

◆ POST - MONITOR ◆

Volume 7 Issue 4

689 Members - 440 Lifetime (15 are Complimentary)

1999 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 AFTAC's
SAGES

SAGE SPOTLIGHTS**THE
2000 BOARD****OUR MILLENNIUM BOARD MEMBERS**

SUBMITTED BY THE EDITORS

ELECTED

(with AF & AFTAC dates/last position; alumni asc. relationship)

PRESIDENT-MIKE SHILKITUS AF, 70-97 & AFTAC 79-82 & 95-97,
Vice Commander; Alumni Asc, 97-Lifetime, first office

VICE-PRESIDENT-SAM SORICE AF, 67-88 & AFTAC, 85-88, Chief,
Space Operations Division; Alumni Asc, Lifetime, first office

SECRETARY-JUDY MILAM AF, 65-99 & AFTAC, 65-71 & 72-99,
Scientific & Technical Information (STINFO) Officer; Alumni Asc, 89-
Lifetime, Secretary since 1990

TREASURER-FRANK CALENDA AF, 55-78 & AFTAC, 66-78, Su-
perintendent, Satellite Terminal; Alumni Asc, 85-Lifetime; Alumni Re-
union Committee, '87 (first Florida Alumni Reunion)

APPOINTED

ACTIVITIES-CMSGT KEN MYERS AF & AFTAC, 79-, Superinten-
dent, AFTAC; Alumni Asc, 94-Lifetime, Activities, 98-

HERITAGE HALL-TBD

HOSPITALITY-EUNICE HARRIS AF & AFTAC, 72-96, Secretary-
Nuclear Technology Dir; Alumni Asc, 89-Lifetime, Hospitality, 89-

INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS-MIKE BLACK AF, 72-92 & AF-
TAC, 81-92, AFTAC NCOIC Test and Analysis Branch, Advanced
Technology Directorate, HQ AFTAC; Alumni Asc, 92-Lifetime, Web-
meister, 97-

DAVE JOHNSON AF & AFTAC, 68-88, Software integration Manager
(Advanced Technology Division); Alumni Asc, Lifetime, Webmeister,
June 97-, VP- two years ago

MEMBERSHIP-JIM PAYNE AF, 52-84 & AFTAC, 62-84, Senior
Enlisted Advisor; Alumni Asc, 85-Lifetime, first office

NEWSLETTER-JOHN/CHRIS HORSCH AF & AFTAC, 58-87, Se-
nior Enlisted Advisor; Alumni Asc, 85-Lifetime, Publicity, 87-90, Newslet-
ter, 96-

PUBLICITY-SWEDE SWANSEN AF, 73-93, & AFTAC, 77-93, Small
(Spotlight...Continued on page 3)

DUES DUE?

If you wish to remain a member, and receive this newsletter, check your address NOW. The first line indicates when Dues are due. If it reads "00<-FY Dues due in Oct!" it means our records show you have not paid for FY 2000 (began 99 Oct 1) - this will be your LAST ISSUE until dues are paid. If the first two digits on line one of your address label are other than 00 it means your dues are current.

The Big Story - Sage Honored
HALL OF HONOR

SUBMITTED BY JUDY MILAM

On 25 September 1999 **Col. Thomas W. Ciambrone** (retired 1987), former AFTAC Vice Commander, joined the ranks of the "best of the best" when he was inducted into the Freedom Through Vigilance Association's Hall of Honor (HOH) Program at AIA Headquarters, Kelly AFB, Texas. The Hall of Honor program began in 1983 when "The Founders" of the Command were identified, selected, and recognized. Then, during subsequent years, the Association identified and recognized "Distinguished Alumni," for those who served with distinction during the period of a decade; i.e., the Fifties, the Sixties, and the Seventies. Then the program became known as the "Hall of Honor" program designed to honor those of any period who were identified and selected as the "best of the best."

Col Ciambrone joins the ranks of other former AFTAC members in the HOH: Lt Gen James R. Clapper, Jr.; Dr. Gerard M. Leies; Mr. Doyle L. Northrup; Dr. Carl F. Romney; and Mr. Walter Singlevich. There's no higher honor than being considered the best of the best by one's own peers, and we congratulate Col Ciambrone and other former AFTAC employees for the honor of being included in the HALL OF HONOR.

Alumni Alerts-What's Comin' Up

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

Golf...Socials...More...(Continued on page 3)

Association Honor Roll

Alumni Of The Year Recipients

Frank Hall 1998 - Judy Milam, 1997
 Carl Gailey, 1996 - Clark Creery, 1995

AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Association was formed in March 1985 and chartered later the next year. 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

Membership dues, \$10 per year (based on FY, 1 Oct.-30 Sep.), payable in Oct., or \$75 for a life. You're encouraged to attend scheduled monthly meetings beginning at 5:30pm on the second Monday of each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC headquarters building (#989) at Patrick AFB., FL. For information, meetings or membership, contact Jim Payne, (321)777-4731/jbpayne@juno.com, Carl Gailey, (321)777-0569/gaileyec@juno.com, Judy Milam, (321)254-8878/jem2415@worldnet.att.net, or Pat Snyder, (321)494-6867/psnyder@aftac.gov. Dues, membership applications, and other queries/information should be mailed to:

**AFTAC Alumni Association, PO Box 254892
 Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892**

The chapter provides a quarterly (Mar., Jun., Sep., Dec.) newsletter, "Post-Monitor" (staff data below), namesake of a previous AFTAC active-duty publication, "Monitor," & a Web-page, "<http://www.csihq.com/aftacalumni>", with association/alumni information, a "Post-Monitor" Sampler, and photos - Webmeisters are Dave Johnson and Mike Black

"PERENNIALS"

Members who have served on the Florida Chapter board for five or more years

Frank Hall, President/Vice, '89-'98 Judy Milam, Secretary since '89

Mary Welch, Membership, '91-'99 Carl Gailey - Treasurer since '91-'99

Swede Swansen, publicity, since '93

Colorado chapter

Membership dues are \$5 per year, payable in February; chapter publishes a newsletter, "Echoes," and meets several times a year. For additional information contact Bill Schmied, (303) 367-0625

West Coast (California) chapter

Formed in 1999, dues are \$5 per year, \$50 for lifetime; for additional information contact Joe Johnson, (916)783-8676, email, 'TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com', mailing address:AFTAC/WFO-1155th-TOD, PO Box 888, North Highlands, CA 95660-0888 They plan to hold regular meetings and social activities, host a webpage and publish a periodic newsletter.

AFTAC and Alumni Honorarium

There are several permanent and ongoing projects representing and honoring AFTAC people and history. Two of these, the "Hall of Heritage" (with information and artifacts) and the Photos/Biographies of Alumni who served AFTAC for 20 plus years, are housed at AFTAC Headquarters, another is an AFTAC display at the Encampment Wyoming Museum.

Newsletter Editors: John and Chris Horsch

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

Executive Review: Frank Hall

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

Rovin' Reporter: Clark Creery

Printing/Mailing: Carl Gailey and Swede Swansen

"A TEAM" ...of Horsch's

'58-'87

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

First off, Happy Holidays - dependent on when this reaches you, and whatever holiday you are recognizing, hope you will/are/have enjoy (ing) (ed) it and the things we remember at this time of year - the very essence of this association, and this newsletter, is celebrated during this season as we continue to maintain contact with old friends, and an organization we served.

Secondly, welcome and good luck to our "2000 Board" - we've got some 'new blood' helpin' us out and we look forward to their 'reign.' (elections were held at a meeting following golf on 10/8)

An item of interest - note that the Brevard county telephone area code has changed from 407 to 321. - also note the significance of the new area code as it pertains to the "Space Coast." This was an area code that Florida fought to have.

We continue to receive outstanding support from our readers providing inputs for our on-going series of articles ("Commanders reCall," "I Remember," "A Barely Substantiated (BS) Tale," and "Where are ya'?!") Along those lines we have outstanding stories in every one of these sections...and the letters we receive...keep it up, there's always something invigorating about being reminded of someone you have not thought of for a long time.

We have a letter written by Ron Cook that has caused us to rethink our "dating convention." Those of us who remember Ron know to listen when he has an idea. This one is pretty logical and we'd be interested in your thoughts about his recommendation.

You'll also learn about a building, where many of us worked on a daily basis or visited on numerous occasions, that has reached a new height of recognition. We think you'll be pleasantly surprised by this development and may even want to 'own a piece' of this history.

(Spotlight...Continued from page 1)

Computer, Computer Security & Network System Administration, Alumni Asc, 93-Lifetime, Publicity, 93-

ACTIVE-DUTY ADVISORS

COL. BEATTY (CC) AF/AFTAC, 67-80 (enlisted)/Jul 98-, Commander, Alumni Asc, 98-, Honorary Lifetime

CMSGT KEN MYERS (CMD SUPERINTENDENT), see above

MSGT GILROY (AFTAC HQ'S FIRST SERGEANT), AF/AFTAC, 75/97-, AFTAC First Sergeant; Alumni Asc, 98-

(Alumni Alerts...Continued from page 1)

UPDATE**Aloha Alumni!**

SUBMITTED BY "ACTIVITIES," KEN MYERS



It is quickly closing in on the winter season and we are planning "SnowBall II.". This year's theme for this annual event will be "Luau 2000" and it will once again be held at the Patrick NCO Club.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, 29 Jan '00. Mai Tai's, and other cocktails, will start at 1800 with the luau feast kicking off at 1900. Cost

will be \$18.00 per person which includes the meal and some beverages. Reservations may be made starting after the first of January and continuing through the 25th. Contact me per instructions following in the TOD History Book article below or Pat Synder (contact information on pg 2, left column). Heather and I have a few ideas in mind to make this a fun eveningsee you all there.

Aloha

UPDATE**TOD History Book...still available**

SUBMITTED BY KEN MYERS

Thanks to the outstanding efforts of TOD personnel before they deactivated, they assembled a magnificent, 112 page, glossy history of the Technical Operations Division.

It details, with numerous photos, the inception of the Western Field Office in the 1950s to the missions they performed in the 1990s.

TOD made initial distribution of this history during their closing ceremony on 9 Apr '99, but there are a limited number of copies available.

The Alumni Association now offers these to alumni who have been associated with the WFO and TOD over the past 40 plus years and have not yet received a copy. Please contact CMSgt Ken Myers, 1030 S. Highway A1A, Patrick AFB FL 32925 or e-mail at kenneth.myers@pafb.af.mil if you are interested in a copy. Please include the dates you were assigned to the unit. There is no charge for this history, but \$3.20 is required for shipping. I know you'll enjoy it. get em before they're gone...

Alumni Events-What's Gone Down

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

Golf-'n-Cetogther

SUBMITTED BY DAVE MONEY AND JUDY MILAM

Most commonly known as "The Great Washout" was held on two days, the 8th and 22nd of October at the Baytree National Golf Links. It started raining on the second hole of the first day and then the skies opened up in Noah's Ark like fashion. We weren't even able to finish nine holes so with some parlaying with the club pro we set-up a second date to finish the tournament. All was not lost though, we dried ourselves off, as much as possible, and enjoyed the lunch we had planned for after the tournament. We also decided to go ahead and raffle off the door prizes that very day.

There were a slew of prizes awarded. They included: coffee mugs, six gift certificates for two for Charlie & Jakes restaurant, a certificate for the regripping of a set of clubs, thirty free rounds of golf at Baytree, twelve various putters, thirteen pitching wedges, a #1 driving iron, a new pair of golf shoes, a set of three Arnold Palmer woods, sleeves of golf balls, and the grand prize was a set of three "New" Integra L-Series woods with Harrison Graphite shafts and Winn grips (FITTED). Ms. Joyce Nichols won the grand prize.

We finished the tournament on the 22nd by scrapping the scores for the first eight holes and playing two separate nine-hole tournaments starting at 3:00pm. The main heartache of finishing the tournament on a make-up day was that not everyone who played the first day could come back out and play with us the second day. In the end we had a beautiful day and everyone seemed to have a good time.

TEAMS IN THE MONEY

1st Place (front nine)-Colbary, Burgess and Nelson

2nd Place (front nine)-Pat and JoEllen Murphy, Foell, and Emery

1st Place (back nine)-Clossen, Jefferson, Portier, and Polidan

2nd Place (back nine)-Killian, Marshall, Hsu, and Lindstedt

Nearest to the Pin on holes number 4 & 17 went to Larry Huffman and Rene Uzee.

Longest Drive on holes number 7 & 13 went to Charlie O'Connor and Al Holcombe.

Putters and wedges were given to the winners of these specialty contests.

Thanks to all the folks who helped out on the first day. There are too many to list, however, a special thanks to Judy Milam and Carl Gailey who helped out both days. One last word of thanks goes out to the corporate sponsors for this tournament, they were: SAIC, Command Technologies Inc., ENSCO Inc., and The Boeing Co. In our next issue we'll have information on the soon to be scheduled Spring 2000 tournament. Until then, "keep it in the fairway."

OTHER PRIZE WINNERS (Donators)

8 & 22 October 1999

\$15 Gift Certificate from Charlie & Jakes (donated) - Clyde Parrish, Bruce Reeder

\$25 Gift Certificate from Charlie & Jakes (SAIC) - Ken Myers, \$25 Gift Certificate from Charlie & Jakes (ENSCO) - Bill Sullivan

\$25 Gift Certificate from Charlie & Jakes (BOEING) - Carl Carlsen

\$25 Gift Certificate from Charlie & Jakes (CTI) - Gloria Uzee

Golf Balls, Precept, MC Distance, Box of 12 (BOEING) - Judy Milam

Golf Balls, Precept, MC Distance, Box of 12 (ENSCO) - Dale Trent

Coffee Mug (GSP), Paul Bell, Mark Kienzle -

Jack Jackson, Mark Stephen

Round of Golf with cart/Cocoa Beach Country Club (donated) - Bill Sullivan

Two rounds of golf, Baytree (donated) - Danny Mills, Galen Pound, Joe Hauser, Parrish, Kevin, Sam Foell, G. Bowman, G. Bowman, Bill Stroud, Randy Hunter, Steve Parcepsky, Ken Ford, Al Holcombe, Galen Pound, Mike Hoy, Vindell Hsu, Rene Uzee,

Golf Shoes (Golf Shop of Cocoa Beach) - Colleen Bedette

Club ReGripping Certificate from BPW Golf, 8 clubs, Winn grips - Larry Silhanek

Putter, Balata Faced, Ping style, Copper (ENSCO) - T. Otteson

Putter, Milled Faced, Ping style, Green (SAIC) - Bruce Reeder

Putter, Balata Faced, Blade style, Silver (SAIC) - Dave McMurphy

Putter, Titanium Faced Milled Mallet (SAIC)... - Doug Colbary

Putter, Milled Faced Mallet, Silver (SAIC) - Suzanne Leonard

Putter, Big Fat Mamma, Black (CTI) - Ray Fisher

Putter, BB Mallet II, Tumble Gray finish, Stainless - (CTI)

- George Lowe

Putter, Gallery, Big Body, Mallet style (BOEING) - Frank Martinez

Miracle Wedge, 52 degree, (ENSCO) - Sam Sorice

Miracle Wedge, 60 degree, (ENSCO) - Ken Gerry

Integra Diadic Professional Wedge, 49 degree (BOEING) -

Al Siegel

Integra Diadic Professional Wedge, 49 degree (BOEING) -

Pat Murphy

Integra Diadic Professional Wedge, 53 degree (BOEING) -

T. Carter

Integra Diadic Professional Wedge, 56 degree (BOEING) -

Sandor Sarkozy, Charlie O'Connor

Integra Diadic Professional Wedge, 60 degree (CTI) -

Don Emery, Hal Baker

Integra Diadic Professional Wedge, 64 degree (CTI) -

Billy Gray, B. Provoncha

Driving Iron, 1+, Roll & Bulge (ENSCO) - Roger Hornsby

Set of 3 Metal Woods, Arnold Palmer (AFTAC Boosters Club)

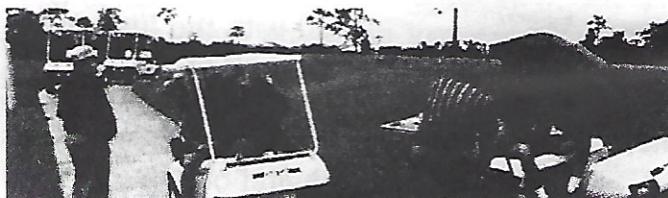
- Bob Wiley

Set of 3 Metal Woods, "New" Integra L-Series Plasma Treated, Harrison Graphite Shafts, Winn grips. FITTED. Your choice: Heads available in 8D, 9D, 10D, 3wd, & 5 wd. Senior, Regular, or Stiff Shaft Flex, & any grip in stock to include Winn grips (Gift Certificate from B.P.W. Golf (SAIC) - Joyce Nichols

Sleeve of Golf Balls (1 each) - Steve Hall Steve Davidson

Andy Anderson Lou Resler Marty Dougherty Mark Kienzel, George Lowe Dewey Strickland, Dave Money Danny Mills

SOME PIX OF THE FUN, AND THE SERIOUS



The players tee up at one of the beer hazards-Jim Goodson, Tom Carter and Sam Sorice at the cart, Ken Ford at the tap with Randy Vlassick certifying that proper procedures are being followed. Randy is also holding the favored club of the day.



chow line-we had our priorities in order, so far we've had some beer and now we're eating. You can tell from the blur how rapidly the troops were filling their plates.



Our elected 2000 Officers Judy Milam, our Sec-

retary since 89, Mike Shilkitus, our new president, and Sam Sorice, our new vice. Not pictured is Frank Calenda, our stealth Treasurer (but we are confident he will be available when we need money).

COMMANDER'S RECALL

Background: In light of the ongoing process that is AFTAC, a desire to record the impressions of this "from the top" and the notion we are nearing the end of a millenium, we asked previous AFTAC commanders (for whom we had an address) to give us a synopsis of their time with the command. In the process, L/Gen (Ret) Jim Clapper suggested a questionnaire, devised it & we sent that out as an option. So far we have the following responses (or promises to respond): Retired Gen's. Silliman, Gordon and Clapper and Col. Meisenheimer - BGen. Shaffer and Col. Wigington have also agreed to participate. We thank these gentlemen for agreeing and hope that others will see this level of participation and also "reCall" and "jump on-board."

We plan to feature their replies (one-an issue) in the chronological order of their time of command - we began this series with Gen (Ret) Silliman followed by Gen (Ret) Gordon, next month we will feature - Gen (Ret) Clapper...for this issue we hear from ...

Robert A Meisenheimer**Colonel, USAF, Ret.****Commander, Jun '78-Jun '84**


I sincerely appreciate this opportunity to share my observations and thoughts of my tenure as commander of AFTAC. It was an honor then and it's an honor now to be able to talk with old friends and colleagues as well as the newer members of the Air Force's premier command. When I first came to AFTAC from a flying wing in Texas I didn't know much about the command and had to learn a lot quickly. That was easy however thanks to the help of many knowledgeable officers and NCO's who showed a lot of patience with this new guy. I say this now because that early experience those first few months in late '76 forged my initial impression of AFTAC and it has only solidified and strengthened in all the years since. I soon came to understand that AFTAC had a solid cadre of the finest and most dedicated professionals in the U.S. military. With that understanding came the realization that these people could accomplish great goals and do big things. My task, as I saw it, was to figure out what needed to be done and how to go about doing it. The first challenge developed in early 1977 when the new station processor development and installation (yes, they were concurrent then) in Korea began to fail and the squadron recommended the program be cancelled. Now I didn't know a station processor from a gas

station but something didn't sound right. I found a couple "B" systems NCO's and got them with Dr. Frank Pilote and some maintenance officers and they said they thought this could be saved. I went to Gen. Gordon and he gave me the go-ahead to do it and we did it. From those days on - I had the utmost confidence in not only the ability of the AFTACer but also their dedication and commitment. They have that can-do attitude and a spirit of working together to get the job done and done right. I learned that lesson in 1977 and it stayed with me until the day I retired in 1984.

When I reflect back on that time as commander, I immediately think of the three main objectives that shaped my actions and characterized those years: people, mission accomplishment, and command vision. First and foremost were people. I've already talked about how highly I thought of the people in AFTAC but what I refer to here is taking care of the people, motivating them, challenging them, and obtaining their best performance. This was a prime element in every action I took as commander. Such things as more opportunities and recognition for junior airmen, more responsibilities and spot promotions/awards for the middle grades, and opening up command positions (e.g., Detachment Commanders and Director of Administration) for senior NCO's. The position of Senior Enlisted Advisor was instituted and it was much more than just a title and a picture on a chart. I really used that position and the three Chiefs (Dick O'Brien, Jim Payne, and Don Tate) were invaluable to both the AFTAC enlisted force and me. And that enlisted force was the best I've ever served with. In fact it was recognized as such when we had one of the twelve outstanding Air Force airmen of the year the first year we were actually in the competition. I know we were doing something right as AFTAC consistently had the highest reenlistment rates in the military - in some areas twice as high as the norm. But our enlisted force was not the only top-notch

group. The AFTAC officers and civilians were similarly qualified. Unfortunately, we never had the control and ability to train, mentor, assign, and promote our officers as we did our "99" force. By so doing, an organization can develop as good a force as it wants to. We wanted an outstanding NCO force and we had the ability to get it and to keep it and we did. The officers that we were able to keep and grow with were equally outstanding. I had long-time AFTACers in as many of our senior officer positions as was possible but, unfortunately, we couldn't do that as much as we might have liked. Our civilian force was and always has been superb. They have provided a quality consistency through the years that has contributed significantly to the success of the Command.

The second of my main objectives was mission accomplishment. This meant ensuring that AFTAC knew its job, had the resources to perform that job, and then performed it to the best of its ability. My six years as commander were ones of dedication to mission accomplishment within the framework of a military – an Air Force – organization. We modernized our equipment; concentrating on the B, O, and T techniques (the heart of AFTAC's detection capability). We upgraded sensors, expanded arrays, digitized equipment, developed new sensors and new systems (e.g., "J"), and piggybacked on other space systems. We developed a true global capability characterized by excellence across the entire spectrum in which we worked. This was clearly demonstrated in September 1979 when the south Atlantic nudet. was detected using the synergy of the AEDS. At that time there were some doubters as to the accuracy of our analysis. The contrary position that the signal was caused by some anomaly on the detector sunshade (e.g., dust or a micrometeorite impact) was advocated in some circles until early 1981 when our presentation to Congress was endorsed as the official DOD position (subsequently confirmed in 1997 in Aviation Week & Space Technology).

Our overall modernization effort, in addition to developing and deploying new equipment, involved effecting new and expanded arrangements with numerous foreign countries. These times were busy times for our Plans people requiring extensive negotiations and resulted in several interesting contacts with senior officials of those countries. I recall such diverse activities as cooking ethnic food in a Cocoa Beach restaurant, a comprehensive shopping trip in Denver, and finalizing a joint satellite agreement with a toast of premium scotch.

The third objective, command vision, involved making AFTAC a national asset with the technical capability to meet evolving national needs. This initiative had two parts: one associated with our traditional mission and the second with identifying new mission areas to take advantage of our technical competence in associated fields. Accordingly, improvements in our nudet detection and identification capability were emphasized in an attempt to prepare for a potential CTBT.

The second part of our command vision had to do with new, related mission areas. Here, we attempted to demonstrate the benefits of using our technology to help other technologies. In one case, we provided not only our traditional capability but added an impressive major capability largely through the initiative of several "airborne troops" who came up with a significant achievement using the AFTAC can-do spirit and the heads on their shoulders. Sometimes I was accused of running a "hobby shop" but I believe the results spoke for themselves and we took considerable pride in being able to do more with less.

I realize I've probably talked too long here (I usually do) but you asked for it and I wanted to share with you what I thought were the highlights of my six years at the helm of the Air Force's finest command.

It wasn't all work though so permit me a few words on other activities. We (actually it wasn't we, it was Mary Welch) started the AFTAC newspaper – The Monitor – in re-

sponse to an AFTAC-wide interest in such a paper. We made the annual Iron Man run a real happening with world-wide participation and appropriate recognition (too many people beat the boss however!). We started the all-ranks Winter Social at the NCO Club and provided a stage for the "not quite ready for promotion" prime time players. We initiated, justified, and designed the much needed new Lab (subsequently opened and named the Russell Building), thanks in large part to the work of Al Pavik and his folks at the 1155th TOD. And thanks to the foresight of Dick Reid, we started one of the Air Force's first major command-wide incorporation of computers in our every-day activities. In late 1980, we successfully advocated and became an Air Force DRU (Direct Reporting Unit) after weathering several attempts to alter our organizational reporting channels. I had long believed this was best for AFTAC in order not to lose our identity and dilute our direct reporting and responsibility to the Air Staff. This DRU arrangement permitted us to maintain our own personnel (for "99" force management) and logistics (for AEDS unique equipment) programs. I sincerely believed these programs were important ingredients for maintaining our command's level of excellence. There had been several attempts to alter our command-reporting channel including a visit from a senior officer in AFSC attempting to convince us to become part of AFSC. It was tempting but I felt other considerations, including our foreign commitments, precluded taking advantage of this offer.

I said earlier it wasn't all work and it wasn't. There was a lot of fun too. I mentioned the Winter Social but the event I enjoyed the most was the 1984 AFTAC Picnic. We made that an International Picnic featuring food, drink, and games from around the world wherever AFTACers were stationed. It was the best, period, case closed (to quote an old friend). I'm not able to mention all the people who worked so hard to make this the success it was. The list would be too long and also I'm

afraid my memory would fail omitting some deserving individuals (and their spouses). Suffice it to say it was a great picnic and a fitting tribute to the people and places that make AFTAC so great.

And speaking of places, let me end by highlighting the detachments. The AFTAC field detachments and squadrons are where a key part of the AFTAC mission is accomplished. They do this without much recognition in sometimes very demanding environments and conditions, and they do it with the spirit and aplomb that marks them for what they are - the best - hard working AFTAC people - AFTAC's greatest asset.

Thanks to everyone in AFTAC...and thanks to you sir for this outstanding reCall...many of your memories are ours also

I REMEMBER...

AFTAC HISTORY BY THOSE WHO WERE THERE

PREPARED FROM YOUR INPUTS. We solicit your unclassified remembrances of highlights in your AFTAC career (events, people, etc.). Forward these memories to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN Remembrances column to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish them as soon as we can. Thanks for your interest in helping us.

Carl D. Raines 1951-1967

As one of the earlier members of the 1009th Spec Weapons Sq., I have jotted down a few memories of those first months.

Having just completed electronics training at Keesler AFB in the spring of 1951, I received orders for the 1009th Spec Weapons Sq., 1712 George St, Washington DC. On my reporting date, I eagerly searched for 1712 George St. but could not find such an address. In front of the White House I questioned a security guard that knew the location. It was not 'George' St., but phonetic for 'G' street.

Reporting in was somewhat disappointing. I could not enter the building because my security clearance had not been granted. I was told to phone in daily. This routine lasted

about six weeks. Once cleared I was escorted to the 7th floor sanctum sanctorum and given a limited briefing, together with two staff sergeants, Willie Johnson and the late Jim Dunn. We were told our job would be in an uncharted field known as the 'B' system and would involve seismology (whatever that was). We were informed that more training was to begin at the Naval Ordnance Lab (NOL), Bethesda, MD. As it turned out there were some sixty A2C graduates from Keesler also arriving for the same training. The sixty were the cream of the crop graduating students from selected classes at Keesler. They were truly a great group. My memory fails to recall all their names, but a few come to mind, Sid Dearborn, Joe Johnson, Bill Braukman... These sixty were billeted at the NOL in hurriedly installed tents. The new troops were fed at the Marine mess hall. We three SSgts were in charge of the daily routine of forming up for class and marching to chow. I'm sure a lot of chuckles can be recalled from those episodes.

The training consisted of very basic seismology and equipment. The only seismometer I recall being shown was one referred to as a "tomato can." After a few weeks the entire group was split up, some going directly to existing sites, and others to Fort Sill, OK. A few went out in the desert to record actual test events. We three SSgts (Dunn, Johnson and Raines) went to Laramie, WY. There we attended analysis training at the university. I believe the instructors were from Beers and Heroy of Dallas. Our military tie was with the commander of Det 141. It was either Capt. Plowden or Beabout. We hand carried our pay records with us and were told to go to FE Warren AFB at Cheyenne for our pay. The three of us went over to FEW one day to draw pay, but were turned down for some administrative reason. We needed money!. We called the Det 141 commander for help. He told us to hang tight and go back to the finance office in one hour. Boy, what a difference in attitude at the FEW finance office that

hour made. The clerk who had earlier denied us our pay was now a humble and penitential servant and could not do enough to help out. One of the other clerks told us that a General from Washington DC; had called the finance officer. After leaving Laramie, we three went to Beers and Heroy in Dallas where we trained on their equipment. A few people at B & H come to mind that were great to us then and on throughout our AF career. They were Tony Freeman, Cecil Fountain, Bob Wolf & Jack Hamilton.

The three of us returned to Washington DC for our shipping orders. Willie Johnson and I were assigned to Det 301. I believe Jim Dunn went to Ft Sill. My remaining tours were: Det 142 (54-55), WFO (55-56), Det 142 (57-59), Det 301 (60-62), SPINSTRA (63-65), Commander Det 510L (65-67). Retired in 1967 as a SMSgt (E8).

I have fond memories of so many people that I was privileged to work with during my seventeen years with AFTAC. A few of them come to mind; Lloyd Sittler, Joe Moran, Bill Fennell (deceased), Ed Gardiner, Tommy Rice, Bill Brownlow, Jack Kimball, Bobby Jones, Merrill Seaman, Murph Entsminger (deceased), Leon (Ski) Nargoski, Bob Fernandez (deceased), and Jack McGettigan. I could write an essay on each of these individuals.

Carl D. Raines, 9115 Hipps Rd., Jacksonville, FL, 32222. Great writeup, Carl. This is exactly what we have in mind for this column...you other Sages and elder statesmen out there, take pen in hand and drop us your memories – let's hear from you, airmen to colonels (we are trying to get the generals to 'reCall' in our feature article by that name), ...how about some of you mentioned here?

WHERE ARE YA?!!!

PREPARED FROM YOUR INPUTS. Where, through this newsletter or through more direct contact, we attempt to get you, the alumni reader, to let us know "where ya are" and "what'cha been doin'" - contact info, page two

Herman "Pete" Snipes, AFOAT 1 - 1009th - 1035th, November '51 - July '61

Betty and I came back to my roots in August '99, Hickory, NC, near our burial plots and family. Looking forward to next reunion - a check for dues is enclosed.

...thanks for bringing us up to date Pete, we have incorporated much of your letter in our 'Personals' and 'In Memory Of' section.

mission running continuously, despite weather conditions at Patrick AFB. Previously, AFTAC deployed teams to Technical Operations Division (TOD) at McClellan AFB. Faced with the closure of TOD, however, AFTAC chose to deploy teams to Goodfellow AFB and Kelly AFB in Texas, and individual personnel to AFTAC detachments in Colorado. Each deployed location was chosen so as to create the smoothest mission transfer possible. Even though some disruption is inevitable when an entire building evacuates, due to COPAFTAC planning, AFTAC will be able to fulfill its core missions despite catastrophic weather.

It is no coincidence that AFTAC chose to deploy its seismic monitoring team to Goodfellow AFB. With the 9S technical school already located at Goodfellow, AFTAC now has a technically qualified advance team to help with the preparations and set-up. In addition, the deployed operations provide excellent training opportunities for the students. AFTAC's deployments of operations are located so as to minimize mission disruption, yet they also provide valuable training benefits.

COPAFTAC, originally intended for impending hurricanes, can also be implemented in response to any event that may affect AFTAC's continuous operations. For instance, COPAFTAC was used twice this year in response to scheduled outages at AFTAC. These deployments provided excellent opportunities for our personnel to train for COPAFTAC, without the pressure of an approaching hurricane. When Hurricane Floyd threatened, the deployed teams were able to put their practice to good use. During this last hurricane season, AFTAC implemented COPAFTAC three times. The deployment teams consisted mainly of personnel from the Directorate of Operations (DO), but also included people from the Directorate of Treaty Monitoring (TT), the Directorate of Materials (TM), and the Directorate of Logistics and Support (LS). Together, these personnel pulled together to ensure AFTAC continues to fulfill its monitoring mission despite geographic separation from their usual base of operations.

AFTAC Booster Club News

SUBMITTED BY TSGT DAVE MONEY

The AFTAC Boosters Club has enjoyed a great year and by now, our Grand Finale, the Winter Social, is just another fond memory. We had not expected such a great rush at the doors when ticket sales began the first of November. We sold all the tickets in four days and others were knocking at the door to be put on a waiting list. We served 350 folks last year and this year we squeezed another 30 folks in to serve those on the list. Needless to say it was cozy, looks like next year we need to find a larger room to hold the special and popular event.

Significant events that the ABC has participated in this year were, the PAFB Air Show, AFTAC Picnic, PAFB 4th of July Celebration in the Survival Area, September Roller Skating Party, and the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony. In addition to these events we provided refreshments for the AFTAC Monthly WindDowns in the Outback, Cheeseburger/Hotdog lunches (for a small fee) on Thursdays in the Outback, funding for the AFTAC Newcomers Briefing once a month, and items of interest to promote camaraderie and a sense of belonging such as AFTAC T-shirts, coins, coffee mugs, etc. Proceeds from these items also provide a means of funding our events.

Another advent of significance is the creation of an **AFTAC building replica** by The Cat's Meow company. The making of the AFTAC building replica was requested by Ms. Kathy Sorice and Ms. Jerry Lynn Cronin, owner of the local country gift shop called "**Southern Traditions**." After quite a long time of working with the manufacturer the replica was created. It's great to know that the AFTAC building, in miniature, is now a collectors item. In addition, Southern Traditions has offered to **donate one dollar to the Boosters Club for each replica sold**, what a super gesture! We accepted of course. These items are currently sold for approximately \$20 each and are, in fact, of collectable quality. Southern Traditions is located at 1609 S. Wickham Rd. in

Melbourne, Florida near the intersection of Hwy. 192 and Wickham.

In closing I take this time to announce the recently elected ABC officers for the coming year. The year 2000 officers take office 1 January and they are: TSgt Dave **McMurphy**, Pres, MSgt Don **Alexander**, VP, SrA John **Holmes**, Treas., TSgt Erin **Cimenski**, Sec., TSgt Rob **Wilkins**, PA, SSgt Louraanne **Mitchell**, Hot dog Sales Mgr, TSgt Dave **Money**, Clothing Sales.

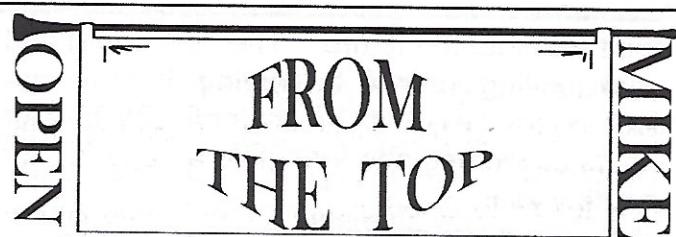
Thanks to all the volunteers who have made 1999 a great ABC success and may the coming year be as fun filled!

Judy Milam provides a bit of additional information and background about the these miniature collectibles...

AFTAC HQ BUILDING IS A "CAT'S MEOW"

Thanks to the efforts of AFTAC Chief Scientist, Dr. Dave O'Brien, his wife, PJ, Ms. Kathy Sorice and Ms. Jerry Lynn Cronin, the AFTAC Hq building (the Technical Laboratory) at Patrick AFB has been enshrined in a CAT'S MEOW VILLAGE collectible. For those not familiar with CAT'S MEOW VILLAGE, they're miniature, handcrafted buildings with historical significance.

This exclusive piece was commissioned by Southern Traditions, and can be purchased by contacting them at 1609 S Wickham Rd, West Melbourne, FL 32904, area code 321-951-8810. In a meeting with Col Harold Beatty, AFTAC Commander, Southern Traditions announced their plans to donate a portion of the sale of these items to the AFTAC Boosters Club. This is a terrific collectible, whether you're a CAT'S MEOW VILLAGE collector or not. Editor's note: We did our best to run a picture of this replica but it was not to be. As we understand it, and having seen other of these miniatures, it would be a reproduction of the front and back of the PAFB AFTAC headquarters building (pictured on page nine of this issue). It is a high-grade reproduction placed on a cut-out of the buildings outline and sits nicely on a shelf or display table.



MIKE SHILKUTUS - PRESIDENT

SAM SORICE - VICE PRESIDENT

Upon assuming the role of President of your AFTAC Alumni Association, many things come to mind. Too many to cover in one column, but I'll try to cover the most important this time, with more promised later. First and foremost, I'd like to publicly thank the departing board members for their faithful and dedicated service to this organization over the past years. I correctly said years in the plural because many served for several cycles. They have passed on an association on solid financial footing, with a highly active social agenda, and in the midst of a continuing service project, preserving AFTAC's heritage. The leadership and hard work of our departing board (and those who are continuing to serve the association) are the impetus behind this great association. Please accept my thanks, the thanks of the current board, and the entire association membership for your stewardship of the AFTAC spirit.

In addition to the thoughts listed above, I'm pleased to report that I believe our association has exactly the right combination of interests and activities we as an alumni association should have. Those who have had the opportunity to visit the Headquarters building at Patrick, whether in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary celebration or since then, can attest that our Heritage program, a joint Alumni association and AFTAC project, continues to capture the history of this great organization and its people in a fashion befitting their role in the history of the United States and the world. The work isn't done but we have an outstanding start and we pledge to continue.

We will continue to look for meaningful opportunities to preserve our past, link it to the present, and continue to cultivate the AFTAC

spirit well into the future. The new board and I are looking forward to serving the association in the new millennium and solicit your inputs as we begin to formulate an agenda for the new year.

Cheers and Happy Holidays,
Mike



BOARD MEETINGS

Alumni Association Board Members Elected

President-Mike Shilkitus	Vice-Sam Sorice
Secretary-Judy Milam	Treasurer-Frank Calenda
Appointed	
Activities-Ken Myers	Heritage Hall
Hospitality-Eunice Harris	
Internet Communications-Mike Black and Dave Johnson	
Membership-Jim Payne	Newsletter-John and Chris Horsch
Publicity-Swede Swansen	

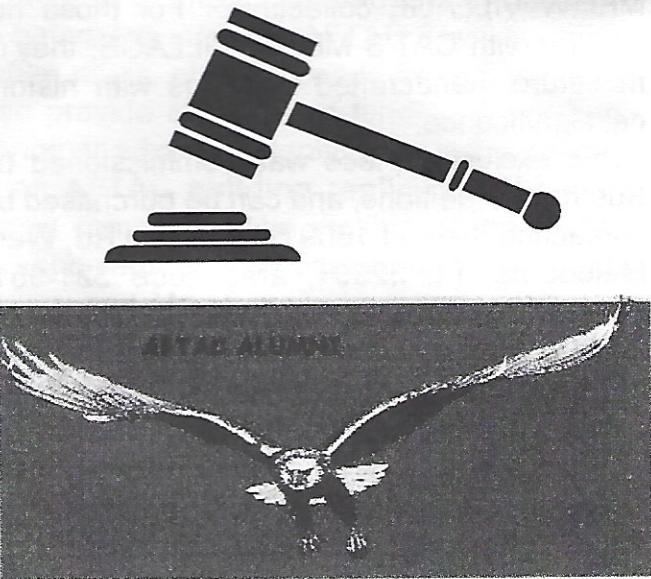
A Few Minutes from the Minutes

SUBMITTED BY JUDY MILAM

1999, September - November

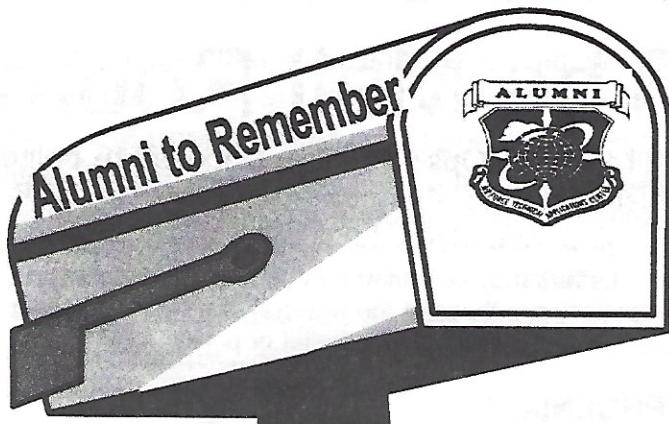
- Many of the logistics/equipment problems have been worked out for getting the Hall of Heritage project underway. One problem – Tom Niquette moved to California, leaving us without a Committee chairperson. Any volunteers?
- The 8 October golf tournament turned out to be a WET one, but a rematch was scheduled for 22 October, and this time Mother Nature cooperated. I guess she thought she "owed us one," because the 100 players who came out to play were treated to a beautiful, cool (upper-70s), sunny day.
- Changes to the Constitution & By-Laws are still under review - a new draft will be published in the newsletter prior to a final vote.
- The election of officers on 8 October introduced some new names to our Executive Board (see page one).

- Plans are well underway for the Alumni Snowball 2000 banquet (casual style) to be held 29 January 2000 at the NCO Club (see page 3).
- The Tech Ops Div history books are being distributed to Alumni who served at TOD. Contact Ken Myers to obtain a copy (see page 3).
- We approved money to support the AFTAC active duty members competing in the Sensor Olympics at the Command Hq. Members compete against others in their career field to identify the most knowledgeable in the Command.
- The AFTAC Hq Bldg at Patrick AFB has been featured on a CAT'S MEOW VILLAGE piece distributed by Southern Traditions in West Melbourne, FL (see page 11).
- The AFTAC Winter Social sold out in 4 days. The committee will look for a larger facility for 2000. Alumni members pay the same price for tickets as active-duty members.
- It was announced that the AFTAC Boosters Club is selling a new AFTAC coin; quantities are limited. AFTAC contact person is Kathy Moy.



the finest...

ONLY becoming finer



Personals...

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

Beginnings...

- ◆ none reported

...Transitions

- ◆ Herman and Betty Snipes celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 1 June.

Hopes of Health for...

Wherein Alumni share these hopes for themselves or others...

None reported

In Memory Of

Wherein Alumni share the names of those gone but not ever forgotten...

Linscott A. Hall (see story below)

Rest in Eternal Peace

Extracted from the Washington metro newspaper, Sept 23, 1999

Linscott A. 'Scott' Hall

Linscott A. "Scott" Hall, 86, an Air Force Brigadier general who retired in 1970 as commander of the Air Force Technical Applications Center in Alexandria VA died of respiratory failure Sept 16 at DeWitt Hospital at Fort Belvoir.

General Hall spent much of his career in intelligence work, serving in Washington, Tokyo, and Europe where he was intelligence chief for the U.S. commander. He served with the Army during World War II as an antiaircraft officer on Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's staff in England and North Africa. He also commanded an antiaircraft

battalion in Italy.

Gen. Hall was born in McAlester, OK. He attended Washington University and graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

After he retired, he was business manager of Holton-Arms school, where he was a trustee and a substitute teacher.

His honors included the Army and Air Force Distinguished Service medals, Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Army Commendation Medal.

Survivors include his wife, Ann Hall of Fort Belvoir; three children, Robin Hansen of West Bath, Maine, Laurie Terry of Keedysville, MD, and Linscott E. Hall of New Market, MD; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

...and this note was received from Mrs. Hall...

Sorry to send you bad news but I thought you should know Linscott A Hall passed away on Sept 16 and was buried at Arlington on the 30th. He had a serious health problem months ago and developed a urinary infection - pneumonia followed in the hospital. Our time at AFTAC was a happy time, Sincerely, Ann Hall

...our webmeisters sent the information out to all with registered email with this note: BGen (Ret) Hall served as AFTAC/CC from Aug 1966-May 1970. Sympathies may be sent to, Ann Hall, 9000 Belvoir Woods Pkwy, Ft Belvoir VA 22060

In Memorium

BILL HARDESTER REMEMBERS

I was in the Air Police Squadron and served under General Hall at the AFTAC, Alexandria location 1968-1970. The term "Officer and Gentleman" doesn't come close to describing him. He demanded and received the highest respect from all his coworkers because of who he was and not his rank. My deepest sympathies to his wife, Ann. I was proud to know and serve under him. Bill Hardester, SSGT, USAF 1963-1970.

In Memorium

JOHN HORSCH REMEMBERS

We served with Gen. Hall and remember him well. As a coincidence, I now work with his niece at Lockmar Elementary (public school in Palm Bay, FL) - one day she happened to mention a 'Hall' was her uncle, and I, remembering her father had been military, mentioned I had served under a Gen. Hall...sure enough, the same man. I now really hope she got a chance to share this story with him.

AFTAC was a better place because of Gen. Hall's service

In Memorium, William Walker

MRS. WILLIAM L. WALKER (10/4/99)

Thank you for the Sympathy Card acknowledging the death of my husband, Col. William L. Walker on Aug 16th, '99. A memorial service was held in Santa Ana, CA on Aug. 21st. We then took his ashes back to his hometown of Glendale, KY, a small town 30 miles south of Louisville for burial in the 'Christian Church Cemetery.' There are now 5 generations of Walker's in this cemetery.

Bill's great great grandfather, Lewis B. Walker, founded this town in 1854. A graveside service was held on Sept. 26th (the date of our 58th anniversary) and Wright-Patterson AFB sent an 'Honor Guard.'

It was a beautiful ceremony - folding of the flag and presentation and 21 gun salute and taps. It made me proud, once again, to be a member of the Air Force family. Regards and best wishes to our AFTAC Alumni friends...thank you so much for sharing with us... and your time of service with us, we remember Col. Walker well...

JUDY MILAM SHARES ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

I received a thoughtful note from Louise Walker about the death of her husband, Col William (Bill) Walker, former AFTAC Vice Commander, who died 16 August 1999 in Tustin, CA, and I thought I would share portions of the note. Attending the 26 September graveside service with Ms. Walker were their two daughters, JoAnne & Marti, and other family and friends. According to Louise, it was "very heart warming."

Col Walker came to AFTAC in January 1968 and retired in September 1974. He brought the "advanced" body of AFTAC to Florida and was Acting Commander until BGen Goade arrived. During his 6 years with AFTAC he served as VC for 4 Commanders: BGen Linscott Hall, BGen James Silliman, BGen William Goade, and BGen Lawrence Gordon. Mrs. Walker plans to stay in CA to be near her two daughters. Friends may contact Louise at 12920 MacKenzie Drive, Tustin, CA 92782; area code 714, 731-9288.

In Memorium**Art Meeks and CMSgt John Magness**

HERMAN SNIPES REMEMBER

Goodbye to Col. Art Meeks and CMSgt John Magness, they will be greatly missed.

The Mail Room

Any requests for action should be sent to AFTAC 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

PHOENIX, AZ**99/10/27**

Please remove my name from the membership roll. I served at AFTAC HQ TD4A Jun '61-May '63, Det 426 Jun '63-Mar '66 and SPINSTRA Apr '66-Sep '67. It was a great bunch of people.

The current news is about people I have never heard of for the most part. I have no association with AFTAC since I live in Arizona and do not travel to Florida - best wishes in the future.

Rex Riley...thanks Rex, you may stop being a paid member but we'll always consider you 'AFTAC Alumni' - we hate to lose your association support and readership but understand your reasoning. We try very hard to get the 'old-timers' to write, and print everything they send, in hopes of giving some current news about those you, and many of us, served with...come on back when you can.

Gray, KY**99/10/28**

Annual dues are enclosed. I cannot believe another year has passed. In August we had a great two weeks holiday in the Scottish Highlands. The weather was warm and sunny and the Autumn countryside was magnificent. I have finally upgraded my old Tandy (Radio Shack) computer with a Gateway 200 (500mhz). It's like comparing a tricycle and a Rolls Royce. My e-mail address: mbmiller@2geton.com. Please add my address to the AFTAC Alumni list. Hopefully, some of our old friends will contact us on the www.

Last month I spent one afternoon with Bob Johnson, my old friend and CO while serving with the organization (1968-1972). He is looking great and still tells sidesplitting jokes. All of which cannot be told in Sunday School. Also, had a very nice telephone call from Dick Gorby who now lives in Texas. Don Jordan and I have recently made the e-mail

connection.

Will close with best wishes for all in the Year 2000.

Bert & Maureen Miller...thanks Bert and Maureen, and thanks for bringing us up to date on your contacts. A great way to add your address to the alumni list is to go to the alumni webpage (see pg 2), call yourself up (we looked, you are there) and add this, and other information, as you want.

Fremont, MI

99/10/1

It's renewal time again and as usual I will be a few days late. Sorry to see the 1155th Tech Ops Sq go bye bye. That was my main connection with AFTAC during my Air Force career. I served with 1155th from 1963 through 1969. Det 207 from 1963-1966 and Headquarters 1155th Tech Ops Sq from 1966 to 1969 before leaving for Vietnam. Anyway, enclosed is my dues for the coming year and if any of my old compadres are still kicking around my name is Delbert (Tom) Leiter at 10687 Maple Island Road, Fremont, MI 49412 and if you do e-mail try topkick@ncats.net and I will definitely answer. Keep up the good work and enjoy the newsletters.

Delbert T. Leiter...thanks for the newsletter comment - we checked and you too (see above) are on the alumni webpage - visit, update your information, and good luck in hearing from others.

Garland, TX

99/10/28

I finally got around to renewing my membership in the Alumni Association.

In June, six of the "Old Originals" from Det 421 met in Colorado springs to wind up the millennium. 14 of the 15 were located - we're till looking for Don Robertson. I have enclosed a photo of our banner - perhaps the 'Hall of Heritage' could use it.

JACKSON, LESTER J.
BAILEY, CLINTON W.
EVANS, EDWARD W.
EVANS, HAZEL
MCCARTER, HAROLD D.
SNYDER, EUGENE F.
SOMERVILLE, DUANE K.
SISTBURN, JOHN W.

YANKS

"The Old Originals"

USAF 196916 5075

Room 421 AA

Alice Springs, NT

Australia

1955-56

Lost We Forget

WALSH, MAURICE J.
KRAUS, GEORGE C.
WILKINSON, TERRY E.
RUMSEY, WILLIAM J.
GRIFFITT, DIKIE R.
ALEXANDER, WILLIAM M.
BEASORCE, DAVID J.
HOBKIRKIN, DONALD J.
JUNG, WADE V.

George Kraus...thanks for the info/picture...we have 'stretched' it in an attempt to make the names readable..bet the stories flew at this get together...we'd like to hear, and publish, some of them. The banner photo will be a great addition and enrich the history of Det 421.

Naples, FL

99/9

I sure wish you could add to each name in the directory the year's they served in the outfit. I will start with mine, 1948-56.

Otherwise I can't relate to the people on the list. Thanks,

Bill Malloy... Bill, that would be handy but it seems a daunting task. There are thousands of names in this directory and no way to just automatically 'know' the dates each was in the outfit - to input them manually is just not feasible. We have asked for people sending us newsletter items to include their dates of service for the reason you noted and we continue to encourage this.

Herdon, VA

99/9

"...I submit that there can be no mistake that (our) varied formats of writing the date not only introduce chaos into the everyday affairs of all walks of life in this country; but, because time has increasingly become the base by which all, and increasingly more, things are measured, the format by which date and time are written really are a threat to my country's functioning. While some years ago, this "threat" may not have been pronounced, with the advent of computers, information transfer and relatively explosive use of the internet, it now is. Indisputably, there is only one correct sequence of fields when writing dates. It is indisputable because a child taught arithmetic and sorting, given a time specified as HH:MM:SS, would never come up with our currently most used illogical date format".

Ron Cook Ron has pursued this subject to some length...his letter to us is extracted above - interested parties may contact him

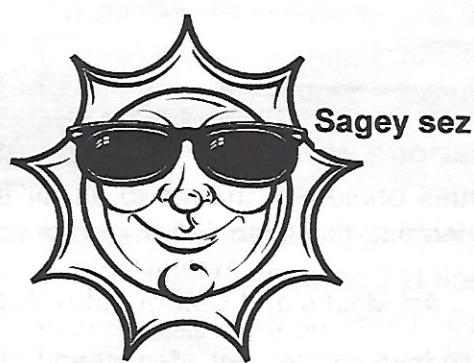
Cyberspace

99/11

email received regarding pictures Bill Harris posted to the website

I'd like to say thanks to Bill for the trip down memory lane. Too bad so much of our history is now gone....guess we still have some good memories though.

Tom Cameron ...you're right Tom, the places come and go, and sometimes even come back, but the memories always stay...



"Come on, write if we don't have your two cents worth, we won't have change"

"Oh...By the Way"

TIDBITS SENT WITH ORDERS FOR MERCHANDISE, CHANGES OF ADDRESS, ETC. - PRESENTED TO REMIND US OF OLD FRIENDS WE MAY HAVE SERVED WITH

OOPs, Part One, Round Rock, TX 99/10

I missed your 'Dues Due' notice and thought I owed for FY2K. My initial reaction was to void the check and wait a year...however, it occurred to me that the money would be useful if you had it a year in advance. Therefore, I'm sending it now for whatever benefit can be derived - just apply to FY01.

Al Davis...thanks Al, done...and the benefit is we know you are a reader now for at least two more years

OOPs, Part Two, Fairfax, VA 99/10/28

Enclosed is my check for FY00 dues...sorry I am late but reminder via Post-Monitor arrived this week.

Alexander J. DiSanto...thanks

OOPs, Part Three, Woodbridge, VA 99/10

Sorry this is late...forgot about FY business.

Charles A. McGowan...yea, it's a good thing Carl Gailey reminds us to remind you once in awhile

East Canton, OH 99/10/22

Am enclosing a check for \$75 to pay my dues for a lifetime membership. I am very proud of being a member.

Merlin J. Mark...thanks for your support

Lincolnwood, IL 99/10/22

Enclosed find dues payment for '99-'00.

Maurice J Walsh thanks

Naples, FL 99/10

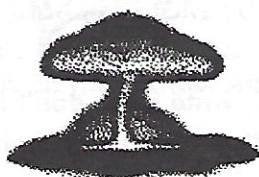
...could we eventually incorporate inclusive dates of service in the directory?

William J Malloy...we have mulled this one over but can think of no way to effectively add this information - taken from a multitude of souces and for 1,000's of names...thanks for your interest.

Charlotte, NC 99/9/29

Dues enclosed, thanks to all for their efforts in keeping the association above water.

Cecil B Carpenter...thanks, we enjoy keeping the raft inflated.



Other Chapter's News

ECHOES

Colorado

Volume 9 Issue 2

September 1999

Ben and Ginger Vlassick, Editors

PICNIC 1999: The seventh annual picnic on June 5, 1999 at Lake Williams on Buckley ANG Base was well attended. There were 47 adults and 8-children in attendance. And again, we all extend our thanks to Bryce and Rick for the excellent food. Dick Platt donated what has become a traditional mystery door prize. Always well received. Many people contributed again to preparations, set-up and clean-up. They definitely have our thanks. Next year we need to get serious about horseshoes and initiate a tournament. Seems to be gaining popularity. It was a good time with many favorable comments. Looking forward to next year.

EVENING FUNCTION: The second annual evening function is a go for Saturday, November 20, 1999.

MAIL CALL

Eugene Killey advises that he has moved from Las Vegas to Minnetonka, MN, effective May 1999.

Dick and Dee Brence, Westminster, CO, are new members of the Colorado Chapter. Welcome!

Jurell and Helga Moxley, Littleton, CO, included e-mail addresses with their dues submission. The edresses are "jerry@creico.com" and "moxnix@dimensional.com".

Bill - Late as ever but then better late than never. Thanks for continuing the "Echoes" past my expiration date. Take care, Bill Ellingrud, Gretna, Ne.

Bill - Am I optimistic or what? Renewing for five years at age 80? Can't make the West Coast reunion as we will be on a paddlewheel boat on the Columbia River in Oregon on April 8th celebrating my 80th. Had these plans long before TOD come out with their schedule.

Hello to Bill B. Have fond memories of his Turkish days.

Thanks for all you guys do to keep things going in your area. Perhaps Minnie Mae and I will get to attend one of your functions one of these days. Jim Hall, Ft Worth, TX. (Ed Note: Happy 80th Birthday Jim. Sorry this is so late in print).

Bill, My dues just ran out last month. Here's my check for \$20 to cover the next four years. Sure wish I could get over to one of the Colorado meetings, but it appears I'm always on travel for NREL when you have the meetings. (Not retired yet.)

Wonder if anyone has ever heard from Sgt Ken Walton (Det 204). His last Det 204 project was in the summer of 1994.

I'm still working at NREL in the Wind Energy Program, as a project engineer for military and research projects. If anyone is interested in what wind turbine projects look like they can view some photographs on this NREL GOV internet address: "<http://www.nrel.gov/data/pix/searchpix.cgi>" then press the San Clemente Island folder. I'm the center person in shot 06106 and in 06063. Or pick any of the ~ 6000 other photographs from other California locations.

The first two 225KW wind turbines I installed on the Navy's San Clemente Island facility have just completed the first full year of operation @100% production capability - no problems interfacing with the diesel electrical grid. Presently working on the installation of the third wind turbine - scheduled for June. Once the Navy found out they could save diesel fuel - wind power generation has caught on. Having a kickoff meeting for a San Nicolas Island wind project this coming week at the Navy Point Nugu Weapons Center. **Ed McKenna, Lakewood, CO.**

Dear Mr. Schmied: I wrote to you a couple of weeks ago over the Internet and asked if I could please sign my father up for your newsletter and to put him on the alumni list. Please find enclosed a check from me for \$5.00 as requested. (Follows) is information on my father. Years in service: 1956 - 1960; training at Lowry AFB, then off to Laramie & Pinedale, WY, bases. Sincerely, **Cynthia L. Wisecup, daughter of Charles E. and Ann M. Walter, Lakewood, CO.** [Ed Notes: (Charles is not on-line as yet. In the meantime, Cynthia can be reached at "wisesavi@clsp.uswest.net".) (Welcome aboard Charles and Ann. Looking forward to seeing you at one of our functions).]

Hello Ben - How are you, haven't talked with you in a while. I've been busy as usual taking care of radio stations, which takes up a fair amount of my time! I have some pictures from the picnic. Do you think FL and/or Web site might want them? **Bill Harris, "bharris4@ix.netcom.com".**

(Ed Note: Bill is working with Mike Black, CSI, to have the pictures added to AFTAC Web site).

California West Coast Chapter

Joe Johnson, Editor

November, 1999

Membership News

The West Coast chapter has 181 members. This includes 38 life members. As a reminder, April is the renewal month for annual dues. Checks should be mailed to the AFTAC Alumni Association, West Coast Chapter, PO Box 888, N. Highlands, CA 95660. After this mailing the WestCoast Chapter Newsletter will be mailed only to the current membership, plus a copy to the Colorado and Florida Chapters.

We extend an invitation to any non-member to join the West Coast Chapter. dues are \$5.00 per year or \$50.00 for a life membership. Membership cards are included in the newsletter.

Sorry we are so late-some of us old AFTACer's are also good procrastinators!!! If we missed sending your membership card, let us know so we can get your card to you.

Note: Ben and Joe - thank you for including us in your mailings. Members, we will publish as much general information about our sister chapters as we have space. Important Chapter information is also listed in each Post-Monitor on page 2, left column.

...and while we're in California, here are some poignant photos of an important event...

Final TOD Inactivation Ceremony

SUBMITTED BY BOB FITZGERALD

15 Sep 99, 0900 hours TOD Lobby, Russell Building McClellan AFB, California. Following are photos I took with my digital camera at the TOD Final Inactivation Ceremony.



Photo 1 is a shot of most of the TOD troops (not all 14 present were pictured here) and the WFO/1155th/TOD Alumni (7 present) standing in formation awaiting the ceremonies. Alumni that were here included (in the back row L-R): Harm Aning, Dale Klug, Joe Johnson, Dennis Nolan, George Thompson, Orville Pritchard, and Bob Fitzgerald (not pictured - photographer).

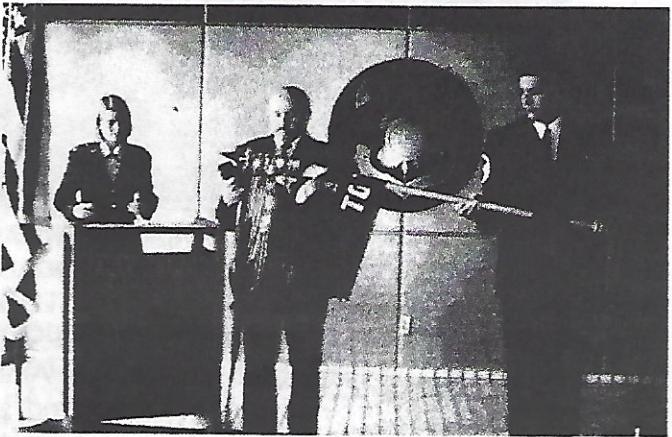


Photo 2 is a shot of LtCol Kenneth T. Denbleyker in the middle of sheathing the TOD colors held by MSgt Richard S. Perez. Capt Samantha Franceschi is on the left next to the US Flag. She was the emcee for the ceremonies.



Photo 3 is after the TOD colors had been sheathed and were then to be placed back in the stand by the MSgt Perez.



Photo 4 was taken after all the ceremonies were completed. This is of LtCol Kenneth T. Denbleyker, TOD Commander, and MSgt Richard S. Perez, 1stSgt, in front of the TOD shield (logo) on the wall behind them. Perhaps the last photo taken at TOD?

The ceremony was short, but very poignant. A lot of the Alumni (and maybe some others as well) welled up a bit at the playing of the National Anthem that started off the ceremonies. All of us stood proud while Capt Franceschi read a prepared statement and a document received from President Clinton acknowledging the great accomplishments made by our outfit, the critical roll we all played in our national security and our roll in bringing the cold war to a close.

Some, if not most, of us welled up again, especially when the TOD colors were being sheathed for the last time, and lastly during some of the remarks made by the Commander regarding the honorable history of the WFO/1155th/TOD outfit that was being brought to a final close. I am sad but proud to have been able to attend this ceremony. I am even more proud to have been a part of this wonderful outfit, to have worked with and been associated with such a great group of professionals. May God take good care of all of those who have been a part of 'our' outfit.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! Bob Fitzgerald, MSgt, Ret....thanks Bob, very well done

Important Dates

Association Board/Membership Meetings

Monthly HQ AFTAC WindDowns

Members and prospective members are encouraged to attend these events for fellowship and participation.

ALWAYS VERIFY (PAT SYNDER, (407)494-6867) BEFORE COMING

—Board/membership meetings are normally scheduled for the second Monday of each month (dates listed below):

WHEN: 1730 (5:30 PM)

WHERE: Lobby, AFTAC HQ building

HOW: come to lobby, you will be met and escorted

—WindDowns are normally scheduled for the first Friday of each month (dates listed below):

WHEN: 1530 (3:30 PM)

WHERE: Behind AFTAC HQ building (the Outback)

HOW: come to the back of the building-find the crowd

CALENDAR, 2000

January

7th, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback

10th, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

MAJOR EVENT

29th - SnowBall II, 1800 (see pg 3)

February

4th, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback

14th, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

March

3rd, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback

13th, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

End of Month - Post Monitor mailing

April

7th, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback

10th, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

May

5th, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback

8th, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

June

2nd, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback

12th, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

End of Month - Post Monitor mailing

Shopping Center

Mail orders to: AFTAC Alumni Asc., ATTN: Sales Staff,
PO Box 254892. Patrick AFB FL, 32925-0892

Include additional \$3.00 for shipping and handling*

*no shipping and handling charged on logo pins

Thanks for your support!!

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE (as of 25 May 1999)

PURCHASED WITH ALUMNI FUNDS-Multi Color Logo

MED LG XL XXL

JACKETS	- Unlined/Royal Blue	- \$20	2	2	0	1
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GOLF SHIRTS - with pocket - \$14

Sea Teal (aqua blue)	0	5	2	2
Jade (medium green)	1	3	1	2
Navy	2	1	1	5
Red	2	2	0	2
White	1	0	0	0
Royal Blue	2	1	0	2
Teal (dark aqua)	2	0	0	2
Maroon	1	1	3	2

T-SHIRTS - without pocket - \$7.00

Light Blue	1	0	2	1
Royal blue	1	2	2	4
Navy	3	3	3	0
Ash Gray	1	1	0	2
Purple	1	2	1	1
Red	2	2	2	2
Fuscisia	2	2	2	2
Mint Green	2	2	2	2
Jade Green	1	2	3	2

HATS - \$6.00 - # MISCELLANEOUS

Green	10	Ceramic Mugs (\$7)	2
Gray	9	50th Commem. Coins (\$3)	~260
Red	10	Logo Pins (\$3.25)	~90
Royal Blue	4	Logo Disks (\$5.50)	~50
Light Blue	11	Alumni License Plate, \$7-members	
Navy	9	/\$10-nonmembers	11

PURCHASED BY THE BOOSTERS CLUB - most say

ALUMNUS rather than ALUMNI

LG XL

JACKETS -

Unlined/Royal Blue - white logo, \$20

3

GOLF SHIRTS -

Med. Blue/with pocket/White logo, \$14

11

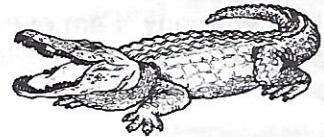
7

HATS - Cotton - \$5.00 Medium Blue: 1

~~~~~

"Holy Alligators Alex - they  
have a lot going on, hope  
we see you at some of  
these events

Sagey sez



"yea, I'll be there to  
do my bite...uh...bit"

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**NOTE:** the web-like pound sign (#) identifies articles that are also featured on the association webpage "[csihq.com/aftacalumni](http://csihq.com/aftacalumni)"

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## SNFE the Snail Sez,

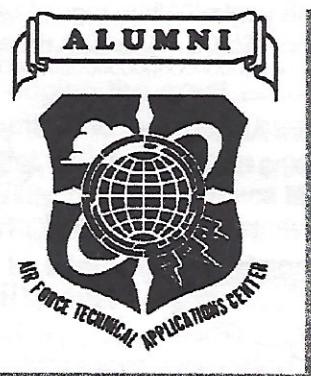
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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

The AFTAC Emblem symbolizes the unit and, when in color, contains the AF (blue and gold) as well as the national colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of AF operations; yellow, the sun and excellence of personnel. The globe indicates worldwide mission, locations and geophysical studies; the lightning and cloud depict study on natural phenomena and the compass points reflect the assigned tasks around the world. The rings around the globe symbolize electronic instrument readings and unity of purpose and display electronic measurements accomplished. The elliptical belt symbolizes the study of the atmosphere.



**DUES DUE?** Check your address label **NOW**. The first line lists "Dues Due." If it reads "**00<-FY Dues Due in Oct!**" it means our records show you **have not paid** for FY 2000 (began 99 Oct 1) - this will be **your LAST ISSUE** until dues are paid. If the first two digits on line one of your address label are other than "00," you are current.



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