

## 9th Annual EW/Cyber Convergence Conference

The Palmetto Roost Chapter of the AOC hosted their 9<sup>th</sup> Annual CLASSIFIED Electronic Warfare/Cyber Convergence Conference June 5<sup>th</sup> through the 7<sup>th</sup> 2018 at the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) Systems Center Atlantic's Cooper River Landing Conference Center. The Wando High School AFJROTC Color Guard opened the conference by posting the Colors and leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Major General Michael Regner, USMC (ret.) former Staff Director, Headquarters Marine Corps, welcomed the 180+ military members, government employees, and contractors in attendance. He energized the conference with a case study on today's challenges and opportunities with Full Spectrum Combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. Captain Brian Hinkley, USN (ret.), AOC North-Western Director, and Lieutenant Colonel Glenn "Powder" Carlson, USAF (ret.), AOC North-Eastern Director, provided welcoming remarks from AOC International. SPAWARSYSCEN-ATLANTIC's Commanding Officer, CAPT Scott Heller, and Executive Director, Mr. Chris Miller, SES, provided a warm South Carolina and SPAWAR welcome as well.

This year's theme focused on EW/Cyber Integration, ISR, and Fires across Full-Spectrum Conflict. The master of ceremonies was Mr. Rich Nelson, President of the Palmetto Roost Chapter - facilitating sessions that categorized the operational concepts of combining EW capabilities with cyber warfare tactics, techniques, and procedures, and enabling the rapid deployment of new and improved capabilities.

Keynote speakers included Lieutenant General David A. Deptula, USAF (ret.), Dean, Mitchell Institute of Aerospace, the First Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, DC; Mr. Gregg R. Kendrick, Executive Director, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Cyberspace Command; and Mr. Jeffrey Harris, CEO, JKH Consulting, LLC, Board Chairman United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF), former Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space, and Director, National Reconnaissance Office. We also had notable speakers from Navy Cyber Warfare Development Group (NCWDG), National Air & Space Intelligence Center (NASIC), DARPA, South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG), United States Army Pacific (USARPAC), United States Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM), National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), Joint Electronic Warfare Center (JEWEC), Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, and National Security Agency (NSA).

There is a considerable amount of cyber and EW work that goes on in the Charleston area centered at SPAWARSYSCEN-ATLANTIC. Much of it goes unannounced and unnoticed; however, having a CLASSIFIED conference allows SPAWAR employees a great opportunity for collaboration on a much higher level with others throughout the EW/cyber community. It assists in allowing all of those who attend the ability to provide the best support possible to those carrying on the fight across the electromagnetic spectrum. We believe this conference makes a significant impact for SPAWAR, for the EW/Cyber industry, as well as for our National Security, and most importantly for our Warfighters.

A special thanks to our Conference Sponsors! Title Sponsor: Scientific Research Corporation (SRC); Platinum Sponsors: Norseman Defense Technologies and BAE Systems; Gold Sponsors: SAIC, Lockheed Martin, and Motorola; Silver Sponsor: Keysight Technologies; and Bronze Sponsors: Sentar and Boeing.

The Palmetto Roost is looking forward to seeing everyone again next year. Please let those who could not attend this year know that 2019 will mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this conference. Planning is already underway to make it the best ever, so mark your calendars and begin planning your June 2019 visit to Charleston!