

2010 Galaxy Community Council President's report

The Galaxy Community Council enjoyed another successful year in 2009. The team effort was once again the reason for our success. I want to thank everyone for your involvement. I especially want to thank everyone at Westover Air Reserve Base for their continued hospitality and support. Without them we wouldn't be here. With the input and guidance of Colonel Bob Swain and his staff, the GCC has grown in size and importance at Westover Air Reserve Base.

Our major accomplishments this year include:

- Over 100 GCC volunteers helped approximately 3,500 Westover personnel and their families enjoy Family Day activities in August.
- The establishment of a strong relationship between the GCC and the Westover USO through monetary and sponsor contributions as well as volunteer help.
- The establishment of a relationship with the Westover Airman and Family Readiness Center with GCC and community volunteers.
- We removed our deteriorating storage trailer and replaced it with a more secure forty feet long steel shipping container.
- Continued communications between the GCC, the local community via memberships in the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce and Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau as well as our elected officials to bring awareness of what we do to our local communities and the state.
- The GCC membership has experienced unprecedented membership growth in a non air show year.

In 2009 we took the time to deal with some GCC "housekeeping" issues:

- We established a more detailed accounting system using Quickbooks.
- Confirmation of our tax status with the IRS as a 501c3 corporation.
- We expanded our operating policies to assure consistent operations.
- Established a new on-base mailing address.
- Instituted better checks and balances and diversified committee responsibilities.

In 2010 we will continue to explore ways to help where we can at Westover. Members of the GCC will continue to see an active board of directors. Four new members are coming on board and they will be introduced to the membership. Our membership is strong; we have approximately 140 members who have renewed their memberships. 2010 activities will include:

- A continued active speakers' program at the General Meetings.
- GCC memorabilia on permanent display in the Galaxy room of the Westover Club.
- There will be a Wing Picnic this August that will require GCC volunteers.
- We will assist the Westover USO and the Airman & Family Readiness Center in any way we can.
- We will continue our support of the Westover Civil Air Patrol and the Westover Young Marines.
- The GCC will participate in at least two bus trips to nearby places of interest.
- We will participate in the Westfield International Air Show.
- A possible major event 2011 and the 2012 Great New England Air Show are in the planning stages.

I encourage all GCC members to more actively participate this year. If anyone has any suggestions or wants to become more involved in an activity or planning please let me know. The Galaxy Community Council will continue to be a relevant organization on base and in the community. With your help, I look forward to a great year for us in 2010.

Sincerely yours,

Bud Shuback, President
Galaxy Community Council