

International Forest of Friendship Newsletter Update on September 2018 Plans—Security and Solace Through Flight

The 42nd anniversary ceremonies of the International Forest of Friendship (www.ifof.org) will be in Atchison on **September 21-22, 2018 (Fri-Sat)**. Please note the new month. There will NOT be a ceremony at the Forest in June. It's being shifted to deconflict with the Air Race Classic, and especially to be part of a significant expansion of aviation-related activities in Atchison. These involve the AE Airport, the AE Birthplace Museum, the new AE museum at the airport, and the Forest.

This year's theme is "Security and Solace Through Flight" – emphasizing contributions by military aviators, organizations like Angel Flight, flying doctors, aerial delivery of medicines, etc. The deadline to receive nominations is July 15, 2018. In addition to this year's focus, anyone will be welcome who has contributed or is contributing to all facets of aviation and aerospace, as they are every year. We welcome suggestions for other initiatives to highlight!

The Friday evening cocktail party will be held on September 21, 2018 at the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum. On Saturday morning there will be opportunities to attend the girls fly-in at the AE airport, followed by lunch with an address by our keynote speaker. The induction ceremonies will be at 3:00 PM at the Forest (note new time), followed by opportunities to explore Atchison. In the evening there will be a dinner and a hangar dance at the AE airport. There also will be opportunities to check out progress on the AE Airport Museum.

Our distinguished honoree is [Lieutenant General Robert R. Allardice, USAF, RET](#), a command pilot with more than 5,000 hours in a variety of military aircraft. General Allardice entered the Air Force in 1980 as a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering. His career included command at 18th Air Force, the largest numbered air force, joint, wing, group and squadron levels. Additionally, he served in a wide variety of high level operational and staff assignments at the Pentagon, Air Force Material Command, and Central Command. He deployed three times in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. In 2001, he commanded the strategic humanitarian airdrop which began on the first night of combat operations in Afghanistan, the largest mass personnel airdrop since Operation Overlord, commonly referred to as D-Day.



We also will be welcoming CAPT Sharifah Czarena Suriyani from Brunei Darussalam, in Southeast Asia. In November 2012 she became not only the first female captain in Royal Brunei Airlines (RB), but also in any flag carrier airline in Southeast Asia. In a media interview, Captain Czarena said: "Being a pilot, people normally see it as being a male dominant occupation. As a woman, a Bruneian woman, it is such a great achievement." "It's really showing the younger generation of the girls especially that whatever they dream of, they can achieve it," she added.

We had the pleasure of meeting with her in March in Brunei, which is on the island of Borneo, and look forward to her attendance in September.

We welcome suggestions for new candidates and initiatives in any of the above categories and to follow up on previous windows of opportunity that have been opened, but not exploited fully. Please let us know at forestoffriendship@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you in Atchison on September 21-22 for the ceremonies.

The Forest Team