

POST-MONITOR

VOL 28 – ISSUE 01

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.AFTACAA.US](https://www.aftacaa.us)

2020-04



The Alumni Anthem

Over the years and
at younger ages ...
'GS,' 'E' and 'O'
were our gauges

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

Long-Range Detection

denotes and represents all
who served the mission
throughout its inception and
history. Recognized for 70
years of service to our
country **1947 – 2017**

A 70TH COIN WAS ONLY AVAILABLE TO
ATTENDEES AT THE DINING OUT HELD IN
2017.



SPOT LIGHT



LOU SEILER

I joined the Air Force in 1969,
completing OTS on 22
December 1969. After
assignments at Offutt AFB and
Wright-Patterson AFB, I was
assigned to AFTAC in 1976. I
worked as a "T" alert officer out
of TFE, working the last known
atmospheric tests on record

including C-19, C-21, and "747." In 1982 I was
reassigned to Eglin AFB/Armament Laboratory working
basic research in materials strength, shaped charge
warhead development, and the "Star Wars" programs
for Rail Gun and Boosted Space Interceptors. In 1985 I
was reassigned to AFTAC and again worked as a "T"
alert officer in the now TTE office. In 1987 I was
designated chief of the new "DOSB" alert operations
office within DO, where I worked until retiring in October
1989. After retirement I worked at Harris (now
L3Harris) working various space programs.

I have been a regular at the AFTAC Alumni meetings
and was president of the Association for three years
(2014-15-16) overseeing the 2015 AFTAC Worldwide
Reunion(WWR). In October of 2012 I was introduced
to an organization called Space Coast Honor Flight and
was totally hooked on their mission to provide Veterans
(primarily WWII Vets at that time) a trip to visit their
memorials in Washington, D.C. I supported the activity
as a photographer/videographer and was elected to the
Board of Directors to fully manage these activities for
the organization. I continue in that roll today, having
supported 57 missions and 1425 Veterans to date.

(continued on pg 3)

** Sage ALERTS –WHAT'S COMING UP **

SPRING GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, 15 May 2020

**AFTAC Alumni Association (AFTACAA)
Annual Spring Golf-n'GetTogether XXXVI**

(See details on page 3)

* * * * *

**DUE TO THE CURRENT QUARANTINE,
MANY EVENTS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED
OR POSTPONED.** See page 3 for details.

MONTHLY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETINGS:

11 May 2020

8 June 2020

13 July 2020

10 August 2020

**Check the Web site www.aftacaa.us for
latest Calendar of Events**

**(Meetings are generally at the AFTAC building at
4 PM (1600) the second Monday of the month;
however, the Mar, Jun, Sep, and Dec meetings are
off-site at 11:30 AM. The 8 June meeting is
scheduled to be held at Beef O'Brady's in Satellite
Beach, but this may depend on the quarantine.
Meeting may need to be moved to teleconference
(See pages 3 & 24 for more on scheduled activities)**

NOTE: PoMo pictures, obituaries (& much more) are on the **website** at near real time (URL at banner above). Also, check the **Colorado and California websites** for more pictures, reports, and information. URL with chapter information on next page.

ASSOCIATION Information *Deceased, (D)*

Honor Roll: Alumni Of The Year Recipients (25)

Bryce Dunn/2019-Pete Gilbert/2018-John Kemna/2017-Carol Snyder/2016-Frank Calenda/2015-Sean Ryan/2014-Lonnie Gibbons/2013-Gene & Dee Melchior/2012-Dale Klug/2011-Jack Smith (D)/2010-Jack Jackson (D)/2009-Bob Wiley/2008-Bill Schmied/2007-Deborah Carson/2006-Mike Black/2005-Joe Goldian(D)/2004-Pat Snyder/2003-Joe Johnson/2002-Jim Payne/2001(D) -Ben Vlassick (D)/2000-John & Christel (D) Horsch/1999-Frank Hall/1998-Judy Milam-Henderson/1997-Carl Gailey (D)/1996-Clark Creery/1995

AFTAC/Long Range Detection (LRD) Alumni Honorarium

Several ongoing projects represent and honor Center people and history. Three, 'Hall of Heritage' (data/artifacts), the '20-Year Wall of Service' (alumni who served the Center for 20+ years and have mailed in their photos/bios) and the **Wall of Honor**, are housed at AFTAC Headquarters. Another is an **AFTAC display at the Grand Encampment, WY, Museum.**

Association History A group of retired/active duty AFTACers, by invitation from then CC, Col **Clapper**, met at Patrick AFB, FL, on March 12, 1985, and formed the **AFTAC Alumni Association (AFTACAA)** (chartered, 1986); from 2001-2014, we were renamed 'Long Range Detection' (LRD). Website, <http://sites.google.com/site/lrdalumniassnneedtoknownow/>

--The Association provides a forum for those wishing to maintain a relationship with the Center and its people, active-duty and retired. Membership is open to all who serve/served our mission in any organization associated with LRD (AFMSW-1, 1009th SWS, AFOAT-1, 1035th FAG, 1035th TOG, and AFTAC), and any field detachment. Of note, there are several Sages who recall an earlier effort to form an association in 1978.

There is this Association and two Chapters

1. Florida 'AFTAC Alumni Association': (application at the bottom of each page at www.aftacaa.us) -**Dues, \$10/FY** (1 Oct-30 Sep) payable in Oct/**\$75 for life**. Most monthly meetings are at 1600, second Monday each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC HQ (Bldg 10989), or other venue, at Patrick AFB, FL-details, see 'Sage Schedule' on page 22. Contact: Mike **Steskal**, steskal mike@gmail.com, mailing address is: **PO Box 254892, Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892**. The Association has several communications resources, this triannual newsletter, '**Post-Monitor**' (namesake of prior active-duty publication, 'Monitor') & a multi-page Website, see banner on previous page, with assn/alumni news and photos-we provide a '**Breaking News**' service at the website and thru instant notification, what we term, '**eALLert**,' for time sensitive data at <http://groups.google.com/group/aftac-lrd>.

"PERENNIALS" (5+ years board service) Clark Creery-Newsletter, 85/89-95, Pres 94/95, Webpage/Mbrshp, 01/10-Current; Frank Hall, Pres/Vice 89-98/01; Judy Milam, Sec 89-06, Hospitality since 01 Pres 04; Eunice Harris, Hosp 89-00; Mary Welch (D), Mbrshp 91-99; Carl Gailey (D), Treas 91-99; Swede Swansen, Pub 93-06; John & Christel (D) Horsch, Newsletter since 96; Pat Snyder, 'Insider/Sage Shop' 96-2010, VP 04, Sec 05; Mike Black, Webmaster 96-16; Jim Payne, Mbrshp 99-04; Joe Goldian (D), Treas, 03-17; Randy Vlassick, Mbrshp 04-09; Sean Ryan-Sec, 09-15; Steve Revels, Sage Shop, 2010- 2016.

2. Colorado Chapter: Formed Nov 1986, **\$5/year**, they publish a newsletter, 'Echoes', have several meetings and social events a year. See website at <http://www.aftacco.org> for additional information and email contacts.

3. California Chapter: Formed 1999, **\$10/year/\$75 lifetime**. For more, email, TOD.Alumni@AFTACWCC.org-mail, Alumni Assn, PO Box 3974, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-3974. The Chapter meets several times a year, publishes a newsletter, '**Depot Fallout**' and has a website, <http://www.aftacwcc.org/>

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

John Horsch has graciously passed the "Editorial" space to Frank Calenda this issue for a special Message.



Frank Calenda

We accepted the challenge and Maj (Ret) Lou Seiler took on the project.

As you might know, the AFTAC organization wanted to develop a memorial to those of our comrades who died while serving with the organization. Since regulations would not allow an active duty component to do this, they requested help from the Alumni Association.

A corporation had to be formed and after many, many months of dedicated work by Lou, it has become a reality. This has not been an easy task considering the dealings that were needed, not only with the various government agencies, but also finding a contractor that would provide us this service. It's unimaginable how complicated and time consuming this project has been.

Now, all preliminaries have been completed and we're in the process of getting subscribers to this memorial and either brick purchases or donations are needed to continue with this project. An eAllert was sent a while back and a posting of the Memorial was put on our website, AFTAC Facebook clubs, and published in the Post-Monitor. The response has not been encouraging. If you haven't already done so, please take a look at www.aftacaa.us and select the Memorial Banner on the Main Page.

Thanks and Kind regards, Frank Calenda

An ADDITIONAL EDITORIAL – by Phil Godfrey:



As you know, the virus has us all locked down tighter than a seismic borehole. I prefer to say "Exiled for the Good of the Realm." I hope all of you are staying safe and protected, and that none of you or your family or friends are suffering.

As we continue to take precautions, your Board will still be trying to support you and the AFTAC family as best we can. We've had to move our monthly meetings to teleconference, which is a very limited way to communicate and coordinate things. We also hope to publish more content soon on our website, <https://www.aftacaa.us>, (continued on page 3)

Sage Communicators-Post-Monitor Editor John Horsch, **Formatting** Judy Henderson-**Information/Proofing:** Judy Henderson, Susan A Romano/GG12/ AFTAC PA; **Executive Review:** Frank Hall; '**Rovin**' **Cameras/Reporters:** Judy Henderson, Bob Wiley, and Lou Seiler-**Printing/Mailing:** Mike Steskal, Terry Hammond, Curt & Eunice Harris; **Website Chairman/Media:** Terry Hammond

SPOTLIGHT – (continued from pg 1)

After moving into the new AFTAC building, the AFTAC Commander asked if the Alumni would take on a project to replace the plaques from the old building lobby with some sort of memorial to fallen AFTAC members. I volunteered to lead such an effort. This led to the formation of the AFTAC Memorial Corporation as a non-profit 501C(3) organization. The corporation secured a design for a proper memorial, and secured approval from the AFTAC CC, and the 45th Space Wing to erect the Memorial in front of the AFTAC building near the current flagpole. The effort is now in the fundraising stage to secure the funds to begin construction. Hopefully, the Memorial will be complete in time for the 2021 WWR to be held again in Florida. Information on how you can support this with your donations can be found on the www.aftacaa.us web site.

ADDITIONAL EDITORIAL – (continued from pg 2)

to help inform everyone and help us all pass the time. So for the next few meetings (at least), your Board will be meeting virtually, but we will still be responding to emails and phone calls, as long as the scientists don't discover the virus spreads that way too. If so, oh brother, we're doomed! Please stay safe in your exile, and we'll be here if you need us! Sincerely (on behalf of the AFTACAA board), Phil Godfrey

SPRING GOLF- N' GETTOGETHER

Friday, 15 May 2020

AFTAC Alumni Association (AFTACAA)

Annual Spring Golf-n'GetTogether XXXVI

Venue: Manatee Cove Golf Course, PAFB. **Check-in:** 1130; **Shotgun Start:** 1300.

(Format: 4-Person Scramble).

Cost: \$40 (Alumni Members); \$45 (Non-Alumni Members).

Fee includes: Golf, Cart, Range Balls, and BBQ from Tides Club served for Dinner

Open to: AD Military, Retirees, Civilians, and Contractors

Mulligan's pkgs will be on sale: \$5 for 1 mulligan, Red Bomb, & Nolan

Team Mulligan ball: available for \$10

POC: Ed Lindsay -- piston_horse@hotmail.com -- **321-610-7548** (Unlisted)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – COE (continued from pg 1)

** 45TH SPACE WING COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019) ** INFORMATION HOTLINK:

<https://www.patrick.af.mil/Coronavirus/Installation-Information/fbclid/IwAR3Tlai7F8pC5gyXZooYJSrwDGrlNB9toKRGOhOv3KAH1XufSZCR2R6TwoU/>

As of Now, the following are still planned; however, things may change – check Web Site at www.aftacaa.us

- Spring Golf Tournament – see above for details
- Retirement Ceremony for Mr. Jim Whidden – 5 June 2020
- Florida AFTAC Alumni Association Quarterly Off-Site Luncheon Meeting - Monday, 8 June – 1130 AM
Beef O'Brady's Grill and Bar, 724 South Patrick Drive, Satellite Bch, FL
- AFTAC Change of Command Ceremony, Tuesday, 30 June 2020

As of Now, the following are **CANCELLED** or **PENDING**:

- Tides Club - Monthly Membership Appreciation Breakfast
- Winddown
- 45th Space Wing Aimen Appreciation Outdoor BBQ
- Social Hour – Manatee Cove Marina & Yacht Club, PAFB
- Florida AFTAC Alumni Association Monthly Meeting
- Monday, 11 May (PENDING), 1600, HQ AFTAC, Lobby Conference Room

Check the www.aftacaa.us web site or POC (below) before going

POC: Sean Ryan / *Treasurer, Publicity Chair, and Social Chair, for the Florida AFTAC Alumni Association*

LOCKHEED MARTIN SPACE & AIR SHOW - Oct 31 - Nov 1, 2020

The inaugural Lockheed Martin Space and Air Show is scheduled to take place Oct 31-Nov 1, 2020 featuring the USAF Thunderbirds. This year's show will be held at Orlando Sanford International Airport (SFB), Sanford, FL.



ADDITIONAL FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWS

2019 AFTAC Dining Out – Saturday, 14 December

By Sean P. Ryan

AFTAC -- "A Look Back at the Air Force Technical Applications Center (AFTAC) 72-Year History"

What better way and a great night to celebrate as AFTAC Alumni, active duty, and civilians, than with "A Look Back at the AFTAC 72-Year History" reflecting upon the outstanding accomplishments and history of AFTAC, then and now, at the 2019 AFTAC Dining Out. The well-orchestrated event and fond memories were held on Saturday, 14 December, at the 920th Rescue Wing hangar at Patrick AFB. An awesome backdrop of the WC-135 aircraft added to the great food, camaraderie, and well spent social and family time with fellow Team AFTAC Members. And NO Dining Out, or In, is complete, without a visit to the Grog Bowl!

The entire Alumni guests in attendance made a trip in the direction of the President of the Mess. They say the alcoholic one was like fire and the non-alcoholic was smooth and went down like water (not!). Not the most tasteful, nor visionary appealing, by far. Good times and great memories! Definitely, a night enjoyed by all in attendance.



The "Alumni" made a trip to the GROG Bowl



Glen Shaffer, Diane & Jim Whidden, and Jim Jaeger



Commanders and their Enlisted Advisers



Bob Wiley and Mike Young



Lou Seiler and the Memorial Design



Left picture – Julie and Chris Worley, Aaron Prupas, and Jordan Lloyd

Right picture – Judy Henderson, Phil Godfrey, Wally Jones, Arlin Massey, Lou Seiler, Sean Ryan, & Bob Wiley



2020 Florida AFTAC Alumni Association SnowBall XXII

By Sean P. Ryan

Since 1999, The Florida AFTAC Alumni Association (AFTACAA) has thrown a themed event called a SnowBall. This festive and social get-together is highlighted with a social, dinner, entertainment, and honoring our previous year's Alumni of the Year (AOY). This year's event was held on 25 January, at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Viera, Florida.

The night's events kicked off with a festive Social Hour where guests enjoyed chatting and reminiscing about AFTAC and catching up and socializing with old friendships and sharing fond memories of their time in the unit, thru the years, around-the-world, or in the headquarters building at Patrick AFB. Guests were also entertained by The Harbor City Harmonizers (A 4-person Quartet). The yearly slide show, organized and developed by Bob Wiley (AOY 2008), with photos by him from Ed Lindsay, and Judy Henderson (AOY 1997), among others, of previous SnowBall's, Spring Picnic, Golf Tournaments, Toilet Bowl, and Wind Downs, was continually shown on the screen.



Alumni of the Year Attendees: Bob Wiley (2008), Sean P. Ryan (2014), Frank Calenda (2015), Dee & Gene Melchior (2012), Pete Gilbert (2018) & Bryce Dunn (2019)



Amy Long, Gina & Chad Hartman

This year's theme was the "Seismic Technique," which joined previous themes honoring Hawaii, Germany, Florida, Wyoming, Thailand, Australia, Korea, Nebraska, and Colorado ... locations, where AFTAC had or has a presence, among other locales, worldwide.

Following the Social Hour, Opening Remarks by the AFTACAA President Phil Godfrey, Introductions of Key Staff, our National Anthem nicely performed by AFTAC's very own "Atomic Blue", Sage Salute provided by Lou Seiler, and POW/MIA Recognition and Invocation by Sean Ryan, a very delicious and appealing dinner was served by the hotel staff.

After a brief break following dinner, the AFTAC Commander, Colonel Chad Hartman, provided an outstanding "pocket slide brief" of the Status of Command (SOC), and an overview of AFTAC's current activities and status. His SOC brief was truly "spot-on," and brought the AFTACAA "in tune and current" with the mission they once served in, and what is on the horizon for AFTAC down the road. Following the brief, The Harmonizers sang again.

The evening ended with the announcement of the 2019 AFTAC AOY. Wallace "Bryce" Dunn from the AFTAC Colorado Chapter in Denver, CO, was selected as the recipient. Bryce was previously recognized at the CO Chapter Worldwide Reunion in June 2019. The AFTACAA officially announced his name to welcome him into the honored recipients of the prestigious AOY ranks and honorees through the years.

Equipment displays were graciously supplied and arranged for the night by Dr. Mike Young, AFTAC Historian. Michelle Ryan and Frank Calenda arranged seismic wiggling related centerpieces to decorate the tables "that were an awesome compliment to the night's table displays." Frank and Edna Calenda, Michelle Ryan, and Pete Gilbert volunteered to man the check-in table. Judy Henderson shot photos for the evening.



Don Whitney, Jim Young, Terry Hammond, Ed Lindsay, and Jim Whidden



Sean P. and Michelle Ryan



The Harbor City Harmonizers

A special and heartfelt thank you to all Team AFTAC Alumni Members and Spouses who volunteered to help with the various tasks and support required to provide an awesome evening by all in attendance.

We look forward to the 2021 SnowBall XXIII, in January 2021, when the AFTACAA will gather once again, to mingle, socialize, and reminisce of the times when we were in, and the current AFTAC of today, and recognize the 2020 AOY. Hope you can join us for another grand event and evening, with fellow Alumni and others in attendance next year.

Additional pictures of the guests who attended 2020 SnowBall XXII:



Lou Seiler and Bryce and Susan Dunn



Arlin Massey & Phil Godfrey



George & Judy Henderson



Alexa & Amy Long, Gary Cornn, and Jonathan & Sophia VanNoord



Ed Lindsay with daughter, Angelica, in front of a Seismic display



Barbara Herrick, Moira & Tom Eddleman, and Steve Herrick



Frank & Edna Calenda



Doris Bruner, Carol Warfield, & Rob Christman



Atomic Blue



Dee & Gene Melchior



Pete & Shirley Gilbert



Mike & Connie Dobrin

Z TECHNIQUE

By Bob Chadwick

"Herewith I present to the Assembled Multitudes, Old 99125's and young whappersnipper 991XX/9s's alike, the last remaining physical evidence of Detachment 426, Perth, Australia, 1962, Z Technique.

We have a tube of Dow-Corning DC-4 compound, used to shed rain water from the detector domes.

Also, the last remaining piece of data film recorded; a 123H calibration pulse, rescued from a fiery oblivion sometime in the late 1960's.

These items are presently in my possession, although when I am called to that Great Gathering of 99's in The Sky, I am prepared to bequeath them to the AFTAC museum."



A COUPLE "MISSION BRIEFINGS" - 5 Apr 2013

By Bob Chadwick

I seem to recall hearing Capt John Drinkard telling this story, recounted to him by a chap who'd been the Det Commander of a Q3 detachment overseas. Seems that the Det CO had been directed to provide an unclassified tour/limited briefing for some local dignitaries (the mayor, the Town Council, some like that). You Q guys will recall the usual path that recorded data takes... Briefing went something like this:

Dignitary: "So, what do you folks do here?"

Det Commander: "Well, quite basically, we record lightning flashes from around the world and store them on reels of 35 mm black and white film."

Dignitary: "Oh. That's nice. What happens to the data and film next?"

DetCO: "We hold the film here for 90 days; then we burn it."

The visiting dignitaries then proceeded to digest this bit of intelligence while attempting to not telegraph any sort of disbelief of incredulity... Having heard that one, and recalling my days working with the I system overseas, I imagined a similar sort of encounter with, say, some visiting VIPs from the Australian government:

Dignitary: "And what sort of Atmospheric disturbance data do you collect here?"

Briefer: "Well, let me explain the system we have here. We have, located in level fields in the area, about 4 miles apart in a rectangular pattern, 4 1000 foot lengths of iron water pipe with holes drilled every 5 feet. These pipes are connected to a metal canister fabricated from a beer keg; the electronics in this keg transmit data on air pressure variations to a central recording station in the next room. There it gets recorded on a roll of chart paper. Come have a look"

The briefers and dignitaries retire to the ops room, where our visitors are impressed by the racks of equipment and chart recorders.

Dignitary: "So, you are recording air pressure variation from holes in 1000 foot water pipes, connected to modified beer kegs, connected to chart recorders making red squiggly lines on something looks like toilet paper. Then what happens?"

Briefer: "We hold the "toilet paper" here for 180 days, then burn it"

Hmmm. And I spent 21 years doing this....??? Go figure



HELP NEEDED – REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE BRITISH ROYAL AF

(Contacted by Alexander Rogan via email, 03.30-31)



My late father (F/Lt. Terry Rogan) was a veteran who flew British Royal Air Force strategic reconnaissance aircraft. He regularly visited USAF and NAF bases in the USA and Pacific. I have been researching his military service.

"I am reaching out to see if any members of the AFTACAA or veterans from the 55th SRW can remember any of the British crews flying RAF Victor aircraft from Pacific Locations to include Hickam, and other locations, during the '60's and '70's?"

The crew shot I think is from Anderson AFB, 1969. My father is second from right. He was 543 Squadron, Navigator Leader. The other is a 543 Squadron line up from RAF Wyton, Central Reconnaissance Establishment, taken around the same time.

I did not mention before but as a Squadron (and family) we regularly visited RAF Alconbury. I am sure the 55th SRW were based there, until their move to RAF Mildenhall in the 1990's.



If you have any information about F/Lt Terry Rogan, please contact Alexander Rogan at alexanderjrogan@hotmail.co.uk



WB-29, Tail Number 44-62214



On Display at Eielson AFB, Alaska, is a history of the 58th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron WB-29 aircraft, Tail Number 44-62214 which was **The First U.S. Aircraft to detect an atomic detection of the Soviet Union.**

On their recent trip to Eielson AFB, AFTAC Commander Chad Hartman and AFTAC Director of Staff, Jim Whidden had their picture taken next to tail number 44-62214.



The WB-29, Tail Number 44-62214 History on Display at Eielson AFB follows:

"The Lady of the Lake was the last WB-29 (Weather Bomber 29) left at Eielson AFB after being stripped of all useful parts needed to keep the rest of the 58th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron WB-29 flying. Since spare WB-29 parts were non-existent at the time, the plane was dropped from the inventory.

"Records at the Air Force Historical Research Agency (AFHRA) at Maxwell AFB show on 24 Sep 1954, Tail Number 44-62214 went on the Aircraft Out of Commission for Parts (AOCP) list and finally reverted to a "P.E. Status," an aircraft loss code in which "P" stood for permanent and "E" stood for fair wear and tear. Records show the aircraft was dropped from the AF Inventory in 1955 because of a ground accident, but no records of an accident investigation can be found for "2214."

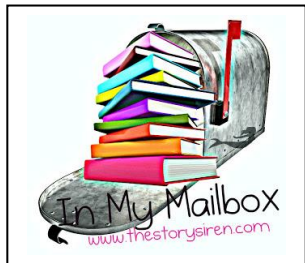
"Over time the aircraft was no longer useful for parts...eventually the wing commander directed 2214 be removed from sight. The Lady was towed, without landing gear, to this location. The location was a rock quarry. The water level had risen in the quarry and at the time was frozen over. The plane was placed on the ice in the hopes that during the thaw it would disappear beneath the water. This did not happen.

(continued)

WB-29, Tail Number 44-62214 (continued from page 8)

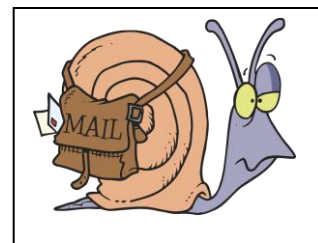
"At the time, the water was not as deep as it is today and supposedly an idea was developed to use the Lady for water extraction training. This was a good idea since most of the missions flown out of Eielson at the time were either over the North Pole or the North Pacific. Aircrews used the plane several times before another Alaskan winter interrupted training. The next spring the water level in the pond increased to the point where the plane could not be utilized for training.

"Here she has sat and here she has been given many stories. The history of the Lady of the Lake may not be the most romantic of stories. She never flew bombing raids and she did not crash into the lake. She operated as eyes and ears of the Department of Defense while flying in the region. She now sits mostly submerged as a memorial to the crews that flew weather reconnaissance missions."



MAIL CALL

Any requests for action should be sent to
AFTAC Alumni Association (AFTACAA)
PO Box 254892
Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892



Missives requesting no action may be mailed/emailed to the editor, 'chrisjohn2@gmail.com.' Those may be edited for clarity and space but not normally for punctuation, wording, etc; opinions are those of the writer(s) and may not reflect Association belief or policy.

SNOWBALL SPECIAL THANKS

By Terry Hammond

Attendance at the annual Snowball was down from prior years, but a great time was had by all attending. The **Atomic Blue** gave a wonderful rendition of the National Anthem to start the evening. The **Harmonizers Quartet** provided dinner music by serenading each table, and later in the program provided about 30 minutes of songs and jokes appreciated by all (most?). AFTAC Commander, Col Chad Hartman, gave an excellent presentation of the current status of AFTAC, praise for the work the Alumni have done and are doing, and capped his time by announcing the three 2019 selections for the Wall of Honor: CMSgt Larry Silhanek, CMSgt John Horsch, and Col Don Whitney. Congratulations to the well deserving selectees (see separate article about awards ceremony). This was followed by Bob Wiley's discussion of the Alumni of the Year (AOY) program, introduction of current members, and presentation of this year's selectee - Bryce Dunn (CO Chapter), whose formal presentation had been made at the CO Reunion in June 2019. All in all, it was a wonderful evening.

A special thanks to Sean and Michelle Ryan. At one point it looked like we might have to cancel this year's Snowball, but through Sean's tireless efforts and endurance he managed to pull it off. Without Sean & Michelle's outstanding contributions, the night would not have even happened, much less been the wonderful night it was. Thanks from all the Alumni and spouses.

WALL OF HONOR CONGRATS

Jim Davis <firehead@cogeco.ca> writes on Fri, Mar 6, 2020 via EMail:

A great big congratulations to you John (Horsch)it is especially nice to see you receive this award.....wish I could be there to help you celebrate and to pat you on your back !!!! It is truly an honor which you deserve.....Best wishes always.....Jim (Davis)

[John Horsch writes: Thank you, Jim, it's good to join up with you guys who really gave us such a good head start. I know you're here in spirit.]

AFTAC TAKES CARE OF ITS OWN – By James Gindlesperger

Many AFTAC personnel receive support from the organization and the AF without anyone hearing about it.

In September 1968 I had just finished Q school in Denver and on my way to my first assignment, Det 175, Fairchild AFB, I got married to A2C Jackie Brown stationed at Lackland AFB. She put in for reassignment to join a spouse and just before Christmas arrived at Fairchild AFB WA.

(continued)

I had rented a small apartment off base and all was well until I applied for quarters allowance. It was DISAPPROVED by the base commander! At first we were angry, but it was one of the nicest things anyone could have done. We were assigned base housing. Two airmen second class with about one year in service were assigned government housing. It made life so much easier and, by far, less expensive. At this time married couples were treated quite differently. You were considered as married without dependent, how is that possible? There was nothing in the regulations that addressed military members married to each other. Since you were both active duty you couldn't claim your spouse as a dependent. I was eligible for single quarters allowance and my wife was eligible for NOTHING. At that time my single allowance was \$60.00, so you see why base housing was a benefit.

We settled into a new marriage and in April, just four months after arriving, Jackie got an assignment to Karamursel, Turkey. She questioned the assignment with personnel but was told there was nothing they could do. I notified my Commander, Capt Sydney Dearborn, and he said hold on, there might be something AFTAC can do about it, we have a detachment there. Within a couple days I had an assignment to Det 328 at Karamursel CDI Turkey. The detachment was fully manned but I was assigned anyway.

Once Jackie got her orders, her travel and reporting dates were relayed to AFTAC personnel and soon my orders arrived with identical dates. We went to TMO together and they were able to book us on the same flight from JFK to Heathrow to Istanbul. But again, since the AF did not consider us with dependents, it was an unaccompanied assignment. We liked Turkey and had no trouble extending and expected to stay there three years. When our tour was coming to an end, we requested to return to Fairchild AFB. Once Jackie got her assignment, AFTAC graciously matched my orders to hers and we would leave in September.

All was well until we got word that Det 328 would be closing in Jun. Initially that did not seem to be too much of a problem as we figured we could ask the AF to move up Jackie's assignment and AFTAC would modify mine. But soon there was another snag. Det 175 was also closing.

It is now April and time was getting close to our departure. I was notified that I was being reassigned to the new HQ at Patrick AFB. Jackie went to base personnel but was told it was too late to get her assignment changed. HQ somehow found out and soon a message came saying they were aware of our problem and that they would contact AF assignments and fix Jackie's assignment. True to their word, within a week Jackie was assigned to Patrick AFB.

At HQ I was assigned to the computer room but an opportunity arose to cross train into A Systems as an SEO. I graduated from A school in December and the word was that many of the SEO's were going to be reassigned to the 1155th at McClellan AFB. Not being a lover of Florida, I volunteered to go. Now, again, we had to see about Jackie. There were no positions at McClellan for her and they would not take her as an overage, but luckily there was a slot at Mather AFB across town. Again we waited for Jackie's orders to arrive and AFTAC kindly matched the travel and reporting dates.

During this time there were changes as to how married couples were treated. You still could not claim your wife as a dependent but they did approve giving both members single quarters allowance which was actually more than the "with dependent" amount. I can only thank AFTAC for making our life a little easier and less stressful. They truly take care of their own!

OBITUARIES

For additional information, see our Web site – <https://www.aftacaa.us>

RICHARD T. "RT" BENNETT

(Passed along by Ken Behrens who was contacted by Bill Schmied)

We sadly provide this alert notification that one of our members, MSgt (Ret) Richard T. (RT) Bennett, passed away on Tuesday morning, 21 January 2020. RT was born on 29 March 1938 and enlisted in the Air Force in 1958 as an Administration Technician. He served with AFTAC in Hawaii for four years, 1968 - 1972, and was then assigned to AFTAC Detachment 057 at Lowry AFB until his retirement in 1978. After retiring from the Air Force, RT started a second career with the US Postal Service and subsequently entered into the real estate business.

Additional information is available at the Olinger-Highland web site, <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/thornton-co/richard-bennett-9010288>



VIRGINIA N. CHAMBERLAIN

d. 25 February 2020 in Sacramento, CA (age 94)

Virginia was predeceased by her husband of 69 years, Lt. Col. Richard E. Chamberlain. She is survived by her three children, Richard Jr. and his wife Cheryl, Rebecca and her husband John, and Shawn.

A long-time Sacramento resident, Virginia always remembered her Texas roots with pride. While raising a family throughout the migratory life of an Air Force wife, she found time to volunteer with the Officers Wives Club, as a room mother in her children's schools, PTA president and Red Cross hospital Gray Lady.

Bob Fitzgerald, WCC Webmaster, reports Virginia was an active Life member of the AFTAC Alumni Association – West Coast Chapter. Please refer to www.AFTACWCC.org where additional information will be published on the “Departed” page along with a link to an obituary.



THOMAS E. CLAWSON of Melbourne, Florida

November 23, 1943 - January 29, 2020

Born in Homer City, Pennsylvania, Tom was an alum of Laura Lamar High School, where he met the love of his life, Georgianna “Ann” McMasters, and the two were wed in 1961.

Tom served in the United States Air Force beginning on 8 November 1961, serving posts across the country and abroad before coming to Patrick Air Force Base in 1972. While at PAFB, he was assigned to AFTAC where he was promoted to Master Sergeant on June 4, 1976, and served until his retirement from active duty on 31 May 1986. He then entered into civilian work at PAFB for Johnson Controls until his final retirement in October 2002.

Tom was preceded in death by his beautiful wife Ann (2001). He is survived by two sons, Martin and wife Laura Clawson of Palm Bay, FL; Wayne and wife Andrea Clawson of Palm Bay, FL.

Full Obituary and Video at: <https://www.davisseawinds.com/obituary/thomas-clawson>

KATHLEEN M. F. HENNING of Satellite Beach

1965 – 4 March 2020

Alerted by Col Hartman, Commander, AFTAC

It is with great sadness to inform you that we lost a member of the AFTAC family yesterday. Ms. Kathleen Henning passed away after a fierce battle with illness. Kathy joined AFTAC in 2009, where she began her civil service career as the secretary for TMN, and currently as the secretary for the 21st Surveillance Squadron. She also served four years in the U.S. Army.

MARTHA ANNE ISBELL

(Contacted by Jim Isbell, email, March 11th. Jim has advised there will not be an obituary.)

My wife, Martha Anne Isbell, of 62 years, died 6PM Saturday the 7th of March. We were married in 1958 when I returned from Wake Island just before I was sent to Shemya for a year. She came with me to Wash. DC when I was assigned to AFTAC. We had two wonderful daughters that were at her bedside with me when she died. We had been soul mates from the day we met 65 years ago. I remember a quote from "Winnie the Pooh"..... "I am glad that I knew someone that it is so painful to say goodbye to."



BERNADINE STRAIN JONES

30 January 1922 – 10 February 2020

Bernie graduated from John W. Hallahan Catholic Girls High School, June 1940. She married Meredith W. Jones on Nov. 30, 1943. They had one son, James Meredith Jones.

They lived in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Panama Canal Zone, U.S. Naval Bases at Great Lakes, Ill., and Huntsville, Ala. The family moved to Florida in 1961, when her husband retired from the U.S. Navy. Bernadine worked as a secretary at Patrick Air Force Base until her retirement in January 1988.

Bernie loved to travel with bus tours and cruises. She was preceded in death by her husband and her son.

Full Obituary at https://www.postbulletin.com/tributes/obituaries/bernadine-jones----rochester/article_5ab67a64-a4c7-56d2-9090-36fb273b149b.html)

Contacted by Lou Seiler: "Bernie was the long term secretary in TFE and TTE. She was 98 when she passed. Godspeed, Bernie!"

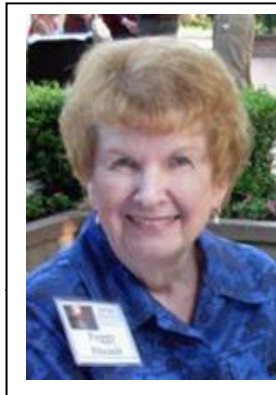
JAMES "Jim" PAYNE

(Contacted by Tom Eddleman, 25 March 2020)

Just to let you know Jim died this afternoon around 1:30. Don't know anything about a service other than they plan a memorial service in Florida later this year when the virus calms down.

NOTE: Jim served AFTAC for many years, finishing his career working directly for the Commander as the Command's Second Senior Enlisted Advisor in the early 80's. He was the first 99 selected for this position.

Added by Rick Manley: Another very sad day at the Center. Jim was a great person and always smiling. My heart aches yet again.



PEGGY JUNE RHEAULT

7 July 1938 – 22 November 2019

(As written by Bob Fitzgerald with input from Peggy's daughter, Julie.)

Peggy June Rheault was born in Alexandria, Virginia. After high-school, Peggy became administrative assistant working at the US Air Force's 1035th Field Activities Group/AFTAC Headquarters just south of Alexandria. While working at AFTAC, Peggy met and married Charles R. "Ray" Rheault (1963) who was an Admin Personnel Clerk at AFTAC HQ. In 1965, Ray became a 99125L - Special Weapons Technician - and he was sent to Lowry AFB, CO, for training.

Peggy was predeceased by her husband, Ray (1994), and is survived by Debbie Rheault in Seal Rock, OR, and Julie Burke (Mike) in Auburn, CA.

Additional information available at www.AFTACWCC.org

DIANNE SIMONTON

18 December 1934 – 8 January 2020

Dianne Patricia Merrill was born in Rockland, Maine. On 20 October 1957, she married to Ralph Simonton, who was in the U.S. AF at the time. His military service took her to a number of different places, including Alaska and Germany. She was with Ralph at WFO, waited while he filled a tour at 441, and was with him at HQ in Alexandria and at the 1157th until his retirement in 1972. After Ralph's retirement from the AF, she served as a pastor's wife until he retired from the pastorate in 2013; she also served as pianist. Dianne was predeceased by her daughter, Susan. She is survived by her husband of 62 years and her son Paul.

See further information at www.aftacaa.us



CURTIS EMERSON "Smitty" SMITH

d. 8 January 2020 (83 years old)

Curtis "Smitty" was known for his great love and reverence for his family, and his lifetime of love and service to his country.

He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1955 and in 1960, Smitty cross-trained into the 99125 career field and joined AFTAC. Smitty served his country honorably and with distinction for 27 years, retiring in 1982 as a Master Sergeant. In 1961, Smitty married the love of his life and his "soulmate," Ellen. Anyone who knew him, understood the honor he felt serving his country, and especially as a member of AFTAC. This honor was revisited

upon him as he watched his son, Mark join the USAF and become an AFTACer following in his father's footsteps since 1988.

Smitty bowled on AFTAC leagues, played fast pitch softball at Patrick AFB in the 70s where he was one of their pitchers, and was an avid golfer. Smitty is survived by his wife Ruth "Ellen" Smith, daughter Shawn Smith, son Mark Smith, and grandchildren.

(Provided by daughter, Shawn Eileen Smith) See additional information at www.aftacaa.us

Many Memoriums on Smitty were sent. Even though there is not space to include them all here, some are noted below:

- Mark & Shawn, I am sad to hear the news. I was hoping to see him one more time when I came down, but alas, it was not meant to be. However, I am glad your Dad passed peacefully. Smitty was one of a kind! Please pass my condolences on to your Mom. - Dobie (John Doberstein)

- Shawn – Please accept condolences and prayers for you, Mark, your mom and other family from me and all the members of the Awesome Alumni bowling team. I met Curt way back in the 1970's when we played Fast Pitch softball together, but continued over all the years; we bowled against each other in the AFTAC Wednesday league. Again, my deepest sympathies on the loss of you Dad. - Terry (Hammond)

A FEW MINUTES FROM THE MINUTES

This column will help you stay up-to-date on issues that are not covered in other places in the PoMo.

Sage Shop - SSgt Jorden Gershenson (AFTAC/CCX/321-494-8636) has agreed to take over the Sage Shop for the time being.

Heritage Room - Dr. Mike Young reported that the Heritage Room renovation is underway.

2021 Word Wide Reunion (2021 WWR) – A company that arranges reunions is being considered for the 2021 reunion. They charge \$18 per person to take care of everything. Proposed dates for the reunion are 17 through 20 June 2021.

Membership Enhancement Ideas for 2020 - Phil Godfrey is looking into ways to enhance membership in the Association. Further discussion will consider ways to connect with the active duty to try to encourage them to join the Association.

Change of Command and Retirement - Mike Young reported that Col Hartman's change of command ceremony is scheduled for 30 June 2020 and that Jim Whidden will be retiring on 5 June 2020.

Website Committee - Terry Hammond said they are continuing to delete out-of-date articles and update as available.

Memorial for Line of Duty Deceased AFTAC'ers - Lou Seiler discussed the slow response for donations/paver purchases, saying that, to date, we have only had 11 responses. A motion was made and approved that with the Alumni Association will donate \$10,000 to get the fundraising going. A mailer will soon go out to Florida Alumni members about the need to receive donations soon, if the memorial is to be completed by the 2021 Worldwide Reunion.

FROM THE TOP

— by **Phil Godfrey**

Greeting Fellow Alumni!

As I sit writing this from Launch Control Center – South (better known as my living room), I can't help but use all this free time to ponder two things: 1st, how long will the toilet paper last, and 2nd, how my brothers and sisters in the Alumni are faring. And I hope you are doing well. As we wait this crisis out, we should remember that this may be impacting some of us harder than others. We are all certainly inconvenienced, yes, but how many of us are impacted in much more challenging ways? Remember our friends and keep them in your prayers.

Before the Coronavirus nightmare started, we did get to spend some good times together. We had our SnowBall, which was my first. Upon my bony shoulders was laid the honor and duty of being this year's MC, and nobody threw any vegetables at the podium! For that, I owe this year's attendees a great deal of gratitude – the lighting in there was pretty dim and I'm not as quick on my feet as I once was. Surely most of you would have found your mark! We all owe a big thanks to Sean and Michelle Ryan, who planned and organized the lion's share of the event. It was a classy night, save for the very poor jokes told by that bum of an MC. We were also blessed with a very cool display of technology and signage from our AFTAC Historian, Dr. Mike Young (Alumni # OU812). Ever leading the charge, the AFTAC Commander (Col Chad Hartman) rendered a spirited Status of Command briefing that had several Alumni ready to reenlist. A few did reenlist that very night, and the good Colonel put them right to work on dish duty (apparently Sean and Michelle underestimated the hotel fees, and we had to think fast). We also had the Atomic Blue sing the National Anthem (just Wow!) and the Harbor City Harmonizers sang better than any barbershop quartet I've ever heard. As great a night as it was, it may be a while before we can see each other again.

The pandemic will cause us in the Alumni to do things a little differently, but with good coordination and flexibility, we'll continue along using whatever tools we have in the bag. For one, we're coordinating next year's Reunion. Again, the mighty Sean Ryan has taken the lead and is working with an Event Planning service to really make this next Reunion special. And our monthly meetings....these are going to have to change. Normally, we hold these at the HQ AFTAC building on Patrick AFB. This won't be possible for the foreseeable future so we're going to have to improvise. I'm working on setting up a teleconference for the board to use for the meetings, so we'll have to see how that goes. First time is an experiment for sure.

One thing I'd ask from the Alumni is this: while we all stand by and wait for this to end, if you have any AFTAC pictures, movies, articles, or anything AFTAC related you'd like to share – we could really use some of that stuff for the Website. Going back through the history and statistics of the site has revealed that we all really enjoy looking at this stuff, especially pictures of each other with hair (those were the days). So, if you've got 'em, caption 'em and send 'em. It's this kind of content that brings us back to the good times, back when we were in the mission, helping keep our nation safe. You can send them to me at afsophil@gmail.com and I'll get them to the Webmaster (Terry Hammond).

Finally, you may have received a mailer regarding the AFTAC Memorial Corporation's drive to build a memorial to our fallen comrades. If you didn't, there is information on our Alumni website as well. They need our support to make this a reality, so I hope we can help them get this project off the ground. Well, I need to go wash my hands again. Best of luck to you all as we stay as safe as we can! Your friend, Phil Godfrey, President, AFTAC Alumni Association

Phil Godfrey
AFTACAA President

Board Members (elected positions)

President-**Phil Godfrey**--Vice **Rob Christman**--Secretary **Arlin Massey**—Treasurer **Sean Ryan**

Appointed –

Activities-**CMSgt Amy Long**, CCMS, Hall of Heritage-**Mike Young**/CC HO, **Bob Wiley**/
Hospitality-**Judy Henderson**, Membership/Master Data Base-**Mike Steskel** Post-Monitor
Editor **John Horsch**, Post Monitor Formatting & Information-**Judy Henderson**, Alumni of
the Year Coordinator-**Bob Wiley**, Publicity-**Sean Ryan**, Sage Shop-**Jordan Gershenson**,
Website Chairman-**Terry Hammond**, 20-Year Wall Coordinator – **Tony DeMarco**.



CHAPTER NEWS

DEPOT FALLOUT ~ Excerpts from the AFTAC Alumni West Coast Chapter newsletter. For more information, visit their Web site at www.AFTACWCC.org

A CHILLING TALE

by Bob Fitzgerald, WCC Webmaster



1967 Fairbanks Flood

I was in the lab at Eielson from April 1967-Oct 1969. Do you remember the earthquake outside of Fairbanks in '67 followed just weeks later by a major Chena river flood that pretty much wiped out Fairbanks? I was given permission by my Det Commander, Col Dettmer, to take two weeks to work communications up at the University above the city, but to get there I had to ride on the bed of a big military truck that dropped me off at the gate at Fort Wainwright, *the only dry spot anywhere around*, where a helicopter took me up there ... then it was just about 24/7 for two weeks handling all the local H&W traffic on my own portable CB-Radio. Those were very interesting times! I became a licensed "Ham" (Amateur Radio Operator) the next year thanks to the local Ham Radio Club alongside members of which I worked that disaster.

(WN6FGU/KL7 back then and WA6FGU shortly after returning to Sacramento.)

EVENTS CALENDAR

Our General Business Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of March, June, September & December at 7:00 PM at the Lionsgate Restaurant in McClellan Park. The meetings usually last an hour or less. All AFTAC alumni are welcome and encouraged to attend. The date of our next meeting is **March 9th**. Always check our www.AFTACWCC.org website "Events" page to confirm the date, time & location in case of last minute changes.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

Saturday, 16 May 2020, 11:30am-2:30pm, we will hold our annual "Armed Forces Day WCC SPRING PICNIC & BBQ". We always have a great time at this spring event where we enjoy WCC provided BBQ Hamburgers & Hot Dogs with all the trimmings, sodas & bottled water along with all the potluck dishes & desserts brought by our members & guests. There will be a required sign-up form in the next Depot Fallout newsletter and on our website by this April, so please look for it then.

Saturday, 14 Nov 2020, 11:30am-2:00pm will be our "FALL SOCIAL" luncheon event. Details regarding this will be published later in upcoming Depot Fallout newsletters and on our website.



AFTACAA WCC FALL SOCIAL

NOSTALGIA! - NOSTALGIA! - NOSTALGIA!

Have you been an AFTAC'er for 35 years or more? Were you around in **1985** when the **1155th Tech Ops Sqdn** held one of its first AFTAC Worldwide Reunions here in Sacramento? Were you there and what do you remember about it?

I found my old copy of the **August 1986** issue of the "**WFO/1155th TOS REUNION NEWSLETTER**" and I added it to the newsletters that are already available from our website. This old issue is loaded with lots of photos of the 1985 reunion and other interesting information. Can you find any of your old friends, or maybe even yourself somewhere in this issue? *(I did and found a couple of names misspelled: page 12, the photo at the bottom left, and identified at top of the page in item 5: Jim Chesnay's last name should have been spelled "Chesney"; and "Roy" Rheault is actually **Charles** "Ray" Rheault seen with his recently deceased wife, Peggy Rheault along with myself & my wife "Darlene.")* Note: I counted 189 Last names included in this issue on the lists of attendees to the reunion, so with the number of spouses that also attended and were named in the lists, there must have been around 300 or more at that reunion. See if your name is included.

To peruse this old 14 page newsletter, just go to our <http://www.AFTACWCC.org> website, click on our "**Fallout**" menu item then scroll down to the bottom of the list where you will find a link to the **August 1986** issue on the 2nd line from the bottom at the right end of that line.

I hope you enjoy reading this old issue and that doing so brings good memories for you of days long past.
God bless all AFTAC Alumni and God bless the USA.

..... **Bob Fitzgerald, WCC Webmaster**

ECHOES – News from the AFTAC Alumni Colorado Chapter
www.aftacco.org

2019 September Breakfast, By Bryce Dunn

The September Breakfast was held on 22 September 2019 at the Aurora Hills Tin Cup. Our Guest speaker was Major John E. "Jack" O'Connor (USAF Retired), where he talked about his SEO experiences and his new book: ***They Touched Our Heros for the Last Time Repatriation of Fallen POWS and Other Tales.***

We had 30 attendees which included: Dave Albers, Ken Behrens & Cyndie WozniakBehrens; Patrick Burke; Paul Detlefson; Bryce & Sue Dunn; Glen & Jonece Feakes; James Gardiner; Lonnie & Ginny Gibbons; Dave Hursey; Larry Johnston; Jerre Jung; Bill & Rhonda Kimbrough; Frank Lepus; Bill Milnor; Jack & Kathleen O'Connor; Rick Phillips; Earl & Marriane Pierce; Richard Rubicam; Chuck Toner; Tom Ware; Rob & Libby Whiteley; and TSgt Jeffrey Smith, Det 46.

2019 Fall/Veterans Dinner, By Bryce Dunn

On November 10th we held our annual Veteran's Day/Fall dinner at the Meadow Hills golf course Tin Cup. It was another fine evening around the fireside with gift giving and a silent slide presentation of the 2019 Alumni Reunion pictures while the snow silently fell outside.

We had 27 people in attendance which included: Ken Behrens & Cyndie WozniakBehrens; Patrick Burke; Steve & Miriam Clark and Camille and Caleb; Bryce & Sue Dunn; Glen & Jonece Feakes; Lonnie & Ginny Gibbons; Bill & Rhonda Kimbrough; Linda Lemois; Monique Miller; Rick Phillips; Earl & Marriane Pierce; Jim Rowen; Bill & Sue Schmied; Chuck Toner; Tom Ware; and Greg & Mary Woods.

Mark Your Calendars

- **2 May Grand Encampment Museum Opens**
- **June TBD Alumni Picnic in Castle Rock**
- **27 July Living History Day**
- **26-28 July Sierra Madre Muzzle Loader Mountain Man Rendezvous**
- **September TBD Fall Breakfast**
- **21 November Annual Fall/Veterans Day Dinner at the Aurora Hills Tin Cup**



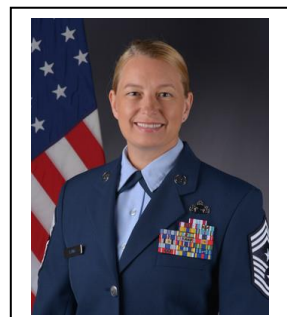
MONITORing Active Duty Doins' from around the AFTAC World *Command Section*



Commander/CC/2018. Col Chad J. Hartman earned his commission through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Program at the University of Missouri in 1994. He has led intelligence operations across multiple theaters and echelons, to include an F-117 fighter squadron, Air Operations Centers in Pacific and Central Air Forces, the US Air Force Distribution Common Ground System, and US Special Operations Command.
[Full Bio at <https://www.25af.af.mil/Units/AFTAC.aspx>]



Vice Commander/CV/2018. Col Ralph E. Bordner, III
Col Bordner received his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of Central Florida in 1996 with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering. His career includes multiple space-centric positions, to include crew-certified space operator, space and missile control engineer, chief of ballistic missile subsystems, and research and development engineer.
[Full Bio at <https://www.25af.af.mil/Units/AFTAC.aspx>]



Chief Master Sergeant Amy L. Long is the **Command Chief** for AFTAC, Patrick AFB, FL, where she advises the AFTAC wing commander on matters concerning the readiness, utilization, training, morale and welfare of the 1,000-member center and its 14 detachments around the globe who support AFTAC's international treaty monitoring activities. AFTAC operates and maintains the US Atomic Energy Detection System to monitor foreign compliance with various treaties limiting nuclear testing. AFTAC is also the designated US laboratory system that provides technical support to the United Nations' International Atomic Energy Agency.

Long entered the AF in Sep 1994. She graduated from the Defense Language Institute as an Arabic Cryptologic Linguist in Mar 1996. Her background includes various duties in intelligence operations, joint service and training. Throughout her career, she has served in myriad positions including National Security Agency Functional Manager, Counterterrorism Senior Enlisted Representative, as well as Squadron and Group Superintendent. She has deployed in support of Operation New Dawn and completed overseas tours in Korea and Hawaii.
[Full bio at <https://www.25af.af.mil/About-Us/Biographies/Display/Article/1916755/chief-master-sergeant-amy-l-long>]



REPORTS FROM WITHIN THE HQ BUILDING (Most of the following extracts can be read in their entirety at AFTAC Alumni Website: www.aftacaa.us)

Pandemic can't stop AFTAC's innovative Airmen

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs, Patrick AFB, FL – Published 9 April 2020

As cleaning and disinfecting supplies rapidly disappeared from store shelves and warehouse stockrooms, demand far outweighed the availability of these products to protect against COVID-19.

AFTAC was no different. As the nuclear treaty monitoring agency prepared to sanitize the center to protect the health and well-being of its workforce against the growing pandemic, supply technicians realized the amount of standard cleaning products in their inventory was at a minimum.

So what does the organization that's charged with conducting vital 'round-the-clock operations do to ensure its Airmen are safe? One word: Innovate.

AFTAC is home to the Ciambone Radiochemistry Laboratory, a one-of-a-kind AF facility that identifies radiologic or nuclear debris in support of the U.S. Nuclear Debris Collection and Analysis Program. To perform its mission, the laboratory must be able to precisely isolate and purify specific radionuclides from a variety of environmental samples. Scientists who work at the radiochemistry lab frequently rely on ethanol as a reagent to assist in this process.

To adhere to guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and by direction of the AFTAC commander, members of AFTAC's Safety Office and techs from Ciambone teamed up to develop a solution using existing chemicals the lab already had in its inventory.

"One of the most commonly used reagents in almost any chemistry lab is ethanol," said Senior Airman John Mullaney, sample control technician. "So Senior Airman (Ethan) Rumble and I took the 100 percent ethanol liquid we use for lab operations and diluted it down to a 70-percent solution using deionized water. Once we had the right concentration, we filled spray bottles with the diluted ethanol and provided them to the assigned cleaning crews."

AFTAC Airmen then used the solution to wipe down door handles, computer keyboards, telephone handsets, elevator buttons, tables, break room countertops, and other commonly touched areas within the center to reduce the risk of contamination. "The ethanol solution was allowed to naturally evaporate and the vapors to dissipate before the next team of workers were allowed in that area," said Maj. Hershel Lackey, lab director of operations. "While we waited for the surfaces to dry, the team documented the precise amount of solution that was used in a specific area and senior leaders were notified that the area was fully disinfected."

The team took their ingenuity one step further. They realized the lab supplies could also be used to disinfect the rest rooms and floors throughout the headquarters building as well as in the lab, which allowed for uninterrupted mission flow without putting Airmen in harm's way or inadvertently furthering the spread of the virus by having a contracted crew to come into the facility for general purpose cleaning.

"When faced with adversity, you will not find a smarter, more innovative group of men and women than you will here at the Air Force Technical Applications Center," said Col. Andy Steffen, commander of the 709th Surveillance and Analysis Group. "AFTAC was in a hard place with limited cleaning supplies, and we knew it would be weeks – possibly months – before the supply chain would catch up to the demand. I am always amazed at the resourcefulness of the folks who work here. They got the job done and they did it exceedingly well, and I'm incredibly proud of them and their efforts."

Lackey praised the AFTAC Safety team for their invaluable oversight as well. "Joy Morris and Sara Kroll were instrumental in ensuring we followed all required OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) guidelines," the major said. "This was truly a team effort across the board, and we definitely demonstrated one way to 'flatten the curve' while fighting the virus."

* * * * *

Vital treaty monitoring mission continues in wake of COVID-19 response

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs, Patrick AFB FL, Published 7 April 2020

The commander of AFTAC has made it his priority to ensure his workforce is doing all they can to make AFTAC a "hard target" while also flattening the COVID-19 curve.

Since the initial outbreak of the coronavirus in the US, Col Chad Hartman and his leadership team have been taking diligent steps to provide uninterrupted access to critical scientific data used by national decision makers regarding nuclear activity across the globe. Concurrently, Hartman wants to make sure his team stays connected and up-to-date on virus-related situations as they evolve, and that includes ensuring AFTAC family members are also well informed. To do that, he's taken steps to separate his workforce into two groups to protect the health of the Airmen and their families while safeguarding mission readiness.

"The approach is simple," said Hartman. "We've divided into two teams – one Silver, one Blue. When the Blue team is in the building executing the mission, the Silver team remains at their alternate duty location to ensure we're not 'crossing streams' while practicing exquisite social distancing. I need every Airman – civilian and military -- and their immediate family members to remain healthy. Having two teams that don't cross paths is one effective way to do just that."

The center has adapted to the distance between its members by employing online methods of communicating, including the use of social media and teleconferences.

X-file solved? Truth behind Roswell 'alien' that made a woman faint

Rick Neale, FLORIDA TODAY reported on Feb. 6, 2020



Walter Singlevich

Walter Singlevich, a former Melbourne Beach resident, died in 1992 at age 73 — and in his later years, he joked that he was a Roswell alien.

After taking off from Roswell, Walter Singlevich's military helicopter flew across the dusty New Mexico plains to his top-secret Cold War-era target: a silvery balloon equipped to detect nuclear detonations that lay sprawled atop a knoll near a rural ranch house.



Balloon Equipment

The helicopter landed nearby. Singlevich and the pilot donned bulky 1950s-era radiation protective suits — complete with hoods and respirators — and hustled up the hill.

That's when the short-statured Singlevich may have inadvertently added a chapter to the "little green men" alien conspiracy lore that swirls around Roswell, New Mexico, where some believe a UFO crashed in 1947. "As they came over the rise where the balloon was, they ran into this woman who was coming from the ranch house," said Jim Whidden, Air Force Technical Applications Center director of staff. "And when she saw them, she fainted," Whidden said. "So they walked over and made sure that she didn't hurt herself, and basically left her there — this was very highly classified. They picked up the balloon and all the equipment and the sample, and took it back to the helicopter and left," he said.

AFTAC officials shared details of Singlevich's faint-inducing encounter with FLORIDA TODAY, marking the story's first public release. The incident occurred in 1951 or 1952 and was considered classified until 2017, said James Michael Young, AFTAC command historian.

Additional details have been lost over the decades, Young said. The woman's identity and location remain a mystery. Singlevich, in his later years, joked that he was a Roswell space alien, Whidden said. He told friends that the stunned woman could have passed a lie detector test while contending she had seen extraterrestrial visitors and their ship.

To view a video of the FLORIDA TODAY interview, visit [Roswell 'alien' who made woman faint in 1950s was Patrick AFB icon https://www.floridatoday.com/videos/news/2020/02/06/roswell-alien-who-made-woman-faint-1950-s-patrick-air-force-base-icon-military-says/4669385002/](https://www.floridatoday.com/videos/news/2020/02/06/roswell-alien-who-made-woman-faint-1950-s-patrick-air-force-base-icon-military-says/4669385002/)

See full article at - www.floridatoday.com/sitemap/2020/february/6

AFTAC Hockey Stuns Canadian Embassy in D.C. Thriller

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs, Patrick AFBFL / Published 12 February 2020



Members of the AFTAC and Canadian Embassy hockey teams pose for a post-game group photo. (U.S. Air Force photo by Jason Nehmer)

On a weekend historically dedicated to tailgate parties, million-dollar TV commercials, puppy bowls and halftime extravaganzas, members of the Air Force Technical Applications Center hockey team traveled to Washington, D.C., Super Bowl weekend to face off against the Canadian Embassy, a first for the Florida-based club.

Led by team captain Bill Hungate, a senior scientist at the Nuclear treaty monitoring center, eight players made the trip to play a game that was a few years in the making.

AFTAC's hockey team is made up of skaters who work at the Department of Defense's sole nuclear treaty monitoring center headquartered at Patrick AFB in Cocoa Beach, Fla. Since 2015, the hockey enthusiasts have played more than 60 games, most of them for charity, as a way of coming together in a sport they all love.

See Full Article at <https://www.16af.af.mil/News/Article/2082153/aftac-hockey-stuns-canadian-embassy-in-dc-thriller/>

AFTAC inducts 3 into famed Wall of Honor

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs / Published 16 March 2020

Three former members of the Air Force Technical Applications Center at Patrick AFB, Fla., were inducted into AFTAC's Wall of Honor March 11, 2020, during a ceremony held in their honor. Pictured from left to right: Retired Col. Donald Whitney, retired Chief Master Sgt. John T. Horsch, and retired Chief Master Sgt. Larry D. Silhanek. (U.S. Air Force photo by Matthew S. Jurgens)

In keeping with its annual tradition, AFTAC inducted three members onto its Wall of Honor March 11, 2020, memorializing their work that propelled the nuclear treaty monitoring center well into the 21st century.

Hosted by Col. Chad Hartman, AFTAC commander, the ceremony was held in the center's Northrup Auditorium, which is named after a 2014 charter member of the Wall of Honor, Doyle Northrup. This year's inductees include retired Col. Donald Whitney, retired Chief Master Sgt. Larry D. Silhanek, and retired Chief Master Sgt. John T. Horsch.



Whitney began his career as an Air Force meteorologist and weather officer before becoming a pilot in the RC-130 in Vietnam. Upon his return to the U.S., he was assigned to the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Wing at McClellan AFB, Calif., which marked his first exposure to the AFTAC mission. Throughout his career, he was well-immersed into the operational and airborne sides of the center's global responsibilities, which culminated in his direct involvement with AFTAC's role in monitoring the Threshold Test Ban Treaty, prohibiting tests that produced yields greater than 150 kilotons. On one of Whitney's officer performance reports, his superior officer wrote, "Fostered by his leadership, Don knew the importance of the mission. He is a premier O-6 who excels in a most-demanding job." "I worked with the best people in the Air Force," Whitney said. "The mission was important, but the people were more important. I especially loved my time spent at the center's headquarters because I was able to see all the pieces of our work around the world come together."

Silhanek's 30-year active duty career was spent exclusively as an AFTAC technician in various roles worldwide. Starting out as an electromagnetic pulse technician, he graduated at the top of his class and spent his first assignment in the South Pacific, first in Fiji, then in American Samoa. He was AFTAC's first logistics manager for the J-technique – AFTAC's system that collected and analyzed electromagnetic pulses – and had the rare opportunity to be selected as a detachment chief as a master sergeant – a role historically held by senior personnel. Upon his retirement from the Air Force, for the next 19 years he continued to employ his vast knowledge of seismic and hydro-acoustic systems as a government contractor, greatly enhancing AFTAC's partnership with the International Monitoring System. "As I sat and took in the magnitude of the ceremony, I found myself reflecting on my career and all the amazing officers and NCOs of all ranks I was lucky enough to work with," said Silhanek. "Seeing my name on the wall alongside my 'elders' who came before me is an incredibly humbling feeling. Thanks to everyone who made this possible."

Horsch enlisted in the Air Force in 1958 and was immediately selected to work as a special instrument technician, specializing in seismic analysis. According to his supervisors, he had an uncanny ability to recognize potential trouble areas and act accordingly to provide the most reliable data to his superiors, and he was instrumental in the development and implementation of all processing techniques. As he achieved success in his work, he also progressed as a leader. He made rank quickly, and was rapidly put in management positions. He was AFTAC's Inspector General, Logistics Directorate superintendent, chief of an Operations Branch, and ultimately the center's Senior Enlisted Advisor. One general officer remarked on his performance report, "Chief Horsch is the pacesetter for all other noncommissioned officers in AFTAC—he's truly one of the Air Force's finest! Horsch was overwhelmed by the outpouring of accolades. "I feel so undeserving of this honor," the retired chief master sergeant said. "I spent my whole career with AFTAC and they are as much a part of me as members of my own family. I want to thank everyone who supported me throughout my time on active duty and beyond. I couldn't be more pleased."

Addison Mitchell, AFTAC's mission software program manager, delivered the ceremony's invocation and highlighted the contributions of the inductees. "These men have singularly and collectively played a major role in the advancement of our technologies to detect, locate, identify and report nuclear detonations around the world," Mitchell said. "We thank them for providing us with breakthroughs that can only be accomplished by personifying the Air Force core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do."

AFTAC hosts 5th annual WiSE Symposium

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs / Published February 05, 2020



Students from Sabal Elementary School in Melbourne, Fla., participate in a yelling contest with Airman 1st Class Kishona Quinn, a member of the Air Force Technical Applications Center at Patrick AFB, Fla., using a meter that measures sound levels to test exposure to hazardous noises. The demonstrations were part of AFTAC's annual Women in Science and Engineering Symposium Pioneer Day for local school students. (U.S. Air Force photo by Matthew S. Jurgens)

Continuing a five-year tradition, AFTAC held its annual Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) Symposium Jan. 21-23, 2020 to highlight the value that gender diversity brings to the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math workforce.

The first two days of the event were dedicated to guest speakers, breakout sessions and exhibitor information tables. On day three, various interactive demonstrations were on display for students across Brevard County who traveled to the

This year's symposium was aimed at inspiring the next generation of STEM enthusiasts through interactive demonstrations, inspirational speakers and networking opportunities. The theme for the symposium was "Create What You Wish Existed" to encourage young attendees to act on their innovative thoughts.

Col. Chad Hartman, AFTAC's commander, altered the STEM acronym to STEAM to include the Arts – humanities, language, music, design, graphic arts, dance, drama and new media, just to name a few.

See Full Article at: www.aftacaa.us

New 16th AF commander, command chief immerse into AFTAC mission

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs / Published January 08, 2020



Chief Master Sgt. Summer Leifer (center), 16th Air Force Command Chief, sends a burst of air using an air cannon at a hybrid seismic-infrasound sensor that's being tested by Central Repair Facility Airmen at the Air Force Technical Applications Center, Patrick AFB, Fla. Leifer and 16th Air Force Commander Lt. Gen. Timothy Haugh (right/center, smiling), visited the nuclear treaty monitoring center Dec. 16, 2019 to get an up-close look at how AFTAC plays a critical role in the Numbered Air Force's overarching intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, cyber and electronic warfare mission. (U.S. Air Force photo by Susan A. Romano)

See Full Article at: <https://www.16af.af.mil/>



ADDITIONAL ARTICLES THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST:

Most are available at www.aftacaa.us – "NEWS TO KNOW" – for the following articles posted on the Alumni Web Site.

Kiddie Tax Penalty - Legislative Update

Submitted by Frank Calenda from THE ENLISTED ASSOCIATION Newsletter (see full article at https://webmail.earthlink.net/wam/msgview.jsp?msgid=53991&folder=INBOX&isSeen=true#m-8093560267129309226_233977)

The Enlisted Association worked hard to eliminate the so-called "Kiddie Tax" penalty for surviving military children and thanks Congress for getting this done in 2019!

The "Kiddie Tax" fix was included in the *Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement* (SECURE) Act, which was attached to the *Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020*, the year-end spending bill. The Act was signed into law on December 20, 2019.

Air Force keeps the telework force in the fight:

By George Serna, 16th Air Force / Published March 27, 2020

A message from Lt Gen Timothy Haugh from Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) on the recent telework posture.

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - LACKLAND, Texas -- In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) is working to ensure teleworkers across the Air Force keep government and personal computers and networks connected and protected.

Additional information and resources are available:

DISA renews anti-virus software license agreement helping teleworkers keep machines safe at home: <https://disa.mil/NewsandEvents/2020/anti-virus-software-teleworkers>

Defend the DoDIN: Telework Do's and Don'ts

<https://www.doncio.navy.mil/chips/ArticleDetails.aspx?ID=13284>

<https://www.16af.af.mil/Units/AFTAC/>

Vietnam Wall

From LONNIE GIBBONS <lgib14893@comcast.net> - 23 February 2020, Via Email - THIS IS AMAZING

This is really sobering. Click on the link and find the city where you went to high school and look at the names. Click on the name and it will give details of the death.

First click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city and the names will appear. Then click on their names. It should show you a picture of the person, or at least their bio and medals. This really is an amazing web site. Someone spent a lot of time and effort to create it. I hope that everyone who receives this appreciates what those who served in Vietnam sacrificed for our country. The link below is a virtual wall of all those lost during the Vietnam War with the names, bio's and other information of our lost heroes. Those who remember that time frame, or perhaps lost friends or family can look them up on this site. Pass the link on to others, as many knew wonderful people whose names are listed.

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

Patrick Air Force Base To Become Space Force Base, 21 December 2019

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Florida – President Trump signed the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act into law today which establishes the U.S. Space Force as the sixth Armed Service of the United States.

Patrick Air Force Base is one of five named Air Force bases that will be redesignated as Space Force bases, General Jay Raymond, commander of U.S. Space Command, said during a press briefing on Friday. Patrick will be the first Space Force base east of the Mississippi. The other redesignated Space Force bases are Peterson, Schriever, and Buckley Air Force Bases in Colorado and Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

[NOTE: HQ AFTAC is a tenant on Patrick AFB and is not considered a part of the new US Space Force.]

<http://www.brevardtimes.com/2019/12/patrick-air-force-base-to-become-space-force-base/>

DOD recommends face masks, By FederalSoup Staff, Apr 06, 2020

On Sunday, April 5, Defense Department Secretary Mark Esper issued guidance on the use of cloth masks to prevent the spread of the coronavirus among service members.

The guidance, effective immediately, covers military personnel, civilian employees and their families, facility staff and defense contractors. It strongly encourages DOD employees “to follow CDC guidelines on the use of cloth face coverings in public settings or where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.”

The guidance applies to those who live and work on Defense Department property, military installations and facilities who cannot maintain six feet of social distance as they work.

Until additional health protection guidance is issued by the undersecretary of Defense for personnel and readiness and the individual services, “all individuals are encouraged to fashion face coverings from household items or common materials, such as clean T-shirts or other clean cloths that can cover the nose and mouth area,” the memo said. Medical equipment, like surgical masks and N95 respirators, are to be reserved for health care workers.

(continued)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently recommended the use of cloth masks to slow the spread of the virus. Esper wrote that local commanders or supervisors may make exceptions, which will then be submitted up the chain of command. He also noted that masks may need to be lowered at security checkpoints.

The latest DoD policies can be found at <https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus>.

DoD to restructure 50 hospitals, clinics to improve readiness - 2/21/2020

The Department of Defense announced plans to restructure 50 military hospitals and clinics to better support wartime readiness of military personnel and to improve clinical training for medical forces who deploy in support of combat operations around the world.

Military readiness includes making sure MTFs are operated to ensure service members are medically ready to train and deploy," said Tom McCaffery, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs. "It also means MTFs are effectively utilized as platforms that enable our military medical personnel to acquire and maintain the clinical skills and experience that prepares them for deployment in support of combat operations around the world."

The restructuring effort focused on strengthening on the prime responsibility of military medical facilities for training medical personnel and "for keeping combat forces healthy and ready to deploy according to readiness and mission requirements – all while ensuring the MHS provides our beneficiaries with access to quality health care," McCaffery added.

These plans were described and explained in a report sent to Congress earlier today, titled "Restructuring and Realignment of Military Medical Treatment Facilities." This report was required by law under Section 703(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2017, which directed the DoD to analyze its hospital and clinic footprint and submit a plan to Congressional defense committees. Of the 343 facilities in the United States initially screened for this report, 77 were selected for additional assessment, with 21 identified for no changes.

For a complete list of military hospital and clinic changes listed in the report, go to <http://www.health.mil/MTFrestructuring>

Most Popular Free VetResources of 2019

Frank Calenda shared the following from the US Department of Veteran Affairs newsletter:

Since we began VetResources last year, you've opened it more than 100M times and clicked on resources more than 12M times. That's hundreds of thousands of free event tickets, premium subscriptions, audio books, National Park passes, video games, Walgreens Flu shots, Amazon Prime membership discounts, and so much more!

Thousands of you have already shared VetResources, and if you haven't already please share it with your Veteran friends and supporters. Our goal is share VA and non-VA resources with all Veterans, their Families, Caregivers, and Survivors.

- Free Concert, Sport Tickets from VET TIX
- National Park Passes
- The Veterans Health ID Card for Base Access
- The VA Welcome Kit
- Space A Flights
- Free Flu Shots at Walgreens
- Free Sports Gear for Military/Veteran Kids
- Free VA Recipes and Cookbooks
- Free Video Games for Veterans
- Free LinkedIn Premium Account
- Free Local Events for Veterans with Team Red, White and Blue's App
- Exclusive Veteran Access to ShopVCS.com
- Amtrak Veteran Discounts
- Free Digital Shadowboxes and Premium Membership from TogetherWeServed.com
- Network and ask Questions on RallyPoint.com
- Borne The Battle Podcast: Military Films

Did you know the [National Resource Directory](https://www.va.gov/HEALTHEQUITY/National_Resource_Directory.asp) has more than 14,000 vetted resources available to you right now?

For a full description of the Most Popular 2019 VetResources, visit <https://amvetspost23.org/most-popular-free-vet-resources-of-2019/>

*******SAGE SCHEDULE*******

1. WindDowns-(normally sponsored by the active-duty force) are scheduled for **1st Fridays** at 1530 taking place to the west of the HQ building.

2. Alumni Assn Board/Membership Meetings-normally-2nd Mondays at 1600 just inside the HQ Building, #10989. Park across the street and the meeting will be in conference room just to the left as you enter the front entrance lobby.

a. If a **Federal Holiday**, the meeting will be the next day.
b. **Quarterly-meetings**during the last month of a quarter (Mar/Jun/Sep/Dec) may be a luncheon, or a dinner, and at the venues noted below. **NOTE:** Sites/Times will be determined at the prededing meeting and announced via eALLert and posted at the association website. Other Patrick dining venues (Tides, Golf Clubhouse, Marina, Dining Facility) and off-base sites may be considered for any meeting.

Active-Duty & Alumni are invited to all events.
Before coming verify date/time/venue online and/or with your editor 'chrisjohn2@gmail.com'

**See page 3 for current list – check
www.aftacaa.us for latest updates**

May 2020

11, 1600 – Membership Mtg ???

15, AFTACAA Golf Tournament – PAFB (see pgs 1 & 3)

June 2020

05, Retirement – Jim Whidden

08, 1130 – Membership Mtg – Off-site – Beef O'Brady's ??

30, AFTAC - Change of Command

July 2020

13, 1600 – Membership Meeting, HQ AFTAC Bldg - ???

August 2020

10, 1600 – Membership Meeting, HQ AFTAC Bldg - ???

Event Plans and Timeframes—for planning only—dates may vary

A. January-April (months may vary)

1. SnowBall

2. Center Annual Awards Banquet

B. May-August (months may vary)

1. Nominating Board (ex-prez+2) selects slate for publication

2. Annual Association Spring Golf N'Getogether

C. September-December (months may vary)

1. Friday in Sep (**Sep 2020**), Annual Board, General Membership & Elections Meeting, '**Social September XXIII**' will be at Manatee Cove on a **Friday at lunch** to enhance the opportunity for, and encourage attendance of, members and all alumni and active-duty.

--**Alumni of the Year (AOY) Selection Committee** (prior AOYs) meet following the annual meeting.

2. **Oct or Nov**, Annual Association Fall Golf N-Getogether

3. Oct 1st, **Alumni Assn ANNUAL FY DUES Due**

--**AFTAC WORLDWIDE REUNIONS:** Normally scheduled every other year. Hosting rotates between the association and the two chapters. Last host – CO-2019.06; CA-2017.06, FL-2015.05.

Next Reunion is scheduled to be hosted by the Florida Chapter, 2021 (proposed dated 17-20 June 2021)

SAGE SHOP – OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Mail orders to:

AFTAC Alumni Assn,

ATTN: Sage Shop

PO Box 254892, Patrick AFB FL, 32925-0892

SAGE CONTACT: SSgt Jordon Gershenson,
AFTAC/CCX/321-494-8636

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

Embroidered DriFit Polo (*no pocket*) \$25 Available in Royal Blue, Black, Red – M, L, XL, XXL

New DriFit Long-sleeve t-shirt (SPF 50 UV protection)

\$18- Royal Blue, Navy, Red – M, L, XL

New DriFit Short-sleeve t-shirt (SPF 50 UV protection)

\$15- Royal Blue, Navy, Red – M, L, XL

[Note: New DriFit t-shirts use a modern thermal transfer process, producing high quality images that are proven to last, and be washed/ dried with your other laundry.]

COINS & PINS

AFTAC Alumni Association Coin: \$10

AFTAC Alumni Association Pin: \$3

AFTAC Logo/ Shield Pin: \$3

60th LRD Commemorative Coin: \$5

CLEARANCE ITEMS

T-SHIRTS-50/50 blend -Assorted Colors, M or XXL –\$5

WINDBREAKERS-w/ stowable hood -Royal Blue – \$20

Screen printed Logo, Golf/Polo Shirts - Assorted Colors

\$15 - Available in 50/50 (cotton/ polyester) moisture

wicking w/ pocket - or - DriFit Fabric w/ or w/o pocket

Contact Sage Shop to verify inventory prior to ordering ANY clearance Items

FUTURE ITEMS

We are currently exploring new merchandise options (Hats, Sweaters, Jackets, etc...)

SHIPPING: Add \$8.00 for shipping/handling of 1 Item & \$2 for each additional. (**no shipping cost for Logo pins**). A link to additional information and photos of these items is available at <https://www.aftacaa.us> — enter the Sage Shop

SAGE SHOP MERCHANDISE FROM OTHERS

AC SEO Airborne Coin - SrA TJ Benscoter - 402-232-

1917/Theodore.benscoter@us.af.mil or SrA Chris Hayes,

402-232-9182/Christopher.hayes.13@us.af.mil

Det 45 has minted a commemorative coin. Contact the CO Chapter Treasurer, 'Bilschmied@aol.com,' for info/purchase.

