

# POST-MONITOR

VOL 29 – ISSUE 01

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

2021-04



## The Alumni Anthem

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

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

## Long-Range Detection

denotes and represents all  
who served the mission  
throughout its inception and  
history. Recognized for 70  
years of service to our  
country September 16<sup>th</sup>

**1947 – 2017**

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



## SAGE SALUTE

### 2020 ALUMNI OF THE YEAR – ED LINDSAY

(Submitted by Phil Godfrey,  
AFTACAA President)

February 26, 2021, was a  
memorable day for **CMSgt**

**(Ret) Ed Lindsay.** On stage in front of a “safety crowd” of around 50, and an online Zoom teleconference of hundreds of current and former AFTAC members, he beamed with pride as he accepted his AFTAC Alumni of the Year Award. The AFTAC Commander, Col Katherine Barber, delivered his well-deserved trophy with a smile and an elbow bump, and he turned to the crowd at the Patrick Space Force Base Theater, pausing for a photo and a smile from his daughter, who was in attendance. Amid the roaring applause, Ed exited the stage, trophy in hand, reflecting on months of dedicated work for the Alumni Association.

Yes, Ed is our **2020 AFTAC Alumni of the Year**. This is no easy award to get, and the countless hours Ed has dedicated this year to picking up responsibility for the Sage Shop, and learning the ropes as our newest Webmaster (and so much more), Ed has really kept the skids greased on a challenging year for the Association's critical missions.

Ed's selection was announced at our February teleconference meeting, and watching the emotions take their turns across his face was an experience to be remembered. Shock. Glee. More shock. Misty eyes.

(continued – pg 3)

## **\*\* Sage ALERTS –WHAT'S COMING UP \*\***

### **GOLF- N' GETTOGETHER** –

Unfortunately, Golf-N'-Gettogethers are on hold until after the Pandemic.

### **MONTHLY MEETINGS** –

Generally on the second Monday of the month at 4 PM. These meetings are currently being conducted as Tele-Conference Meetings. If you would like to participate, please contact our AFTACAA President Phil Godfrey at [afsophil@gmail.com](mailto:afsophil@gmail.com) or call **Phil at 321-446-8775**

See page 23 for schedule of upcoming meetings.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please check the [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) web site or POC (below) for the latest schedule plans.

**POC: Sean Ryan/Treasurer, Publicity/Social Functions,** for the Florida AFTAC Alumni Association – [oceanblueview@yahoo.com](mailto:oceanblueview@yahoo.com) or 321-591-9053 (unlisted)

\*\*\*\*\*

## **COCOA BEACH AIR SHOW**

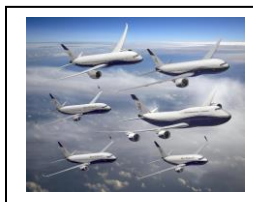
Saturday, 17 April and Sunday, 18 April 2021

Lori Wilson Park, Cocoa Beach, FL

Gates Open 0900 - Show Time 1200

Ticket sales are **online only**

See Website to volunteer/attend



ASSOCIATION Information *Deceased, (D)*

**Honor Roll: Alumni Of The Year Recipients (25)**

Ed Lindsay/2020-Bryce Dunn/2019-Pete Gilbert/2018-John Kemna/  
2017-Carol Snyder/2016-Frank Calenda/2015-Sean Ryan/2014  
Lonnie Gibbons/2013-Gene & Dee Melchior/2012-  
Dale Klug/2011-Jack Smith (D)/2010-Jack Jackson (D)/2009-  
Bob Wiley/2008-Bill Schmied/2007-Deborah Carson/2006-  
Mike Black/2005-Joe Goldian(D)/2004-Pat Snyder/2003-  
Joe Johnson/2002-Jim Payne (D)/2001 -Ben Vlassick (D)/2000-  
John & Christel (D) Horsch/1999-Frank Hall/1998-  
Judy Milam-Henderson/1997-Carl Gailey (D)/1996-  
Clark Creery (D)/1995

**AFTAC/Long Range Detection (LRD) Alumni Honorarium**

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

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

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

**There is this Association and two Chapters**

**1. Florida 'AFTAC Alumni Association':** (application at the bottom of each page at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) )-**Dues, \$10/FY** (dues due 15 September each year)/**\$75 for life.** Most monthly meetings are at 1600, 2nd Monday each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC HQ (Bldg 10989), or other venue, at Patrick AFB, FL-details, see 'Sage Schedule' on page 22. Contact: Mike **Steskal**, [steskal mike@gmail.com](mailto:steskal mike@gmail.com), mailing address is: **PO Box 254892, Patrick SFB, FL 32925-4892.** The Association has several communications resources, this triannual newsletter, '**Post-Monitor**' (namesake of prior active-duty publication, 'Monitor') & a multi-page Website, see banner on previous page, with assn/alumni news and photos-we provide a '**Breaking News**' service at the website and thru instant notification, what we term, '**eALLert**,' for time sensitive data at <http://groups.google.com/group/aftac-lrd>.

**"PERENNIALS"** *Deceased, (D)* (5+ years board service) Clark Creery (D)-Newsletter, 85/89-95, Pres 94/95, Webpage/Mbrshp, 01/10-Current; Frank Hall, Pres/Vice 89-98/01; Judy Milam-Henderson, Sec 89-06, Pres 04; Eunice Harris (D), Hosp 89-00; Mary Welch (D), Mbrshp 91-99; Carl Gailey (D), Treas 91-99; Swede Swansen, Pub 93-06; John & Christel (D) Horsch, Newsletter since 96; Pat Snyder, 'Insider/Sage Shop' 96-2010, VP 04, Sec 05; Mike Black, Webmaster 96-15; Jim Payne (D), Mbrshp 99-04; Joe Goldian (D), Treas, 03-17; Randy Vlassick, Mbrshp 04-09; Sean Ryan 09-present, Sec-Treas; Steve Revels, Sage Shop, 10- 16; Pete Gilbert, Webmaster, 15-20.

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

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

2

## EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

### FROM THE HORSCH'S MOUTH



I want to start this issue's editorial with congratulations to those alumni recognized for their service and excellence this past quarter. Ed Lindsay was our Alumni of the Year; read about that in our 'Sage

Salute' section (pages 1, 13, & 14) and the 'Wall of Honor' Selectees for 2021, Tony DeMarco, Eunice Harris, and Michael Clark (when available, information on this honor will also be posted to the AFTACAA Website, [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us))

Secondly, I want to thank those of you who recently made the change to the 'electronic PoMo (ePoMo)' available at the website noted above. We now have less than 30 subscribers to the printed copy, realizing a large decrease in our costs to print and mail.

And finally, a few words to update you about a program we have mentioned before and is in the process of being updated by one of our dedicated Alumni Assn members, the '20 Year Wall.' The "Wall" was the brainchild of the AFTAC commander at the time, Col **Shaffer** (94-96), and is intended to honor and recognize those many individuals who devoted more than 20 years to the AFTAC mission. Many eligible people have cooperated and provided their picture and biography to be displayed.

Approximately four years ago, Tony DeMarco, SMSgt Retired, volunteered to research and develop postings of those individuals who served with AFTAC for 20 years or longer and who were not presently listed on our website. With the advent of the improved Alumni Website, it was decided that these postings would be put on that site for everyone to view. You can view those posts at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) and click on the menu item: **Wall 20 Year.** Currently the Wall Careers count is 115. AFTAC today is what individuals like you helped make it...a state of the art technical marvel and the envy of both friend and foe. We all thank you for your dedicated service, and the world has you to thank for helping make it a safer place. (NOTE: This update originated as an eALLert from Frank Calenda)

(continued Pg 3)

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

## **SAGE SALUTE – 2020 ALUMNI OF THE YEAR – ED LINDSAY** (continued from Pg 1)

Gratitude. Above all, Gratitude. That's Ed Lindsay, and has been the cornerstone of his humble leadership since he swore the oath. Ed runs on service to others, having served in positions of leadership for 30 years – even a stint as our Association President. So this was an easy call.

Thanks go to Bob Wiley, who leads our AOY process and selection committee. Bob, Angelina (Ed's daughter) and I were in the Theater celebrating along with Ed. We wish you all could have been there!

(see more, **plus Ed's response** – Pgs 13-14)



## **EDITORIALLY SPEAKING – FROM THE HORSCH'S MOUTH** (continued from Pg 2)

If you are eligible, please consider adding your picture and biography to the collection by contacting Tony, [ynotba@aol.com](mailto:ynotba@aol.com) for further information. Enjoy the issue.



## **FROM THE TOP – MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ:**

Greetings Fellow Alumni! What a year 2020 was. House arrest will not be fondly remembered, but we learned much about vaccines, masks, elections, and casting glances at those who dare to cough in public – the noise casting disquiet as

we try to weave our way through the grocery store unscathed. It will get better. It is getting better, more “back to normal” as more of us steel ourselves for the jab of a COVID shot, our armor. Now if we could only lose the dad-blamed mask!

We look forward to a new year of hope and herd immunity. Yes, we had to postpone our 2021 Worldwide Reunion for fear the COVID heebie-jeebies would keep too many of us away from gatherings. Have no fear, fellow AFTACians, we've already begun planning for 2022 – and we're hoping to make it heebie-jeebie free.

We also held our first in-person Quarterly Meeting in March. Undaunted and heroic, many of our members witnessed Ed Lindsay receive the honor of 2020 Alumni of the Year. His radiant glow was a sight to behold, as it was when he formally accepted the award in the Patrick Space Force Base (yep, Space Force) theater. At our meeting, he spoke us warmly and we celebrated along with him. Ed is truly deserving, and I'm honored to have served with him on active duty and here in the Alumni Association.

Another wonderful development is the addition of three new members to the AFTAC Wall of Honor. Displayed in the main entrance hallway of the HQ building are the names of a very select list of individuals who have made a tremendous impact on the AFTAC Mission. Names like Ciambone, Singlevich, Northrup adorn the wall. Well now we can include SMSgt Tony De Marco, SMSgt Michael P. Clark, and Mrs. Eunice P. Harris. These patriots each made unique and vital contributions to the mission over multiple decades of faithful service. Their ceremony will be announced soon. I was there when Col Barber revealed this year's honorees, and the cheers were loud and proud!

Well I've rambled on enough. There's good stuff in this PoMo edition, and I expect a full report once you've read it all. Now, get ta' reading!

Your friend, Phil Godfrey, AFTACAA President



## **FACEBOOK ALERT** by George Cronin, Facebook Entry, '99105 ...'

### **“Hiroshima 1945 - The British Atomic Attack” U-TUBE**

This is the story of the secret 'Black Lancasters', a specially trained RAF unit that was to drop the atomic bomb on Hiroshima on 6 August 1945. Why? Because the American B-29 Superfortress couldn't do it! Find out how this extraordinary situation arose and how the Americans managed to perform the mission in the end.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5XX9ptCNpik>



## **PROGRAMS THE AFTAC ALUMNI SPONSORED, ATTENDED, OR CONTRIBUTED TO:**

Submitted by Frank Calenda

Volunteering as Security Guards at the UCF football games and donating the wages to the Booster Club

Volunteering to work at the Daytona 500 races and donating the wages to the Booster Club

Participating in the Winter Social and providing a basket, funded with our budget, with the proceeds going to the Booster club

Attending the Outback Wind-downs and periodically supplying the beer keg.

Participates in the Toilet Bowl and providing beer, manning the beer service, which required us to attend a training class, and umpiring the games

Hosts the Annual Alumni Snowball, which is generally attended by the Commander, the Vice, the Chief, the Historian (Dr. Young; who incidentally has been a continuous supporter of the Alumni), and also many active-duty personnel.

Always had knowledge through Carol Snyder, of special events being held that could include the Alumni. We need a point of contact within the building who can keep us apprised of happenings (i.e., we received late notification of the Pumpkin toss and couldn't get out timely notification to our members. Recently, there was a pie throwing contest. Usually, we'd be notified in such happenings and would have probably provided a face for a pie).

Not more than 4 years ago, we would always see the Commander, Vice Commander or the Chief at our monthly meetings. They are now being conducted via video conference.

CMSgt Ed Lindsay, Ret, has been setting up Golf Tournaments for Alumni and Active duty. These get-togethers always included a dinner after the game, prize awards and a lot of comradery.

Every six years the Florida Alumni hosts a world-wide Alumni reunion to which our active duty personnel were invited and many attended. Our last reunion garnered over 250 people from 45 states and two from overseas.

Each Christmas the Alumni would be included in the Open House festivities to which many of our out-of-town members traveled to.

We have provided artifacts of past equipment, pictures and documentation for the Heritage Hall.

We attended the AFTAC Awards ceremonies and our Alumni of the Year was awarded by the Commander along with the Active duty personnel.

We would participate in the annual AFTAC picnics and provide beer and manning of the beer station.

The Alumni would forward money for various needs of the Booster Club. This money was usually repaid but we did it to help them out.

AFTAC decided that they wanted to build a Memorial for those AFTAC members, and sometime their families, that died while serving with the unit. Since an active duty organization could not do this due to AF Regulations, we were asked to undertake the project. Maj Seiler became the project manager, established a corporation and dealt with all the government paper work necessary to make this a reality. It's now up and running and are in dire need of donations. I have asked many active-duty AFTAC'ers if they've heard about this and they haven't.

We provided our newsletter, the Post Monitor, free of charge to the organization for many years. This publication is full of AFTAC news, events and articles of history.

We, for years, published Susan Romano's articles on our website that boasts 1000's of readers. We also have maintained an archive of her stories for people to view when they want.

When the very popular hockey games were being played, we sent alerts to our local members on behalf of AFTAC hoping to increase their attendance.

(continued on Pg 22)





## **THE AFTAC MEMORIAL**

By Lou Seiler, President AFTAC Memorial Corporation  
Email - [lseiler@cfl.rr.com](mailto:lseiler@cfl.rr.com)

The AFTAC memorial Corporation (AFTACMC) (a Florida non-profit 501(C)3 corporation) has for the past 32 months been conducting a fund raising to construct a memorial to those AFTACers who have passed away while serving in AFTAC. The proposed design has previously been published in the Post Monitor and is on the AFTAC Web Site (AFTACAA.US). When we began the process there was a large voicing of approval and comments of "when can we contribute?." Well, that time has definitely here!



In total, 56 donations have been received to date in support the building of the memorial. Individual donors number 49 and 7 are organizations. The individual donations range from \$30.00 to \$10,150.00. Organization donations range from \$300.00 to \$10,000.00. The FL Alumni Chapter numbers around 583, CO Chapter around 100 and CA Chapter around 140 members. The e-all (email roster) has approximately 1100 listings.

As of the date of this article, the AFTACMC has approximately \$43,000.00 in the building fund (including two pledges). The estimated cost to build the proposed Memorial is \$150,000 to \$180,000. So you can see we are still a long way off.

I know that many, if not all, have very fond memories of their time in AFTAC, many with their entire military and/or civilian service time in AFTAC. Many of you have known and/or have served with those members who have died while working at AFTAC.

So once again we ask each of you to look deep into your heart and soul, as well as your checkbook to consider a donation to make this Memorial happen. It can only happen with YOUR help.

Donations in any amount are appreciated, the designation levels are \$1-\$149 – Donor, \$150-999- Brick , \$1000-2400- Bronze, \$2500-\$4999- Silver, \$5000-\$9999- Gold, and \$10,000-up – Platinum Donations for any amount can be made by a check made out to "AFTAC Memorial Corporation" and mailed to

AFTAC Memorial Corporation  
P.O. Box 372012  
Satellite Beach, FL 32937

Or you may also go to the website <https://brickmarkersusa.com/donors/aftacmc.html>

From there you may download a donation form, order a brick on-line, or make a donation only, and pay through PayPal using your credit card or through your own PayPal account.

We are asking for your help to build a lasting Memorial to the men and women who have served AFTAC for the past 73 years, and continuing into the future. It is your decision to make!



## **BOOK REVIEW:**

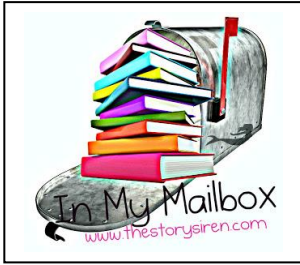
### ***It Spied on Soviet Atomic Bombs. Now It's Solving Ecological Mysteries***

Imagery from the Cold War's Corona satellites is helping scientists fill in how we have changed our planet in the past half century.

Submitted by **Lawrence T O'Toole** – through AFTAC Alumni of the World United FACEBOOK Page January 2021

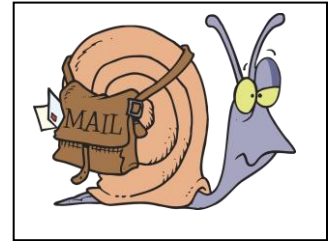
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/05/science/corona-satellites-environment.html?fbclid=IwAR2aMSb8UQIG2d756VHrROHPwRwpLwnk3V3wMua213sC2FLCeq3rDm9q4us>





## **MAIL CALL**

Any requests for action should be sent to  
**AFTAC Alumni Association (AFTACAA)**  
**PO Box 254892**  
**Patrick Space Force Base, FL 32925-4892**



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

### **MESSAGE FROM AFTAC MEMBER WHO SERVED 1955-1957**

Submitted by Wildon (Bill or Blackie) Blackburn, Nuclear Physics Technician to AFTACAA President, Phil Godfrey:

Hi Phil – I chatted with you a couple weeks ago re my time with the 1009<sup>th</sup> Special Weapons Group, and spending my time mostly in the Lab Analysis TOD, McClellan, AFB. I am now a Lifetime Member of AFTAC (Alumni Assn) and I really enjoy the Post-Monitor, and have saved most of them.

I want to keep getting the paper copies and am enclosing payment for the “prior to Jan 31,” but also realize another \$10 would be due in Oct 2021, so am making a check for \$20 to cover all this year. I hope that doesn't cause problems with accounting.

I was at McClellan from early 1955 until Nov, 1957. Back then we used the ‘new’ MEW particle counters, ‘Frieden’ and ‘Marchetti’ hand calculators, and were kept pretty busy with 24/7 crews and doing ‘Least Square’ analysis almost instantly.

I will try to get some background info to you that may of interest to folks who came much later. Anyhow – thanks, and I'll try not to procrastinate too long!

NOTE: I sent this to a contact at the 1155, Bob Fitzgerald for technical look-see and any other info he'd like to add. Bob wrote back:

Soon after I got to MCL in July 1964, I learned to use an old “Cleary” calculator mounted in a large desk, which was programmable via patch cables. That old/slow thing was not being used much and was soon replaced by slide-rules and 200-step programmable printing calculators, for which we were able to write a “least square analysis” program. The three of us NCO's in MCL's Lab Ops section in 1965, ([I forget the NCOIC MSgt's name], George Noell & myself) used those programmable calculators to do least squares while working for/reporting to Col Robert McBryde and Col William Auth. Col McBryde could do a least-squares analysis on a slide rule faster and to more accuracy than we could do one using the ‘new’ calculators. ☺

\*\*\*\*\*

### **JERRY RICE'S SON**

Submitted by Phil Godfrey, President, AFTAC Alumni Association, 16 March 2021:

Many of you may remember serving with SMSgt Jerry Rice, who retired in 2015. Jerry has recently experienced one of the hardest losses imaginable - the loss of his Son. **Justin Rice**, aged 17, tragically and suddenly passed away on Saturday, March 13, 2021 due to complications from an airway blockage while eating a meal at school. Although Justin battled a rare genetic disorder his whole life, he was a bright, happy shining light in the world who brought so much joy to his parents and anyone who ever met him. He enjoyed learning new things, helping others, and loved to laugh. Now free from any earthly limitations, Justin smiles down upon us from Heaven as he wraps himself in the love of those who preceded him in death, especially Grandma Bair.

For funeral information, please see <https://www.grantfuneralservices.net/obituary/justin-rice?lud=310841A917BDF6B04336F74F20B164FA>



\*\*\*\*\*

## **MESSAGE FROM A MEMBER**

Submitted by Tom Crooks, 9 January 2021

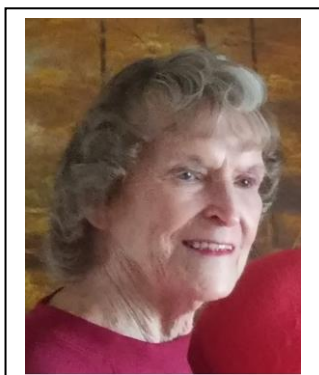
Please ensure future issues of the Post Monitor Newsletter are sent to me via email. My email address is [tcrooksjr@gmail.com](mailto:tcrooksjr@gmail.com).

I greatly enjoy the Newsletter, and appreciate that AFTAC continues to be a super organization which does the job right the first time and takes care of its people. After basic Communications-Electronics school, I completed the OZR 3044 course at Lowry AFB, spent one year at Det 215, three years at Lowry AFB as an instructor in the OZR course, and two years at the 1158 TOS; I was Project Officer for unit deactivation. The experience and lessons learned in AFTAC were most valuable and served me well the rest of my USAF career. Keep up the good work, and Godspeed ahead,



## **OBITUARIES**

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



### **MILDRED E. ANDERSON**

26 October 1935 - 3 October 2020

Millie was born in Hancock, Michigan. In her junior high school year, 1952, she met Dick Anderson and they were wed on May 28, 1955. Dick was a USAF pilot for 20 years and had many missions that took him to "faraway places with strange sounding names." Millie manned the home front during those times. In 1973, Millie took a job with the State of California. Upon retiring from the AF in 1974, Dick also worked for the State of California. In December 1986, they both retired from State service. In later years they purchased a motor home and made annual trips to their childhood homes in Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Millie is survived by her husband (Dick), daughter Jan Deakle,

son and daughter-in-law Leif and Lisa Anderson, and six grandchildren. Their son Andy preceded her in death. Dick was an aircraft commander on the WC-135 at the 55th Weather Squadron before his transfer to the 1155<sup>th</sup> TOS. He also served at AFTAC Hq.

(Contacted by **Bob Fitzgerald**, Webmaster, CA Chapter, <http://www.aftacwcc.org/index.htm>, passing along information from husband, **Richard 'Dick' Anderson**, Major USAF Ret.)

Additional information is posted on the AFTACAA Website, [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us)

\*\*\*\*\*



### **ROY K. BERTELMANN**

1 October 1926 – 23 March 2021

Roy K. Bertelmann of Saginaw passed away suddenly on March 23, 2021. . He was drafted into the U.S. Army Infantry at the age of 18, three years after the attack on Pearl Harbor. At the age of 19, he transferred to the Army Air Corp, and served as a control tower operator in Hawaii, Kwajalein, Guam, and Japan.

Roy married Velma Ruth Cleaver in 1948, and they recently celebrated their 73rd anniversary. Roy continued in service to his country as an electronic specialist until he was honorably discharged in 1968 with the rank of Master Sergeant.

Roy is survived by his wife Velma and their children: Reva (Dan) Binning, Alton (Nancy) Bertelmann, and Jim (Faye) Bertelmann of Saginaw, 5 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren

Full Obituary at <https://biggersfh.com/obituary/roy-bertelmann/>

\*\*\*\*\*

## JOSEPH BOROWSKI

Died March 2021

(From Facebook Posting, March 2021)

Be with God. "Day is done, gone the sun, From the lake, from the hill, from the sky. All is well, safely rest God is nigh. Fading light, dims the sight, And a star gems 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." Joe was surrounded by loved ones and prayers, near and far when God called him.

[Contacted by **Bob Fitzgerald**, CA Chapter Webmaster, <http://www.aftacwcc.org/>, passing along information from **Charlie Penn**, in January 2021: "More sad news: Just got off the phone with **Joe Borowski** and he has entered hospice. He has been fighting a bad ticker and the "big C" for years and was told by his doctors there is nothing more they can do. Joe retired as an E-8 and was in ATAC for his 20+ years. I know him from when he transferred from the closing F troop and cross trained into airborne. He and I have been close ever since. I asked his permission to publish his phone number (**208-629-3590**) he would love to hear from any and all AFTAC friends. I know he and his wife, Cathy, would appreciate the effort...."]

\*\*\*\*\*



### CLARK CREERY

**Submitted by his wife, Ruth Creery:**

"My darling husband Clark Creery died last night (2021.03.28.) He fought dementia for 6 years. He put me through school and was always by my side. We fought the good fight and it was a battle Royal. He'd ask me why I was caring for him and over and over I'd tell him because I loved him and that was what wives did. We had hoped to celebrate our 25th Anniversary in August. He held on as long as he could. He was such a loving and kind soul. He did not suffer fools. Sleep in peace my darling. I love you."



#### **Memorial Tribute by Tony DeMarco:**

"Sadly, this past Sunday, 2021.03.28, AFTAC and our Alumni Association lost a special 99125 as Clark finally lost his battle with the many medical issues he was facing. Luckily for me, I had been in contact with Ruth and I managed to visit with Clark the week prior on Wed. We had a nice two hour visit with many TDY "War Stories" passed back and forth. I had known Clark for just under 50 years and worked with him out at Depot LGEQ from early 1972 until the "Q-4" was shut down in the summer of 1975. Clark then opted to continue his Career out in the regular AF until he was called back into AFTAC to support the new planned "J" Technique. In 1978, I again worked with Clark as he led the combined HQ and Depot team that performed the "J" Technique Worldwide Site Surveys. Many many good memories for sure and Clark will be missed.... RIP my friend."

#### **Additional Memorial Tribute by Judy Henderson:**

I never knew Clark until I joined the Alumni Association, but I had the pleasure to work with him as he served the Association as President, Membership Chair, and in many other ways. In case you didn't already know, Clark was the first Alumni of the Year – 1995 – an award he certainly deserved. He will be missed.

\*\*\*\*\*



### DAVID J. DANIELS, JR

Died – 18 January 2021

Maj David J Daniels served his country in the USAF with pride for 21 years. Following his retirement from the AF, he spent several decades teaching mathematics at the Florida Institute of Technology and the Eastern Florida State College (formerly Brevard Community College). Maj Daniels is survived by sons David J. Daniels, III, of Indialantic, FL; Mark B. Daniels of Newport News, VA, and Scott E. Daniels of West Palm Beach, FL.

Online condolences may be left at [beachfuneralhome.com](http://beachfuneralhome.com). Full obituary at <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/david-daniels-obituary?pid=197593304>





## STEVEN LAWRENCE ELLINGSON

24 September 1943 – 29 August 1993

Steven Lawrence Ellingson died at his home in Sacramento, CA. Steven was born in Williston, ND. He enlisted in the US Air Force, specializing in the electronics field. He married Betty Jo Zine in 1967; they lived at various locations, including Alaska. Steven served his country in the USAF 14½ years, and then 10 years as a civilian employee in the Technical Operations Division of McClellan AFB in Sacramento. Mr. Ellingson is survived by his wife, Betty Jo Ellingson, 3 brothers, and 1 sister.

\*\*\*\*\*



## THOMAS J. HUMPHREY

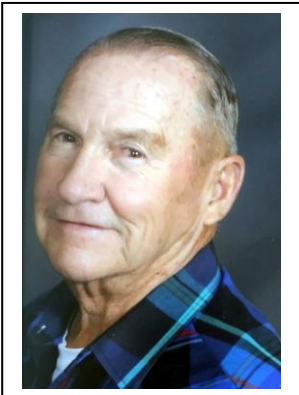
11 March 1943 – 2 July 2020

Thomas J. Humphrey of Manchester, Michigan, passed away at his home; he was born in Albion, Michigan. He was in the USAF for six years during Vietnam, where he served on the specialty team. He graduated from Wayne State University with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering. Tom had lived in the area for nearly 40 years. He worked for Consumers Energy in Jackson for 30 years, retiring in 2001. He loved all things "techy" from a very young age, whether it was electronics, the newest gadget, or SciFi. He also enjoyed woodcarving and watching his grandchildren play football. He married Betty J. Rodriguez in Denver, CO, in 1965, and she survives. Also surviving are

two children, Tammy (Matthew) Mason of Chelsea and Todd C. Humphrey of Ypsilanti, and 4 grandchildren.

(Contacted by Bob Fitzgerald, Webmaster, CO Chapter Website, <http://www.aftacwcc.org/index.htm>, passing along information from James Giordano. Following contact, an obituary was located, <https://obits.mlive.com/obituaries/jackson/obituary.aspx?n=thomas-humphrey&pid=196442116&fhid=25498> and follows. Jim sent along this note: " ... Tom served in AFTAC as an SEO for 6 years in the 1960's.")

\*\*\*\*\*



## LEROY FRANCIS KRETZSCHMAR

9 December 1935 - 8 August 2020

Mary Kretzchmar wrote: "Leroy died August 8 of this year from severe heart problems. He had heart attacks in 1984 and 1993 – and then nothing till June 25. Things went downhill really fast after that. I dearly miss him, but can't bring him back."

Leroy spent 22 years serving our country – approximately half in each of the Army and Air Force. He had tours of duty in Ankara, Turkey; Madrid, Spain; Fairbanks AK; Korea; and Vietnam, in addition to several stateside assignments. Following his years of service, he attended four years of college, then worked in the San Joaquin County Veteran's Service Office, in Stockton, CA, until he retired in 1993. He is survived by his wife, Mary,

and children Kathryn (Jim) Gilfillan, Richard (Julie) Kretzschmar, Theresa (Richard) Roberts, Michael (Diana) Kretzschmar, son-in-law, Tom Laney, 14 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren

(Contacted by Dave Hursey passing along information from Mary (spouse). Dave added information about Leroy known to him: "Leroy and Mary had moved to Colorado Springs a couple years back. He had come to AFTAC around 1961 or so and was originally trained in "R" systems and then directly into Z as it was just coming on line at the time. He spent his tour in Ankara and then ended up back in Denver as his transition back to the Army Warrant Officer Program was delayed. He was trained in Z2 and was just beginning to prep for Instructor Training at Lowry when his papers came through for the AWO program. Leroy was one of only a few Airmen who was authorized to wear the Army's Riflemen's badge on his USAF uniform.")

(Full Obituary at <https://obituaries.neptunesociety.com/obituaries/arvada-co/leroy-kretzschmar-9304702> )

\*\*\*\*\*



## JOHN EDWARD LANIGAN

Age 91, or Yuba City, CA, passed away on  
17 December 2020

[Notified by his son – “Hello to all of John’s friends, I am saddened to have to say these words; John has come home to his father, our savior, today, December 17, Year of our Lord 2020. He is survived by his wife Dorothy and his 3 children, and 3 grandchildren, two stepson and their families, and many, many loving friends. He is missed and will be missed by all of us.]



\*\*\*\*\*



## DIANA LEPUS

1940 – 2021 (age 80)

Diana Lepus died at her home in Aurora, CO. She is survived by Frank, her husband of 59 years, two children, seven grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. Diana was a homemaker and, when her children were older, was employed as a teacher’s aide for the Aurora Public School system. Upon retirement she volunteered her time assisting teachers and students at St. Pius X Catholic School in Aurora, CO, for 17 years.

Full obituary at <https://www.horancares.com/obituary/Diana-Lepus>

Submitted by Bryce Dunn and Bill Schmied, CO AFTAC Alumni Chapter.

\*\*\*\*\*

## JAMES JOSEPH “JIM” MADIGAN

31 December 1936 to 19 August 2019

[Notified by his son, Damian -- I am sorry to inform you that Dad passed away August 19, 2019. He was very proud of his military service and his career with AFTAC. He is interred at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery. Here’s a link to his obituary if you would like to share it in the newsletter. <https://beachfuneralhome.com/tribute/details/181799/James-Jim-Madigan/obituary.html#tribute-start> ]

Jim Madigan, "Pepe", was a dedicated father, grandfather, and great grandfather who served his country through the USAF for 23 years; spanning multiple combat deployments to Southeast Asia, European overseas tours, and continued federal service after retirement from active duty resulting in over 35 years of service to his country. He was a life-long learner, achieving a Bachelors of Science degree from Rollins College. His love for his country was only rivaled by his love for his family, golfing, running, and telling a good joke.

Jim is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 53 years, Lucille; his son Damian & Cynthia Madigan; daughter Colonel Virginia & Brooks Garner, USAF; son Major James & Jessica Madigan Jr., USA; Sons in Law MSgt. (Ret) Spencer Long, USAF, and MSgt (Ret) Eddie Marcus, USAF; 13 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

\*\*\*\*\*

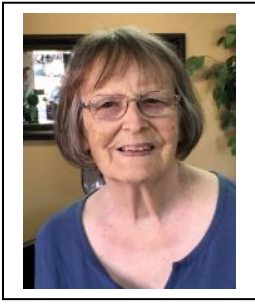
## DAVID MAPPS

(Contacted by Tess Ailshire, AFTACAA Member and Manager, FB Act, 'AFTAC Alumni of the world unite!' on 2 February 2021)

If you remember Sgt David Mapps, who was admin for Capt Dudley Townsley and, perhaps, Maj Gordon Mann, at the 3454th in the early 80s. David was also at HQ, in XP I believe. He was at the 3454th when I was there 81-84. His assignment to HQ was after that.

I learned the other day that David passed in December 2010, from a brain tumor that metastasized. He was living in Phoenix, AZ, and had friends with him when he went. He predeceased both his parents. They lived in Pueblo, CO.

\*\*\*\*\*



## MARJORIE MARSHALL

1 May 1938 – 6 January 2021

Marjorie was born in London England. She was a homemaker and is remembered by her family as being very smart and always happy – she could often be found singing while cleaning and cooking. Marjorie is survived by: her husband of 53 years, Austin Marshall; her children, Keith Marshall (Sherry), and Cyndi Marshall, as well as three children who live in Australia, Mark Atkinson (Sue), Sean Atkinson, and Terri Sims (Mick); and 4 grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a granddaughter.

(Don Dike posted on "AFTAC Alumni of the World United" Facebook page: "Marjorie Marshall, wife of Austin Marshall, passed away Jan 6th, 2021. I know Austin was in Hawaii as well as at Det 426. Austin and I shared an apt. at 426. I was a 99125Zc5. Marje met Marshall when he was at 426 and he sent for her when he got to Hawaii.")

Full Obituary at <https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/19542634/Marjorie-Phyllis-Marshall/Richmond/Kentucky/Combs-Parsons-Collins-Funeral-Home>

\*\*\*\*\*

## JURELL MOXLEY

(Contacted by Bill Schmied, CO Chapter Treasurer, passing along information from Frank Lepus.)

Shockingly sad news: Notified by Frank Lepus that Jurell Moxley unexpectedly passed away on Thursday, 28 January 2021, due to an aortic aneurysm. Mox was a 99125Q troop and served overseas at two detachments. In 1965 he was a tech writer working for Chuck Toner upstairs in Bldg 358. In 1968 he was a Q instructor in Bldg 359 where Frank Lepus was one of his students. We believe he retired from the AF in the early seventies and has been a member of the Colorado AFTAC Alumni for the past 30 years. He was the Echoes Newsletter editor for many years until he had to retire from that position due to eye difficulties.

\*\*\*\*\*



## JOHN NEDERHOED, CMSgt (Ret)

Died January 2021

It is with deep sadness that I pass along the news that John peacefully passed away surrounded by his wife and son. His daughter Katie was brought to the house to say her goodbyes and his son, Keith, is flying in this morning.

[Contacted by Phil Godfrey, AFTACAA President, passing along information from **Kevin Callan**, AFTAC/ XPM, 6 January 2021: For those that do not know John, he was the AFTAC Superintendent (Cmd Chief) and a seasoned 9S100 mentor for many years. John had been very involved with the Space Coast Honor Flight over the last several years as a Board Member and Director of Veteran Programs.]

\*\*\*\*\*

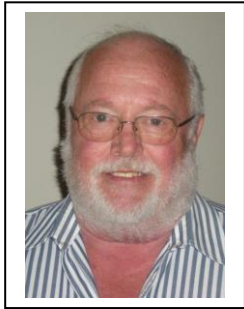
## ROBERT OSBORNE

Died 5 May 2020

"A bit of sad news, Robert (Bob) Osborne (MSgt Ret) died on May 5th last year. I know he had a number of serious health issues. Bob Osborne worked in Chemistry in the lab at Tech Ops/TOD. I met him again several times years ago when he and his son worked part-time at a gas station on the corner of Elkhorn Blvd & Walerga in No Highlands. I do remember him showing up at a picnic right after McClellan closed, he retired in Dec 1987."

(Contacted by Bob Fitzgerald, Webmaster, CA Chapter, <http://www.aftacwcc.org>, passing along information from Dale Klug, Member, CA Chapter. No obituary was located.)

\*\*\*\*\*

**PHILLIP LEWIS REYNOLDS**

1 August 1939 – 15 December 2020

**RUTH ANN REYNOLDS**

8 February 1939 – 28 January 2020

Colonel Phillip Lewis Reynolds died December 15, 2020, due to complications related to the coronavirus. His wife, Ruth Ann, died 28 January 2020 after a long fight with cancer.



Phil served in the USAF from 1961 until 1987 with assignments at several US bases and overseas, including England, Korea, and Germany. He retired at Patrick Air Force Base in Florida. Upon retiring from the Air Force, Phil and Ruthie returned to Fulton, Missouri, where he became the Director of Alumni and Parent Relations at Westminster.

Phil is survived by his daughter Susan Kathleen (Mrs. John "Bill" Geiger) of Spring Branch, Texas; five grandchildren; and three great grandsons. In addition to his parents and wife, Phil was pre-deceased by his son James David Reynolds, who died in December of 2019.

See full obituaries at:

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/fulton-mo/philip-reynolds-9949643>

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/fulton-mo/ruth-reynolds-9016301>

[Notified by Don Whitney]

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUE ELLEN SCHMIED**

11 June 1946 – 22 February 2021

Sue Ellen Schmied passed away peacefully at her home in Aurora, CO, with her husband, William "Bill" and children, Jeb and Stacia at her side. Born in Kalispell, Montana, Sue was forever a small town Montana girl.

Sue met and fell in love with Bill and they married in Big Fork, Montana, in December 1966. Bill, an Airman in the Air Force stationed in Lakeside, Montana, swept her off her feet and into the adventures of a military wife. With multiple assignments in the Philippines, Japan, Denver, North and South Carolina, they landed permanently at Lowry Air Force Base in Denver,

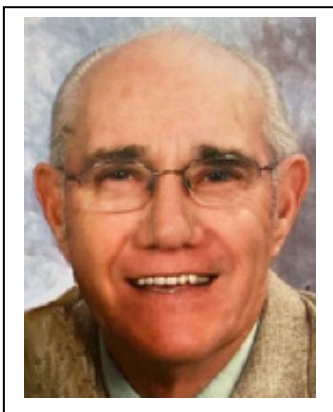
Colorado, in 1983 and made their home in Aurora. After being settled in with family and raising their two children, she began volunteering with the Aurora Public Schools at Montview Elementary School and found a love for working in education. Volunteering turned into employment as a Para Professional at both Montview and then North Middle School. Sue later became the librarian at North Middle and then retired after 20 years of service in 2005.

Full Obituary available at <https://www.horancares.com/obituary/Sue-Schmied>

[Contacted by George Cronin advising of Maureen Menke Hampson's posting on Facebook Website, 'AFTAC DP'ers.]

I don't know how many of us may have worked with Chief Bill Schmied but I wanted to pass along the news that his wife, Sue, passed away last evening. Sue had not been in the best of health for a number of years. She contracted a respiratory infection about seven years ago and had been on oxygen since. About a year ago, she was diagnosed with lung cancer which then quickly spread throughout her body. I worked for Chief Schmied (at Det 57 at the school house at Lowry) in the late eighties and reconnected with him several years ago at our parish.]

\*\*\*\*\*

**OTIS STEVENS, JR**

24 December 1940 - January 17, 2021

Otis Stevens, Jr, of Frenchburg, Kentucky, passed away after a brief illness. Otis is survived by his devoted wife, Lyn Coen Stevens, two sons, Michael G. Stevens and wife Kim, Allan J. Stevens and wife Stephanie, four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Otis was a retired Coke (Coca-Cola) Technician and a USAF veteran.



## OTIS STEVENS, JR – Obituary (continued from Pg 12)

Full obituary available at <https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/19668725/Otis-Stevens-Jr>

(Contacted by **Pete Peterson** passing along information as follows, "I have more sad news to report. I received a call from Lynette that Otis Stevens, age 80, who was stationed at Det 426 in Australia from 1964 to 1967, passed away Sunday, January 17, 2021, at home.)

\*\*\*\*\*

### ROBERT "BOB" VOS

16 December 1940 – 10 January 2021

Bob Vos passed away Denver, Colorado . He was born in Saginaw, Michigan. Bob enlisted in the USAF in 1959 and spent most of his time at Lowry AFB, Denver, CO, teaching electronics. Bob was still a member of the AFTAC group up until his departure. While in the Air Force, Bob met his future bride Florence (Flo) Kerber. Bob and Flo were married in 1964. Upon his discharge from the AF, he went to work for USWest/Centurylink as sales rep. for the yellow pages and retired after 37 years with the company. He is survived by Flo, his Michael (Dee), Bradley (Mari) and David (Andrea) and his daughter Danielle, plus grandchildren and a great grandchild. .

Full Obituary and pictures available at <https://allveterans.com/tribute/details/205830/Robert-Bob-Vos/obituary.html>

**Submitted by Bryce Dunn, CO AFTAC Alumni Chapter.** "Notified by Larry Johnston that Bob Vos passed away yesterday, Sunday morning, 10 Jan 2021. Bob was trained as a Q Troop at Spinstra in 1958. He remained there during his 4-year enlistment, and during that time he was involved with developing the resident training course for the Z Technique. He has been a member of our Colorado alumni group for 17 years and he and his wife, Flo, attended many of our events accompanied with Larry and Mary Johnston."



## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

### WORDS FROM ED LINDSAY – 2020 ALUMNI OF THE YEAR:

#### ALUMNI OF THE YEAR AWARD (AOY) (continued from SPOTLIGHT (Pgs 1 & 3)).

As you may know, former AOYs meet annually to select the next AOY. The announcement is generally made at our annual Snowball Dinner, where presentations are made to the recipient, and a group picture is taken of all AOYs in attendance. Because of the COVID-19 restrictions, the annual Snowball was cancelled and our meetings have been via teleconference. The Associations 9 March 2021 meeting was held at a local restaurant, where a small group of members gathered, and several members joined the meeting via teleconference, where presentations were made to Ed, and the group picture of AOYs in attendance was taken. Ed also displayed the trophy presented by the AFTAC Commander, Col Katherine Barber.



Ed Lindsay & Phil Godfrey



Ed Lindsay



Judy Henderson, Ed Lindsay, & Bob Wiley

**In response to being selected as the 2020 Alumni of the Year, Ed Lindsay wrote the following on 22 February 2021:**

"TO: All current AOY honorees,

"First off, I am very humbled by the announcement ...that I was selected as the 2020 AFTAC Alumni of the year. To join this superb group of AFTACers means more to me than you can imagine. I was blessed to work for the organization for most of my career and I remember becoming a lifetime member back in 1995, while stationed at Det 415 in Chiang Mai,

Thailand. It was a way to keep informed on what was happening around the world with AFTAC and I enjoyed reading the Post Monitors. I did not do much with the AFTACAA until I retired in 2013, but since then it has been amazing being part of this special Association.

"Secondly, I have had the blessing to be able to work with many of you while I was on active duty. It was your dedication to the mission and afterwards your serving with the AFTACAA while I was still in uniform, that made me appreciate what a fine group of people you all are and that by some coincidence, I became associated with. I always remember the Alumni at the AFTAC events, serving up cold beverages and warm stories about their time in the Organization. Once I retired and I decided to become more involved, I got to meet many more of you on a different level. I even had the honor to be able to announce some of YOUR names when you were selected as an AOY. That always made me smile and feel happy to see all of your efforts and dedication recognized in that fashion.

"Finally, I do not take this recognition lightly. I know there are many out there that continue to do their best to support and better the AFTACAA, whether it be on the West Coast, in Colorado, or their own little niche of paradise that they decided to settle. I know that there are others more worthy of being selected as an AOY, so that means so much more that I would be the one chosen. I will continue to do what I can to keep the AFTACAA as relevant as possible and keep the association with AFTAC firmly attached. It won't be easy, but easy wasn't always the AFTAC way...just work hard, play hard.

"To be the 2020 honoree is very ironic. What I was hoping for in 2020 was my life to stabilize and get back to some kind of normal. 2019 sucked (except for the great reunion the Colorado Chapter hosted). 2020 came and I never could have anticipated what all of us would encounter. I know it has been tough for many of you. The ability to come together as friends and family has been altered for almost a year now. The AFTACAA has been postponed and the Snowball, where this award would typically be announced, was cancelled. 2020 is a year that will be permanently etched in my mind and soul as a time I never want to experience again. Being the 2020 AOY is the one good thing that I hope can put a positive closure to the year I never want to relive.

"Thank you to all of you for being who you are and all you have done for AFTAC and the AFTAC Alumni Association.  
"Very Respectfully, Ed Lindsay"

\*\*\*\*\*

## **AFTAC ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY**

Playback link video available on AFTACAA Web Site – [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us)

\*\*\*\*\*

## **CONGRATULATIONS, Colonel Steven Gorski**

Submitted by Sean Ryan, 12 February 2021



Colonel Steven Gorski, former AFTAC/CC, has been selected for Brig Gen. Definitely and truly deserving of his selection and honor for the grade! Well earned and deserved.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

All Veterans, their spouses, caregivers can get COVID-19 vaccinations from VA  
<https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/86532/veterans-spouses-caregivers-can-get-covid-19-vaccinations-va>

Veteran discounts available year round – discounts on many items, including

- car purchase, car rental, tires, auto parts
- clothing
- computers and gaming

- education
- entertainment
- eyewear
- financial and insurance
- fitness
- food
- health and beauty
- home and garden
- jewelry
- restaurants
- travel
- wireless and internet
- etc.

<https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/85765/veteran-discounts-available-year-round>

VAntage Blog

<https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage>

## **Discount Passes – Universal Studios**

- 2021 Universal Orlando Parks -- Freedom Pass
  - 2 Park Freedom Pass – \$212.99 – For the whole year!
  - 3 Park Freedom Pass – \$250.20 – For the whole year!

\*\*\*\*\*

## **The Orlando VA Healthcare System is now offering COVID-19 vaccines, as supply allows, to:**

All Veterans (anyone who served in the military regardless of character of discharge) Spouses and surviving spouses of Veterans and Caregivers of Veterans.

For COVID-19 vaccine eligibility, we define a caregiver as a family member or friend who provides care to a Veteran. Caregivers may help a Veteran with personal needs like feeding, bathing, or dressing. They may also help a Veteran with tasks like shopping or transportation.

Recipients of Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) benefits

You can walk-in at the following locations: Daytona, Viera, Lake Baldwin and Lake Nona

Individuals can sign up with the “Keep Me Informed” tool here: [www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/stay-informed](http://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/stay-informed)  
For more information visit: <https://www.orlando.va.gov/services/covid-19-vaccines.asp>

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Premium reductions coming to enrollees of Veterans’ Group Life Insurance**

All veterans insured under Veterans’ Group Life Insurance will receive a reduction in premiums effective April 1, ensuring that VGLI remains a cost effective option for veterans and transitioning uniform service members who choose Department of Veterans Affairs insurance products.

Premiums for VGLI will be reduced by an average of 7% across all age groups — allowing separating service members to continue their Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance coverage level as a renewable term insurance policy after leaving service.

“The reduction in VGLI premiums will make life insurance even more affordable for veterans,” said acting Undersecretary for Benefits Thomas Murphy. “Offering our veterans better rates for their life insurance as they transition to civilian life is just one effort the department is taking to address the needs of our customers.”

While any separating service member who has SGLI coverage upon separation is eligible to sign up for VGLI after separation, they must submit their application and initial premium within 240 days after leaving the military to apply without proof of good health. Those who apply after the 240-day period but before the deadline of one year and 120 days from separation will need to submit proof of good health by completing a questionnaire regarding medical conditions.

Additionally, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, VA is temporarily extending the application deadlines for VGLI by an additional 90 days beyond the initial 240-day period and the one year and 120 day-period, referenced above, to offer more flexibility to separating service members. This enrollment extension will remain in effect until June 2021.

Visit the VGLI website to learn more.



## **A FEW MINUTES FROM THE MINUTES**

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

**Website:** Pete Gilbert reported on the work of changing hosts by moving off GoDaddy and on to HostGator. With this changeover, we will essentially have 4 years of HostGator for the cost of 1 year of GoDaddy. Pete is also investigating the possibility of paying on-line, now that we have a Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) Certificate. Ed Lindsay is now up-to-speed and will be passing information to Pete for posting on the Website. Copies of the missing PoMos have now been received and are posted on the Website.

**2021 Worldwide Reunion (2021 WWR) Postponed:** Sean Ryan reported he continues to expect to start up the planning process for the 2022 WWR in the March/April time frame.

**Membership Report:** Mike Steskal reported that we have 573 members. Concerning Po Mo hardcopy's, as of February 2021, we have had 22 members pay for hardcopies and 124 members have not responded. Additionally, we have 100 members that we have been unable to contact. [NOTE--These members will not be mailed a copy of the April 2021 Pomo.]

**AFTAC Historian:** Mike Young reported he is excited for everyone to see the new heritage room at the planned AFTAC Open House in December. He is also looking forward to finishing his book and having it published.

**Golf Tournament:** Ed Lindsay discussed the possibility of having a golf tournament at the Patrick course which is now open only on a limited basis with no shotgun starts and no buffets after our game. He said that Bay Tree is allowing shotgun starts now so he will check into the cost of having a tournament there, and if allowed what limitations we can expect.



**Board Members** (elected positions)

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

**Appointed --**

Activities-**CMSgt Amy Long**, CCMS, Hall of Heritage-**Mike Young**/CC HO, **Bob Wiley**/Hospitality-**Judy Henderson**, Membership/Master Data Base-**Mike Steskel** Post-Monitor Editor-**John Horsch**, Post Monitor Formatting & Information-**Judy Henderson**, Alumni of the Year Coordinator-**Bob Wiley**, Publicity/Social Functions-**Sean Ryan**, Sage Shop-**Ed Lindsay**,. Webmaster-**Pete Gilbert**, Website Chairman-**Ed Lindsay**, 20-Year Wall Coordinator-**Tony De Marco**.



## **CHAPTER NEWS**

**DEPOT FALLOUT** ~ Excerpts from the AFTAC Alumni West Coast Chapter newsletter. For more information, visit their Web site at [www.AFTACWCC.org](http://www.AFTACWCC.org) -- mail address: AFTACAA-WCC, c/o 6605 Sweet Gum Ct, Citrus Heights, CA 95610.

### **QUARTERLY MEETINGS:**

**Note: Our business meetings are now held at 4:00 PM PDT**

This is so that members from all over the US can attend online at a time more convenient for them

- **Monday, 14 June 2021, 4:00pm Quarterly Business Mtg**

This meeting is currently scheduled for **ONLINE ONLY!** (Using Zoom Meetings)

For Access, go to -- [Webmaster@AFTACWCC.org](mailto:Webmaster@AFTACWCC.org)



## UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS:

### TENTATIVE

**WE HOPE TO HAVE OUR SPRING PICNIC/BBQ ON SATURDAY, MAY 15th, BUT ...  
THERE WILL PROBABLY BE SOME RESTRICTIONS DUE TO COVID, AND ...  
WE MAY HAVE TO POSTPONE IT. SO WATCH OUR "Events" PAGE FOR UPDATES.**

## ON BOARD A B-36 MISSION

*By SEO Don King, Fallout Editor*

There she stood! Longer, taller and wider than any airplane that I had ever seen! B-50's were big, but this staggered the imagination! To think that it took about four hours for the pre-flight briefing gave me an idea of how complex this aircraft and the mission were. Compared with the usual at-the-aircraft briefing and chute checks of the 50, capabilities of this aircraft and our equipment far surpassed it. The previous day I had climbed into the bomb bays to thoroughly inspect and test our sampling equipment. I sure didn't want to board the bird for the mission and find out that something was wrong with it and be the cause of a lengthy delay or have to abort the mission. SAC was not the command that tolerated anything but excellence! And I sure didn't want to try to explain anything like that to my CO! ...

*[If this piques your interest, look for the full article available soon on the West Coast Chapter Web page. It's from the January 2021 issue of the newsletter DEPOT FALLOUT; the full issue is available on the website when the next issue of the FALLOUT is published.]*

\*\*\*\*\*

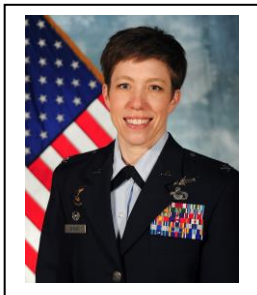
**ECHOES** – News from the AFTAC Alumni Colorado Chapter – [www.aftacco.org](http://www.aftacco.org)

***AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION WEIGHING THE RISK OF EXPOSURE TO COVID19, THE COLORADO CHAPTER STAFF WILL MAKE PLANS FOR ALL 2021 EVENTS CONTINGENT ON THE GUIDELINES ISSUED BY STATE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES.***

**New Officers Needed!** President Bryce Dunn and Vice President Darrel Kline have served the Colorado Chapter for many years. They are ready to pass the torch to new leaders. Please consider volunteering to take these offices. You may contact any of the Staff listed to the left of this request to accept the challenge.



## ***MONITOR*** **ing Active Duty Doins' from around the AFTAC World** ***Command Section***



### **Commander/CC/2020. Col Katherine Barber**

Col Barber assumed command of the Air Force Technical Applications Center on 30 June 2020. Col Barber, a career intelligence officer, comes to AFTAC after serving as commander of the National Air and Space Intelligence Center's Space, Missiles and Forces Intelligence Group at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. She served as Senior Duty Officer in the White House Situation Room from July 2011 to June 2013.

[Full Bio available at <https://www.16af.af.mil/Units/AFTAC/> ]

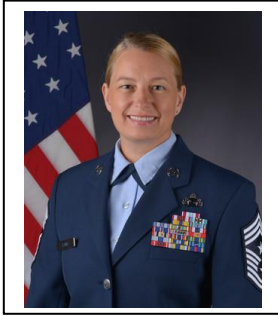
\*\*\*\*\*



### **Vice Commander/CV/2018. Col Ralph E. Bordner, III**

Col Bordner received his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of Central Florida in 1996 with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering. His career includes multiple space-centric positions, to include crew-certified space operator, space and missile control engineer, chief of ballistic missile subsystems, and research and development engineer.

[Full Bio at <https://www.16af.af.mil/Units/AFTAC/> ]



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

Long entered the AF in Sep 1994. She graduated from the Defense Language Institute as an Arabic Cryptologic Linguist in Mar 1996. Her background includes various duties in intelligence operations, joint service and training. Throughout her career, she has served in myriad positions including National Security Agency Functional Manager, Counterterrorism Senior Enlisted Representative, as well as Squadron and Group Superintendent. She has deployed in support of Operation New Dawn and completed overseas tours in Korea and Hawaii.

[Full bio at <https://www.16af.af.mil/Units/AFTAC/> ]



## **A MESSAGE FROM THE AFTAC COMMANDER:**

Hello AFTAC Alumni Family!

I wish I could say I've met most of you since taking command of AFTAC in June, but as we all know, the ceremony took place at the height of the worldwide pandemic, and we haven't had the opportunity to network, socialize, and gather for events and celebrations that bring the entire AFTAC family together.

Until the time comes, though, when we can safely congregate in large numbers, I thought I'd take advantage of the "virtual" world and put together a few words for your quarterly newsletter.

Before I arrived at AFTAC, I had frequent conversations with Colonel Hartman about the camaraderie that exists between the past and present workforce, and he told me about incredible relationship the center shares with its Alumni near and far. Learning that AFTAC has an engaged, supportive and involved cadre of former members was something that really warmed my heart as the incoming commander.

I have been in the Air Force for over 23 years now. If you had asked me what I would be doing in 23 years when I received my commission from the Air Force ROTC program at the University of Georgia my answer would not have been "Commander of AFTAC." However, in my early 20s I was clearly naïve, short sighted, and unimaginative. I would not have predicted I would get to travel to places like Kosovo, Italy, Germany, England, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, Qatar, Afghanistan, and more. Today I couldn't be more excited and proud to be a part of such an august institution. Every conversation with Dr. Mike Young, the current AFTAC Historian, impresses upon me the incredible legacy you all have left.

Before COVID struck, I was researching as much as I could about AFTAC and its geographically-separated locations around the world, and was anxious about the prospect of visiting our Airmen at our overseas detachments and locations throughout the U.S. But much like everything else, the coronavirus brought travel to a screeching halt. I know many of our Alumni have been stationed at several of our foreign operating locations – some still operational, others long gone – and I'm sure you have some great stories to tell of the experiences and places you've traveled to. I'd love to hear about your adventures whenever we're able to get together again!

The past year has been unprecedented in so many ways, but the men and women of AFTAC faced the challenges head-on and continued to execute our critical mission uninterrupted. I am so proud of our Airmen – military and civilian – and continue to be amazed at their resilience, skill, expertise and ability to get the job done despite significant hurdles. You should be proud of them, too – they are following the lead of their predecessors (YOU!) and carrying on your legacy through the work they perform 24/7/365.

I would be remiss if I didn't call out a few people by name to say how much I appreciate the effort put forth to serve as the conduit between the alumni and us here at the Center – the AFTAC Alumni Association Board: President Phil Godfrey, Vice President Rob Christman, Treasurer Sean Ryan, and Secretary Arlin Massey. Thank you for your steadfast work and willingness to volunteer your time – we are grateful!

I hope 2021 will bring you all good health and prosperity! I look forward to seeing the curve flattened, vaccines delivered, positive cases virtually non-existent, and the chance to return to social gatherings in a safe and healthy environment. In the meantime, thank you again for all you do in support of this great organization ... you are an invaluable part of our AFTAC family!

Cheers, Col Barber

\*\*\*\*\*

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF CMSgt Amy Long, AFTAC Command Chief:**

Greetings and salutations, AFTAC Alumni!

The past 12+ months have been quite a ride for us – as a nation, an organization, and as Airmen. Through all the COVID challenges, AFTAC has continued to succeed, innovate, and improve in myriad areas. Normally, the Commander and I would update the Alumni on the status of AFTAC through BBQs, picnics, the Snowball, Open House and other connection points. We have not had those opportunities since the pandemic began, but that doesn't lessen our responsibility to you all to stay in touch and connected.

When Colonel Barber took command, one of her first honors was to induct Dr. William Juneck as AFTAC's newest Chief Scientist. Together, they are focused on modernizing our building, systems, software, and data strategy in addition to maintaining the phenomenal care and morale of our workforce.

We are hopeful that the pandemic environment will allow for an Open House once again this December and we can invite you to the grand opening of our Heritage Hall. Dr. Mike Young, our Historian, is dedicated to bringing in the rich legacy of the missions and members of AFTAC's history for display in our new Heritage Hall. It will be a warm and inviting place to hold ceremonies and gatherings in the best traditions of AFTAC – with food and drink and music and comfortable seating surrounded by history. We are even planning to have a large touchscreen table to view videos, pictures, and biographies of our 70+ years of heritage.

AFTAC is a reflection of American society and as such we are committed to continuing to improving our organization to be a place of dignity and respect. All AFTAC members are a part of the AFTAC family and we will stay vigilant and pursue efforts to make this true for every person. We have created a new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion position to equip the center with resources to focus on our strengths in areas of belonging, connectedness, and parity. We've revitalized our DEI council and they are an advisory and participative board who have already begun holding lunchbox chats, invigorated monthly cultural awareness campaigns, and held meetings dedicated to small groups to discuss matters that are important to all AFTAC members.

Recently, at an Executive Leader Offsite, we reviewed our Mission and Vision statements and through careful consideration have adopted the following:

**AFTAC Mission:** *Deliver unique nuclear and WMD expertise to outsmart our adversaries*

**AFTAC Vision:** *Be the experts! [#scienceforconsequence](#)*

Every day that I walk into the AFTAC building, I am humbled and honored to serve with the women and men who make a difference to our center, our community, our partners, and our nation. Thank you all for your service and your continued support of Team AFTAC's members, mission and families!

## **REPORTS FROM WITHIN THE HQ BUILDING**

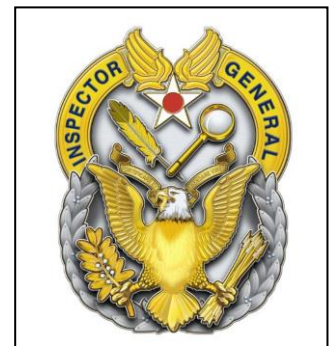
**(Most of the following extracts can be read in their entirety at AFTAC Alumni Website: [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) )**

### **AFTAC EARNS “HIGHLY EFFECTIVE” RATING FROM INSPECTOR GENERAL**

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs, Patrick AFB, FL/Published January 20, 2021

A team from the Air Combat Command Inspector General's Office traveled here during the first quarter of fiscal year 2021 to conduct a Unit Effectiveness Inspection (UEI) of the Air Force Technical Applications Center.

A UEI is a method used to evaluate an Air Force wing's performance, compliance and readiness, which are assessed based on four major graded areas: executing the mission, managing resources, improving the unit, and leading people. It also



provides an independent assessment of a unit's effectiveness and validates the inspected unit's Commander's Inspection Program.

The ACC team of 25, including a small cadre from 16th Air Force, consisted of experts in a variety of specialties – operations, security, logistics, cyber, training, support and other technical functions – and spent a week examining, inspecting, discussing and assessing AFTAC personnel and their respective processes they use to execute the center's global nuclear treaty monitoring mission.

It was a first-time experience for AFTAC's own Inspector General. "The UEI is not just the wing commander's responsibility, it's an organizational responsibility," said Lindsay Bloch, AFTAC/IG. "Every single Airman – military and civilian – plays a part in the overarching success of our day-to-day business, which then parlays into a successful inspection. It was also an incredible learning experience for me from start to finish."

After the team returned to Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va., they compiled their findings into a report that included the overall grade AFTAC received from the inspection team: "Highly Effective" – the maximum rating an organization can achieve during a UEI.

"During COVID-19, the wing expeditiously shifted from surviving to efficiently operating, successfully maintaining continuous 24/7 nuclear treaty monitoring," said Brig. Gen. Paul Murray, ACC/IG. "This is the only 'Highly Effective' grade given under my watch over the last 18 months, which is a testament to the wing leadership and all the Airmen of AFTAC."

The inspectors also noted that the center created an institutionalized culture of 'Embrace the Red,' where members were encouraged to identify areas for improvement and fostered an environment of compliance and effectiveness. In addition to the four major graded areas, the team also recognized 16 individuals as Superior Performers and five groups as Superior Teams.

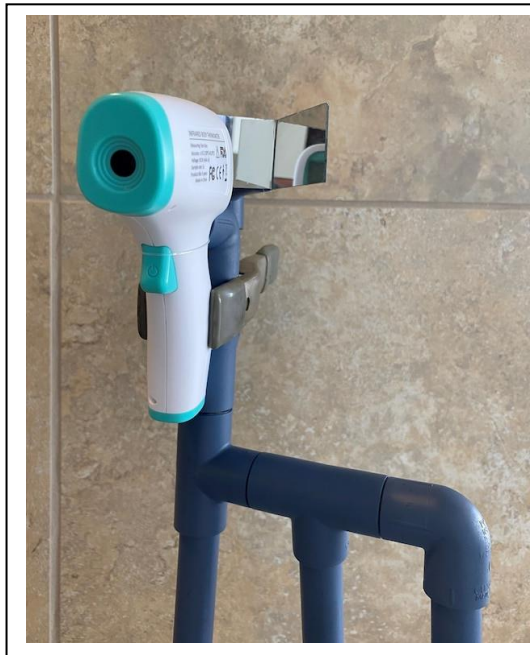
"Despite a global pandemic that has disrupted all 'norms' as we know them, Team AFTAC came up with innovative and creative ways to get the job done and they are deserving of the highest grade a unit can earn from UEI inspectors," said Col. Katharine Barber, AFTAC commander. "I am incredibly proud of the effort put forth by everyone in the center to showcase our strengths to the ACC IG team. It was a total team effort that illustrates we are mission ready at all times."

Superior Performer and AFTAC director of inspections Bruce Ludwick added, "And when you're mission ready, you're inspection ready. AFTAC demonstrated that with flying colors."

\*\*\*\*\*

## **INNOVATIVE SELF-SERVE TEMPERATURE CHECK HELPS WORKFORCE DURING COVID**

by Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs / Published January 21, 2021



*To help maintain a safe and healthy workplace environment, Tech. Sgt. David Sanchez, a mission manager at the Air Force Technical Applications Center at Patrick Space Force Base, Fla., developed a hands-free temperature check device for members of the nuclear treaty monitoring center to use when they entered the building. (U.S. Air Force photo by Susan A. Romano)*

Social distancing. Six feet of separation. Tapping elbows instead of shaking hands.

These are terms and actions society has grown accustomed to hearing and seeing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Another familiar occurrence since the outbreak of the virus is temperature checks at various entry points to businesses and workplaces.

AFTAC is no different – facial coverings, safe distances, and Plexiglas partitions are in place throughout the center's Florida headquarters that employs nearly 1,000 military and civilian personnel. And now, through the innovative creativity of one Airman, it also has a touch-free thermometer for members to check their temperature before entering the facility.

Tech. Sgt. David Sanchez, a mission manager in the AFTAC Operations Center, set out to develop a better way to conduct temperature checks at the nuclear treaty monitoring center. He took some random items he had in his shed that were "collecting dust" and put them to good use.



"It seemed rather wasteful to me to use a disposable glove every time the hand-held thermometer was used, and there was also the chance for cross-contamination each time someone reached into the box to dispense a new glove," Sanchez said. "I knew there was room for improvement to the process."

So Sanchez built a prototype contraption consisting of PVC pipes, fishing line, a small mirror, and a plastic foot pedal and attached a temporal thermometer to the top of the tripod. His first version was what he considered a "proof of concept" to see if it would function as planned. The second device was much like the first, only a bit taller. On his third try, he achieved his goal, gave his invention a fresh coat of paint, and delivered it to the main lobby of the treaty monitoring center for his co-workers to employ.

"My main reason for taking this on was the challenge it presented," Sanchez said. "I love using my hands and creating things from scratch, and I also love solving mechanical problems and puzzles. This was a project I wanted to undertake because not only did I know it would be fun, but it would also benefit a lot of other people during a pretty harsh time."

For his efforts, the AFTAC commander, Col. Katharine Barber, presented Sanchez with her commander's coin.

"This is the type of innovation I have grown so accustomed to seeing on a daily basis from the talent that exists here at AFTAC," Barber said. "Sergeant Sanchez took the time and energy to create something that pays dividends for our workforce and provides a safe and healthy way for people to check their temperature upon entry to our headquarters. It's a win-win for everyone!"

\*\*\*\*\*

## **H.S. STUDENT IMMERSSES WITH AFTAC IN THE OUTBACK**

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs, Patrick Space Force Base, FL/Published February 02, 2021

ALICE SPRINGS, AUSTRALIA -- Situated in the remote terrain of Central Australia, the 709th Technical Maintenance Squadron's Detachment 421 is responsible for operating and sustaining an expansive seismic array to detect the detonation of nuclear bombs.



Paxton Rhoads (U.S. Air Force courtesy photo)

The detachment, led by Master Sergeant Jonathan Beedham, is manned by four Airmen who ensure data from the array are delivered to analysts at the Air Force Technical Applications Center on Florida's Space Coast. As an integral part of the U.S. Atomic Energy Detection System and covering an area approximately 90 kilometers wide, they accomplish their mission by using 22 detectors buried 30 meters deep that capture the earth's tectonic movements.

As 421's detachment chief, Beedham oversees the unit's daily operations as well as all community outreach programs. Recently, he invited Paxton Rhoads to spend a week with his maintenance crew as part of an educational work-study opportunity through a local private school in Alice Springs.

Paxton, a 10th grader at St. Philip's College (Australians refer to high school as college), is the son of a U.S. service member stationed at a joint military organization within close proximity to Det 421 in the Northern Territory. Each year, St. Philip's assigns a project to its students requiring them to seek out an opportunity to work with a local business in order to gain valuable insight into how a company performs its tradecraft. For the sophomore's dad, he knew exactly where his son should go for his project. "We live and work in a very remote location here in the Outback, and because of that, we build strong and lasting relationships with all the military personnel stationed in the region," said Paxton's father Master Sgt. Justin Rhoads. "When it came time for our son to complete his project, I reached out to Sergeant Beedham due to Paxton's extreme interest in science as well as the Air Force in general."

The Airmen assigned to Detachment 421 operate and maintain the precision seismic equipment to ensure it delivers accurate geologic data to analysts at the center's headquarters at Patrick SFB, Fla. Prior to beginning the week-long "internship" with the detachment, Beedham sent Paxton a few documents so he could become familiar with the history of the unit, its overarching mission, and how it provides technical and scientific data to U.S. senior leaders and its allies.

He spent his days with Tech. Sgt. Devin Barrow, Tech. Sgt. Andrew Pauldine and Senior Airman Paul Wisniewski who taught him the intricacies of seismic data collection and the importance of ensuring the data stream reaches the treaty monitoring headquarters in Florida uninterrupted. The new intern's workdays began at 8 a.m., and after becoming familiar with the day's agenda, he would accompany the team on each required task.

"On one of my days there, I helped prepare a solar panel that is used to supply electricity to their sites," Paxton said. "I particularly enjoyed this experience as got to engage both physically and mentally, cutting solar rails, measuring where the panel would be set up for optimal efficiency, and calculating the depths and dimensions of the precision equipment." Paxton also helped with seismic maintenance and upgrading the dirt tracks that lead to each of the arrays. He also participated in the detachment's daily physical fitness training regimen, which included push-ups, sit-ups and a 2-mile run



(U.S. Air Force Courtesy Photo)

"As Det 421 has been a part of the town of Alice Springs since 1955, we are happy to continue the tradition of outreach to our local community, providing perspective and hands-on experience to the future generation," Beedham said. "We hope we can help inspire and encourage others to pursue careers in STEM as well as strengthen our longstanding relationship with our host nation, Australia."

Paxton was appreciative of the time the detachment took out of their schedule to work with him. "I would definitely recommend Det 421 to any of my classmates who are able to participate in the outreach program," he said. "It was very beneficial for me personally and gave me invaluable insight into how a small unit like this manages their resources, adapts to changes that arise, and conducts their vital worldwide mission for America. I really had a great experience."



## **PROGRAMS THE AFTAC ALUMNI SPONSORED, ATTENDED, OR CONTRIBUTED TO**

(continued from pg 3)

Finally, we need to get more active duty who are leaving the organization for reassignment, retirement or reasons other than those for departure. The Alumni needs more people. Every week we are now losing many of our former peers. The Alumni needs new breath in the association in order to last. My wife and I usually go to the Marina one evening each week and the AFTAC'ers we meet there show extreme interest in some "old" AFTAC stories. They seem to hunger to hear what preceded them and we should have a way to tell them the history of this great unit.

We're a proud group of AfterTackers, as my wife calls us, but our intent is to instill comradery with our active duty peers and maintain this great Association for years to come. The only way we can do this is with the interest and help of the AFTAC Organization.

## **AFTAC HISTORIAN IS SEEKING PHOTOS**

Submitted by Mike Young, AFTAC's Historian

The AFTAC Historian, Dr. Mike Young, is currently writing a book entitled "A 75-Year Commemorative History of Long Range Detection: 1946-2021." It is essentially a re-write of the 50-Year Commemorative History that was produced in 1997. He would like to include new, never seen photographs that many of our alumni may have. People, detachments, equipment, etc... whatever you think may be of interest to our community of AFTAC'ers. Though probably non-existent, he is desperately seeking a photo of a B/20-4 or B/20-3 system. You can email or mail him. If you create a scan, please do so at a high resolution. If you mail him your photos, he promises to promptly return them to you. He hopes to publish this book in time for the 2021 AFTAC Reunion.

By the way, Mike considers 1946 to be the birth of Long Range Detection (LRD) because that was the year when government leaders conceived and initiated the activities that would define and organize the mission. The first post-war nuclear weapons tests conducted in the Pacific in 1946, Operation CROSSROADS, included several experiments that proved LRD was feasible. The Eisenhower memo to the Air Force in September 1947 was simply the formal directive for the Air Force to assume responsibility for LRD.

Mike's contact:

[James.young.53@us.af.mil](mailto:James.young.53@us.af.mil)

Air Force Technical Applications Center  
ATTN: Dr. Mike Young, CC/HO  
Room S4400  
10989 South Patrick Drive  
Patrick Space Force Base, FL 32925-3002



\*\*\*\*\***SAGE SCHEDULE**\*\*\*\*\*

**MANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED –**

See the [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) web page for latest information.

**1. WindDowns**-(normally sponsored by the active-duty force) are scheduled for **1<sup>st</sup> Fridays** at 1530 taking place to the west of the HQ building. **MOST ACTIVITIES ARE ON HOLD**

**2. Alumni Assn Board/Membership Meetings-normally-2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays at 1600** just inside the HQ Building, #10989.

Park across the street and the meeting will be in conference room just to the left as you enter the front entrance lobby.

Currently, these meetings are Tele-Conference meetings. See Page 1 for information to participate.

a. If a **Federal Holiday**, the meeting will be the next day.

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

**Active-Duty & Alumni are invited to all events.**

**Before coming verify date/time/venue at the Website and/or with Sean Ryan at [oceanblueview@yahoo.com](mailto:oceanblueview@yahoo.com)**

**See page 1 for current list – check**

**[www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) for latest updates**

**May 2021**

**Monday, 10th, 1600 – Membership Mtg**

**[check Calendar of Events at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) ]**

**June 2021**

**Monday, 14th, 1600 – Membership Meeting**

**[check Calendar of Events at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) ]**

**July 2021**

**Monday, 12th 1600 – Membership Meeting**

**[check Calendar of Events at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) ]**

**August 2021**

**Monday, 9th 1600 – Membership Meeting**

**[check Calendar of Events at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) ]**

Event Plans and Timeframes—for planning only—dates may vary – many events on hold because of the Pandemic

**A. January-April** (months may vary)

1. SnowBall -- no current plans for 2021

2. Center Annual Awards Banquet – no plans at this time

**B. May-August** (months may vary)

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

2. Annual Association Spring Golf N'Getogether

**C. September-December** (months may vary)

1. Friday in Sep, Annual Board, General Membership & Elections Meeting, --**Alumni of the Year (AOY) Selection Committee** (prior AOYs) meet following the annual meeting.

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

3. 15 Sep, Alumni Assn **ANNUAL FY DUES Due and \$10 fee for paper copy of PoMo Due**

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

**Next Reunion** The 2021 Reunion to be hosted by the Florida Association has been cancelled. Hopefully, the next Reunion will be held in Florida in 2022.

## **SAGE SHOP – OPEN FOR BUSINESS**

Mail orders to:

AFTAC Alumni Assn, ATTN: Sage Shop

PO Box 254892,

Patrick Space Force Base, FL, 32925-4892

SAGE CONTACT: Ed Lindsay

[Piston\\_horse@hotmail.com](mailto:Piston_horse@hotmail.com)

321-507-7193

### **ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE**

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **COINS & PINS**

AFTAC Alumni Association Coin: \$10

AFTAC Alumni Association Pin: \$3

AFTAC Logo/ Shield Pin: \$3

60th LRD Commemorative Coin: \$5

### **CLEARANCE ITEMS**

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

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

Screen printed Logo, Golf/Polo Shirts - Assorted Colors

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

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

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

### **FUTURE ITEMS**

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

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

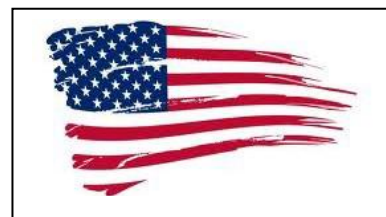
### **SAGE SHOP MERCHANDISE FROM OTHERS**

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

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

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

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





# AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (AFTACAA)

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**MAIL TO:** AFTAC Alumni Association (AFTACAA)  
P.O. Box 254892  
**ATTN: Membership Chair**  
Patrick Space Force Base, FL 32925-4892

**1. LIFETIME DUES:** \*\$75.

**2. ANNUAL DUES:** \*\$10 PER YEAR - 1 OCTOBER - 30 SEPTEMBER  
(PAYMENT DUE BY 15 SEPTEMBER, EACH YEAR).

\*INCLUDES ACCESS TO PO-MO ON WEBSITE AT NO EXTRA CHARGE.

**3. ADDITIONAL ANNUAL COST FOR PO-MO PRINTED COPY:** \$10 PER YEAR - 1 OCTOBER - 30 SEPTEMBER (PAYMENT DUE BY: 15 SEPTEMBER, EACH YEAR).

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOME ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CELL PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIPCODE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HISTORY WITH AFTAC OR ANY ASSOCIATED ENTITIES (DETS, HQ, SQUADRONS, OTHER).**

---

---

---

**OTHER INFORMATION YOU MIGHT THINK IS RELEVANT:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

**4. Note:** Information provided is protected and will not be divulged; however, we may publish your name, city and state, in our on-line data, so friends can or may, contact us for additional information. Right now, all they can access is "Name." For further information, users are instructed to contact us for further assistance.

**Active Duty, Retired Civilian. ALL ARE WELCOME!**

If you have any questions, please email: Mike Steskal at: [steskalm@AOL.com](mailto:steskalm@AOL.com)

-----

**FEEL FREE TO PASS THE MEMBERSHIP FORM TO FRIENDS WHO SERVED AT AFTAC**