

INSPIRE AIR POWER'S FUTURE

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THE VISION

**INSPIRE AIRPOWER'S FUTURE**

THE MISSION

**HONOR HERITAGE - SERVE COMMUNITY - FORGE FUTURES**





# THE GATHERING OF EAGLES FOUNDATION

The Gathering of Eagles Foundation is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that aims to preserve the legacy of the United States Air Force through the celebration of airpower and empowerment of youth in Alabama's River Region.

## A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

By CharMeeka Scroggins

GOEF PRESIDENT



The Gathering of Eagles Foundation will continue to be fully committed to serving the River Region through our staple educational outreach programs. Since the start of the Academic Year, our team has organized and strategized opportunities to connect and expose our future leaders to STEM program efforts.

Many of you know the various local efforts we volunteer with, such as STARBASE Maxwell. But we also award scholarships to AFROTC cadets and local students elected to attend Space Camp and National Flight Academy to encourage aerospace career opportunities. Together with the annual GOE Capstone of Airpower legends, these efforts will offer unique collaboration, education, and inspiration for future civic and military leaders.

Items on the horizon include our fundraising plan dedicated to supporting our platform. Our goal is to raise over \$20,000 to send many well-deserved River Region students and AFROTC cadets.

Please keep an eye out for ways your organization can support or contribute to our efforts to expose students to STEM opportunities. We are incredibly excited to be here in the River Region, and we look forward to your continued partnership as we venture to change lives! We cannot do this without you!



## Testimonial

ANDREW POWERS  
Space Camp Scholarship Recipient



Greetings, Gathering of Eagles. I'm Andrew Powers, and I would like to thank you for taking the time and effort to send me to Space Camp.

I have wanted to go to camp all my life, and this was a grand opportunity for me. I met lots of great people, and enjoyed many activities revolving around what I liked. Among all the things I did during my stay, my two favorites were performing as Commander in the shuttle simulator aboard Enterprise and riding in the MAT (never again). I know that it ordinarily takes about \$1,000 to send someone to camp, so the fact that you were willing to invest so much in me is very much appreciated. Out of the possible thousands of applications and essays sent in, I was singled out as a winner. That means a lot to me.

Again, I thank you for your time and consideration in sending me to camp. I will never forget what I did there, nor the people who put me there.

Sincerely,

*Andrew Powers*

Andrew Powers

## Ways to Donate



text: 334-249-1670



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## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY! ACSC FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS! STARBASE NEEDS YOU!

STARBASE 1.0 STEM PRESENTERS

[HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/10C094DAFAC28A7F85-GOEF](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DAFAC28A7F85-GOEF)

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THE

# GOE PROGRAM

## GATHERING OF EAGLES PROGRAM

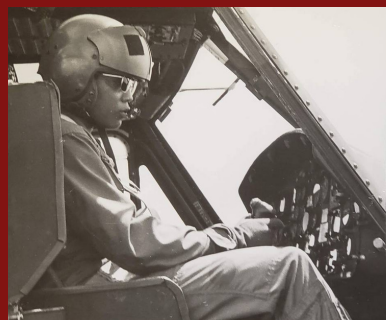
By Katie Kuc  
GOE PRESIDENT



Gathering of Eagles (GOE) is a program in Air University's Air Command and Staff College that studies and records first-hand accounts of historic events or achievements that celebrate airpower.

The Gathering of Eagles program culminates in an annual Capstone event that honors "Eagles," who are pioneers or are individuals who have made significant contributions in air, space, and cyberspace. At Capstone, military members and the local community have the opportunity to hear stories straight from our Eagles. Over the past 40 years, GOE has brought 450 distinguished honorees who have inspired courage, perseverance, and innovation in advancing airpower.

The GOE team is in the final stages of selecting the 2022 Eagles and we look forward to announcing them in our next Issue. In the meantime, please save the date for our 2022 Capstone event which will be held May 23-25!



**Above:** Academic Year(s) 2020-21 Eagles. Top Row; LTC COL (Ret.) Macy Hayes Ng and Colonel (Ret.) Merryl Tengesdal. Bottom Row; Gen (Ret.) David Goldfein, Col Nick Hague, Maj Heather Penny

**Below:** Academic Year(s) 2020-21 Eagles and Eaglets participating in various Capstone events.



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2018  
2019  
2020  
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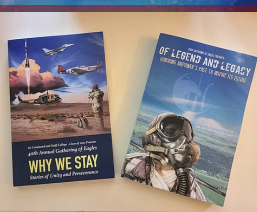
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**INTRODUCING GOE's  
NEWEST PARTNER...**

**RANGER  
UP**







# 2022 Eaglets

OUR TEAM



**KATIE KUC**  
GOE PRESIDENT

Hi, I'm Katie! I'm a Force Support Officer coming in from the National Capital Region, and I couldn't be more excited to be back in the River Region. I'm here with my husband, who is in Air War College, and our three young children. Gathering of Eagles has an incredible legacy of honoring heritage and serving the local community and I'm proud to be a part of this team. I look forward to working with the community, building new relationships, and inspiring future leaders.

**CHARMEEKA SCROGGINS**  
GOEF PRESIDENT

Hello, I'm CharMeeka Scroggins! I am an Acquisitions Officer and grew up as an Army brat, but Atlanta, GA is home for me. Prior to attending ACSC, I served as the Mission Systems Branch Chief within the B-21 System Program Office (SPO). While here at ACSC, I am looking forward to leveraging the opportunities from our PME experience and spending time with family and friends. I am excited to not only lead within our organization, but to also cultivate our relationships with community partners, so we can continue to inspire future leaders within the River Region through our staple educational outreach programs.



**MOLLY BENTHAL**  
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Hello! I'm Molly Benthall, and I'm an Air Force Optometrist. My hometown is Marietta, GA, and I attended Optometry School in Birmingham...so I'm excited to be back in the South building communities in an area that helped build me. I look forward to all of our GOE events this year. I hope to "see" you around!

**JUSTIN "JUICE" KNEPP**  
TREASURY DIRECTOR

I am Justin Knepp from Pottstown, PA. I started my career as an E-3 ABM and cross-trained to fly MQ-9s in AFSOC. I am married with three kids, two Goldendoodles, a sulcata tortoise, and any other pets our 6-year-old brings in the house. We are coming to Maxwell after spending the last three years in San Antonio. I am looking forward to the GOE outreach programs planned this year and bringing some unforgettable Eagles to ACSC for the GOE Capstone.



**ROSS MCKNIGHT**  
PA-SOCIAL MEDIA-MARKETING DIRECTOR

Howdy ya'll! I'm Ross McKnight from Coppel, TX. I graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 2008 with a Systems Engineering Management Degree. I am a Program Manager and have been a part of the Air-to-Air missiles program, AF Research Lab, the National Reconnaissance Office, and AF Recruiting. My wife and I are high-school sweethearts that recently celebrated our 13th wedding anniversary! We have two little girls and love being a part of the River Region community.

**NICK ALBINI**  
GRAPHIC DESIGN-MULTIMEDIA DIRECTOR

Hello! Nick Albin here, coming to ACSC from MacDill, AFB in Tampa (Champa!) Bay, FL...which also happens to be my hometown. I am a Special Forces Officer by trade, with great respect and appreciation for all things Air, Space, and Cyberspace. I am honored to be here and look forward to contributing to the legacy of GOE and helping to bring opportunities to the next generation of Eagles.







## VICTOR TURCHANY TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR

Hey all! I'm Victor Turchany, a U.S. Army Communications Officer. Born and raised in Tampa, FL. I have a lot of family ties to the military that I wish had their stories accounted for like this group does and also support the children in the River Region. I look forward to working with a great team and serving the local community.

## SHARI PERKINS EVENTS DIRECTOR I

Greetings! I'm Shari Perkins a USAF Force Support Officer. Prior to ACSC I served as Commander of the 386th Expeditionary Force Support Squadron, Ali Al Salem, Kuwait. I hail from Summit, Illinois right outside Chicago but now call Northern VA my home. I'm honored to serve on the GOE Team for AY22 and look forward to serving the local community and contributing to the GOE legacy.



## GUILLERMO MARTIN CABEZA EVENTS DIRECTOR II

¡Hola! I'm Guillermo Martin. Born in the South (of Spain), raised in Madrid. Before ACSC I worked as a pilot in the Spanish Air Force. It is an honor to be part of the GOE team. I look forward to pushing the GOE projects and contributing to the local community.

## DAMION JONES FUNDRAISING DIRECTOR

Greetings! I am Damion Jones, a civilian Force Support Professional, arriving at Maxwell AFB after quickly laying roots in Central Florida at Patrick Space Force Base. As a force support professional, it is our duty to increase the morale and quality of life of our military members and their families. I am honored to bring my passion of taking care of others here and look forward to contributing to serving the community and bringing opportunities to the River Region's next generation.



## BRANDON GLASS FUNDRAISING DIRECTOR

Hey y'all. I'm Brandon Glass, coming in from Charleston, SC. Luckily, I am an AF Aircraft Maintenance Officer by trade, which has given my family the opportunity to meet so many people in so many places while traveling across the world including here in the River Region. I am thankful to be part of the team responsible for helping preserve Airpower's heritage and fostering the growth of its future leaders. Cheers!

## PATRICK LUNA LOGISTICS DIRECTOR

Hi, I'm Pat - a retired AF officer and current Civil Servant in International Affairs. I'm from JBSA Randolph, where I have spent the last 11 years working in the Middle East Region. I look forward to working with the GoE and serving the community.



## BROOKE COBBIN OUTREACH DIRECTOR

Hi! Brooke Cobbin here from Jacksonville, FL by way of Ohio. I serve as the Maintenance Operations Flight Commander at the 125th Fighter Wing where I leverage my civilian career in K-12 teacher preparation at the University of North Florida. I see it as a privilege to work alongside members of the River Region to create platforms that encourage students to see themselves in air and space careers. GOE is proud to serve you. I'll be reaching out!





## LOUIS CARRANO CAPSTONE DIRECTOR

Hello everyone! I'm Louis (Lou) Carrano from Bethpage, New York. I'm a Marine Corps Tank Officer who was stationed in 29 Palms, California prior to ACSC. While at ACSC I look forward to learning and developing alongside my sister service, civilian, and international brothers and sisters. I'm humbled and excited to be a part of the AY22 GOE team and look forward to all of the opportunities to serve the community this year.

## BURKE WILSON GOE BOOK PRODUCTION

Hey all! I'm Burke Wilson and I'm an Air Force Pharmacist coming to ACSC from Grand Forks, North Dakota. I was born and raised in the heartlands of America (Nebraska). My wife, two boys, and I are extremely excited to experience all the South has to offer while we are here, and I am looking forward to capturing the stories of our Eagles for the future generations.



## VERNITA HANDSBOROUGH LITHO-COIN-MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTION DIRECTOR

Hi, I'm Nita! I am a Logistics Officer in the United States Army from Soperton, Georgia. I came to ACSC from Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, Georgia where I was an Assistant Professor of Military Science. I am excited about the opportunity to work with other members of sister services here at AU while furthering the mission and vision of GOE. More importantly, I am looking forward to volunteering service to our community here in the River Region!

## LATECIA BROWN GOEF SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTOR

Hi everyone. I'm Latecia, but everyone calls me TC, coming to ACSC from Fort Jackson, SC. I am an Adjutant General Officer born and raised in Georgia. I'm excited about being stationed here at Maxwell AFB and having the opportunity to contribute to GOE.



# *We Welcome you* TO OUR TEAM

## CONNECT WITH US

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