

The Air Force Association's (AFA) Claude Farinha Gold Rush Chapter 116 recognizes outstanding teachers who have demonstrated accomplishments instructing science, technology engineering, mathematics and or aerospace educational courses in California grades K-12 schools. Chapter 116 selects annually a "TEACHER OF THE YEAR" from the Sacramento area. The 2009 Chapter 116 Teacher of the Year will be formally recognized and receive the award at our annual 2009 Scholarship and Awards banquet held in late April 2009. The winner will also be submitted to compete at the state level as the Chapter 116 representative with teachers through out California AFA. Each school principal should select their teacher that qualifies for this teacher of the year award, work to insure that they meet all the necessary requirements and assist them in submitting an application to meet the 27 March 2009 deadline.

The Teacher of the Year competition is strong through out the Sacramento area for this prestigious award. Last year's winner was Anne Whitford from Bella Vista High School. She received an educational award plus \$500.000 from Chapter 116. As a runner up at the state level where she received a State AFA award plus another \$250.00 as being recognized as one of the top teachers in California. The top state award for the Teacher of the Year winner at the state level receives \$1,000, a jacket and another appropriate CAFA state award. The potential state winner could receive \$1,500 if the teacher wins at each level.

The CRITERIA for this award is as follows:

- (1) One to Five page maximum narratives of the teacher's accomplishments and achievements in support of science, technology. Engineering, mathematics and/or aerospace education and the impact of these activities on the students. Pictures showing teacher and student activities are allowed in the 5 page maximum.
- (2) A letter of recommendation/support from a school official (principal or higher).
- (3) The program runs from 1 May 2008 to March 2009.
- (4) The deadline for submittal postmarked is 27 March 2009.

Chapter 116 will meet in early April 21009 to evaluate and select the 2009 Teacher of the Year from this area. If there are any questions you can call Rich Taubinger at 916-771-3639 or email him at richardtaubinger@comcast.net. The learn more about the AFA Chapter 116, the Teacher of the Year program as well as the Chapter's scholarships you can go to the chapter's www.afa-sacto.org web site.