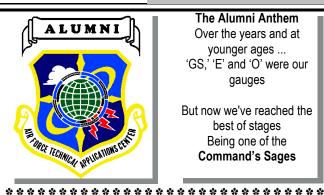
OST - N

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 3

Membership-671, Lifetime 494 (17 Distinguished)

2002 SEPTEMBER



The Alumni Anthem

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

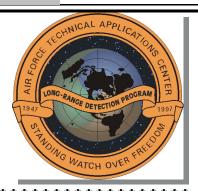
But now we've reached the best of stages Being one of the Command's Sages

Long-Range Detection denotes and represents all who served the mission throughout it's

inception and history

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

1947 – 1997



SAGE SALUTE

THE LONG-RANGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESENTS



MIKE BLACK (MSGT, RET)

We Salute Mike this quarter for his service to the association as our formidable Webmaster. Not only was Mike an initial instigator of this out-

standing service to fellow alumni, but he has continued to serve to this day.

Mike's service to his country began in Oct 1972 and to AFTAC in June '81 where he served until retiring in Aug '92. His AF assignments include Lowry, Eglin, Aviano and Tyndall and his AFTAC duties were in Advanced Technology (with a side-trip to TN). Mike began, and continues, the 'Web' service to his fellow alumni because this command was far-and-away his favorite assignment—especially because of the people.

Thanks Mike, for your service to the country, the US Air Force, AFTAC and now the Alumni Association. Your service is truly appreciated.

NOTE: Upon hearing of Mike's 'selection for Salute,' our Rovin' Reporter and two-time president Clark Creery had this to say:

'The success of our web endeavor is from the

(Continued on page 4, bottom right panel)

ALUMNI ALERTS-WHAT'S COMIN' UP

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

"FALL ALUMNI GOLF N'GETOGETHER" ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND ELECTIONS

SAM SORICE, MAJOR GOLF ARRANGER

Fall is here already! Hard to believe, but the signs are all there: The kids are back to school, football has shown up on the TV and the AFTAC Alumni Association (AKA LRDAA) Fall Golf Tournament will soon be underway. That's right folks. our fall golf tournament is scheduled for October 4th at the Cocoa Beach Golf Course. As usual, our corporate sponsors have come through with some excellent grand prizes as well as a great assortment of door prizes.

(continued on page 5, upper left panel)

COMMAND WINTER SOCIAL PLANNED

PAT SNYDER, OUR 'IN THE BUILDING' CONTACT

"Heads-up," mark your calendar for the AFTAC Winter Social -- it will be at the **Imperial** Hotel on I-95 & Wickham this year, on 14 Dec. (see page 5)

NATIONAL REUNION DATE FINALIZED

May 29th - June 1st. 2003. AFTAC Headquarters, Patrick AFB, Florida. (see page 5)

ALUMNI EVENTS-WHAT'S GONE OFF

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

No Report

ATTENTION...DUES DUE? Here's how to know.

If you wish to remain a member and receive this newsletter check your address NOW! The first line on your address label (see last page) indicates when your dues are due. It if reads: "03<Dues due in Oct" it means you have not paid your dues for FY 2003 which begins 1 Oct 02. If the first two digits on line one of your label are other then 03 it means your dues are current. Remember that the first two digits on the first line are the fiscal year your dues are due.

ASSOCIATION HONOR ROLL ALUMNI OF THE YEAR RECIPIENTS JIM PAYNE 2001

BEN VLASSICK '00-JOHN HORSCH '99-FRANK HALL '98 JUDY MILAM '97-CARL GAILEY '96—CLARK CREERY- '95

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

Florida chapter (application on back page)

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

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

The Chapter publishes a quarterly (Mar/Jun/Sep/Dec) newsletter, 'Post-Monitor' (staff data below), (namesake of a prior active-duty publication, 'Monitor') & a Webpage,'http://www.csihq.com/aftacalumni', with association & alumni information, 'Post-Monitor' 'Samplers' and back-issues and photos - WebMaster is Mike **Black**—Clark **Creery** writes an 'Upcoming Events' ('What's Happening') section.

Florida Chapter Board "PERENNIALS"-Alumni serving for five+ years. Frank Hall-President/Vice 89-98/01, Judy Milam-Secretary 89-00, Eunice Harris-Hospitality 89-00; Mary Welch-Membership 91-99; Carl Gailey-Treasurer 91-99, Swede Swansen-Publicity since 93

Colorado chapter

Formed in 1989, dues, \$5 per year, payable in February; chapter publishes a newsletter, 'Echoes' and supports a website, 'http://www.aftacco.org': Webmaster, Bill Harris. They meet several times a year-for information, Bill Schmied, (303) 367-0625. There are ~130 members.

West Coast (California) chapter

Formed in 1999, dues, \$5 per year, \$50 for lifetime; for information-Joe Johnson, (916) 783-8676, 'TOD.Alumni@ bigfoot'-mailing address:AFTAC Alumni Assoc., West Coast Chapter, 161 Southcreek Circle, Folsom CA, 95630-1510. They hold periodic meetings and socials, host a webpage and publish a newsletter, 'Depot Fallout.'

Long-Range Detection Alumni Honorarium

Several permanent and ongoing projects representing and honoring our people and it's history exist: Two of these, the 'Hall of Heritage' (with information and artifacts) and the Photos/Biographies of Alumni who served the command for 20+ years, are housed at AFTAC Headquarters. Another is an AFTAC display at the Encampment Wyoming Museum.

Newsletter Editors: John & Christel Horsch
Information/Proofing: Judy Milam/Pat Snyder/Deborah Carson
Executive Review: Frank Hall/Carl Gailey
Rovin' Photographers: Judy Milam (film) and Bob Wiley (digital)
Rovin' Reporter: Clark Creery/Bob Wiley
Printing/Mailing: Carl Gailey/Swede Swansen



Plans for the 2003 Florida reunion move forward—please note the dates have been finalized and are slightly different than the tentative dates we published last issue. We will be 'Reunioning' from May 30th to June 1st, with events planned for each day—'come early and stay late.'

We've got great stuff this issue, as usual, with a couple of additions. Someone requested that we add a membership application within the newsletter for those readers who are not currently in the association. We understand this could happen if you were sharing 'PoMo' information with a fellow AFTAC alumni, or you were receiving one of our complimentary issues we provide throughout the command (detachments, Hq's, etc.). So, you will find that application on the last (mailing/content) page...sign up a friend today.

We've also prominently placed the 'Dues Due' reminder in this issue. Pause in your reading of this tirade to check now; detailed instructions for this check are on the bottom of the front cover. Now...you've done that, send in your renewal, and we can move on.

We've got good stuff in our feature articles again. Ray **Copeland** has been good enough to provide a novella length BS (we're counting on Ray for 'one-an-issue now and have promised him his own by-line, '**Ray's Days'**, if he will do so). We also have another second-time contributor with George **Kraus** continuing his tales of 'down-under.' We cannot express to these gentlemen enough how we appreciate them taking the time to write, and share, these tales of yore. A lot of you have taken the time to do so and we hope you keep it up and are joined by many.

We've also got an 'I Remember' by our Association President, Joe **Marshall** and a couple of good 'catchups' in our 'Where Are Ya' area. We are disappointed that no additional inputs have been received for our 'A Family Affair' section. Reckon we'll have to go online and do some personal soliciting.

Jam packed and just waiting for your perusal. Enjoy, and until the next time, remember, 'B' Technique personnel deal only with earthshaking events!!

John and Chris



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

Letters of a general nature, requesting no action, may be e-mailed to the editors, chrisjohn@juno.com

Letters may be edited for clarity and space; any opinions are those of the writer(s) and may not reflect Association belief or policy

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

NEW/RENEWING SAGES

Kearney, MO

02.4.29

99125U trained at Lowry, '65-'66. 1155th, 6/66—changed RI to 99125F, 8/66. Remained in 'F' Troop until discharge 1/69.

David W. Cullinane

Kissimmee, FL

02.6.21

HQ AFTAC, DO, Information Protection Program Manager, '97-'98.

Kenneth Wayne Lackey, Jr.

Melbourne. FL

02.7.2

HQs/DP, '66-'75 and '76-'86

Tom Clawson

San Antonio, TX

02.7.22

Det duty, '69-'70; HQ Alexandria/Patrick, '71-

'76. Thomas Palmer

Winter Springs, FL

02.8.12

Det 333, '70-'74. Robert Miller

Grand Ronde, OR

02.8.19

(Dues) Tommy Badley

Lititz, PA

02.8.23

1155th/65-67, Det 4XX/67-68, HQ (VA)/68-69, Det 4XX/69-73, Lowry/73-74 (H and I)

David Meaney

LETTERS

Cyberspace

02.6.23

Today, another rain soaked day in Florida, I ran out to our mailbox and to my wonderful surprise, there was the "Post-Monitor." It is later in the day and I have read it cover to cover. John and Chris (Horsch), you are to be admired and thanked for your exceptional handling of this publication. It is evident that this Alumni Organization is a team process and I am glad I play just a little part of it.

First off, congrats to Jim Payne - our 2001 AOY. Secondly - 4Y-MM-DD has a point. I have never been so frustrated as a civilian (now over 22 years) as to dates and the way they are reported. If we could actually forget the dates and capture Ron Cook's passion for something else, we would have enough energy to change the world. Our "Alumni Sports Action" reported that I owned the web-site where we posted the pictures...Argh, Dave (Johnson) and Mike (Black) forgive them for what they have said (editors: we meant to say 'webpage.'). The web-site is actually provided by CSI and it is very much appreciated. I publish the events for "Happenings" to another site and Mike uses a mirror function to integrate it into the real page. We have had 208 visitors since I started this over 1.5 years ago ... who knows, maybe one day we will have that per month? Go to www.csihq.com/aftacalumni and select something or other.

452- I enjoyed the story. I remember in '79 when they sent me there to do a survey and requested that I place a 300'x300' mesh ground screen up on the hill where the CRS is located. My message back to HQ requested a good stock number for 'sky hooks.' The best of the best - AFTAC! I retired over 22 years ago and we then won most of the awards at the local base, it is very comforting to know that we continue to show that we were, are, and will continue to be the best of the best.

The article by Frank **Calenda** who talked about Bill **Bridges** brought to mind Bill's car. That was the chevy with the hood that had a burned spot on the hood. Bill said that was where one cylinder burned up. He continued to drive it on 7. Plus, Bill - I will never forgive you for leaving those cigar butts in the equipment at Shemya... The IG raked me over the coals for that trick!

My last comment would be one that is not welcomed, but I have to say it anyhow - During my tour at HQ, and as an alumni, I managed to work with the most professional person that I have ever had the opportunity to be around. She hated any thoughts of recognition and I made a mistake by telling her that in one of our issues. To this day, I still believe that Mary **Welch** is one of the finest human beings I have ever had the pleasure working with.

Those are my comments for the day and watch out for the next time you see your name in print or on our web page, it will be because the "Rovin

Reporter" captured ya. Thanks for the words Clark, and all the input on various articles. It's great to see interaction from our writers and readers. Clark also added:

Web Input Request

Clark **Creery** manages the 'Upcoming Events' section and would like to 'get the word out' on the alumni site.

I'd like to plug our alumni e-mail address at www.csihq.com/aftacalumni and appreciate the support we get from the page.

This page belongs to each and everyone and articles to share would be nice. I manage to get pictures at times and go thru the effort to get them posted along with minutes of the meetings as soon as I receive them. I think that over the several years that I have perfected this I have only been provided a handful of data to post. Is doing this for the alumni really worth the effort? Alumni, take Clark's challenge—check out our website, and drop him a note, an article, anything you'd like to share with fellow alumni. And while you are at it, drop it to us also for those members not using the web.

There is much to see at the site thanks to all the efforts that Mike **Black** (our 'Salute' this issue) and Clark expend to make it 'as great as it is.' Let them know you appreciate their efforts by using the site and dropping them a note.:

Cyberspage

02.6.24

Ron Cook follows up on his yyyymmdd article in the June PoMo I went to the movie today so the realtors could show my condo. Not knowing what to see, I figured one would soon start and 10 minutes after my arrival one did. The 'Time Machine' boldly displays logical date formats, and I mean zooms right in on YearMonthDay in shiny brass. I wonder how the original did it.

I hope Mr. Spielberg received my plea some time ago, and was influenced. I shall likely never know, but was happy to see it. I refrained from shouting the observation. PS: I also have my PC set up to express dates correctly. Go to 'Regional Settings' in the control panel. The Logical Date page tells how, near the bottom.

Ron Cook thanks Ron, your cause inches forward

Cyberspace

02.6.26

I was e-mailing with Ray **Brust** about our days at Det 18, and asked him about Turner **Everett**. He told me that Turner had died a while back, and while he didn't have any details - that you might. Turner, I have to admit, was one of my favorite "characters" in Det 18. I never will forget the night he whacked his finger tips off in the planer at the wood shop, and then commented that it was "all in a days work". I had lost track of him over the years, and had thought to renew an old acquaintanceship. I guess when you get to our ages you should do so sooner rather than

later. Appreciate any info you can pass on.

Richard (Dick) Deal we put this 'on the air and received: Email reply, 6/27, Yes, unfortunately for mankind, Ev did pass away on October 3rd, 1999. He had a heart problem and it finally got the best of him. I got a kick out of your "fingertips" story. That was Ev. I could tell a dozen stories of him easily.

Frank Calenda

Email reply, 6/28, Thanks for the help and information on Ev. Agreed, Frank. Ev's passing is indeed saddening. I'm very much afraid that a lot of my friends and acquaintances from my AFTAC days are gone already. But, such is the way of the world, and we will just have to enjoy the ones that are left. Hopefully we will be able to meet at one of the future AFTAC reunions. As I told Ray, I'm planning on going to the Florida reunion in '03, good Lord willing. It was nice to meet with you on the 'net, and again, Many Thanks.

Dick Deal let's get together at the reunion and toast one to Ev

Warner Robins, GA

02.7.8

Just a note to change email and area code.

George P. Antonio

Bainbridge, GA

02.7.9

Without leaving our house we got a new zip code (I.e., new Post Office).

J. A. Lillethun

Cyberspace

02.8.14

George (Bob) **Lattin** sent a picture of the 1950 graduating class. I think they're a pretty sharp-looking group...Check it out at the alumni website, http://www.csi-inc.com/aftac/album/1950/

Mike Black thanks Mike (and George) and this is the kind of interaction we'd like to have more of as you share with us through Mike and Clark's web efforts—your inputs make the site that much more interesting

Redding, CT

02.8.23

('Alumni Shop Order') **Melvin Crannell, JR**

(Salute Continued from page 1)

efforts of Mike Black. Mike has helped throughout the years and kept our page data on the up and up and very efficiently. Personally, I find his assistance beyond reproach and I thank him all the time. We have this wonderful method of communicating with our chapters because he, Dave Johnson, and CSI have made it possible. You could not have picked a better person to honor. Congrats Mike, I think this is wonderful!

Editor's Note: we'd like to add that Clark was also involved in the initial efforts to provide information via the internet.

(Alumni Alerts continued from page 1)

GOLF N'GETOGETHER

The price for this afternoon of fun will be \$35.00 for association members and \$40 for non-members, which includes a great BBQ dinner after golf. You may sign up by calling Nancy Frey at 868-5726 or Pat **Snyder** at 494-6867, and then mail your check to: Long-Range Detection Alumni Assoc., PO Box 254892, Patrick AFB, FI 32925-0892.

Checks should be received no later than 27 September. Check-in begins at noon and the shotgun start will be at 1:00PM. There will be plenty of water and soda on the course, and the beverage cart will be available all afternoon. A BBQ dinner will follow the golf tournament in the Cocoa Beach Pavilion where we will also award the prizes. We will then move into the general membership meeting and the election of officers for next year. This tournament fills up quickly, so please sign up early to ensure a spot in the tourney. There will be a limit of the first 144 players to sign up.

If you are not interested in golfing but would like to attend the BBQ dinner and general membership meeting, the cost is \$7.50.

COMMAND WINTER SOCIAL

For additional information and ticketing please

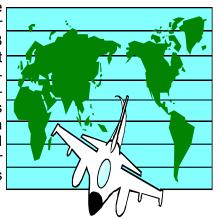


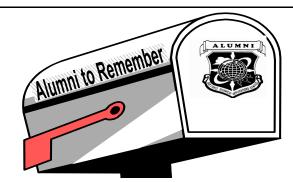
watch the website (www.csihq. com/aftacalumni) as the time draws nearer or contact our ITB Contact, Pat **Snyder** at 494-6867

NATIONAL REUNION

For additional information and ticketing please watch the website (www.csihq.com/aftacalumni)

as the time draws nearer or contact our ITB Contact, Pat Snyder, at 494-6867. Additionally, applications and information will be published in the newsletter as it becomes available.





Personals...

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

Clark Creey Honored

FLORIDA TODAY, 02.,9.4

Clark was recently awarded the highest form of recognition bestowed upon an employee by the NASA Space Flight Awareness Program. He received this as a Boeing Human Space Flight and Exploration employee. Recipients are selected for their professional dedication and outstanding achievement in support of the human space flight program.

Congratulations Clark, it makes a Sage proud.

Hopes of Health for...

Wherein Alumni share hopes for themselves or others...

No inputs received



7APS
In Memory of
Those We
Knew But Are
Now Gone



Gen. Daniel Butterfield, 1862

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

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

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

In Memory Of

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

Louise **Walker**, 02.5.27 (see below) Anne **Johnson** (wife of John R. Johnson), 02.6.8-Cardiac Arrest.

Maxin Joseph **Ross**, 02.6.21 Walter L. **Franks**, 02.7.2 (see below) William ('Bill') D. **Johnston**, 02.7.9 (see below) James R. (Jim) **Fishler**, 02.7.14 (see below) James G. **Silliman**, 02.9.4 (BGen [Ret], AFTAC CC, June '70—October '71). Gen Silliman wrote his 'Commander's reCall' in the June '99 issue

Rest in Eternal Peace

Louise Walker

GEORGE MYERS, 02.7.2

Would you be kind enough to place a note in the next 'Post-Monitor' that Louise Walker, wife of the late Col William L Walker, died at Anaheim, CA, on Memorial Day '02.

I am sure that the many friends of this gracious lady would like to be informed.

Maxin Joseph Ross

EMAIL, LUZ ROSS, 02.7.11

I want to inform you that my husband, Maxin Joseph Ross, passed away on June 21st, 2002. He served in the Air Force for 20 years, his rank was MSqt. He leaves behind myself, his wife, Luzviminda del Castillo Elauria Ross, his 4 children: June Marie Mahay of Boston, MA, Angela Ervin, Susan Vasselli Nedea, and Linda Ross of Citrus Heights, CA, 9 grandchildren, stepsons Reuben and Romeo Elauria from Manila, Philippines, stepson Rizalino Elauria, Jr, of Fayetteville, NC, and stepdaughter Lauralyn Elauria-Croom, Ramstein AFB, Germany. He was the Project Manager of Kitty Hawk Dining Facility of Service Source at Pope Air Force Base in Fayetteville, NC. Please include Max in your prayers. Email follow-up, Luz Ross

Thank you for sending this in Memory of Max. I'd like to inform you that Maxin Joseph Ross's burial was July 26, 2002, at Arlington National Memorial Cemetery in Washington, DC, at 10:00 a.m. Max was buried with his comrades in arms and this will be his final resting place. Please pray for him.

Walter L. Franks

EMAIL, RITA J. FRANKS, 02.7.8

This is to notify the AFTAC Alumni Association that my husband, Walter L. Franks, died on July 2, 2002. Your help is appreciated.

'Bill' Johnston

EMAIL, JOHN R. JOHNSON JR., JULY 10, 2002

I have just received word from Jean Johnston that her husband William D. "Bill" Johnston, P.O. Box 1623, Grass Valley, CA 95945, died on the morning of 9 July 2002 after a long battle with prostate cancer aggravated by diabetes. One of the Alumni of AFTAC, Bill was a former member of MCL. He and I had many fun days flying together in the T-33 and Gooney Birds. He will be missed by his many friends and peers. Because of our similar names, Bill and I were known in the "flying group" as "The Band-Aid Twins."

James R. (Jim) Fishler

EMAIL, RAY COPELAND, 02.7.15

It is with deep sadness that I report the death of James R. (Jim) Fishler. Jim died in his home in Brighton, Colorado, on 14 July 02. Jim served his entire 20+year career in AFTAC. He was assigned to several overseas locations but spent much time in the maintenance section at the school at Lowry.

Jim was a hard worker, devoted father and husband. He was an avid hunter, fisherman and all around outdoorsman, noted for his strings of pack animals, (donkeys, horses or mules) and the best Elk Camp in Colorado. Jim had an extraordinary sense of humor. He could laugh at anything and make you do the same. He retained this quality even until death. Jim was truly one of a kind, cut from the very fabric of our country and prideful of all he did. Admired and respected by all who knew him. He will be deeply missed by friends and family. His wife Del, son Paul, daughters Barb and Karen and 7 grandchildren survive him.



COMMANDER'S RECALL

Background: In light of the ongoing process that is the command, a desire to record the impressions of this "from the top" and the notion we are entering a new millenium, we asked previous commanders to give us a synopsis of their time with the command. We received positive responses from almost every commander to include Gen's Silliman, Gordon, Clapper, O'Lear, Bingham and Shaffer and Col's Meisenheimer, and Wigington. We thank these gentlemen for taking the time and effort to share their enlightening remembrances.

We have respectfully requested inputs from AFTAC's two most recent Commanders, Col's **Beatty** and **Dettmer**. We feel confident they will reply as they find the opportunity in their busy active-duty lives.

We look forward to being able to pass on their 'Commander's reCall' ...

I REMEMBER...

LRD HISTORY BY THOSE WHO WERE THERE

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

Editors Note: We 'Spotlighted' Joe **Marshall** last issue and he, in providing the information we requested, did such a good job of going over his career we thought we'd use what he wrote in this issue as an 'I Remember' - Joe was kind enough to go along with this.

Next March, I will have completed 27 years of Civil Service, all with AFTAC. However, my association with AFTAC began 33 years ago in 1969. At that time I worked for a small research company in Fort Worth, Texas, Radiation Research Associates (RRA). We were given a contract to write a simulation program to determine the amount of energy deposited by a x-ray or gamma-ray point source in an altitude dependent, spherical atmosphere ... like the real atmosphere. The project officer named the program ZAP for Z Atmospheric Program. He never told us what the Z stood for and, it was several years before I discovered what the Z technique was.

After another AFTAC project was successfully completed, the next project officer, Capt Tom May, approached the RRA vice president, my boss, and asked if he would move me and my family to Virginia to be near the AFTAC facility on Telegraph Road. So in August 1971, we left Fort Worth and moved to an apartment in Alexandria while awaiting the completion of our new home in Springfield. It was supposed to be ready in early September ... we moved in on December 13. Right after the new year, Capt Howard Hayden, called me in and told me that I should sit down

because I might not like the news he was about to give me ... AFTAC was moving to Florida!

In the summer of 1972, we packed up again and, being good camp followers, moved to Cocoa Beach, FL, to be near AFTAC. I continued to support the satellite program for the next four years as a contractor. Later, then retired Howard Hayden reminded me of the time in Virginia and asked if I recognized that I was the first, of now many, contractor that was allowed to have a desk inside the AFTAC facility.

In early 1976, the RRA vice president was considering moving me back to Fort Worth. At the same time, Lt Col Ed **Gieszelmann** asked if I would like to apply for a Civil Service position just created for the satellite technique. After some negotiation, I started my official tenure with AFTAC on 1 Mar 1976. Again, breaking ground as the first "token" civilian to support the satellite program ... times have certainly changed.

The following years (1976-1979), I worked in TFR and provided support to the technique by writing simulation programs to emulate the satellite operational systems. In late 1979, a significant AFTAC alert occurred, the well known South Atlantic Flash. Maj Van **Workum**, Capt **Seiler**, and I spent the next two years reviewing satellite data, modeling the event, and testifying before a presidentially appointed committee. We traveled to California and DC many times, often on a T-39 with Dr **Leies**.

In 1981 I was detailed as Chief of TFE with the promise of a promotion from GS-13 to GS-14. With much effort by the Vice Commander, Col Tom **Ciambrone**, that became a reality in April of 1984. Shortly thereafter, TF (satellites) was disbanded and I was moved to the same job but under Advanced Systems TX headed by Col Charles **Vesely**. Prior to the reorganization, Col Vesely was TA but he used the opportunity to change the symbol to TX ... coincidentally, his PhD was from the University of Texas.

In November of 1987, another reorganization took place and all USAEDS nuclear monitoring functions including the alert manager were placed under Dr **Pilotte** in TT. So again my office symbol changed to TTA although my position didn't change.

In April of 1991, the Commander, Col **Jaynes**, decided to move all satellite functions including research and e valuation under DO. We all moved to DOS and I assumed the position of

Senior Space Scientist Vice Chief since DO felt that a civilian could not be chief of an operations division. I was asked to write a new job description which was sent to San Antonio for evaluation. In March of 1992, I was informed the position had been graded as a GS-15 position. So, much to my happy surprise, I was promoted.

In June of 1996, the Commander, Col **Shaffer** (now General) recognized that research and data evaluation and exploitation did not belong in DO and I was moved back to TTA as Chief. That's where I reside today. Our current endeavors include maintaining and improving capability to meet more stringent requirements while evaluating all collected data, both event data and state-of-health sensor data. The personnel working for me in TTA along with our support contractors are the Air Force cream-of-the-crop. Without their expertise and guidance, AFTAC, Space Command, and Strategic Command would be without guidance in meeting their nuclear related missions.

As I look back over my career with AFTAC, I wouldn't change a thing. I recognize that the Air Force's first job is to fly and fight; however, I view AFTAC's traditional mission as being dedicated to keeping our President and policy makers informed and, consequently, contributing to their efforts to maintain peace. I pray that all those who served, are serving, and will serve in AFTAC receive the Lord's blessing: "Blessed are the peacemakers,...".

Education, Austin College, Sherman TX; AB degree in 1960 with a double major in physics and math—Florida State University, Tallahassee FL; MS degree in 1962 in physics (emphasis on nuclear physics) - Various PME including Air War College Seminar Program in 1978 and the Joint Space Intelligence/Operations Course in 1992.

<u>Awards</u>, Commander's Award for Excellence, July 1986—Meritorious Civilian Service Medal in 1999 (CY1998)

<u>Family</u>, Wife: former Gail Annette Bryson married 27 Jun 1959, educator Brevard County School System—Daughter: Elizabeth Annette Marshall, CPA State Auditor in Tallahassee (soon to become Annette Green) - Son: Daniel Scott Marshall, Management in Minneapolis for the Minnesota Power Co.—Daughter: Suzanna Gail Hargraves, Certified Recreational Therapist, Veterans Hospital in Tampa—Granddaughter: Katrina Rose Marshall in MN

WHERE ARE YA?!!!

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

Frank Jackson

Melbourne, FL

02.6.2

Hi, I received the March 2002 issue of the 'Post-Monitor' today, and would like to thank you for sending it. It seems to have taken quite an interesting trip.

I retired from active-duty in '92 (from AFTAC at Patrick) and immediately went to work as a contractor in the middle-east. We returned in June 2001 to our house in Melbourne. I have been a lifetime member of the alumni association for a number of years, but haven't heard from you in some time. Am sure it had something to do with the APO restriction on weight for retired members.

I would love to get caught up on what's been happening for the past couple years, but at least please change my address.

Thanks again for thinking of me.

Frank D. Johnson Thanks for catching us up a 'little bit' and hope to see you at the reunion 'catching up' 'big time' - meanwhile, come to one of our meetings and checkout the alumni web pages (csihq.com/aftacalumni)

Pete Farkas

02.8.3—email from this old friend resulted in this exchange of correspondence:

I just discovered the web site for the AFTAC Alumni Association and was delighted to find your email address. How are you?

I'm not sure when we last saw each other, but I'm sure it has been many years. Anne and the girls and I moved from Washington to Connecticut in 1998...move was related to my accepting a position with the investment banking arm of the Swiss bank UBS....very good work...large global organization with worldwide network of computer systems...sound familiar?...very happy here, but hard to match the camaraderie we had at AF-TAC. I had fun going through the photos on the web site...Huffaker, Warfield, etc....even Stu McCloskey (who I met at Ascension Island). Anyway, everybody looked great. Would love to hear from you and figure out a way to catch up... and please feel free to forward my email address to any of the old crew (it would be nice to get some email that doesn't involve mail order purchases of Viagra).

Our reply, 02.8.4 What a great surprise, this is what 'email' is all about. I have included some 'Ccs' for others I can think of who might remember you. Last I remember seeing you was at the Pentagon, I was there as AFTAC's SEA and you were a 'desk' kinda guy for AFTAC or somebody. That would have to have been in 85-87.

There's a great way to 'catch up' coming up ... an AFTAC reunion in late May, 2003. Can we count on you being there? In the meantime, if you become a member of the Alumni, you will receive the alumni newsletter, 'Post-Monitor,' that Chris and I edit year-old issues are available on the website and quarterly Samplers as they are published.

Also, if you have not done so, go to the website and the member listing, find yourself, add your email address and anything else you want. That way you will receive alumni 'e-alls' as they are necessary (deaths, etc). Look forward to your membership and seeing you in '03.

Pete's reply., 02.8.6 15 years is more than I realized...same year Catherine, my oldest, was born. Not sure I ever told you guys, but you're kind of responsible for my hooking up with Anne. When I got to DC in 1984, I lived briefly in a group house...it was inexpensive and my house in Florida hadn't sold yet. It's where I met Anne and the microwave you sold me was the key to my being voted in. They didn't have one and so that was what differentiated me from the other candidates. We parted company with the microwave a long time ago, but I still have the cook book you gave me.

No plans to become president of UBS...I get along well with my Swiss colleagues, but not THAT well. However, it's been an interesting four years and rewarding in many ways. The current downturn in the market and some of the Wall Street scandals have been a little troublesome, but we are in pretty good shape compared to most of our peers. And the size/complexity of the operation is staggering...which means that I continue to learn...even at this ripe old age.

I'm going to act on your suggestion to join the association, update my info, etc.

Frank Szachta

What follows is an extract from a Herald Tribune article email forwarded to us about this very active AFTAC Alumni

'Classroom with a view'

BY KEVIN SMITH, POSTED 08/01/02

MANATEE (FL) -- A few thousand feet off the ground, the thinking goes, kids can see a long

way. Maybe they can see their home. Maybe they can see Longboat Key from one end to another. Maybe they can see their future. That's the hope of Stanley Brown and Frank Szachta, two of a handful of pilots who spent a portion of last weekend ferrying interested youngsters up to the clouds and back again.

The pilots are part of the Experimental Aircraft Association's Young Eagles program, which offers children ages 8 to 17 free rides in small aircraft. They hope that, by exposing children to flying at a young age, the children will pursue careers in aviation.

Founded in 1992, the goal of the nationwide program is to give 1 million free rides by December 2003, which will mark the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers' first flight.

Szachta, the president of the local EAA chapter based at Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport, said the flights help children get an understanding of an increasingly complex field. The program also may show families that flying is not as pricey as some might think. "A lot of people think it's too expensive," said Szachta of Ellenton, who is a former Air Force pilot. "But if you join a club or a partnership, you can do it for the same cost as golfing or fishing."

The Young Eagles program has flown more than 800,000 participants on nearly 350,000 flights, with no crashes or injuries, EAA spokesman Dick Knapinski said. The local chapter has provided 1,120 flights, Szachta said. The program runs out of Dolphin Aviation, 8191 N. Tamiami Trail, offering flights on the fourth Saturday of each month.

BS (BARELY SUBSTANTIATED) TALES!

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS. We solicit unclassified humorous tales about LRD events and people - recognizing these anecdotes may be Barely Substantiated (BS). Forward your BS to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN BS column, to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish them in the order received and as soon as we can. Thanks for your help.

Editors Note: Ray **Copeland**, at our request, has done it again. He has written a series of very funny, and often off-beat, lines, that when put all together, make for extremely entertaining reading. Enjoy. Thank you Ray, and keep them coming until we have enough to fill a book. As a matter of fact, we are counting on you for many more and giving you your own byline.

'Ray's Days' 'Cope Land—the land of Odd' Let there be light...ning

EMAIL, RAY COPELAND, 02.6

Far away in the land of the 99's it was custom-

ary for people to rotate into their appointed positions every one, two or three years depending on the location on the planet. One day, the new maintenance supervisor rotated into the land of "no" lightning. This land was designated as such because the area controlling squadron and the supreme headquarters said it was so.

He arrived at the host airport at 0300 and was met by the incumbent. He was promptly transported to a hotel in the town near his work and got into bed at 0600. At 0700, the person who he would soon learn to detest, woke him up and said "let's go to the ranch house and get you signed in." He replied, "Look *&^%:"*&%^#, I have only had 1 hour sleep in the last 3 days. Can't it wait until at least this afternoon." "No," said Sgt. Detested, "there is only one bus to the ranch house and it leaves now." He was promised he would be able to catch a ride back in an hour or so.

Not So. He spent the whole day which seemed at least a week long at the ranch house. On the way back to town he mentioned that he was going to grab a bite and hit the sack for some much needed sleep. All laughed and informed him that the local custom was to not eat until very late. He was told that the restaurants did not start serving dinner until at least 2000. "Oh human waste" he said. Sure enough, at 2000 he got into a restaurant and ordered his food. As he started to eat, with visions of pillows and mattresses in his head, a bus pulled up in front of the restaurant and out came Sqt. Detested. He informed the new maintenance supervisor that there had been a storm at the ranch and many things were infected with the horrid Chinese virus called "No Workie." You must go to work now he was told. He looked up and said "Why Me Lord" and a booming voice seemed to answer "Because you have incurred my Wrath." So to work he went. Upon his arrival at the ranch there was an abundance of the nonexistent lightning dancing across the sky.

Now the maintenance good book of directions for times of panic, stated that "Thy shalt not go about the land when you can see lightning, lo it be even on the farthest horizon. But, since this was the land of no lightning the visions must be his imagination, so not to worry. His thoughts were that I can't get to that heavenly bed in that less than heavenly hotel until everything work workie. So off he went to make things right.

Since he did not have a clue where he was going, he enlisted the services of an "Operator" as a guide. He later found out this &*^%>>?\$# was the son of Sgt. Detested or so it seemed. He arrived at one place of no workie and surveyed the situation. He observed the sky and there was an abundance of nonexistent lightning on the horizon but not close. Since it was imaginary any way, not to worry. He opened the no workie equipment box and began to trouble shoot. (Translated as "Oh sugar, I don't know what the hell I am doing and what is this thing here"). All the while trying to look intelligent and professional for the benefit of the operator. His motto was "Never let them see you sweat."

His next conscious moment found him laying on the ground in grass and bushes approximately 20 feet from where his previous conscious moment placed him. As he looked around dazed and bewildered, he saw the "Operator" sitting in the truck looking at him with awe. He asked the Op What happened and why am I over here. The Op said "I don't know what happened. One minute you were bent over that box working and then you started to glow and just rolled across the ground." "How long ago did that happen" he asked? The Op said "bout 30 minutes ago." The Maint Sup said "did you get out to help me or see if I was OK, dead or anything"? "^%\$#">**&@ No" said the Op "You think I want to get killed helping you." The Maint Sup asked did you call the ranch house on the radio and ask for help. The Op said "nope the radio antenna attracts that nonexistent lightning." The Maint Sup said "sing me that song one more time and you won't have to worry about lightning killing you, I will,"

To be continued, this was a long night and the story is best told in two or three sessions.

Session Two

Let there be light...ning, or do all dogs speak English

After lucking out and fixing the first no workie site, our newbie Maint Sup proceeds on to the next one. He had decided that on the way, he would exchange the Op son of a Sgt Detested (substitutions allowed) for another maintenance type since they would speak the same language and maybe have some things in common. Having accomplished this they started out for the next site.

On the way to this site the newbie discovered that there were many ranch houses in the area though only one was in the hands the good ole US of A. He did not pay much attention to them as he passed on his way to the site. (Bad Move.) Upon arrival at the next site he began to work, thankfully without the help of another lightning strike. However the plot thickens. As he was industrially going about his tasks, he noticed that the motor in the ancient maintenance truck began to run roughly. It was a Fix Or Repair Daily that was almost as old as he was. (In those days vehicles were not replaced until the cost of maintenance/repair equaled the original cost.) Speaks well of Ford in those days. Don't bet on it today.

The other maintenance type was in the truck relaying dialog between them and the ranch house. The newbie said "what gives with the truck?" the answer was a knowledgeable "How should I know, do I look like a mechanic?" At this point the motor died. (Oh human waste, Another no workie) Now this posed a problem. The radio that provided the means of communication with the ranch house need 12 volts from the Fix Or Repair Daily to transmit and receive. The electrical problem with the truck which caused it to die also precluded this from happening. (Another No Workie.) No problem, the great planners from the illustrious Depot back in the Home land had included an emergency back up. A field phone line going thru the data lines back to the ranch house. However, for this to work, it required that the Son Of Sgt Detested have a headset hardwired to the site needing to communicate and that he be in the room with the headset on and listening. At this point said Son had decided that since there was not a lot for him to do in the Ops room he would go the kitchen and fix some chow and kick back.

After a long series of "Hello, do you read me?" (The forerunner of "Can You Hear Me Now?") Newbie decided that he would walk back to the ranch house and get the attention of said Son.

Now comes the fun. On his way back, he had to pass one of those ranch houses that he had not noticed on his way out. Because of the storm, the sky was completely overcast and there are many analogies as to how dark it was. Newbie had no flashlight so he understood all of these comparisons. As he approached the hostile ranch house, he heard a large door open and the sound of people speaking in a foreign language and dogs barking as they ran toward him. Oh super human waste he thought, do these

dogs speak English so I can tell them I am a friend. Now he knew, all dogs don't speak English. Fortunately, before too much damage was done to clothes and body, the keeper of the dogs arrived and called them off. (Not in English.) An animated conversation ensued between the Keeper and Newbie. Neither understanding a word of what the other was saying.

Finally, the Keeper understood that the Newbie was from the US OA ranch house. That explained every thing. The Keeper and every one else in the area knew those people were crazy and the fact that they wandered around in the dark on a stormy night was not unusual.

Newbie continued on and after a long trek back to the ranch house and another animated conversation (with the Son Of Sgt. Detested) Newbie planed his next course of action.

To be continued, told you this was a long nite.

Session Three

Let There Be Light----ning, or why don't sheep dogs chase rabbits?

As dawn of his second sleepless day arrived in the land far away, the newbie Maintenance Sup had finished repairing all the no workie sites with the exception of two. One of these was beside a boulder strewn creek which would have been beautiful in the mountains of Colorado. There it was just a ditch with rocks. After a rather uneventful repair of this site, he and tech 2 started for the last site. As they drove along the creek, they began to discuss the merits of Ole Fix Or Repair Daily. It had 4 speed tranny; one being an extra low or granny gear. Tech 2 being of red neck origin and a shade tree mechanic extraordinaire, said that this ole truck was better than any jeep and that in that low gear it could go right across that ole creek like them boulders twernt even there. Newbie said "Male Bovine Waste." Tech 2 says "let me behind the wheel and I'll show ya." Besides wasn't the last site just over that hill and to drive around the road would delay Newbie's date with the bed at least half an hour Bad move here. Newbie change seats and Tech 2 spies what he thinks is a likely crossing of that ole creek.

All was going well and as planned until a large flat rock they were crossing tilted and placed ole Fix Or Repair Daily in an awkward position known as "high centered" further complicated by the fact that one rear wheel was not in contact with terra firma. Thus stranded, Newbie began the long walk back to the ranch house again. The radio had joined the roles of the No Workies so walking was the only way. He arrived at the ranch house and after explaining how that ole truck was just plain unreliable, he took the New Dodge Power Wagon (more on this truck later) on the pretext of rescuing the ole truck and Tech 2. Once ole truck was winched out of the creek, Tech 2 drove it back to the ranch house and it was left in the hands of host country native who was a good mechanic for some much needed TLC. Newbie picked him up there and they departed for the last site. On the way, they had to go thru another hostile (pardon me host country) ranch that was heavily engaged in the manufacture of smelly, excreting, woolly sheep in large numbers. These were tended by shotgun toting guards and a pack of dogs too numerous to count and with the personalities that would make a junk yard dog seem timid by comparison. They did not speak English either.

Newbie noted the inherent dangers of this location and made mental note (very tired one) to avoid this place at all cost when possible. The last site turned out to be most difficult and time consuming and as they finished dark was setting in. Knowing the way back led thru the sheep hazard Newbie asked Tech 2 if circumventing by going cross country was a viable option. Tech 2 said "why shore, taint nothin to it, just head off that way" and he did. As they passed the sheep camp down wind dang it phew--, right there before their very eyes up jumped the largest jack rabbit that Newbie had ever seen. Wonder how that is he thought with all them mean sheep dogs around. Tech 2 explained that them ole dogs are just trained to chase and eat things that bother them sheep and that they didn't chase no ole rabbits. Newbie was by this time so totally exhausted that his brain was not responsible for its thoughts and actions. As he watched the rabbit loping along in front of him, he lost it. Without conscious thought he grabbed another gear in that power wagons tranny and the chase was on. If the dogs wouldn't do it he would. (Now is the time to give more detail about this Power Wagon Truck for those not familiar with them.)

This truck had all the standard 4WD features from the factory but was equipped with some added equipment field maintenance. These consisted of a large (very heavy) derrick type tower and winch (heavier still). Mounted on the front bumper was a generator that weighed a lot too.

(All this weighty equipment is the reason why maintenance types wear size three caps and size 20 collars.)

Back to the chase. The rabbit was not use to such a thing chasing him so he got another gear and the tempo increased. Just when it seemed that Newbie was gaining ground on his quarry he went thru some thick brush and that ground disappeared, literally. Great ghost of General Le-May they were airborne, the brush had hid a deep wide ditch, oh what a thrill. The landing will not go down in the annals of history as the best in the Air Force but it was solid. Very Solid. The Power Wagon survived nicely, so did the tower and winch, all having been built to be maintenance tech and idiot proof.

Newbie and Tech 2 were battered and bruised but OK. Couldn't say the same for the bumper mounted generator. It having been rigged there by the outgoing Maintenance Superintendent without the benefit of industrial strength engineering design. It, poor thing, sustained life terminating injuries due mainly to the laws of physics. This was determined in the post mortem back at the ranch house. With all wheels spinning, pawing, ripping tearing and throwing big ole chunks of dirt accompanied by sounds very similar to what has been described as "rebel yells" ole PW climbed right out of that lil ole ditch and headed for home. At this point Newbie fell in love (with a Dodge truck fondly named at this point " ole PW"). This passionate relationship would continue for the next two years and some episodes were "R" rated if not "X."

However, as midnight approached, Newbie finally headed to the hotel, that awaited warm bed, marred only by the cold shoulder of his spousal unit who tried vainly to explain to him how much she hated this (expletive deleted) place as he tuned her out and drifted off into blissful, needed, oh so wonderful sleep. So ended Newbie's first 72 hour day in a land far away. Not to be his last, some would be longer. Stay Tuned.



I was hoping to hear more from the old gang but since they have no stories I'll send in another one. George **Kraus**, Old Original, Team 421AA, Alice Springs, NT, Australia

ALICE SPRINGS CHICKEN?

A few years ago when an Outback Steak House opened nearby, my wife and I decided to give it a try. One of the items on the menu is 'Alice Springs Chicken.' But it's not the 'Alice Springs Chicken' I remembered from my days in Alice.

Years ago, in the "Dreamtime" of the native Australians, when seismometers were big Benioffs, amplifiers were phototube and recorders were 35mm film strip, a small group of Yanks arrived in Alice Springs NT, Australia, to establish an operational station for the benefit of mankind. Alice, at the time, was a small outpost in the Red Centre with a population of ~3,000 lost souls waiting for a transfer to the back to civilization.

This group of naive Yanks was turned loose in the town to find that everything that had been previously provided by the Big Eagle was no longer provided for us. We had no APO; no BX, no mess hall, no barracks, no Coca-Cola and we were required to wear civvies. Left to our own devices, we found the Post Office, local stores, places to sleep, places to eat and we substituted beer, West End or Southwark's, for the coke. We were satisfied. Mess facilities were very limited and we soon tasted all of the local restaurants' bills of fare with less than satisfactory results. The beef was from range cattle (desert, at that), the pork was from feral pigs (I think) and the lamb was really aged mutton. Missing from the menus was chicken, "chooks" in the local vernacular. Chooks were for eggs and when they quit laying they weren't fit for local consumption. I'm sure some of the more hearty souls consumed them readily, though. The more we thought about chicken, the more we longed for some chicken of any sort. What to do.

Then up stepped the man with a plan. William Noel Alexander, Bill or Alex as he was known then but Old Mr. Bill or OMB as he is referred to today, was the man. We field hands had purchased a .22 rifle to plink with while in the bush. But Bill had a better plan. Let's take the weapons carrier, raise the windscreen (remember, we're in the Land of Oz), and drive through the bush until we find a rabbit warren and we'll plink until we have enough for a good tucker. South of town, through Heavitree Gap, down the Kulgera Road a bit and then into the bush country that was covered with grass and in a short period of time we found what we needed. After depositing a considerable supply of the .22 caliber brass in the cab of the vehicle, we had a supply of rabbits that would cover our needs.

Now came the hard part. Bill (from the Virginia hills) and Willie **Rumsey** (from the wilds of Arkansas) were the only ones skilled at skinning and cleaning rabbits. They gave us urban cowboys a short course in what to do and left us to our own devices. After considerable expended energy and expletives we had the supply of rabbit carcasses that we needed. Then came a real "miracle" as Bill prepared a delicious meal of fried rabbit, mashed potatoes, and English peas using only a two-burner hot plate. We cheered him on as we sampled the South Australian brew. Fried chicken has never tasted so good.

Years later, after moving to Texas, my wife and I bought some frozen rabbit at the super market because she had heard my story about the rabbit dinner so often that she wanted to taste rabbit for herself. When my wife served it to our children, my oldest daughter asked what it was and she was told "Alice Springs Chicken." My daughter wasn't satisfied and kept saying it doesn't look like chicken, the bones are funny. But she ate it. As it happened, it was her turn to clear the table and as she emptied the trash she saw the wrapper that said rabbit. She was appalled! She went off to her siblings proclaiming that we had eaten RABBIT!!! The Easter Bunny, Peter Rabbit and Thumper were no longer safe, we eat rabbit. Of course, we haven't had rabbit since!!

Chapter News



It's difficult to believe but it's been almost a year since I was given the honor of being the LRD Alumni president. The kids are back in school and everyone is keeping watch as the peak of hurricane season approaches. As I ponder what has transpired during the year, several things come to mind ... many alumni events and the one event that changed our society and will continue to affect us for years to come, September 11. It has directly impacted the active duty AFTACers with some troops sent TDY to support the war in Afghanistan. We pray that they all return safely. On the brighter side, the highlights of the year have been many.

In January, Snowball IV was a great success thanks to its organizer, George **Mirda**. The food at Sweetwaters followed the German theme and many dressed in authentic Deutschland dress.

At the Snowball, I had the privilege of introducing the Alumni of the Year, James **Payne**. Jim was also honored at the AFTAC Awards Banquet in March. Then there was one of my favorite activities, golf. Don **Emery** organized the spring tournament at the Manatee course. Thanks, Don. Of course, I'm looking forward to the fall tournament. Sam **Sorice** is chairing it. Following that tournament, a Smokin' Joe barbeque feast and elections will be held. Put it on your calendar and get a team together.

Financially this year has been good but the impact of falling interest rates has been felt as some of the association CD's matured. Fortunately, Steve **Cook** has been able to secure the top available rates for their renewal.

Alumni always support the command social functions (Winter Social, Spring Picnic, etc); the picnic was great thanks again to all that provided support. I really enjoyed the time spent monitoring the beer wagon ... no not because I could drink a lot but it was a good place to see many different friends as they came by. The most important thing to put on your calendar happens next year: The Worldwide Reunion 2003. Carl Gailey put together a preparation checklist and has made reservations at the Radisson Convention Center, Cape Canaveral. Col Horton has approved an AFTAC Open House for reunion attendees and family for Saturday Morning and Steve **Armitage** has volunteered to contact the AFTAC Boosters Club about serving a cash cookout at the Outback behind the AFTAC building. There is still much to be done and you can help; just call Carl and he will tell you how. As the year ends, I would be remiss if I did not give my thanks to my fellow officers and a special thanks to Frank Hall, Judy Milam, and Pat Snyder. Without their 'Sage' advice and guidance I would not have made it through the year. Respectfully, Joe

BOARD MEETINGS

Alumni Association Board Members

Elected President-Joe Marshall Vice-George Mirda
Secretary-Pete Towell Treasurer-Steve Cook

Appointed Heritage Hall Committee
Frank Hall, Clark Creery and Larry Silhanek
Activities-CMSgt Steve Armitage Hospitality-Judy Milam
Internet-Mike Black, Dave Johnson and Clark Creery
Membership-Jim Payne Newsletter-John and Chris Horsch
Publicity-Swede Swansen

A Few Minutes from the Minutes

SUBMITTED BY OUR SECRETARY PETE TOWELL

June-August

Jim **Payne** reported that the membership rolls currently show 671 members. A total of 494 are lifetime members-17 are distinguished

Carl **Gailey** reported on Reunion 2003: AFTAC CC reviews/approves plans-dates, 30 May-1 June. Carl has reserved a block of 175 rooms at \$85/night at the Radisson. The banquet room is reserved. The golf tournament will be on Friday morning and the banquet on Saturday night. John **Caban** provided a detailed presentation on the banquet that resulted in considerable discussion. The issue of a theme was raised and Pat **Snyder** suggested a patriotic theme.Col **Horton** stated that Steve **Armitage** would be the active duty liaison and would also provide a link to the Booster Club.

Nominees for Board Election Announced SAM SORICE, NOMINATION COMMITTEE CHAIR

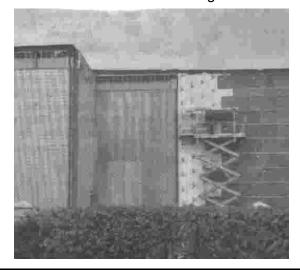
Elections will be held in conjunction with the 'Golf n'Getogether' on October 4th. On the ballot will be: President, John Caban, Vice, Joe Marshall (our current President), Secretary, Al Moy, and Treasurer, Terry Hammond. We appreciate these gentlemen offering to place their names in nomination for these critical offices in our association.

AFTAC, 'In The News' Update

FROM FLORIDA TODAY DISPATCHES

As this is written, work on highway A1A will quickly return it to pre-9/11 operation, and the barrier that was built in front of the headquarters building removed. A normal traffic pattern is expected by the middle of this month.

The picture below ran on 9/6—it shows the front of the steel covered building receiving an additional exterior surface that will be stuccoed to better match the rest of the building.



CALENDAR

.......

<u>Association Board/Membership Meetings</u> <u>Monthly HQ AFTAC WindDowns</u>

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

ALWAY VERIFY (PAT SNYDER, (321) 494-6867, BEFORE COMING
—Board/membership meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of each month (dates listed below):

WHEN: 1730 (5:30 PM)
WHERE: AFTAC HQ's Building

HOW: come to rear entrance

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

WHEN: 1530 (3:30 PM)

WHERE: Behind AFTAC HQ (the **Outback**) HOW: come to the back —find the crowd

October

4, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback
4 - Board/Membership meeting will be held in conjunction with the fall 'Golf n'Getogether' see information below

November

1, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback 11, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

December

6, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback **9, 1730** - Board/Membership Meeting

Special Events

Fall Golf n'Getogether October 4, Cocoa Beach Course

BBQ and annual meeting/elections following the tournament at the pavilion, see page 1 and 5

Command Winter Social

December 14th, see page 1 and 5

National Reunion

Patrick AFB, Florida
Dates, 31 May-June 1, 2003, see page 1 and 5

ALUMNI SHOP

.......

Mail orders to: Long-Range Detection Alumni Assn

ATTN: Sales Staff, PO Box 254892 Patrick AFB FI, 32925-0892

Include additional \$3.00 for shipping and handling*

*No shipping and handling charged on logo pins

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

PURCHASED WITH ALUMNI FUNDS-Multi-Color Logo

	MED	LG	XL	XXL
JACKETS - Unlined/Royal Blue - \$	20 2	4	2	4
GOLF SHIRTS - with pocket - \$14	4			
Sea Teal (aqua blue)	2	4	3	3
Jade (medium green)	3	4	3	3
Navy	3	3	3	3
Red	2	3	2	2
White	2	1	0	3
Royal Blue	3	0	4	3
Teal (dark aqua)	2	3	3	4
Maroon	3	2	2	2
T-SHIRTS - without pocket - \$7.00				
Light Blue	2	3	3	3
Royal blue	1	3	3	2
Navy	3	2	2	1
Ash Gray	2	2	4	2
Purple	2	1	3	2
Red	2	2	3	2
	2	2	2	
Fuscsia	2	2	2	
Mint Green	2	4	4	2
Jade Green	2	4	4	

HATS - \$6.00 # MISCELLANEOUS # Green 850th Commem. Coins (\$3) ~154 Gray 6 Logo Pin (\$3.25) ~298 Red 7 Logo Disk (\$5.50) ~13 OAlumni License Plate, \$7members Royal Blue Light Blue 8/\$10-nonmenbers ~7

Navy 1

Blue/Gray 26 TOD History Book, free, s/h, \$4.00

PURCHASED BY THE BOOSTERS CLUB - most say ALUMNUS rather than ALUMNI LG XL

JACKETS -

Unlined/Royal Blue - white logo, \$20 3

GOLF SHIRTS-

Med. Blue/with pocket/White logo, \$14 11 7

NOTE: **Sagey** and **Alex** are not here, as promised, because three members did not mention them in any manner. They will be back when three alumni 'miss' their passing, and Judy (**Milam**) and Ron (**Cook**) do not count as they have already said 'Hi' in the December '01 issue.

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

NONPROFIT US POSTAGE PAID MELBOURNE, FL PERMIT 479

The emblem used by the alumni association (below) was in active service from 1970 to 2000 (the replacement is a less detailed rendering). The association continues the use of this version because so many alumni served while it was 'on duty.' When in use, it symbolized the unit and, in color, contains the AF (blue and gold) as well as the national colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of AF operations; yellow, the sun and excellence of personnel. The globe indicates worldwide mission, locations and geophysical studies; the lightning and cloud depict study on natural phenomena and the compass points reflect the assigned tasks around the world. The rings around the globe symbolize electronic instrument readings and unity of purpose and display electronic measurements accomplished. The elliptical belt symbolizes the study of the atmosphere.



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

CONTENTS

NOTE: the web-like pound sign (#) identifies articles that are also featured on the association webpage "csih	hq.com/aftacalumni"
---	---------------------

- Page 1 #Sage Spotlight #Alumni Alerts Alumni Events
 Page 2 #Association/Chapter Information #Editorial
- Page 3 Mail-Call
- Page 5 #Alumni To Remember
- Page 7 Feature Articles, "Commanders ReCall" (no inputs) "I Remember" (one input)
 - "Where Are Ya?!!!" (three inputs) "A Barely Substantiated (BS) Tale" (two inputs)
 - "A Family Affair" (no input)
- Page No inputs for 'Monitoring Active-Duty Doins'
- Page 13 Chapter News
- Page 15/16 #Calendar #Alumni Shop/Address Label—#Contents

Technical data - issue size, ~10MB, using an IBM Aptiva E56 with a Zip 100 parallel drive with MSPub2000 software; scanning on a Mustek 600 IIIEP; the printer, 'Indian River Printing Company.' Preparation/input/proofing time by the editors is in the neighborhood of 100 enjoyable hours, a figure not including the unknown hours of preparation and typing/proofing/folding/labeling/mailing by individual contributors/assistors



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

Alumni Association Membership Application			
(for use/pass of	on-complete/mail to ATTN: Membership Chair (address/contact information on Page two, left panel)		
FLORI	DA Chapter dues (check one, enclose sum):\$10 annual dues\$75 lifetime		
	PECIAL OFFER, For first time (new) members only, three years dues for \$20		
NAME	(Spouse)		
ADDRESS:			
CITY/STATE/ZII	P:		
PHONE NUMBE	ER(s): EMAIL/HOME PAGE (optional)		
NOTICE: Memb	pership information will be passed to other AFTAC Alumni Chapters and members unless you		
	nformation is not to be released. To request a 'Name Badge' for alumni events, also provide the ation: Years/places assigned to AFTAC by number/abbreviation, i.e., Det 163, HQ/DO, etc.		