

# POST-MONITOR

VOL 28 – ISSUE 02

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

2020-08



## 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



## \* \* \* \* \* IMPORTANT ALUMNI NEWS \* \* \* \* \*

**The format of this issue of the POST MONITOR is slightly different, to bring attention to an urgent matter**

**By Phil Godfrey, President, AFTAC Alumni Association**

**Here's what's changing:** Starting in FY 2021 with the first PoMo issue (December 2020), those of us who want to continue to receive printed & mailed issues must pay a \$10 per-year fee to cover the cost of the paper copy of the PoMo. This fee is in addition to annual dues. Lifetime members will pay the \$10 fee annually, if they wish to receive a paper copy of the PoMo; annual dues-paying members will pay the \$10 paper copy fee in addition to annual dues, for a total of \$20 per year. **NOTE: To be clear, the electronic PoMo is free for all Members.** Annual members who wish to receive an electronic copy of the PoMo will continue to pay only \$10 per year (their regular Annual dues), and new lifetime members who elect to receive an electronic copy of the PoMo will pay a one-time Lifetime membership fee of \$75. Bottom line: There is no increase in cost, if you receive an electronic copy of the PoMo. Checks will be mailed to **AFTAC Alumni Association, PO. Box 254892, Patrick AFB, Florida, 32925-0892.**

**Here's why:** Costs have risen steadily over time. Each printed PoMo edition costs over \$600 to print and mail to our "paper copy" members. Although we have significant membership, we don't intake enough in membership dues each year to come close to covering this cost. Without this money to pay for paper copies of the PoMo, our account balance will dwindle to zero in just a few years.

**Here's what's not changing:** The PoMo will continue to be a vibrant, interesting document that brings us all together and will be published digitally and in print for those who would prefer a hard copy. Editions per year will also remain the same. Lifetime and Annual Dues will remain the same price.

**Long term strategy:** We will continue to look for ways to drive new membership. This was our original goal for 2020, but the pandemic has significantly hampered our ability to perform outreach to AFTAC members. We will deploy our growth strategy as soon as we can safely do so.

**If you have any questions about this new policy, feel free to contact Phil Godfrey at [afsophil@gmail.com](mailto:afsophil@gmail.com) or call 321-446-8775.**

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

ASSOCIATION Information *Deceased, (D)*

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

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

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

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

**Association History** A group of retired/active duty AFTACers, by invitation from then CC, Col **Clapper**, met at Patrick AFB, FL, on March 12, 1985, and formed the **AFTAC Alumni Association (AFTACAA)** (chartered, 1986); from 2001-2014, we were renamed 'Long Range Detection' (LRD). Website, <http://sites.google.com/site/lrdalumniassnneedtoknownow/> --The Association provides a forum for those wishing to maintain a relationship with the Center and its people, active-duty and retired. Membership is open to all who serve/served our mission in any organization associated with LRD (AFMSW-1, 1009th SWS, AFOAT-1, 1035th FAG, 1035th TOG, and AFTAC), and any field detachment. Of note, there are several Sages who recall an earlier effort to form an association in 1978.

**There is this Association and two Chapters**

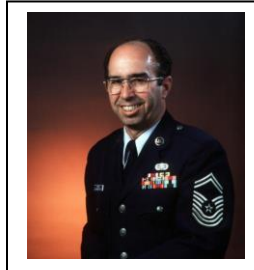
**1. Florida 'AFTAC Alumni Association':** (application at the bottom of each page at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us)) -**Dues, \$10/FY** (1 Oct-30 Sep) payable in Oct/**\$75 for life**. Most monthly meetings are at 1600, second Monday each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC HQ (Bldg 10989),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

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

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

**3. California Chapter:** Formed 1999, **\$10/year/\$75 lifetime**. For more, email, [TOD.Alumni@AFTACWCC.org](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>

## EDITORIAL SPEAKING FROM THE HORSCH'S MOUTH



Another bomb blast of an issue!! AFTAC has a new Commander ... hearty congratulations to Col Katherine Barber, and welcome aboard. We look forward to Alumni and Association interaction. You will read more about CC later in this issue.

We've also had ongoing information about the cost of producing a hard-copy PoMo. We have discussed this challenge for years and have come to a decision. See page 1 for our plan to ensure we have sufficient funds to publish PoMos in the future. Discussed there are the following:

"Here's what's changing"

"Here's why"

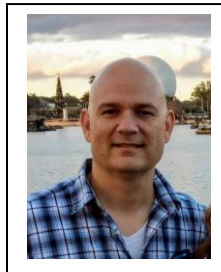
"Here's what's not changing"

"Long-term strategy"

We welcome all of you currently receiving the hard-copy to take a fresh look at your need for that. The ePoMo (digital) copy has advantages; you receive it the same time the hard copy goes to the printer (some 2-week before it is printed and mailed), the digital issue is in color where color is used, and it can be printed if so desired.

Please enjoy this issue, and I hope you are finding a way to live with this darn virus.

### **ADDITIONAL EDITORIAL -From the President - Phil Godfrey**



Greetings Fellow Alumni

First, I'd like to welcome Col Katherine Barber, AFTAC's new Commander. The Alumni stand ready to support the AFTAC Team however, you need us, and we're glad you're at the helm! And the new

AFTAC Director of Staff, Dr. Kevin Muhs, is a wonderful addition to the leadership team - welcome back Kevin! (continued on pg 4)

**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-**Website Chairman/Media:** Terry Hammond



## SPOTLIGHT

### **ROB CHRISTMAN** Vice President

I'm Rob Christman, and even though I bleed Ford blue, I joined the Air Force based on the 90's recruiting commercial. It ended with a guy working on a late 60's Camaro adjusting the

butterflies on the blown motor and an F-16 flies over them. The AF was looking for mechanics and I fit the bill, so I became intent on landing a jet engine mechanic job. I had a guaranteed job with an October report date when I got a ticket for exhibition of acceleration. I was already on a waiver for tickets, so I called the recruiter and asked to go now before this ticket hit the books (Pre-Internet days). I hopped on the bus 4 days later with an "Open Mechanical" contract and headed to MEPS/Basic. Once there, I was pulled aside because I qualified for a career field that no one knew anything about. The rest is history.

I'll try to compress 25 years in the next paragraph. I started on the Ops Floor working SatOps and then Seismic, wondering what happened to the mechanical job I was told about. After the Career Field merged, I headed to Goodfellow AFB to teach. I was moved to the maintenance shop after a project to modernize the schoolhouse highlighted my mechanical skills. I moved my young bride, Melissa, from the beach to the middle of nowhere in west Texas. The quickest way to get her back to Florida was to take a remote assignment, so I left AETC for Korea in 1999 and continued the Mx mission. While there, Melissa and I had discussed me becoming an SEO when I returned to Patrick AFB, and that led to nearly 5 years of flying with the WC. I took a short break from flying to run the "Travelling Wilbury" Shop, before I was asked to support a flying R&D project. This project eventually led me to Afghanistan in 2010. Shortly after I returned, I went back to Korea with a follow-on assignment back to Patrick in 2012. Not being able to get the flying stink off of me I worked as a liaison supporting WC operations. From there, I went to the GEMS shop, Mx Superintendent and then TM Superintendent. From there I moved to JBSA-Lackland to serve as the 9S100 Functional Manager. I was command-leveled and returned to Patrick for the last 3 years of my career. Last year, I ended my career where it started, on the Ops Floor, as the 22<sup>nd</sup> Surveillance Squadron Superintendent.

I have been a member of the Alumni Association for over a decade, supporting the great organization that I gave my youth to, and I still turn a wrench whenever I can.

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

### **GOLF- N' GETTOGETHER** –

Unfortunately, Golf-N'-Gettogethers are on hold until after the Pandemic. When it is possible to schedule a tournament, a notice will be made on the web site -- [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) – and an EAll will be sent to members who routinely receive EAll messages.

Many of our usual events are on hold until we are once again able to gather as a group.

### **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 President Phil Godfrey at [afsophil@gmail.com](mailto:afsophil@gmail.com) or call **Phil at 321-446-8775**

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**The Sociable September meeting** – would generally be scheduled on a Friday, at lunchtime, but because of health and safety concerns, the September 2020 meeting will be a Tele-Conference meeting held on Monday, 14 September, at 4 PM. Contact Phil Godfrey at [afsophil@gmail.com](mailto:afsophil@gmail.com) or **321-446-8775 to be added to the Tele-Conference invite list.**

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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 Chair, and Social Chair, for the Florida AFTAC Alumni Association – [oceanblueview@yahoo.com](mailto:oceanblueview@yahoo.com) or 321-591-9053 (unlisted)

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

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



## **ADDITIONAL EDITORIAL –From the President** (continued from pg 2)

I would also like to extend our thanks to the outgoing Commander, Col Chad Hartman, and outgoing Director of Staff Mr. Jim Whidden. Thank you for your wonderful support over the years. You both will be missed!

Well, we've made it this far, and I suppose that's a testament to our bravery, camaraderie, and good ol' fashioned common sense. This pandemic hasn't dampened our Alumni spirit one iota, though it has kept us prisoners in our own homes for at least a little while. That said, I hope each of you have fared well through this time, and that none of you have been affected. If you have, please know that I've prayed for your speedy recovery from this global pest.

Throughout this period of uncertainty, your Alumni team has been hard at work focusing on the long-term budget of the Association so that we may continue to sustain this strong and vibrant Alumni community in perpetuity. We've worked and met remotely using teleconferencing and heavy use of email. We've had to make a difficult choice regarding how we manage our budget. While it's true that we have sufficient funds at this time to support our Alumni missions, this may not always be the case over the long term unless we manage our annual expenditures smartly and efficiently. One expenditure takes a significant bite from our reserves several times per year, and that's the cost of printing and mailing the Post Monitor. **Please see the Special Alert on page 1 for a detailed breakdown of what is changing.**

This year has been tough on us all, but our commitment to a strong Alumni Association that adheres to our values remains undaunted. Thankfully, we do have some things to look forward to. Our upcoming Worldwide Reunion is right around the corner, and we'll have some wonderful events planned, and a gorgeous venue! We'll all need some time to relax and rejoice in remembrance of our time in AFTAC, as well as to reconnect with friends. We'll also get a chance to celebrate the contributions of our Alumni of the Year, and meet members of the current AFTAC leadership team and hear from them how AFTAC continues to protect our homeland and allies from threats we know all too well.

Each of us was part of building today's mission. Each of us gave our precious time and talents to help protect others from those that would do us harm. We invented, operated, supported, monitored, laughed and cried with each other, and for each other. AFTAC Alumni are part of the fabric of today's AFTAC, a mighty force indeed! The technology may have changed a little, but rest assured, your determination, precision, and relentless pursuit of the truth lives on in AFTAC, and we hope you can join us for the Reunion next summer. Start making your plans!

Phil Godfrey  
President, AFTAC Alumni Association



## **ADDITIONAL FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWS**

### **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SLATE OF OFFICERS – FY 2021 (October 2020-October 2021)**

As the Immediate Past President of the Alumni Association, Ed Lindsay was tasked with coming up with a Slate of Officers for Fiscal Year 2021 (October 2020 through September 2021).

**NOMINEES:** The nominating team contacted current officers and all have agreed to run for the same office they currently hold. The slate of officers for the September 2020 election is:

**President, Phil Godfrey** (continuing in his current position)  
**Vice-President, Rob Christman** (continuing in his current position)  
**Secretary, Arlin Massey** (continuing in his current position)  
**Treasurer, Sean Ryan** (continuing in his current position)

In addition, nominations of willing individuals will be taken from the floor. Notify Ed Lindsay at [piston\\_horse@hotmail.com](mailto:piston_horse@hotmail.com) if you have a nomination; the nominee must have consented to run for the office. Because of COVID-19, this meeting will be a Tele-Conference meeting. It is imperative we have a quorum (15 people) at this Tele-Conference Meeting.



## **AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 20+ YEAR WALL STATUS - As of 31 July 2020**

Submitted by Tony DeMarco

Here's a quick update with regards to the AFTAC Alumni Association 20+ Year Wall current status. Comments on new Career History Summaries added, along with Revision Updates made to existing Careers.

When I first started working on creating a process for adding new candidates to the digital Alumni Association 20+ Year Wall, there were a total of just 56 names on the Wall. Most of these original Careers had been transferred from the old plaques and Career Summaries displayed in the basement of the old HQ Bldg. I remember my Career originally being up in the old Bldg but it was omitted when the transfer to digital formats was initiated. So obviously, the first new Career Summary I worked on was mine.

I then started bugging some close AFTAC Alumni friends who I served with during my Career time, and I worked on getting their names up as a first priority. Over the past couple of years this effort has grown as word has gotten out, and we now stand with 88 names on the 20+ Year Wall, with several more currently in the queue undergoing the review process. By year's end, I expect the number will stand close to 90+ names on our 20+ Year Wall. So bottom line, that will be a 30+ name increase on the Wall as we head into 2021.

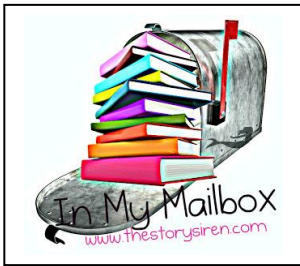
I've also had to create and maintain what I call the Wall Register so I can keep track of all the E-Mails and status responses from those I'm trying to get Career Summaries completed on. In a way, this is the most challenging part of the process.... you know.. Finding old Docs, Finding a good photo, age, and the memories factor all play a role in getting these Career Summaries completed..

Finally, I've also started updating the Careers on some of the older Alumni who I can find good contact information on. Because of the limited space on the original plaques, and IAW the Class Guidelines in place at the time, most assignments and jobs noted are very cryptic. Now with our new digital Career Displays, and changes in the Class Guidelines, we can now show additional information for each assignment like R.I.s served, Org Office Symbols, Techniques Worked, and Job Titles assigned at each location.

Anyway, figured I'd provide this status and overview to the Alumni Association Board. **See page 23 for 20-Year Wall of Service Honorees.**

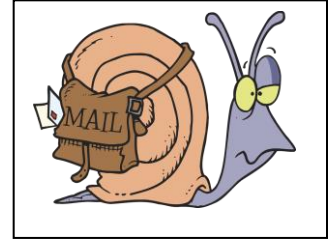
20 Year Wall Of Service Honorees			
Ace, Jerry A.	Desrosier, Charles P.	Lindsay, Edward W.	Phillips, Richard S.
Alexander, William N. (D)	Draper, Reginald A.	Lucas, James S. (D)	Post, Robert A.
Amerena, Joseph D. (D)	Dunn, Bryce B.	Magness, John H. (D)	Rummells, Kevin
Aning, Harm F.	Fish, Norman	Manley, Rickey J.	Secoy, Jon B. (D)
Baker, Harold M. (D)	French, Lloyd S.	Marshall, Joe D.	Silhanek, Larry D.
Balentine, Robert A.	Fuhr, William R.	McBrearty, Charles F.	Smith, Curtis E. (D)
Bartow, Jeff	Gailey, Carl W. (D)	McClellan, Michael	Smith, Mark C.
Blau, Robert O. (D)	Gardiner, Edward T. (D)	McGettigan, John W.	Snelgrove, Bruce
Borowski, Joseph J.	Gilb, Daniel A.	Milam, Judy	Snyder, Carol
Breitwieser, Kenneth L.	Gindlesperger, James E.	Mirda, George M.	Stack, Paul V.
Butler, Charles A. (D)	Gonzales, Raoul F.	Murray, Gregory A.	Sullivan, Thomas D. (D)
Cahill, Susanne L.	Good, David H.	Myers, Kenneth L.	Sykes, Teddie E.
Calenda, Tony B.	Harris, Eunice	Noe, Steve	Vlassick, Benjamin P. (D)
Chadwick, Robert L.	Horsch, John T.	Nolan, Dennis P.	Vlassick, Randall R.
Christman, Robert E.	Huhs, Harold L.	Nye, Charles E.	Warfield, Carol
Ciambrone, Thomas (D)	Hummel, Robert E.	O'Brien, David F.	Wells, Wilford (Clark) (D)
Clark, Michael P.	Iske, Margaret A. (D)	Olmsted, George B.	Wien, Walter L.
Conrad, Charles E.	Johnson, David M.	Osborne, William T.	Wilberg, Clark
Cramlet, Alan B.	Johnson, Joseph M.	Ovitsky, Felix W. (D)	Wolrab, Lance
Cronin, George E.	Jones, Robert H. (D)	Padilla, Stephen J.	
Dahlgren, Arthur L.	Kemna, John G.	Paquette, David W. (D)	
Davis, Jim C.	Klug, Dale E.	Pavik, Alvin	
De Marco, Anthony S.	Labarre, Gerald R. (D)	Penn, Charles I.	





## **MAIL CALL**

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



Missives requesting no action may be mailed/emailed to the editor, '[chrisjohn2@gmail.com](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.

### **BLAST FROM THE PAST**

[A FaceBook post by John Bradford alerted us]

In 1979, a U.S. satellite detected signs of a nuclear explosion. An analysis of the evidence today points to a clandestine nuclear test, a Carter administration cover-up, and only one country that was willing and able to carry it out: Israel.



*President Jimmy Carter at his desk in the Oval Office, talking to his new Chief of Staff Hamilton Jordan, White House, Washington D C, July 19th 1979. Photo by Keystone/Hulton Archive /Getty Images*

To view the entire article, see

<https://getpocket.com/explore/item/blast-from-the-past?fbclid=IwAR0KVghw2vmAHLjozTSVbE4WTmpn20D17GY1bmQVdz9Htop4AgVWijE2PoA>

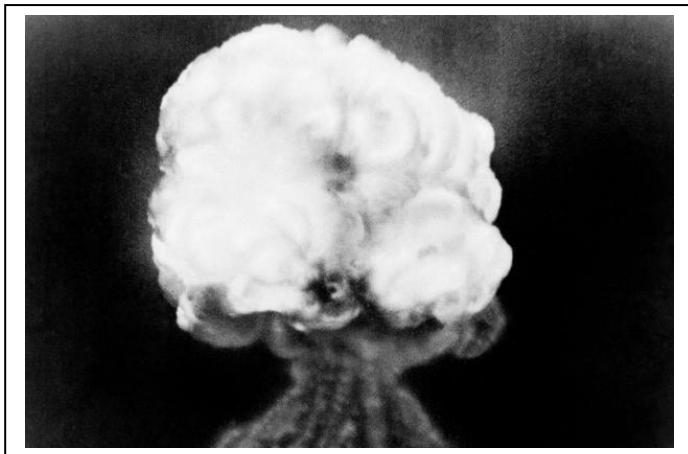
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### **Published in MILITARY NEWS**

Submitted by Steve Padilla – 16 July 2020:

### **75 Years Ago Today, the Trinity A-Bomb Test Ushered in the Era of Nuclear Warfare**

The Los Angeles Times | By Michael Hiltzik



At exactly 5:29 and 45 seconds am on July 16, 1945, at Alamogordo, NM, an immense ball of fire "at first as brilliant as the sun" rose suddenly from the desert floor. Moments later came the shock wave and "a sharp loud crack" echoing off the surrounding mountains.

The small groups of scientists and military officers in the vicinity felt a sensation of awe, followed by relief, for the detonation validated the work they had been doing in secret labs across the country as part of an effort to end World War II.

The event was the Trinity test, the first explosion in history of an atomic bomb. On that day, the era of nuclear war was launched.

This July 16, 1945, photo shows the mushroom cloud of the first atomic explosion at Trinity Test Site near Alamogordo, N.M.

(AP Photo) -- Military.com

See the full article at

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/07/16/75-years-ago-today-trinity-bomb-test-ushered-era-of-nuclear-warfare.html>



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## Additional Information on LADY OF THE LAKE

Submitted by George Cronin

# Lady of the Lake 'swims' in history

by Capt. Stephen Morrisette  
6th Strategic Wing  
Project Warrior officer

**P**eople have been wondering for years how a B-29 aircraft could have ended up in the base lake. Perhaps, they think, it crashed there. Or perhaps, they suppose, people simply threw it away. Well, here's that story and the history behind the aircraft.

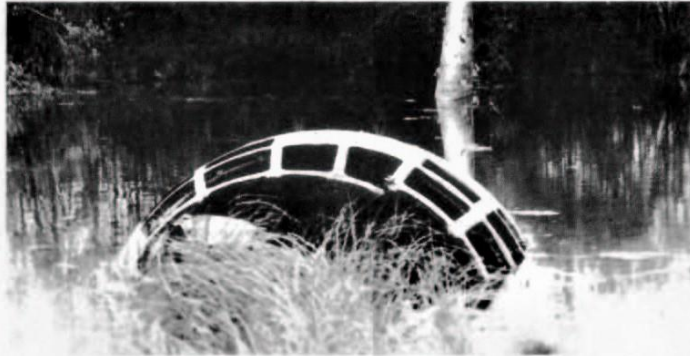
Three days after World War II ended, the U.S. Army Air Force accepted its newest B-29A-70-BN, tail number 44-62214. Built in Boeing Military Airplane hangars at Renton, Wash., she was the fourth aircraft in the -70 series, the 3859th B-29 built and one of the final B-29s that would be built. She was a gleaming weapon of war without a war to fight.

In October 1945, pilots flew "214" to Chico, Calif., to be fitted out. In January 1946, 214 was assigned to the 4196th Base Unit at Victorville Army Air Field, Calif.

Six months later, she transferred to the 4127th Base Unit at McClellan Field, Calif. After one month, she moved to the 594th Base Unit at Topoka, Kan., where she stayed only three days. Next she transferred to the 4121st Base Unit at Kelly Field in San Antonio, Texas.

Her fate was in doubt until she found a job with the 375th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron. In July of 1948, 214 was refitted and redesignated a RB-29A. With her bomb shackles and guns removed, she went to work in Alaska.

From October through December



The Lady of the Lake

1948, 214 was stationed at Ladd Field in Fairbanks. Between 1948 and 1950, she spent four months flying out of Shemya Island, Alaska, and the remaining time flying the well-worn path between Eielson and Shemya.

On June 25, 1950, 7,000 Chinese soldiers crossed the 30th parallel into Korea. American needed her B-29s again. But 214 was still not to see combat.

Instead, she traveled to Sacramento, Calif., where she was refitted and redesignated, this time as a WB-29. Early in 1951 she traveled back to Eielson and joined the newly organized 58th Strategic Reconnaissance Weather Squadron where she flew weather recon missions twice daily.

Aircraft 214 spent almost two years flying before she traveled to Elmendorf where mechanics could correct a wing-heavy condition. One month later, she returned to Eielson

and flew weather missions for an additional 18 months. On Sept. 16, 1954, Capt. C.T. Gustafson and Lt. R.E. Parry flew a weather mission in 214. Little did they know this was 214's last flight.

Sept. 24, 1954, 214 went on the aircraft-out-of-commission-for-parts list. The unit log bemoans the fact that common parts like screws and wire rope, available in other theaters, weren't available in Alaska. The log's last mention of 214 states that the aircraft reverted to "P.E. status" Nov. 15 of that year. (P.E. is an aircraft loss code; "P" stands for permanent and "E" stands for fair wear and tear).

Records show that the Air Force dropped 214 from its inventory in 1955 because of a ground accident. However, aircraft accident files at Norton AFB, Calif., didn't show an accident investigation for 214.

So far, this story is based on re-

corded facts. The final fate of 214 is speculation based on these facts.

When 214 went on P.E. status, the first of the new WB-50s had already arrived at Eielson. Perhaps, while on the AOCF roles, 214 suffered a minor ground accident — minor enough that an accident investigation wasn't filed but serious enough where people decided to use the aircraft as a "local parts store."

When the last B-29 left Eielson in 1956, 214 was a wingless, engineless, tailless wreck. She could never fly again, and the cannibalization of parts and probable vandalism made 214 nothing more than an eyesore. It was getting harder to find parts for the aging WB-29s, and once the WB-50s replaced the WB-29s, mechanics couldn't even use 214's parts.

Usually when an aircraft is written off the books, the fire department uses it to practice fighting fires or the plane becomes land fill. Nevertheless, at some point in time after 1955, people somehow carted 214 to the edge of the gravel pit then pushed her in.

Aircraft records, the unit log, and an inspection of the aircraft all combine to prove 214 didn't crash into the lake. Instead, she was simply thrown away there.

Not a very romantic ending for the Lady of this story. She never dropped a bomb on the enemy. Her job was to "sniff" the air over Alaska. When she couldn't do that any longer, she was a spare parts store which helped keep the weather squadron's fleet in the air. Today, she serves only to stir the imaginations of future airmen.

Perhaps this isn't such an unromantic ending after all.

U.S. Air Force photo

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## SPINSTR



### MISSION:

Train, Develop, and Inspire warriors to deliver Fire Emergency Services and Nuclear Treaty Monitoring for the DOD and our international partners.

### HISTORY:

Training for the Scientific Applications Specialist career field was formalized in June 1954 with the creation of the Special Instruments Training Branch under the Department of Special Weapons at Lowry Air Force Base. At the height of training in 1968, student levels were at 700 with a staff of 226 officers, enlisted and civilians. In response to the 1991 Base Realignment and Closure commission, the SPINSTR was relocated from Lowry AFB to Goodfellow AFB in 1994 where it joined the 312th Training Squadron.

See the full article at: <https://www.goodfellow.af.mil/About-Us/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/372985/312th-training-squadron/>



Submitted by Don Noble, '99' FB Webpage ... So an Air Force vet came into my office. "What did you do in the USAF?" I said, "I worked detecting nuclear development and detonations." He said, "Oh, you were part of SPINSTR." I said, "Never heard of it." So here is the page that I had a laugh over. 😊

[NOTE BY Clark Wilberg – I was the Det 057 Chief at the time we moved SPINSTR from Lowry and created OL-GO at Goodfellow. Inactivated Det 057 in June 1993 and activated OL-GO shortly thereafter. SPINSTR completed their move later that summer and fall. They combined with the 312<sup>th</sup> Training Squadron, which also had responsibility for providing Fire School training that had moved from Chanute. One of the lengthier projects was completing a borehole at the building for installation of a KS36000; it was hooked up to an operational system and both analysts and maintenance techs had opportunity to have hands-on experience. Later, we were able to get an AFTAC and AETC agreement for the maintenance guys to perform routine as well as "outage repair" maintenance for the Southern US Seismic Sites at Lajitas, Marathon and Shafter(?). At the time, they were the only AETC Instructors with an operational AF mission that they responded to simultaneously.]

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## **DET 412 BOWLING MEMORIES**

By SMSgt Tony De Marco, Ret

Circa 1968 - 1969, three Det 412 Team Members, Lindsay Miller, Lee Cline, and Tony De Marco participated in a Bowling Qualification Event held in Bangkok. Objective was to select the best area bowlers to represent the Army in a major Southeast Asia Theatre Area Bowling Tournament scheduled to be held Up Country at the Army Ramasun Station. Final qualification results were that the three AFTACers made the Bangkok All Stars Number #2 Team. What would be unique is that the Number #2 Army Team would be competing in this major tournament comprised of us three USAF 99125s and two Coast Guard Service Men. The two Bangkok Teams headed up to Ramasun Station TDY and competed in the Bowling Event over several days. I can't remember exactly what place we finished in but I do know it wasn't First Place. Our Team did equate itself well as the second photo with trophies does show. For me, a great memory, a great time, and lucky to be part of a great Det 412 Team.



Standing Middle – Lindsay Miller, Kneeling Left – Lee Cline – Kneeling Middle – Tony De Marco



Bangkok Army All Stars Team #2: USAF Det 412 (3); US Coast Guard (2)

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## **GOD BLESS AMERICA**

Submitted by Geno Wagner, email, 2 May 2020

Frank Sinatra considered Kate Smith the best singer of her time, and said that when he and a million other guys first heard her sing "God Bless America" on the radio, they all pretended to have dust in their eyes as they wiped away a tear or two. Here are the facts: The link at the bottom will take you to a video showing the very first public singing of "God Bless America." But before you watch it you should know the story behind the first public showing of the song.

The time was 1940. America was still in a terrible economic depression. Hitler was taking over Europe and Americans were afraid we'd have to go to war. It was a time of hardship and worry for most Americans. This was the era just before TV when radio shows were HUGE and American families sat around their radios in the evenings, listening to their favorite entertainers and no entertainer of that era was bigger than Kate Smith. Kate was also large; plus size as we now say and the popular phrase still used today is in deference to her; "It ain't over till the fat lady sings." Kate Smith might not have made it big in the age of TV but with her voice coming over the radio, she was the biggest star of her time.

Kate was also patriotic. It hurt her to see Americans so depressed and afraid of what the next day would bring. She had hope for America, and faith in her fellow Americans. She wanted to do something to cheer them up, so she went to the famous American songwriter Irving Berlin (who also wrote White Christmas) and asked him to write a song that would make Americans feel good again about their country. When she described what she was looking for, he said he had just the song for her. He went to his files and found a song that he had written but never published, 22 years before - in 1917. He gave it to her and she worked on it with her studio orchestra. She and Irving Berlin were not sure how the song would be received by the public, but both agreed they would not take any profits from God Bless America. Any profits would go to the Boy Scouts of America. Over the years, the Boy Scouts have received millions of dollars in royalties from this song.

This video starts out with Kate Smith coming into the radio studio with the orchestra and an audience. She introduces the new song for the very first time and starts singing. After the first couple verses, with her voice in the background, scenes are shown from the 1940 movie, "You're In The Army Now." At the 4:20 mark of the video you see a young actor in the movie, sitting in an office, reading a paper; it's Ronald Reagan.

To this day, God Bless America stirs our patriotic feelings and pride in our country. Back in 1940, when Kate Smith went looking for a song to raise the spirits of her fellow Americans, I doubt whether she realized just how successful the results would be for her fellow Americans during those years of hardship and worry and for many generations of Americans to follow.

Now that you know the story of the song, I hope you'll enjoy it. Many people don't know there's a lead in to the song since it usually starts with God Bless America ... So here's the entire song as originally sung. Enjoy it!

Click, <https://www.youtube.com/embed/TnQDW-NMaRs?rel=0>

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### **Letter from Walter Hartley**

Enclosed is a check to help defray the cost of the PoMo. I enjoy receiving and reading it. I wish I could come to Florida and attend some of the events, but that is pretty much impossible at this time.

Tell all I said hello, and keep up the good work. Hope to see everyone at the next reunion. Thanks again and take care.

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### **Letter to the Editor - April 2020 PoMo**

By Frank and Edna Calenda

John and Judy, It never ceases to amaze Edna and I at the professional and dedicated way that you both produce this publication. Your tenacity in getting inputs in a timely manner is probably one of the most difficult parts of your work, yet you persist and then continue to make this such a readable medium.

There is absolutely no one that can appreciate the work you do in your efforts. I know there are others involved in this process, but it always takes you guys to persist in getting inputs and then getting them formatted in such a fine manner.

I know you're appreciated by the many people that await, and then eagerly read, the PoMo. There are not enough words to say thank you for your diligent efforts. I can only hope that you can continue your fine work. Kind regards.

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## **OLD MASS SPEC**

Submitted by Phil Godfrey



Hey Alumni! We recently received information from a former 9S out west that this is a Mass Spec purported to be an old AFTAC asset. We don't know anything about it. If you can identify this ol' gal, and share a quick story about it, you'll receive special mention in the next edition of the PoMo. Where did it come from? Who worked on it? Where do you put the quarters in? Can it cure Coronavirus?

Please send what you know to Judy Henderson at [jem2415@earthlink.net](mailto:jem2415@earthlink.net)

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## **POINT OF LIGHT**

[This is not exactly AFTAC Alumni news, but it's a word of encouragement to all]

Submitted by Ed Lindsay

Delivered by Tyler Perry, but this could be any person who has gone through a tough situation and has the capacity to be the Point of Light to others; Mr. Perry was awarded the Points of Light award.

[https://www.google.com/search?xsrf=ALeKk00TQSnz1e8NPX8IKsvESk9FpCQbsQ%3A1596301943860&source=hp&ei=d6lIX8\\_pMJKasQXzwp04&q=point+of+light+tyler+perry&oq=point+of+light+ty&gs\\_lcp=CgZwc3ktYWIQARgAMgIIADIGCAAQFhAeOgcIIxDgAhAnOgQIIxAnOgQIABBD0gUIABCRAjoLCC4QsQMqQxwEQowl6BQgAELEDOggIABCxAXCDAToECC4QQzoKCC4QsQMqQFBCHAjoFCC4QsQM6BwguELEDEEM6AgguOggILhDHARCvAToKCAAQsQMqQFBCHAjoKCC4QxwEQrweQCjoNCAAQsQMqQgEQFBCHAjoHCAAQsQMqQ1CmH1jNQGDQTmgCcAB4AIABtQKIAdMZkgEIMC4xNS4xLjKYAQCgAQGgAQdnd3Mtd2l6sAEK&scient=psy-ab](https://www.google.com/search?xsrf=ALeKk00TQSnz1e8NPX8IKsvESk9FpCQbsQ%3A1596301943860&source=hp&ei=d6lIX8_pMJKasQXzwp04&q=point+of+light+tyler+perry&oq=point+of+light+ty&gs_lcp=CgZwc3ktYWIQARgAMgIIADIGCAAQFhAeOgcIIxDgAhAnOgQIIxAnOgQIABBD0gUIABCRAjoLCC4QsQMqQxwEQowl6BQgAELEDOggIABCxAXCDAToECC4QQzoKCC4QsQMqQFBCHAjoFCC4QsQM6BwguELEDEEM6AgguOggILhDHARCvAToKCAAQsQMqQFBCHAjoKCC4QxwEQrweQCjoNCAAQsQMqQgEQFBCHAjoHCAAQsQMqQ1CmH1jNQGDQTmgCcAB4AIABtQKIAdMZkgEIMC4xNS4xLjKYAQCgAQGgAQdnd3Mtd2l6sAEK&scient=psy-ab)

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## **SEISMIC ACTIVITY**

At the edge of civilization in the hilly deserts of the MacDonnell Ranges, Detachment 421 of the U.S. Air Force's 709th Technical Maintenance Squadron toils in Alice Springs, Australia, to ensure the upkeep of equipment that detects earthquakes, tsunamis and weapons of mass destruction.

Video by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Christian Senyk

<https://www.defense.gov/Watch/Video/videoId/754954/dvpcc/false/#DVIDSVideoPlayer581>



# **OBITUARIES**

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



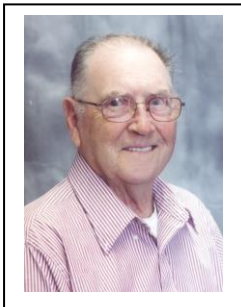
## **ROSE LEE DUNN**

03 January 1928 to 18 July 2020

Rose Lee Dunn died on 18 July 2020 in North Highland, CA. Rose was the wife of Jim Dunn, who predeceased her in 1992. Her son Jimmy also predeceased her in 2012. She is survived by her son, Larry, and his wife, Rae, and grandchild Mikayla. Additional details are available in the DEPOT FALLOUT newsletter at [www.aftacwcc.org](http://www.aftacwcc.org)

[Contacted by **Bob Fitzgerald**, Webmaster, CA Chapter, passing along information from Rose's Daughter-in-law, **Rae Howard**. **Jean Charles** first alerted Bob she had been called by Rae.]

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## **RAYMOND LEE DYER**

27 June 1937 to 19 March 2016 (age 78)

Raymond Lee "Radar" Dyer died on 19 March 2016 at his home in Hermiston, Oregon. Ray enlisted in the USAF in 1955 and served in many overseas locations including: Japan; Formosa; Saigon, Vietnam; and Turkey. Ray also traveled through Hawaii, Wake Island, Guam, Midway, and visited the Philippines. He was stationed stateside at: Electronics School at Scott AF Base in IL, Shaw AF Base in SC, Pope AF Base in NC, Pease AF Base in NH, Offutt AF Base in NE, Keesler AF Base in MS, Lowry AF Base in CO, and just loved his last assignment at Pinedale, Wyoming.

Ray is survived by his daughters: Debra Bennett and Kelly Sallee, and grandchildren.

[Full obituary available at: <https://www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com/obituary/Raymond-Dyer?fbclid=IwAR1lqh9FCgiV-6VjGfIB8pQOF0bLro1tLUT67FtdNBAP46SCDPWrs-qZzTI> ]

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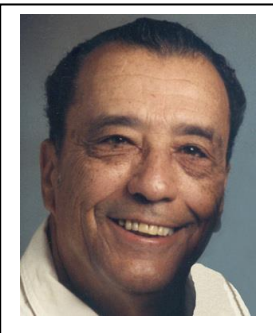
## **ROBERTA DEANNIE (Meyer) FERRIS**

Redding, CA -- 1938 - 2017

Deannie (Meyer) Ferris departed this world peacefully March 14, 2017, at Shasta Regional Medical Center, Redding, CA, with the same quiet charm that she lived her life. A conspiracy of their respective children brought Mr. Bo Ferris (USAF retired) and Deannie together and they married in February 2001. Bo passed in June 2009.

Deannie is survived by sons, Daniel, Kirk (Laura), Robert (Brenda), and her grandchildren Sibylla; Audra and Ashlie; and Sarah, Carlie and James; also four great-grandsons, one great-granddaughter, and one - pending arrival.

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## **ERNEST FREEMAN**

June 25, 1933 - April 12, 2020

Ernest Freeman was born in Bennettsville, SC. He married Betty Fay Lovely and they enjoyed 59 years of marriage. Ernest served in the USAF and retired after 22 years of service. Ernest is survived by his grandchildren, Kristin Heinz (David), Jessica Stovall, Jeremy and Nick Polgar, Alex and Andrew Cabanas, Justin, Joshua and Marissa Freeman, and Kari and Sean Freeman. He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty; sons, Ernest D. Freeman, Bobby Freeman, and Ronnie Freeman; daughters, Beverly Stovall, and Barbara Cabanas.

(continued on pg 12)

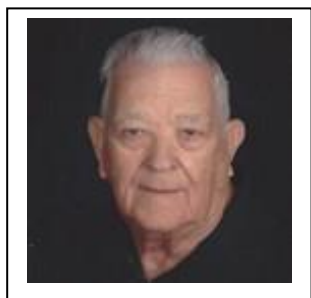


(Bill Schmied passed along information from Lonnie Gibbons ... Ernie was a long-time member of our Colorado AFTAC alumni group and was an administrative technician assigned to SPINSTRAS 1966-70. His next assignment was to the AFTAC detachment was overseas followed by a release for a regular AF assignment to Thailand. He was reassigned to Lowry AFB in 1974 where he worked in the base PDO until his retirement in 1976. Ernie and his wife, Betty, were active supporters with the Colorado alumni for many years until they moved to Wesley Chapel, FL. Years later after Betty's passing Ernie moved to Illinois to be close to family.)

Full obituary available at <https://obituaries.shelbyvilledailyunion.com/obituary/ernest-freeman-1079007875>

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## **CURTIS HARRIS**

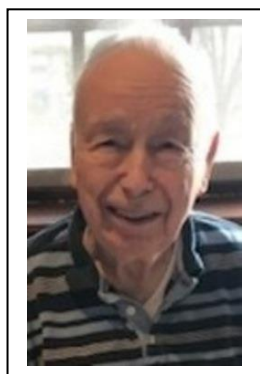


Curt Harris from Palm Bay, FL, passed away on Tuesday July 21, 2020. Curt was in AFTAC HQ/Admin, Patrick AFB. He is survived by Eunice, his wife of 69 years, who worked at AFTAC HQ/TN at PAFB. They have a son, Michael Harris; daughter and son-in-law Tina & Chris Colon, and four grandchildren Christopher & Ashlyn Harris and David & Carlin Smith. Unfortunately, services were held for family only due to COVID-19 social distancing.

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## **EUGENE "GENE" WALTER KILLEY**

30 May 1929 – 22 April 2020



Major Eugene "Gene" Walter Killey, USAF Retired, passed peacefully on April 22, 2020, in Minnetonka, MN. Gene was born in Gloucester, MA. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps which later became the USAF. He married Sarah (Sally) Frontiera. He earned Master degrees in both Business and Electrical Engineering while in the service. After his military retirement, civilian jobs took him to WI & MN, eventually retiring from Data Card in Minnetonka. Long time residents of Hopkins & Minnetonka, Gene & Sally also spent many winters at their home near Las Vegas, NV. Gene was preceded in death by Sally, and is survived by children, Mike (Laurie) Killey, Susie (Bary) Easton, Bobby (Julie) Killey, Gina (Damon) Mathews, and Lisa (Mike) Pavelka, twelve grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren.

(See full obituary at <https://obituaries.gloucestertimes.com/obituary/eugene-gene-killey-1079093200>)

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## **RICHARD CURTIS "DICK" PLATT**

CMSgt (Ret) Richard Curtis Platt, 80, passed away on Thursday, 23 April 2020, while hospitalized in Sarasota, FL. Dick was a long-time member of our CO AFTAC alumni group and was an administrative technician assigned to SPINSTRAS 1965-68. His next assignment was to Det 412 in Thailand after which he was released to AF and assigned as First Sgt to an AC&W radar squadron in S. California. Upon completion of that assignment he returned to Lowry, and after retiring from the AF he worked as a civilian in the Lowry AFB command post located in the basement of the headquarters building across the parking lot from the SPINSTRAS building. Dick and his wife of 69 years, Gayla, were active supporters of the Colorado AFTAC alumni for many years until Dick retired again and they moved to Corsicana, TX. After a number of years in TX, they moved to Sarasota, FL, to be close to their son, Curtis, and Gayla, is still there. [Information also provided by Bill Schmied and Geno Wagner.]

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## **CHARLES E. (CHUCK) SCHUSTER**

14 August 1931 – 8 November 2019

Lt Col (Ret) Charles E. (Chuck) Schuster passed away at Valparaiso, FL, after complications from a stroke. Mr. Schuster was born in Altoona, PA, and had been a resident of Fort Walton Beach and Valparaiso, FL, since 1976. He had over 34 years of service to his country in the AF and was a veteran of the Korean conflict during which he participated in 116 special operations missions behind enemy lines as an airborne radio operator. He also served overseas in Japan, England, and Iran. While in England, he met and married his wife, the former Jean M. Dyer, in 1959 in London.

During his military career, Mr. Schuster received many medals and awards. After his retirement from the AF, Mr. Schuster worked for over 21 years as a support contractor at Eglin AFB as a senior electronic warfare engineer and a senior acquisition project specialist retiring in July 2005. Mr. Schuster is survived by his wife of 60 years, Jean M. Schuster of Valparaiso, FL, son Karl R. Schuster, and two grandchildren.

[See full obituary at <https://obits.nwfdailynews.com/obituaries/nwfdailynews/obituary.aspx?n=charles-e-schuster-chuck&pid=194731271> ]

[NOTE – Submitted by Mike Lubin – “I remember Chuck from my tour at the HQ in 73-76. He did most of the briefings for the Seismic section. I was unaware of his prior service experience and impressive list of awards. A modest fellow and a fine officer.”]

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## **DAVID M. STANCL, MSgt, USAF (Ret)**

18 January 1944 – 12 May 2020

David passed away suddenly on May 12, 2020. The pandemic didn't affect him as he was COVID19 negative! He was born on an 86 acre farm in Owatonna, MN. He joined the Air Force in 1963. After basic training and training at Lowry AFB, he arrived at AFTAC's 1155<sup>th</sup>, Squadron, McClellan AFB CA on 15 October 1964. He continued with the 1155<sup>th</sup> completing many TDY assignments, until retiring in 1983. David is survived by daughter Dawnene, son David and grandchildren Rachel & Curtis. He is predeceased by Glinda, his wife of 44 years

(Submitted by Dale Klug -- Dave & I both grew up in southern Minnesota. We met at Lowry AFB and, both came to 1155<sup>th</sup> in late 1964. Dave was in Q, U, & F techniques. His daughter provided this obituary).



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

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

**Teleconference Meetings:** Currently, the AFTAC Alumni Association monthly meetings are being conducted via FreeConference.com. The Board will determine when we can resume in-person meetings.

**AFTAC Heritage Committee:** Mike Young talked about working on 2 packages for the Wall of Honor and encouraged others to submit packages. He said he will assist as always.

**Membership Report:** Mike Steskal reported that we currently have 581 FL Members (551 Lifetime and 30 Year-to-Year). Of these members, 251 live in FL of which 183 live in Brevard County.



## **THE AFTAC MEMORIAL**

By Lou Seiler, President AFTAC Memorial Corporation

The AFTAC memorial Corporation (AFTACMC) (a Florida non-profit 501(C)3 corporation) has for the past 24 months been conducting a fund raising to construct a memorial to those AFTACers who have passed away while serving in AFTAC. We initially raised enough to conduct a design effort and an estimated cost to build effort. The proposed design has previously been published in the Post Monitor, on the AFTAC Web Site (AFTACAA) and through an initial direct mailing (340) to those in the Alumni database with addresses in Florida.

When we began the process there was a large voicing of approval and comments of “when can we contribute?” Well, that time is definitely here!



In total, 29 donations (including 10 responses from the mailing) have been received to support the building of the memorial. In addition two pledges have been made, one by the AFTAC Alumni Association for \$10,000, and one by as yet unnamed Alumni for \$5,000. Of the 29 donors, there are 3 Silver (\$2500-\$4999) and one Bronze (\$1000-\$2499).

It was our desire to have the Memorial Built and to have the Dedication Ceremony as a part of the 2021 AFTAC World Wide Reunion (WWR) in 2021 (around the June timeframe), however, that dedication timeline is no longer possible.

As of the date of this article, the AFTACMC has approximately \$5700 in the building fund, with \$15,000 in pledges for a total of \$20,700. The estimated cost to build the proposed Memorial is \$150,000 to \$180,000. So you can see we are a long way off.

We see great enthusiasm for many things AFTAC, such as the PoMo, the every other year WWR, posts and followings on various FACEBOOK pages. I know that many, if not all, have very fond memories of their time in AFTAC, many with their entire service time in AFTAC. Many of you have known and/or have served with members who have died while in AFTAC.

At this point we are faced with making some very hard decisions and we would like your input. Should we abandon the concept of a Memorial, downsize it to the concept of a roadside historical marker, or continue to pursue something that shows the pride AFTACers had and continue to have in the important mission of AFTAC to national security. 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

So 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 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

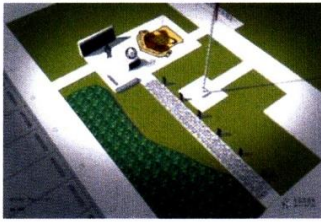
Or you may also go to the website <https://brickmarkersusa.com/donors/aftacmc.html>

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.

Or you may use the form on the next page and send a check with your order.

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!





# AFTAC MEMORIAL CORPORATION



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like a receipt mailed to the above address for tax purposes? Y/N

Donor Levels:

(Donor names will be engraved on the pedestal of the sculpture):

Platinum	\$10,000 and above
Gold	\$5000 - \$9999
Silver	\$2500 - \$4999
Bronze	\$1000 - \$2499

Brick Level:

Inscribed pavers will be permanently emplaced in the east-west sidewalk:

☐ **\$150 - 4x8 Brick** ☐ **\$50 - Mini Replica**

\*Replicas may only be ordered with purchase of full-size brick

3 lines of text, 20 characters per line (including spaces and punctuation)


Colonel Frank Hall  
Hq PACTOA  
Jul 1982 - Jul 1985

☐ **\$300 - 8x8 Brick** ☐ **\$50 - Mini Replica**

\*Replicas may only be ordered with purchase of full-size brick

6 lines of text, 20 characters per line (including spaces and punctuation)


Michael Steskal  
Dedicated to those  
who have passed  
in service to the  
AFTAC mission  
since 1947

## Mail form and payment to:

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

## Please make checks payable to:

AFTAC Memorial Corporation

Donations may also be made via our website: <https://brickmarkersusa.com/donors/aftacmc.html>

For additional information please email us at: [aftacmem@gmail.com](mailto:aftacmem@gmail.com)



## Alumni of the Year (AOY) Selection Committee

Prior Alumni of the Year (AOY) honorees make up the AOY Nomination and Selection Committee. Prior AOYs will submit nominations for the 2020 Alumni of the Year and vote on the nominees in September 2020. Because of health and safety reasons, nominations, distribution of ballots, voting, and announcements to AOYs will be via Email this year.

**AOYs will submit nominations to Bob Wiley at [rwiley1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rwiley1@cfl.rr.com) not later than 22 August 2020.** Remember that nominees must be members in good standing and that the contribution to the association may be a singular, outstanding event, or the culmination of several years of outstanding contributions to the organization.

Bob will send an Email to all AOYs independently of this notice and they are the only ones who can participate in the vote.



## 2021 WORLDWIDE REUNION

Hosted by the

**Florida AFTAC Alumni Association**

**SAVE THE DATES: 16 – 20 June 2021**

Sean Ryan continues to work with a representative from “A Complete Reunion” on the initial planning for our upcoming event.



**DUES ARE DUE**

**IF YOU PAY DUES YEAR-TO-YEAR,  
YOUR DUES ARE DUE ON 1 OCTOBER**



**Board Members** (elected positions)

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

**Appointed –**

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

### **A Word From The President**

*By Allan Pentecost*

I hope everyone is doing well and staying safe during the Covid 19 Nationwide shutdown, and the Stay-At-Home order. My wife and I have been doing just that, staying at home. We have had 4 grocery deliveries and even a prescription delivery. I hope things will be starting to improve by the time this newsletter is sent out.

We needed to reschedule this year's WCC Spring Picnic due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Butch Kemna worked with the park district, and was able to reschedule the picnic for September 12<sup>th</sup>, at the same location, Tempo Park, 13125 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Citrus Heights, from 11:30am to 2:30pm. So, mark your calendars for that date. If any additional changes need to be made to that date or time, we will let you know.

The WCC officers agreed to order an engraved 8x8 brick to support the AFTAC Memorial project. This project is explained later in this newsletter. There was limited space on the brick, so this is what we ordered for the engraving: "AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOC. WEST COAST CHAPTER – In memory of all the men and women who died while serving in the AFTAC organization."

Again, stay safe during these difficult times. And I look forward to when we can get together again.

### **UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS:**

~~Saturday, 16 May 2020, 11:30am-2:30pm.~~ Our annual "Armed Forces Day WCC SPRING PICNIC & BBQ" is **RESCHEDULED for Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> due to the COVID-19 virus epidemic.** Optimistically, we have rescheduled the picnic for this new date in hopes that the virus "stay-at-home" orders will have passed by then so that we can gather together again. Watch for the required signup form in the July issue of this newsletter and on our website "Events" page for the same form plus any changes and updated details.

Saturday, 14 Nov 2020, 11:30am-2:00pm will be our "FALL SOCIAL" luncheon event. Details regarding this will be published later in upcoming Depot Fallout newsletters and on our website. Having this event will also depend on the status of the virus & the "stay-at-home" orders. ☺

*Stay in, stay well, and keep the faith. The Lord willing, this too will pass!*

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

### **Upcoming Event**

**General Membership Breakfast 19 Sep 2020**

Location Aurora Hills Golf Course Tin Cup Restaurant

**Traditional Fall/Veterans Day Dinner 21 Nov 2020**

Location Aurora Hills Golf Course Tin Cup Restaurant

**In his Editor's Corner, Ken Behrens, Editor/Publisher, made some observations:**

- On a positive note, I have come to appreciate the value of the ZOOM application to keep in touch with the members of organizations to which I belong. The virtual meetings do not feel the same as real face-to-face get togethers, but at least we can see each other and have live conversations.

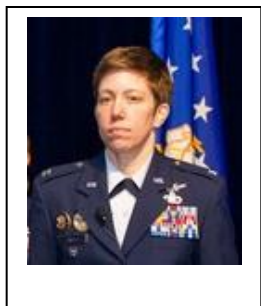
(continued on pg 18)



- As is mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter, I want to thank Glen and Jonece Feakes for sharing their 62nd anniversary at our February breakfast. The breakfast fell on the actual date of their wedding in 1958 that was held at the Little Brown Church in the Vale, Nashua, Iowa. This church became nationally known when Dr. William S. Pitts used it as the inspiration to write the song "The Church in the Wildwood". We were honored to be able to celebrate this momentous event with them.



# **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 will be available in the future ]

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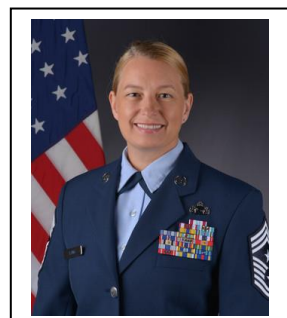


## **Vice Commander/CV/2018. Col Ralph E. Bordner, III**

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/> ]

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

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

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



**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) )

(continued pg 19)

## **AFTAC USES TECHNOLOGY TO EXECUTE CHANGE OF COMMAND**

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs / Published June 30, 2020

AFTAC underwent a change of command on 30 June 2020, employing modern-day technology to accomplish long-standing traditions. Col Chad Hartman relinquished command to Col Katharine Barber as 16th Air Force commander Lt. Gen. Timothy Haugh served as the presiding officer via video teleconference from San Antonio, Texas. Col Harman's immediate family members and a small handful of senior leadership was in attendance at Patrick AFB's Sharkatorium.



Pictured at left - Col Chad Hartman (left), commander of the Air Force Technical Applications Center, Patrick AFB, Fla., salutes and relinquishes command during a Change of Command ceremony June 30, 2020 as his replacement, Col. Katharine Barber (right) stands at attention. Also pictured is guidon bearer Chief Master Sgt. Amy Long (center), AFTAC's command chief. (U.S. Air Force photo by Amanda Ryrholm)



Pictured at right – Col Katharine Barber (left) delivers her first remarks to the men and women of AFTAC, Patrick AFB, FL, after taking command of the center from outgoing commander Col Chad Hartman (right) 30 June 2020. Seen on screen is presiding officer Lt Gen Timothy Haugh, commander of 16th Air Force, who streamed via video teleconference from Lackland AFB, Texas. (U.S. Air Force photo by Amanda Ryrholm)

An Air Force change of command ceremony is steeped in history and represents the formal transfer of authority and responsibility from one leader to another. It is also a way to recognize the achievements of an outgoing commander as well as introduce the new commander to the people he or she will be leading.

Typically, a change of command has troop formations, distinguished visitors and invited guests in attendance. However, due to social distancing requirements in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, AFTAC employed modern technology to transmit the ceremony via video chat and teleconference. Several hundred Airmen, family, friends and alumni tuned in to witness the virtual passing of the guidon.

Hartman took command of AFTAC in June 2018, just two months after the center underwent a major structure reorganization. During his tenure, he oversaw a \$2 billion upgrade of AFTAC's two maritime assets, USNS Howard O. Lorenzen and USNS Invincible; launched a revolutionary algorithmic warfare campaign; drove the relocation and hardening of AFTAC's nuclear alert center that resolved a 34-year mission gap; and managed a 99 percent readiness level for 3,600 sensors dispersed on every continent and in every domain.

Prior to the change of command portion of the ceremony, Haugh presented the Legion of Merit to Hartman for "exceptionally meritorious conduct and superior initiative, outstanding leadership and exemplary ability." The prestigious medal is presented to members of the Armed Forces who hold key non-combat positions of great responsibility and whose conduct is above reproach.

"Last fall, when a Russian missile launch resulted in the dispersal of nuclear materials, AFTAC was the first to recognize the explosion and synchronized the analytical effort to investigate and confirm the incident," said Haugh. "Chad expertly briefed the President, Congress and the Secretary of the Air Force and ultimately shaped the United States' strategic response and enabled the State Department to expose Russia's harmful behavior to partners across the region."

Haugh added, "Colonel Hartman has been a critical voice in shaping how we think about global competition and capability integration across the joint force, and I know our leadership team at 16th Air Force will miss his discerning insights."

(continued on pg 20)

When it was time for Hartman to make his remarks, the outgoing commander quickly shifted the focus away from himself to shine the spotlight on the men and women who execute AFTAC's global mission.

"Team AFTAC, you empowered our nation and took the necessary steps to guard against our nation's most dangerous threats – weapons of mass destruction," Hartman said. Throughout my tenure, you sustained and operated the Air Force's only blue water fleet of ships, relocated an entire detachment into Cheyenne Mountain in Colorado, operated and modernized the Air Force's oldest aircraft fleet, and masterfully executed national surveillance operations in every domain – air, sea, land, space and cyber."

The outgoing commander thanked the many mission partners who contribute to AFTAC's global mission and operate the center's massive network of national laboratories.

He also recognized dozens on his immediate staff and senior leadership team for "unleashing 72 years of innovative culture, tackling wicked problems, ensuring no nuclear surprises, mastering the digital environment, and most importantly, optimizing AFTAC's greatest asset – our people."

Hartman is transferring to Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum, the Netherlands, to be the Chief of Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance.

Barber, a career intelligence officer, comes to AFTAC after serving as the commander of the National Air and Space Intelligence Center's Space, Missiles and Forces Intelligence Group at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. She has commanded at both the squadron and group levels, and from July 2011 to June 2013, she served as the Senior Duty Officer in the White House Situation Room.

"Colonel Hartman has set AFTAC on a dynamic course and I intend to continue the legacy of conquering wicked problems for our nation," she said. "This organization is filled with creative people who have mastered the complexities we face, and I can't think of a better place to be in the year 2020, which is the most unique year I have ever experienced! Thank you, General Haugh, for your trust in me to command this venerable institution."

After the guidon was passed from one commander to another, the Numbered Air Force commander took a moment to welcome Barber to her new position.

"AFTAC is gaining a world-class leader and commander today," Haugh said. "Kate, I look forward to your leadership as you take command, and I can't wait to watch the incredible Airmen of AFTAC as you continue to advance the future of warfighting within our enterprise and within the Air Force. Your leaders, our service, and the nation are behind you."

As the Department of Defense's sole nuclear treaty monitoring center, AFTAC provides direct technical, analytical and evaluative support to the International Atomic Energy Agency and operates and maintains the U.S. Atomic Energy Detection System, the largest sensor network in the U.S. Air Force.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **AIR COMBAT COMMAND officially declares Full Operating Capability for Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber)**

By Sharon Singleton and Jennifer Spires, Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) / Published July 17, 2020

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - LACKLAND, Texas -- Gen. Mike Holmes, Air Combat Command commander and Lt. Gen. Timothy D. Haugh, Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) commander declared Full Operating Capability for Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) during a virtual ceremony held here, Tuesday.

The declaration of FOC signifies that the Air Force's Information Warfare organization met a rigorous set of criteria, including an approved concept of operations and demonstrated performance of mission under stress in simulated and real-world conditions.

[For full article, see <https://www.16af.af.mil/News/Article/2278163/air-combat-command-officially-declares-full-operating-capability-for-sixteenth/> ]

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## **Arguing Artificial Intelligence during pandemic becomes a reality**

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs / Published May 11, 2020

It wasn't what he envisioned as the final step toward earning his doctorate – having to defend his dissertation virtually instead of in person before a traditional panel of judges.

The coronavirus, however, has changed the way people around the world are communicating, and this doctoral candidate was not immune to the “new norm” of social distancing.

Dr. Josh Dickey has been assigned to AFTAC since June 2007, working as an electrical engineer in the Systems Engineering Division. His primary responsibilities centered around the sustainment of AFTAC's worldwide geophysical sensor network. In 2012, Dickey began his path to a PhD at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, with coursework in electrical engineering. Things were rolling along for the young scientist. He maintained an enviable 4.0 grade point average and published his first paper, all while juggling his full-time job at AFTAC and witnessing the birth of his first child, James.



**Dr Josh Dickey**

He wasn't as fortunate the next semester, though. He received extended orders for a project he was working on in Morocco, which derailed his studies and forced him to drop all the classes for that semester. That, coupled with the birth of his second son Benjamin, put Dickey in a difficult position.

“I simply ran out of time and money,” he said. But as the saying goes, everything happens for a reason. He learned about the Department of Defense's SMART Scholarship-for-Service Retention Program that allows select DOD personnel to pursue their education in specific STEM-related fields that are in high demand by the U.S. government. Once accepted, retention program students receive full tuition and book allowances while remaining in their permanent civil service position, earning their full salary and benefits. Their new job duties as a SMART student are to attend classes full time, maintain a 3.0 GPA and earn their advanced degree. Upon completion of their degree, scholars return to their organization and begin applying the new skills and expertise obtained from their advanced degree program.

“Not only do students get to pursue their passion during the education phase, they also begin a journey towards an empowering career to protect national security,” said Rose Day, AFTAC's Human Resources Program Manager. “For more than a decade, SMART scholars have been working with labs and agencies throughout DOD to support the warfighter and create an impact for our national decision makers. The Retention Program launched the summer of 2016 was a great opportunity to allow current civilians to pursue advanced degrees that enhance mission capabilities without giving up their full-time job and sacrificing their family life. Josh was a perfect candidate.”

Dickey learned of his acceptance in March 2017. From there, he sat down with his wife, Suzanne, and laid out plans to sell their Florida home, pack up the family, and move to Dayton, Ohio. “The Air Force Institute of Technology is located at Wright-Patterson AFB, which is where I completed my studies,” Dickey said. “It was my longest time away from the Sunshine State. Let's just say it took us some time to acclimate to the mid-western weather!”

The Tampa native enjoyed his time in the Buckeye state, but as soon the degree requirements were completed, he and Suzanne were excited to move back to Florida. “Once we're fully settled back on the Space Coast, I will be spearheading AFTAC's new data analytics branch within the Systems Development Directorate and applying all the research I gleaned at AFIT,” he said.

Dickey's dissertation was entitled, “Neural Network Models for Nuclear Treaty Monitoring: Enhancing the Seismic Signal Pipeline with Deep Temporal Convolution.”

In layman's terms, his studies focused on the exploration of artificial intelligence and machine learning to process seismic signals produced during nuclear detonations. AFTAC's primary mission is to monitor nuclear activity across the globe. “Effectively incorporating AI/ML at AFTAC is essential for our future,” Dickey stated. “I hope to spearhead these efforts upon my return to the center.”

Day said Dickey was not only one of the first retention candidates for the DOD SMART program; he was also the first for AFTAC. “Most people don't realize it, but the DOD is the largest employer of scientists and engineers in the nation,” she said. “AFTAC is an agency that employs highly-technical STEM professionals with unique skills and abilities. One of the ways to attract and retain that level of talent is through educational incentives like internships, scholarships and fellowships. As a center, we must be able to increase the pool of advanced STEM-degree holders to execute AFTAC's global mission. This program is so important to achieve those goals.”

(continued pg 22)

While Dickey did most of the heavy lifting himself to earn the prestigious “doctor” title, he was quick to recognize others who played a role in his success.

“Dr. (Bill) Juneke is my inspiration,” Dickey said. “He’s AFTAC’s Senior Scientist and finished his Ph.D. at UCF the same semester I began. He has encouraged me, guided me, assisted me, and even served on my research committee at AFIT. I cannot thank him enough for his professional expertise and sincere friendship.”

He also thanked AFTAC’s Systems Development director, Dave Merker for his mentorship. Merker recognized the invaluable knowledge and skill Dickey will be bringing back to his directorate, so he made the decision to stand up a new AI/ML office within AFTAC’s Center of Engineering Excellence. “Dave was crucial in both facilitating my degree and paving the way for my return to AFTAC. I’m indebted to him.”

When it came time to defend his dissertation, the team of experts connected with Dickey over an online teleconferencing application. The panel consisted of his research advisor, a representative from the dean’s office, and three members of the research committee. “I enjoy public speaking, and I really feed off the audience’s reaction to whatever I might be presenting at the time,” Dickey said, “so talking to a camera in an empty room for more than an hour was a different experience. Fortunately, the significance of the moment was enough to boost my adrenaline and I was able to power through my defense. Once the question-and-answer portion began, I felt much more comfortable. And I passed!”

When asked what the most rewarding part of his studies was, he reflected for a moment to gather his thoughts. “The opportunity to learn a new skill set and completely revamp my career has been priceless,” Dickey said. “Back in 2011, I saw this great potential for incorporating more machine learning into AFTAC’s vital mission. And now, getting the opportunity to study AI/ML full-time for three years has been a dream come true.”

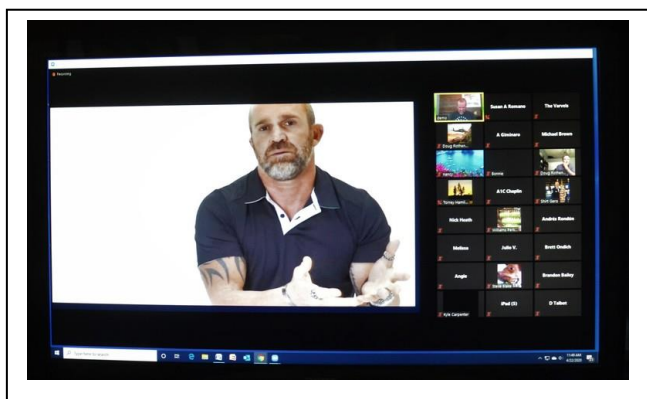
He added, “AFIT is a special place, particularly suited to pursue operational and classified research for the Department of Defense. The faculty is top-notch and the close proximity to the Air Force Research Lab is invaluable. I highly encourage anyone who’s interested in advanced education to look into scholarships offered by the DOD STEM program. Convince your leadership that you are worth the investment, and then work your tail off! The payoff is well worth the effort.”

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

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## **SUICIDE SURVIVOR HELPS Airmen, families battle adversity during pandemic**

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs



Doug Monda conducts an online discussion with members of AFTAC and their families about the perils of depression and mental illness. Monda is a two-time suicide survivor whose message of resilience helps him and others cope with past traumas. (USAF photo by Susan A. Romano)

Airmen and families assigned to AFTAC participated in an online video chat with suicide survivor Doug Monda to discuss resiliency as the nation grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic. Monda was joined by 92 members of the nuclear treaty monitoring center who dialed in to hear about Monda’s battle with depression and mental health struggles.

“His message is a very simple one,” said Doug Rothenbush, director of AFTAC’s 24th Analysis Squadron. “He is a firm believer that no one is alone and that people facing any type of adversity can live happy and healthy lives.”

(Read the full article at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) – “Need to Know”)



# HONOREES FROM THE 20-YEAR WALL



CMSGT JOHN H. MAGNESS

(1950 - 1971)

AUG 50	JAN 55	**	HQ/OPS
JAN 55	NOV 57	**	DETACHMENT 158
NOV 57	AUG 58	**	DELTA FIELD OFFICE
AUG 58	JUN 60	**	HQ/IG
JUN 60	JAN 63	**	WESTERN FIELD OFFICE
JAN 63	JAN 66	**	DETACHMENT 212/CH OPR
JAN 66	MAR 70	**	HQ/OPS
MAR 70	APR 71	**	1158 TCHOS



SMSGT HAROLD J. MARTIN

(1960 - 1986)

JUL 60	MAY 61	**	SPINSTRALOWRY AFB CO
MAY 61	SEP 61	**	1155 TCHOS
SEP 61	OCT 62	**	DETACHMENT 310
OCT 62	MAY 71	**	HQ 1035 <sup>TH</sup> FIELD ACTIVITY GROUP (F TROOP: 1963-1970)
MAY 71	AUG 72	**	OPERATING LOCATION AO
AUG 72	APR 82	**	HQ
APR 82	OCT 83	**	DETACHMENT 460
OCT 83	JUN 86	**	HQ/TX



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

**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.

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 online and/or with your editor 'chrisjohn2@gmail.com'**

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

**September 2020**

**Monday, 14th, 1600 – TeleConference Membership Mtg**  
**[check Calendar of Events at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) ]**

**October 2020**

**Tuesday, 13th, 1130 – Membership Mtg**  
**[check Calendar of Events at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) ]**

**November 2020**

**Monday, 9th, 1600 – Membership Meeting**  
**[check Calendar of Events at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) ]**

**December 2020**

**Monday, 14th (time ?) – Membership Meeting**  
**[check Calendar of Events at [www.aftacaa.us](http://www.aftacaa.us) ]**

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

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

1. SnowBall
2. Center Annual Awards Banquet

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

1. Nominating Board (ex-prez+2) selects slate for publication
2. Annual Association Spring Golf N'Getogether

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

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

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

2. **Oct or Nov**, Annual Association Fall Golf N-Getogether
3. Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, Alumni Assn **ANNUAL FY DUES Due**

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

**Next Reunion** is scheduled to be hosted by the Florida Association, 2021 (proposed dated 16-20 June 2021)

## **SAGE SHOP – OPEN FOR BUSINESS**

Mail orders to:

AFTAC Alumni Assn,

ATTN: Sage Shop

PO Box 254892, Patrick AFB FL, 32925-0892

SAGE CONTACT: 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.

