

Spring 2026 Kittyhawk Chapter Newsletter

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STEM / Scholarship activities

- On 28 February, we hosted our Best Brew and Chille Cookoff. In addition to raising money for the Kittyhawk Chapter STEM scholarship fund, a great time was had by all. Save the date for next year event which will be 27 Feb 2027 once again at the American Czechoslovakian Club.
- On 14 March, Seng Hong, Brian Smith and Steve Hary represented the chapter at the Miami Valley Career Technical Center (MVCTC) Science Day as special award Judges. MVCTC brought together over 300 of the top High School Science Fair projects from around our region. We presented awards to 3 outstanding students on behalf of the Kittyhawk Chapter. For more information see:
<https://kittyhawkaoc.org/science-fair-event/>
- On 1 April we hosted our scholarship lunch recognizing scholarship winners from UD, WSU, UDayton, Cedarville, OSU,UC and Sinclair. In total, the Chapter awarded \$14,000 in scholarships this year! Info on Scholarship winners can be found here:
<https://kittyhawkaoc.org/25-26-scholarship-profiles/>
- Save the date for the AFRL SDR Challenge Showcase on Friday 24 April at UDRI River campus (same location as Kittyhawk week); more information here:
<https://udayton.edu/engineering/initiatives/sdr-challenge.php>

Kittyhawk Chapter Board Elections

We will be opening up 4 Kittyhawk Chapter board positions for election in the May timeframe. Any active KAO C chapter member is eligible to self-nominate. This is a great professional development experience and opportunity to serve your local professional community. **To nominate yourself or someone else, please email a 1 paragraph biography and a photo to Steve Hary (stephen.hary@us.af.mil) by April 17th.** Also feel free to reach out to Steve or any board member with questions if you are interested.

Upcoming Events:

- Kittyhawk week registration is open! <https://kittyhawkaoc.org/kittyhawk-week/>
 - Kittyhawk Week is 8-11 June, register by 1 May for early bird pricing
 - This also opens our corporate sponsorship period. If your company is interested in becoming a sponsor contact Jessica Derr: jessica.derr@teamdec.com
 - Booth space also available for sponsors and non-sponsor companies (see the registration page for details)
 - Call for technical posters/demos is still open, contact kelly.cheung@us.af.mil or christopher.ebersole.1@us.af.mil by **17 April** if interested
- Our 1 May Lunch Speaker will be Mr. Adam “Weed” Remaly, acting director of the Technology Transition Office of the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL/RR)
- AOC (inter)national awards will be open 15April – 31 May: <https://crows.org/awards/> please consider nominating a worthy Fellow Crow.

Steve Hary

KAOC Chapter President

Dr. Barlow,

Thanks for the great talk today. During our conversation I mentioned the AFRL SDR University Challenge that we host each year (we are completing our 8th year). Our in-person showcase will be Friday 24 April (8:00am-Noon) at the UDRI River Campus. More info at: <https://udayton.edu/engineering/initiatives/sdr-challenge.php>

We were hoping to leverage your SOCHE contact list to:

- Inform local industry and university members of the opportunity to interact with the University teams that will be presenting live demos of their projects on the 24th. We are also interested in finding additional Industry sponsors willing to support STEM activities like this.

- Challenge runs the full academic year (Sep-Apr) and we will be starting another round this summer/Fall, so your help getting the word out to potential university teams would be great.

cc Dr Brian Ringling from UD who is administering the challenge for us,

Background: The SDR University Challenge encourages experiential hands-on learning and skill building by providing selected teams with Software Defined Radio Kits. The challenge runs the entire academic year with student teams executing research projects using SDR technology, along with their own skills and creativity to develop and demonstrate novel solutions to sensing, communication, networking and related challenges.

This year we had 22 teams participating from across the country. The top 8 teams have been invited to the in-person showcase/finals on 24 April (see attached draft schedule with brief abstracts of the 8 finalist teams). The event on the 24th will be highly interactive with the 8 teams presenting the results of their projects via live demonstrations.