



# Freedom *Flyer*

January  
February  
2019

Celebrate Freedom Foundation Newsletter

## SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT

Headquartered in Richmond, VA, **Dominion Energy** is one of the nation's largest producers and transporters of energy, with a portfolio of approximately 26,000 megawatts of electric generation; 14,800 miles of natural gas transmission pipeline; 51,800 miles of natural gas distribution pipeline; 6,600 miles of electric transmission lines; and 57,900 miles of electric distribution lines. They operate one of the largest natural gas storage systems in the U.S. with 1 trillion cubic feet of capacity, and serve more than 6 million utility and retail energy customers.

The company is built on a proud legacy of public service, innovation and community involvement. In addition to their core businesses, Dominion Energy and their 16,200 employees invest in the communities where they live and work and by practicing responsible environmental stewardship everywhere they operate

### **Educational Programs**

Dominion Energy maintains a substantial and diverse commitment to quality education. "We believe high-quality education is the key component of economic growth. To help ensure a strong, successful education system, we are committed to providing the support needed to develop society's most valuable natural resource, our youth" .

"We partner with the educational community through mentoring initiatives, philanthropic support and other means to strengthen STEM competitiveness and help prepare students for tomorrow's workplace", said Dominion Energy officials.

**Celebrate Freedom Foundation would like to thank Dominion Energy for their continued STEM support and donations.**



AT Dominion Energy,  
**1 in 5**  
new hires is a veteran  
and it's an honor to have  
them in our ranks.

**Diana T.**  
Air Force  
Customer Projects Designer

### Inside this Edition

- Sponsor Highlight pg. 1
- Chairman's Corner pg.2
- Special News/Events pg. 2
- Unit Highlight pg. 3
- Presidents Press pg. 4
- Equipment Maintenance pg. 4
- STEM Team Report and schedule pg. 5
- Executive Directors Notes pgs. 6 & 7
- CFF Contact Information pg. 8
- Sponsors pg. 9



## Chairman's Corner

This past year, 2018, has been more than a quantum jump for CFF in many respects. We continue to expand our STEM visits to a max of 20 school visits thanks to our sponsors like SC Aeronautics Committee, Dominion Energy and the US Army Recruiting Command. I should note at this point that in spite of the overall national shortfall in Army Recruiting, CFF and the STEM team made their individual goals. CFF and especially our STEM volunteers take pride in this accomplishment. Lori Wicker and her STEM team, in cooperation with our sponsors support, made academic year 2018-2019 a significant milestone in the CFF school outreach program.

The Foundation continues to build capacity by taking counter intuitive business actions. In order to increase our response to community needs, it requires increasing our business expenses. It is our intention to focus on the goals of our sponsors so that we can have more school visits and expand our expertise in mentoring an technology to support programs like workforce development activities. CFF is uniquely positioned because of our staff and volunteers to have a positive impact in the work force development community. Our results this year with Work Force Development interns was over 90% successful with many lessons learned that we will incorporate in future programs.

Thank you to all our sponsors for their continued financial support and to our volunteers without whose support no success would be possible.

## Special News/Events

### News

The CFF website is undergoing a massive redesign and upgrade. This will be going on over the next few months so check it out to watch the progress ([goCFF.org](http://goCFF.org)). This is all possible due to a local BNI business willing to help us out—**Splash Omnimedia**. We are excited to

### Special Events

One of our biggest projects we have coming up is on April 6, 2019. We will be hosting an event to welcome at our facility approximately 50 children with the Children's Cancer Partners. These children are either currently in treatment or are survivors. We are planning to make this a very memorable and a special event for them. With that, we are looking for volunteers and donors for this event. If you are willing to donate funds, your time or services, please contact me at 803-822-8812 (office) or 719-640-0032 (my cell phone). I will need to know by February 28, 2019. We are planning to welcome them at 10:30 am and hope to have children here for about 4 hours, depending on their schedule and medical needs.

Thank you, Missy Robbins ( CFF Business Manager)

### BEAUFORT Air Show

CFF is the final negotiations with the Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station to participate in it's air show on the April 26 - 28th. The 26th will be a STEM education day and the 27—28th will be the airshow. CFF will not be flying any of our aircraft for this event but will have approximately 8—10 vehicles and the T-34B and our STEM helicopter all on static display. Come on out a see us and enjoy the show.

## Unit History Highlight

# Special Forces

In 1957 the two original Special Forces Groups (10th and 77th) were joined by the 1st, stationed in the Far East. Additional groups were formed in 1961 and 1962 after President John F. Kennedy visited the Special Forces at Fort Bragg in 1961. Nine groups were organized for the reserve components in 1961. (Tsouras, 1994, 91). Among them were the 16th and 17th Special Forces, Groups. However, 17th Special Forces Group, a National Guard formation with elements in Washington, was disestablished on 31 January 1966.

In the early twenty-first century, Special Forces are divided into five active duty (AD) and two Army National Guard (ARNG) Special Forces groups. Each Special Forces Group (SFG) has a specific regional focus. The Special Forces soldiers assigned to these groups receive intensive language and cultural training for countries within their regional area of responsibility (AOR).[22] Due to the increased need for Special Forces soldiers in the War on Terror, all Groups—including those of the National Guard (19th and 20th SFGs)—have been deployed outside of their areas of operation (AOs), particularly to Iraq and Afghanistan. A recently released report showed Special Forces as perhaps the most deployed SOF under USSOCOM, with many soldiers, regardless of Group, serving up to 75% of their careers overseas, almost all of which had been to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Until recently an SF group has consisted of three battalions, but since the Department of Defense has authorized the 1st Special Forces Command to increase its authorized strength by one third, a fourth battalion was activated in each active component group by 2012



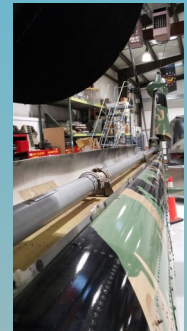
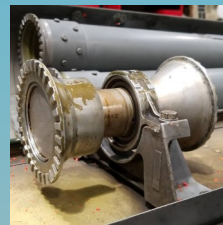
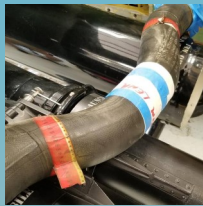


## Presidents Press

Our sponsors and volunteers contributed to a very successful 2018 for CFF. This new year, 2019, marks the very special twentieth anniversary of the Foundation. Throughout the year we will be highlighting many of CFF's past achievements which have earned it International recognition. Moving forward, we are implementing a major revenue campaign which will provide CFF with the capacity to expand it's educational programs, to increase it's workforce development training, complete construction of it's STEM and Aerospace Education Center and to provide a growing community of military veterans and CFF volunteers, suffering from PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) with an important sense of purpose and worth

## Equipment Maintenance

"Maggie" is currently under going a scheduled 150 hour maintenance inspection. We have removed her main rotor blades and are preparing to install new ones. A new fuel line was installed and all fluids and filters have been changed. The tail rotor drive shafts have been removed and the hanger bearings have been re-greased. We hope to have her back in the air in a few short



The Foundations STEM trailer that has been carrying "Annie" has been undergoing a much needed maintenance workup. This trailer travels around the southeastern U.S. with the STEM Outreach Program for school visits and sometimes parades. This fall our Workforce Development Interns along with the mentoring from Tom Robbins (Operations Manager and Ground Vehicle Maintenance Manager) gave the trailer an overhaul of the rear air suspension and braking system. All 4 airbags were replaced along with the airlines associated with the air suspension system and 4 new brake kits were installed. We are currently using the holiday break to install all new wiring and lights for the trailer. We will also be upgrading the air suspension system with a new pump and reservoir tank. The final task to complete all of this will be to paint the entire trailer - color yet to be determined.



## STEM Team Report

Celebrate Freedom Foundation's exciting STEM Outreach Program visits dozens of schools across the Southeastern US every year with more than 10,000 students participating annually.

CFF's STEM Outreach Program, emphasizes the necessity of STEM Subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) in middle schools and high schools. It connects the classroom with real world jobs and career fields. The program's mission is to help build a workforce that can compete globally for jobs in the future, and to ensure America's technological advantage in a global environment. STEM subjects provide skills and competencies greatly needed here in the Southeast, across the nation and globally.

How can you help the CFF STEM Outreach Program? We are always looking for volunteers to assist in these visits and if you have a school that you want us to visit, let us know. You can reach out to **Lori Wicker** our Director of STEM Education by email [stemed@cff-soar.org](mailto:stemed@cff-soar.org) or a phone call at (803) 882-8812



STEM Education Outreach Program visit with "Annie"

### 2019 SCHEDULE

#### January

Maintenance of  
Training Aids

#### February

12 Feb Wando HS— Mount Pleasant, SC.  
20 Feb Lakeside HS— Evans, GA.

Slots are still filling up

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS NOTES

This will be a very busy first quarter of 2019 for our volunteers and staff as we complete maintenance and upgrades to our fleet of helicopters, fixed wing aircraft, and ground vehicles that support the STEM Education Outreach Program and Workforce Development program. We will continue partnering with Midlands Technical College to provide meaningful construction projects for their dedicated students at our HQs facility - Columbia Metropolitan Airport, SC .

Let me introduce our newsletter readers to "Ms. Kathi" , our very special JUH-1 Huey helicopter and STEM training aid. Only four JUH-1 Huey's were manufactured to support the U.S. Army's Stand Off Targeting System (SOTAS) Program. This unique Huey was approved by the Department of Defense, and Defense Logistics Agency for transfer to CFF to support it's education programs. The JUH-1 Huey supported the SOTAS Program in Korea and Europe with it's retractable skid landing gear, advanced belly mounted rotating radar boom, jam resistant data link, all weather avionics and autopilot. CFF members along with help from a Sunshine Solutions transport , picked up this high tech Huey at the Aurora Flight Sciences, a Boeing Company, in Manassas, VA. and transported her back to the Foundation's aviation facility in Columbia, SC. for inspection and FAA flight certification.

While serving at Aurora Flight Services, our new Huey was designated as a UAV-1 by the Department of Defense for Autonomous Aerial Logistics research and development.

This CFF Huey has been named "Ms. Kathi" in memory of Kathi Free who passed away in early 2018 and was a devoted member to the Foundation's mission and it's success.





## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS NOTES cont.

Introducing Celebrate Freedom Foundation's new fixed wing aircraft.



“Sassy Sue” Cessna C-172

CFF was given this aircraft as a donation by a widow who's husband loved to fly. Along with this aircraft, all of the parts and tools in the small hanger came to us as part of the donation. Sassy Sue hasn't flown regularly for a few years so the CFF volunteers have been working to get her up to date on maintenance and upgrades. We

“Sweet Caroline” Navy T-34B

This aircraft was purchased through the GSA system from the Forestry Division. The co-owners of this fabulous plane are CFF, Steve Seymour, and Cpt. Guy White. It will soon depart to Fa. for an avionics

upgrade and it will be painted back to the original colors and markings of its time from the U.S. Navy. It's original use was as a trainer during the Viet Nam era and we will use her for our STEM education and to fly in air shows or special events.



**To Contact the Celebrate Freedom Foundation:**

National Headquarters and  
STEM Education Center

Celebrate Freedom Foundation  
2533 B Airport Blvd.  
West Columbia, SC 29170

Phone: (803) 822-8812  
Email: info@cff-soar.org  
website: www.GoCFF.org

**Educating the Public,  
promoting patriotism and  
honoring the Military - Past,  
Present and**



Celebrate Freedom would like to give a special thanks to all of the volunteers that have given their time and effort to the renovation of the CFF National Headquarters and to our Board of Directors for their continued pursuit of progress. Without the countless hours of help, CFF wouldn't be where we are today.

Thank you!




**Find us on Facebook!**


Any questions or concerns about the newsletter or a request for a digital copy, please contact Tom Robbins at the phone number or email address listed above.

## Donation or Membership Mail In Slip

If you would like to make a donation or become a member of CFF you can fill in your information below, cut it out and mail it to CFF at the address listed above.



Mail in donation and or membership slip



Please Print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Prior Service?: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \$25.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ General: \$50.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime: \$200.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# Special Thanks to Our Sponsors

The Celebrate Freedom Foundation would like to thank all of our sponsors who have given donations in order to ensure the education of STEM and to honor our military - past, present and future.

