

Register Now – Tampa 2023 Annual Membership Meeting

By Perry Nouis
Annual Meeting Coordinator

Finally, we will meet again. Much has happened in the over four years since the Association's last Membership Meeting was held in Charleston. It is time to catch up. AFPAA's Annual Meeting Committee has been working to ensure the 2023 meeting, scheduled for October 26-28 in Tampa, will have been worth the wait.

The City of Tampa and MacDill AFB are ready to welcome us to the sunny gulf-coast of Florida and its great autumn weather. The City of Tampa offers a diverse collection of historic social clubs, sports stadiums, distinctive theaters and galleries, and a two-mile Riverwalk. The history of the area dates back to Spanish explorer Ponce de Leon who first arrived in the Tampa Bay area in 1513.

The first official event will be a mixer/icebreaker (open bar) Thursday evening at our host hotel, the Hotel Alba. For golfers early that morning, they will have the opportunity to play an 18-hole round of golf at MacDill's Bay Palms Golf Complex. Details will be provided to those who express interest in playing on their meeting registration form.

On Friday, a visit to MacDill AFB will include stops at the 6th Air Refueling Wing and the headquarters of U.S. Central Command and potentially U.S. Special Operations Command (details are still being worked),



Tampa's Hotel Alba will play host to this year's annual membership meeting, Oct. 26-28.

with a midday break at the Breakaway Events Center for the President's Luncheon.

Saturday morning will feature "re-bluetoothing" sessions with guest speakers, followed by the SAF/PA Director's Luncheon. We will learn about the challenges currently facing the leaders of Air Force Public Affairs. The annual membership meeting that afternoon should be of great interest as we discuss what the future will look like after the membership voted to drop the word "Alumni" from the association's name.

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To top off an exciting weekend the traditional awards reception and banquet Saturday evening will fea-

ture the induction of the 2023 Class into the Public Affairs Hall of Fame and recognition of the Air Force Public Affairs' Best of the Best.

Avoid a late fee by registering for the meeting prior to the October 1 deadline (a registration form is included in this newsletter on the facing page). The Association has reserved a limited block of rooms at the hotel until Oct. 3. The negotiated rate is \$159 a night while the supply of rooms remains available.

Spanish influence can be felt throughout the Tampa area, especially in the Ybor area. An optional event is being arranged for Friday evening that involves the famous Columbia Restaurant. The plan is to provide bus transportation to the Columbia Restaurant for dinner and a Flamenco show. Details will be provided to those who register.

We are expecting a great time in Tampa. Looking ahead, while our immediate focus is on Tampa, planning is already underway for the Association's future meeting in the September/October 2024 timeframe in San Antonio, Texas. Details to follow.

REGISTRATION FORM



Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ (Do you accept texts? Yes ___ No ___)

Guest(s) (Please indicate how you want names reflected on name tags)

How many in your party will go on the bus tour to MacDill AFB Friday, October 27, 2023? _____

Do you, or a guest, want to play golf on Thursday morning, Oct. 26 (there is extra cost TBD): Yes ___ No ___

Full Registration - Includes all events, except golf on Thursday.

Member Attending	___ x	\$200 = \$	_____
Guests Attending	___ x	\$200 = \$	_____
Non-Member	___ x	\$250 = \$	_____

Individual Event Registration

Icebreaker Reception – Hotel Alba, Thursday, October 26, 5-7 p.m.

Member Attending	___ x	\$30 = \$	_____
Guests Attending	___ x	\$30 = \$	_____
Non-Member	___ x	\$35 = \$	_____

Breakfast – Hotel Alba, Friday, October 27

Member Attending	___ x	\$30 = \$	_____
Guests Attending	___ x	\$30 = \$	_____
Non-Member	___ x	\$35 = \$	_____

President's Luncheon – MacDill AFB, Friday, October 27
(Includes bus transportation from Hotel Alba to MacDill AFB for Friday's tours)

Member Attending	___ x	\$60 = \$	_____
Guests Attending	___ x	\$60 = \$	_____
Non-Member	___ x	\$65 = \$	_____

President's Luncheon Only – MacDill AFB, Friday, October 27

Member Attending	___ x	\$40 = \$	_____
Guests Attending	___ x	\$40 = \$	_____
Non-Member	___ x	\$45 = \$	_____

Breakfast – Hotel Alba, Saturday, October 28

Member Attending	___ x	\$30 = \$	_____
Guests Attending	___ x	\$30 = \$	_____
Non-Member	___ x	\$35 = \$	_____

SAF/PA Director's Luncheon, Hotel Alba, Saturday, October 28

Member Attending	___ x	\$50 = \$	_____
Guests Attending	___ x	\$50 = \$	_____
Non-Member	___ x	\$55 = \$	_____

AFPAAA Annual Awards Reception & Banquet, Hotel Alba Saturday, October 28. Please indicate your meal choice(s):
 ^Beef _____ ^Fish _____ ^Chicken _____ ^Vegetarian _____
 (*Use M for Member Choice/G for Guest & Non-Member Choices)

Member Attending	___ x	\$105 = \$	_____
Guests Attending	___ x	\$105 = \$	_____
Non-Member	___ x	\$110 = \$	_____

Total Remitted \$ _____

Please make checks or money orders payable to: **AFPAAA**

Mail for m and check/money order to:

Phil Ratliff, Treasurer
 868 Trevino Terrace
 Lady Lake, FL 32159

Meeting Registrations are due NLT Midnight October 1, 2023
 Registrations received after this date will be charged a \$25 Per Person Late Fee.

NOTE: To register and pay by credit card online go to:
<http://www.afpaaa.org/tampa2023.html>

Hotel Reservations: AFPAAA has a block of rooms at the Hotel Alba at the rate of \$159.00+tax per night (single or double). The rate is valid through October 3, 2023, while rooms are available. Make reservations through the link at <http://www.afpaaa.org/tampa2023.html>, or call the hotel at 813-289-1950, select 1 for reservations. The reservation code is "AFPAAA Annual Meeting." A very limited number of rooms will be available at this rate up to three days prior and three days post the established meeting dates: Check-in October 26, 2023/Check-out October 29, 2023. Golf information and the associated cost will be provided separately to those indicating they wish to play.