

POST-MONITOR

VOL 28 – ISSUE 03

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

2020-12



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 16th 1947 – 2017

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



*** * * * * IMPORTANT ALUMNI NEWS * * * * ***



AFTAC ALUMNI UPDATES

CANCELLATIONS

We sadly have major cancellations

YOU CAN UNPACK YOUR BAGS



The Florida Alumni Association and COVID-19 are cancelling plans for the 2021 World-Wide Reunion. We were in hopes that the Covid-19 situation would start resolving itself but it seems to be getting worse. The safety, security, and well-being of all are paramount during this time for everyone. Stay safe.

We thank all of you who responded that you would attend. We intend to delay it until 2022 in the spring months. More information will be forthcoming on these plans.

One good thing is that we now have an additional year to plan for making it the best reunion ever.

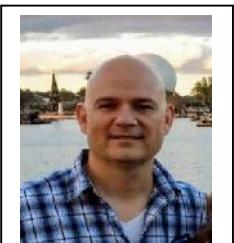
Kind regards and we wish all a happy and joyful Christmas,
Your Florida AFTAC Alumni Association

SNOWBALL XXIII

The SnowBall XXIII will likely be a teleconference or ZOOM meeting, if held at all. This is when we traditionally announce the Alumni of the Year (AOY), and we will have to address that somehow. Watch the Web Site for future information on the 2020 AOY announcement..

MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ: Greetings Fellow Alumni!

2020 is just about over. It has been a wild year and has presented us all with so many challenges that many of us are asking for a re-do. We've endured a pandemic, and what has proven to be the most controversial national election season in recent history. We've had to cancel plans, learn how to video conference, live behind masks and distance, and forego events in life that we may have taken for granted before.



(continued on pg 3)

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) Dues, \$10/FY (1 Oct-30 Sep) payable in Oct/\$75 for life. Most monthly meetings are at 1600, 2nd Monday each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC HQ (Bldg 10989), or other venue, at Patrick AFB, FL-details, see 'Sage Schedule' on page 22. Contact: Mike **Steskal**, 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-Henderson, Sec 89-06, 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 96-15; Jim Payne (D), Mbrshp 99-04; Joe Goldian (D), Treas, 03-17; Randy Vlassick, Mbrshp 04-09; Sean Ryan 09-present, Sec-Treas; Steve Revels, Sage Shop, 10- 16; Pete Gilbert, Webmaster, 15-20.

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

3. California Chapter: Formed 1999, **\$10/year/\$75 lifetime**.

For more, email, TOD.Alumni@AFTACWCC.org-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/>

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING FROM THE HORSCH'S MOUTH



First off, Happy Holidays to all in this season of celebrations. Because of the nature of our subscribers, and their families, and in an attempt to leave no one out of our good wishes, I did some research and found many celebrations in December, Christmas Day (Christian), Saint Nicholas Day (Christian), Fiesta of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Mexican), St. Lucia Day (Swedish). Hanukkah (Jewish), Three Kings Day/Epiphany (Christian), Boxing Day (Australian, Canadian, English, Irish), Kwanzaa (African American), Omisoka (Japanese), Yule (Pagan), and Saturnalia (Pagan). We wish all of you the best of the season in your personal choice.

Secondly I'd like to thank the Active-Duty for their recognition and celebration of Veterans Day with their Flag Challenge (pg 6). They included the alumni to the extent possible in these days of the virus and recognized one of our own, Frank Calenda, an invaluable member of our Alumni Association Team and well deserving of being selected to represent all of us. Congratulations, Frank, on this selection and your excellent service to AFTAC and the Alumni.

Thirdly, as you will see in this issue, we've had to make some choices because of the virus and its impact on gatherings. We hope we've found a way around the problems, and when not, will wait for a better time to get together.

We Spotlight the FY2021 board and appreciate everyone stepping up for another tenure.

And, I am sad about the state of our collections for the Memorial (pg 5). If someone had asked me about the support this project would garner by this time I would have ranted and raved about how well we've done and were exceeding our expectations. Sadly that is not the case and I'm just not sure of the reason. We've done a lot to get the word out and yet we get very few donations.

--I know how good we AFTACers are, current and past, about putting things off until the last minute. I am a leader among that group. (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 & Ed Lindsay; **Webmaster** – Pete Gilbert

MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ (continued from pg 1):

We have much to be thankful for, however, and celebrate as we move to close out this year. This year has allowed us to recognize what is truly important. Those in our lives that we call our own, whether they be friends or family, are why we celebrate, and they are who we honor and cherish as the precious gifts they are. If you haven't already, hold your friends and family a little closer this holiday season. Tell them how much they have meant to you during this challenging year, and across your lives. Share with them your time, and tell them about your time in AFTAC and in the Air Force. I believe that you, like me, have a fond and warm regard for your AFTAC experiences and remember many friends you made there. Take time this season to share some of that with your friends and family. Let them hear your stories and share your experiences, and most of all, love the ones in your lives a little more this season.

Now for the bad news -- We have made the decision to cancel all in-person Alumni events into next year. This means that we are moving our 2021 Worldwide Reunion to 2022, cancelling our 2021 SnowBall, cancelling our December gift-exchange meeting (going to a regular teleconference meeting only), and looking at a way to honor our Alumni of the Year candidate virtually (possibly in concert with the AFTAC Headquarters' virtual event plans for early 2021). These are big changes, and I'm sure many of you are thinking "Whoa." I am too, as are your Alumni Board members. This is tough stuff.

There are a couple of important reasons why we've had to make these changes. First, your **Safety** is paramount. While COVID-19 treatments are getting much better, and a vaccine is coming, we couldn't run the risk of you contracting it at one of our events (not to mention the hit to attendance we were expecting). Second, the AFTAC Headquarters has cancelled their in-person events into next year as well, and it is smart to match their safety protocols to avoid confusion in their ranks (and our own).

I would like to thank Sean Ryan for all of his hard work in planning the SnowBall and Reunion. It seems like a cliché, this "hard work" statement, but I can assure you it's not. Sean, with help from a few key players, has devoted himself to making these events spectacular. One cannot underestimate how blessed we are to have Sean and his wife Michelle on our team. Rest assured, when we do have these events, you'll want to be there!

Finally, if all this bad news has you bummed, I invite you to go back and re-read the second paragraph of this article. Events are great, but family and friends are forever!

Merry Christmas everyone,
Your friend
Phil Godfrey, AFTACAA President



FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWS

NEWS FROM MILITARY TIMES:

DON'T LET YOUR TRICARE SELECT COVERAGE LAPSE, OFFICIALS WARN RETIREES:

Just 14 percent of the [military retiree households](#) who must start paying enrollment fees for Tricare Select have set up their payment process, Tricare officials said.

Those who don't set up their payments by Dec. 31 risk losing their [Tricare coverage](#) as of Jan. 1. The new fees are \$12.50 per month, or \$150 a year for an individual; and \$25 a month, or \$300 a year, for family coverage. Those affected are working-age retirees under age 65 who entered the military before Jan. 1, 2018, their family members and survivors. Previously, these beneficiaries haven't had to pay enrollment fees for Tricare Select, but a 2017 law required the Defense Department to start charging these enrollment fees by Jan. 1, 2021.

The preferred payment method is through allotment, but recurring credit or debit card transactions can be used, or electronic funds transfers. Click [here for more information from Tricare](#) about setting up the payments.

Those who set up their payment process by Nov. 20 won't have to pay upfront enrollment fees, said Mark Ellis, chief of policy and programs for the Tricare Health Plan. You'll just be arranging to start the recurring payment. As of Nov. 9, just 14 percent of the households that must set up payments had done so, Ellis said.

(continued on pg 4)

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

(continued from pg 2)

However, think about it, this is something that from the start was in its last minute if we do not get the support needed to go forward -- so, stop reading here, get out that checkbook, and do what you can that we may have a monument to be proud of and a brick, or more, letting the world know of your service to our vital mission and your willingness to recognize those who are no longer with us but served so well.

There's a ton of stuff in the 'Mail-Call' section, and other areas, about everything imaginable and a couple of good stories from John Perry and Bob Chadwick. And, as always, we have too many obituaries!! The Active-Duty section has a lot of things to bring you up to date on our future alumni and our 'Chapter' news is a must-read.

Enjoy the holiday, however you celebrate, write those checks to the memorial before you get off on something else, and see you next issue. And, as before, God bless Judy (Henderson) for putting this all together with what you've given us and being able to enjoy this issue ... John

TRICARE

(continued from pg 3)

Currently there are about 850,000 beneficiaries who fall into this category, also known as Group A retiree beneficiaries and are covered by Tricare Select. Information was not immediately available about how many households those 850,000 beneficiaries represent, since in many cases, multiple beneficiaries are covered under a retiree's Tricare Select plan.

[Don't let your Tricare Select coverage lapse, officials warn retirees](#)

SPOTLIGHT - THE BOARD

We SPOTLIGHT the Board. These members and many others keep the Association going.

All are welcome to attend the monthly meetings and offer your services to serve on the Board. Currently, we are looking for someone to manage the Sage Shop – any volunteers?



ELECTED OFFICIALS:

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

APPOINTED:

Activities – CCMS, CMSgt Amy Long
Hall of Heritage – HQ/HO – Dr Mike Young
Alumni of the Year Coordinator – Bob Wiley
Post-Monitor Editor – John Horsch
Post-Monitor Formatting – Judy Henderson
Membership/Master Database Mgr – Mike Steskal
Webmaster – Pete Gilbert
Website – Terry Hammond & Ed Lindsay
Publicity/Social Functions – Sean Ryan
Sage Shop (open) – Ed Lindsay (temporary)
20-Year Wall Coordinator – Tony DeMarco
HQ Proofing – HQ/PA - Susan A Romano
Roving Reporters/Photographers – Bob Wiley,
Lou Seiler, & Judy Henderson
PoMo Mailing – Mike Steskal

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

GOLF- N' GETTOGETHER

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

MONTHLY MEETINGS

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

Phil at 321-446-8775

* * * * *

Please check the 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 or 321-591-9053 (unlisted)



ADDITIONAL FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWS

Do you remember who the AFTAC Commander and the Vice Commander were when you served? I've heard this statement so many times, "I was with the outfit in 19XX but I don't remember who the commander was."

Go to www.aftacaa.us and click on "AFTAC CCs/CVs over the Years" in the additions box and presto...your memory is revived all the way back to 1959.

We were so lucky to have so many great Commanders and Vices over the last 60+ years...

Thanks to several people for providing this data. Dr Mike Young, Bob Wiley and Terry Hammond.

ADDITIONAL FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWS

THE AFTAC MEMORIAL

By Lou Seiler, President AFTAC Memorial Corporation

The AFTAC memorial Corporation (AFTACMC) (a Florida non-profit 501(C)3 corporation) continues to conduct the fund raising efforts to finance the building of the Memorial. The response to these efforts continues to be slow.

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



Of course donations in any amount are appreciated and accepted. Our attempt at donations is through the use of Brick Pavers (4x8 @ \$150 or \$300, each with optional mini brick for an additional \$50), designated as Level Donor, as well as higher level donors (Platinum=\$10,000 and up, \$5,000-\$9,999, Silver= \$2,500-\$4,999, and Bronze= \$1,000-\$2,499.

As of the November Board of Directors meeting of the corporation, a total \$41,000 has been raised from in hand donations and firm (on demand)

The estimated cost to build the proposed Memorial is \$150,000 to \$180,000. So you can see we are still a long way off.

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.

We have received several corporate donations at this point and continue to make contact with additional contractors in and out of the area, especially those that do business with AFTAC.

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

Donations for any amount can be made by a check made out to "AFTAC Memorial Corporation" and mailed to:

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

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

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

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



9S100 BADGE – OCCUPATIONAL BADGE

Three of our most dedicated alumni – George Cronin, Tony DeMarco, and Rick Manley – stumbled across an AF document that discusses the current 9S100 Badge. Did you know retired 99's are authorized to wear it? Here is the link to the AF Doc that has the 9S100 Badge info in Chapter 5

https://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/af_a2/publication/cfetpri9s100/cfetpri9s100.pdf

(continued on pg 6)

9S100 BADGE (continued from pg 5)

According to Susan Romano, Chief, Public Affairs, AFTAC, Patrick AFB, FL:

"Since the dawn of the nuclear age the atomic symbol has represented the application of science and technology to both the military and the public. To Scientific Applications Specialists the atomic symbol portrays the fundamental interest in basic elemental science and nuclear/electronic technology that has formed the foundation of the RI since its inception. The gear wheel is an historic symbol of the engineering profession. Engineering is a primary element of the Scientific Applications Specialist RI as it unites interest in science with the development and sustainment of unique Air Force scientific mission equipment. Finally, the lightning flashes symbolize the power obtained when science, technology, and engineering principles are brought together and applied by Scientific Applications Specialists through operations and analysis that serve to execute the Air Force mission.



"All Airmen, to include retired and separated members, awarded RI 9S100 (or associated identifiers 99125, 99104, 99105, 99106, 9S000, and 9S200) are eligible to wear the Scientific Applications Specialist occupational badge.

"Wear the basic badge after completing technical school and being awarded the 9S100 RI. Wear the senior badge after having met all of the basic badge requirements, served in the 9S100 RI for a minimum of 12 months (9 months if a retrainee), and attained the rank of Staff Sergeant or above. Wear the master badge after attaining the rank of Master Sergeant and having served five years in the 9S100 RI from award of the senior badge. For retrainees, credit towards new badge starts upon entry into the 9S100 RI."



VETERANS DAY FLAG CHALLENGE

By Frank Calenda



Lt. Hafke posting the flag that was carried



My invitee group minus Michelle Ryan (she was taking the photo). Notice the show-off not wearing a mask ☺



Colonel Bordner, AFTAC Vice Commander introducing me and saying some nice things about me

Many of you know the reasons behind these photos. For those who don't, here's the deal. The active duty military of my old outfit AFTAC, arranged a group of military to run with the American flag for 24 hours to honor retired military Veterans on Veterans Day (for you Aussies and Kiwis, it's the same as your ANZAC Day). The flag was retreated on the night before that day and the run began. It involved close to 100 military personnel and the distance run was right at 100 miles. My part of the story was that I was selected to receive that flag in honor of all military veterans. I was extremely honored to be selected and consider this effort by our active military personnel to be above and beyond the call of duty. I just wanted to share this brief story with my family and friends.

Regards to all, Frank

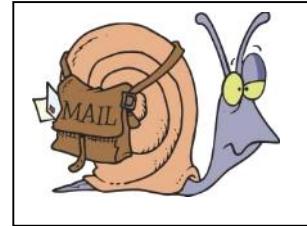


Frank Calenda



MAIL CALL

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



Missives requesting no action may be mailed/emailled to the editor, '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.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND ADVENTURE

By John Perry, 1963-67, USAF, HQ CMD, 1035th Field Activities Group, 1155 TOS

Kiritimati or Christmas Island is part of the Republic of Kiribati. We were returning from a mission to Mururoa in July of 1966 when our plane lost two engines on one side. Christmas Island was about 1000 miles away, we were ready to bail out, but then the pilot decided to try for Christmas; they thought we might have all been lost at sea, if we bailed out. Bailing out of a KC-135 is not very safe. Since we were losing altitude, we had to dump fuel to stay aloft, but still retain enough to make it to Christmas. We had just enough fuel to hit the Island dead on...not enough for corrections. No GPS in those days, I'm sure the navigator and pilot were sweating bullets. The runway was not made for a plane as large as our 135.

We stopped rolling right at the trees. A few airmen met us with a hand held fire extinguishers. There was no control tower. They were not prepared for this kind of event.



The sleeping quarters was interesting, we had a mattress, on an open air cement slab with a roof, but no walls. However, we were alive and for that we can be thankful. I spent two days (one night) on Christmas Island after we landed. They sent in a C-124 to pick us up the next day and took us back to Hickam AFB.

Christmas was an interesting place. I figured out that they had been testing nuclear bombs there for some time. I found old rusty metal warehouses with warning signs and huge frayed cables coming right out of the beach (possibly severed by a test). The distribution and types of life on the island seemed to be out of balance. The sea life too seemed unusual, I saw what I thought was a shadow in the sea. Turns out it was a very large dark stingray moving near the shore. Years later, in researching this island, I found that my suspicions were correct. Over 30 nuclear test were conducted on and around Christmas by the British and US. Some only a few years before we arrived.

Some years later I came across an airman, Bob Thomas, while researching on the internet, who was on the island when we were trying to land. He had an interesting story about communicating with our pilot who was attempting to land.

From Bob Thomas: "**A scientist** contacted me after reading the story to tell me that he had made an emergency landing there during the time period I was there. The weird thing is, I was the radio operator who was "screaming" at the pilot to NOT land because we didn't have enough runway length for him! Turns out, I was wrong! **The scientist** was one of 18 or 20 on the plane. They were waiting for the French to test their Nuke! They overnighted with us and a repair crew flew down the next day to fix their plane." Bob Thomas

Please note that I'm the one who contacted Bob Thomas in 2004, he must have thought I was a Scientist...see bold text above, I told Bob about our USAF 135 landing there. The quote above is from Bob Thomas who talked to the pilot of our plane that was in trouble and his recollection of that event back in 1966.

Credits for this pic go to my friend Mike Cork. Mike says this pic was taken while we were on Christmas Island.



RUSSIA JUST DECLASSIFIED FOOTAGE OF THE LARGEST NUKE EVER TESTED

Submitted by Scott Brandimore

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/935mx3/russia-just-declassified-footage-of-the-largest-nuke-ever-tested?fbclid=IwAR3L5vO1538zK8S7z8RLa7LgsZSQdT7mHjKPUwxWTiqq0f7LKrNeDAorgo



THE FOUR-SKIN RUG

Bob Chadwick, E8, Ret, Det 421, August 1977 – October 1978

Shortly after I arrived at Det 421 (Alice Springs) in August 1977, we received notification that the Air Force Comm Service had scheduled a renovation and refurbishment of our data line system. This task was something that had been budgeted for a couple years and was anxiously awaited, particularly after a round of bush fires a few months previous. The team, from the Far East Area Comm Depot at Yokota, Japan, was due to arrive in a month or so, and would be on site for about 6 weeks.

We made arrangements for the team's accommodation downtown, and prepared for their arrival. Seems like someone with some experience in this area, with teams of this nature, recalled that Outside Plant installation teams had a tendency to be a rough and ready crew of rather rowdy individuals, there were some misgivings as to how they'd fit in to the Alice Springs environment. We had cultivated a strong bond with the local folks, and we did not want a bunch of dorks giving us a black eye.

The day came and the crew arrived. About 10 guys, led by a short, rather meek looking SSgt named John Gleason. They were in fact a pretty rough looking bunch, but we talked with SSgt Gleason, and the crew, and came to an understanding. In fact, they were, while there, models of good deportment and integrated well with both the locals and the other detachment people. One of SSgt Gleason's first actions was to seek out the local Catholic church; he was a serious church goer wherever he was.

Anyways, shortly after they arrived we threw them a "Welcome to The Alice" party and barbecue at the det. All the Det families and single troops were there, as well as the team members, about half the gang from the RSL Club across the street, and assorted folks from the Space Base and the town in general; huge crowd, all having a great time. As the evening wore on, a group of us were listening to John Gleason telling about the trip to Alice. They'd come from Japan to Hawaii, then to Alice Springs with an overnight in Christchurch, New Zealand, and a refuel at RAAF Richmond outside Sydney.

John had never been to New Zealand before, and found his overnight stay interesting. He's right; Christchurch is a really neat place in a wonderful country. He wandered around, and was very taken with the souvenir shops, particularly those places where they were selling wool products. New Zealand is famous for this, of course. "Boy, they had some really great stuff there. I got a real nice sweater for my wife, not expensive at all, and a bunch of other things for the kids." A couple folks agreed with him, and told him about some of the things that were around here; opals, kangaroo hides, all that stuff.

He went on, "And another thing they had there were whole sheepskins with the wool attached. They had single skins and two skins sewed together, and a couple places I went to even had four-skin rugs that you could buy...." At that point... complete silence in the immediate area. He immediately realized what he'd said. Simultaneously, the penny dropped and the rest of the group, about half of which were Detachment Wives, also figured it out. The Ladies were on that one like ducks on a June bug. The guys shortly after. Poor SSgt Gleason stood there, face as red as a thermometer going "Ah...Blah.... Well I meant" and so forth and just wishing that the ground would open up and swallow him and deliver him from this situation.

I will not relate any of the resultant repartee; you can all use your own imaginations. You know most of the guys, and you probably know a few of the wives. Things eventually settled out, and we all went back to what we were drinking and finished the evening in fine style. John eventually regained his normal coloration and boyish aplomb. But... right up till the team got on the plane and left, every time any of about half a dozen wives (and a few of the guys) saw John, they'd ask him about the four-skin rugs and watch him turn red. He was an awfully good sport about it.



NEWS UPDATE from Daniel Burk:

Daniel "Dan" Burk here. I believe my AFAA Florida membership information may need to be updated. I have moved, and I have a different email address, and likely a new telephone number. Now living in Bath Twp, MI. I would like to be able to receive the post monitors again....and purchase some stuff from the sage shop. Plus maybe jump on ZOOM once and a while with the alumni. I finished grad school and I am currently the research engineer in the seismotectonics department at Michigan State University, where I am currently developing new digitizing techniques for the recovery of historical paper seismograms from the former Soviet Union that feature underground nuclear explosions.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY – AFTAC

Submitted by Ken Behrens Echoes Publisher/Editor, Colorado AFTAC Alumni Association

Last week I sent out a reminder that 25 July 1947 was the AFTAC birthday. After receiving several emails that the traditional birthdate was 16 September 1947.

I researched the July date that I had found on my Internet search. I was able to determine that the 25 July 1947 was the date President Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 into law, but was not implemented until 18 September 1947. The act did not specifically mention USAEDS but it did set up the framework for it in the act.

Given this fact, it follows that General Eisenhower would have actually given the directive to create AFTAC on 16 September 1947, two days before the Air Force became a standalone service. This missive is a long, drawn out explanation about my mistaken date and am convinced that 16 September 1947 is correct and the Internet search information I used was wrong!



DEMON CORE: THE UNUSED THIRD ATOMIC BOMB OF WW2

On FACEBOOK – by Mike Holland

The desert can hold many secrets. The desert near Los Alamos in New Mexico just after World War 2 held perhaps the biggest secret of them all. Learn more about the Most Dangerous Science Experiment in the World with another Dark Docs presented by Dark5.

May 21st, 1946. A top-secret laboratory. A group of scientists look on as one of their colleagues, a Canadian named Louis Slotin, conducts a demonstration. Slotin hovers over a strange object, which sits on display on a small table in front of the crowd of onlookers. The object looks like a metal sphere, nested inside a more substantial metal hemisphere like an egg in a nest. But this metal device contains a terrifying potential. Why? Because it is nothing less than the exposed core of a nuclear bomb, and the egg at the center is an orb of pure plutonium. Imagine being in that room. You probably would have heard a pin drop, such was the intense atmosphere. Slotin's demonstration was a risky one. The operation he was performing had an ominous nickname among the group – they dubbed it [quote] "tickling the dragon's tail."

- As images and footage of actual events are not always available, Dark Docs sometimes utilizes similar historical images and footage for dramatic effect. All content on Dark Docs is researched, produced, and presented in historical context for educational purposes. -

<https://youtu.be/76LqE75OnKI>



GOOGLE IS TURNING ANDROID PHONES INTO SEISMOMETERS

<https://techcrunch.com/2020/08/11/google-is-turning-android-phones-into-seismometers/>

Google is launching a handful of new Android features that don't really have a lot in common but that are all interesting in their own right. There are updates to Android Auto and **Android's** emergency location service, new accessibility features thanks to an updated Lookout app and the promise of better sleep thanks to the bedtime tools in the Android Clock app now rolling out to all Android devices running version 6.0 or later (this was a Pixel-only feature before).

But the highlight of this release is surely Google's new worldwide earthquake detection system and the new earthquake alerting feature it is launching for California. With this, Google is essentially turning your Android phone into a seismometer to create what the company says is "the world's largest earthquake detection network."

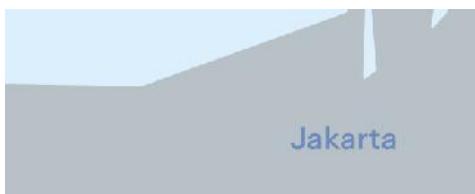


Image Credits: Google

GOOGLE IS TURNING ANDROID PHONES INTO SEISMOMETERS (continued from pg 9)

The company argues that smartphone accelerometers are sensitive enough to measure the P-waves that are the first waves to arrive after an earthquake. Whenever the phone thinks it has detected an earthquake, it will send that info to a central server, which then determines whether this was really an earthquake. For now, Google will only use this data to show information when somebody then searches for “earthquake” or a similar keyword. Over time, though, it expects to be able to send out alerts based on these phone-based systems.

In California, the company is already going a step further, though. Working with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), Google is using the ShakeAlert network — which itself uses data from 700 seismometers from across the state — to provide earthquake alerts. “A few seconds of warning can make a difference in giving you time to drop, cover, and hold on before the shaking arrives,” Google argues.



HOW KODAK DETECTED THE ATOMIC BOMB

FACEBOOK post by David Mann, '99

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=7pSqk-XV2QM>

Kodak detected the first atomic bomb before anyone else figured it out. Then they made a deal not to tell anyone. Thanks to HBO Max, and their new show raised by Wolves for sponsoring this video! <https://rb.gy/alghwn>

References: Albuquerque Tribune Bulletin, July 16, 1945 – <https://www.marshallfoundation.org/li...>

Webb, J. H. (1949). The fogging of photographic film by radioactive contaminants in cardboard packaging materials. Physical Review, 76(3), 375. Julian Webb at Oak Ridge – Snavely, B. B. (1989). Julian H. Webb. PhT, 42(7), 87.<https://physicstoday.scitation.org/do...>

Radium in watch dials – <https://www.epa.gov/radtown/radioacti...>

A 1958 video about how Kodak film is made, noting the careful monitoring of radioactive contaminants – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9qjBJ...>

Radioactive fallout in 1951 - <https://www.nytimes.com/1951/02/03/ar...>

1998 senate hearing – <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/C...>

Institute of Medicine and National Research Council. 1999. Exposure of the American People to Iodine-131 from Nevada Nuclear-Bomb Tests: Review of the National Cancer Institute Report and Public Health Implications. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/6283>. <https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/c...>

Baby Teeth Survey – Reiss, L. Z. (1961). Strontium-90 absorption by deciduous teeth. Science, 134(3491), 1669-1673. Strontium 90 and Cancer rates – Gould, J. M., Sternglass, E. J., Sherman, J. D., Brown, J., McDonnell, W., & Mangano, J. J. (2000). Strontium-90 in deciduous teeth as a factor in early childhood cancer. International Journal of Health Services, 30(3), 515-539. Wine forensics – Hubert, P., Perrot, F., Gaye, J., Médina, B., & Pravikoff, M. S. (2009). Radioactivity measurements applied to the dating and authentication of old wines. Comptes Rendus Physique, 10(7), 622–629. doi:10.1016/j.crhy.2009.08.007 Strontium 90 in forensics – Maclaughlin-Black, S. M., Herd, R. J., Willson, K., Myers, M., & West, I. E. (1992). Strontium-90 as an indicator of time since death: a pilot investigation. Forensic science international, 57(1), 51-56. Research and Writing by Derek Muller, Petr Lebedev, and Jonny Hyman Filmed and edited by Derek Muller Animations by Iván Tello and Jonny Hyman Music by Jonny Hyman Additional Music from: Epidemic Sound <https://epidemicsound.com>

"Seaweed" Kevin MacLeod <https://incompetech.com>

"Lightless dawn" Craig Conrad <https://www.craigconrad.com/royaltyfree>



FEES AT NATIONAL PARKS WAIVED

Submitted by Sean Ryan

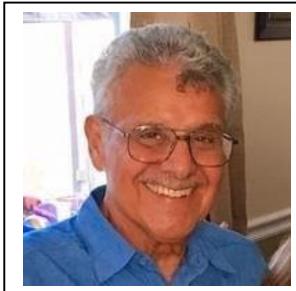
Starting in December 2020, Fees at national parks are waived for veterans and Gold Star families.

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2020/10/28/fees-at-national-parks-waived-for-veterans-gold-star-families-starting-next-month/>



OBITUARIES

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



BERNARDO "BERNIE" CASTILLO, JR.

1939 – 2020

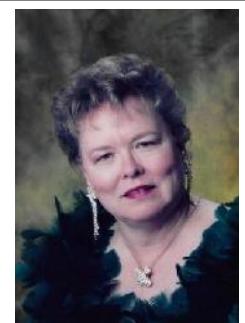
(Condensed from the eulogy given by his daughter-in-law)

Bernie was born and raised in Del Rio, Texas, 2nd oldest of 16 children. He joined the Air Force soon after graduating from high school and marrying his sweetheart, Alicia. He served in the Air Force for over 23 years as a Morse code radio operator, foreign students training officer and administrative & personnel manager. He rose to the rank of Master Sergeant. He then worked as an Air Force civil servant for another 18 years, finally retiring in 2001. He was a devoted husband to Alicia for 61 years, a loving father

to his five children: Jerry, Laura, Bernie, Chris, and our late Mary; a proud grandfather of 12 grandchildren, and a doting great-grandfather to 4 great-grandchildren.

Full Obituary available at <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sacbee/obituary.aspx?n=bernardo-castillo&pid=196961249>

[Note: From Dale Klug, CA Chapter: Bernie spent over 23 years in the Air Force, 19 years, 8 months in AFTAC – 17 at 1155 TOS and 2 at 1158 TOS]



PATRICIA "PAT" DEE CHADWICK

2 September 1943 to 20 August 2020

Pat was born in Gilroy, CA. Following high school, Pat embarked on a career as a typist/secretary/office manager, eventually moving to the Melbourne, FL, area. In 1987 she decided to start her own business, "Pat's Typing Service," later renamed "Advanced Computing and Mailing Service. In 1982, while volunteering with Harbor City Volunteer Ambulance Squad, Pat met and eventually married Bob Chadwick, a fellow volunteer, who served at AFTAC.

Pat is survived by her stepsons, Patrick (and his wife, Vicki), Arthur (and his wife Liza and son Henry), and David.

CHARLES WILLIAM "BILL" CUSHION

Died: 10 October 2009 (age 67)

Bill Cushion, Colonel, USAF (Retired) passed away on 10 October 2009. Bill retired from the USAF in 1992 after 26 years of service; he was currently employed as an Administrative Officer with the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA). Bill is survived by his wife of 34 years, Dorothy and daughters Stephanie Yanas (John), Melanie Billingsley (Carl), and Natalie Whitehead (Eric), as well as grandchildren.



CLIFFORD L. "BO" FERRIS

10 June 1931 – 18 June 2009

Bo and his brothers grew up in towns in Montana including Great Falls, Butte and Valier. All three spent time in the U.S. Air Force. Bo enlisted in the Army Air Corp when he was only 15, eventually joining the Air Force. It became a career lasting 28 years. He later became part of an elite unit in the USAF called AFTAC in which he served proudly. He earned the respect and friendship of everyone who met him. Bo treated everyone with

(continued on pg 11)

courtesy and respect. He loved to tell stories of the fascinating life he led – traveling to exotic and exciting places throughout the world. Bo had a knack for turning a phrase. One of his favorite expressions was “Indecision is the key to flexibility.” Bo and his first wife, Pauline, had 7 children while stationed in such places as Japan, Guam and Washington D.C.

Bo died from complications due to an abdominal aortic aneurysm. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Pauline, and his oldest son, Mark. Bo is survived by his loving wife Deannie, his children, Susan Pereira, Sandy Ferris, Patricia Wilson, Terri Ann Dugdale and twin sons Tom and Paul Ferris, stepsons Daniel, Kirk and Robert Meyer, and many grandchildren.



EUGENE D. "GENO" GENTILE

Died 14 August 2020

[FaceBook Posting [99... Site], by Clark Wilberg, picture from FB Site, Geno at the PAFB Marina]

Geno Gentile passed away in Satellite Beach. Geno was a C-118 (#638) and C-54 (#562) Flight Engineer when I started flying as an SEO back in 1968. He taught me an awful lot about airmanship and flying. He was a part of AFTAC's assigned aircrew personnel along with Lonnie Young (later transferred to WC-135 as a flight engineer, approx 1975) and then Capt McCarter (who came back to AFTAC as Col McCarter in late

1989-90 period). Geno taught me many things about basic principles of flight. He wasn't a "99", but that didn't stop him from being a Great Guy!!!

[From Joe Hauser -- I remember Geno from bowling as much as job related – imagine that in AFTAC. I believe he was part of your bowling team back in the early 70s when AFTAC relocated to PAFB with Tom Blasco and Curt Smith. I was in CAMS and watched our team beat you for the base championship which was so sweet at the time. I was an aircrew member on the Advanced Range Instrumentation Aircraft when we relocated to Ohio in 1975.]



EUNICE P. HARRIS

29 August 1933 – 2 October 2020

(Contacted by Frank Calenda and Don Whitney)

Eunice Harris passed away on Friday, Oct 2nd. She had a stroke about 3 weeks prior and was in rehab. Eunice worked for Mr. Walt Singleich at HQ AFTAC/TN for more than 20. Upon her retirement, the AFTAC Commander, Col Shaeffer, decided to recognize those who have served 20 years or more at AFTAC by posting their pictures on the AFTAC 20-Year Wall (currently available on the AFTACAA Website, www.aftacaa.us – there are currently over 50 people recognized for 20+ years of AFTAC service).

You might remember that Eunice's husband, Curt, who also worked at AFTAC, passed 21 July 2020. His obituary was posted in the August 2020 POST MONITOR and at the AFTACAA Website. Eunice was loved by many people and is survived by her son Mike Harris and daughter Tina Colon (Chris), as well as grandchildren, Christopher Harris, Ashlyn Harris, David Smith and Carlin Smith Brooks.

DONOVAN L. HUMPHRIES, MSgt, USAF (Retired)

Died 22 March 2017 (Age 85)



[Contacted by Phil Godfrey, AFTACAA President, passing along email from Tiera Humphries. Tiera wrote: "My father Donovan L Humphries passed away in March of 2017. I am sorry it has taken me so long to inform you. My dad was a great guy and I know his time in the USAF was very important to him, but his association with AFTAC meant the most. He had a long post AF career running his gas station, and I remember the day when he realized he had had his station longer than his time in the AF. I think it kind of shocked him. Of course, as his daughter, I have my own fond memories of my time as a dependent and our assignments, especially in Perth, Western Australia.]

(continued on pg 13)

While serving in the AF, Don had assignments in places like Easter Island, Australia, The Arctic Circle, Norway, and Turkey. Since his retirement from the AF, Don was the owner of Humphries Hess in Bailey's Crossroads, VA, for over 42 years.

[Obituary available at <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/washingtonpost/obituary.aspx?n=donovan-humphries&pid=184701104&fhid=3060>]



WAYMOND R. JAMES

8 March 1931 – 24 November 2020

(Contacted, in turn, by Bill Schmied, CO Chapter Officer; he was contacted by Tom Ware and Waymond's daughter, Lisa Ball)

Waymond Randolph James died on 24 November. After graduating from St. Joseph Academy in Abilene, TX, he began his career in the USAF as a Communications Technician in multiple countries from 1950 to 1971 and retired as Master Sergeant.

He is survived by his wife (of 68 years) Mildred Hobbs James, 3 daughters Lisa and her husband Chris Ball, Teresa and her husband Scott Hill, and Amy and her husband Jared Douglas; 8 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Bill Schmied included this information: Waymond was a B System technician with assignments including Det 142 in Encampment, Wyoming, Det 423 in the Philippines, and SPINSTRA at Lowry AFB in Denver where he retired from the AF in 1971. He stayed in Denver working for Mountain Bell Telephone until he transferred to Texas in 1975.

Full obituary: <https://www.jekeevermortuary.com/obituary/waymond-james>

JOHN M. KUBIAK

1935 – 22 June 2020

John M. Kubiak, USAF Colonel (retired) died peacefully in his home in Boulder City, Nevada. John attended and graduated from the prestigious US Military Academy at West Point and embarked on a long career in the USAF. Among many other accomplishments during his years of service, he regularly flew into the eyes of hurricanes. He also earned two PhDs, one in

Aerospace Engineering and one in Computer Sciences. When he retired from the AF, he began a second career at Cornell University, where he both taught and served as the Executive Director of the International Studies Department. John is survived by his wife, Mary Neville Kubiak, to whom he was married for over 50 years; his three children, Leslie Welsh, Robert Welsh, and Michelle Kubiak; son-in-law Ray Benzing and daughter-in-law Lori Chong; and three grandchildren.

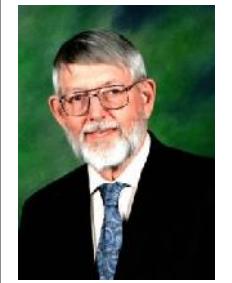


ROBERT "BOB" LONG

7 August 1937 - 11 October 2020

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Robert Long of Cameron, Missouri. Bob was loved and cherished by many people including his husband Lee Miller; his daughters, Kimberly Shafstall and Roberta "Robbie" Long; and his step-son Correy Miller. He was also cherished by several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

[Alerted on FaceBook, "AFTAC Alumni ...", by Sean Ryan, AFTACAA, with entry from Lee Miller asking us to pass the information along; the picture here was also provided. Bob is in our master database identified as serving AFTAC 1961-75 at several detachments and a member of both the CA Chapter as well as the AFTACAA. An obituary search resulted in the following link: <https://www.echovita.com/us/obituaries/mo/cameron/robert-long-11579053>, the narrative of that follows.]



CHARLES ROBERT "BOB" LOVAN

4 May 1949 – 27 September 2020

Bob was born in Georgetown, KY. He married Elizabeth, his sweetheart since the age of 12, in 1968, and joined the AF in May 1969, proudly serving his country for 20 years. Bob retired in 1989. Later he joined Wuesthoff Hospital and worked for 22 years and then retired to enjoy his family.

Bob is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, and children, Kirk (Michelle) Lovan, Jake (Karen) Lovan, Molly (Aubrey) Barrett, and several grandchildren.



VICTOR D. "VIC" MARVICK, SSgt USAF

1960 - 28 October 1991

[Information provided by Rich Triplett, SMSgt USAF (retired)]

I am a former AFTAC'er (1981-1986 and 1990-1994) and recently found the AFTACAA website. I am pleased to say the website had a lot of very good information and helped me remember some wonderful times. I was saddened to find it had no obituary information about a good friend of mine who left AFTAC about 1990 and tragically lost his life in a terrorist bombing in Turkey in 1991.



I still remember when Vic arrived at HQ AFTAC in 1981 and I was assigned as his supervisor. He was a dedicated and talented airman and a real pleasure to have on my team. After a tour in Germany, I was reassigned to HQ AFTAC about the same time Vic and his wife Lucinda (a fellow AFTAC'er) were getting ready to go to Turkey. It was a sad day when we learned Vic was killed and Lucinda severely injured. I will never forget this young couple I had the pleasure to serve with.

Vic enlisted in the AF on 17 June 1981. In 1991, he was assigned to the 7217 Communications Squadron at Ankara AS, Turkey. On the morning of 28 Oct 1991, Vic and Lucinda left their off-base residence to go to work. A car bomb detonated, killing Vic and injuring Lucinda. Responsibility for the attack was claimed by the Turkish Islamic Jihad. Four suspects have since been arrested on charges linked to this attack. Vic served at AFTAC from 1986 to 1990. [Additional information available at

<https://airforce.togetherweserved.com/usaf/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ShadowBoxProfile&type=Person&ID=26029>



ROBERT D. "BOB" McLAREN

24 April 1938 – 17 March 2020

[Notified by Frank Calenda passing along a notice from A. Scott Wood, who wrote: "I'm writing on behalf of the estate of my father-in-law Robert "Bob" McLaren.]

Bob had a passion for Scottish history, genealogy, math, whiskey, good food, kilts, good cheese, security clearances, suspenders, local brew pubs, land use, science fiction & fantasy novels, wine from the McLaren Vale in Australia, and the local coffee shop. He was known for his (long) stories, belly laughs, random children mistaking him for Santa ("shhhh! I'm out of uniform!"), wearing his kilt whenever possible, requesting the best Scotch whisky in the establishment, and perhaps slipping into a Scottish accent after a wee dram or two.

Bob was a Chemical and Nuclear Engineer, serving in the Air Force for 23 years, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Bob passed away after a short illness. He is survived by his wife Bonnie, his three children and their spouses, Sean & Elke, Mary & Scott, and Kathleen & Mark, his seven grandchildren.

[Note – I remember that Bob served at HQ AFTAC, Patrick AFB, but I can't remember the dates (probably 1980s) ... Judy Henderson]



DONALD PAISLEY

May 1935 – 13 November 2020

Donald Paisley died at his home in Hidden Valley Lake, California. Don served honorably for 20 years in the AF and retired as a TSgt. His various jobs were to monitor the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty for the US and our allies. He worked for the Technical Operations Division (TOD) at McClellan AFB, CA. Don was rehired by TOD as a civilian, and he retired a second time as a GS-12 Program Manager. At that time, Don was presented the Distinguished Federal Civilian Service Award. Don worked as a contractual consultant for AFTAC at Patrick AFB, FL, from 2003 till 2007. He helped to design the new laboratory and procure specific laboratory equipment for the Nuclear Measurements Department.

Don is survived by his loving wife of 41 years, Marcene (Marcy) Paisley and his step-daughter, Tonya Rochester. By a previous marriage to Beverly Beyer, he had two sons, Denny and David Paisley, and two daughters Diana O'Malley and Deb Parker. He also had many grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

[Contacted by Bob Fitzgerald, West Coast Chapter (WCC) Webmaster, who passed information received from Marcy Paisley by the WCC President, Allan Pentecost.]



DONALD B. "DON" SERDYNSKI

36 January 1936 – 15 August 2020

(Contacted by Don's daughter, Tracy Serdynski Stites: We are trying to let everyone know that our wonderful dad passed away. I know he enjoyed your updates.]

Don was born in Bartow, FL. After he graduated from Bartow Summerlin Institute, he joined the AF and was a Veteran of the Korean War. He graduated with Honors from the University of Florida with a degree in Agriculture. He was a long time Citrus Grower and retired from Florida's Natural in Lake Wales Florida as Director of Fruit Procurement. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, JoAnn; and daughters Tracy Stites (Don) and Kelly Serdynski, and many grandchildren.

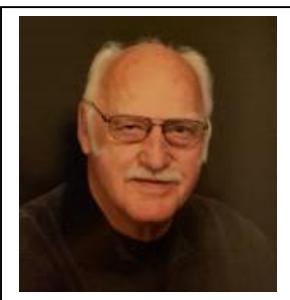
[NOTE: Don's name was found in our database; he served in the 1009th 1954-57 and he was a subscriber to our eALLerts. An obituary link was found at <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/donald-serdynski-obituary?pid=196684587>]

DAVE "SMITTY" SMITH

Died 29 August 2020

[Notified by Tom Cameron]

I was notified last night (9 September) that Smitty passed away. For those who remember, he was part of our personnel section when we had our own assignment unit in AFTAC. I believe he retired in the late 1980s or early 1990s. I don't have any more information.



WILLIAM "BILL" A. STEPHAN

Died 2 September 2020 (Age 77)

William "Bill" A. Stephan, passed away. Bill was born in Paynesville, Minnesota. He served in the USAF for 26 years and California's Strong Motion Instrumentation Program for 12 years. Bill also had a passion for woodworking, creating extraordinary furniture and turnings that are well on their way to becoming family heirlooms. He is survived by his wife Darlene, and his children Kimberly Stephan Cabral and Peter "Scot" Stephan, and 3 grandchildren.

[Note: Bill was a Life member of the AFTAC Alumni Association - West Coast Chapter.]
(First alerted by Alan Cramlet, obituary published at <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sacbee/obituary.aspx?n=william-august-stephan&pid=196763762>)



ALAN E. "AL" VILLAREAL, MSgt

(Contacted by Joe Hauser, information provided by Paul Stack)

Al was a 99125 – 99105 who served at AFTAC from 1971 to his retirement in 1994.

Al passed on 1 August 2020. It has been decided to have a private service now and a wider celebration with friends and family maybe in April (Al's birthday) after Covid-19 eases. Al was diagnosed with advanced pancreatic cancer in addition to his diabetes. Several years ago he had heart bypass surgery. All this combined to wear him down.

Rose's email address is alanvillareal@att.net if you'd like to contact her.

CHERYL WOODARD

Died 7 November 2020

[Notified by Col Barber, Commander, AFTAC]

Team AFTAC,

It is with a great deal of sadness that I inform you of the passing of an AFTAC family member – Cheryl Woodard, wife of CMSgt (ret) Frank Woodard, now a civilian with the 709th Surveillance and Analysis Group. Mrs. Woodard passed on Saturday, 7 Nov after a fierce battle with illness. There will be no public services.

News like this can be devastating, and reminds us just how important each day is. Please respect Chief Woodard's privacy and give him space to grieve and heal, while also keeping him in your thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.



A FEW MINUTES FROM THE MINUTES

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

Dr Mike Young, AFTAC Historian, said the Heritage Room construction has been completed with AFTAC memorabilia to be added next. He said he is excited to show the AFTACAA the results. He also said he has ongoing publication efforts including republication of the Technical Operations Division (TOD) Brown Book, rewriting the Blue Book, and he is waiting on the Dept of Energy (DOE) to clear his book for publication.

20 Year Wall: Tony De Marco reported that additions have been made to the 20 Year Wall, bringing the count to 93.

AFTAC Alumni Picnic/2021 SnowBall: There was discussion about having an outdoor picnic gathering for the 2021 SnowBall, where the Alumni of the Year would be announced. No decision at this time if this will happen.

AFTAC Heritage Committee: Mike Young reported two Wall of Honor packages have been submitted from within the building. Voting is scheduled for the 2nd week of December.



Board Members (elected positions)

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

Appointed –

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





DUES ARE DUE

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

REMINDER – If you wish to receive a paper copy of the PoMo mailed to you, you must pay a \$10 per-year fee to cover the cost of the paper copy of the PoMo.

See full article about this in the August 2020 issue of the PoMo – Page 1

Checks will be mailed to
AFTAC Alumni Association, PO. Box 254892, Patrick Space Force Base, Florida, 32925-0892.



CHAPTER NEWS

DEPOT FALLOUT ~ Excerpts from the AFTAC Alumni West Coast Chapter newsletter. For more information, visit their Web site at www.AFTACWCC.org

WCC ADDRESS CHANGE

Please note our new address AFTACAA-WCC, c/o 6605 Sweet Gum Ct, Citrus Heights, CA 95610.

DEATH OF A RETIREE

If you are a surviving family member of a retired military service member residing in the US you can receive personal assistance in applying for eligible benefits on his or her behalf. The Retiree Activities Office on McClellan Park has two Casualty Assistance Representatives to help you report the death and apply for arrears of pay & survivor's benefits to DFAS, VA and OPM. They also do pre-planning counseling so you will be prepared when a death does occur. They can be contacted at 916-640-8446. The RAO is located in Bldg 949 on McClellan.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

Our annual "**WCC PICNIC & BBQ**": We are now hopeful of holding this event next year on Armed Forces Day, **Saturday, May 15, 2021**. Watch our website for updates and registration details.

ECHOES – News from the AFTAC Alumni Colorado Chapter
www.aftacco.org

General Membership Breakfast Sep 2020 – **CANCELLED**

Traditional Fall/Veterans Day Dinner Nov 2020 – **CANCELLED**

(continued on pg 18)

Military Auxiliary Radio System
By Bryce Dunn

The pandemic reminded me of how backup communications used to be.

When I was in the mountains in the Philippines, 1974/1975, bases had MARS sets for backup communications. When not used officially, we were authorized to use our MARS set to make morale calls back home to a station, AFCY/PX a Rockwell Collins sponsored station that provided free patches into the WATTS line for 3 minute calls back home. We had to say "over" when we were finished talking to allow the operator to flip the transmit/receive switch. Other bases would get into the lineup for morale & welfare calls (i.e., Thailand & Korea).



While I was at South Pole station as a tech writer in 1995 (before Iridium Satellite Communications), due to the fact that we could not see a geosynchronous communications satellite like IMARSAT from the South Pole, the only phone calls made were via a HAM radio operator that would likewise patch calls through. Internet connectivity was intermittent via an old GOES satellite in a 15 degree orbit. Civilian radio operators are some of the unsung heroes of our country. Our publisher, Ken Behrens, is the Secretary of the Radops of El Jebel Shriners, a volunteer group that provides communications for many community functions. Many civilian radio enthusiasts provide services including disaster assistance that should be rightfully recognized.

If you are interested in getting into amateur radio you can check out <http://www.arrl.org/> or contact Ken Behrens. As Ken would say: 73 & Cheers.

Ed. Note: In the early days of Ham Radio when Morse code was the only communications mode, operators would use short hand codes to avoid keying long strings of letters. Sending "73" was the code for "Best Regards". Today, mastery of Morse code is not required to obtain any Amateur (Ham) license class.

Letter and picture from Grand Encampment Museum, Encampment, WY, and Lowry pictures:
Submitted by Bryce Dunn

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/oupkdp3o7603tgr/AAD0taHiwVQSA6z15La-EADpa?dl=0>



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

Command Section



Commander/CC/2020. Col Katherine Barber

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

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

(continued on pg 19)



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

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

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



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

2020 AFTAC 9/11 TRIBUTE VIDEO

Submitted by Sean Ryan

Scanning thru Facebook today, the below tribute video popped up. Quite the recollection in comments and reflections of 9/11, 19 years ago yesterday. https://youtu.be/MwE_5e3r_uA

Personally, I still remember what I was doing...where I was...and the LIVE TV images and sounds (on ABC GMA with Diane Sawyer and Robin Roberts), instilled in my mind, to this day of 9/11... and the Security Forces Augmentee duty shortly thereafter (plus duty in the building, and NCOIC of White Flight, 45 SW Base Honor Guard duties) then off to Iraq for 14 months. We Will Never Forget!

Stay Safe!

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ID CARD EXPIRATIONS:

Under guidance provided by the Department of Defense, retiree and certain family member identification cards that expire on or after 1 January 2020, will remain valid through 30 June 2021, according to the Defense Human Resources Activity. This extension does not apply to children turning age 21.

For a listing of all ID card issuing sites and appointment information, visit the ID card office online at
<https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/#/>

SPECIFIC GUIDANCE RELATED TO PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, FLORIDA

[Information provided by Susan Romano]

(continued on pg 20)

DOD ID CARD EXPIRATIONS (continued from pg 19)

Security Forces will continue to allow personnel with expired ID cards to access base until 31 Mar 21. After that, they will require sponsorship to enter the base. AFPC has confirmed that personnel with expired ID cards will maintain their benefits and entitlements until 30 June 2021.

To schedule an appointment at the DEERS office, please visit the following website: <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/#/locator>

1. Click on "Site Locator & Appointments / Continue"
2. Under "Enter Location," type "Patrick AFB" and hit "Search"
3. Select 620 O'Malley Rd and Click on "Select"
4. At the bottom of the page, click on "Schedule an Appointment"
5. Find the date and time you want (As of 16 Sep, the earliest available appointment is on 16 Nov)
6. Click on "Book this Appointment" and follow the steps accordingly

SPECIFIC GUIDANCE ISSUED BY THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

[Information provided by Dale Klug]

Contact: Retiree Activities Office
Assisting Military Retirees and their Spouses
Building 949 Room 114
McClellan Park, CA 95652
Office: 916-640-8446 FAX: 916-640-8097

WC-135, CONSTANT PHOENIX

By Susan Romano, AFTAC/PA

The WC-135, Constant Phoenix, Tail number 582 aircraft was retired at Offutt Air Force Base on Friday, 13 November. This ceremony can be viewed at <https://m.facebook.com/OffuttAirForceBase>

Information provided by Sean Ryan:

The link below provides some great photos of the Retirement of the WC-135 582 last week at Offutt AFB. She is off to the boneyard near DMAFB, AZ. (There is a video too, of her final "Wheels Up." I'll see if I can get it to download). [WC-135 582 retires](#)



Photo by Tech. Sgt. William A. O'Brien

Additional information from **Rob Christman**: We started using this plane, gas only, in 1998. It was modified with foils and the advanced ARE System in 2003/2004. I did the acceptance tests. The comments on its fickleness are a little exaggerated but it did break a lot. I think the nickname Lucifer's Chariot is an attempt to link this to one of the original WCs, triple 6 which was nicknamed Satan's Sled based on its tail number.

AFTAC HISTORIAN IS SEEKING PHOTOS

Submitted by Mike Young, AFTAC's Historian

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

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

(continued on pg 21)

AFTAC HISTORIAN IS SEEKING PHOTOS (continued from pg 20)

Mike's contact:
James.young.53@us.af.mil

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

AIR FORCE EMPLOYEES WORK FROM HOME

By Rachel S. Cohen - Sept. 16, 2020

About one-third of Air Force employees may remain largely out of the office even after the coronavirus pandemic subsides, Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Stephen W. "Seve" Wilson said Sept. 16.

The Air Force scrambled earlier this year to set its employees up with remote access to the service's computer networks and collaboration tools like Microsoft Teams as offices across the country cleared out. For an organization with IT infrastructure years behind the private sector and many homes, the pandemic was an opportunity to catch up and pursue more flexible, unconventional work policies.

Not all service members can work from home because of classified information that can only be accessed in secure rooms, or other technical issues. Many employees feel more productive in an office setting and want to regain the in-person camaraderie lost during the pandemic. But people would have more options to move between home and the office as needed.

The Air Force has to strike the right balance: secure enough to prevent intruders in its networks, but not so much that it stifles productivity.

[Read more at the www.aftacaa.us – News to Know -]

U.S. SPACE FORCE – REDESIGNATION OF AF BASES:

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) -- Cape Canaveral AF Station and Patrick AF Base were formally re-designated Dec. 9, as facilities central to the mission of the U.S. Space Force during a ceremony rich in symbolism that further confirmed the nation's commitment to operating in and defending space.

Vice President Mike Pence announced the decision to shift the designation of Cape Canaveral AF Station to Cape Canaveral Space Force Station and Patrick AFB to Patrick Space Force Base during a formal ceremony at Cape Canaveral.



"Today we make history with the first two installations in the history of the United States Space Force to bear the name of this new branch of the service," Pence said during the ceremony before unveiling updated signs carrying the new names. "It is a great day for our military. It is a great day for Florida. It is a great day for America."

Later in the day, during a meeting of the National Space Council, Pence again noted the new designations and the contribution of the Space Force, which marks the first anniversary of its founding Dec. 20.

[More details at www.aftacaa.us and
<https://www.spaceforce.mil/News/Article/2441804/2-famed-bases-re-designated-to-highlight-space-force-connection/>]

THE SCIENCE OF MIND AND BODY: A successful combination for one Airman

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. | By Susan A. Romano

When Dalton McIntire (pictured at right with first place powerlifting competition award) was a freshman in high school, he spent a lot of time lifting weights in his school's gym. For him, it was a way to increase stamina, strengthen his workout routine, and further build on his abilities on the baseball field. It wasn't until about four years ago after he enlisted in the AF that he developed a love for powerlifting.

To the layperson, weightlifting and powerlifting may seem like synonymous and interchangeable terms, but there are actual differences between the two. Weightlifting is a "speed" sport, requiring the participant to lift the most weight in the shortest period of time, and the object is to lift that weight over your head. Powerlifting, on the other hand, is a "strength" sport, where the participant uses the squat, bench press and deadlift techniques to lift as much weight as possible, but not overhead. Both, however, require commitment and dedication –traits that McIntire displays not only in the gym, but on the job as well.



Senior Airman McIntire is a Scientific Applications Specialist at AFTAC. His primary job is as a geophysical maintenance technician in AFTAC's Component Repair Facility, where he maintained seismic equipment used on all seven continents to detect and examine nuclear weapons detonations across the globe. After demonstrating strong attention to detail and solid leadership skills in his primary job, McIntire was selected to become a product manager for the center's Systems Development Directorate. In that role, he is responsible for both product planning and product business value, including managing products throughout their lifecycle; gathering and prioritizing product and customer requirements; defining the product vision and strategy; removing/minimizing team blockers; managing and organizing stakeholders; and working closely with developers and designers to deliver operable products.

[See the full article at www.aftacaa.us]

Military Families and Retirees Are Getting Revamped IDs - 1st Time in 3 Decades,

24 Aug 2020 Military.com By Bing Xiao

The military is ditching flimsy laminated paper-based ID cards for military retirees and dependents for an all-new card system: the Next Generation Uniform Services Identification Card.

According to a Defense Department announcement published Monday, the cards, which represent the first ID update for these military communities since 1993, will be more durable and more closely resemble the Common Access Cards, or CACs, used by active-duty troops and DoD civilians.

The new IDs are already in circulation: the military quietly began issuing them to retirees, reservists and dependent military family members July 31 at a few ID card facilities, according to the DoD release.

The new USID cards are enhanced with an updated design and security features to deter counterfeiting and fraud, Michael Sorrento, director of the Defense Manpower Data Center, said in a statement.

To date, only about 20 Real-Time Automated Personnel Identification Card System (RAPIDS) sites now offer the new cards; other sites await equipment upgrades in order to make them. All DoD USID card facilities are set to offer the IDs by December 2020, according to the release. The complete transition to new USID cards is targeted for January 2026.

This transition doesn't affect current card expiration dates and doesn't change the populations who are eligible to get the current USID cards.

In addition to dependents of active-duty troops and reservists and retirees and their dependents, those eligible for these DoD-recognized IDs include Medal of Honor recipients and their dependents and 100% disabled veterans and their dependents, among others. A full list of eligible groups can be found here. The cards facilitate access to military bases and to other exclusive facilities, such as commissaries and exchanges.

The COVID-19 pandemic has complicated the rollout of the new cards.

(continued on pg 23)

Military Families and Retirees Are Getting Revamped IDs

(continued from pg 22)

Sorrento advised that it would be better to wait to get the new card until next summer unless the holder's current one is expired. Applicants should call ahead for appointments to get the new USID cards.

In April, Pentagon officials announced that dependent and retiree cards set to expire in 2020 would be automatically extended through September in light of the pandemic, and changed policy to allow some ID updates and new enrollments to be done by mail.

DoD is further developing the ID card process, Sorrento said in the release, and eyeing changes such as a mail-in ID process with online vetting, eliminating the requirement to apply in person at a RAPIDS site.

COMACC JOINS AFTAC AIRMEN IN ONLINE TRAINING SESSION

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. | By Susan A. Romano

The commander of Air Combat Command carved out 30 minutes on his tight schedule May 13 to dial in to a virtual training class hosted by members of the 22nd Surveillance Squadron here.

Gen. Mike Holmes participated in the webchat with 47 Airmen from AFTAC to discuss geopolitical competition in the Arctic Region.

"In late 2019, our operators who execute our 24/7 watch floor, identified a need to dedicate time solely to training on the battlespace," said Col. Andy Steffen, "so they initiated two weekly sessions, one for day shift and one for night shift, to better understand our global operating environment. When the coronavirus hit, they still wanted to continue the sessions, so they began conducting them virtually."

Since mid-March, the squadron has been connecting online to discuss a wide range of relevant topics and current events that impact the nuclear treaty monitoring center.

In that vein, one of the 22nd SURS flight commanders thought it would be great if they could get a senior Air Force officer participate in the video chat with the squadron, and after a few phone calls and email messages, they secured the leader of AFTAC's major command at Langley AFB, Va., who agreed to join them.

"Our wing commander, Col. (Chad) Hartman, reached out to ACC to see if COMACC would be interested in being a part of the call, and when we got word back that he agreed to join us, we were all pretty stoked," said Capt. Jason Goins, 22nd SURS flight commander.

The Airmen put together a solid lesson plan complete with two short informational videos that illustrated U.S. concerns and interests in the Arctic region.

After the presentation, 1st Lt. Jesse Lubove, an AFTAC mission director and moderator of the web chat, introduced Holmes to the group and asked the general if he had any comments he wanted to share with the group.

"Your timing is spot on," the general said. "Just today Alaska Senator (Dan) Sullivan spoke about the Arctic's importance to America's national security and the role the Department of Defense should play in the region. It's great to hear your thoughts on the subject."

The group spent about 10 minutes engaging in a robust question-and-answer session, with Holmes chiming in with his thoughts as well. When his time came to an end, he thanked the technicians and analysts for inviting him to the chat.

"I really appreciate being included and I learned a lot from your perspective," the 4-star said. "I hope you will invite me back again for further discussions."

The 22nd SURS Airmen hope to have other Air Force senior leaders join them in future training sessions.



*****SAGE SCHEDULE*****

MANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED –
See the www.aftacaa.us web page for latest information.

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

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

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

Currently, these meetings are Tele-Conference meetings. See Page 4 for information to participate.

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

Active-Duty & Alumni are invited to all events.

Before coming verify date/time/venue at the Website and/or with Sean Ryan at oceanblueview@yahoo.com

See page 3 for current list – check

www.aftacaa.us for latest updates

December 2020

Monday, 14th, 1600 – TeleConference Membership Mtg
[check Calendar of Events at www.aftacaa.us]

January 2021

Monday, 11th, 1600 – Membership Mtg
[check Calendar of Events at www.aftacaa.us]

February 2021

Monday, 8th, 1600 – Membership Meeting
[check Calendar of Events at www.aftacaa.us]

March 2021

Monday, 14th 1600 – Membership Meeting
[check Calendar of Events at www.aftacaa.us]
Event Plans and Timeframes—for planning only—dates may vary

A. January-April (months may vary)

1. SnowBall -- no current plans for 2021
2. Center Annual Awards Banquet – no plans at this time

B. May-August (months may vary)

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

C. September-December (months may vary)

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

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

3. Oct 1st, **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 The 2021 Reunion to be hosted by the Florida Association has been cancelled. Hopefully, the next Reunion will be held in Florida in 2022.

SAGE SHOP – OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Mail orders to:

AFTAC Alumni Assn, ATTN: Sage Shop
PO Box 254892,
Patrick Space Force Base, FL, 32925-0892

SAGE CONTACT: Ed Lindsay

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.

