

♦ AFTAC ALUMNI ♦

Volume 3 Issue 1

March 1995

HISTORY

Meisenheimer/Clapper/Hall

The AFTAC Alumni Association actually started back in the early 1980's when Colonel Meisenheimer was commander of the unit. The initial group was organized and they only functioned for a very short time. Interest wained until General Clapper reestablished the interest in the Mid 80's

The reformation of the AFTAC Alumni Association was ehanced by General Clapper when he was the commander of AFTAC during this period.

General Clapper was the driving force to continue this method to keep and preserve the distinguished accomplishments and history of the organization. The foundation of AFTAC was constructed by the personnel assigned - starting in 1947. General Clapper realized the value of keeping the personnel connected - PAST and PRESENT.

The Technical Operations Division (also known as the Western Field Office and 1155th Tech Ops Sq.) ran with the idea first, and established a chapter there; the HQ followed shortly thereafter (initial meeting was in March 1985). The Colorado Chapter came on-line in 1989. The California Chapter disbanded a few years ago, but the Colorado and HQ Chapters are still operating and gradually increasing in membership.

The California group organized and hosted the 'first' Alumni reunion in 1985 - primarily for the past and present members of the WFO, 1155th TOS, and TOD.

Continued on Page ----- > (2)



PICNIC

The AFTAC Spring Picnic will take place at Wickham Park on 29 April 1995. Please put this event on your calendars and make sure you attend. Planning is sketchy at this particular time, however, we have a point of contact for you:

Mary Welch - 494-6867
Judy Milam - 494-4587

TENNIS

The annual AFTAC Tennis Tournament will be held on April 21 - 23, 1995 at the base tennis courts. The tournament is open to all active duty, alumni, and spouses. If you are interested please call Herb Jordan at 494-2468 or 773-5240.



GOLF

The mid-year AFTAC Alumni Golf Tournament will be held at the Baytree Golf Course in Vierra on 14 July 1995. Food, drink, and good cheer will be the order of the day. Charges are comparable to those that we experience at PAFB Golf Course. We must guarantee that we will have 100 players, so we request that you sign up early!

Charges will be \$31.00 which covers the golf, the cart, food, and driving range balls.

Baytree will not permit us to have a beverage cart; however, they have agreed to permit us to provide refreshments at selected holes. This will keep you from getting too thirsty out there on the front or back nine.

Typical rules will apply and we will have Mulligans for sale as always.

We of the executive committee decided that you might like a change of pace for once and Baytree has been very receptive to our wishes. To sign up for the event, please contact Frank Hall at 773-2430 or Clark Creery at 259-8140. Those of you Active Duty folks or those who are closer to the PAFB headquarters may contact Judy Milam at 494-4587.

**PLAN ON JOINING US AT
BAYTREE GOLF COURSE ON
14 JULY 1995.....**



President's Corner

Happy New Year 1995. By the time you read this, it will be well into the year, but it still deserves saying.

We mentioned tax exemption status in our last newsletter and have been asked a few interesting questions. First, just why? Well, we want to comply with the IRS laws and we have built a pretty healthy treasury with lifetime dues. In order for that money to be placed into an account where it can legally draw interest, and with the classification of our Association, it is necessary to claim exemption status. Secondly, can I use it as a tax write-off? No, you cannot and it is a very complex issue. Tax exemption status required us to pay \$150.00 for the privilege of applying and the forms are more intense than the normal yearly income tax forms we know and love so well. In order for us to permit the membership to use this as a tax item it is necessary to have the full history of the member (each and every one of them), their veteran status and a host of other things that are just too difficult to maintain unless you make us your full time permanent staff.

In summary, our desire to gain tax exempt status was two fold. We want to legally protect your investment in the proper manner and we want to remain on the up and up with the legal beagles. But, most importantly, it may permit us to obtain a lower mailing rate for our newsletter and that lower rate means that we will have more money to continue sending you an issue four times per year.

That is it in a nutshell. We hope that you enjoy our service to you and let us hear from you.

Clark Creery, Alumni President

HISTORY CONT'D

Worldwide Alumni reunions have since been hosted in 1987 (Florida); 1989 (Colorado); 1992 (Florida); and 1994 (California).

In the late 80's Colonel Frank Hall was asked to assist with the continuation of the association and he immediately faced this challenge and continues to be the main support to this day.

These men had the insight and vision to promote the association, and then they provided the encouragement and support necessary for us to organize and expand. General Clapper also founded the idea of a 'Hall of Heritage' at the Headquarters, to display and exhibit unique pieces of equipment and memorabilia solely used by AFTAC personnel and AFTAC units. Our collection constantly expands, due to the generosity of our Alumni.

Salute Gentlemen!!

ALUMNI of the QUARTER



Our choice for recognition this quarter was a very easy choice and a first for us. We would like to honor the members of Detachment 313 for their efforts to save a burning building. This act of courage does not go unnoticed and we of the alumni group salute you Active duty folks for your professionalism and dedication. You are the first to receive our salute and you can be proud of what you did. We salute you Detachment 313!!!

The story of this event is located elsewhere in this newsletter.

452

An article worth repeating appeared in the Nov/December 1994 Monitor.

62 orphans at Chechon Children's home come close to not having a Christmas every year. But some Air Force members won't let that happen.

For 28 years, with your help, Detachment 452 has given Christmas to the children. Though the children's basic needs are met, the only toys they receive are from the Air Force.

Each year, the detachment takes the director, Jane White, to buy toys for the children with the monetary gifts collected from fundraising events held each year. The detachment members wrap the toys and TSgt Doug Dale dresses like Santa Claus to deliver them on Christmas Day. The Detachment asked AFTAC for help in meeting the need.

AFTAC pitched in by posting boxes at the front and rear entrances for donations. When all the donations were collected, they were sent to the detachment in time for Christmas.

Our past tradition continues at Detachment 452 and it is heartwarming to know that these children are remembered each year.



LETTERS

Staff,

Enclosed is my check for the '95 dues. Sorry I'm late. Enjoyed this years reunion - looking forward to 96 and 97.

Sincerely,

George J. Thompson
Clearlake, Ca.

Staff,

Enclosed is a check to cover my 95 dues and one of the worldwide directory of AFTAC personnel. My choice for the cover (Front entrance to our building in Alexandria, Va. on the front of the directory and for the rear cover - The building at Patrick AFB.) If these are not available, please use your discretion. It's the contents that are important.

Keep up the good work. Tell all hello for me....

Best Wishes,

Noah Holbrook
Bristol, Va.

Hi,

Sorry for being late on October dues date - enjoyed the reunion in California this year - lots of fun and 'catching up'. Keep up the good work!

Vern Mikkelson

Staff,

Always a little late, but always there! (Thanks to Clark who urged me.)

Best Regards

Ken Oyer, Fl.

F

Here is an exceptional letter that we received in early December 94.

Attached is a check for \$12.00 for two AFTAC Alumni hats (blue). The Detachment has two very motivated and extremely helpful Spanish civilians who have supported us for a number of years. The first is Sr Domingo Sanchez who was employed by the det for over 25 years and despite his retirement 2 years ago continues to help us out. The other individual is Sr. Felix Garcia Ochoa, who is currently employed as our grounds maintenance person. Both of these folks are hard workers and sincerely like to be associated with the detachment and AFTAC. I plan to give these hats to them as a Christmas present. Please pass on to the Det 313 Alumnus that things are going well here and the work they did on planning and implementing the arrays continues to provide outstanding data. Thanks for your help, I really appreciate it!!!

David C. Merker, Major, USAF
Commander, Det 313

Staff,

Enclosing my check for lifetime membership. Really enjoy the newsletter. Keep up the good work.

Regards,

Lewis Jordan
Boynton Beach, Fl.

Staff,

Your newsletter gets better every issue!

Many Thanks

Tom Andler
Florida

Ed Note: Thanks Tom, check is now in the mail.....

Staff,

Thanks for the reminder. I enjoy reading the AFTAC Alumni and learning about some of the people I used to work with. The AFTAC people were some of the best I had the honor to serve with in my 20 year AF career. I retired from the AF in 1982, and went to work at Fort Gordon, Ga. with the U.S. Army. I have the job as Installation Postal Officer and Official Mail Manager. I truly like my job because it seems I'm still military without having to wear a uniform. My AF training and duty assignments really paid off for me. Although I work for the Army, I still love the Air Force. I have some AF personnel here in the communications arena.

Well thanks again, and I will always remember the good people in AFTAC of yesteryear.

Glen Kitchens
Hephzibah, Ga.

Ed Note: Glen, please, please do not remind me of yesteryear.....argh.....thanks for the note.

Staff,

Sorry I am late. Enclosed is my check for lifetime membership. I appreciate the work you are doing and enjoy reviving old memories of a most important period in my life with the assistance of your efforts. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Don B. Mackay
Newport News, Va.

Your Newsletter Staff

Editor: Clark E. Creery

Secretary: Judy Milam

Publications: Carl Gailey
Swede Swansen

Advisor: Frank Hall

Staff,

Enclosed are my 95 dues (two months delinquent). I am also including \$13.00 for the worldwide directory. I would like the front entry shot of the Hq building at 6801 Telegraph Road on the back cover.

It's hard to believe it has been over twenty years since my last AFTAC assignment at Det 324. We deactivated the Det in Nov of '73. I left AFTAC at that time for an assignment to a Communications Squadron at George AFB, Ca. Remained there for a year and retired in November of 1974.

I thoroughly enjoy receiving the newsletter and being brought up to date on what's going on. To avoid being purged from the mailing list I'm going to have to be a little more efficient or I should say prompt when it comes to paying my dues.

Thanks

Ed Koschalk
Spokane, Wa.

Staff,

Please excuse the delay in my membership dues. Enclosed is \$10.00 - should that exceed current amount, please use the amount in excess to any purpose you desire.

I enjoy the Alumni Newsletters!!!!

Sincerely,

Robert C. Stollenwerck
Bush, La.

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

Hi Staff,

Enclosed are my FY 95 dues, late as usual, of course.

I enjoy the newsletter and seeing names of folks I worked and associated with during my many years of assignment with AFTAC.

Most of the years were spent at 6801 Telegraph Road, however, I did have assignments at McClellan, Det 329, and Patrick.

I especially enjoyed "Luke" Stafford's letter. I spent most of 20 years in the Air Force assigned with Luke. We parted ways in 1972 when Luke went to the Pentagon and I went to Partick.

I retired from the Air Force in July, 1974 (at Patrick) and from GTE Data Services in Tampa, Florida last year.

Kathryn and I enjoyed the '92 Florida Reunion and hope to attend the next one.

Dave Johnson
Retired in Valrico, Fl.

Staff,

Sorry I am late with my dues, but I have been traveling and everything got behind. To keep that from happening again I want to get a lifetime membership. I enjoy the newsletter. Keep it coming!!!!

Rudy Howell

Ed Note: We know what getting behind really means Rudy and thanks for your support. We are totally amazed at the positive responses we receive about the newsletter. It makes that chore a very worthwhile endeavor when you know you are appreciated. This is your newsletter, let us hear from you....Spin those yarns....!

Staff,

I have found only a few familiar names in the Florida directory, so maybe I'll find more in the Worldwide directory?

I don't know what type of information you have or would like to have about the alumni, but a 'brief history of my time' in AFTAC is as follows: I was 'inducted' into the Group in 1964 when I was reassigned from the 552nd AEW&C wing at McClellan AFB, Ca. to the 3418th Instructor Squadron at Lowry AFB. I stayed at Lowry as an H Instructor Supervisor until Sep 66 when I was assigned to Det 329. My family and I left 329 in Sep '69 and returned to McClellan, but this time with the 1155th TOS. In Dec 70 (Just before Christmas) the group decided I needed a nice vacation away from the daily humdrum of family life, so I was off to Det 220 for a year. From there I spent a few interesting months in the Strategic Air Command, most of which were spent TDY at Anderson AFB, Guam. In early April 73, I returned to the Group with an assignment to Det 360. This was going to be an accompanied tour where I would get to spend some time with my family (I had a young son, born in Nov 70, with whom I had spent very little time.) Mother nature didn't see things quite the same way and a sudden volcano eruption resulted in an unaccompanied tour to 360. I left there in April of 74 and was assigned to the 14th Flying Training Wing at Columbus AFB, Ms. I retired from there in November of 1974.

In January 1975, I started work as a Development Engineer with Reynolds Metals Company (the aluminum foil folks) here in my hometown in northwest Alabama. I took early retirement from Reynolds in April 93 and now work for Northwest Airlink, a regional ...

Continued next page..

Continued from Page 4..

...airline serving Northwest Airlines. (Getting back to the work environment I love most, and what got me started in the Air Force in the first place, aircraft and airports --- aviation!)

When I first came to AFTAC I was pretty upset about being pulled away from my aviation oriented job (after all AFTAC, at least the part I would be associated with, didn't have any aircraft). But it wasn't long before I realized I was among some of the finest people in our Air Force and we had a pretty important job to perform. I ended my Air Force career with a lot of great memories of my time in the Group (and a few not-so-great). I would really like to know where some of those old faces are today and what they are doing. Hopefully the Worldwide Directory will help?

Finally, I would like to thank you and all the others associated with the AFTAC Alumni for all the time and hard work 'yall' have put into finding folks like me and providing us with a great and growing association.

Sincerely,

Ken King
Sheffield, Al

Ed Note: Ken you are too kind, and we are glad you are back in the throws of aviation. I too wanted that nice Pacific Island with the dancing girls that the guys talked about who came back from Fiji and Samoa.....They sent me to Shemya.....argh.....!

Dues!

I'm going to make a reunion one of these years. I'm fully retired now so I don't have an excuse anymore. I enjoy the newsletter. Keep up the good work.

Art Dahlgren, Mohawk, MI

Staff,

Enclosed is a check for '95 dues and Worldwide directory.

Sorry I'm late. I'm so busy and having so much fun the time slipped right by. I sure wouldn't want to miss the newsletter. I recognize very few names, but EVERY issue contains a name or place that brings back some of the best memories of my life. During my years with AFTAC (1953-1970) I was associated with "Class" people and consider it a great privilege to have been included. Please let me have the picture of the Hq. entrance at 6801 Telegraph Road with the Worldwide directory. I was assigned there when I retired.

Thanks so much. Hope I'm not too late....?

Wally Funk
King George, Va.

Ed Note: Wally, it is folks like you who made and make the AFTAC organization what it is today. You contributed to that "class" and you can be proud of that.

Staff,

Something I discovered in the last newsletter was an advance warning that the membership fees are doubling on 1 Jan 95. Whew! That's more inflation than the rest of the country (world?) has realized in how many years?? So how about takin' on a lifetime membership for me before that rate goes up, too? Here's my \$50.00 and if you can 'grandfather' it if you'd like. I won't miss the \$5.00 I just sent in to renew my annual membership in October.

Thanx for advancing my Winter Social reservation to Sherry Andrews. I completed that matter today. See you at the party? Also thanks for the Hilton flier.....

Has the membership chairperson had any contact this year from TSgt (Retired) Robert Barnick? My March 94 Alumni Directory still lists his address in Trenton, Ohio but we received a Christmas Card and letter from them last year saying that they were selling out and moving to Hawaii! Haven't heard from them since, and would like to reestablish contact with them. We met the Barnicks at good ol' Det 301. He was in "B" while I was in something else along with "Bucky" Buckminster, Edmil Auld (A good old Texan...), Doug Neely (or Nesley), Paul Schott, Don Leeworthy, Ray Fellers (another Texan) who was certain that LBJ took care of JFK..., and a few others I can't remember. The DETCO during most of my 21 months there was then Maj. Morean. Other names I do recall are TSgt Walt Gehling - Admin; SSgt Dave Parsley - B; SSgt Ed Doolittle - B (who later completed OCS and was last assigned somewhere in San Antonio); and Chief McGettigan.

I'm surprised that only a few of those names appear in the Florida Chapter listing. Perhaps some are in the Worldwide directory? Or maybe Jack Wagley (out in Kansas) could help you look them up.....Man, he writes longer letters than I do.....

Happy Holidays to all, and to all a Good Night!!!!

Leo Orr
Orlando, Fl

Ed Note: We just had to follow suit like the postal service, Leo. The three cents are for the actual service and the other twenty-nine are for storage. Say Good Night Leo, Say Good Night!!!!!!

Sorry I am late with the dues, but have been traveling and got behind. I enjoy the newsletter. Keep it coming. Rudy Howell

ON-LINE

We AFTAC'ers do have a way with technology and us old-timers are no exception. The Florida Chapter and the Colorado Chapter are now electronically On-Line. How is that for staying up with the times? You can get to us on America On-Line (AOL) thru our unique handles. **AFTACFL or AFTACCO** gets you in contact with us. We have had one user so far and that is P. Swain here at the headquarters. He was searching on-line and just happened to find us. Ben and I are using the service to pass information directly to one another and you are welcome to contact us on this service.

HIGH FLYER



Did you know that one of the astronauts that went into space on mission STS-51 worked for AFTAC?

Lt Colonel Carl Watz was assigned to TOD on his first assignment after college. He worked as a nuclear engineer/lab analyst at TOD from 79 to 82. Then he went to Edwards as a Flight Test Engineer, Test Pilot School, then more flight testing in Nevada. He was selected as an astronaut in July 1991.

We think that TOD should plow through their old archives of the early 1980's and see if they can find some history on Carl "Elvis" Watz. Who knows, he may be AFTAC's first astronaut.....??

313

Reprinted from the November/December 1994 Monitor.

All was quiet Aug 22 at Detachment 313, a remote, eight-person operation in Sonseca, Spain, which conducts seismic monitoring in support of the Air Force Technical Applications Center mission of Nuclear Treaty Monitoring, when a man appeared at the gate pleading for help in fighting an out of control fire. The members of that unit answered his call for help, saving a local business and possibly many lives.

Grabbing all available fire extinguishers, Maj. David Merker, MSgt Edward Mason, TSgt David Couperthwait, TSgt Carl Jordan, SSgt Chad Brotherton, SSgt David Money, SrA Barry Rataiczak and SrA Alan Yearington ran 200 yards to the burning car dealership and discovered thick, black smoke pouring from every opening.

With personnel still inside, the eight decided to enter the building. Armed with two fire extinguishers each, they found the fire approximately 100 feet from the front entrance.

"When we arrived, a truck was fully engulfed," said Merker, the commander of Detachment 313. "The workers there had already used up their fire extinguishers and were trying in vain to put the fire out with buckets of water."

The detachment members attacked the fire from the rear and managed to put out the flames reaching up the engine compartment. With fire extinguishers empty, the members organized a "bucket brigade" using pails of water to bring the fire under control in less than 20 minutes. With the fire extinguished, the members noticed that in the next...

room were containers of flammable paints and solvents and a dozen more cars. It was later determined the fire was started in a truck being painted in a paint booth.

Adding to the groups urgency in putting out the fire was that Sonseca and it's surrounding town do not have fire departments and the nearest help was nearly 40 minutes away.

"If we hadn't arrived and supported the few mechanics on duty, that fire would have continued to build and destroyed the whole building," Merker said. "The unselfish and brave efforts of the Detachment 313 members in this hazardous and potentially explosive situation, is an outstanding example of Air Force dedication and teamwork at its best," Merker said. "I am proud of every Detachment 313 member. They worked as a team in a bad situation and focused their efforts on containing the fire. As a Commander, I can't train for every potential situation, but I hope that the professionalism and leadership instilled in each of my airmen will come through when the pressure is on. In this case, they came through with flying colors."

Article written by SrA. Amy Webb of the AFTAC Public Affairs group.

Ed Note: We of the AFTAC Alumni salute the members of Detachment 313. It just goes to show everyone that AFTAC'ers are a "Cut Above".

**Hats Off
to Det 313**



AFTAC ALUMNI

LETTERS

After reading the article "Did You Know" in the December 1994 issue of the AFTAC Alumni Newsletter, I thought it might do well to bring AFTAC alumni up to speed on the closure status of McClellan AFB. The following remarks by Dr. Dennis Schuetzle, Manager of the Ford Research Laboratory's Analytical Sciences Department appeared in US Auto Scene, dated October 18, 1994 and sheds new light on the closure of McClellan AFB.

In late 1993 the Big Three automakers Ford, Chrysler, and General Motors agreed to work with engineers and scientists at the Air Force Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center (AMTC) to develop new procedures, processes and materials in the foundry casting process, i.e. developing "green" foundries. Most of the research will take place at McClellan AFB which was on the Administration's base closure hit list. This five-year project "Casting Emissions Reduction Project (CERP)" which will be housed in Building 238 has the potential to create an additional 180 jobs and breathes new life into McClellan AFB.

Dr. Schuetzle who played a major role in the project design and approval phases continues to represent Ford Motor Company on CERP's Advisory Committee. Being an ex-AFTAC'er (1964-1966) now working with Dr. Schuetzle in the Ford Research Laboratory's Analytical Sciences Department, I jumped at the invitation to visit McClellan AFB and tour the Science and Engineering Laboratories (SM-ALC/TLELE) which will be associated with CERP. The discussions with CERP personnel regarding the analysis of material emitted from a foundry were very

lead to a joint analytical program.

After completing the CERP business I asked for and received permission to visit the Tech Ops Division Russell building. During the visit I had the opportunity to talk with the lab commander Col Tom Slankas, CMSGT Duccett, John Minor, Bob Osborne, and Marge Iske. The discussions with these wonderful people brought back old memories of the 1155th Tech Ops Squadron and just how exciting it was to be part of such an outstanding organization. The drive-by of Building 628 MCL and my old base quarters on Rafferty Avenue brought tears to my eyes; however, the tears were quickly removed by having dinner and sharing old memories with CMSGT Richard 'OZ' Osborn and SMSGT Charles 'Ben' Gay who are retired AFTAC'ers residing in the North Highlands area.

You might ask the question "How did an ex-AFTAC'er get involved with CERP?" The answer is simply one word - AFTAC. My assignment to the 1155th Tech Ops Squadron provided me with the opportunity to work in my college degree field. Now for an explanation.

I entered the US Army AF at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX in June 1946 and went through basic training at Lackland. At the time I was 15 years old with a 9th grade education and in spite of my lack of formal education I was assigned to the Radio Fundamentals school at Scott AFB, IL. While at Scott I successfully completed the high school GED examinations. After finishing Radio Fundamentals school, various assignments in ground navigational aids (AFSC 304X0) included stops at Clark, Naha, Yontan, Kelly, Tinker, Vance, Brooks, Mitchell, Pepperrell, Lackland, and Keesler. My final assignment was to the 1155th Tech Ops Squadron at McClellan where I retired as a SMSGT in June 1966.

Now for the important part of my

20 year military career. While at Lackland and Keesler I completed 3 years of college by attending off-duty classes. When Operation Bootstrap was made available to enlisted personnel, I was accepted for a one year assignment to the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) where I majored in mathematics and physics. Talk about a small world! My roommate at USM was 'Oz' Osborn. Upon graduation he was assigned to Saudi Arabia, whereas, I went back to Keesler. Shortly before I was to leave USM, I received a telephone call from Col Rowden at the 1155th. It was this assignment (1964-1966) which later proved to be the foundation for a very rewarding second career in science. While at the 1155th I worked with George Jubber and Dick Martin in the MCL Development Group where I was able to learn and apply very basic scientific and computer principles. While this job was rewarding enough, I had the privilege to be associated with truly remarkable and high quality people like Carey Dobbins, Chad Ireland, C.J. Havlik, 'Oz' Osborn, John Minor, and Charley 'Ben' Gay. By the way, after arriving at the 1155th, I gave Oz's name to the appropriate people and he was reassigned from Saudi Arabia to the 1155th where he retired after completing 30 years of service. After retirement Oz obtained his Masters Degree from UC-Davis and is now teaching high school physics in a school district near Sacramento. 'Ben' Gay has a numismatic business and continues to be bright and witty as ever. John Minor is a civil service employee still working at Tech Ops.

After retiring from the 1155th, I made a brief stop at Eastman Kodak in Rochester, NY, however, Ford asked me to join their Research Staff to automate an electron microprobe and computerize other analytical instrumentation.....Continued on 8.

As I now approach my 65th birthday with 20 years of military and 26 years Ford service behind me, I have no thoughts of retiring. Just like God, the USAF, and AFTAC, Ford has really been good to me over the years and I'm still excited about going to work each day. My work is very rewarding and Ford continues to provide me with the opportunity to publish papers, attend scientific/technical conferences and get involved in things like CERP. Perhaps my involvement with CERP, however, remote it might be, will permit me to give something back to the USAF, AFTAC and McClellan.

My family, which now includes two grandchildren, wishes you all well and may God watch over you as he has me. If any AFTAC'ers get the chance to visit the Detroit area, please don't hesitate to give me a call or visit with us.

Frank W. Kunz
Detroit, MI

Dear Staff,

Keep up the good work! I enjoy the newsletter and finally recognized a few names. Jack Downing, Don Granaham, and Bill Yoost.

Bob M. Kridle
Alexandria, VA

(Dets 327-418 & Hq)

Staff,

I've already sent in my 1995 dues, but have decided to go for the Lifetime membership before prices go up.

Thanks and keep up the good work.

Ed Pickel
Cocoa Beach, FL

Staff....

My association with AFTAC began in March 1957 and ended in October 1975. My assignments, both HQ, Team 155, 327, 418, and 329. I must admit that these were the most memorable years of my life. The worldwide directory will help me renew old acquaintances. You are doing a terrific job, thanks.

Sincerely,

Edwin A. Jachim
New Buffalo, MI

A TRUE FRIEND

Funeral services were held for Dennis Williams (Kelly) Driscoll (the plural on the William is correct) were held Saturday, January 21, 1995, in Carmichael, CA.

He was born July 11, 1931 in Soudan, Minnesota, a small town in rural northern Minnesota, 12 miles south of the Canadian border (explains why the Canadians had a Kelly accent).

He served 26 years in the USAF retiring as a SMSgt. He was a "B" man (seismic) but provided operational support to the "H" Technique when it came on board. After retiring from the USAF, he was a 'double dipper' working as a civilian employee at the Sacramento Army Depot.

Kelly was a friend to many and many paid tribute to him on January 21. Many that could not make arrangements on the short notice were there in spirit. We all lost a friend that became a friend without any special requirements; we just hit it off as was normal with a relationship with Kelly. He'll be missed.

Ben V, Colorado

MASCOT

No, we are not looking to have folks pick an Alumni Mascot, but what we are looking for are stories from you readers about the different mascots that were adopted by different detachments over the years. One of our members was curious about the Mascot we had at Shemya in the 70's and that was SNFE - The German Shepard, son of BOOZER both of whom are now laid to rest in front of the Composite Building. If you have any interesting stories, please let us know so we can tell our readers. Anybody remember "Black Dog" at Eielson? That 3 legged dog could outrun mooses!

Get Well Wishes

Curt Harris
Satellite Beach, Florida

Don Humphries
Stafford, Va

IN MEMORY OF

In Memory of:

James H. (Jim) Phillips
Arlington, Va

Juanita Pickel
(wife of Ed Pickel)

Dennis (Kelly) Driscoll
Sacramento, Ca
18 January 1995

May each and everyone of them
Rest in Eternal Peace!

ACTIVITIES '94-95

MARCH 1995

MEMBERSHIP MTG.
AFTAC HQ 5:30 PM - 13 MAR 95
NEWSLETTER MAILED - 1 MAR 95

APRIL 1995

MEMBERSHIP MTG.
AFTAC HQ 5:30 PM - 10 APR 95
AFTAC PICNIC - 29 April 1995 at Wickham Park in Melbourne.
AFTAC Tennis Tourney - 21-23 April 1995 at the base tennis courts. Open to all....
Call 494-2468 or 773-5240.....

MAY 1995

MEMBERSHIP MTG.
AFTAC HQ 5:30 PM - 9 MAY 95

JUNE 1995

MEMBERSHIP MTG.
AFTAC HQ 5:30 PM - 12 JUN 95
NEWSLETTER MAILED - 15 JUN 95

JULY 1995

MEMBERSHIP MTG.
AFTAC HQ 5:30 PM - 10 JUL 95
GOLF TOURNAMENT - 14 JULY 1995
BAYTREE GOLF CLUB
APPOINT ELECTION STAFF - 10 JUL 95



AUGUS

T 1995

MEMBERSHIP MTG.
AFTAC HQ 5:30 PM - 14 AUG 95
Slate of Officers 95/96 due - 14 AUG 95

SEPTEMBER 1995

MEMBERSHIP MTG.
AFTAC HQ 5:30 PM - 11 SEP 95
NEWSLETTER MAILED - 20 SEP 95

OCTOBER 1995

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG. -
20 OCTOBER 1995 This function will include a Golf Tournament as it has in past years. More info later in the year.

ACTIVE DUTY EVENTS

Colonel Schaffer made a surprise visit to our meeting in January and asked that we tell you that the Alumni are invited to Officer's Call that is held at the O'-Club on the first Friday of each month. Likewise we are all invited to the enlisted 'Wind-down' held at the Enlisted Beach Club. For details, contact the Headquarters.

We just have to take him up on this because he mentioned something about a game called "Crud"?????? and wonders if we have the guts to form a team to compete with the active duty types.....!!!!

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Large, X-Large - \$14.00
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Baseball Cap

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One Size fits all. - \$6.00

Windbreaker

Blue

Large & X-Large - \$18.00

Coffee Cup - Ceramic

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Beer Mug - Plastic

\$2.00

Logo Pin - \$3.25

Wooden Nickel - \$1.00

\$3.00 to cover shipping and handling. Logo pins, wooden nickel, and beer mug have no charge for shipping and handling.

Mail orders to:

AFTAC Alumni Association
P.O. Box 254892
Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892
Attn: Sales Staff

NOTE: Some items may be out of stock, but we will do what we can to honor your order...let us know what you would like and

ANYONE OUT THERE RECOGNIZE THIS PLACE?



The sign out front says "Welcome BGen Goade and Party". This was taken circa 1973 at Shemya. Oh, the elevation is 97 feet!

INSIDE SCOOP

Editorial: One of my biggest fears for the AFTAC Alumni Association is that our Membership Chairperson might tire of the function. Behind the scenes for the last three years we have managed to convince Mary Welch to continue to work as our membership person. As such, it is important to understand just what this function entails.

Mary has commented that she really cannot understand why AFTAC'ers move so much? It is almost a full time job keeping track of where folks are and where they are now located. Make sure that if your address changes, let us know. Mary took on a difficult job and we as the membership need to assist her in any manner possible.

When she took the job, we had about 150 members and a listing of the Worldwide group that was very inaccurate. Singlehandedly, Mary has put together an accurate listing of the Florida Members (ie. The Florida Directory) and she devised the Worldwide directory. She has scoured old records, listings, AF microfilm, and anything that leads her in her trek to find personnel and get them listed. Most of this is done during her free time and she has done a 'supurb' job to say the least.

Her determination to keep our roles growing is nothing short of 'inspiring'. She has stated that she no doubt has the biggest 'Pen pal' following in the world. She just does not let our membership forget to send annual dues, she sends out reminders, personal notes, and repeat notes to ensure that you get the best service that is possible.

She has raised our membership from that 100 something number to well over 600 and she has expanded our worldwide listing to well over 3000 names. Not overly satisfied with just keeping the membership in tow,

she took on the "Hall of Heritage" at the Headquarters Building, Alumni Clothing Sales, and a push to get each of us an AFTAC Pin when we decided to step into the roles of the Lifetime Membership. She continues to solicit photographs, memorabilia, and documentation to ensure that the AFTAC we know and love so well, does not disappear from the AF historical roles.

Your newsletter fills with letters that you, the membership write, but there is a quirk to this activity. Mary receives the mail, scans each letter for security issues and then turns them over to me for publication. With each packet of letters she normally gives me notes as to where to put them, special recognitions, and anything she can add to make the newsletter more interesting.

We of the Alumni staff believe that you, our readers, want letters from the members and we will continue to publish most of what you provide. There are some cases where the letters are best not printed. We only received one letter in the past year that we could not include for your reading pleasure, but it holds a special spot in our 'dead letter file.' Keeping track of the membership, making sure that each listing is accurate, and getting the information included in this newsletter is a team effort, but the keystone of that team is Mary Welch and we certainly appreciate that dedication and hard work.

Additionally, membership data is passed to our Treasurer, Carl Gailey who enters the current membership data into his computer. Carl keeps close track of each and every entry and the time that he spends cross-checking data is astounding. When it comes time to print the newsletter, I manage to give him the master copy and he and "Swede" Swansen

take the master and have it printed, folded, and ensure that each membership label is attached. Then it is off to the Mail Shop where they process our newsletter for delivery to each and every one of you.

Newsletter preparation takes about thirty days. Each article needs to be checked for accuracy (of which I have managed to honk up from time to time) and the copy is checked for security violations prior to the final printing. Members of the Board of Director's receive advance copy so they can make comments, correct my terrible spelling errors, and review the format prior to release.

In the middle of all of this activity, I attempt to transfer the edited copy to our sister chapter out in Denver for their input. This is accomplished through our America Online connection to Ben Vlassic out in Denver.

We hope that this editorial sheds a little light on just how we operate and the activities that must take place to ensure that you get the most up-to-date information that we can put together.

With the return of the formal publication "The MONITOR" to AFTAC, SrA Amy Webb has held open a page for us to continue our information sharing with the Active Duty force. In the last issue we ran an article concerning "What is an Alumni?" and with the Feb issue we will continue our series discussing just what we plan to accomplish in 1995 and a formal invitation for all of the Active Duty'ites to join our ranks.

I am proud to say that I have an exceptional staff and a dedicated cadre of readers. My personal appreciation for the efforts expended by all and our goal to make the newsletter better and better with each issue, depends on your input. Thank You! Clark

LETTERS

Hi,

Enclosed please find a check for a life membership and a copy of the Worldwide Directory (aerial view of Patrick building).

I must tell you frankly that I have resisted writing or for that matter even committing myself to a 'life' membership (boy, we have got to come up with a better sounding term.) However, I have so thoroughly enjoyed reading the last two newsletters that I decided to write and to join.

I enjoy hearing about the very early days of AFTAC so please keep the stories coming. We need to preserve the unsung AFTAC heritage. However, since I'm new to your alumni organization forgive me if I am repeating something that has already been said. That is, in my opinion, AFTAC also played a significant roll in helping understand space and its interaction on spacecraft. As part of the satellite branch, back in Col Bonnifer days (circa '71) the guys in AFTAC (Telegraph Road) did their best to understand solar wind, dust/particle interaction with satellites, and the radiation from gamma and neutron stars to name but a few areas of then unknowns. I was a computer puke that supported smart guys like Bob Wiley, John Erkala (sp), George Raddke, Howard Hayden, and later Carl Hatlelid sift through the data that was provided by pioneers like Dave Good, Mike Meixsell, and Chris Nelson. Joe Marshall is in there somewhere also. He actually did both data retrieval and analysis.

More than 20 years later when I retired from Space Command (as a comm/computer puke) I still used the stuff these guys taught me about the GPS and DSP satellites. I hope that one day when the history of remote satellite sensing

is written, the names I've given above and the names that followed them will be listed.

Throughout my more than 28 years of service I often referred my time with AFTAC (1971-75) as the only place where I felt that I really was doing something important every single day.

Thanks for your efforts to keep the alumni association going. I look forward to reading your next newsletter.

Yours Truly
Mike Ondrasek
Beavercreek, OH

Ed Note: Well Mike, we are glad you joined and we are sorry about the term 'Life'....Beats the other side of the coin, I guess? Anyhow, you have said it well and during a visit to the Dayton area I had the opportunity to visit the AF Museum and looked at the puny display that they have given to the Nuclear Group. I have a personal goal to add AFTAC to that wonderful place so we can get our just recognition, so more mite be coming on that in the future.

Dear Alumni:

Enclosed is a check to cover lifetime membership in the Association.

The Alumni staff is doing a great job with the directory, newsletter, and the other activities they are involved in. The newsletter seems to get better with each issue. The December issue was especially enjoyable to me as it contained a greater number of letters from individuals I had worked directly with. Even the two-line note from Bert Miller was appreciated. (Bert and I had served together at Stewart AFB, TN before our.....

AFTAC association.)

My AFTAC assignments included Det 207 in May 1963, Alexandria in 1966, Det 517 in 1969, Alexandria again in 1970, and Patrick in 1972. I retired at Patrick in Nov 1974.

For the past 17-1/2 years I have worked for the U.S. Postal Service in Savannah. I hope to complete 2-1/2 more years before hanging up the towel.

I attended the Denver reunion in 1990 and plan to attend the next reunion scheduled for Florida. Take care and hope to see a lot of familiar faces in the near future.

Robert G. Paulk
Savannah, TN

I do wish you and all those who do the legwork for the AFTAC alumni association the best of New Years along with a wonderful Christmas. Thanks to all of you for keeping us together.

Art S. Reinhart
Boise, Idaho

I give up.....I'm always behind in my dues so please sign me up as a 'Lifer'.....We had a blast at the Sacramento reunion this past summer.

Thanks
Frank McGuire
Sioux Falls, SD

Staff,

Please accept my check for a lifetime membership in the Alumni. I have received far more enjoyment from contacting old friends and attending the '94 Sacramento reunion than I could ever get from anything.

Rex R. Hollis, Alexandria, VA

Aftac Alumni Association:

Enclosed is my check for a lifetime membership in the association. What a pleasure it was to receive one of your issues. I was a chemist at WFO/1155th TOS. Later at the Air Force Weapons Lab I was able to keep up with some of the Sacramento troops. When I retired in 1974 and moved to Columbia, Mo. (home of the Missouri Tigers), I lost all contact with the gang. Your newsletter and directory were very happily received.

After retiring at the ripe old age of 47 with thirty years for pay I went to work for a one family owned bank and survived two buyouts by larger bank holding companies. I retired from the bank (\$300 million in assets) as a Senior VP but I still go in a couple of times a week and do the government work for them.

We really love this area and we have a Retired Officers Association chapter here that I've been deeply involved in. I'm also the Lt Gov Elect of Division 5 of the Missouri-Arkansas District of Kiwanis International, still involved in the Chamber of Commerce, etc. etc. As they say, if you want to get busy.....retire!

We also travel a lot - so watch out Tommy Ciabrone, Ron Kane and others in the area...

Very Truly Yours
Don Rowland
Columbia, MO

Staff,

Enclosed is a check to cover my lifetime membership to the Association. (Such a deal before the rates go up!!!!) I also sent in \$5.00 for my 1995 dues - put this amount in your postage fund or where needed.

The remaining money is for the.....

membership roster. Aerial view - Hq at Patrick AFB will be fine. An alternate - Hq view front entrance at Alexandria, Va.

Believe it or not, but I enjoyed reading the letters. Didn't know anyone. I did receive a letter from my chief clerk at Det 220 - after 25 years of no contact, he found my name on a friend's roster. How 'bout' that!!

Seasons greetings to all.....

Larry S. Jones
Longwood, FL

Sorry to be so late - Time got away from me - Keep up the good work....

Bill Braukman
Denver, CO

Staff,

Enclosing my dues for 95 plus thanks for sending the December newsletter, even though I saw your note in my September one....too much procrastination! I've included 'Lifetime' dues just under the wire of 1 Jan. (Who said we Colonel's are cheap? -- just being thrifty!!!!)

Anyway to get info on golf tourneys and other special gatherings a little earlier. I'd love to come to another one (and visit my kids in Gainesville at the same time), but have to schedule quite a bit in advance. I'll hang on to the activities schedule that's in the December issue, but any other mailings that you send would be most appreciated...early!

All's going well and think I've successfully transitioned from military to civilian 'flesh-peddler.' Look forward to the next newsletter and info on all the old friends.

Thanks
Dick Moline
Pflugerville, TX

Staff,

I see dues are being raised 1 January 1995, so I want to beat the rush and the raise. I am sending check for lifetime membership. I may be wasting my money, since I do not know life expectancy for anyone my age, etc.....And I may be due a refund since I am a new member and paid my first dues on October 22, 1994 before I knew about lifetime status.

Sincerely,

Jack D. Wagley
Lawrence, KS

P.S. This makes 3 lifetime memberships for me; DAV, VFW, and AFTAC.

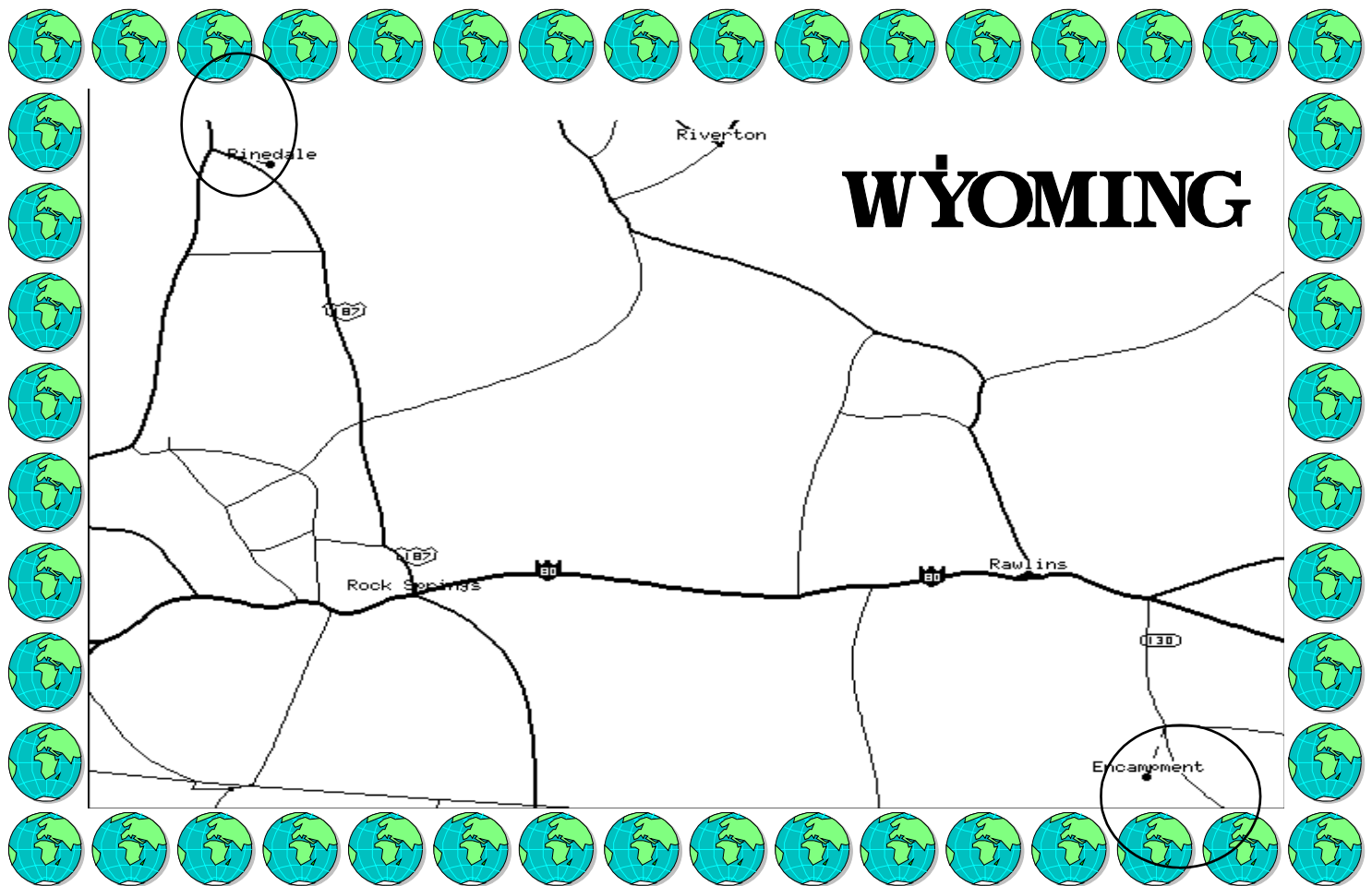
Ed Note: Jack, we appreciate your membership more than you might even think. Mary fixed the dues thing and just look at it this way....If you go out and have dinner once a month and the dinner costs you \$10.00 it takes five months to reach the cost of joining for a lifetime membership. Dinners don't stay with you, friends do!!!!!!

This was found on an application:

I was assigned to the 1155th TOS, worked at the Depot in pickup and delivery, Whse 3, and material support (TCTI's). Please accept my 20 dollars for 4 years. Just read an Alumni newsletter, I started to work at Fitzsimmons after Lowry closed and met R.E. Daldon, who works in the same building, who was with AFTAC and a member of your organization.

John G. French
Aurora, CO

Ed Note: John, thanks for joining, and now it is OUR organization, glad to have you on board. Ever remember Bob 'Reno' Greenly out at the Depot....I am still trying to find him.....?



During the generation of the last newsletter we managed to make a very large mistake and I do hope that it does not cause any problems for all of our fine readers. Pinedale and Encampment are not one and the same place. Ben Vlassick sent me an E-Mail telling me to stop the presses and it just was too late. Well, what can you expect from an old Q-Troop anyhow. We were out making a film change and did not really know where the real locations of these fine B-Troop sites actually were.

It seems that they are over one hundred miles apart. So for the record, let me correct the mistake and beg your forgiveness. The museum is located in Encampment, Wy and not the Pinedale site.

I managed to drag out the old Automap program for this computer and found that they are located at opposite ends of the state of Wyoming. If you are planning to visit the museum, ensure you know exactly where it is located and do not trust the direction given... SORRY!!

"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE" - May not be true! The old saying, "It's never too late," does not apply to your last will and testament. If you already have a will, it may be outdated. Major changes in your life can necessitate making a new will. A new child, a recent marriage or divorce, recent death of a loved one or some other change could require an updated will. If you are a military member (active, retired or Reserve) or a military family member, then this is one of those rare things these days that you can still get for free. It only requires a little of your time to visit a base legal office to have an attorney draft it up. Although many legal services are offered free to retirees, check with the military legal office nearest you to determine local support capabilities. Assigned personnel is the major factor plus the fact that some days are busier than others for legal officers serving large active duty populations. Remember, always read the fine print and don't wait until the last minute!!!!

LETTERS

Staff,

Enclosed is my Lifetime Membership dues for the association. Sorry about missing the annual October FY95 due date. Spent most of the fall season on the road to either visit family or trying to find a golf course to challenge and frankly, the dues requirement slipped between the cracks. This payment approach should take care of the subsequent annual requirements. The December Alumni newsletter jogged my memory.

I was a member of AFTAC from Sep 62 until Feb 71 with my three assignment locations being at the 1157th TOS, HQ's AFTAC and the 1158th TOS. Much to my chagrin I had to leave AFTAC prematurely when the 1158th was phased out rather quickly and I was only offered a return assignment to Hq's AFTAC which I couldn't financially handle. So USAF Personnel with all their infinite wisdom sent me to Grand Forks, North Dakota. If you've ever been to North Dakota in February then you will realize what a change it was for our family to transfer from the tropical Panama Canal Zone to that location at that time of year. Anyway, while at each of the TOS's I visited just about every detachment under that squadron's control on either a technical or annual staff visit. Then while in Hq's, I also traveled to many detachments and the other TOS's as I was assigned to Technical Division 3 working directly with Captain David Kanter. As you may have figured, I was trained and associated with the Z and E systems.

While a member of AFTAC, I essentially traveled around the world, seen a lot of installations, and met and worked with a lot of the fine, very smart and articulate people.

It was a pleasure being picked for the organization and associated with this caliber of person, both enlisted and commissioned, and believe me, it was the highlight of my twenty year Air Force career. many of these people are mentioned in or correspond with your fine Alumni newsletter and it certainly brings back some good memories. Thank you and the rest of the Alumni Staff. Several past AFTAC acquaintances have contacted me as a result of your address directory mailing.

I am fully retired now and have been for two years. I worked the last 20 years for the Dept of the Army as a DOD civilian employee doing Helicopter flight test/research work. It's been an interesting electronics career.

Keep up the good work and looking forward to participating in some Alumni activities in the near future. Being an avid golfer who takes many golf package trips to the South, I may end up at Patrick AFB for the May 95 Alumni Tournament.

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Bott
Newport News, Va

AFTAC Alumni:

Hi there. I guess I need to get off the dime and order the directory? I'll send the money and if there is a postage charge, let me know and I'll reimburse you.

I belong to another group, with which I served. It is the 14th Air Force Association, yep, I was with the 'Flying Taggers' during WWII. One of my hobbies has been leather work. A project that I did was to make a clock with the Flying Tigers Logo and the words in Chinese, 14th AF Assn and Flying Tigers in Chinese ideographs. All the numbers were in Chinese on the clock.....

This last year I received word that the clock had been given to Gen Wang Shih-min <Tiger Wang>. Upon receipt of the clock he made the statement that on his death it will go to the Palace Museum! It made me feel good. I had to give up leather because my hands went bad. You know what MacArthur said [paraphrased] "Old MSgts never die, they just wear out". Now I am into wood carving. It keeps me off the streets, and from chasing girls. With my amount of grey hair, do you know what happens when I catch a girl? I bite their tires!

This growing old can be interesting. Now that I am retired, I have time to do a lot of things. I find that with retirement I have so many things to do, I wonder when I had the time to work. One of the things I have been doing is exercise. If you had known me, that would have been one of the last things you would have thought I would do. I use a mixture of swimming and weight lifting. In one session I lift over 3000 pounds, not all at one time. It has had some good effects, this enforced lifting, I say enforced because when I came down with late onset diabetes the doctor recommended exercise, diet and weight loss. Would you believe it, I beat the monster. Dec '92 I was put on 20 mg of Micronese a day. By Dec '93 I was down to 1/2 pill everyother day. Now I only take a minimal amount of medicine when my BG is over 120 hgl on my Acu Check III meter.

Is your outfit near Orlando? The reason I asked, the Mormons just built a temple there, and I was wondering if you got to go to the open house they hold before dedication. I'm asking because I am involved with the open house of a temple that was just completed in Bountiful. Right now I man a telephone scheduling tickets for this event.

Continued on Page 15.....

This letter is a hodge podge isn't it? I just happened to think, the picture for the directory, I guess the one from McClellan. I don't recognize the building. It was probably built after my time. The one I remember was by the Bell St. gate. An interesting thing happened to me. You remember ours was such a hush hush outfit that all we could tell people was that we handled the cups and spoons for the Air Force flying saucers project? I was working on Temple Square in Salt Lake and was talking with a lady who told me she had just returned from Alice Springs in Australia. I mentioned that the outfit I belonged to when on active duty was there. "Oh", she said, "You mean the seismic boys?" After all that time, I found that the secret was out! Bent your ear enough, must say good bye or as they say in China, Tzi Chien.

Jack E. Binkerd
Boutiful, UT

Attached find my check for '95 dues. If dues have gone up, please let me know. The letter is worth it. You have a fine informative publication - Keep up the superior performance.

June and I left 333 in '69 for Minot AFB. I became Sgt Major of the 91st Strat Msl Wing (SAC). Then to the 7602nd Air Intel Group at Ft. Belvoir, VA. Retired in 73 to Tahlequah, OK. Secured my BS in Education in 75, taught and coached football and wrestling at Wagoner High School until May 93.

Main ambition in life now is to open a small (very small) hot dog stand three days a week.

Does anyone out there know the whereabouts of Col. Robert W. Rowden?

Bill and June Dickerson
Wagoner, OK

Ed Note: Bill, we are sorry to report that Colonel Rowden has passed away. As for the hot dog stand, good luck and if you need us to stop by and make a purchase, let us know when you are open for business.

INFORMATION

Our membership chairperson asked me to pass on the following information to each of you in hopes that this will eliminate some of our confusion....

REMINDER .. The Florida Chapter annual dues year is established as the Fiscal Year. This begins the first day of October each calendar year. (Remember those Fiscal Years in the government?)

Our mailing labels are printed to keep you informed of your membership status. For example:

OCTOBER! Dues Due: FY [LT]

You are a Lifetime member and no annual payment of dues is required.

OCTOBER! Dues Due: FY [95]

Your annual dues should have been paid on or before 1 Oct 1994, which was the beginning of the Fiscal Year (FY) 95.

OCTOBER! Dues Due: FY [98]

Your annual dues should be paid on or before 1 October 1997 which is the beginning of the Fiscal Year (FY) 98.

When an individual joins the Florida Chapter in the middle of the dues year, i.e., 15 March 1995, their annual dues for the next membership year are still due on or before 1 October 1995.

This may appear to be unfair, but we do not think so. Why, you ask?

When an individual joins in mid-dues year, he or she not only receives all current chapter materials, but also we provide this new member with a copy of all chapter newsletters and appropriate materials, announcements, etc., previously published during the dues year. You see, there is a method to our madness. Of course, you can send your questions or make comments and we love to hear from you.

In a letter contained within this newsletter a reader wanted us to let him know of all the activities, early. We try to keep you informed and our mailings are now 4 times per year and we are very sorry that we cannot correspond more. With over 650 members that adds up to over \$200 per mailing. We will continue to provide information in this publication and we do really appreciate your patience.

MAILING ADDRESS

We have a slight change in our mailing address. For some of you sharp eyed folks out there we felt that an explanation is indeed due. It seems that our Post Office box at Patrick AFB is the same as somewhere else in Brevard County so the Postal folks decided to solve the problem by adding a 25 before the box number. We have not moved, it is the same address, it is just a change that they required to ensure that your mail gets directly to us at Patrick. Please make note of the new (modified) mailing address.....

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