A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS

By Alisha Kelly and Jeremy Spund
Young AFCEA Co-Presidents

With 2019 behind us we are not only starting a new year, but a new decade. What a great time to start something new! This year we continue to work on the goals we set forth almost a year ago at WEST 2019: to enable more opportunities for Young AFCEANs worldwide, to break down communications barriers, to increase global engagement and transparency, and to grow together as a community.

The YAAC EXCOM and Committees are working hard preparing for WEST 2020 (March) and TechNet Cyber 2020 (June) to ensure successful and value-added events for all Young AFCEANs in attendance. If you want to help, please connect with us through youngafcea@afcea.org. If you are part of the YAAC (EXCOM, Committee, or RYAC) or an award winner, you should have received your WEST 2020 invite. If you have not, please contact Raleigh Leavitt (rleavitt@afcea.org), our new Young AFCEA Outreach Coordinator, immediately.

As Co-Presidents, we always want to take a moment and thank each and every one of you for what you do for the organization. Without the sacrifice and commitment from you, the organization wouldn’t be what it is today. Thank you and Happy New Year!!

WHAT’S NEW WITH THE YOUNG AFCEANS:

- Chapter Spotlight: Tampa - St. Pete Chapter
- Disruptive by Design Panels
- TechNet Cyber

Nominations for the 40 Under 40 award are now open! Awards will be given at the TechNet Cyber 2020 conference.
CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

Tampa - St. Petersburg Chapter hosted their 12th Annual Hope Children’s Home Christmas event where they played Secret Santa to 24 children and provided items from their wish lists. The real Santa was also in attendance to help the children receive their presents, sing Christmas carols, and perform the 12 Days of Christmas. The Santa team also donated several boxes of toys, a bike, and provided a check for over $10k.

Founded in 1968, Hope Children’s Home has rescued nearly 5,000 children between the ages of infant to 18 years of age. The type of children they care for are not juvenile delinquents, but rather children that, through no fault of their own, find themselves in a situation of needed rescue. Some of the children have simply come out of a situation where a parent just needed help.

Special thanks to Clinton Austin, Young AFCEA Chair for the Tampa-St. Pete chapter, for organizing and MCing the event!

UPCOMING EVENTS

AFCEA WEST will be held on March 2-3, 2020 at the San Diego Convention Center. As in years past, YAAC are hosting a Disruptive by Design panel featuring Young AFCEANs from across the country. This year, the panelists will discuss "Keys to High Performing Technical Teams." Details on the speakers can be found here: https://bit.ly/2UyJ6wn for more information about the AFCEA WEST conference visit: https://bit.ly/2NvRPLQ

The Lexington-Concord Chapter of Greater Boston will be hosting their first ever Young AFCEA panel at their annual New Horizons conference; which will be held on March 9-11, 2020 in Newton, MA. The panel is titled "Disruptive by Design: Empowering Today’s Workforce to Tackle Tomorrow’s Problems". The panel will explore how organizations within the Defense community are tackling issues like workforce training, engagement, and retention. The panel will be comprised of leaders from military, civilian, and industry organizations including the Air Force’s award-winning software center, Kessel Run.

WHAT IS TECHNET CYBER?

Cyber operations are a challenging mission for the U.S. Defense Department and government community that builds, operates and defends networks.

TechNet Cyber 2020 will be a forum for military, industry and academia to discuss and plan how to achieve persistent engagement, presence, and innovation. It is an opportunity to devise a new strategy to build resilience and defend networks.

WHEN & WHERE?

June 2–4, 2020
The Baltimore Convention Center

WHY ATTEND?

All YAAC, EXCOM, RYACs and chapter Young AFCEAN leaders are encouraged to attend.

In addition to the business meetings, there will be networking and social events as well as the 40 Under 40 awards ceremony honoring the accomplishments of our Young AFCEAN leaders!

ACCOMMODATIONS

If you are planning on attending, be sure to book your hotel soon as they tend to sell out quickly. More information on accommodation options can be found here: https://bit.ly/2QFXY8B

SPREAD THE WORD!

We are proud of the promotional YAAC video we created and we encourage you to share it with your social media networks! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9Kn44liqk4