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5th Alamo ACE Raises Funds for Wounded Warriors and STEM Education

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SAN ANTONIO, TX – The Alamo AFCEA Annual Chapter Event (ACE) has set several new milestones in 2014, its fifth consecutive year.

This year's event – which ran Oct. 27-30 at the La Cantera Hill Country Resort – brought together well over 1,500 military and industry leaders in the cyber, ISR, medical IT and education/training career fields for two days of keynote presentations, panel discussions and ethical information-sharing, a trade show/exhibit hall, free and discounted IT training for military personnel, and fund-raising activities benefiting wounded warriors. The ACE concluded with an "Acquisition Day," featuring mission needs and contracting requirements involving the 24th and 25th Air Forces, 38th Cyber Engineering Group, and the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center (AFLCMC).

"Events like the ACE are key to developing and strengthening symbiotic relationships between San Antonio's military missions, IT industry partners and STEM academics," Alamo AFCEA President Bill Morrow said. "All areas of our national defense increasingly depend on cutting-edge thinking in cyber and IT, and the phenomenal growth of the ACE since its inception in 2010 is a testament to the support AFCEA receives from both our military and industry partners in these fields."

The Alamo ACE is the primary fund-raising mechanism for Alamo AFCEA's annual STEM scholarships and teaching grants program, which grew to a \$90,000 budget allotment in 2014. As part of that program, the chapter funds STEM scholarships at three local universities and a variety of other programs,

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such as SA BEST high school robotics competitions, classroom equipment and tools, and national CyberPatriot competitions. This year, the Alamo chapter applied ACE proceeds to help fund the first-ever Cyber Defense Training Academy in San Antonio, one of five such academies nationally sponsored by the U.S. Air Force and Civil Air Patrol to train and educate high school students in various technologies and disciplines.

As the ACE has gained traction in San Antonio, the chapter has added additional fund-raising sidebars to the event – including a charity golf tournament and, new in 2014, a gala evening featuring a silent auction and raffle benefiting the Warriors Support Foundation's Homes 4 Wounded Heroes program.

"Our first-ever benefit gala knocked it out of the park – we raised more than \$25,000 in cash, checks and credit card donations from our silent auction and raffle, enabling the award of a \$250,000 home to a wounded hero," said Bill Robinson, the chapter's vice president of corporate affairs.

"On average, the ACE has achieved year-over-year growth of 13 to 16 percent on every measurable level – from gross revenue to attendance, participation and charitable contributions," Morrow said. "From 2013 to 2014, that equates to a 38 to 41 percent increase in charitable contributions to STEM and wounded warrior programs." *(Reporter: Please see attached charts for further detail.)*

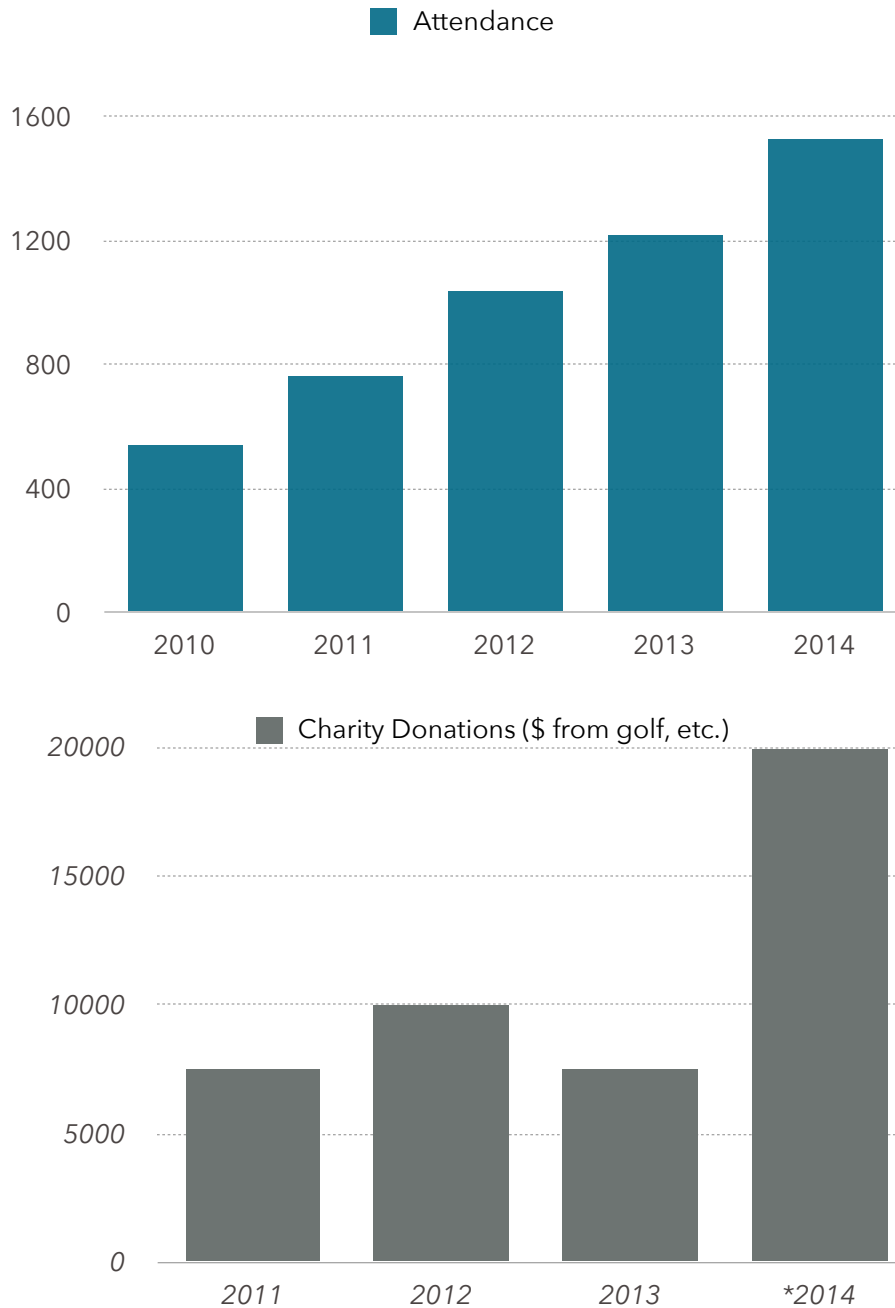
In 2014, the charity golf tournament raised more than \$20,000 to benefit the Wilford Hall Fisher House and Operation Comfort, a San Antonio Medical Center-hosted rehabilitation program for wounded warriors. In previous years, the tournament raised amounts ranging from \$7,500 to \$10,000 for each of these two programs.

This year, volunteers attracted more than 75 donations on items ranging from luxury hotel vacation stays to Spurs tickets and wine baskets to raise \$12,000 in a silent auction. Another \$3,000 in cash donations, \$10,000 from a raffle and additional checks and credit card contributions added to the \$25,000 total take from the benefit gala, held on Oct. 28.

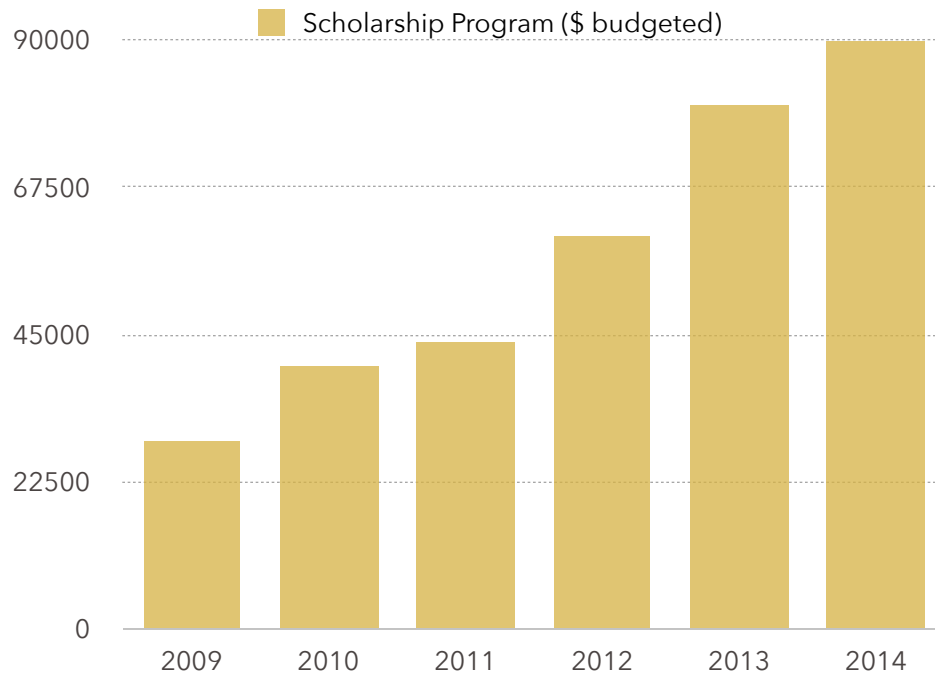
The following day, Military Warriors Support Foundation founder LTG (ret.) Leroy Sisco recognized CW3 Christopher Royal – who was previously assigned to Fort Hood and was among three people who helped to end the November 2009 shootings there by tackling Maj. Nidal Hasan – as the recipient of a mortgage-free, tax-free home, as a result of those efforts. CW3 Royal, who was

shot twice in the back during the incident and has since been medically retired, will be living in Conyers, Ga.

Alamo ACE Historical Growth



*Estimated net as of Nov. 5, 2014.



ABOUT ALAMO AFCEA:

Founded in 1947, AFCEA (the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association) is a professional organization facilitating ethical and ongoing dialogue between commercial industry, U.S. government and Department of Defense personnel engaged in information technology career fields – a category that today includes cyber; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; medical IT and education/training missions. The Alamo AFCEA chapter, which serves San Antonio and the surrounding regions, numbers more than 700 members from the military, the defense contracting industry, and others pursuing STEM education and training as a means toward a strong national defense. The chapter sponsors regular networking events designed to promote the information-sharing between government and industry, as well as mentoring and career growth opportunities for its members. AFCEA supports both national and local communities through the AFCEA Educational Foundation and through the activities of 33,000 members in 35 chapters around the world, with scholarships and grants to students with degree programs in the sciences. The Alamo chapter has awarded educational scholarships and grants in excess of \$350,000.