



Designer/Vice President Byron K. Bryant, Co-Designers/President Kirk P. Jackson and member Lisa Jackson unveiled the Col Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. coin on June 8, 2016. This unique coin has the 332 Fighter Group embedded in a moving propeller. The reverse side has our chapter logo and mission statement.

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The Col Lawrence E. Robert Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. hosted their 11th Annual Lawrence E. Roberts Scholarship Awards Luncheon on May 28, 2016. This event was held at the Half Shell Oyster House in Biloxi, MS. We were honored to have City of Biloxi Mayor Andrew “FoFo” Gilich and City Councilman Felix O. Gines in attendance. There was \$12,000.00 in scholarships given to four outstanding Mississippi Coast High School Seniors! Thanks to Half Shell Oyster house for their continued support in hosting our scholarship awards luncheon for the past 3 years.

**Picture 1:** President Kirk P. Jackson, Dorothy Roberts McEwen (Daughter of Col Lawrence E. Roberts) and Vice President Byron K. Bryant.

**Picture 2:** Scholarship winners Hayley Dye, Nekia Travis, Kassidy Biss and Cantreal Davison with Mayor Andrew Gilich (City of Biloxi, MS).

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The Blue Star Salute of Alabama is a concerted effort by local, state and national military, political, veteran and caring citizen groups and organizations that have set aside A Blue Star Salute Day as a particularly significant appreciation day to America's military services of all Branches, Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard and the historical United States Merchant Marines. The Col Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. has participated in this event at the USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park for the past 6 years. This event was held on May 21, 2016.

**Picture 1:** Public Relations Officer Edward Goldsmith, Vice President Byron K. Bryant, President Kirk P. Jackson and Public Relations Officer Norman Laster.

**Picture 2:** Vice President Byron K. Bryant and President Kirk P. Jackson gave a brief history lesson on the life and times of the Tuskegee Airmen. The students listening are Cadets from the Ben C. Rain High School Reserve Officers' Training Corps program.



The Col Lawrence E. Robert Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. hosted their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Mother's Day Cruise on May 7, 2016. This was a 2 ½ hour coastal cruise that departed the Ship Island Excursion Pier located in Gulfport, MS. Guest spent an evening of fun that included a buffet, live music and door prizes. All proceeds benefited the Col Lawrence E. Roberts Scholarship Fund for deserving Mississippi Gulf Coast High School Seniors!

**Picture 1:** Mother's Day Cruise Chairman/Vice President Byron K. Bryant along with Public Relations Director Curtis Jennings.

**Picture 2:** The McGilberry family was a major contributor to our scholarship fund and had a great time!



The Col Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Mississippi Gulf Coast Multicultural Heritage and Legacy Festival located Point Cadet Plaza in Biloxi, MS. They celebrated blending cultures of the gulf coast region through arts, music, food and education.

**Picture 1:** Public Relations Officer Quontalia Shepherd, Secretary Yolanda Jerry, President Kirk P. Jackson, City of Biloxi Councilman Felix O. Gines, Vice President Byron K. Bryant, Public Relations Officer Edward E. Goldsmith and Financial Secretary Rachelle Johnson.

**Picture 2:** Public Relations Officer Edward Goldsmith, Public Relations Officer Norman Laster and President Kirk P. Jackson gave a presentation of the Tuskegee Airmen and the Col Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter to a youth organization at Point Cadet Plaza.



On Thursday, April 21, 2016, the Col Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. attended the National World War II Museum in New Orleans for the opening of the exhibit "Fighting for the Right to Fight: African American Experiences in World War II." Hundreds of people gathered in the museum's Boeing Center to hear the history of the high-profile servicemen and how they become pilots.

As part of Thursday's ceremony, the museum also welcomed an authentic, newly restored P-51D Mustang fighter, made to resemble the 332nd Fighter Group's Red Tail plane flown by Tuskegee Airman Roscoe Brown. The newly painted plane, which was restored thanks to support from museum trustee Todd Ricketts. The museum's P-51 Mustang will remain on permanent display.

**Picture 1:** Dr. Daniel Haulman, WWL-TV anchor Sally-Ann Roberts and her sister ABC's "Good Morning America" anchor Robin Roberts, the daughters of another Tuskegee Airman, Col Lawrence E. Roberts, The Ricketts Family, (DOTA) Col Charles McGee and (DOTA) Lt Col George Hardy.

**Picture 2:** This P-51D Mustang was painted in the likeness of Roscoe Brown, PhD, a Tuskegee Airmen pilot. Its name is "Miss Kentucky State."

**Picture 3:** President Kirk P. Jackson gets Lt Col George Hardy to autograph his book.

**Picture 4:** (DOTA) Lt Col George Hardy at the autograph session at the National WWII Museum.



The Col Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter attended The National Women's History Fair at the Roberts Consolidated Maintenance Facility on March 24, 2016 at Keesler Air Force Base, MS. The event was held in honor of National Women's History Month. Also included, were health and informational booths, a guest panel of accomplished women and a presentation honoring Keesler women of distinction.

**Picture 1:** Public Relations Officer Edward E. Goldsmith, Secretary Yolanda Jerry and Vice President Byron K. Bryant.

**Picture 2:** Keesler honoring "Female Groundbreakers" at the Women's History Month Information Fair/ Health Conference



More than 600 Keesler personnel, retirees and dependents attended Keesler's inaugural Dragon Fest in the field directly south of the Base Exchange on Keesler Air Force Base, February 26, 2016. Organized by Dragons in Action, the event helped Airmen grow and network through shared interests. More than 40 different clubs including the Col Lawrence E. Robert Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. were available for new wingmen to join.

**Picture 1:** Public Relations Officer Quontalia Shepherd, Public Relations Officer Edward E. Goldsmith and Vice President Byron K. Bryant at Dragon Fest 2016.

**Picture 2:** More than 40 groups and private organizations showcase what they offer during Dragon Fest. Dragon Fest is an organization built to help Airmen grow, mentor and network through shared interests.



The Col Lawrence E. Robert Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Unity Festival in Gulfport, MS on March 19, 2016. Unity Festival, Inc. provides an outlet for the community to come together and feed off everyone's positive energy. During the holidays, they give needy families Thanksgiving Baskets and Christmas Angels are given gifts. Recently, Unity Festival, Inc. added a Mr. and Miss Unity Scholarship Contest in conjunction with the Unity Festival. The contest provides scholarship monies to deserving youth. The objective is to provide students the opportunity to enhance their skills through mentorship, social programs, and community services. The long term goals of Unity Festival, Inc. are to provide tutorial programs, senior daycare (providing transportation for both), open a gym, provide summer programs for youth who cannot afford summer camps and open a center for unwed young mothers that will offer job training and daycare.

**Picture 1:** Vice President Byron K. Bryant, Secretary Yolanda Jerry, Financial Secretary Rachelle Johnson, President Kirk Jackson, Edward Goldsmith and Public Relations Officer Norman Laster at the Gulfport Unity Festival & Parade.

**Picture 2:** Taking over several streets, the festival welcomed around 54 vendors from all over the country. Some traveled to the event from as far away as Atlanta, Georgia and Charlotte, South Carolina.





The Col Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. had the privilege of sponsoring 10 Mississippi Gulf Coast students in the "Eyes Above The Horizon" program at Moton Field, AL on 5 December 2015. Eyes Above the Horizon provides a unique opportunity for underrepresented youth to develop and foster their interest in aviation, gain mentorship, and be immersed in the rich history and legacy of the Tuskegee Airman. Students experienced an orientation flight in a single-engine airplane at the same airfield that the Tuskegee Airmen established their legacy! Students also received academic instruction in basic aviation principles and explored the science, technology, engineering and mathematic (STEM) disciplines involved in aerospace careers.

**Picture 1:** Col Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter President Kirk P. Jackson, Public Relations Officer Norman Laster and Vice President Byron K. Bryant at Moton Field in Tuskegee, AL.

**Picture 2:** Students of the program pose with 3 of the 6 pilots who allowed them the experience of flight.

**Picture 3:** Students are receiving the characteristic of a Beechcraft T-6 Texan II. This aircraft is a single-engine, two-seat primary trainer designed to train Joint Primary Pilot Training students in basic flying skills common to U.S. Air Force and Navy pilots.

**Picture 4:** Students finished their incentive ride with inspiration of becoming a pilot.