

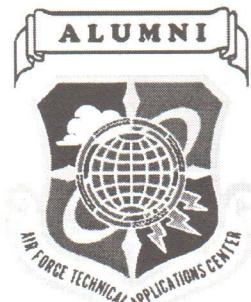
Best of the Season to All our Readers!!

POST - MONITOR

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 4

Membership—670, Lifetime 517 (18 Distinguished)

2003 DECEMBER

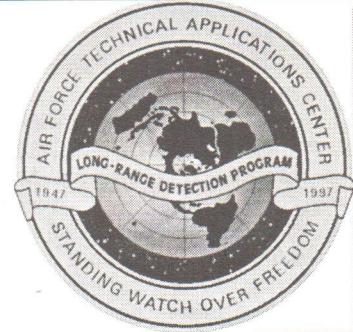


The Alumni Anthem
Over the years and at
younger ages ...
'Gs,' 'E' and 'O' were our
gauges

But now we've reached the
best of stages
Being one of the
Command's Sages

Long Range Detection
denotes and represents
all who served the
mission throughout its
inception and history

Recognized for 50 years
of service to our country
in September 1997
1947 – 1997



SAGE SPOTLIGHT

THE LONG-RANGE DETECTION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PROUDLY PRESENTS



YOUR BOARD MEMBERS FOR FY2004

Elections were held at the October
10th Golf n'Getogether
and General Membership Meeting



Names, AF/AFTAC dates, last job (rank); Alumni Assc relationship
President-Judy Milam, Civilian, AF65-99/AFTAC65-71&72-
99, Scientific & Technical Information Officer (GS-11); Assn
lifetime, Secretary 90-2000, Hospitality 01-current
Vice-Pat Snyder, Civilian, AF74/AFTAC90, Investigations &
Inquiries Specialist, IG; Assc lifetime, 'Insider' since 96
Secretary-Al Moy, AF75-00/AFTAC79-91/97-00, Maintenance
Superintendent (CMSgt); Assc Lifetime, Sec since 03
Treasurer-Joe Goldian, AF/AFTAC68-91, (MSgt); Assc 91,
Vice, 99, Treasurer since 03

Appointed Positions

Activities/Hall of Heritage-TBD

Hospitality-Judy Milam (see above)

Internet-Mike Black AF72-92/AFTAC81-92, NCOIC Test
and Analysis Branch (MSgt); Assc lifetime, Internet since 97
-Clark Creery AF60-80/AFTAC66-75 & 77-80, J Technique
Acquisition/LGEQ (MSgt); Assc lifetime, original newsletter
editor 81-84/89-95, President 94/95, Internet since 97

Membership-Jim Payne AF52-84/AFTAC62-84, Senior
Enlisted Advisor (CMSgt); Assc lifetime, Mbsp since 99

Newsletter-John Horsch AF/AFTAC 58-87, Senior Enlisted
Advisor (CMSgt); Assc lifetime, Pub 87-90, Newsletter since
97 ... Chris, coeditor

Publicity-Swede Swansen AF73-93/AFTAC77-93, Small
Computer, Comp Sec & Network Sys Admin (TSgt); Assc
lifetime, Publicity since 93

ALUMNI ALERTS-WHAT'S COMIN' UP

WHERE, IN THE BEST MISSION ALERT TRADITION, WE ASK YOU TO 'REPORT IN'

"WE'RE GONNA THROW A SNOWBALL"

ALUMNI SNOW BALL VI, 31 JAN 04

EDITORS,

It has become customary for the Alumni Association to arrange a 'Themed Ball' at the beginning of each year. This is done for several reasons – to have an event that does not involve playing a sport and held at a time that our alumni snowbirds are in town. We also believe it is a grand way to introduce the FY2004 board members, recognize notable alumni and alumni accomplishments, hold a mini-reunion and wish old

COMMAND AWARDS BANQUET, 26 FEB 04

COMMAND PICNIC

(Alerts [SnowBall, Awards, etc] continue on Pg 8, lower left)

ALUMNI EVENTS-WHAT'S GONE OFF

WHERE, AGAIN IN THE BEST MISSION TRADITION, WE REPORT 'EVENT DATA'



OCTOBER GOLF N'GETOGETHER

General Membership Meeting and
Association Board Elections Follow,
October 10th

MAJOR ARRANGER, SAM SORICE

(Events continue on Page 15)

ATTENTION...LAST FY 04 NOTICE...DUES DUE? Here's how to know

If you wish to remain a member and receive this newsletter, please check your address NOW!
One of the lines on your address label (see last page) indicates when your dues are due. If it reads:
"FY Dues Due in Oct 04" it means you have not paid your dues for FY 2004 (began 1 Oct 03).
If it reads "LT" (Lifetime), or the digits are greater than 04, it means your dues are current.

ASSOCIATION HONOR ROLL

Alumni Of The Year Recipients

Joseph 'Joe' Johnson 2002-Jim Payne 2001

Ben Vlassick '00 (deceased)-John Horsch '99-Frank Hall '98

Judy Milam '97-Carl Gailey '96-Clark Creery '95

Florida Chapter "PERENNIALS"

(board members serving for five+ years)

Clark Creery-Newsletter 81-84/89-95, Pres 94/95, Webpage-since 01, Frank Hall-Pres/Vice 89-98/01, Judy Milam-Sec 89-00/Hosp since 01, Pres 04, Eunice Harris-Hosp 89-00; Mary Welch-Mbrshp 91-99; Carl Gailey-Tres 91-99, Swede Swansen-Pub since 93, John (Christel) Horsch, Newsletter since 96, Pat Snyder, 'Insider' since 96, VP 04, Mike Black, ,WebMaster since 97, Jim Payne, Mbshp since 99

ASSOCIATION HISTORY

The Association formed on March 12, 1985, and was chartered in 1986. It was created to provide a forum for those who wish to maintain an ongoing connection with the organization and its people, both active-duty and retired. Membership is open to current and former employees of all organizations associated with Long-Range Detection (LRD) (AFMSW-1, 1009th SWS, AFOAT-1, 1035th FAG, and AFTAC), and any subordinate field detachment.

Florida chapter (application on back page)

Dues, \$10/FY (1 Oct-30 Sep) payable in Oct/\$75 for life. Monthly meetings at 5:30pm on the second Monday of each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC HQ's building (989) at Patrick AFB, FL. Information: Jim Payne, (321)777-4731/paynejb@juno.com or Pat Snyder, (321)494-6867/patricia.snyder@aftac.patrick.af.mil.; mailing address is:

Long-Range Detection Alumni Assc, PO Box 254892, Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892

There is a quarterly (Mar/Jun/Sep/Dec) newsletter, 'Post-Monitor' (staff data below), (namesake of a prior active-duty publication, 'Monitor') & a Webpage, '<http://www.csi-inc.com/aftac>', with assc/alumni data, 'Post-Monitor' 'Samplers' and back-issues and photos-WebMaster is Mike Black; Clark Creery writes an 'Upcoming Events' ('What's Happening') section and posts photos.

Colorado chapter

Formed in 1989, dues, \$5 per year, payable in February; chapter publishes a newsletter, 'Echoes' and supports a website, 'www.aftacco.org'. They meet several times a year-for information, Bill Schmied, (303) 367-0625. There are ~105 members.

West Coast (California) chapter

Formed in 1999, dues, \$5 per year, \$50 for lifetime; for information-Joe Johnson, (916) 783-8676-address:AFTAC Alumi Assc, 161 Southcreek Circle, Folsom CA, 95630-1510. They meet several times a year and publish a newsletter, 'Depot Fallout' and have a website, 'www.AFTACwest.org'. There are ~144 members.

Long Range Detection Alumni Honorarium

Several ongoing projects representing and honoring command people and its history exist: Two of these, 'Hall of Heritage' (data/artifacts) and the 'Wall of Honor' (photos/bio's sent in) of alumni who served the command for 20+ years, are housed at AFTAC Headquarters. Another is an AFTAC display at the Encampment, Wyoming, Museum.

Newsletter Editors: John & Christel Horsch

Information/Proofing: Judy Milam/Pat Snyder/Deborah Carson

Executive Review: Frank Hall/Carl Gailey

Rovin' Photographers: Judy Milam (film) and Bob Wiley (digital)

Rovin' Reporter: Clark Creery/Bob Wiley

Printing/Mailing: Carl Gailey/John Horsch/Jim Payne

"A TEAM"...OF HORSCHE'S

'58-'87



EDITORIALLY SPEAKING



We start this December issue with the hope that 2003 was one of your better years, and that you can find a way to make 2004 even better.

Congratulations, and even more, appreciations, are due our newly elected board members. Judy Milam (President) and Pat Snyder (Vice) have been helping the association for years. They are a fine pair to lead us this FY. We think it says something about the quality and dedication of AFTAC's great civilian corp that these two ladies step forward to take on this challenge within the alumni arena. We also deeply thank those who continue in the appointed posts.

Net News: Beginning with the last issue we used 'pdf' (portable data file) to post the PoMo 'Sampler' and 'Complete.' This improves on-line presentation, and makes our job of providing it to the webmaster, Mike Black, a cinch. If you've not looked yet, go out and take a gander. It will take a bit longer to begin displaying, but this wait is rewarded by the presentation, and the fact the whole issue is available vs. 'page by page.'

While we are writing about the website, we notice that the California chapter has joined us, and the Colorado chapter, in having a chapter website. Bob Fitzgerald, webmaster, has given them an excellent product; Welcome Aboard! (website @ddresses are available at the boilerplate on this page, left. While you checking these out, be sure and check out Mike's posting of the PoMo, 'Complete' and 'Sampler' and Clark's (Creery) 'What's Happening' section on the Florida site. Clark has just recently upgraded his area, and always has the latest Florida information. We cannot thank these gentlemen enough for the time and effort they devote to alumni needs.

We owe an open apology to our CA readers, and others we misled. In the Sept issue, we inadvertently ran some information that pertained to the previous CY; We understand this caused some questions. We are sorry for this slipup and have taken steps to preclude recurrence.

This is another great issue because of the many members who took the time and effort to write us a letter, or even better, an article. We know you are going to enjoy hearing again from some 'old friends.'

MAIL - CALL



Any requests for action should be sent to
Long Range Detection Alumni Association
PO Box 254892
Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892

Letters of a general nature, requesting no action, may be e-mailed to the editors, chrisjohn@juno.com
 Letters may be edited for clarity and space; any opinions are those of the writer(s) and may not reflect Association belief or policy

'Welcome' to new and returning alumni and those who drop us a line. We recognize all correspondence so your name, and the memories, may be recalled.

NEW/RENEWING SAGES

Phillip Elliott-Bridgeport, OH 2003.09.17
 Renewal. Just to let you know that I enjoy the Post-Monitor and the website. Have a nice one!

Marvin Weber-Evansville, IN 2003.09.20
 Renewal. Det 2XX 62-63, HQ (VA) 63-67, Det 207 67-71, Det 057 71-72. Many many good memories of my years in AFTAC. Very proud to have been a part of the organization.

I recognize quite a few of the names in the most recent membership directory. To all who remember me, 'Hello and Merry Christmas.'

Frank Mann-Mabelvale, AR 2003.09.04
 My membership dues are enclosed. The following is a list of my assignment in AFTAC:
 55-57, Team 155; 57-61, Team/Det 422; 61-64, Spinstra; 64-65, Det 327; 65-66, Spinstra; 68-71, Det 329; June, 1971 Retired. Specialty, Q Systems. Appreciate the Post-Monitor and the reunion news. Glad to do it, and assignments can also be posted with your name at the alumni website directory

John Forys-Carson, CA 2003.10.10
 Sorry my dues are late. Enjoy reading the newsletter. Keep up the good work. Thanks, we'll keep trying.

Edward Winters-Devine, TX 2003.10.20
 Website application. 95-98, AFTAC/DO; 98-01, AFTAC/TA

Bob McMullen-Beavercreek, OH 2003.10.25
 Here's my 2004 Dues. Enjoy the Post-Monitor

C McGowan-Woodbridge VA, 2003.10.30

I really don't know when this is due. Must be now, so here's another year just in case. As you can see, there is no date on my address label. We apologize for this ... it happened with several of the labels

Larry Marston-Hernando, FL 2003.11.09

Dues for next years enclosed. The older we get the faster time seems to go by.

Jack Binkerd-Bountiful, UT 2003.11.11

This is the 3rd time I've started this letter. My son reworked my 'pooper' and it's been giving me fits. You know the old saw, 'you can't teach an old dog new tricks.' It's true! I had a good part of this composed and I lost it. How do you lose stuff in your machine? My son could tell me, I think.

I guess this is all part of growing old. You know, growing old is not for sissies. How do you tell when age is setting in?

...a real nice lady tells me she was interested in dating me (carbon dating?)

... young lady on crowded bus offers seat (and you accept it)!

clerk give senior discount, before you ask for it
 ...Senior Citizen' is too common, I am 'Chronically Enhanced.'

..start to tell your kids a story and they chorus, 'we've heard that one.'

can remember many stories, and how to tell them, but can't remember who has heard them, and how often.

...I had a flash of nostalgia and thought how nice to go to a High School reunion. Wrong. They are mostly all gone to the big reunion in the sky.

If I can get a handle on this torture machine, I plan to do a Baron Munchausen on my life. I think my grandkids in Alabama think I won the war in China. They come to Utah and tell me, 'you all speak funny.' Several years ago when Carter was president they told me it was nice to finally have a man that doesn't speak with an accent. Anyway, it has all been fun.

My grandkids are doing all right, one just returned with the Marines from Iraq, another returned from India where he had been doing some computer training. He was right across the border from the place I was stationed in Pakistan, Lahore.

This is a long winded way of paying my dues. Nice chatting. Have a good day, I dare you to.

Jack, it always nice to hear from you. Please type in a larger font the next time. We had to use a microscope to see some of the print.

'CHECK/NOTE' ONLY MAIL

Frank Mosics-Satellite Beach, FL
Edward Gorczyca-Melbourne, FL
Al Spicci-Roseville, CA
Maurice Walsh-New Port Ritchey, FL
Wilbur McAllister-Grand Junction, CO
Charlie McGehee-Del City, OK
Kenneth King-Sheffield, AL
Donald Galarowicz-Colorado Spring, CO
Garland Watson-Chattanooga, TN
Kenneth Oyer-Melbourne, FL
John Frias-Taunton, MA
Charles Desrosier-Melbourne, FL
John Coffey-Tucson, AZ
Brent Braud-Melbourne, FL
Jim Lyon-Magnolia, TX
Curtis Anderholm-Merritt Island, FL
Vern Mikkelson-Iowa Park, TX
Hubert Dickinson, Jr.-Londonderry, NH
Howard Foster Jr.-Columbia, SC
W. Wigington-Blue Springs, MS
A Dahlgren-Mohawk, MI
Tommy Badley-Warrenton, OR
William Braukman-Denver, CO
Bradley Neihart-Melbourne, FL
Francis Liberatori-Niceville, FL
Elias Schwartz-Anaheim, CA
Richard Gullet-Palestine, IL
Noah Holbrook-Bristol, VA
Donald Clemens-Stuart, FL
Harold Mills-Covington, TN
Jerry Fuqua-Melbourne, FL
Robert West-Overland Park, KS
Edward Blau-Alexandria, VA (shop order)
M Steskal-APO AE 09096-6271 (new address)
John Costello-Tampa, FL (new address/ph #)
J Lillethun-Bainbridge, GA (mbrship query)
Tim Mecham-Pasco, WA (shop order)
Harold Rhoads-Salisbury, NC (new address)
Charles Copeland-Newman, GA (new ph #)
Wayne Lackey-Kissimmee, FL (shop order)
L Renshaw-W. Palm Beach, FL (new address)

LETTERS/EMAIL

Jack Wagley-Ann Arbor, MI 2003.09.22
 Is Dr. Teller an honorary member of AFTAC? If not perhaps he should become one. I did not know just how great a scientist he was the day I met him in Bldg T (temporary) in Washington DC.
 Jack enclosed a news article from the 'Ann Arbor News' dated September 10th, 2003, concerning the life and death of Dr. Teller—your editors also note there is a lot of internet information concerning Dr. Teller available.
 In an earlier letter (Sept 8th) Jack enclosed an article concerning a

VA study proposing to close seven VA hospitals and shift services. In the letter Jack encourages us to join a retiree organization and mentions, in particular, the National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS) noting they have several lobbyists and his belief they do as much for us as the non-profit organizations, although they are not non-profit. He wrote concerning the VA study:

I hope the people making the study realize every time the government closes any one facility they loose money. In other words, it takes more to replace a facility than you are going to be able to sell it for. I saw it when they closed Forbes AFB in Topeka, KS, and Richards Gebaur in KC, MO. I wonder what the VA is going to do with the patients they are going to have from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Kuwait and Iraq. I am not anti-freedom but we must be very careful how we handle things. It takes 5 months now to get an appointment, what will it be a year from now..

I know I am just a retired Sergeant with little more than HS formal education, but I think I have had more practical education (60 years, I am 73) than a college degree would be able to match. As to the problems we will have with N. Korea and China, I do not think former President Truman should have told Gen McArthur to vacate N. Korea after he had driven the Chinese 'volunteers' back across their border. Of course any one will say hindsight is easier than foresight, I guess.

PS Thank you for the new roster although I do recognize so few names ... When is the next reunion? I want to go to at least one before I go to a much larger reunion. Why don't you make it in Jan at Patrick so I will not have to stay all winter in this cold Michigan climate, ice and snow?

Thanks for the information and your feelings, and we hope you do not mind that we synopsized in some cases. As you have read by now, there will be another reunion opportunity soon—although you will have to endure a couple of MI winters before we all get together again In CA in the summer of 2005. See you there!

Hank Raymond-Satellite Beach, FL 2003.09.25

Shop order. Thanks in advance for your help and all you do to keep AFOAT-1, AFTAC and LRD Alumni informed. Hank, you are very welcome.

Sam Barone-email**2003.10.16**

Misc Info: Det 407 March 1970 to March 1972, MCL 1969 and 1972 after returning from 407.

Update: Currently on staff at the Naval Post-graduate School, Monterey, CA. Thanks AFTAC. Thanks for the update.

Angela Medley-Arvada, CO**2003.11.15**

I wish to continue receiving alumni mailings.
 (Mail-Call continues on page 16)



Personals ...

Wherein alumni let us know of events in their lives they want to share. Please send us births (children, grandchildren), weddings, retirements (military or otherwise), and other events.

Transitions

We look forward to your transitions

Hopes of Health for ...

Alumni share hopes for themselves or others

Wanda Barnett

Don and Mary Gash

John Caban

Tom Ciambrone



TAPS

*In Memory of
Those We
Knew Who Are
Now Gone But
Never To Be Forgotten*



Gen. Daniel Butterfield, 1862

Day is done; gone the sun,
From the lakes, from the hills,
From the sky.
All is well, safely rest,
God is nigh,

Fading light dims the sight,
And a star light the sky, gleaming bright;
From afar, drawing nigh,
Falls the night.

Thanks and praise for our days,
'Neath the sun, 'neath the stars, 'neath the sky;
As we go, this we know:
God is' nigh.

In Memory Of

Alumni share names of those gone but never forgotten...

George Burnham Brown (see below)

Roger O. Gary, Jr., (see below)

Robert O. Blau (see below)

Rosemarie Bannister (see below)

Kelly C. Chaney (see below)

Rest in Eternal Peace

George Burnham Brown

EMAIL FROM BILL LINDNER, AFTAC PA, 9/26/03

As mentioned in the letter that follow, can you please query the other alumni using your newsletter? I found out LTC Brown retired in 1964 after being assigned to AFTAC at Fairfax, VA.

" My step-father, Lt.Col. George Burnham Brown, USAF Ret, was with AFTAC from the days of the 1009th Spec Wpns SQ on Constitution Ave in DC. in the Tempos, through the move to Fairfax, VA, then to McClellan then to VA again. He often mentioned a Bob Blau and several other top people whose names I have long ago forgotten.

Dad died back in 2000 and I would be very much appreciative of any information you may have about him. My biggest regret was that I waited too long to ask him all the questions I wanted to. And now his grandchildren and great grandchildren are asking what he did. I was very proud of Dad. Please send any information you have to: TSgt Bill Lindner, email-william.lindner@aftac.patrick.af.mil, or mail-Air Force Technical Applications Center Public Affairs Patrick, AFB, FL 321-494-7688 DSN 854-7688

Sincerely, Lacy R. Jones, Deltona, FL."

Lacy, Bill. As you know, not only are we running the notice here, but we have also sent it over our email net notifying all members for whom we have an @ddress.

NOTE-MEMBERs: If you reply, please include us so we might also run your 'memory.' And isn't it ironic that Lacey mentions Bob Blau who is also remembered in this section.

Roger O. Gary

EMAIL, JIM PAYNE, 9/22/03

We have just received a note from Ronna D. Gary that her husband, LCol (Ret) Roger O. Gary Jr. passed away Feb 19, 2003. He was a lifetime member of the Long-Range Detection (LRD) Alumni Association, joining in November, 1993.

Robert O. Blau

EDWARD C. BLAU, SON

I am writing to inform you of the death at the age of 92 of my father, Robert O. Blau, who served as AFTAC's deputy director under Doyle Northrup from '49 (when AFTAC was AFOAT-1)

until he retired in '72 (just before AFTAC's move from Virginia to Florida). He died on August 23, from complications after falling and breaking a hip in early June. He was buried at Arlington Cemetery two weeks ago.

My brother just discovered the existence of the AFTAC Alumni Association searching on the Web. I don't think my father knew about it, either, at least, I never heard him speak of it nor did he receive its newsletter. But I did find him listed on your website when I did an alumni search, so I thought I would let you know about his death.

My father was very proud of his service at AFTAC, and in later years felt comfortable giving my brother and I some idea of the role that AFTAC played in the Cold War. Because of the sensitivity of AFTAC's work, while growing up I didn't have the slightest notion of what he did at his job.

If there is a forum for doing so in your newsletter, I'd appreciate it if you could notify your membership of my father's passing. And if any who remember him care to share any memories of my father, I'd enjoy hearing from them. Thanks!

Sincerely,

Edward C. Blau, 404 Underhill Place Alexandria, Va. 22305. Edward, thank you for the notification, this issue will reach over 600 members. If you'd like, please send your request to us via email and we will forward it to additional alumni who may not receive this newsletter.

NOTE-MEMBERS: Reference Edward's request for any 'memories.' If you send a memory, please also include this newsletter in your reply so we might let the membership also share in that memory.

NOTE 2: Our online alumni directory at: <http://www.csihq.com/aftac/search2.msqi?searchfor=Gary&searchby=name&startrow=0> lists his LRD service as 'AFTAC HQ 1969--1973' - a separate database shows he was in HQ/ODM in 1970; Obituary can be found at: <http://www.legacy.com/dfw/LegacySubPage2.asp?Page=LifeStory&PersonId=803651>.

Rosemarie Bannister

(Spouse of Alumni, Carl Bannister)

FLORIDA TODAY OBITUARY

Rosemarie Lina Bannister, 61, was born in Kordel (Trier), West Germany and passed away Monday, September 22, 2003 at Tandem Health-care of Melbourne, Fla. Rosemarie was a beautiful, loving wife who unselfishly accompanied her husband during his United States Air Force career, arriving at Patrick AFB in early October 1974. Her love of animals, especially cats, was well known to family and friends. Her home was adorned with numerous collector plates and figurines of all type cats. Rosemarie was a true daughter to her native Germany, even though she was naturalized American in October 1981.

She was a true fighter for 21 years against the

cancer that eventually claimed her life. Rosemarie is survived by her husband of 36 years, Carl Bannister of Melbourne; brother and sister-in-law, Siegfried and Elisabeth Schneider of Trier, Germany; sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and Chuck Krech of Franklin, Tenn.; nephew, Frank Schneider of Trier, Germany; and niece, Gaby (Schneider) Schild of Schweich (Trier) Germany. Rosemarie was an active member of Ascension Catholic Church in Melbourne. Donations can be made to the American Cancer Society, 4356-B Fortune Place, West Melbourne, FL 32904 or to the American Diabetes Association, 1101 N. Lake Destiny Road, Suite 415, Maitland, FL 32750-7105.

Kelly C. Chaney

EMAIL FROM MIKE BLACK, 9/26/03, AND LATER, ARLIN MASSEY

Kelly C. Chaney, 43, a 45th Space Wing Career Assistance Advisor in the U.S. Air Force, passed away Tuesday, September 23, 2003, at Holmes Regional Medical Center in Melbourne, Fla. S/M Sgt. Chaney was born in South Hampton, United Kingdom. He came to Brevard County in 1965. He was a member of the NCO Club, the Space Wing Top 3 Association, and the Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 557. S/M Sgt. Chaney is survived by his wife of 11 years, Leann Chaney of Viera; daughter, Jamie Lynn of Viera; sisters, Sarah Lou Jenia Glenn of Melbourne and Joetta Tibbits of Tennessee; and his father, Clinton Chaney of Melbourne.

ARLIN LATER PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

SMSgt Chaney served AFTAC at the Tech Ops Division, in the SC Directorate, in the late 80's and early 90's." Wish I could give you better info concerning his dates at TOD. Kelly went TDY from TOD to Hawaii and Midway and other locations with me in Comm's support for Pony Express. This occurred in the mid to late 80's. He was a member of the last Pony Express deployment to Hawaii and beyond.



Chapter News

Prez FROM THE TOP Sez

JUDY MILAM

I can honestly say I feel honored to be the first female President of the Alumni Association, but I must confess that I didn't really seek the job. If my term is successful, you can thank **Frank Hall** for urging me to run; if it's not successful, you can blame Frank.

Following in the footsteps of many dedicated Alumni who have previously held the office, I'm not sure I can do it justice, but I'll give it my best shot. Our immediate Past President, **John Caban**, did an excellent job in 2003, steering us toward the Snowball Banquet in February, the worldwide reunion in May, and the golf tournament in October, while ensuring the regular business of the association was accomplished throughout the year. Of course, John wouldn't have been able to do such a great job without the assistance of his Vice President, **Joe Marshall**; the Secretary, **Al Moy**; and the Treasurer, **Joe Goldian**, plus a number of dedicated members who regularly show up at monthly meetings to conduct the business, those who contribute articles to the Post-Monitor, and those who attend alumni events. Without you, there would be no association. We have nearly 200 members who live in the local area, and probably more than 150 of you have never attended a monthly meeting. We sure would like to see you at our next meeting – Monday, 12 January, meet at the Outback (back entrance to AFTAC) NLT 5:25 PM.

We've already made plans for our annual alumni get-together, the 2004 'SnowBall' Banquet (see details starting on page 1), and hope to have a big turnout. This is always a fun party, with a short official program and plenty of time for interaction with fellow alumni. Each year we pick a theme for the party, and this year we've selected a Florida theme. In keeping with the theme, dress is informal. By holding the party in the winter, we hope to attract Snowbirds and other alumni members who may be spending some time in Florida to escape the cold up north. If you live in the local

area, or if you plan to be in Florida during the winter, we hope you'll join us for the Snowball Banquet. You're sure to have a good time.

Thanks for your confidence in electing me President. I'll do my best to make it a good year.

Judy

BOARD MEETINGS

Board Members Elected

President-Judy Milam Vice-Pat Snyder
Secretary-Al Moy Treasurer-Joe Goldian

Appointed

Activities-CMSgt Lloyd French Heritage Hall Committee, TBD
Hospitality-Judy Milam Internet-Mike Black - Clark Creery
Membership-Jim Payne Newsletter-John and Christel Horsch
Publicity-Swede Swansen
#####

A FEW MINUTES FROM THE MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 8TH, OCTOBER 10TH, NOVEMBER 10TH
AL MOY

-Sam **Sorice** reported on the 10 Oct 'Golf-n'Getogether.' The annual General Membership Meeting was also held in conjunction with this event, to include election of officers for FY2004. The tournament was a success, and our elected officers for FY2004 are listed above.

-Judy **Milam**, in her first act as president, thanked the outgoing board for their excellent service, and Sam for the fine tournament.

-The AFTAC Winter Social (Dec 12th) was announced, and the Alumni Association's 'SnowBall VI' (Jan 31st) was planned (see page 1).

-Al **Moy**, Assc. Secretary, will provide a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws to the base to satisfy their annual requirement as part of the annual Private Organization Package.

Other Chapter's News

COLORADO CHAPTER

ECHOES

Email: bdunn@qadas.com

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President, Jack **Smith**-Vice President, Earl **Pierce**
Treasurer, Bill **Schmied**-Newsletter Editor, Bryce **Dunn**
Webmaster, Bill **Harris**

October 2003 Issue Listing of Latest Events

The Annual Picnic was held on June 21st, 2003, the semi-annual Breakfast, Sept. 20th, 2003, and the Winter social on Nov. 8th, 2003.

WEST COAST CHAPTER DEPOT FALLOUT

Email: TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com

President Rod **Hinkle**; Vice President Joe **Johnson**; Board Director Ken **Denbleyker**; Asst. Board Director Dave **Tarquino**; Director at Large Orv **Pritchard**; Treasurer Bart **Carter**; Asst. Treasurer Charlie **Penn**; Membership Chairman Danny **Beach**; Secretary Marge **Iske**; Asst. Secretary Ken **Breitwieser**; Newsletter Editor Dale **Klug**; and Asst. Newsletter Editor/Webmaster Bob **Fitzgerald**.

October 2003 Issue Listing of Latest Events

Fall Social was held Oct 25th, Quarterly Business meetings planned for 2 Mar/1 Jun/7 Sep/7 Dec '04 (call ahead, 916-684-2359, to confirm). An **Alumni Worldwide reunion is planned for 2005 in Sacramento, CA**, Date TBD.

The West Coast Chapter Enters Cyberspace!

BOB FITZGERALD, WEBMASTER

We now have a website that we hope you will find informative, fun, and will want to visit frequently. It contains the latest on all our events, officers, photos, newsletters, event registration and reservation forms, membership application and renewal form, contact information, chapter history, and links to the Florida and Colorado Chapter websites. Set your web browser to go to www.AFTACwest.org and check it out. Your comments and suggestions would be welcome and should be sent to our e-mail address or to one of the specific references on the website. Enjoy! Congrats Bob, it looks great, glad to have CA on-line.'

Mail-Call

Leroy Jones Here are my dues for another year. I don't subscribe a longer time because when you are 84, a one-year term may be a life membership. Editor replied, 'come on Leroy, I'll bet you will say the same thing when you are 104.'

NOTE: The following two alumni inquired about CA membership.

Jeff Rekoske I served at TOD in early '90's.

William Roehrig served at Det 202, '68-'70, and TOD, '70-'71



(Alerts Continued from Page 1)

ALUMNI SNOW BALL VI

friends a great beginning to a brand new year. A highlight will be the announcement of our AFTAC Command 'Alumni of The Year' selectee. This person will also be honored at the '2004 Command Award Ceremony' on February 26th.

This will be our 6th year, the 1st year ~ 40 alumni showed up, ~ 50 for II and III – and 70 or so for IV and V, let's shoot for 100 this year. It is also customary that the AFTAC Commander and Superintendent, Directors, Dr. O'Brien and other interested active-duty personnel are invited.

The Command's Superintendent, CMSgt Lloyd **French**, has made arrangements with the Patrick AFB NCO Club to host us this year and other members have agreed to do the decorations.

Pertinent Information:

Theme: Florida Casual, Date: 31 Jan 04, Cost: \$20 per person, Time: 1800-1900 Cocktail Hour in Sharkey's Lounge, 1900 Dinner in Ocean Lounge, Menu: Combo Plate, London Broil with mushroom sauce & crab stuffed shrimp. For reservations contact Pat **Snyder** at 494-6867. There will be an cash bar and camaraderie galore.

All told, it will be a great evening and you can catch a preview. Go out to the Alumni website to look at pictures of previous SnowBalls. We are sure you'll recognize many of the faces. Look forward to seeing everyone at Snowball VI.

COMMAND AWARDS BANQUET, 26 FEB 04

EDITORS WITH INPUT FROM PAT SNYDER

For the eighth time in as many years, an Alumni will be honored at the annual 'Command Award Banquet.' In late 1995, then AFTAC Commander, Col Glen D. **Shaffer**, requested the Alumni Association Board recommend to him an alumni to be recognized at this command wide event. Since that time, new commanders have continued the tradition.

The board typically makes the selection during the final quarter of a calendar year. And, beginning in 1999, used the occasion of the Association's first 'SnowBall' to make the official announcement of the selectee.

The 'Command Awards Banquet' is a formal military affair and is held at the Patrick AFB NCO Club. Alumni are invited to 'come on out' and support their selectee and this active-duty event.

Reservations, Pat **Snyder** at 494-6867.

COMMAND PICNIC

EDITORS WITH INPUT FROM PAT SNYDER

The AFTAC Spring Picnic will be Saturday, 10 April 04, inside Wickham Park (vs the pavilion) near the ranger's station. Alumni are always an integral part of this annual event, being responsible for the very critical area of serving beer.

Reservations, Pat **Snyder** at 494-6867.

MONITOR ing Active

Duty Doing's from around the AFTAC World

Command Section



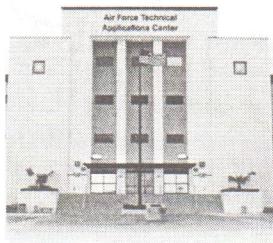
Commander, 2002.12 previously AFTAC CV and before that, Chief, Global Attack Area Team, Directorate of Requirements, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Langley AFB, VA. He has a Bachelor of Science, Astronautical Engineering from the AF Academy and a Master's from Ohio State and is a graduate of the USAF Test Pilot School. Col. Col. Bendorf has served in SAC, Space Command, Systems Command, Air Combat Command and the Joint Staff. He is a command pilot with 3200+ flight hours.

Col. Craig V.
Bendorf



Superintendent, 2003.01 AF/AFTAC since '77, trained in Gamma Spectroscopy and Special Equipment Operations-has attended Leadership School and the NCO and Senior NCO Academies receiving the Levitow and Commandant's Awards. He has also earned a BS in Business Administration. The Chief has served Airborne in many capacities at all command levels. He is married to the former Michelle Rostosky of Satellite Beach, FL. and has three children, Lindsey, Nicholas, and Christina.

CMSgt Lloyd S.
French



Troops honor those lost on Sept. 11

EXTRACTED FROM SEPT-OCT 'AFTAC FAMILY' PUBLICATION, BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS SHAUN EMERY, 45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Military members along the Space Coast took time the morning of Sept. 11 to pay tribute to the victims of America's worst terrorist attacks. Service members stood in formation coinciding with the exact time of each attack; the falling of the North and South Towers, the crash of Flight 93 in Pennsylvania and the crash of Flight 77 into the Pentagon, as base chaplains read prayers.

"This is a true symbol of remembrance of fallen family, friends, comrades and citizens of America," said SSgt. Ryan of AFTAC. "It's an honor to pay tribute to Americans lost on Sept. 11 and the sacrifice they gave to this great nation."

At 8:47 a.m. members of the Space Coast Junior Enlisted Advisory Council paid tribute to the victims in the South Tower.

"We wanted to do something special to remember those fallen," said Staff Sgt. Brandi Hicks, of AFTAC, and president of the Junior Enlisted Advisory Council

AFTAC SQ SECTION, NEW COMMANDER

SEPT-OCT 'AFTAC FAMILY' PUBLICATION, BY TECH. SGT BILL LINDNER, AFTAC PA

Maj. Bradley Scott Sears, former chief of the Plans, Exercises and Requirements Div of the AFTAC Plans and Programs Directorate, began a new stage in his career July 16 when he assumed command of AFTAC's Squadron Section.

Hurricane Isabel skips Patrick AFB, AFTAC

SEPT-OCT 'AFTAC FAMILY' PUBLICATION, BY TECH. SGT BILL LINDNER, AFTAC PA

Hurricane Isabel passed by Florida Sept. 17 and caused heavy surf along the beaches in front of the Air Force Technical Applications Center (AFTAC), even though the center of the storm remained several hundred miles off the coast.

"During high tide at noon on Sept. 17, some of the waves caused by Isabel surged inland as far as the edge of the Patrick AFB Officer's Club parking lot. In case Isabel had headed for Florida, personnel from AFTAC's Facilities Division would have taken steps to secure the building.



Strong waves from Hurricane Isabel caused this minor beach erosion across from AFTAC.

Congratulations to AFTAC's award winners

45th Space Wing (SW) SNCO of the Quarter, MSgt Miller
45th SW Honor Guard NCO of the Quarter, TSgt Rousseau
45th SW Senior Amn of the Quarter, SrA J. Bricker
AFTAC Civilians of the Quarter, Ms. L. Wright Junior Level,
Mr. R. Baumstark Mid level, Mr. F. Sornatale Senior Level

Det. 460 wins at ACC

Technicians keep 45 remote sites running 24/7

EXTRACTED FROM THE EIELSON, AFB, NEWS SERVICE, SSGT GREGOIRE NOV. 7, 2003, 354TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Detachment 460 of the Air Force Technical Applications Center headquartered at Patrick AFB, Fla., operates and maintains the largest seismic network in the United States used to detect nuclear events around the world. The 14-member detachment also has the ability to send their data by satellite directly to the United Nation's Provisional Technical Secretariat site in Vienna, Austria.

What does the detachment's mission revolve

FEATURE ARTICLES

around? Keeping the equipment up and running — a job where the command goals are blown away by the detachment. "We usually maintain a 99 and 97 percent operational rate with our seismic equipment and atmospheric sampling equipment," said MSgt. Richard **Bohn**, Det. 460 mission systems chief. It is this incredible operational rate that helped the detachment earn its honors, said Maj. Robert **Broady**, Det. 460 commander.

The detachment won the award at two levels before garnering ACC honors — at AFTAC, then at their administratively supported headquarters at Air Intelligence Agency, Lackland AFB, Texas. They will be competing at Air Force level next, said Broady.

"The ACC win was huge. We beat out other units who've supported Operation Iraqi Freedom — actual maintainers who've had their hands on weaponry. This demonstrated the significance of our treaty-monitoring mission to national defense," said Broady. The 11 detachment technical applications specialists are the cream of the crop, said Senior Master Sgt. John **Nederhoed**, Det. 460 superintendent. Only one in 1,000 airmen has the qualifying scores needed to enter the career field (90s in every category). Super Congratulations on this honor ... and good luck at AF. Readers, please check out our 'Feature' Section, and Joe Johnson's 'I Remember' article about the early days of 460.

Patrick AFB, South Housing Update

MELISSE DUMONT, 45TH CIVIL ENGINEERING SQUADRON, 2003.09.18
NOTE: So many of us called this 'home' we thought you'd be interested in keeping abreast of developments.

New homes are coming to South Housing. The protest has been resolved and the Patrick Air Force Base Housing Privatization Project is a "go" after a 90 day delay. "We are pleased that the protest has been settled so we can move forward on building new homes for our military families," said Brig. Gen. Greg **Pavlovich**, 45th Space Wing commander. "They deserve the best and that's what they are going to get. This community will be comparable to any on the Space Coast. Construction crews should start demolishing the old homes in South Housing sometime next month. We are back on track."

Patrick Family Housing LLC will continue as the property manager for South Housing. Families living in South Housing will become residents of the City of Satellite Beach when the area is annexed by the city on Oct. 1.

COMMANDER'S RECALL

Background: In light of the ongoing process that is the command, and a desire to record the impressions of this process "from the top," we ask previous commanders to give us a synopsis of their time with the command. We have received these impressions from many commanders to include Gen's **Silliman, Gordon, Clapper, O'Lear, Bingham and Shaffer** and Col's **Meisenheimer, Wigington and Beatty**. We thank these gentlemen for taking the time and effort to share their enlightening remembrances.

We anxiously await inputs from the remaining commanders, continuing 'Distinguished Association' members all: Jaynes, Jaeger, Dettmer and Horton.

We feel confident they will write as they find the time and opportunity—in the meantime, we will 'stand-by' and be at the ready.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO
'COMMANDER'S RECALL' INPUTS.**

NOTE: Gen (Ret) Jaeger attended 'Reunion 2003' and agreed to file his recall. We have corresponded with him and we look forward to his 'reCall' for the next issue.

**THE WAY IT WAS ...
AND THE WAY IT IS**

THE COMMAND, OVER THE YEARS

PREPARED BY GARY NULL, COMMAND HISTORIAN. Mr. Null has kindly agreed to prepare a series of articles concerning command entities ... how and when they started and what their status is at this time. This is the first of that series, thank you Mr. Null and we look forward to your series as a regular 'Feature Article.'

Mr. Null has advised us that duty constraints preclude providing an article at this time.

I REMEMBER...**LRD HISTORY BY THOSE WHO WERE THERE**

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS We solicit your unclassified memories of your career (events, people, etc.). Forward these to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN Remembrances column, to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2).

The 'I Remember' **HONOR ROLL:** Jack **Binkerd**, John **Horsch**, Jim **Payne**, Tom **Ciambrone**, Robert "Bobby" **Jones** (deceased), Mary **Miller**, Jim **Davis**, Rick **Holderman** (2 articles), Carl **Raines**, Dan **Burk**, Harry **Bedsworth**, Walter **Franks**, Bill **Braukman**, George **Kraus** (2), George **Waters**, Marvin **Ross**, Joe **Marshall**, Chuck **Conrad** and this issue, Joe **Johnson**, John **Bright**, Robert **Mason**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR
'I REMEMBER' INPUTS**

This memory concerns the early days of Det 460, and was recalled after learning of the recent honors for this location (our reporting of this honor is at page 9).

Joe Johnson, Det 460 Recalled

NOTE: JOE WAS THE 2002 ALUMNI OF THE YEAR, AND IS THE VP OF THE CA ASSC EXTRACTED FROM THE CALIFORNIA WEBSITE, 'WWW.AFTACWEST.ORG'

"I have a few recollections of Det 460 that go a long way back. Some may find them of interest. My first overseas duty assignment was at Det 204 located off what is now Fort Wainwright at Fairbanks, Alaska. Det 204 was the predecessor of Det 460 and Det 204 was overseas at that time (1955) as Alaska was not yet a state."

"After the Detachment was moved to its present location, I spent many months of temporary duty there while stationed at McClellan with the 1155TOS Operations Branch. In fact, I am sure I probably more than wore out my welcome with many of the people stationed at Det 460. Any time I or a number of us from 1155TOS visited, it was either to modify, add to, or in some way tear up the Detachment."

"Ben Vlassick (deceased), myself and 3 others (don't remember those names) made the initial equipment installation on Attu island. Over the years since, I expect there are many troops that wish we had never done that. Ken McCormick made the installations at Beaver Creek, Indian Mountain, and one other location that I don't recall the name of. All four of these sites I believe are still in operation."

"How would you like to be responsible for the operation and maintenance of Remote sites that are located from 100s of miles to 1000s of miles from your home station? My hat is off to the people, whoever they may be, that keep Det 460 up and running."

John Bright

Upon reading the POST-MONITOR for September 2003, I found a picture (NOTE: with three personnel) and a small message from you on page 4 entitled "Mystery Photo".

I immediately recognized the piney area and the sign. It is Biloxi AFB, Mississippi. I received my training there. At that time, as you see in the picture (I have enclosed) (right column), they were taking in a lot of "retreads" and they were recruiting from the Electronic Fundamentals Classes.

In my class, two men were called out for interviews. I recognized that they were 1 and 2, grade wise, in my class. At the next break, they told the rest of us that the recruiters were looking for people for highly classified overseas work. These two told us that they had turned it down as they were hoping for stateside duty. I went to the interview spot on the next break and asked to be interviewed as I was #3 in the class. I was ac-

cepted. We had been looking forward to a 16 week Radar school after we finished the 26 week Electronic Fundamentals Class and the possibility of going overseas excited me.

I started their 4 week school o/a 1 Feb. 1950. Although, I was good in Math and Electronics, the physics sent me for a jolt. I was struggling to keep up and was making about the lowest grade in the class of eight or nine. About 15 Feb., I came down with an appendix attack. I was moved to the hospital, appendix taken out and the recuperation time was then 2 weeks. One of the officers from the school visited me and said that when I got out of the hospital, my class would have graduated. So, they would put me in the next class.

I got out of the hospital and reported to the school around 1 March. The next class was not scheduled to start until o/a 1 April, so I spent the month of March as a copier, gofer, classified material burner (in the big basket outside), and whatever. However, I did get familiar with the Auto-Scalers and lead pigs, etc.

So, around April 1, I started with the other 6 men in the picture I am sending. Saving my old notes, and studying where I was weak, I managed to stay somewhere in the middle, grade wise and graduated as you see on 2 May 1950.

Front row, L-R, Richard Brown, Myself (John R. Bright) holding the sign, and Vaughn Lancaster. The back row, L to R, is Robert Vogt, John Stephenson, John Allred, and Sam Carter.



Upon graduation, most of us were sent to McClellan AFB, Calif. for around the clock, shift training, using airborne and ground produced filters. O/A September, I got orders for an overseas location. With leave at home in Virginia, and about a month at the transit base in Mass., I arrived around 1 Nov. We operated in a Quonset hut next to the hospital and were supposedly lab technicians for the hospital. In Nov. 51, I returned

to McClellan. I was assigned to several experimental projects for the next year. I did not reenlist and was discharged in October of 1952 and returned home to Virginia.

Over the years, the only Long Range Detector that I heard from was Don **Mosley**, whom I have seen several times. He was also assigned to the overseas location mentioned above and worked with me for about 6 months. The first contact I had with a member of my class of 2 May 1950 was this past January when John **Allred** called me. It was nice to hear from him after all these years and I hope to get up to Richmond, Va. to see him soon. I looked thru the August Membership Directory and John Allred is the only one of my class in there. I hope to make one of the reunions.

Great reply, and memories. Boy, do we like to hear from the troops that go back as far as you do. Thank you so much.

Robert Mason

NOTE: extracted from a letter received from Col (Ret) Mason as he prepared to attend a reunion of his Vietnam era squadron that flew out of NKP, Thailand-see 'Mail-Call' (continued) section

Thinking back to the Vietnam era, my squadron had four of us AFTAC personnel (Bob Mason, Rex **Riley**, Charlie **Vogler**, and Ron **Carter**) on rotation to flying assignments, flying the A-26A aircraft against the truck traffic on the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Vietnam and Laos. For the several other AFTAC personnel that could not get rid of their "travel and duty restrictions," they were assigned to ground duties at "Igloo White," which was also located at our base. They were a significant help in locating the North Vietnam truck traffic for us, as well as locating one of our most sought after targets -- elephants.

Those darn things could carry over a thousand pounds of munitions and travel quickly over some pretty lousy territory. However, they made a lot of noise and could not escape the AFTAC developed technology. Our friends at "Igloo White" were quick to get us on the lucrative targets. In real bad monsoon weather, it was the AFTAC technology that located the trucks and allowed us to continue the air strikes without visual reference to the ground.

I look forward to seeing several former AFTAC operations and technical personnel at the Air Commando reunion, as well as visiting several that have retired in the North Florida area. I will bring my "Post-Monitor" for them to read as I noted that many were not listed in the membership of the alumni association.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

LRD FAMILIES ... OVER THE YEARS

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS. Some families have served the mission over several generations. With this column we ask those families to share that history. Forward to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN Family Affair column, to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2). These brave souls have stepped forth, Curt **Miller** and Tony **Calenda** (with a 'father's response' by Frank **Calenda**), and we hope to hear from the others we are aware of, Randy **Vlassick**, Curt **Stephens**, Nick **Kappel**, and Mark **Smith**. If you are aware of others, please let us know.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO 'A FAMILY AFFAIR' INPUTS.

Several LRD family members have agreed to share their stories with us. Thank you Randy **Vlassick**, Mark **Smith**, and Nick **Kappel**. Mark will be featured next issue and his Dad, Curt ('Smitty'), has promised his reaction.

WHERE ARE YA?!!!

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS. Where we attempt to get you to let us know "where ya are" and "what'cha been doin" - Forward these updates to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN Updates column to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2).

WE LOOK FORWARD TO 'WHERE ARE YA?!!!' INPUTS

Mary Miller-Email, 2003.11.29

(spouse of deceased alumni, Lindsey Miller)

Thanksgiving is over and time to think of 'old friends' and play 'catch-up.'

I'm still in the traveling mode. I think I left off when I got back from a five month trip to South America in 2000/2001. Then I was off for a month to Laos, Cambodia and Thailand in the spring of 2001/2002.

In the spring of 2002 I took a six week trip to Viet Nam and China. Then in Nov. of last year I went to Rhajastan, India, for a month. In Dec. I went to Northern Thailand to do some volunteer teaching for four months in a school about an hour from Chiang Mai. I lived with a Thai family and taught conversational English at a Jr./Sr. High School in the town of ChomThong. I'm returning in Jan. of 2004 to teach again at that school in the Chiang Mai district and another in the Mae Hong Son district.

When their school lets out I'm going to Kanchanaburi district to volunteer at a home for destitute women and children. I'll be gone at least three months and maybe more if it works out.....

I do this on my own. I don't go through a Volunteer organization. I pay my own way; make my own connections and GO FOR IT! I spend my summers in the mountains hiking and backpacking parts of the continental divide trail and other trails here in CO.

This summer I thought I needed to settle down a little so I began to look into finding a partner. Ha! Can't find anyone who can keep up with me or accept my lifestyle. Not my age anyway. I turned 71 two weeks ago. Of course with six kids scattered across the states I manage to go to visit them at least once a year too.

Know anyone who would love to travel, backpack and hike all summer and ski all winter? Send him my way....I'll take a younger man.... Ha!

Thanks for the Newsletter. I do enjoy it. Especially when the guys tell the tales of assignments.....You both do a GREAT job. Keep it up. We sure will Mary, especially for great readers like yourself that drop us an update from Pagosa Springs, CO, every once in awhile. You also, 'keep it up' and we'll keep our eyes open for a 'him' for you.

BS (BARELY SUBSTANTIATED) TALES!

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS. We solicit unclassified humorous tales about LRD events and people - recognizing these anecdotes may be Barely Substantiated (BS). Forward your BS to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN BS column, to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish them in the order received and as soon as we can. Thanks for your help.
The 'BS' HONOR ROLL: Jack Binkerd, John Horsch (4 articles), Ben Vlassick, deceased, Brian Berenbach, Mike Gingrich (2), Frank Liberatori, Bill Taylor, Frank Calenda (2), Ron Cook (2), Walter Franks, Ken Oyer, Bob Chadwick, Frank and Nedra Szachta, Chuck Wallace, Jon Kempe, George Kraus (2), Bud Horrell, Mike Steskal, Ray Copeland (4), Geno Wagner, Harold Huhs, Jack Wagley, Leroy Jones, Jack Dorneden (5)

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR
'BS' INPUTS

Jack Dorneden

Jack does it again in this issue with several stories and pictures from his 'down-under' days

EMAIL FROM JACK, 10/2

This is a picture taken during the 421 July 4th, 1957, party at the Alice Springs Memorial Club. The DetCo, Maj. Jackson, started having parties celebrating our independence and inviting the whole population of Alice Springs to them every year. The DetCo provided the finances. Most of "The Alice" showed up for the free grog. It was the det personnel's duty to provide organization, decorations, and "entertainment."

This year our idea of entertaining the locals was some beer commercial songs and the picture shows us attempting one of those. The people



from left to right are: John Gontarek, unknown, Bob Umbarger, Bob Hipple, Bruce Clason, Bill Metz, me (Jack Dorneden), and Sid Dearborn. Notice my beard. Jackson was pretty loose with us as long as we were neat and behaved ourselves (within reason).

These parties were huge successes with the townspeople and I'm curious as to whether they still happen. I understand the Memorial Club has been rebuilt since then. I do remember several of us helping one of the locals hunt for his upper plate in the bushes near the club's outdoor "facilities" on this particular night.

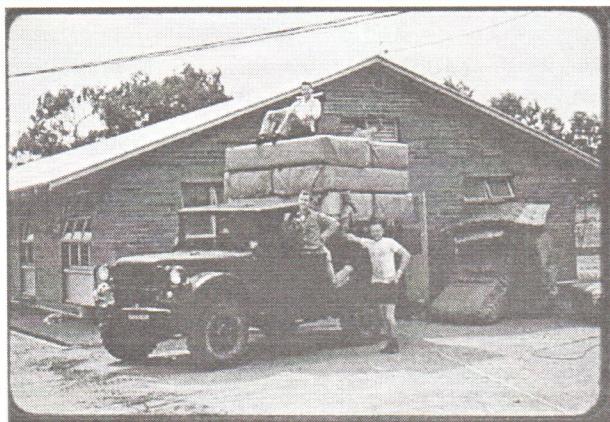
By the way, the guy in the middle of the "Mystery Photo" in the last Monitor kinda looks like Bruce Clason, but I'm not sure.

Thanks for your careful read, and reply, to our 'Mystery Photo' - the 'place' is identified by one of our 'I Remember' writers (John Bright) in this issue as Biloxi, did Bruce go to school there?

'Movin' On'

Alice Springs was the only place I was stationed where the det troops wanted to live in a barracks. During the 50's you were lucky if you could find a place on the economy that had a swamp cooler, much less air conditioning, and summer in The Alice begged for something cooling. Methinks that was one reason we all spent hours and hours in the pub.

At any rate the folks in charge agreed, a barracks was built and one day the magic chariot from the sky arrived with furnishings for our new place. Several weapons carrier loads were carried from the airport to our new address. This is a picture (see next page) of the last one. Bob Umbarger is in the Weapon door, Fenny Derden on the ground, and 'meself' sitting in the chair on top



of the beds. This is the way we came from the airport, I actually rode in that chair.

Those old Weapons Carriers were great vehicles. I saw one here in Illinois last month that had just been restored. We had no sooner than turned on the first room air-conditioner than we discovered we could easily fit three, one liter sized bottles of beer inside each one.

'More Movin'

Here was another reason everyone at The Alice was in favor of moving into a US built barracks. This is a shot of Bob **Umbarger** and my very own



brick shhh (quiet) house at the first "flat" we rented. The honey wagon drove down a dirt track behind them, opened a door at the bottom and pulled out the large bucket, replaced it, and drove on.

Hopefully you were not in it when they did this. As with most outhouses it was either steaming hot and full of flies or freezing cold and full of flies. The fly was the national bird of the Northern Territory.

Even tho 'in hiding' this is a great shot of Bob reasoning out his next project.

Tod River Tales

Here are several pictures to illustrate the changing nature of this river. First is looking east at the pedestrian crossing over the Todd River bed.

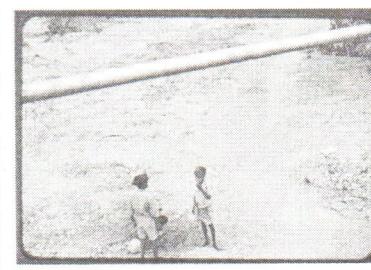


This is the way it was probably 99% of the time. Second is

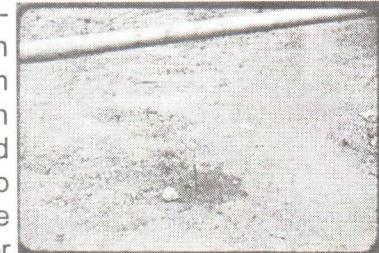
during the other 1%, showing a taxi driving through the Todd River. This was taken after the river had actually gone

down 50%. A Land Rover with 3 passengers attempted a crossing once while the river was at peak and all 3 wound up several miles down river, drowned.

This one I think shows the sometimes surrealistic nature of "The Alice." We're again looking down from the pedestrian bridge at the Todd River bed. What do we see in the middle of a river? A water faucet of course! Every river needs a water faucet! Bob **Umbarger** and I told a couple of tourists that stayed with us once that this was how the river was filled. That this was done once a year if no water came down naturally. I swear to God that by the time we were finished with them, they believed it.



and, oh yeah, the faucet worked. Here's one of three Aborigine kids at the faucet, look carefully and you can see one head down drinking from it, plus a puddle on the ground.



(Events continued from page 1)

OCTOBER GOLF N'GETOGETHER

SAM SORICE

Although there was a hint of rain in the air, 23 teams of avid golfers enjoyed a great afternoon at the Cocoa Beach course. The fall golf tournament got underway without a wrinkle thanks to the help of the many volunteers. Frank Hall and Sam Sorice did the behind the scenes planning to see that all the details were taken care of. Judy Milam, Bev Hall, Carol Snyder and Pat Snyder were on hand to register our golfers and sell mulligans. We had a shotgun start at 1:00 and managed to complete 18 holes without a drop of rain! What a great day. As always, we had at least one camera roving the course and taking compromising pictures of our golfers; check out the website for all the pictures, and a sampling follow this article.

The golfers returned to the pavilion to enjoy a great BBQ dinner catered by Smokin' Joe. While we enjoyed the delicious food, Judy Milam, with a little help from our volunteers, presented the tournament winners with gift certificates to Cocoa Beach Pro Shop (see text/pics that follow).

In the finest tradition of our alumni tournament, our corporate sponsors came through with generous donations for our door prizes. The strong support of SAIC, CTI, ENSCO, and Zel Tech allowed us to give away a number of golf shirts, hats, gloves, umbrellas and golf balls as door prizes, and many golfers went home as prize winners, and none other than our incoming president, Judy Milam won the grand prize of a new golf bag (a listing of prize winners follow).

It was a fun filled day that let us renew some old friendships, make some new acquaintances and mingle with our active duty force. See you at the spring tournament!



*****The Stars*****

Tournament Winners:

PICTURES AND TEXT, JUDY MILAM



1st Place (\$50 ea) – with a net 52: John McDunnough, Tom Andler, Don Beck, Bob Daniel



2nd Place (\$35 ea) – with a net 54: Ron Couch, Frank Hall, Mike Hoy, Mike Stiewig



3rd Place (\$25 ea) – with a net 55: Mitch Miller, Bud Andree, Ernest Finney, Mike Grabowski

Other 'Skill' Winners

Closest to the Pin - #2 River (Dozen Balls): Tom Andler

Closest to the Pin - #2 Dolphin (Dozen Balls): "OB" Obermueller

Longest Drive - #4 River (Dozen Balls): John Holshey

Longest Drive - #4 Dolphin (Dozen Balls): Mike Hoy

Mulligan Ticket Winners

Golf Shirt (1 ea): Susan Leonard, Tony Pradia, Frank Gutcher, Kirkpatrick, Vindell Hsu, Dave Money

Golf Hat (1 ea): Susie Glasgow, Frank Hall, Al Moy

Golf Umbrella (1 ea): Bob Daniel, Steve McLaren

Golf Towel (1 ea): C Kirchoff, Wade Lester, Toi Benoit, Mike Stiewig

Golf Glove (1 ea): Wade Lester, Tony DeMarco, Brad Neihart, John Howorth, Ernest Finney, Mike Stiewig, Howie Dibble

Sleeve of Golf Balls (1 ea): Sam Sorice, Mark Benoit, Gary Killian, Jeff Patterson, Wes Tracy, Joe Hauser, Wes Tracy, Howie Dibble, Tom Wuchte, Scott Harris, Don Beck, Joe Marshall, M Crumpton

Taylor Made Putter: Jim Short

Wilson Fat Shaft Putter: Jim Short

Wilson Fat Shaft Putter: Tony Calenda

Wilson Fat Shaft Wedge: Howard Buckley

Wilson Fat Shaft Wedge: Jim Short (YES, Jim Short won 3 clubs!)

Titelists Sand Wedge: Lo Bedgood

Golf Bag: Judy Milam

Late Breaking News**Active Duty Doings'**

PAT SNYDER

Elections were recently held for the 2004 AFTAC Booster Club Officers and they are:

- President: SSgt Rebecca **Lehnerz**
- Vice President: MSgt Jeffrey **Stanley**
- Treasurer: MSgt Gary **Johnson**
- Hot Dogs: A1C Jeremy **Hollingsworth**
- Clothing Sales: Pat **Snyder**
- Secretary: SrA Terri **Ross**
- Public Affairs: SrA Sasha **Hall**

Congratulations and thanks to these active-duty troops who so often support the alumni.

MAIL - CALL

(Letters/Email continue from page 4)

NEW/RENEWING SAGES**Delbert Leiter-Fremont, MI 2003.10.03**

It's dues time once again and once again I am tardy with my check so to preclude anymore of these shenanigans, I am sending you a check for \$75.00 to cover lifetime dues unless you have increased them. If so, let me know and I will send you the difference.

Enjoy the newsletters and the updated roster of personnel. Wish we lived closer to Florida so we could attend the functions now and again. But wish you continued success with your organization and send you attaboys/girls for what you have been doing. My address and email address have not changed as yet and if and when we move, I will send you the updated information.

My history with the organization was 1963-1966 with Det 207 under Major Frank Adams and his Airedale sidekick Woody. From 1966 to 1969 did a tour with now defunct 1155th TOS. Very enjoyable memories with the organization and a great bunch of people to serve with.

Robert Mason-Oak Ridge, TN 2003.10.07

As I was preparing for my trip to Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, for a reunion of my Vietnam era squadron that flew out of NKP, Thailand, I received my AFTAC Post Monitor and noted that it was time to pay my dues. So enclosed is my money and some help with your postage costs.

NOTE: We have extracted a part of Col (Ret) Mason's letter to include in our 'Feature' area as a great 'I Remember.'

Harvey Shaw-Rockledge, FL 2003.10.30

I hear that you are still getting all the monies, according to John (Horsch). It looks like I am getting it to you on time again this year.

Carol and I just came back from a trip to Arrington, VA, to visit our daughter, Darlene, and her husband. While we were there we also went on a visit to Washington DC, Virginia Beach and the Outer Banks. We are enjoying retirement.

Alex DiSanto-Fairfax, VA 2003.10.31

While packing in preparation for our move to Melbourne next month it dawned upon me that I had not sent in my dues for FY04. As best as I can remember I owe \$10. If more you can catch me at my new Melbourne address after Nov 17th.

Bonus Story

This is an article your editors read sometime ago and have been hoping to present to you since that time. It contains important information about the early history of this country that we had not read before. We are sure some of you have not seen this, and positive all of you will enjoy it.

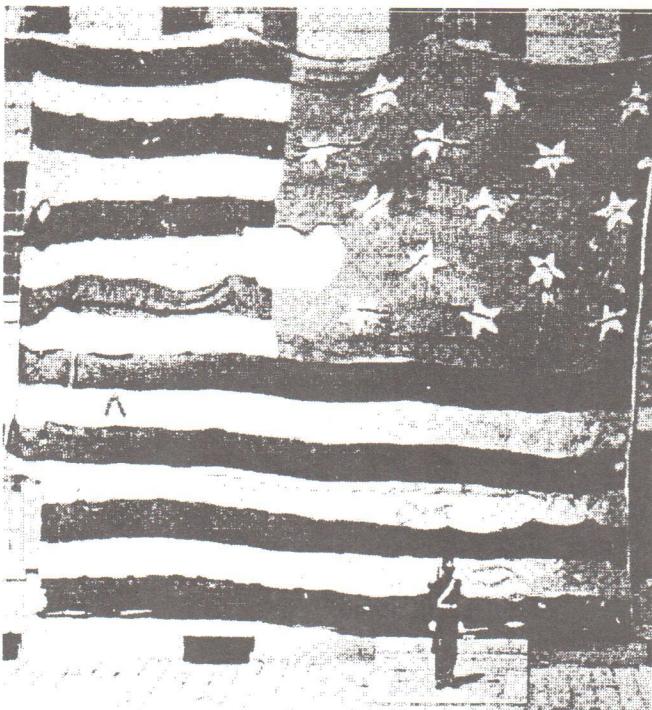
Major Armistead's Flag

The maker of the flag that Francis Scott Key saw flying over Fort McHenry on the morning of Sept. 14 was Mary Pickersgill. Mrs. Pickersgill, a widow, was a professional flag maker, as her mother had been before her. (In fact, Rebecca Young, Mary Pickersgill's mother, had made a flag for General George Washington's headquarters in Cambridge, Mass., during the Revolutionary War.) The flag was commissioned by Major George Armistead, the commander of Fort McHenry. Armistead explained his motive to Major General Samuel Smith, the leader of American forces in the Baltimore area:

We, sir, are ready at Fort McHenry to defend Baltimore against invading by the enemy. This is to say, we are ready except that we have no suitable ensign to display over the Star Fort, and it is my desire to have a flag so large that the British will have no difficulty seeing it from a distance.

Mrs. Pickersgill completed Armistead's flag in August 1814, shortly before the Battle of Baltimore took place. The flag has 15 stars and 15 stripes, although there were 18 states in the union by then. Yes, that's right-15 stripes. After the first flag of 13 stars and stripes for the original colonies, two more stars and stripes had been added when Vermont became the 14th state in

1791 and Kentucky the 15th in 1792. Congress passed a law halting further additions in 1794. It was not until 1818 that another law was passed requiring a star for each new state. Congress also recognized the frightful prospect of skinny red and white pinstripes by mandating that the flag should henceforth revert to 13 broad stripes for the original 13 states, adding a star for each new state but not a new stripe.



The original star-spangled banner, with 15 stars and 15 stripes, photographed at the Boston Navy Yard in 1873. The flag is nearly square, primarily because of "souvenirs" cut from it during the 19th century.

The 15 white cotton stars, which are two feet wide, point to point, were not made of a single piece of fabric but of "piece goods" sewn together. As an example, the middle and, say, four points might be made from one piece and the fifth point from another.

There is another surprise in the field of stars discovered during the Smithsonian Institution's project to conserve the flag, which began in 1999. The same stars are seen from both sides. Mrs. Pickersgill first sewed on the stars on one side, then turned the flag over, cut out the part of the blue field under the stars, and sewed down the stars to the blue field on the second side. This is known as the reverse appliqué method. Smithsonian conservators estimate that 350,000 stitches were used to sew the flag together.

That's 350,000 individual stitches, hand-sewn one by one. (For information about the Smithsonian Institution's flag conservation project, visit the Star-Spangled Banner Web site at <http://americanhistory.si.edu/ssb/>).

The eight red and seven white stripes are also two feet wide, but close inspection shows that, like the stars, the stripes are not made of single pieces. Instead, the stripes are pieced together with varying lengths of bunting.

Mrs. Pickersgill and her helpers started work on the flag in her house and then, when it got too big, laid out the material on the floor of the malt house of Claggett's Brewery, which was near the Pickersgill house. When they were finished sewing the flag together, it was 30 feet, or three stories high, 42 feet long, and weighed 80 pounds. That is relatively light when the size of 1,260 square feet is taken into account, but it had to be light in order to flap in the wind.

To get an idea of the size of the flag, consider that each star is twice as large as an adult's head and that, in its normal horizontal display of 30 feet high, is the equivalent of five men, 6 feet tall, stacked one atop the other. The flag was made to fly from a 90 foot flagpole, so it had to be big. It took Mrs. Pickersgill and her workers six weeks to make the flag in July and August 1814, and Mrs. Pickersgill turned it over to Armistead on Aug. 19. On Oct. 27 she was paid \$405.90 for it, which is about \$3,400 today.

The making of the Baltimore flag is thoroughly documented, but its construction is not nearly so well fixed in the public mind as the tale of Betsy Ross's making the very first American flag in Philadelphia. But the story of the Baltimore flag has the advantage of being true, provable by accounts of the day and even the preservation of the bill of sale. The Betsy Ross story, on the other hand, is now believed by historians to have been concocted or at least greatly exaggerated by her descendants. The official history of the flag by the Daughters of the American Revolution, which ought to know about these things, says that because the records are faulty, "it is difficult to confirm many of the claims as to the flag's original designer, maker, or display." Betsy Ross, the DAR says, "was paid for making flags for the government as early as May 1777" or sometime after the first one is known to have been made.

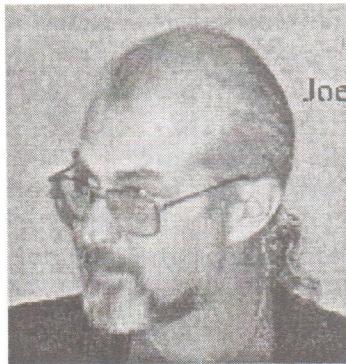
...and we still have room for some great photos from alumni association events. For the most part, these are 'copied' from the association webpage maintained by Clark Creery, 'Upcoming Events,' on our website webmastered by Mike Black. So, if you have access, you may go to that site and see many more similar pictures.

Golf n'Getogether, Oct 2003

PICTURES BY JUDY MILAM AND JOE MARSHALL

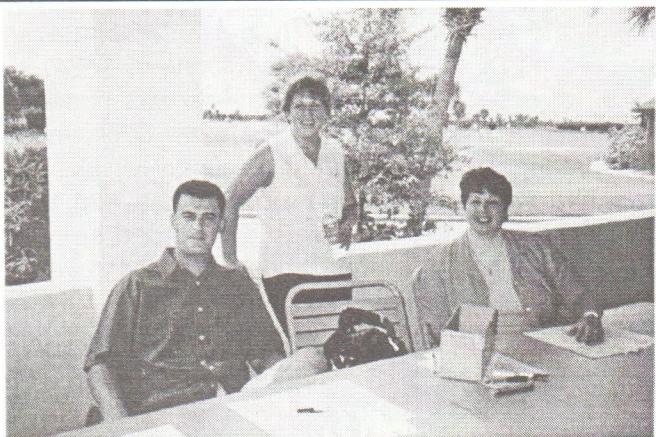
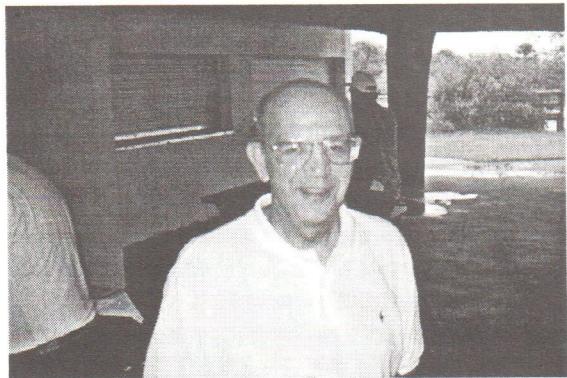
The 'FY2004 Elected Officers'

Judy Milam, President ...Pat Snyder, Vice
Al Moy, Secretary ... Joe Goldian, Treasurer



The 'Workers'

The Outing's 'Major Arranger'-Sam Sorice

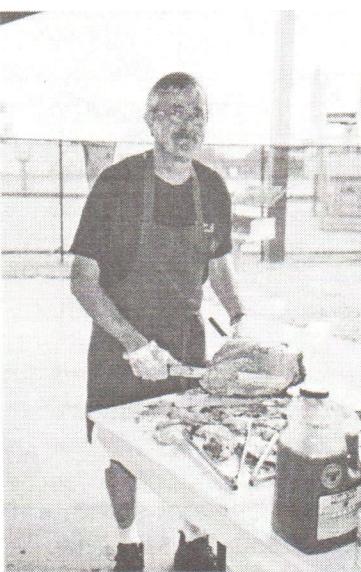


Jason Holbert, Pat Snyder, Carol Snyder

Carl Gailey, Bev Hall, Frank Hall



The Cook, Smokin' Joe,
...working on some
of that great food



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Long-Range Detection Alumni Association, Patrick AFB FL

- ◆ NOTE: the web-like pound sign (#) identifies articles that are also featured on the association webpage, "csi-inc.com/aftac"
- Page 1 #Sage Spotlight - #Alumni Alerts - Alumni Events
Page 2 #Association/Chapter Information - #Editorial
Page 3/5 Mail-Call/#Alumni To Remember
Page 7/9 Florida and Other Chapter News/Monitoring Active Duty Doins'
Page 10 Feature Articles, "Commanders reCall" (none) - "The Way It Was - The Way It Is" (none)
"I Remember" (three) - "A Family Affair" (none) - "Where Are Ya?!!!" (one)
"Barely Substantiated (BS) Tales" (three)

Page 19/20 #Calendar - #Alumni Shop/#Contents, Application and Address Label

Technical data - issue size, ~20MB, using a Dell 2350 (1.8GH/256/60G/DVD/CD-RW/CIS30 Canon Scanner) with MSPub2000 software; the commercial printer is 'Indian River Printing Company.' Preparation/input/proofing time by the editors is in the neighborhood of 100 enjoyable hours, a figure not including the unknown hours of preparation and typing/proofing/mailing by individual contributors/assistors



SNFE the Snail Sez, keep us up-to-date on your life and forward unclassified organizational adventures and tales - inputs are due the 1st Monday in the month of publication (March, June, September & December).

Membership Application

(complete and mail to ATTN: Membership Chair) (address/contact information on Page two, left panel)

FLORIDA Chapter dues (check one, enclose sum): \$10 annual dues \$75 lifetime

SPECIAL OFFER, For first time (new) members only, three years dues for \$20

(Spouse) _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER(s): _____ EMAIL/HOME PAGE (optional) _____

NOTICE: Membership information will be passed to other AFTAC Alumni Chapters and members unless you state that this information is not to be released, and may be made available on the association website.

Long Range Detection

AFTAC Alumni Assn
P.O Box 254892
Patrick AFB, Florida 32925-0892

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



(<<<) The emblem used by the alumni association was in active service from 1970 to 2000 (the replacement is a less detailed rendering). The association continues the use of this version because so many alumni served while it was 'on duty.'

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FY Dues are due OCT----->LT

John Horsch

515 Temple St

Satellite Beach FL 32937-3324

IN GOD WE still TRUST - ALL OTHERS, WE used to MONITOR!