

◆ POST - MONITOR ◆

Volume 7 Issue 2

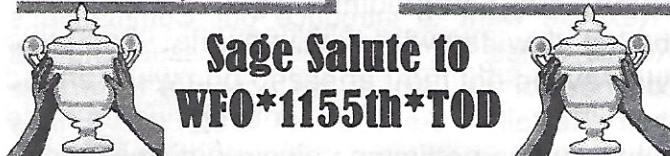
682 Members - 429 Lifetime (15 are Complimentary)

June 1999



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

But now we've reached
the best of stages ...
Being one of AFTAC's
SAGES



THE 'SAGE SALUTE' GOES WEST

SUBMITTED BY BOB FITZGERALD AT OUR REQUEST

The 1999 AFTAC/WFO-1155th-TOD Reunion and TOD Inactivation Ceremony held in Sacramento, CA, April 8th-11th were a great success thanks to the hard work of the Reunion Committee and the TOD staff involved.

The 1999 Reunion Committee members are to be commended for the fine job of planning and execution of the reunion events, which included a great Hospitality Room arrangement, the Golf Tournament, Cocktail Party Buffet Dinner, Banquet Dinner & Dance, and Farewell Sunday Brunch.

Joe Johnson	Committee Chairman
Frank Goodreau	Secretary/Treasurer
Bob Fitzgerald	Newsletter Editor & Registrar
Harm Aning	Database Administrator
CMSgt Susan Spencer	TOD Liaison
Jack Allison	Facilities/Entertainment
Bart Carter	Facilities & Publicity
Rich 'Nick' Charles	Publicity
Cal Brown	Golf Tournament
Jim Esping	Golf Tournament
Dale Klug	Registrations
Lew Milligan	Hospitality
George Thompson	Hospitality
Orville Pritchard	Aviation Museum Tour
Lew Horne	Advisor

The Reunion Committee would also like to recognize and thank the following two

(Continued on page 10)

The Big Story WFO - 1155th - TOD INACTIVATION/REUNION

SUBMITTED BY JACK ALLISON AND BOB FITZGERALD

The AFTAC reunion of 1999 was planned and organized as a joint effort of the Technical Operations Division (TOD) and the WFO-1155th-TOD Reunion Committee. In the early spring of '98 the Reunion Committee was engaged in planning its fourth reunion activity for the Sacramento area when we learned of the planned inactivation of the outfit. The Committee quickly decided to work with TOD to hold the reunion in concert with the TOD inactivation ceremonies. This would give all the alumni a chance to participate in both activities thereby enhancing the experience for everyone. Our previous West Coast reunions were held in Sacramento in 1981,

(Continued on page 10)

Alumni Alerts-What's Comin' Up

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

Golf Tournament

Board discusses probable tournament in October '99 timeframe, watch these pages and the website for current information.

Alumni Events-What's Gone Down

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

AFTAC Annual Picnic

SUBMITTED BY CARL GAILEY, TREASURER AND BEER WAGON ARRANGER

The alumni, as usual, manned the beer wagon for the AFTAC picnic which was held at

(Continued on page 3)

Association Honor Roll

Alumni Of The Year Recipients

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

AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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

Florida chapter

Membership dues, \$10 per year (based on FY, 1 Oct.-30 Sep.), payable in Oct., or \$75 for a life. You're encouraged to attend scheduled monthly meetings beginning at 5:30pm on the second Monday of each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC headquarters building (#989) at Patrick AFB., FL. For verification and association information, its meetings or membership, contact Mary Welch, (407) 259-0629 or Judy Milam, (407) 254-8878 or "jem2415@worldnet.att.net." Dues, membership applications, and other queries/information should be mailed to:

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

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

Webmeisters are Dave Johnson and Mike Black

"PERENNIALS"

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

Frank Hall, President/Vice, '89-'98 Judy Milam, Secretary since '89
 Mary Welch, Membership, since '91 Carl Gailey - Treasurer since '91
 Swede Swansen, publicity, since '93

Colorado chapter

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

West Coast (California) chapter

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

AFTAC and Alumni Honorarium

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

Your Newsletter Staff

Newsletter Editors: John and Chris Horsch
Information/Proofing: Judy Milam, Pat Snyder and Mary Welch
Executive Review: Frank Hall and Carl Gailey
Photographers: Judy Milam (film) and Bob Wiley (digital)
Rovin' Reporter: Clark Creery
Publications: Carl Gailey and Swede Swansen

"A TEAM" ...of Horsch's

'58-'87

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING



We want to start this issue by recognizing the loss of TOD and thanking the West Coast Chapter, and others 'out there' that contributed to this event. We have numerous articles and pictures in this issue highlighting the various activities and recognizing the many involved. We especially want to mention Bob Fitzgerald for his help in coordinating all the various materials submitted to the Post-Monitor. From the beginning Bob was on-line coordinating deadlines and information from various sources - he did an outstanding job.

Next we want to introduce our Commander's ReCall series. It begins in this issue and will continue for as long as we continue to receive their 'ReCall.' As you will read, many have responded and we hope that many more will read this and 'give us their memories.'

We welcome Judy Milam as a true Sage - as you will read Judy has stepped down from the active-duty arena but will continue her work with the association (thank God). Pat Snyder, AFTAC/IGO, has offered to assist and becomes our newest 'insider' - Pat has already come to several meetings and met our call for 'HELP' more than once.

This issue has excerpts from not one but two issues of the Colorado chapter newsletter, ECHOES...and we have provided for you the letters they received. Our thought here is that 'many of you know many of them' and are interested in catching up on their lives and being reminded of them.

We continue our 'Alerts' of alumni and association events so you will know what is coming up and can plan to attend - as well as our 'Events' so you will know what you missed if you could not.

And pictures, we have many pictures in this issue. This is an area we'd like your input on...how important are pictures? Are they worth the work, time and pages needed to run them or should we cut back on the size of the newsletter rather than use them? If we have a choice, do you prefer text, i.e., items we pick up from various sources (email, publications, etc), seemingly of interest to alumni even though not necessarily about alumni? Let us know your priorities!!

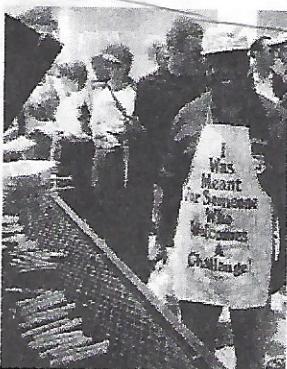
(Alumni Events continued from page 1)

the Wickham Park pavilion 1 May '99. the following alumni were present and provided assistance where needed: **Curt & Eunice Harris, John & Chris Horsch, Frank & Edna Calenda, Tony DeMarco, Bob Wiley, Howie Dibble, Jim Payne, Rick Manley and Carl Gailey.** (My apology if I missed someone).

For those of you that did not attend the picnic, you missed one of the best picnics ever. The picnic committee should be commended for their well planned activities and the outstanding (all you could eat) food that was served continually from 11:30 to 5:00. They had hot dogs, hamburgers, pork barbecue, and Johnsonville bratwurst with baked beans, slaw and desserts from the active duty bake-off competition.

Thanks to the picnic committee. You outdid yourselves this year by providing the outstanding food along with all the drinks (beer, wine coolers and soda) and it made for a most enjoyable day in spite of the weather. (pictures below and elsewhere in this issue)

...THESE FROM THE WEBPAGE, PHOTO'S BY BOB WILEY...AND BLAME THE EDITORS FOR ANY TEXT



Col. Beatty, AFTAC CC, ensures that the food meets the high standards of the organization



Alumni beermeister moves quickly to meet the needs of CC...in this case Carol Warfield (but also note the threatening clinched fist)



...and here we see the horse shoe throwing technique that came in second at the tournament. It was overheard by some that Tony DeMarco's horseshoe arc was similar to that of his bowling ball. It is not believed this was said by his non-pictured partner, Howard Dibble.

Golf

SUBMITTED BY CLARK CREEERY (ROVIN' REPORTER), 7 MAY 1999, MID-DAY

Today the AFTAC Alumni Association held their annual spring Golf Tournament. **Frank Hall**

Ruth Creery, Judy Milam, Helen ules, player placement, Cornwell, Clark Creery - some obtaining of prizes, and general management and Bev Hall

The tournament was held at the Cocoa Beach Golf Course and we had a full showing of duffers. Our thanks to the support given by ENSCO, CTI, Boeing, SAIC, GSP, and the Cocoa Beach Golf Club. Without their support this tournament would not have come off as well as it did - this one was the best so far. Thanks to Frank for a job well done. Again, a first rate effort by those who worked behind the scenes to make this a successful event. Food was provided by Smokey Joe's and the only incident for the whole day was when **Frank M(artinez)**, drove his golf cart into the caterer's vehicle!!!! I am not sure I know that whole story.

Some Golf Match Moments

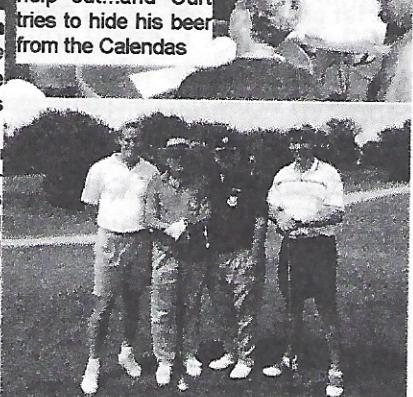
PIX BY BOB WILEY TEXT FOR THE FUN OF IT BY THE EDITORS



Frank Hall and Judy Milam 'trust but verify' as one of the Andy Andersons claims he has a winning ticket...turns out he was correct...



Frank (hat)/Tony Calenda sign in while Eunice/Curt Harris help out...and Curt tries to hide his beer from the Calendas



...and the photographer insisted you'd want to see his pix...here Bob Wiley (2nd from left) appears fresh and able (you should know this is prior to playing) with (l-r) Dale Shepherd, John Caban and Marty Dougherty

The day started with a thundering of carts leaving the staging area for their positions out on the course. That departure will never cease to amaze me! Weather cooperated and

we really think that folks had a very good time. Over 60 prizes were awarded upon finishing the game and following dinner. Once again, our heartfelt thanks to those who came, those who organized the affair, and those who donated such nice prizes. We really appreciate it!

More Golf Pix...some Winners, and some more, well, moments...

JUDY MILAM SNAPPED THESE EDITORS CONTINUE TEXT EFFORTS



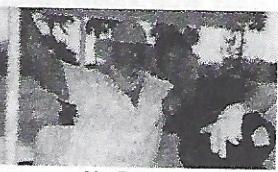
First Place
Wally Brown, Steve Murray, Jack Jackson, and Dan LeForr



Second Place
Steve Hall, John Rohr, T. Kline, and Vince Chimelis



Third Place
Vindell Hsu, Joe Marshall, and Gary Killian



No Place
But...one of our rare Father - Son AFTACer's, Frank and Tony Calenda (and yeah, we know...you already saw them once in this article)

(left) Another No Place and not one of our Father - Son AFTACer's, Brian Grew and Don Gilbert (who can now be seen, with apron, at Home Depot)



Match Winners

3rd place (\$20 ea) - Joe Marshall, Gary Killian, Vindell Hsu, Paul Guttman

2nd place (\$25 ea) - Vince Chimelis, John Rohr, T. Kline, Steve Hall

1st place (\$35 ea) - Wally Brown, Steve Murray, Dan LeForr, Jack Jackson

Closest to the Pin (gift certificates) Steve Scott, Steve Townsend, Dave Cormack, Mike Hoy, John Holshey

Longest Drive (golf balls) - Mike Durgin, Dan LeForr

PRIZES

(Prize - Provider - Winner)

All Players received a golf towel from SAIC and a sleeve of golf balls courtesy of CTI when they signed in for the match

Grand Prizes

\$100 Gift Certificate to Cocoa Beach Golf Club

ENSCO - Mark Bedolla,
CTI - Steve Parlefsky

Golf Bag - Boeing - Jason Uzee

Ping Putter - CTI - Sam Foell

Other Winners

Frank Casanova, Sandor Sarkozy - Wilson Golf Hat - Golf Shop of Cocoa Beach

Fins certificate, CTI
Mike Stiewig, Dan LeForr, Tim Murray, Matt Audo

Golf Shirt, ENSCO & CTI

Walt Kiska (2), Curt Banta (2), T. Kline, Bob Blaue, Lee Turnage, Andy Anderson, Jim Sweat, Steve Baker, Jim Freeman (2), Colleen Cox, Tim Baxter, Allen Potter, Pappy Frakes

Gift Certificate - Cocoa Beach Golf Club

Bill McCune - Bev Hall, Bob Blaue, Frank Martinez, Jim Pitkethly, Tom Otteson (2), Jay Sherman, Larry Silhanek, Ron Couch, Tom Mahaney, Greg Bowman, Jim Short, Kevin Parrish, Ruth Creery, Ken Gerry, Sandor Sarkozy, Walt Neuhauser, John Rohr, Gary Hendrickson, Joe Goldian, Tom Eddleman

Golf Balls - SAIC

Steve Hall, Carl Ritter, Jim Madigan, James Jameson, Joe Hauser, Gaylen Drape, Marty Dougherty, Jason Uzee, Joe Goldian, Ken Gerry, Ed Adamy, Matt Audo, Mike Biolota

Beer Mug - GSP - Jim Heinbaugh, Bev Hall

Coffee Cup - GSP - Two, not recorded

Dexter Golf Shoes - Not recorded

...and our event reporting concludes with an item from 'Way Out West' ...

Update

AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION - WEST COAST CHAPTER

SUBMITTED BY BOB FIRZGERALD

We held an election and I am very happy to announce the following officers of the newly formed West Coast Chapter. They will serve the next two years (May 1999 - April 2001):

President - Joe Johnson

(also member of the Board of Directors)

Vice Pres - George Thompson

Secretary - Dale Klug

Treasurer - Bart Carter

Chmn of the Board of Directors - Jack Allison

Director at Large - Harm Aning

We are confident that these fine folks will do a great job in their new offices and will lead us very well into the next millennium. We look forward to many fun and rewarding social events for the Chapter in the future.

The committee also decided on a logo for the West Coast Chapter. We thank the Florida Chapter for allowing us to use the "AFTAC Alumni" logo for a while. We will be publish-

ing our letters, newsletters, and chapter membership cards using part of the logo that was used for our reunion badges. It consists of the same shield background as the AFTAC logo, but with Tech Ops Div the top, and in place of the words "Air Force Technical Applications Center", WFO to the bottom left and 1155th TOS to the bottom right of the shield.

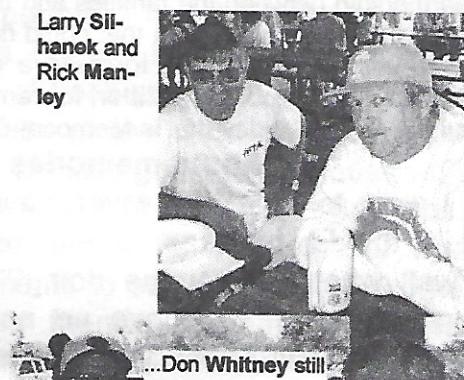
Bob, thanks for the update and we look forward to seeing your emblem

More Event Pictures...the May 1st Picnic

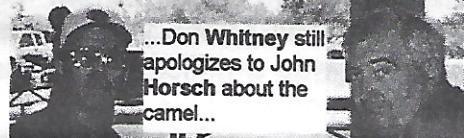
PICTURES BY DR O'BRIEN MONTAGED BY THE EDITORS



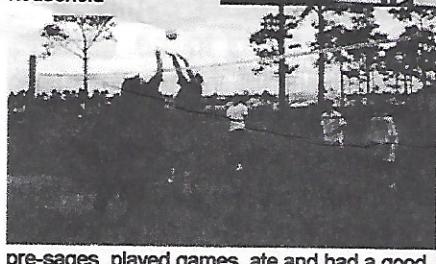
Dr. O'Brien and PJ with the Boss of the household



Larry Sillhanek and Rick Manley



...Don Whitney still apologizes to John Horsch about the camel...



pre-sages played games, ate and had a good time, while alumni slaved over the beer service



The.... uh, well, entertainment?



Jim Payne, John Horsch and Carl Gailey regale Frank Calenda with what a great alumni asc. board member he would be

...and now for some memories. Please let us introduce our newest feature - an important series of articles - as we capture our previous CC's thoughts, and ask them for a ...

COMMANDER'S RECALL

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

We plan to feature their replies (one-an issue) in the chronological order of their time of command - we begin with

James G. Silliman
B/Gen., USAF, Ret.

Commander, June 1970 - November 1971

SUBMITTED DATE, 2/10/99

Upon my arrival in AFTAC headquarters I was immediately impressed with all the people with whom I came in contact. This impression was reinforced during my visits to the detachments. Here was an organization that knew what it was doing and where it was going in the future.

It was always a pleasure to see first hand our worldwide operations in "Old Bullet." Especially remember the commander's call at each and every location that gave me the opportunity to assess what was going on in the field. Without exception I found a morale and professionalism second to none. These were dedicated people who were indeed fulfilling a national interest and need. Foreign host countries were most mindful of our presence, and were thankful to have us there. In addition, it was especially helpful for my wife, Jean, to understand the contribution AFTAC wives were making to our mission. In her visits to our detachments, she saw the work the wives were doing in maintaining the home, teaching school, operating day care centers, et al, in locations where Air Force support was not available.

On the flying side, pilot Major Leininger was a real pro and he and his crew met our schedules regardless of location or weather. Particularly remember a flight on July 3, 1971, from

Thule, Greenland, to Barrow, Alaska. We circled the North Pole at 2,500 feet, the visibility was unlimited and the outside temperature was 56 degrees!

Then there was the emblem contest. When the winner was announced, some thought it too suggestive of our mission in those days of tight security. I didn't agree and have been so pleased to see it displayed in so many locations.

While a great deal of our effort in those days was directed toward Soviet activity, the Chinese were also active and I was particularly proud of the work our lab did in Det 407 under Mike Lubin. I had several trips to the "front office" in the Pentagon to justify our operation at Det 407 and always left with words of gratitude for what AFTAC was doing. Never did I have to justify our operation at McClellan, because their input was always accurate and timely.

The French were also active, doing atmospheric testing in the South Pacific. Here, too, AFTAC was in the forefront to provide the United States with the state of their capability and analyze its effect. During those operations a number of Air Force activities were at our disposal, and they all did so much to make our input reliable and credible.

In the latter period of my tenure, Space was occupying more and more of our attention. So, what an interesting period to be a part of - from sensors to detect atmospheric changes to satellites to monitor the earth was truly a wonderful time.

No one could have had a more interesting, challenging, and gratifying career terminating assignment than AFTAC. My sincere thanks to all whom made it possible. Sir, thank you so much for bringing back memories and giving us insight on AFTAC history



I REMEMBER...

AFTAC HISTORY BY THOSE WHO WERE THERE

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

We are always happy, and thankful, to receive inputs for our features, and all the more so for the following memories coming as they do from a spouse. We have always felt that enjoying being in AFTAC required a partnership between the families and the organization,, and while there was much that could not be said, there were still plenty of ways to make a career a "family affair." Thank you Mary Miller, for reminding us of this on the important day that is Memorial Day.

About memories

I want to note that wives have stories too. Like the day Lindsay came home and I asked, "well what will you be doing?" and his response was "You have no need to know." What a blow! Those years were very difficult on us. It was a difficult time when a husband and wife could not discuss his work after many years of doing so while in other outfits. It is said that it is a healthy thing to be able to discuss work and daily events with a spouse, releases tension on both parties. We also had to make up explanations to our families and friends as to where and what we were doing, stressful times those.

But I also remember the opportunities that AFTAC afforded us. The chance to travel to exotic places, see and experience new cultures and meet new people. Places our kids would never have seen had it not been for those assignments. Our three years in Thailand ('67-'70) were a wonderful experience. The kids got to run through the jungle behind our house on the outskirts of Bangkok. Face snakes on the trail, find a king cobra in their front yard. Chase a very dangerous adder from the living room. Have pets like tree snakes, monkeys and dogs. They went to International schools with kids and teachers from all over the world. They smelled and ate strange foods. And we all got to meet the wonderfully friendly Thai people.

We visited places like Pataya Beach when it was still a small village, take a trip to the River Kwai, see the beautiful Temples and Watts, eat at the Oriental Hotel, watch the changing of the robes ceremony on the Choa Phia river and travel to Chaing Mai. How can we forget those great times. There were hardships yes, but oh how wonderful the experience.

Spain ('75-'76) brought us another culture and religion. Just GREAT!! Again the opportunities opened up to us. Different scenery, customs and people. I loved the fiestas, bull fights, sangria on the hillside near Toledo. And the smell of fresh pan from the panerias. The neat picnics at the Det. with Domingo and his family. My kids going to his house with his kids. What a beautiful people in Sonceca. We could travel anywhere in Europe or visit other Detachments to see friends from home and make new friends. I'm happy to have made the many AFTAC friends that we did and I'm still in touch with many of them. You know who you are. Hello to you all.

I also remember that Lindsay had some strange cars. Lindsay's car knew automatically where to turn when coming out of the Headquarters drive in Virginia. Not towards Woodbridge but to the "Coast Guard Club"!!! Then there was another car which knew the "Body Shop and the "Detour" just out the back gate at McClellan. Lindsay just couldn't control that car. Ahh yes and the NCO Club at Patrick, no car needed here, just walk across the street. I'm sure there are quite a number of you guys snickering now. You remember those cars, Right? Had one of your own that did the same thing. Live your lives to the fullest, time may be shorter than we admit.

Mary Miller

PS A "BIG HI" to everyone...I'm doing fine since Lindsay died. I took a long 3 month trip to Tibet, Nepal, Borneo and NZ last fall. I went on a cruise through the Panama canal a couple of weeks ago. Planning a backpacking and hiking trip to Canada for 5 weeks in Aug-Sept. Another 4-5 months trip planned for South America next year. Been skiing all winter. As you can see I've been busy. You're doing a fabulous job on the newsletter. Mary, thanks for the article, hope others...and yes spouses also, will follow your lead. Your article evokes fond and funny memories, and contains valuable advice- you keep on keepin' on

A BARELY SUBSTANTIATED (BS) TALE!

PREPARED FROM YOUR INPUTS. We solicit unclassified humorous stories about AFTAC events and people - recognizing these anecdotes may be Barely Substantiated (BS). Forward your stories to us at "chrisjohn@juno.com" or ATTN: BS column to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish as soon as we can. Thanks



This quarter we present very well-done BS by Frank Liberatori. Frank sent us this in early October '98 and was kind enough to let us wait to publish since we had one more Brian Berenbach story to run. Thank you Frank, and readers, it's your turn...we need your story for the next issue or BS may be passe.

Poison Gas

From: Frank Liberatori, MCL 1965-1970, Chemistry

Reading the September 98 Monitor, especially the article by my compatriot Brian Berenbach--hello Brian, brought back members of an interesting incident that occurred in the late 60's. As a chemist in MCL we had to work all kinds of crazy hours in conducting the debris analysis. The chemical processing of the samples was conducted in a series of laboratory cubicles each having a windowed door to the long central corridor of the building. The corridor formed the DMZ between the chemists and the physicists. While working alone in a cubicle at about 2 AM with only a few people in the whole MCL building, I heard someone (probably an erstwhile physicist) in the hallway yell at me to "get the hell out before she blows." I turned around and looking at the other end of the cubicle I saw a jet of dark brown fumes spewing out of the sink, which were slowly filling the cubicle. The gas was coming from an open gallon bottle holding laboratory waste solutions. Placing (gingerly with much fear, trepidation and praying) the bottle into the chemical fume hood (for venting up into the fume scrubber system), I "got the hell out of there." After a short time, we returned to the scene. Reconstructing the event it appears an acid waste solution was inadvertently mixed with an organic waste solution from which the chemical reaction generated nitrogen dioxide. The thing to do then was to read up on the hazards, if any, of

breathing nitrogen dioxide.

The Chemistry Section much used volume of SAX - INDUSTRIAL CHEMICAL HAZARDS was consulted and this is, to the best of my recollection, what I read at about 3 in the morning. "After inhaling this gas, the patient will feel well for a few hours but then without warning will expire." This led to a very hasty (like 100 mph) trip to the base hospital emergency room. Somewhat excitedly telling the physician I had inhaled nitrogen dioxide--he said something to the effect--what's that? Whereupon we handed him a copy of the SAX book which we had brought along with the "patient expires" paragraphs conveniently doubly highlighted. Anyhow, obviously it turned out OK--I'm still writing letters to the editor.

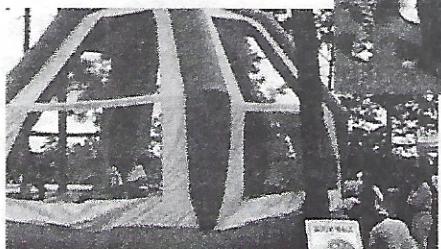
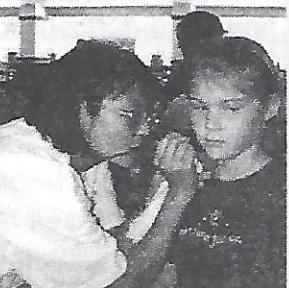


WHERE ARE YA?!!!

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

There are no 'Where Are Ya's' for this issue, but, just in, more pictures from the picnic..thanks Dr. O'Brien

...and the younger pre-sages played games and participated in various events.



MONITORing Active-Duty Doing

prepared by the editors from your inputs sent in from around the AFTAC World

Command Section



Col. Harold J.
Beatty

AFTAC Commander, 7/98, previously at Shaw AFB where he was the Chief of Intelligence for the US Central Command Air Forces and commander of the 609th Air Intelligence Group, received commission upon graduation from Officers Training School (distinguished graduate) in 1980. He is a native of Bonny Blue, VA, his wife Diane is from Quebec, Canada - they have two children Matthew and Melanie.



CMSgt Kenneth
Myers

AFTAC Superintendent, 11/98, a 20-year AFTACer, he enlisted 3/79, trained as a scientific measurements technician and is a Distinguished Graduate from all three AF NCO Leadership schools. He has been the AF Intelligence Command Senior NCO of the Year twice, '91 and '93. He served at Dets 301, 415, 421, and in the HQs with DO, CC, TT, TA, LS. Chief Myers is from Doylestown, PA - he has two children, Douglas and Melissa and is engaged to Ms. Heather Miller from Melbourne, Florida



Judy Milam Retires

SUBMITTED BY CLARK CREEERY (ROVIN' REPORTER), 3 MAY 1999-HQ AFTAC-10:00 AM, PICTURES BY BOB WILEY

Judy retired after almost 38 years of federal service, 33 of which were with AFTAC....standing room only! Following the formal ceremony, presided over by Colonel Harold J. Beatty, Commander, Judy was honored at a luncheon at the Patrick AFB, Officer's Club. Warm words were spoken by Dr. Dave O'Brien, Col. Beatty, Tom Niquette, and Tom Ciambrone. Words of honor, dedication, service, and confidence. (and the following article by AFTAC's Public Affairs Office says it all)



Judy and Dr. O'Brien

AFTAC Loses Valuable Resource

MASTER SGT. RON HYINK

Longevity takes on an entirely different meaning with people like Judy Milam. After more than 37 years of government service she has decided it's time to retire.

Milam, chief of Scientific and Technical Information with the Air Force Technical Applications Center, began her government career in October 1961 in Washington, D.C., with the Housing and Home Finance Agency. She started with AFTAC just four years later as a secretary in the Instrumentation Branch, Geophysics Division, when the Center was still located at Alexandria, Va.

After spending a year in another government organization, she returned to AFTAC in 1972 – just in time for AFTAC's move to Florida. She was among the first AFTAC employees sent to Florida where she helped work out logistics problems and set up communications channels before the entire AFTAC mission transferred from Virginia.

She held several distinctive positions through the years. The need for a Scientific and Technical Information officer was created in 1989 and she was selected for the position, where she worked for the chief scientist. "She brought us to the state-of-the-art in accessing technical information," said Dr. David O'Brien, Chief Scientist for AFTAC. "Her impact on AFTAC will be felt long into the future," said O'Brien.

During her career with AFTAC, Milam has received numerous awards, including a Civilian Employee of the Quarter Award and the Junior Level Civilian of the Year Award. She represented AFTAC on the Federal Women's Program and served as secretary and treasurer of the local chapter of Federally Employed Women. Milam is also secretary of the AFTAC Alumni Association and was honored as their Alumni of the Year for 1997. She is also a volunteer manager of the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church bookshop.

Ms. Milam is married to Auburn "Michael" Milam. They have a daughter and son-in-law,

Cindi and Chet Brownfield, and two lovely grandchildren, TJ, 10, and Jill, 8.

Editors: Congrats Judy, we are glad you are part of the alumni assc., and will continue to provide your outstanding support and efforts to AFTAC through the association. You have set a mark for longevity in government service that few can match.

**Way to go Judy...
now you're a true SAGE...**



Carl Gailey restrains Clark Creery (from speaking)

Judy accepts Sage promotion...



Carl and Joe Goldian, as 'Old Sages' advise the newest one...Judy's smile tells us she pays no mind.



...a mystery Sage (identity elsewhere in this issue) pays respects to Judy



...and then there was the argument over the gifts as Judy tries to hang on to them



Congratulations!!



**1st Quarter '99, Outstanding Award
Winners, HQ's Level**

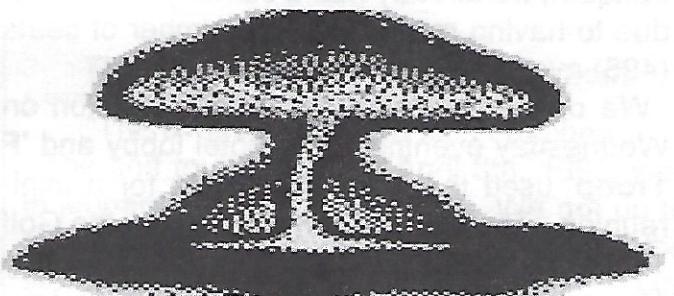
PROVIDED BY RON HYINK

Airman: Senior Airman James E. Clemens, Jr.

NCO: Staff Sgt. Brian S. Ravak

Senior NCO: Master Sgt. James Bement

Company Grade Officer: 1st Lt. Ray V. Ondrejech



TOD COMMEMORATION AND REUNION

◆ 10

AFTAC Alumni Association, Florida Chapter ◆

(Sage Salute continued from page 1)

volunteers, whose assistance with registrations and banquet seating during the reunion was of great help:

Rose Klug Banquet Seating
Richard Amon Registrations

The TOD event team members are to be commended. These folks all worked very hard on the Inactivation Ceremony, TOD Open House, souvenirs, reunion banquet program & seating, and event transportation:

Capt Samantha Franceschi - Chair, Protocol & Inact. Ceremony
CMSgt Susan Spencer Co-Chair, Souvenirs
Ms Libby Williams Protocol & Inactivation Ceremony
MSgt Julie Doll Transportation & Souvenirs
MSgt Ted Noonchester Scrap Book & Souvenirs
MSgt Debby Massie Ceremony & Banquet Programs
MSgt Rich Perez Publicity & TOD Treasurer
CMSgt (Sel) Ed Cahoon Video Production & Banquet Emcee



*A BJG Sage
Salute and
Handshake to
all of you...*

(The Big Story continued from page 1)

1985, 1994. (these dates were taken from Florida records)

We were fortunate to have selected the Holiday Inn Northeast as the site of the reunion activities. The Holiday Inn had completed most of its major renovation work and was in pristine condition. (The entrance road was still a bit rocky, but no one minded).

In December '98, we mailed out a newsletter and registration forms to over 3,800 alumni with a requested response deadline of February 1st. By February 15th we had received less than 200 reservations and were beginning to worry about the 400-500 estimate we had given the Hotel for the banquet. Not to worry though, because by the evening of the banquet, we already had a standby waiting list due to having maxed out the number of seats (496) available.

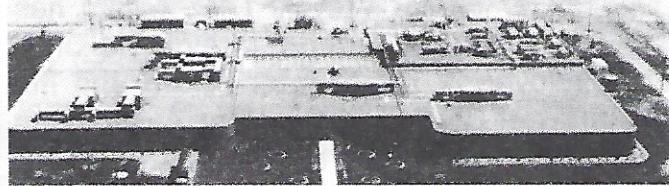
We opened registrations for the reunion on Wednesday evening in the hotel lobby and 'F Troop' used the Hospitality Suite for a mini-reunion. The first 'official' activity was the Golf Tournament at Lawrence Links on a rainy Thursday afternoon (see Cal Brown & Jim Esping's follow-

ing article for details) followed Thursday evening with a wonderful cocktail party and buffet dinner which drew an unexpectedly large group of attendees. This provided an indication of what we were to expect for the banquet on Friday evening.

The Friday morning TOD Inactivation ceremonies in the Coast Guard Hangar at McClellan AFB were great. Col. Harold J. Beatty, AFTAC Commander, gave an inspiring and touching speech about the history and accomplishments of the WFO, 1155th Tech Ops and TOD units and the fantastic, talented people that were assigned to them over the years. TOD staff were impressive in formation for the ceremonies and had worked very hard to make sure the activity came off without a hitch, including the nice refreshments and transportation from the hotel.

Following the ceremonies, TOD provided bus transportation to an open house in the TOD Russell building. And 'open' doesn't begin to describe the experience. The TOD staff is to be commended for trying their best to provide something for everyone to see, but most of the equipment had already been boxed up awaiting shipment or had already left the building for another life somewhere else.

However, they gave a very interesting and informative slide presentation about the mission. The Russell building itself (picture below) is a



very nice facility and a giant leap from the old building 628 where a lot of us spent our time. Buses then took everyone back to the 'front' side of McClellan for a tour of the Aviation Museum and then back to the hotel.

The Friday evening Banquet Dinner and Dance tested the hotel facilities and staff to the limit. The banquet facilities will normally accommodate about 450 guests. We topped out at a few more than 500. Despite the

TOD COMMEMORATION AND REUNION

AFTAC Alumni Association, Florida Chapter

11 ♦

somewhat crowded conditions, the hotel staff served a variety of fine foods efficiently.

The TOD staff presented a delightful program, including some rare and much appreciated video footage covering the history of the organization from its inception. The memories and insights provided by Lt. General (Ret.) Clapper, who was the AFTAC Commander in '84 and '85, were much appreciated. Following the TOD Commander, Colonel Rhoads' well-received closing comments, the John Skinner Big Band provided their excellent program of fine dance music.

Saturday was a day of leisure, reminiscing, touring Old Sacramento (via base vans provided by TOD'ers), and mini-reunions. Some of the 'original' WFO folks were talking it up in the Hospitality suite (see following story) in one side room while Col. Franz (Herb) Dettmer, past Commander of Det 202, and a bunch of Det 202 folks (about 20 or more) were gathering in another side room of the Hospitality Suite.

Throughout the four days of festivities, which culminated with a delicious Sunday Brunch, the reminiscing and partying continued with little let-up in the Hospitality Suite. The Hospitality Subcommittee, particularly Lew Milligan, George Thompson (pictured) and Frank Goodreau did a magnificent job of keeping the suite properly supplied and the good times flowing from Wednesday evening all the way to Sunday noon.

And then it was over...these events were truly memorable, and sad at the same time. As we bid farewell to an important element of AFTAC, remembered its past and its mission, we did so with good friends and past partners in this critical work. Now we move forward in our own worlds and ways, knowing that AFTAC will be ever changed by this event, but will continue to be an important organization to our government and will continue to be graced with the 'best people on this earth.'



'the Best Bartenders
In the West'?

...AND THERE ARE STORIES TO PASS ON...

In the 'B'eginning

SUBMITTED BY JOE JOHNSON

In 1951 the 1009th Special Weapons Squadron selected 60 men which were the first group of 'blue suiters' trained for B (seismic) system operations. I was a member of that group and one of a few that completed 20 or more years active duty. The remaining majority finished a 4-year enlistment and returned to civilian life.



(back, l-r) Lee Barbour, Claude Gago, Ed Carty, Jerry Collins (center) Norm Negrete, Jim Lyon, Leo Cotter, Willis Johnson, Art Dalgren, Sid Dearborn (front) Joe Johnson, Norm Derkovits

I was elated to find 10 of these 'four and out' men attending the 1999 Sacramento reunion. We relived the 'OLD days' and had a wonderful time refreshing long ago but not forgotten friendships. The presence of these men 45 plus years after leaving the service tends to prove that the 'outfit' was and is 'special.'



...and Other Important People Were There

JOE JOHNSON CONTINUES

Al, and Mrs. Pavik. Former TOD Commander...he has the honor of leading TOD for more years than any other Commander

The 1999 Reunion Golf Tournament

SUBMITTED BY CAL BROWN AND JIM ESPING

"The event that almost didn't happen"

The golf tournament on April 8th, 1999, was in jeopardy of being cancelled. We got up to a miserable, rainy morning. However, the storm front moved through at about 9:30 a.m. and we decided to go with the 12:30 p.m.

TOD COMMEMORATION AND REUNION

AFTAC Alumni Association, Florida Chapter

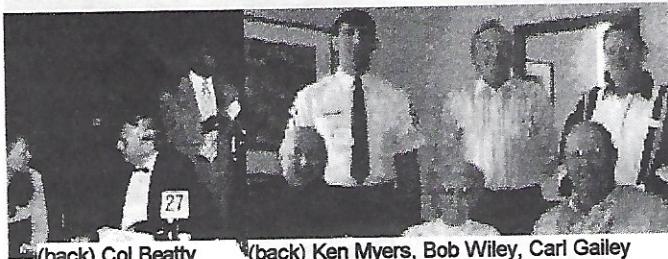
◆ 12 ◆

shotgun start. All but four players showed up, one due to illness, and the others just didn't come. Indeed it was cold and windy with an occasional peek of the sun. The tournament was considered a success though.

Tom Niquette won closest to the pin and low net over the field. Betty Jo Hinkle won low net and Gloria Houston won low gross of the ladies. Sid Roper won 'A-Flight,' Jim Smith won 'B-Flight,' Richard Pettitt won 'C-Flight' and the 'Calloway Flight' was won by Joe Celaya. A good time was had by all. We thank all the 'dedicated' golfers who participated and congratulate the winners.

A 'Good Work' to all of you. You can be mighty proud of what you accomplished as represented by the articles you have provided. Good luck with the chapter and we are proud to stand beside you.

...SOME OF THE FLORIDA MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

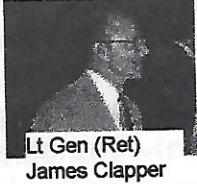


(back) Col Beatty
Mrs/Mr. McBrearty

(back) Ken Myers, Bob Wiley, Carl Gailey
Tom Niquette, Mayme Gailey and Ron Kane



Dr. Dave
O'Brien

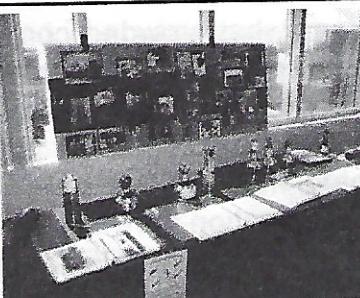


Lt Gen (Ret)
James Clapper

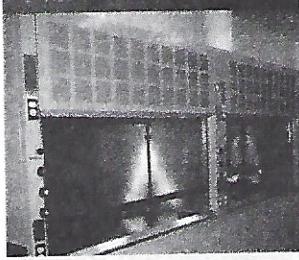
...AND HERE ARE MORE PICTURES OF EVENTS...

April 9, 1999 - TOD Closing Ceremony

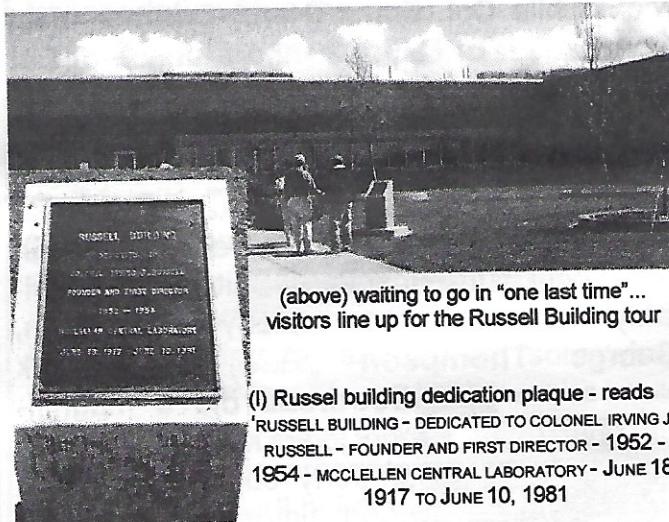
Honored guest (upper left), TOD family members (upper right) and alumni and guests (lower)



(l) remnant's of days and missions gone by (r) exhibits of equipment and processes used at McClellan.



(above) equipment formerly used by TOD personnel now waiting to be shipped to a new home.



(above) waiting to go in "one last time"... visitors line up for the Russell Building tour

(l) Russel building dedication plaque - reads
RUSSELL BUILDING - DEDICATED TO COLONEL IRVING J.
RUSSELL - FOUNDER AND FIRST DIRECTOR - 1952 -
1954 - MCCLELLAN CENTRAL LABORATORY - JUNE 18,
1917 TO JUNE 10, 1981

...AND NOW LET'S VISIT OUR COLORADO CHAPTER WITH EXCERPTS FROM BEN AND GINGER VLISSICK'S CHAPTER NEWSLETTER-(FEB & MAY)...(MEMBERSHIP ON 2/98, 114)



ECHOES

EVENING FUNCTION: Keep in mind - Our second annual evening function at the Camana Club on Buckley ANG Base has been scheduled for November 20, 1999. Mark your calendar

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: This years' General Membership breakfast was held March 20, 1999. Nineteen people attended. In Ben Vlassick's absence, Earl Pierce conducted the meeting.

CALIFORNIA REUNION: The April 8-12 '99, reunion was an absolute success, Joe Johnson and his committee of 17 did themselves proud. All bases were covered...as usual the hospitality room was quite an attraction. More memories were shared there to keep the history of AFTAC alive for another two years. Which, by the way, should be in Denver in year 2001.

Colorado names on the April 6 list were:

Dick/Dee Brence, Westminster; Carol Frenzel, James Hall, James/ Leslie Miller, Raymond Shulstad, Joan Singlevich, Co Sprs; Earnie Long, Denver; John Macaluso, Littleton; Ben/Ginger Vlassick, , Tom and Barbara Ware, Aurora; Edsel Ward, Grand Jct; Erhard Weis Jr, Monument; Wayne and Cathy Zahm, Arvada.

That's 18 from Colorado, good showing.

LETTERS/EMAIL

Bill - Looking forward to seeing some of the Denver group
in Sacramento this April. Gene Kille, Nevada.

Bill - Sorry I haven't kept up with my dues. I retired from civil service on 2 Jan 98 and my wife, Gerry, and I have traveled some and are involved in volunteer work here in San Angelo.

Gerry and I were in the local Wal-Mart and met Will Osteen who is now living in the area. Always enjoy reading the news about the alumni. Now that I have retired, maybe Gerry and I will be able to make some of the Colorado get-to-gathers; one of these days.
Hugo Redlin, San Angelo TX

Chief - Thanks for the info (about CO Chapter). I've thought about joining the Alumni Association and perhaps attending the annual get togethers, but between my job here at HQ AMC where I

manage the Maintenance Division for all Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems (ATCALS), all Meteorological Systems maintenance and Radio equipment, the AMC Special Maintenance Team Technicians and the Civilian AF Engineering and Technical Services (Instructors) keeps me pretty busy. When I couple that with teaching classes in Electronics at the Local College two nights a week, its almost impossible for me to even take a leave. But, after 43 years of hard charging, I'm beginning to look at retirement in a more favorable light. My greatest fear is boredom. My wife says that won't be a problem because I've never set still for 5 minutes. She's trying to tell me something (and thinks I don't listen) HA! Have a nice day!
David.Young@scott.af.mil.

Bill, would you please update my address from Clear Lake, WI, to Broomfield, CO. Seems as though we all move back to Colorful Colorado sooner or later. Thanks, Bruce L. Schubert, e-mail, janschubert@cwix.com.

Hi Chief, I'm still working for the Methodist Church at 11th and Newark (been with them for five and a half years) and really enjoy my job. Alan left working for Raytheon (Hughes) and now works for a company called Information Handling Systems down in the Tech Center. (Do you remember a 99105 instructor named Brad Hunter? Well, Brad also works at IHS.)

Life is good and we are all well. Hope the Schmied Family is well, too!

Maureen Darrah-Hampson, Aurora, CO.

Bill - Enclosed is a check for \$10 so please add me to the AAAC roster.

I was in the 1009th Special Weapons Squadron from 1951 through 1954 and was located in Wash D.C. at the NOL; in Las Vegas, NV; Ft. Myer, VA; Ft. Sill, OK; and Douglas, WY. We just recently returned from a trip where we visited with Leo Cotter and his wife Dot in GA and Jim Lyon and his wife Ruby in LA. We now plan to see many more old friends in CA in April 99. Thanks, Ray and Arlene Hild, Grand Junction, CO. (Ed Note: Welcome aboard Ray and Arlene. Hope to see you at some local alumni affairs).

Dear Bill - Another year has slipped away. Here's my dues; just realized I was late. Please note new address for future mailings. Thanks, Bruce Deffler, Parker, CO.

Bill - I saw in the last newsletter where another old 1009th buddy, Norm Negrete of Douglas, WY, has joined the AFTAC alumni. We BUSTER JANGLE members are hoping to join most of you in Sacramento this April. We have been keeping touch via e-mail and land mail. Talking up the Reunion. During our period (1951-54) our training consisted of: Naval Ord. Labs,

(Continued on page 18)

CLARKS

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATIONS

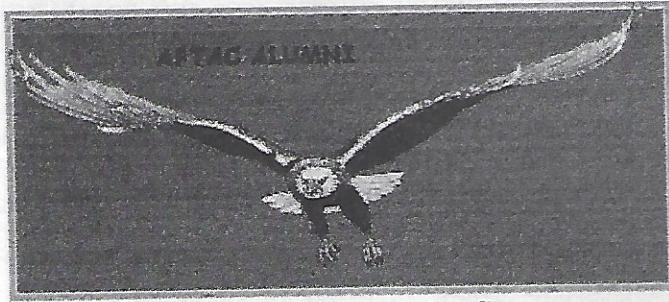
REMARKS

Time fly's when you are part of the AFTAC Alumni Association! Here it is mid-year 1999, almost a new century.

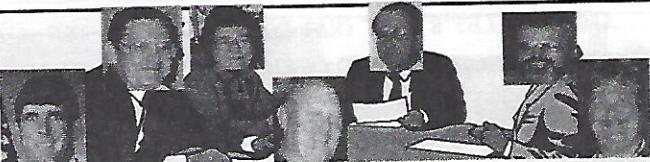
My thoughts are of service. So many people have helped us get to where we are they are just too many to thank. From our staff (officers, secretary, membership, treasury) to our planners, our volunteers, our publishing group, and our assistance from the active duty arm of this association - just too many to mention. So, I will give you all one hearty THANKS! We are solvent, we have activities, and we are marching onward trying to make this association one that supports its membership. We certainly pray that we have done that?

The closure of TOD is now penned into the history books; however, without a strong contingent in California it may have passed as a breath of fresh air. The California Alumni is now a reality and from the sounds of things - lots of ideas and alumni who will support those ideas.

Colorado is, has been, and continues to be active. What you have read above is the true definition of "service" - people helping people to bond into one. Seeing this gives me great pleasure and seeing folks at functions gives me even greater pleasure. We ask that you give us ideas, continue with your dedicated support, and assist us in making the AFTAC Alumni Association stronger than ever.



the finest...ONLY becoming finer



Ken Carl Judy Tom Clark Joe Swede

BOARD MEETINGS

Alumni Association Board Members

Elected

President-Clark Creery
Secretary-Pat Synder/Judy Milam

Vice-Joe Goldian
Treasurer-Carl Galley

Appointed

Membership-Mary Welch
Activities-Ken Myers

Heritage Hall Chairman-Tom Niquette
Publicity-Swede Swansen

A Few Minutes from the Minutes

SUBMITTED BY JUDY MILAM

MARCH to MAY 1999:

- The AFTAC spring picnic was held on 1 May. The Alumni Association voted to help support the picnic by paying the fee for the Gator Bill show. Alumni members also volunteered to monitor the beer wagon.

- The AFTAC Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) contact suggested that the Hall of Heritage committee and the FOIA reading room could be co-located to support each other. The FOIA office is required to provide a public reading room for those documents that would be releasable under the FOIA. Since the Hall of Heritage committee will be located in an area of the building that is open to the general public, it was felt the two areas could be combined and equipment and resources could be shared.

- Final plans were made and the Alumni golf tournament was held on 7 May. We had a full field of players (144) and awarded over \$2500 in prizes.

- Copies of our constitution and by-laws were sent to the Colorado chapter so they can use them as a format for their chapter.

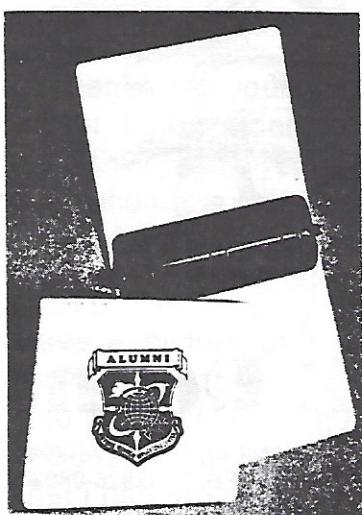
- Membership currently stands at 725 members, of which 426 are lifetime members and 15 are complimentary

- We're taking another look at the information posted on our Alumni Web page (<http://www.csihq.com/aftac>).



A Few Minutes from Membership

SUBMITTED BY MARY WELCH

WORLD WIDE DIRECTORY INFORMATION

contains more than 6,000 names (more than half with current or last known addresses), and continues to expand as we locate more former AFTAC personnel.

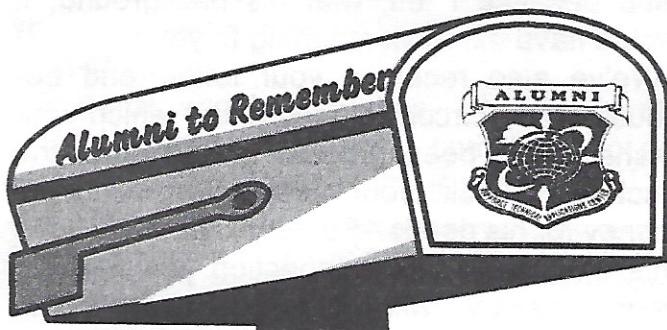
A color print of the AFTAC Alumni Logo is inserted in the clear, front panel of the binder. The back panel will contain your choice of a color photo of one of the following:

- Aerial shot of the HQ Building at 6801 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA.
- Front entrv shot of the HQ Building at 6801 Telegraph Road, with the tulips in bloom around the flag pole
- Aerial shot of the HQ Building at 1030 S. Highway AIA, Patrick AFB FL (Select before or after front renovation).
- Aerial shot of the Russell Building at McClellan AFB CA. (The building housed the majority of the Technical Operations Division formerly known as the 1155th TCHOS or 1155th TOS)
- Ground-level, angle shot of the front of the Russell Building at McClellan AFB CA.

The directory subscription cost is \$25, yearly updates are free. If you would like to subscribe, write our PO Box address (see page 2).

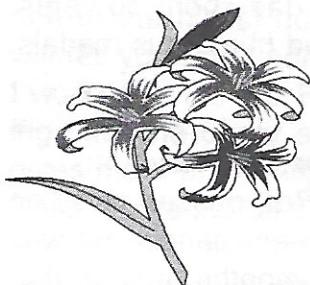
FOR CURRENT DIRECTORY SUBSCRIBERS:

Mailings of CHANGE 10 to the WORLDWIDE DIRECTORY were made during April/May. If you have not received your copy of this Change, please drop us a note.



HOPES OF HEALTH FOR...

Frank Hall

**TAPS**

In Memory of Those We
Knew But Are Now Gone
(1862) by Gen. Daniel Butterfield
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 lights 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

LEON KEYS (May '98, see column)

ROBERT H. BUTLER (May 9, '99)

DAVID A. KYZER (May 25, '99, see column)

NORM HARRIS (May 31, '99)

BEST IN ETERNAL PEACE

Leon Keys (the notification)

I am not sure if this is the best way to do it, but I was asked to try and notify those who knew (Lindsey) Leon Keyes in the Air Force that he died last year of cancer.

He died in May 1998, a short time after learning that he had cancer, had an operation for it, and started a chemotherapy program.

Leon Keyes served on Team 204 in Alaska in the late fifties and early sixties.

Leon Keys is survived by his wife, Jerena, and children. Leon and Jerena were married while he was stationed in Alaska. Jerena Keys' address is: 203 W. Pine St., Big Rapids, MI 49307-1357, Regards, David Toy

David A. Kyzer (the notification)

My dad, Col. David A. Kyzer,, of Boxboro, MA., died May 25th, 1999. He is to be buried,

at Arlington National Cemetery, on June 9th, 1999, at 3:00 PM. I found several, items, telling me he was a member, and thought, you should be informed. My dad spent 30 years, and 31 days, and received numerous medals. Paul C. Kyzer

Robert H. Butler (the notification)

Robert H. Butler (TSGT-Ret) passed away on May 9th, 1999 from pancreatic cancer. He was diagnosed a short three months prior to that date. Bob served in AFTAC from the late fifties till he retired at Lowry AFB in 1973 at various 'Q' and other system stations.

He is survived by his wife, three children, and several grandchildren. Regards, Jerry Moxley AFTAC 1956 - 1975

In Memorium, Norm Harris

FRANK AND EDNA CALENA REMEMBER

We just received news of the death of Norm Harris. It was a shock, to say the least. As we, "old" AFTACer's grow older, I guess it's just more and more a part of life to say good-bye to old friends. Both Edna and I knew Norm for many years. We never became close friends although we would be the first ones to say that he treated us more like a friend than do some of our present friends.

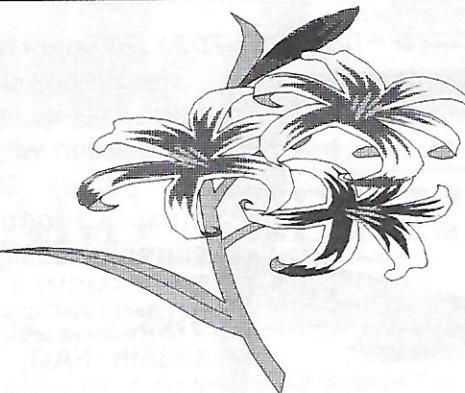
Did any of you who knew him ever hear him utter a cruel or angry remark? It's doubtful. Norm, behind all his clownish ways and funny remarks, was a true gentle person. He would always bring a smile to our lives. We think he wanted to be loved by his friends and we can only say that he was by us.

We're sure there is much the same sentiment within the retired ranks. We think the most poignant remark we can make about Norm, is that he will truly be missed.

In Memorium, David Kyser

JIM MARK REMEMBERS

I think Major David Kyser was our Personnel Officer at NOL back in 1950. He was a good man and I had to get his permission to get married. He made the correct decision because we are still happily married.



The Mail Room

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

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

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

Background: Last issue we ran some email traffic resulting from Jim Davis's request for Chief's stripes for a shadowbox he was building. The following letter from us, enclosed by Al MacManus as he sent the stripes, pretty much sums up what went on ..

Great to hear from you on the phone (on 9 March) with your request for stripes. You'll never believe what all went on due to your request so thought I'd pass it on to you.

Right after your call, I got on the computer and asked our Alumni Association Webmeisters (Mike Black and Dave Johnson) to send an "all email" to alumni with your request - they've got 100's of AFTACers email addresses at their fingertips. They did this literally within minutes, and within a few hours we had many answers, old-timers (Bob Jones, Bill Schmied, Jim Payne) and younger-timers. Among the younger-timers volunteering to provide the stripes is the person I asked to help because I felt, with his background, it would have the most meaning to you.

We've also received your letter, and because of the circumstances under which your wishes have been granted have voided the enclosed check...your benefactor wants no money for his deeds. So, enjoy...and we hope this story, and the connection you have to your contributor will make these stripes, and your shadowbox, even more special.

...as we negotiated this request we extracted a promise from Jim for an article of his remembrances of AFTAC. Even tho he denies the "arrangement" negotiated he has kindly provided those memories. They came with the following letter (we will run Jim's memories in a forthcoming issue, they are a great read and you are sure to enjoy them).

Ontario, Canada

5/99

Thanks for your letter. It was indeed an honor to be mentioned in the Post-Monitor and I will send you a picture of the shadow box when it is completed. Yeah, I remember ole Al (we called him Mac), (NOTE: CMSgt [Ret.] Robert "Al" MacManus, who had worked for Jim 30 years ago, dug up his old stripes and sent them to Jim) good lad. Sorry I don't have a picture of him. And thank you for saving me \$15.00, I will use it to toast to your and Al MacManus' health and to my *throat*. Included is the story, which I didn't remember that I had promised. I hope it's not too long—perhaps you could make two or even three stories out of it—it's the best I could do from memories of 30-40-45 (ye Gods!!!) years ago.

John and Chris, because of so many unusual experiences I have found it extremely difficult to limit my comments to the experiences described. There were so many things that happened and so many people involved it's simply impossible to list them all. I have tried to say a bit about each of my assignments and because there is so much it may be a bit tiring and boring for those that read it. I have tried to add a little true humor to make it interesting for those that know me. So-I give to you as editors of the Post-Monitor my permission to change, add, to shorten, take away delete or do whatever you think best to make it fit your needs for the Post-Monitor.

Regards and best wishes, I hope this attached report will give you something to do before the next Post Monitor is published.

Jim Davis Jim, thanks so much, and we are in the process of "decoding" what you have written...we are questioning that you invented the organization, but maybe that is something we have "decoded" incorrectly. We will keep working on your words until we get them all unrav-

eled and then the readers are in for a real treat.

.....and lastly, this email from the "stripe sender," Al MacManus

Hi Guys, I got a letter from Chief Davis today indicating he received the stripes and is putting them in his shadow box. His letter was one of the nicest notes I've ever received. I will tell you that I admired and liked him when I worked in the Zip Room in 1968-71. Knowing that one of my stripes is in his collection gives me a profound feeling for, when I made Chief, I recalled all the chiefs I had worked for and he was at the top. Pardon me for not referring to him as "Red," it'll always be "Chief."

Al MacManus and what a great story of AFTACer's and cooperation, everybody won in this case. Thank you Jim and Al for letting everyone in on this great event.

Cyberspace

5/99

I'm not quite sure who to address this to and I thought perhaps you could pass this on to the proper authority. I just received the directory update and it caused me to reflect upon what must be the tremendous cost, both in hours and dollars, to put out these updates so frequently. I think the involved people are going above and beyond the call to duty in servicing the membership so well and I very much appreciate 'Membership's' efforts.

For myself, I don't need updates so frequently, and I would be more than willing to retrieve updates from the web site, thus obviating the need for the association to spend \$2.50 plus in postage every time I am sent an update. Perhaps people on the email list could be surveyed as to the mode by which they wish to receive updates.

Mike Gingrich Mike, thanks for the comments and suggestions, we are always looking for new ways to better serve members - we have passed your email along

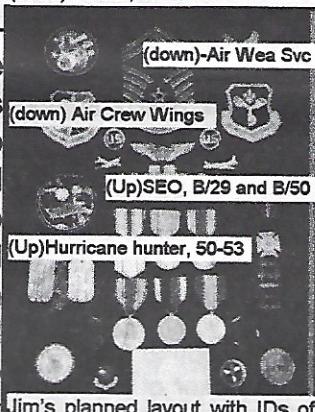
Niceville, FL

5/5/99

A Call For Help

I'm happy to join up. I have been saving my pennies since you sent the application some many months ago. Enclosed is my lifetime dues, gambling that I've got over seven years left. There are two people I would like to get in touch with if you can help.

John I. Norris. I have owed John \$5 since 19 April 61. John was assigned to our Q Det



Jim's planned layout with IDs of some of the (unfamiliar) items

in Fairbanks, AK, after tech school in April '61, and I was never successful in contacting him or heard about him afterwards.

Grant E. Curd, civilian, Elgin and Radiation Corp., assigned 1155TOS, from 1961 (or before) until sometime after 1967. Close friend. I lost contact with Grant in 1973, well after he had left AFTAC.

Ronald E. Vadakin, 1903 Palmetto PalmCr., 32578 Ron, hopefully one of our readers will help - we've run your full address just in case. Mary (Welch) checked her records and we've looked at the alumni webpage locator to no avail. Good Luck, and welcome to the association. Additional Note: The editors do provide a service of holding money if you'd like to use it. You could send the debt you owe, and at a reasonable interest rate over the years (5% for 38 years and 2 months), we figure you now owe John...well...more than \$5. We would then hold the money, relieving you of the guilt you are feeling,, and then paying the debt if ever possible. No, seriously, we hope you hear from both of them and can renew acquaintances.

...and we end our mail section with a personal email...many of you will remember the writer and, in a way, this is an advertisement for two of his many talents, poem writing and singing...

Cyberspace not long ago "Din't See Ya"

BACKGROUND: DAN BRINKMAN IS PART OF A BARBERSHOP GROUP AND ONE BALMY SUNDAY AFTERNOON WE WENT TO SEE A SHOW WHERE HE AND OTHER SINGERS WERE PLYING THEIR TRADE. WE ALSO RAN INTO BARBARA THERE AND GOT TO TALK TO HER BECAUSE OF OTHER COMMITMENTS WE COULD NOT STAY AFTER THE SHOW AND TALK TO DAN LATER WE RECEIVED THIS EMAIL THAT JUST HAS TO BE SHARED

Hey you guys,

I din't see ya.

Barb Says Ya wuz der but,

I din't see ya

Ya wuz in the crowd and

I din't see ya

I wooda said hi but

I din't see ya.

Wen ya goin to be out again so

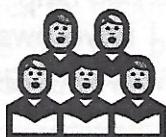
maybe I kin see ya

where ya gonna be so

maybe I kin go see ya

Missed seeing the both of you. Wish I had known you were going to be at the show. Hope you enjoyed it.

Dan and we did...we highly recommend barbershop singing to all and you guys did a great job, as usual...we also enjoyed your poem



ECHOES (Continued from page 13)

White Oak, MD, guarded by Marines, to the desert at Mercury, NV. Ft. Myer, for the best food in the military, then back to the Army food at Ft. Sill, OK. We lived in tents in MD, NV, and OK., but in a wing of the WAF barracks at Ft. Myer, for two months. They didn't want us to associate with the "others." Those were the "good old days." We were in the Stone Age of AFTAC. Where is the Brooklyn cowboy Bob Fernandes, these days? Haven't seen him since Douglas, 1954

Leo J. Cotter, Gainesville, GA.

Ben - Noticed my membership has expired so am enclosing a check for same. I noticed in the last newsletter that one of the old AFTACers reported that Ernest Relac was living in Colorado Springs. In case you haven't heard, I regret to report that Ernie passed away several years ago. He was buried with full military honors at Colorado Springs with many of his old comrades in attendance. Best regards,
George G. Waters, San Marcos, CA.

Bill - Enclosed please find our check for this years dues. We are still hoping to contact more of my former teammates (B-204, 421AA). Thoroughly enjoyed the newsletters, and looking forward to this year's issues. Thanks again for your work over the past year. Wishing you and Ben and your families a very happy and prosperous New year. All the best
Harold and Cindy McCarter, Colorado Springs, CO

Chief, I was at Lowry 2/58 - 1/59 (in two different F/L classes). Was in hospital from 4/58 -7/58 with rheumatic fever; joined a different class finishing DC electronics. Just ran across alumni groups yesterday. Have run into a few alumni through the years - one a b-b stacker of the big ones who also trained at Lowry. It's strange how they stand out. Have run into some Q's and E's. Went to college for one year with a fellow F (troop). Vaughn Hathaway (Pastor Von@aol.com).

Ben, I just retired in June ('98) with 20-years in AFTAC. If you have an email listing of ex-AFTACers, can you add me to it? Don't know what else to say right now. I'm surfing the AFTAC site now. Maybe any questions I have will be answered there. Charles Milne, e-mail: "milnec @spacecom.af.mil". (Ed Note: I sent your address to Judy Milam. Also, while in the AFTAC Home Page, I'm sure you found information there for adding your name to the E-List that they have.)

Hi Ben, This gentleman's name came up in some e-mail correspondence with yet another former AFTACer. I don't see him on the list, Arnold Brauer, Aurora, CO. The other guy is Steve Fisher, former "B," was on Attu, in from '60 - '80, now lives in Connecticut. Bill Harris, (bharris4@ ix.netcom.com) (Ed note: Will get something out to Amie).

Important Dates

Association Board/Membership Meetings

All members and prospective members are encouraged to attend. Meetings are normally scheduled (verify before coming) for the second Monday of each month (dates listed below): WHEN: 1730 (5:30 PM)

WHERE: AFTAC HQ building

HOW: come to the lobby and a Board Member will meet, greet and escort

CALENDAR, 1999

July

12th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

August

9th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

September

13th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

End of Month - Post Monitor mailing

October

MAJOR EVENT

Fall Golf/Get-Together/General Membership meeting (elections) to be announced

November

8th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

December

MAJOR EVENT

AFTAC Winter Social to be announced

13th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

End of Month - Post Monitor mailing

January 2000

MAJOR EVENT

SnowBall II (social event), NCO Club to be announced

Shopping Center

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

Include additional \$3.00 for shipping and handling*

*no shipping and handling charged on logo pins

Thanks for your support!!

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE (as of 25 May 1999)

PURCHASED WITH ALUMNI FUNDS-Multi Color Logo

MED LG XL XXL

JACKETS - Unlined/Royal Blue - \$20 2 2 0 1

GOLF SHIRTS - with pocket - \$14

Sea Teal (aqua blue)	1	5	3	2
Jade (medium green)	1	3	2	2
Navy	2	1	2	5
Red	2	2	0	2
White	1	0	0	2
Royal Blue	2	1	1	2
Teal (dark aqua)	2	0	0	2
Maroon	1	1	4	2

T-SHIRTS - without pocket - \$7.00

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

HATS - \$6.00 - # MISCELLANEOUS

Green	10	Ceramic Mugs (\$7)	2
Gray	9	50th Commem. Coins (\$3)	~270
Red	10	Logo Pins (\$3.25)	~95
Royal Blue	8	Logo Disks (\$5.50)	~60
Light Blue	13	Alumni License Plate, \$7-members	
Navy	9	\$/10-nonmembers	12

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

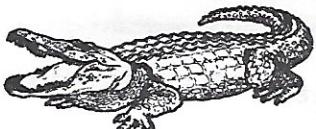
HATS - Cotton - \$5.00 Medium Blue: 1

7

~~~~~

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

Sagey sez



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

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

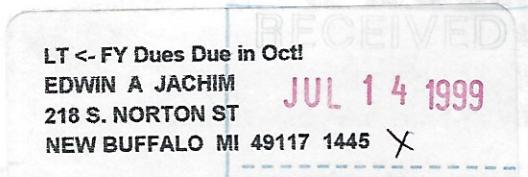
- |         |   |                                                                                                      |
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| Page 8  | - | Monitoring Active-Duty Doins'                                                                        |
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Technical data - issue size, ~60mb, prepared on an IBM Aptiva E56 (266MHz/48MB & 4GB/56Khz/24xCD-ROM) with a Zip 100 parallel drive using MSPub97 software; scanning done on a Mustek 600 IIIEP, printed on a Hewlett Packard DeskJet 682C; preparation/input/proofing time by the editors is in the neighborhood of 100 enjoyable hours, a figure that does not include the unknown hours of preparation and typing/proofing/folding/labeling/mailing by individual contributors/assistors on their articles/inputs and delivery...mystery Sage is of course Tom Ciambrone

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

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



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