs Agency**
- 1415 – Board Buses - Return to the hotel / Evening Open (*Note Optional Event Below*)

Saturday, October 5th

- 0600 – 0800 - Breakfast (*Fiesta EF Room*)
- 0745 – Door Prizes (*Crockett Room*)
- 0800 – 1100 – Re-Blueing Sessions/Speakers (*Crockett Room*)
 - 0800 - P.J. Crowley – “Update - Expanding Conflicts and Competing Alliances: U.S. Foreign Policy After the 2024 Presidential Election”
 - 0900 - Ed Thomas (Maj Gen, Ret.) - “Air Force Aid Society/USAF Recruiting Challenges”
 - 1000 - Alfred Flowers (Maj Gen, Ret.) – “USAF Budgetary Environment & Veteran Services”
 - 1100 - Ken Raimondi – “Authenticity in the Age of AI”**
- 1200 – 1330 – SAF/PA Director's Luncheon – Col. Beth Horine (SAF/PA IMA) (*Fiesta Main*)
- 1400 – Annual Membership Meeting (*Crockett Room*)
- 1800 – Annual Meeting Awards Banquet Reception (*Foyer – Fiesta Main Ballroom*)
- 1900 – Annual Meeting Awards Banquet & Hall of Fame Inductions (*Fiesta Main Ballroom*)

Optional Entertainment

Riverwalk Cruise: A narrated Riverwalk Cruise has been coordinated for those who wish to take in a relaxing one hour cruise around San Antonio’s canals. This is not a dinner cruise. As of today, **Eleven seats are still available if you would like to join us.** Information about the cruise is attached. Send an email to perry.nouis@gmail.com if you are interested.

We’re very glad that you are joining us in historic San Antonio. We’re looking forward to providing you with an interesting and informative meeting. Don’t hesitate to contact us if we can be of help during your stay.

Annette Crawford
Local Committee Chair
Cell: (210) 977-4202

Perry Nouis
Annual Committee Chair
Cell: (320) 493-7325