

♦ POST - MONITOR ♦

Volume 8 Issue 2 663 Members - 458 Lifetime (15 are Complimentary) 2000 June



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

SAGE SPOTLIGHT

OUR 2000
PRESIDENT

MIKE SHILKITUS

SUBMITTED BY THE EDITORS

We spotlight Mike this quarter as a new board member and our year 2000 President. Mike's service to his country began on 30 Oct 70 and with AFTAC on 15 Feb 79. He retired on 1 Dec 97.

Mike's AF assignments include: '71: Mather AFB, CA, Undergraduate Navigator Training; '72-73: Ching Chuan Kang AB, Republic of Taiwan, Squadron Navigator, 50th Tactical Airlift Squadron; '74-79: Little Rock AFB, Arkansas, Instructor Navigator, Flight Examiner, Squadron Scheduling Officer, 62nd Tactical Airlift Squadron and Wing Scheduling Officer, 314th Tac Airlift Wing; '79-82: Patrick AFB, FL, Reconnaissance Operations Staff Officer, HQ AFTAC; '83-85: Clark AB, RP, Chief, Combat Plans and Exercises, 374th Tactical Airlift Wing; '85-86: Maxwell AFB, AL, Student, Air Command and Staff College; '86-91: Scott AFB IL, Chief, Southwest Asian Plans Division and Director, Special Plans, HQ Military Airlift Command and Chief, Special Plans Division, US Transportation Command; '91-95: Patrick AFB, FL, Commander, DOD Manned Space Flight Support Office; 95-96, Patrick AFB, FL, Director, Technology Coordination Office, AFTAC; '97: Patrick AFB, FL, Vice Commander, AFTAC.

During Mike's first assignment in AFTAC, his primary duties were the daily tasking of air sampling ops conducted by the WC-135, C-130, B-52, U-2, and WB-57 aircraft. As a duty officer in the operations directorate, he also participated in

(Continued on page 5)

Alumni Alerts-What's Comin' Up

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

SEO REUNION

SUBMITTED BY CAROL PRITCHARD

After hearing a couple of rumors of a desired reunion of Special Equipment Operators, a question was sent to the AFTAC Alumni web site and a positive response was received. Since there is not enough time to organize a formal reunion for the desired date, we have put an impromptu reunion together and hope as many as possible can attend.

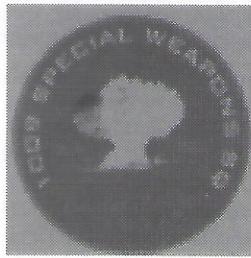
"200th day (18 July, Tuesday), year 2000, main lobby of the El Dorado Hotel, Reno, NV., high noon. Wear your wings, name badge and bring your war stories. Be there or be square."

(Continued on page 5, left column center)

Alumni Events-What's Gone Off

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

Buster - Jangle Reunion



SUBMITTED BY JERRY COLLINS IN TWO PARTS, BEFORE AND AFTER

After 49 years, a select group of officers and airmen of the 1009th SWS had their first formal reunion in Las Vegas from May 2-5, 2000. This was the first group to establish seismic teams throughout the world after graduating from the electronics technicians program at Keesler AFB in the spring of 1951 and being assigned to special seismic training with 1009th SWS.

Their first classroom was at the Naval Ordnance Lab in Bethesda, MD, where they studied under several experts in the field of seismology and later

(Continued on page 5, left column bottom)

Association Honor Roll

Alumni Of The Year Recipients

John Horsch-1999

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 information, meetings or membership, contact **Jim Payne**, (321)777-4731/paynejb@juno.com, **Carl Gailey**, (321)777-0569/gaileyc@juno.com, **Judy Milam**, (321)254-8878/jem2415@worldnet.att.net, or **Pat Snyder**, (321)494-6867/patricia.snyder@aftac.pafb.af.mil. Dues, membership applications, and queries/information should be mailed to:

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 Webpage, "<http://www.csihq.com/aftacalumni>", with association/alumni information, a "Post-Monitor" Sampler, and photos - Webmeisters are **Dave Johnson** and **Mike Black**

Florida Chapter "PERENNIALS"

Alumni who served the Florida Chapter board five or more years
Frank Hall, President/Vice, '89-'98 **Judy Milam**, Secretary since '89
Mary Welch, Membership, '91-'99 **Carl Gailey** - Treasurer '91-'99
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 information, **Bill Schmied**, (303) 367-0625

West Coast (California) chapter

Formed in 1999, dues are \$5 per year, \$50 for lifetime; for information-Joe **Johnson**, (916)783-8676, 'TOD.Alumni@bigfoot'-mailing address:AFTAC Alumni Assoc., West Coast Chapter, 161 Southcreek Circle, Folsom CA, 95630-1510.

They plan to hold meetings and socials, 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.

Newsletter Editors: John & Chris Horsch & Judy Milam

Information/Proofing: Judy Milam, Pat Snyder and Deborah Carson

Executive Review: Frank Hall and Carl Gailey

Rovin' Photographers: Judy Milam (film) and Bob Wiley (digital)

Rovin' Reporter: Clark Creery

"A TEAM" ...of Horsch's'

'58-'87

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

...you know, sometimes the best part of this job is being reminded of old friends in a new way. This quarter is a perfect example, **Bill Stephen** has just become a lifetime member...wow, we think of Bill every once in awhile, but it just seemed to really 'bring it home' to have him signing up that way...and **George McMonigle**, we see where he renewed his membership. It means a lot to us to have these guys out there reading our newsletter and partaking of the association membership...they are emblematic of why we do it...glad to have you aboard.

We hope you notice an improvement in the quality of the pictures we publish. In the past, some pictures have appeared dark and lacking contrast. We discussed this with our printer. The problem was occurring as they 'copied' the hard-copy we provided. Recently they updated their capability and can accept the printable PoMo on a Zip Disk - that begins with this issue - we hope you can see the difference.

Also, very importantly with this issue, we welcome a new junior editor, our long standing Asc. Secretary, **Judy Milam** - she kindly offered to put the finishing touches on this PoMo as we went on an extended trip. Thanks to Judy you receive your PoMo in a timely manner even as we travel the West. Thanks Judy, for this and all you do!!!

And lastly, before we leave a little room for Judy to add something, Dale **Klug** sends a helpful URL that provides military news via daily free email, he advises he gets about 10 articles a day. Look at <http://www.af.mil/news/afnssub.html>.

I don't know what possessed me to raise my hand when John asked for a volunteer to fill in for him and Chris in their absence. I quickly learned what a huge job this is, and I don't think we can thank the **Horsch's** enough for all they do to put the PoMo together each quarter. They had this newsletter 95% complete before passing it to me to add the last-minute inputs, and that other 5% was enough to let me know they have job security. Another big thanks goes to all the contributors who make this job easier - keep those letters and articles coming. — Judy —

MAIL - CALL



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

Orangevale, CA

May 1, 2000

The West Coast Chapter had a great outing April 29th. We had a luncheon cruise on Clear Lake, a beautiful lake about 100 miles from Sacramento. I'm sure Joe or Bob will have a big write up in our next newsletter. While there, I talked to Bill Johnson and his wife. They live in Grass Valley.

Irene and I are doing pretty good for a couple old folks!!! We are going to Alabama, Branson MO. and Nebraska, May 20 through the end of the month. Hello to the folks in Florida.

Frank Goodreau

Pineville, LA

16 March 2000

After reading Rex Riley's 99/10/27 letter in the "Post-Monitor," I decided to follow suit since I also had not read about any of the guys with whom I served while in AFTAC. I had second thoughts about cutting my ties with the alumni association this morning as I was cleaning out my 114 basket and found the reminder card sent o/a 17 February. I went back and re-read Riley's letter and the editorial comments accompanying it and realized that I was one of the "old timers" who were encouraged to write. I guess my experiences back in the "stone ages" might fill in a few gaps of "The Good Old Days" from the bottom of the operational ladder...I was a "Lab Rat."

I do not know how much of my ramblings can be used, but feel free to severely edit. Maybe, if more of us check in, we can make contact again and find out "What ever happened to old Joe from the good old days?" Enclosed is a check for the 2000 dues - by next year I plan to be a lifetime member of the alumni association.

WALTER L. FRANKS, JR. excellent Walter, and we are so glad you changed your mind and will be comin' on board for a long time...you said it well, if we can get more of you 'beginners' to hang in there, you will read about, and hopefully contact, each other. We have extracted your memories for next issue's 'I Remember' column...readers, you will learn a lot from Walter's remembrances, don't miss it.

Lee's Summit, MO

Feb 1, 2000

As an early member of the 1009th SWS I have



some wonderful memories at McClellan from '52-'55. I was in supply that was located at Camp Kohler and we lived there also. We went back and forth to the base for our meals.

Col. **Reed** was the CO of WFO and **Meeks** was the deputy, some of the other officers were **Hutchinson** and **Ripley**. Some of the enlisted at S-34 and S-39 were **Echeiols, Femster, O'Rooke, Stockwell, Parker, Klindt, Graham, Bernard, and Flanagan**. In supply was LtCol. **Little, Ireland, Godwin and Stotz**. Little became the deputy and then on to Washington DC. Enlisted were **Smallwood, Sweeney, Yantz, Smith, Ardell (deceased), Clippinger, Gilmet, Groshlags, Bell, Refernat, and Schaffer**. Attending the '94 reunion, I was amazed how we supplied all the teams then and how it was done in '94. Georgia **Magness** was the secretary at Kohler.

Attending the '99 closing was sad. Just thought I would throw out a few of the names of long ago.

Richard Berry thanks so much Richard, and it's good to be reminded of some of these really 'old-timers' and hopefully some of them will see this and make contact. We apologize for name misspellings and will make any corrections you see necessary.

N. Highlands, CA

Mar 1, 2000

Please be advised that I am now a member of my local AFTAC Alumni Association. I mailed a check for \$50 to them on April 10, 1999, for life membership. Thank you.

Fredrick K. Brewster thanks for letting us know...hope you still get a 'chance to glance' at a 'Post-Monitor' now and then

Tidbits

Greenville, TX

Mar 11, 2000

Enclosed you will find my check in the amount of \$25 for a (Worldwide) Directory. On the back panel please put a picture of the front entry shot of the HQ Bldg at 6801 Telegraph Road. Thank you very much.

Jack Kimball (wajac@9plus.net) good to hear from you Jack – hope you have visited our website and added your email address for all to use now and to be contacted by our all-e procedure (updates, notifications, etc.)

SEO Alert

compiled by the editors from a rash of recent seo email sent to our webmasters – who in turn forwarded to all email registered alumni

Email #1, o/a Apr 30, 2000. My name is Carol **Pritchard**. Married to Orville H. for 43 years. He was in the Long Range Detection organization from '54 - '55 to '71. He was a Special Equipment Operator. I keep getting occasional e-mail from other SEO's regarding a rumor (?) of an upcoming reunion to take place this year in Reno or Lake Tahoe. Anybody know anything about it?

Carol & Orv, capov@aol.com

Email #2. From: **Fritts**, Steve Hello all you SEOs and AFTACers. Anything going on with the reunion at Tahoe? Haven't heard a peep for months. If we're gonna do it, let's get going on the planning and execution. Please contact me at : frittssd@earthlink.net SEO 19

Email #3 From: "French Lloyd SMSgt" lloyd. french@schriever.af.mil, Subject: RE: [AFTAC Alumni] SEO Reunion? 200th day of 2000 ... all remaining seos in Reno!

Email #4 I just got your e-mail address from Carol **Pritchard**. I was a Special Equipment Operator from 68-70. Is this reunion on July 18 for real? Please add me to whatever informational distribution list you may be compiling. By copy of this message, I'm also advising Jack **Pitcher**. The only other two SEO's I think I know the whereabouts of are Joe **Andlinger** (Wheeling, WV) and John **Franklin** (Lacey, WA). Sorry, don't know their e-mail addresses.

Steve Laccinole

Email #5 From: "Harry Hodges" HHodges@compuserve.com I remember Orv well & I haven't heard of any new activity in Nev. Pass whatever you hear! Cheers

Emails followed, more or less of a general nature, and then Carol wrote, CAPORV@aol.com **Subject: Re: SEO Reunion!!!**, Talked to George **Thompson** today and think there has been enough interest generated to at least have an impromptu reunion. Will try and put together some definite and complete information this weekend. Have a slew of e-mail addresses on my headers so will send to them the details as well as AFTAC alumni. Don't know if it will get in the next Post Monitor but will give it a try. So far I have **200th day (18 July, Tuesday), year 2000, Lobby of the El Dorado Hotel, Reno, high noon**. Wear your wings, name badge and bring your war stories." Hope to get hold of phone no. for some of the hotels close by. Reno is by far the best bet for something like this. You can get rooms for \$50 and under. Some will throw in an extra day free. There are coupons for two for one shows and buffets. Don't know how many will show up but those that do will no doubt have a good time. Orv suggests we include "F Troopers." Any feedback on that? Pass this along and let me know of any responses. Sounds like its going to be a great time...

Denver, CO

Jan 7, 2000

You noted our Buster-Jangle reunion for May 2-5 in Las Vegas and I thought you might have a little space to mention that some of the old timers

actually made it - not all, but some. I have enclosed my notes and recollections, perhaps others will send you better accounts. I really enjoy your newsletter.

Bill Braukman Bill, thank you for the many times you have remembered us...Jerry Collins has been corresponding with us about this matter and we had an article for the March PoMo that just could not get properly reviewed in time for publication - that, plus his followup, is included in this issue. NOTE: Bill has been kind enough to let us save his outstanding informative article for later publication...look for it

Welcome

Back or for the first time

To members responding to our Membership Chair, Jim **Payne's**, reminder cards or just 'signin' up' for the first time

Henry Serynek...**George McMonigle**...**Michael McCarty**...**William Stephen** (used our website and can be found there)...

"Oh...By the Way"

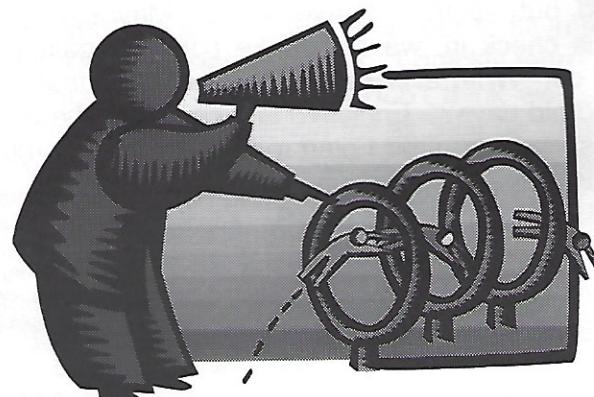
tidbits sent with orders for merchandise, changes of address, etc. - presented to remind us of old friends

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 "what'cha been doin" - contact info, page two

No Inputs Received

** We hope to see your input in our next issue **



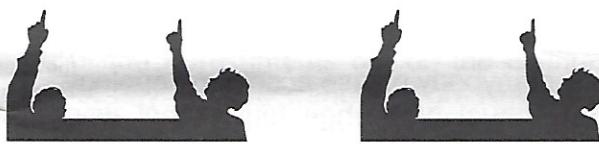
(Spotlight Continued from page 1)

alert declaration activities, oversaw the standardization evaluation program for the airborne troops, wrote plans for air sampling ops at deployed locations, and prepared and delivered the weekly Status of Command briefing to the Commander. He also deployed for PONY EXPRESS operations in the Pacific.

As Director of the Technology Coordination Office, he managed a number of classified technology demonstration projects supporting AFTAC and other organizations. As Vice Commander, Mike felt he was honored and privileged to run AFTAC in the Commander's absence.

When asked why he took on the duty of being the Alumni Asc. President, Mike replied, "... because I saw an opportunity to stay involved with AFTAC people after my retirement and to continue to tap into and enjoy the tremendous energy and positive attitude of AFTAC's people."

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



(Alumni Alerts, SEO Reunion, Continued from page 1)

Reno was chosen because it is centrally located as is the El Dorado Hotel. It is co-joined with Circus - Circus and the Silver Legacy with enclosed walkways. Phone numbers are: El Dorado, 1-800-648-5966, Circus - Circus, 1-800-648-5010, Silver Legacy, 1-800-687-7733, for reservations. Ask for discounts and room and show packages, if interested. For other accommodations in the area call: Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority at 1-800-FOR-RENO.

We have also been requested to invite all "F Troopers" to join us. Would love to have them. Since we are not sure of who all you SEO's and F Troops are, we would like you to get the word out to those you know. Any questions please contact us.

Carol & Orv Pritchard, ("Pritch", SEO XXVI, '56 - '70), caporv@aol.com or,

George Thompson, (SEO XVII, '56 - '68) 1 (707) 994-4143

(Alumni Events...Buster - Jangle Continued from page 1)

took their knowledge into the field during the fall of

1951 for the Buster-Jangle series of atomic tests. They operated seismic stations spread out across Arizona and Nevada performing successfully in the detection of the nuclear detonations. Subsequent to this, the group was assigned to both Fort Myers, VA, and Fort Sill, OK, for further training before being assigned to various B-teams throughout the world. This group established many of the first installations.

With the advent of the Internet, several of the members of this group located each other and decided to hold its first reunion in conjunction with the AF alumni gathering that was held at Patrick AFB in September 1998. Because of the difficulty in locating people after 45 years, only seven attended. This group enjoyed the camaraderie and fellowship which fostered great enthusiasm. The resolve was to attend the TOD Decommissioning at McClelland AFB in April 1999 and work toward an attendance of at least 14 buddies since there were several located in the Sacramento area. At McClellan 14 enthusiastic members had the time of their lives reminiscing and telling those exaggerated war stories. The enthusiasm reached a higher level and the resolve was to get 21 buddies together for a reunion within the year. Enthusiasm did not wane. Syd **Dearborn** created a patch which became the logo for the unit, Bill **Johnson** arranged for the insignia to be placed on baseball caps and tee shirts, Leo **Cotter** contacted several hotels in Las Vegas and the Dept of Defense to get the group a tour of the Mercury Test Site. Norm **Negrete** volunteered to make name tags with the logo embossed and Jerry **Collins**, agreed to coordinate the activities, including sending notices to the 40 members who had now been located. The agenda was agreed upon and the plan went into effect. Thus on May 2, 2000, 18 members of the first seismic team met at *The Imperial Palace Hotel and Casino* in Las Vegas, NV.

On the evening of May 2, the festivities began with the registration and cocktail party where old acquaintances were renewed. Several of the attendees hadn't seen each other in 48 years, since the group was dispersed from Fort Sill, OK, to various operating sites worldwide. Needless to say it was a very nostalgic time reminiscing and seeing buddies that had been long lost. Even the 12 spouses who attended were excited to find that some of the tales told by their husbands were verified by those present.

The next morning the group gathered to chat and

watch slides of the days in the field in Nevada, Korea, Greenland and Wyoming among the other remote places throughout the world. Memories of the "Good Old Days" permeated the meeting and at times were somewhat embellished and sometimes fantasized. There were good times and there were some events that were not too good but nevertheless they were remembered as experiences that shaped our lives. Many of the participants used these experiences to go into engineering, some remained career AF members and some returned to the careers they left to join the Air Force in 1950.

On the evening of May 3, the group indulged in a cocktail party and banquets at the hotel with a picture-taking session and an outstanding evening of fellowship. The feature of the reunion occurred on May 4 when the Department of Energy hosted a tour of the Mercury Test Site at Indian Springs. The entire contingent was bussed to Mercury where we were taken to actual sites of the Buster and Jangle series. They were important as they were the series in which the group had participated but they were the first series to involve the use of seismic monitoring. The detection through seismic monitoring proved to be very influential, and as a result, stations were established worldwide primarily using the knowledge and experience of the participants in these Nevada test series. In the Buster series in October 1951 there were 5 detonations while the Jangle series included two more detonations in November of that year.

Of the 71 members of the seismic team, including officers, 11 have died, 21 cannot be located and 39 have been contacted but only 18 were able to attend. Many communicate on the Internet and have pledged to stay in touch and plan another reunion in the near future.

Among those attending were: Bob "Al" and Joann **Allender**, Lee **Barbour**, Bob and Barbara **Boster**, Bill and Margie **Braukman**, Ed and Betty **Carty**, Jerry and Kathy **Collins**, Leo and Dot **Cotter**, Ned "Dan" **Derkovits** and Tina **Liscano**, Ray and Arlene **Hild**, Bill **Johnson**, Joe and Gayle **Johnson**, Henry **Koons**, Jim and Ruby **Lyon**, Norm and Jan **Negrette**, Lou "Ace" and Laura **Orsatti**, Charlie "Jet" and Joan **Soucia**, Bill "Shirley" and Shirley **Sullivan** and Don **Vernon**. Several others planned to attend but for various reasons had to pass on this opportunity and hope to be in attendance next year.



Spring Picnic

SUBMITTED BY CARL GAILEY, PICTURE ALBUM OF EVENT IN LATER PAGES

The annual active duty picnic was held 6 May 2000 at Wickham Park. The food cooked and prepared by volunteers was plentiful and was served from 11AM-5PM. The volunteers should be commended for the tasty menu Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Sausages and Teriyaki and Grilled Chicken. The sides were Potato Salad, Coleslaw and Baked Beans. The beverages were Soda, Wine Coolers, and Beer.

Speaking of beer, the alumni monitored the beer wagon again this year. Chris and John **Horsch** got everything started on the right foot from 11AM-12AM until Jack **Jackson** and Margie **Morelli** took over. They were having so much fun serving beer and visiting that they didn't ask for a relief until 3PM. Other alumnus who were present for duty were; Bob **Wiley**, Tony **Demarco**, Howard **Dibble**, John **Caban**, Hank **Raymond**, Terry **Hammond**, and Eunice and Curt **Harris**.

The following alumnus also attended the picnic: Rick **Manley**, John **Loftis**, Mike **Reinig**, Jeff **Stefoneck**, Ray **Lentz**, Dave **O'Brien**, Joe **Goldian**, Dave **Johnson**, and Joe **Marshall**. If I missed anybody please accept my apology.

The annual horseshoe tournament was a little shy of teams this year. Only 5 teams signed up. No active duty teams participated this year. Mike **Metzger** was the lone active duty participant. Maybe the active duty was getting tired of being beaten by the old men?

In the first round of best two of three, the team of Rick **Manley** and Mike **Metzger** defeated Terry **Hammond** and John **Caban**. Hank **Raymond** and Bob **Wiley** defeated John **Loftis** and Mike **Reinig**. Tony **Demarco** and Howard **Dibble** (last years winners) had the bye. Hank and Bob defeated Tony and Howard. They each won a game but Hank and Bob squeaked a win in the third game to dethrone Tony and Howard.

The active duty personnel should be recognized for the outstanding and well-organized function. We the Alumni really appreciate their efforts and encourage all alumni members to attend and support all future functions and share in the camaraderie that can be gained with the active duty personnel.



Spring Goli-n'-Getogether

SUBMITTED BY THE EVENT ORGANIZER, "DIAMOND" DAVE MONEY

The Spring Alumni Association Golf Tournament was held at the Cocoa Beach Country Club, teeing off at 1300 hrs 12 May 2000. What a glorious day it was. Alumni volunteers, headed up by Pat **Snyder**, had everything ready for golfer registration at 11 am. We had 127 golfers, many observers and volunteers totaling over 150 attending the tournament. A great assortment of fine prizes were well displayed before the tournament began.

Sam **Sorice** did an outstanding job this year working with the corporate sponsors and purchasing all the prizes. The Alumni tournaments have become annual "Can't Miss" sporting and social events. The Alumni gave away four \$100 putters, four \$90 fairway metal woods, two \$120 golf bags, twelve \$50 gift certificates, ten golf accessory bags, several golf shirts, coffee mugs, golf balls, and a host of other fine gifts.

Carl **Gailey** and John **Horsch** were in charge of the refreshments and clean-up. There is a lot of work in getting the ice chests, sodas, water, and beer ready before anyone arrives. We dare not begin a tournament without a couple of tapped kegs on hand and chilled down. Chris **Horsch**, Teresa **Osterloh**, and Charlene **Grew** were in charge of the refreshments out on the course. It was a hot day and we went through 15 cases of soda, 5 cases of water, and 4 kegs of ice cold beer by the end of all the festivities. Sonny's BBQ catered the dinner this year. We had BBQ chicken and sliced BBQ pork for the entrée. On the side was potato salad, baked beans, coleslaw, and dinner rolls. To drink, besides beer and soda, Sonny's offered iced tea and some of the best lemonade I've tasted in a long time.

After everyone had been through the buffet line at least once filling their plate with the delicious food, Pat Snyder called out the names of the door prize winners. Pat and a team of volunteers decided to draw for the door prizes during the tournament to prevent the long drawn out task of drawing the names while we were eating. This proved to be a super time saver and went smoothly. An innovative idea, way to go Pat! The FL Alumni Association President, Mike **Shilkitus**, then addressed the crowd and thanked everyone who attended. He also thanked all the hardworking folks who donated their time to put the tournament together.

Six local businesses provided Corporate Sponsorship of two "Longest Drive" and four "Closest to the Pin" holes. The Alumni Association

appreciates the outstanding corporate sponsorship, financially and by donated goods, for this tournament. The sponsors were, **SAIC**, **CTI**, **Boeing**, **ENSCO**, **GSP**, **RSS**, **TASC**, **ZELTEC**, **Southern Traditions**, and the **AFTAC Boosters Club**. The winners of the Longest Drives were **Mark Durgin** and **Gart Galloway**. The winners of the Closest to the Pins were **John Gerczynski**, **Pat Murphy**, **Terry Hammond**, and **Tom Barry**.

By the time the door prizes were all given out, the scorecards had been validated and the scores were adjusted by handicap and tallied. It was then time to announce the tournament winners, and they were: For 3rd Place and \$100 cash the team of **Lange**, **Rolfes**, **Sorter**, and **Hartzell** shooting a score of 66 gross, 57 net with a total team handicap of 108. For 2nd Place and \$140 cash the team of **Mark Durgin**, **Terry Evans**, **Dave Cormack**, and **Andy Schwartz** shooting 57 gross, 57 net with a total team handicap of 24 (this team won the tie break hole to take 2nd place). And finally for 1ST Place and \$160 cash the team of **Couch**, **Bowman**, **Yohn**, and **Moffett** shooting a score of 59 gross, 54 net with a total team handicap of 76. Congratulations to the top three teams!

In addition to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners, many other folks went home with door prizes. As it was, we all won by getting out and socializing with one another. Thanks again to all the volunteers and corporate sponsors who made this another great AFTAC Alumni tournament. See you at our next golf outing in the fall.

(More golf pictures on page 16)



The "herd" is being well behaved in this photo. It was taken just before the rules were announced.

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 were nearing the end of a millenium, 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, L/Gen (Ret) Jim Clapper suggested a questionaire, devised it & we sent that out as an option. So far we have the following responses (or promises to respond): Retired Gen's **Silliman, Gordon, Clapper**, and **Bingham** and Col **Meisenheimer**, and Gen **Shaffer** and Col **Wigington** have also agreed to participate. We thank these gentlemen for agreeing and hope that others will see this level of participation and also "reCall" and "jump on-board."

We feature replies (one-an issue) in the chronological order of their time of command - reCalls in previous issues, Gen (Ret) Silliman, Gen (Ret) Gordon, Col (Ret) Meisenheimer and Gen (Ret) Clapper - next issue will feature Gen (Ret) Bingham...at this time we feature...



RICHARD J. O'LEAR

MGEN, USAF (RET)

COMMANDER, MAY '85 - SEP '86

SUBMITTED ON 6/1/00

During my 30-year career, my time as Commander of AFTAC ranks at the top of my list of favorite jobs. Why? That's easy—the job was important and fun, the challenge was big enough to keep one's interest but small enough to seem manageable, and the people were terrific, dedicated professionals. During this short trip down memory lane, I'll try to group my comments into four broad categories: the issues, the technology, the events, and the people.

In May 1985, my best friend, Jim Clapper, turned over command of AFTAC to me. It was a great time to be at AFTAC. The budget for national security was actually growing; there was still a clearly identifiable, monolithic threat posed by the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact; and there was more than the usual turmoil in our community over bureaucratic processes. This last point meant that much of my time at AFTAC was spent working organizational and budgetary issues. One of the major tasks was to publicize AFTAC to the "big" Air Force and to get AFTAC more into the mainstream of the AF. It sounds surprising, but very few people in the AF really knew much about the USAEDS and why it was such a "national asset."

Since its creation, AFTAC has been a unique organization that provided a critically important capability for the United States. As the seniors in Washington DC struggled to rationalize AF

organizations and processes, more and more people wondered what this thing called AFTAC was and why it was handled so differently from the rest of the AF. The whole process of how requirements were identified and funds were allocated was undergoing tremendous scrutiny and overhaul during this time. It was always a treat to "discuss" with legends like Tom Ciambrone, Gerry Leies, Frank Pilotte, and Walt Singlevich how we got our requirements and how we sought funding. My job was to help show them, who had forgotten more about nuclear treaty monitoring than I could ever hope to know, how to get what we needed from a system that was becoming increasingly centralized and bureaucratized.

Then there were the "operators;" e.g., Tom Niquette and Bobby Fairless, who were always ready to launch a PONY EXPRESS. In their area, there was always some concern about WC-135s, WC-130s, U-2s, or B52s that required their skills and diligence to resolve.

On the technology side, working at AFTAC was like drinking from a firehose! Some of the best teachers in the world tried to get me smart of various aspects of the physical sciences that formed the lifeblood of AFTAC. With painstaking detail and patience, they taught me about the Airborne technique (A); the Seismic technique (B); the Surface-Based Particulate Sampling technique (C); the Acoustic technique (I); the Electromagnetic Pulse technique (J); the Ionospheric technique (K); the Hydroacoustic technique (O); and so many other techniques that I often felt like a three-year old learning the alphabet.

The thing that never ceased to amaze me is that the talented people in AFTAC were able to find so many ways of using physical phenomenology to help monitor critical global nuclear events. The most fascinating part of the "technique drill" was seeing the 99XXXs actually employing them—whether onboard a WC-135, at TOD, at Det 207 in Alaska, Det 301 in Turkey, Det 415 in Thailand, Det 421 in Australia, Det 452 in Korea, or Det 459/489 in Wyoming. The techniques were superb, but the people were even better!

There were many significant events that characterized my tour with AFTAC, but two stand out as memorable. The Challenger accident on 28 January 1986 is certainly one of those events where almost everyone alive then can tell you where they were when it occurred. My own memories about the Challenger accident centered on how compassionate and helpful the people at AFTAC were, and how many ways they assisted the base commander cope with the many administrative and logistics problems that befell Patrick following the accident.

Another date that will long be remembered is 26 April 1986. AFTAC's role during the Chernobyl disaster was truly unique. From the first indications of the accident to the long-term monitoring of the debris pattern, AFTAC played a major role in advising key decisionmakers in many governments and commercial

Traveling to the field locations was easily my favorite activity. I thoroughly enjoyed seeing how our folks and their families lived (not always comfortably), the conditions under which they were doing their jobs (sometimes pretty harsh), and the attitudes and competence they demonstrated day-after-day (always outstanding).

The mission task always got done despite some of the unusual challenges (such as elephants tearing down seismic wires, or a brush fire burning the communications wires). It was always a treat to visit TOD and see the quality of people in the labs and those doing the maintenance. To this day, I find it hard to believe how many talented enlisted folks we had doing the jobs of Phds.

The non-mission activities were also memorable (such as the "boat races" or camel rides in Alice Springs; the visit to the orphanage in Korea; the haircut in the post office at Pinedale, Wyoming; or visiting the self-taught school in Sonesca, Spain).

Overall, I felt very privileged to have been associated with AFTAC. My time there provided me with some wonderful memories. The job was important, the techniques we used were state of the art, there were some pretty significant events that punctuated my tour, and the people (the officers, the enlisted men and women, and the civilians) were first-class by every measure of merit. In fact, I'd like to do it again! Best of luck on the many new challenges facing you.

Thanks, Gen O'Lear, for your great "rememberances." I, too, remember many of the events you mention here. It sure brings back some fond memories.

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 Remembrances column to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish them as soon as we can. Thanks for your interest in helping us.

SUBMITTED BY HARRY BEDSWORTH, 99/11/15

In Oct 61 I was stationed at Dover AFB, and while TDY at Pope AFB (adjoins Ft Campbell KY), I received a call from the personnel office at Dover directing me to take a commercial flight back to Dover ASAP. I was told that I was to go to a "Special Outfit" in Alexandria, VA, for an interview. I went and was interviewed by Col Gilbert Cooke. After the interview I found my way to Bolling AFB (AF Personnel was on Bolling AFB at that time), found the right office and told them I DID NOT WANT to be assigned to the DC area. A few minutes later a Sgt. came over and told me that President Eisenhower had recently banned dependent overseas travel and furthermore I was up for worldwide assignment the following month (an afterthought:

probably not true). After thinking this info over for about 10 seconds I told him "better put me down for the assignment." Rush job, I reported to AFTAC in November, my predecessor had one of those 30 minute reassessments.

I really enjoy the POST-MONITOR. Especially articles with names of those I served with and/or articles concerning Dets I visited while assigned to the 1156 TOS. As I recall, I inspected all of them at least three times for administrative inspections. Some GREAT, and as can be expected, some not the best.

I remember the first time I inspected a particular Det - my report on that Det was probably the shortest of many. So good I suggested to the squadron commander that the Det commander, Captain McAllister, be considered for the AF Commendation Medal. "Write it up and I will sign it," he said. So, if you are still around, Mac, that is how you got your medal.

Probably no one is aware of how the Dets in Australia started getting APO mail, so here it is. The ONLY way, except pouch, to get mail and mailable packages to Australia was INTERNATIONAL AIRMAIL. This included everything, urgent parts for the systems to routine mail, packages to and from home, etc., very, very expensive. I discussed the idea with my boss and Col Kuntz about how to handle the sensitive aspects. I made an appointment with the chief postal system at Hickam AFB and explained the need for an APO. In short he advised that the best we could hope for is a 'Mail Only APO' and it would be hard to do and it would have to be requested and fully justified and sent to higher authority for consideration/approval. Back to Wheeler, I briefed the boss. My idea, so I had to work up costs, morale issues (these were immense) and check with Pan Am the major US carrier to Sydney.

Took quite awhile. Finally I had a proposal ready to send to the postal LTC at Hickam and gave it to my boss. As time passes, I had an opportunity to discuss the proposal with Col. Kuntz. He said "it looks good but I don't agree with the dollar savings." "What do you think the savings should be," I asked. He told me, I took the package to my office, had that page retyped with his estimate, took it to Col. K, and he signed it. I took it to Hickam the following day. It took a lot of time to get the details worked out and I was out of it from then on - except going to Sydney with the LTC (postal) from Hickam. We had to make sure storage space was available at the Sydney airport and other details (he really wanted a good reason to go to Australia). Several months later Australian Dets had a MAOAPO. Not too much after that the Air Force started a weekly flight out of Travis to Australia.

Another story: I wanted to return to HQ on Telegraph Road from Hawaii. Personnel said they didn't need me, SO how did I get an assignment back to HQ and become the HISTORIAN??



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.

Turkish Tales

TWO FROM RON COOK

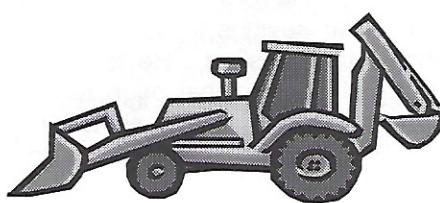
A Mystery 'Bug'...for real

While I was stationed in Ankara, Turkey, from Aug 1996 - Feb 1998 an interesting situation occurred with our Mark II recorder. We lost one of the traces on the 4-channel 35mm film recorder.

Upon checkout, everything appeared normal. The light beam was recording properly. We made an entry in the station log to that effect. The next day, we again entered the dark room, changed the film, and developed the previous 24 hours of recording. Once again the light trace was lost. With more frequent operational checks, the lid on the recorder was opened gently enough that it did not disturb the culprit - a spider had been seeking warmth in the beam while quite effectively obliterating the trace. Imagine, sneaking up on a piece of equipment.

A Mystery Cable

"Pops" - our maintenance man kept both of the detachment's bulldozers working. Dave Campbell was the first to take an interest in playing with them - cleaning up around the Det. I soon followed. We



did our best to improve the landscaping.

One day the station chief - NCOIC, asked me to take a swipe down the drainage ditch, since we were to be inspected the next day. As I neared the end of the ditch, several people including the station chief came running out, shouting at me. I stopped the dozer immediately to learn I had just severed a power cable to the vaults. Apparently the charts showing the line overhead were not correct, and I thank God it was the chief who had asked me. Ron, thanks for these great stories...wish I had been

MONITORing Active-Duty Doing's

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

Command Section



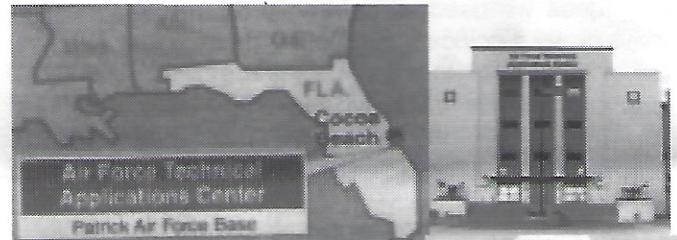
Col. Harold J. Beatty

AFTAC Commander, 98/7, 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



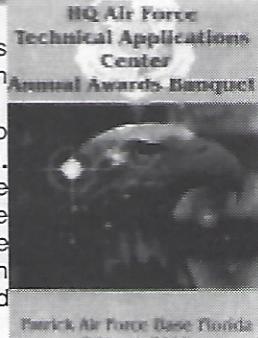
CMSgt Kenneth Myers

AFTAC Superintendent, 98/11, 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 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



AFTAC 1999 ANNUAL AWARDS

The 1999 AFTAC Annual Awards were presented on 2 March 2000 in many categories, including the Alumni Member of the Year award to our newsletter editor, John Horsch. Even though the award winners are too numerous to name here, we would like to congratulate the outstanding military and civilian personnel who serve AFTAC around the world.



Patrick Air Force Base Florida
2 March 2000

Sensor Olympics

SUBMITTED BY CHIEF MYERS, AFTAC SUPERINTENDENT

One of the best parts of my job is watching AFTAC's best getting the recognition they truly deserve for the outstanding work they do. In late October (yes I know I'm a bit late on this article) I was in San Antonio for the SENSOR OLYMPICS Awards Banquet. First question you have is what is SENSOR OLYMPICS?

SENSOR OLYMPICS is an annual enlisted skills competition for Air Intelligence Agency and AIA-supported units (*this means AFTAC*) to identify,

recognize, and honor the "Best of the Best" in 20 different enlisted career fields. This was the 20th Anniversary of the program.

AFTAC had 38 out of the 370 making it to the final testing phase. These 370 then took a 100-question general knowledge written test. Only 60 of them, the top three of each competing career field, achieved the coveted title of finalist. AFTAC had 6 of the 60 finalists.

Each of the 60 finalists was brought to San Antonio for SENSOR OLYMPICS week. AIA, with a tremendous amount of support from donors and sponsors (*yes this is where I say a big thank you to the AFTAC Alumni Association for their monetary contribution*), treated the finalists to tours, receptions, and VIP treatment from the San Antonio military and civilian community.

SENSOR OLYMPICS week culminated with the banquet and announcement of the final standings – the gold, silver, and bronze medal winners. AFTAC winners included 1 Gold, 3 Silver, and 2 Bronze awards.

Congratulations '99 competitors (*good luck to the 37 AFTAC competitors for this year's 2000 competition*) and thanks again to the AFTAC Alumni Association for their support and contribution.

AIA Outstanding Airmen of the Year

SUBMITTED BY CHIEF MYERS, AFTAC SUPERINTENDENT

I also had the privilege of attending the AIA Outstanding Airmen of the Year Awards Banquet in April. Twelve finalists in 4 categories (First Sergeant, Senior NCO, NCO, and Airman of the Year) represented more than 10,000 AIA enlisted personnel from 200 locations around the world. AFTAC had 2 of these 12 individuals. SMSgt Dennis **Gilroy** was AFTAC's First Sergeant of the Year and TSgt Charles **Curtis** Jr., was AFTAC's NCO of the Year.

The 12 finalists were brought to San Antonio for the week and treated to tours, receptions, and VIP treatment from both the San Antonio military and civilian communities. Another big thank-you goes to the AFTAC Alumni Association for their monetary contribution to this program. It is only with the tremendous amount of support from donors and sponsors that allows AIA to continue to host these events.

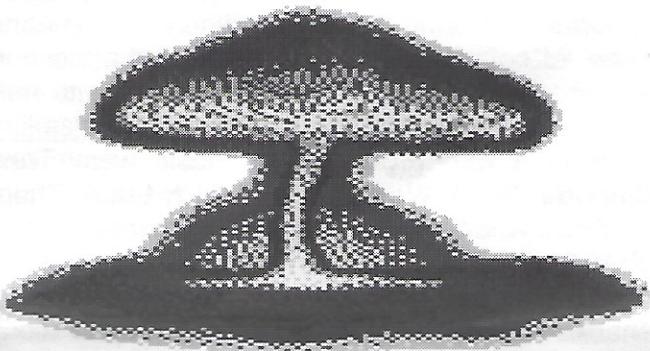
Although neither SMSgt Gilroy nor TSgt Curtis was selected in their respective categories, they represented us well and I'd like to congratulate them, and all the other AFTAC annual award

winners for an outstanding job they've done this past year. It is the people that make the mission succeed.

**A Mighty Sage Salute to our
Active - Duty People for carrying on the
tradition of excellence that marks an
AFTACer.**

**You continue a trip started
by those before you...**

Thank You



AFTAC "SPRING PICNIC 2000"

SUBMITTED BY TSGT DAVE MONEY, PRESIDENT OF THE AFTAC BOOSTERS CLUB

What a great time we had at the picnic this year. This tradition of having a picnic every year goes way back. The picnic comes just at the right time too, just when we're all ready to let our proverbial hair down and have some fun. Saturday, May 6th, was no exception. There were many carnival type games set up for the kids, golf, baseball pitch, soccer shoot and casting targets. The AFTAC Booster Club (ABC) also rented from MWR the "Moon Walk" air chamber for the kids and the Dunking Booth. I think the kids had more fun jumping in the dunking booth than there were folks being dunked! I caught a glance of a few Alumni giving some active duty a lesson or two out at the horseshoe pits and I heard that they came out winners in the competition. What a great battle we had at Tug-O-War this year. The final battle between the DO and TM directorates was a good one but TM was no match for the mighty DO troops. The overall "Top Banana" for all competitions, volleyball, horseshoes, swimming, football, softball, golf, fishing, and bowling, was

the TM directorate. Congratulations to the Top Bananas in TM!

The ABC raised over \$400 in the Pie-In-The-Face event. For the past month votes have been taken on who should get it in the face. Winners were Colonels **Beatty** and **Guttman**, TSgt Rich **Bohn**, and SSgt John **Howorth**. We auctioned off the pleasure of delivering the pies and that's where the fun began. Col. Guttman's guest bid high to get the chance but was foiled when he ducked just prior to impact. That raised the roof with laughter but I've got a feeling that it's to dog house for him! Our Commander, Col. Beatty tried to outbid a large group of AFTACers so after the bid hit \$87 we had to hold his arms down so he couldn't raise the bid. The group gave Carol **Warfield**, the Col's secretary, the dubious opportunity to sling the pie and she did it up right! Then, of course, Col. Beatty gave her a big hug and shared some of the whipped cream with her. What a great time!

The DJ's who provided our music were Tony **Calenda**, Frank **Woodard**, and Rich **Luce**. Then, for those who stayed till about four o'clock a band of AFTACers put on a show. We had some great music and that's when the real party began. Thanks for the entertainment goes out to Tony **Calenda**, Mike **Pinnick**, Don **McCoy**, John **DeSalvo**, Norm **Edwards** and Bob **Foster**. Roger "Horny" **Hornsby** also joined the band by special request, he played and sang some tunes that brought back fond memories of past picnics.

This year, besides the normal burgers and dogs, we served up Teriyaki and Cajun chicken, and bratworst. We also had the usual baked beans, potato salad, and slaw. Like the cornerstone that they are, and as always, a group of Alumni were manning the beer wagon. It's a tough job, but someone has to do it! We can always count on the Alumni to be real close to the beer!!

Word has it that the bake off competition was a huge success. It went so well that if you weren't there early you missed out. Thanks to Pat **Snyder** and Carol **Warfield** for heading up this event. On the Ironman scene, Captains Dennis **Rand** and Edwin **Boyette** broke the tape at the finish line together to tie for first place, congratulations to all the AFTAC Iron men and women.

Well, if you missed the picnic, you missed a good one. On behalf of the ABC thanks to TSgt Larry Doug **Billups** (Picnic Committee Chairman) and crew for organizing the AFTAC Booster Club's Spring Picnic this year. We're already planning for

next year's picnic, hope to see you there!



BREVARD COUNTY, FL STAND DOWN 2000 FOLLOW-UP

SUBMITTED BY JACK JACKSON

Numerous services were provided to 106 homeless veterans at the Cocoa National Guard Armory on Saturday, April 15th. Services by companies, veterans organizations, and approximately 135 volunteers responded to this very worthwhile cause. Medical examinations were provided by two fully self-contained mobile units. Wuesthoff Hospital, for the fifth year, provided doctors, nurses, and medical staff. A new addition to Stand Down was the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Mobile Unit, completely loaded with doctors, nurses, a dental lab, and medical attendants. Both units issued much needed prescriptions and made appointments at both Wuesthoff and the V.A. clinics in Viera and Tampa. Dr. Ray Kelly of Chiropractic Services in Rockledge was on hand to give advice and do adjustments. Brevard Community College provided dental technicians and haircuts. Kathy Tilke even flew in from North Carolina to assist with haircuts at her fifth Stand Down. Our own County Service Officers were much in demand. Legal assistance by Leonard Spilvogel, Pointman Ministry, REACT, Women's Marine Association, Vietnam Veterans fo Brevard, Brevard Veterans Council, Coastal Health Systems, First Calvary, and members from DAVs, VFWs, and American Legion Posts came out in numbers. Auxiliary units of veterans organizations were well represented. The concerned citizens of Brevard County once again proved beyond any reasonable doubt there are people who care for the homeless and take the initiative to help. Special thanks for the US Navy stationed at Port Canaveral for picking up, delivering, setting up, and taking down, and placing unissued items back in storage. If you helped with Stand Down and did not get your Certificate of Appreciation, contact Jack at 321-956-1025. Thanks to everyone.

OPEN

FROM THE TOP

MIKE

"KERNELS OF WISDOM"

MIKE SHILKUTUS - PRESIDENT
SUBMITTED BY THE PRESIDENT

SAM SORICE - VICE PRESIDENT

I'm writing my column this time around, fresh after two significant activities for our association, one of which I was able to attend - one of which I was not. The first was the annual AFTAC picnic, held as usual at the Brevard Community College picnic pavilion. The second was our AFTAC Alumni Association Spring Golf classic. The details of both are covered separately in the newsletter. It's not my intention to report on the events, although both were outstandingly successful. (Note: The golf tournament was marred by one unfortunate incident however. Somewhere on the back nine I lost my Marvin the Martian headcover for my driver. The fact that I even *own* a Marvin the Martian headcover is a testament to how seriously I take my game. If someone found it please call me at 321-253-8707. There may be a reward.)

Anyway, what made these events successful, or even possible in the first place, were the hours freely given prior to, during, and after the events by a handful of volunteers. They have been thanked elsewhere for their efforts and I won't tempt fate or risk omitting their names by trying to name them all in this column. This is the cast of "usual suspects" that we see at all the alumni association gatherings. Some may wonder why they continually come out and help put on such labor-intensive activities. Many reasons of course, but I think the major ones we see the same old faces over and over again are the satisfaction of service to others and the camaraderie and good company they find themselves in. It's clear our volunteers get as much out of the events in these areas as they put in. Otherwise they just wouldn't do it. Right? They always seem to be having fun, don't they?

I mentioned the "usual suspects" and the "same old faces." And that's true—we count on a limited few to carry the load for us so the rest of us can tee it up at the golf tournament or draw a cold one at the picnic. And they are happy to do it, no complaints and so we thank them, profusely, long, loud and continuously. But right about now some

of us are probably feeling a little guilty. If you are, now I've got you right where I want you. This is a call for action for your help in our events and activities. Sure the picnic is done for the year and its months before the next golf tournament, but they'll come around again plus we have other significant efforts that could use more bodies. The 'Hall of Heritage' is one good example, preserving and documenting AFTAC's past so that current and future AFTAC professionals can know what came before.

How to get started? One, start coming to our association meetings. They are held the second Monday of each month at 5:30 PM in the Singlevich Conference Room at HQs AFTAC. No badge or clearance you say? No problem, we meet on the steps at the front door and are escorted into the building. Can't make the meetings but still want to participate? Call me at home at 321-253-8707 or e-mail me at mikeshilk@dellnet.com. I'll add your name to our volunteer list and we'll work you into the staff for our next event.

Take the plunge and sign up. You joined the Alumni Association for a reason—to continue the service and good company you enjoyed while you wore the uniform or served as a professional civilian. Keep those good things happening and volunteer. You'll be glad you did!



BOARD MEETINGS

Alumni Association Board Members

Elected

President-Mike Shilkitus

Vice-Sam Sorice

Secretary-Judy Milam

Treasurer-Frank Calenda

Appointed

Heritage Hall Committee

Frank Hall, Clark Creery and Larry Silhanek

Activities-Ken Myers

Hospitality-Eunice Harris

Internet Communications-Mike Black and Dave Johnson

Membership-Jim Payne Newsletter-John and Chris Horsch

Publicity-Swede Swansen

A Few Minutes from the Minutes

SUBMITTED BY OUR SECRETARY JUDY MILAM

MARCH – MAY 2000:

- The AFTAC Commander has directed the AFTAC History, Protocol, and Public Affairs offices

to participate in the Hall of Heritage project. They'll be working with Alumni volunteers to inventory and catalog items.

- A pen-and-ink change to the Worldwide Directory was completed and mailed on 13 March. Options for printing and mailing a new Chapter Membership Directory are being considered.

- We voted to support the AFTAC Command's annual awards program that honors outstanding personnel.

- Fred **Hagans** has returned as AFTAC's Public Affairs person, and he'll be working directly with the POST MONITOR editors to keep us advised of articles about AFTAC activities.

- Our tax-exempt status was renewed for another 5 years.

- Alumni volunteers manned the beer wagon at the 6 May AFTAC picnic. Thanks to all the volunteers.

- Currently, the FL Chapter has 663 members, of which 458 are lifetime members.

- The Spring Alumni golf tournament was held 12 May at Cocoa Beach -- a big thanks to the organizers, volunteers, and golfers.



Other Chapter's News

ECHOES

Colorado

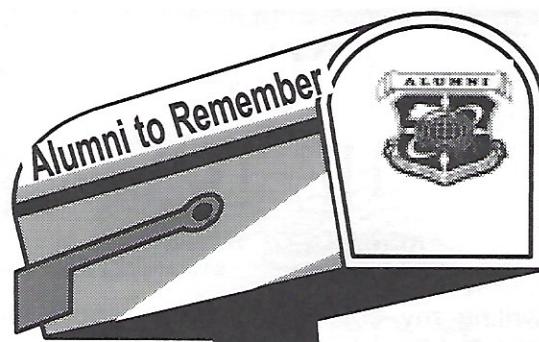
SUBMITTED BY BRYCE DUNN, ECHOES EDITOR

Nothing to report for this issue

West Coast Chapter/California

SUBMITTED BY DALE KLUK, EDITOR/CHAPTER SECRETARY, 5.16

We had a super cruise on Clear Lake on Sat April 29th. Our group filled the second deck of the paddlewheeler and shared lots of old war stories and good camaraderie. Our next scheduled Chapter meeting will be 28 August. Call Joe Johnson (916-783-8676) for time & location.



Personals...

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

Beginnings.....Transitions

Retirement Ceremonies

Ms Felicia Thompson

SUBMITTED BY JUDY MILAM

Ms Felicia Thompson retired on May 24, ending a 36-1/2 year career in Civil Service, 20 years of which was at HQ AFTAC in TX and TA. Felicia

was honored at a luncheon where she received many gifts and awards, including the AF Outstanding Civilian Service Award. One of the awards is being presented here by Col

Richard Garr, Director of Technology).

Advanced

Lt Col Glenn Harmon, HQ AFTAC/LSC, retires on Jul 1, 2000 (ceremony May 30, 2000)

TSgt Larry Carrera, HQ AFTAC/LSCIQ, retires

Hopes of Health for...

Wherein Alumni share hopes for themselves or others...
PROVIDED BY BEN VLASSICK, 5/16

Earnie Long was released from the hospital last week. After approximately six months in the hospital because of an acute respiratory failure, he is recovering at home. Cards can be sent to his home address at 8692 E. Layton Ave., Denver,

CO 80237-2927. He sounded real good on the phone and said he hopes to come to the June 10 picnic. He is on oxygen and may have to be in a wheel chair but his spirits sound really high and positive.

In Memory Of

Wherein Alumni share the names of those gone but not ever forgotten...

John Lawrence, Jan 18, 2000 (see below)

Paul Dickinson, Mar 20, 2000 (see below)

Merrill Seaman, Apr 14, 2000 (see below)

Rest in Eternal Peace

Cyberspace

Mar 21, 2000

Paul Dickinson

I'm Paul's (editors note: 1009th SWS from 1951 through 1954) eldest son Kevin. Saturday night he suffered a stroke caused by an aneurysm, which essentially caused a blood vessel in his brain to explode, this triggered a heart attack. Because the aneurysm caused brain damage, and the heart attack deprived his brain of blood and oxygen, he suffered irreparable injury – if he underwent numerous surgeries, they could at best restore 10-15% physical and cognitive functions.

Based on his stated wishes, we allowed nature to run its course, and he passed away last night.

Respectfully, **Kevin Dickinson**

This was followed by a longer email, 3/23 as follows;

Thank you for notifying the others. It was good to know he had so many concerned. I am enclosing his obituary for general reference:

In celebration of the life of Raul "Paul" B. Dickinson, 69, who passed away quietly at 9PM on Monday, March 20, 2000, at the Presbyterian Hospital in Albuquerque. Paul was born in New Orleans and raised in Panama until he moved to Colorado in his teens. He served in the US Air Force as an Electronics, Radar and Seismology Technician during which time participated in the Nuclear testing at Frenchman's Flat, NV. Afterwards he worked in Colorado Springs as a TV repair man until hired for IBM where he was employed for 33 years.

During his time at IBM, Paul relocated over 15 times to various cities around the US. Upon his retirement he lived briefly in Florida until he finally moved to Rio Rancho in 1992. Since his retirement he traveled extensively around the world including South America, Alaska, The Mediterranean, Europe and the Orient, as well as

throughout the US. Paul is survived by his wife of 48 years, Gretchen; his sons Kevin, Kenneth and Keith; granddaughters Kimberly and Ashley; niece Toni Ford and mother-in-law Mildred Eastridge

In lieu of flowers, the family would prefer that donations be sent to, Albuquerque Rescue Mission, 525 Second Street, Albuquerque, NM 87103-0331. One's life is not best judged by what is accumulated, but rather by those whose lives are better for having known them.

John Lawrence

PROVIDED BY MRS SHERRILYN S LAWRENCE

My husband died on January 18, 2000. I found a file which indicated he may have been a member of your association. This is merely to notify you of his death so that you may remove him from your files.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

In Memorium

JOHN HORSCH REMEMBERS JOHN LAWRENCE

'Captain' Lawrence was in charge of the 'ziproom' when I was assigned to the hq's in '65. He was a totally dedicated man to that room's mission...he was everywhere and knew how to do everything...he probably invented most of what we did there and a precursor to what goes on in that room today. Our 'ziproom' technician's of today would enjoy hearing what a job it was before computerization and would benefit by seeking out an 'old trooper' and learning about it. I was enriched by knowing 'Captain' Lawrence and am saddened by his loss.

In Memoriam

"SCOTT HALL HERE!"

STEW EARL REMEMBERS GEN HALL

It was with sadness that I read the news of General Hall's passing in the December issue of the Post Monitor. I'll pass along this anecdote that I think of whenever I hear his name. In the spring of 1969 I attended the Senior NCO Academy at Bolling AFB in Washington DC. It so happened that I was the Honor Graduate. At the reception following the graduation Gen. Hall approached to offer his congratulations. He was wearing his mess-dress uniform and was a most striking figure. I didn't know whether to stand at attention, salute or ?????? He stuck out his hand, smiled, and said, "Scott Hall here!" After the weeks of structured protocol of the NCO Academy, my mind went blank. Hopefully I was finally able to mutter something intelligible. It is easy for me to picture General Hall arriving at the pearly gates, approaching St. Peter with an extended hand and

a very humble, "Scott Hall here!" May he rest in peace!

ANOTHER GENERAL HALL STORY

Also submitted by Stew Earl:

I was stationed in Wiesbaden, Germany, at the time of General Hall's trip to say goodbye to his organizations. After the formal gathering he was chatting with Col. Ray Brim in the squadron commander's office. Gen. Hall had already been accepted as the business manager of a private school upon his retirement from the Air Force. He said, "You know, before I left Washington my wife came up to me and asked if I felt sure I was qualified to take on such a responsible position". What do you think? Thanks for giving me an opportunity to share this.

Merrill Seaman

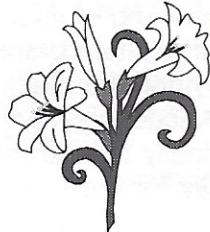
MAILED BY FRANK GOODREAU AND BILL JOHNSTON, JR
From 'THE UNION,' Grass Valley-Nevada, CA, Thursday April 27, 2000

Private graveside services for Lt. Col. (Ret) Merrill Hicks Seaman were conducted today at Penn Valley Cemetery. Lt. Col. Seaman died Monday, April 24, after a lengthy illness. He was 81.

He was born July 3, 1918, in Superior, Wis. He served for 30 years in the U.S. Army Air Corps and U.S. Air Force in World War II and the Korean War. He retired with honors in 1971. He had lived in Lake Wildwood for 22 years.

Lt. Col. Seaman is survived by his wife of 55 years, Betty; sons Col (Ret) John Seaman of Gig Harbor, WA., Capt. (Ret) Edward Seaman of Panama City, FL., Col (Ret) Frank Seaman of Colorado Springs, CO., and Robert Seaman of Silverthorne, CO., daughter Marilyn Seaman of Auburn; 13 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Kay Noonan; and brother, Bentley Seaman. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.



The Ways We Honor The Story of...The 21 Gun Salute

JUDY MILAM, EMAIL, 2/25/00

The 21-gun salute originated as a British naval custom. The reason for any cannon shot being offered as a salute was that firing a round meant that the gun was disarmed for the considerable amount of time it took to reload. This period of disarmament, even more than the bang, was a real sign of respect.

A person of great stature was given a multi-shot salute, but always an odd number because sailors thought even numbers brought bad luck. Heads of state got the maximum, 21 guns, because that's how many cannon were mounted on the side of a major ship of the line.

More Golf Pictures (article on page 7)

Chick Garcia signs his name on the mulligan tickets while Nancy Frey (a SAIC volunteer) asks him to please pay first. Note the great abundance of 'give aways' on the table.



Vice-Prez (and major tournament organizer) Sam Sorice checks his glasses, he can't believe the handicaps he's reading are correct. Charlene Grew and Pat Snyder say they just take down what they are told.

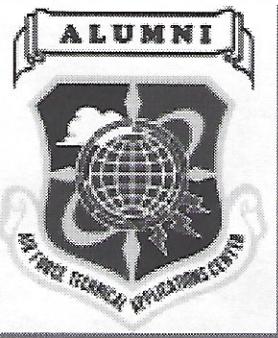
◆ POST - MOPICTURE ALBUM ◆

Photos/Text by Bob Wiley/Formatting/Text by your PoMo Editors

AFTAC Picnic

"On the Scene" photos of recent events

2000/5/6



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



(up) John and Chris Howard
Horsch Carl Eunice Curt Tony
Hammond Gailey Harris DeMarco Dibble

(down) Terry Tony Bob Howard John
Hammond DeMarco Wiley Dibble Caban

"The Awesome Alumni" bowling team showing that they play together on and off the alleys, also not getting far from their reputed



There was v'ball



...and horseshoes...could not get the Active-Duty to show up and face the music...



(below) The shoes tournament ends, with a deadly toss by Bob Wiley and he and Hank Raymond put their #1 fingers in the air. Tony and Howard will later point theirs at each other



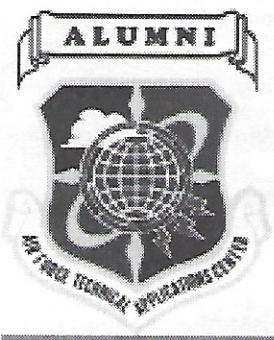
◆ POST - MOPICTURE ALBUM ◆

Photos/text by Bob Wiley - Formatting/Text by your PoMo Editors

Alumni Bowling

"ON THE SCENE SHOTS/HOT FROM THE EVENT & RIGHT OFF THE

2000/5/17



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

Here are photos of the three alumni powerhouse teams participating in the AFTAC and Friends Wednesday Night League at the Patrick AFB Lanes. The championship game was Wed 17 May with the Awesome Alumni in the lead and Team 13 only two games behind. After three grueling games, the teams were tied, requiring a roll-off. However, with the base lanes closing on the 18th, there was no opportunity to complete the roll-off until the start of next season. The teams decided to split the prize money and who gets to wear the League Champions shoulder patches will be decided on the lanes after the organizational meeting starting next season.

Team 13 members - Randy Rush, Chip Reed, Marge Detsch, Henry B, and Denis Detsch. Missing from the photo is Craig Sloan.

Awesome Alumni members - Tony DeMarco, Terry Hammond, Bob Wiley, Howard Dibble, and a retired member who came out to cheer them on, Tom Ciambrone. Missing from the photo are John Caban, Patti Hammond and Rick Manley.

Old Timers members - Galen Pound, Carl Gailey, Teresa Osterloh, Donna Pound, and Bruce Varnum. Not shown are Bill McElroy, Stephanie Fisher and Mark Durgin. They finished #3.

Bob Wiley

WOW #1, 2 and 3...almost embarrassing. Great Bowling and outstanding finishes - Sages always 'give it a go' 'wherever they go'...



CALENDAR

Association Board/Membership Meetings Monthly HQ AFTAC WindDowns

Members and prospective members are encouraged to attend these events for fellowship and participation.
ALWAYS VERIFY (PAT SYNDER, (321) 494-6867, BEFORE COMING
—Board/membership meetings are normally scheduled for the second Monday of each month (dates listed below):

WHEN: 1730 (5:30 PM)

WHERE: Lobby, AFTAC HQ building

HOW: come to lobby, you will be met and escorted

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

WHEN: 1530 (3:30 PM)

WHERE: Behind AFTAC HQ building (the Outback)

HOW: come to the back of the building-find the crowd

July

7th, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback
10th, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

August

4th, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback
14th, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

September

1st, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback
11th, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting
End of Month - Post Monitor mailing

October

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

Special Events

July 18th

SEO Reunion, Reno NV

(article, page one)

October 2000

- Fall Golf-n'getogether

December 2000

- AFTAC Winter Social

January 2001

- SnowBall III

ALUMNI SHOP

Mail orders to: AFTAC Alumni Assc., 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

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE (as of 6/1/00)

PURCHASED WITH ALUMNI FUNDS-Multi Color Logo

	MED	LG	XL	XXL
JACKETS - Unlined/Royal Blue - \$20	2	4	5	4

GOLF SHIRTS - with pocket - \$14

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

T-SHIRTS - without pocket - \$7.00

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

HATS - \$6.00 - # MISCELLANEOUS

Green	10	Ceramic Mugs (\$7) on order
Gray	9	50th Commem. Coins (\$3)
Red	10	~226
Royal Blue	6	Logo Pins (\$3.25)
Light Blue	11	~87
Navy	7	Logo Disks (\$5.50)
Blue/Gray	32	~52

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

JACKETS -

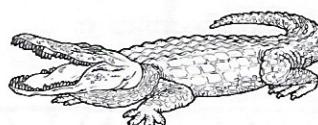
Unlined/Royal Blue - white logo, \$20 3

GOLF SHIRTS -

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

**Sagey**

"Alex, looks like a quiet summer unless  
you are an SEO - and that doesn't  
mean 'Special Eating Orifice'"



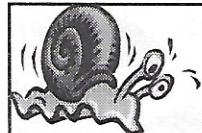
'yea, I'll be there to  
tell my tail'

# CONTENTS

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

- |         |                                                                      |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Page 1  | - #Sage Spotlight - #Alumni Alerts - Alumni Events                   |
| Page 2  | - #Association/Chapter Information - #Editorial                      |
| Page 3  | - Mail - Call                                                        |
| Page 4  | - "Where Are Ya?!"                                                   |
| Page 8  | - Feature Articles, "Commanders ReCall" - "I Remember"               |
| Page 10 | - "A Barely Substantiated (BS) Tale" - Monitoring Active-Duty Doins' |
| Page 13 | - From the Top - Board Meetings                                      |
| Page 14 | - Chapter Report(s) - #Alumni To Remember                            |
| Page 17 | #Picture Albums - Your Alumni in Action                              |
| Page 19 | - #Calendar - #Alumni Shop                                           |
| Page 20 | - #Contents - Address Label                                          |

Technical data - issue size, ~40+mb, 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. The completed issue is given to the printer, 'Indian River Printing Company' on a Zip- Disk. 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



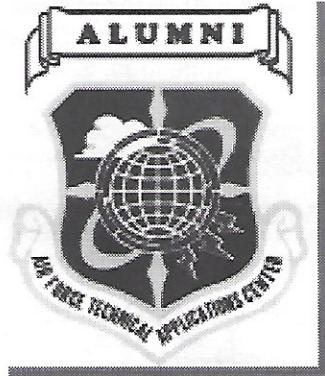
**SNAIL SeZ**, send us your tale(s) - inputs are due the 1st

Monday in the month of publication (March, June, September & December).

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



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