

- CMS Kevin?
- Pat, due 25. copy

◆ POST - MONITOR ◆

670



VOLUME 11 ISSUE 3

Membership—665, Lifetime 507 (18 Distinguished)

2003 SEPTEMBER

517



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
Command's Sages

Long-Range Detection
denotes and represents
all who served the
mission throughout its
inception and history

Recognized for 50 years
of service to our country
in September 1997
1947 – 1997



SAGE SALUTE *Spotlight Board*

THE LONG-RANGE DETECTION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PROUDLY PRESENTS



PATRICIA SNYDER
"INVESTIGATIONS & INQUIRIES
SPECIALIST" OFFICE OF THE IN-
SPECTOR GENERAL, ASSOCIATION
'INSIDER' SINCE 1997

'Pat,' as she prefers to be called, is invaluable to the association as a long-time supporter and as an alumni 'Insider.' Over the years we have been lucky to have top-notch command and active duty support, and our 'insiders' are critical to translating this support into action and results within the headquarters building.

Pat has been a civilian working with the Air Force since 1974 and with AFTAC beginning October 1990. She first began attending our meetings in the 1996-97 timeframe and has been active ever since.

Pat, in her position, makes sure we have access to the headquarters building for our monthly meetings. She is an active participant in those meetings and attends to our many 'inside the building needs,' i.e., going out of her way to ensure our access, that the office we meet in is available and that those who need to know are

(Salute continued on page 4, 'mid' right column)

ALUMNI ALERTS-WHAT'S COMIN' UP

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



OCTOBER GOLF N'GETOGETHER

General Membership Meeting and
Association Board Elections Follow
MAJOR ARRANGER, SAM SORICE

Can you believe it's fall already? Well, the signs are all there: the kids are back to school, football has shown up on the TV and the AFTAC Alumni Association (AKA LRDA) Fall Golf Tournament will soon be underway. That's right folks; our fall golf tournament is scheduled for **October 10 at the Cocoa Beach Golf Course**. As usual, our corporate sponsors have come through with some excellent grand prizes as well as a great assortment of door prizes. The price for this afternoon of fun will be \$35.00 for association members and

(Golf n'Getogether continued on page 7)

ALUMNI EVENTS-WHAT'S GONE OFF

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

RECOVERY TIME

No 'events' to report on this quarter. It was time for a 'down period' to recuperate and revive following the very active period of the reunion.

ATTENTION...DUES DUE? Here's how to know.

If you wish to remain a member and receive this newsletter, please check your address NOW!

The first line on your address label (see last page) indicates when your dues are due. If it reads: "FY Dues Due in Oct 04" it means you have not paid your dues for FY 2004 (begins 1 Oct 03).

If it reads "LT" (Lifetime) or the digits are greater than 04 it means your dues are current.

Remember that the first two digits (if there) on the first line are the fiscal year your dues are due.

ASSOCIATION HONOR ROLL

Alumni Of The Year Recipients

Joseph 'Joe' Johnson 2002-Jim Payne 2001
 Ben Vlassick '00 (deceased)-John Horsch '99-Frank Hall '98
 Judy Milam '97-Carl Gailey '96-Clark Creery '95

Florida Chapter "PERENNIALS"

(board members serving for five+ years)

Clark Creery-NNewsletter 81-84/89-95, Pres 94/95, Webpage-since 01,
 Frank Hall-Pres/Vice 89-98/01, Judy Milam-Sec 89-00, Eunice Harris-
 Hospitality 89-00; Mary Welch-Mbrshp 91-99; Carl Gailey-Trea 91-99,
 Swede Swansen-Publicity since 93, John (Christel) Horsch, Newsletter
 since 96, Mike Black, WebMaster since 97

ASSOCIATION HISTORY

The Association formed on March 12, 1985, and was chartered in 1986. It was created to provide a forum for those who wish to maintain an ongoing connection with the organization and its people, both active-duty and retired. Membership is open to current and former employees of all organizations associated with Long-Range Detection (LRD) (AFMSW-1, 1009th SWS, AFOAT-1, 1035th FAG, and AFTAC), and any subordinate field detachment.

Florida chapter (application on back page)

Dues, \$10/FY (1 Oct-30 Sep) payable in Oct/\$75 for life. Monthly meetings at 5:30pm on the second Monday of each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC HQ's building (989) at Patrick AFB, FL. Information: Jim Payne, (321)777-4731/paynejb@juno.com or Pat Snyder, (321)494-6867/patricia.snyder@aftac.patrick.af.mil.; mailing address is:

Long-Range Detection Alumni Assoc, PO Box 254892,

Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892

There is a quarterly (Mar/Jun/Sep/Dec) newsletter, 'Post-Monitor' (staff data below), (namesake of a prior active-duty publication, 'Monitor') & a Webpage, '<http://www.csi-inc.com/aftac>', with assc/alumni data, 'Post-Monitor' 'Samplers' and back-issues and photos-WebMaster is Mike Black; Clark Creery writes an 'Upcoming Events' ('What's Happening') section and posts photos.

Colorado chapter

Formed in 1989, dues, \$5 per year, payable in February; chapter publishes a newsletter, 'Echoes' and supports a website, '<http://www.aftacco.org>'; Webmaster, Bill Harris. They meet several times a year-for information, Bill Schmied, (303) 367-0625. There are ~105 members.

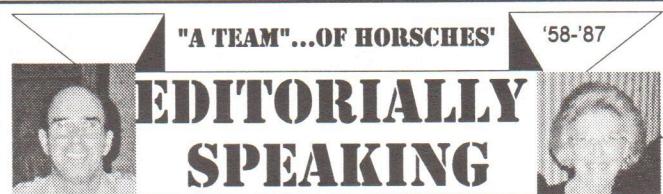
West Coast (California) chapter

Formed in 1999, dues, \$5 per year, \$50 for lifetime; for information-Joe Johnson, (916) 783-8676, 'TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com'-mailing address:AFTAC Alumni Assoc., West Coast Chapter, 161 Southcreek Circle, Folsom CA, 95630-1510. They have periodic meetings/socials and publish a newsletter, 'Depot Fallout.' There are ~144 members.

Long-Range Detection Alumni Honorarium

Several ongoing projects representing and honoring command people and its history exist: Two of these, 'Hall of Heritage' (data/artifacts) and the 'Wall of Honor' (photos/bio's sent in) of alumni who served the command for 20+ years, are housed at AFTAC Headquarters. Another is an AFTAC display at the Encampment, Wyoming Museum.

Newsletter Editors: John & Christel Horsch
Information/Proofing: Judy Milam/Pat Snyder/Deborah Carson
Executive Review: Frank Hall/Carl Gailey
Rovin' Photographers: Judy Milam (film) and Bob Wiley (digital)
Rovin' Reporter: Clark Creery/Bob Wiley
Printing/Mailing: Carl Gailey/John Horsch/Jim Payne



EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

First, we'd like to congratulate our 'Salutee,' Pat Snyder, for her recognition this quarter, and thank her for all she does to help your editors. As our 'Premier Insider' we have come to count on Pat for many things, not the least of which is gaining and sustaining the support of 'presages,' the current active duty personnel.

Secondly, again concerning our appreciation of Pat, is her willingness to accept the nomination as our next vice-president. Along those lines, another long time and outstanding member, Judy Milam, has accepted the nomination for president. Thank you two for stepping up and accepting the challenges these board positions present. Al Moy and Joe Goldian have also bravely and willingly decided they will continue to serve as secretary and treasurer, respectively, if elected.

We will vote on these nominations, and any others that may be presented, following the October 10th 'Golf n'Getogether.' After the tournament, and the 'chow-down,' we will convene the annual general membership meeting and vote on the FY 2004 board members.

On to this issue - another great one with an outstanding addition to our 'Feature Article' series ('Commanders reCall,' 'I Remember,' 'BS,' etc.), 'The Way It Was, and the Way It Is.' Mr. Gary Null, the AFTAC Command Historian, has agreed to provide articles concerning the history, and current status of, various command entities. We very much look forward to this series of articles.

Also notice that the Command Winter Social will be taking place in December. This is always well attended by the active duty and sages, and if you want a ticket you need to be making contact now to 'be in line' when they become available.

Finally, we want to recognize, and thank, our California counterparts for making a quick decision to host a 2005 worldwide reunion. This gives all of us plenty of time to prepare and arrange our schedules to be able to be there. As you will read, they are finalizing the dates and will let us know as soon as possible. A reunion such as this is a huge task but so worthwhile as we maintain contact with old and new friends coast to coast and around the command world.

MAIL - CALL



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

Letters of a general nature, requesting no action, may be e-mailed to the editors, chrisjohn@juno.com
 Letters may be edited for clarity and space; any opinions are those of the writer(s) and may not reflect Association belief or policy

'Welcome' to new and returning alumni and those who drop us a line. We recognize all correspondence so your name, and the memories, may be recalled.

NEW/RENEWING SAGES

Wayne Reece 2003.07.12
 New 3-yr member. Web application states: SPIN-SATRA; Denver, 65, 66; 1155TOS, 66, 67; Det 4XX, 67, 68; Det 452, 68; 1155TOS, 68, 73; retired Nov 73.

Marvin McCaw 2003.07.14
 New lifetime member. Web application states: Det 204 and 4XX, 1155TOS

Thomas McDonough 2003.08.03
 New 3-yr member

Tim Mecham 2003.08.03
 New lifetime member. Web application states: 1155TOD DLP, 82-87, applied physics

LETTERS/EMAIL

Stewart Everard, Glastonbury, CT 2003.06.04
 Ordered merchandise

John Kenney, Cyberspace, MD 2003.06.04
 Thanks for a great (reunion) weekend. Everything and everyone was perfect. It was greatest. See you in September. Please pass along my Compliments to all ... What a great team. Thanks for your important contribution, attending, and your appreciation.

Robert E. Thompson, Xenia OH 2003.06.05
 The last 'Post-Monitor' which I received was for Dec 2002. The label indicated that I should have sent in my 2003 dues by Oct 2002. I sent my

check on 7 Dec 2002 which has cleared.

Please check to be sure that I am still a member and send me the March and June 2003 issues. Bob, we understand our intrepid membership chair, Jim Payne has 'fixed you up' ... and appreciate that you wanted the back issues.

Ethel A. Jones, Wichita, KS 2003.06.25

Address change and name correction Good to hear from you Ethel and thanks for keeping our records up to date.

Walter D. Siemiller, Cyberspace 2003.06.27

It was a surprise to see an article in the Post-Monitor concerning the exploits of Ted Devorak. We always thought Ted was very serious and a bah-humbug. We enjoy having Ted and Jill stay with us in Fallon, NV, when they come to the US from Australia.

They stayed from Feb to May this year, and Jill became a US citizen. We enjoyed the ceremony and had a few drinks afterwards.

I will send a copy of this article to Australia and see what happens.

I enjoy reading the Post-Monitor and want to thank all the people for an outstanding job. Good to hear from Walt, and thanks for being a reader. Please consider writing a memory or a tale for us.

Alan Kirschbaum 2003.07.08
 Address change

Wayne Reece, Cyberspace 2003.07.13
 reece_w@msn.com, (email to membership chair)

I've been aware of the association for some time now. I had copied down the address of the Florida chapter and misplaced the information; I found the card yesterday and since I was on line I checked to see if there was a web site...

After I retired from the 1155th TOS, I went to work for Sun Electric repairing automotive test equipment, and after 26 years with Sun I retired August 2000, and then went back to work for them part time for a year and a half. I think I'm through now.

I copied the membership application and plan on becoming a member of both the Florida and Sacramento chapters. I met Joe in Korea, and later at McClellan. I was in the Maintenance Section as a QC Inspector. The last major job I was involved in (1973) was helping to IRAN (inspect, repair as necessary) the group aircraft (a beautiful, polished C-118). The mission aircraft arrived at McClellan in June to get some of its ARE equipment repaired. Since John Royer and I had aircraft maintenance background we were tasked

to assist. We discovered the ARE Equipment Panel was wired directly to the main power buss. We had the aircraft grounded, but since the aircraft was needed for an important mission it was released to fly. The C-118 returned in August, for the needed repairs and modifications. Non-standard equipment was replaced and the aircraft returned to operation in time for me to begin terminal leave in September. That was a busy summer.

The past thirty years have gone by in a flash; I was aware the 1155th was replaced by TOD and the TOD was phased out before McClellan AFB was closed, but somehow was too busy to keep up with activities. I will mail the application next week.

Thanks for the letter and your membership.

Mike Steskal
Address change

2003.08.06

Editors, Cyberspace 2003.08.13
(to the Command's PA, TSgt Bill Lindner, and the Assc webmaster, Mike Black)

The 'AFTAC Family' magazine looks great on the alumni website, <http://www.csi-inc.com/aftac/aftacfamly/200307.pdf>, and really appreciate that you are providing it for our posting. Hopefully, 'Websters' will have a look and see how worthwhile this magazine is in helping alumni know a little more about the active duty people.

Mike does a great service for us ... he did not hesitate to 'make a spot' for your 'Family' publication, even giving it its own heading at the 'intro' screen. If you'd like, take a look at the alumni website - head for, <http://www.csihq.com/aftac/>.

While you're there, take a look at everything, and check out Clarks' (Creery) webpage, 'Upcoming Events' - he carries information about past and future events, has the latest pics from events, and a whole array of alumni information.

We're very proud (and thankful) for what these guys do for us. Having such great internet capability has been a boon to the alumni that cannot be measured. Mike also gives us an 'e-all' capability that lets us notify, in near real time, registered members of information of interest (events, deaths, etc).

We'd appreciate it if you could make the active duty more aware of this site and see if you can get some of them to 'take a look.'



Mystery Photo

... lastly, from the emailbag, this picture was sent us sometime back and got mixed in the shuffle. We apologize and would really appreciate someone/anyone reminding us 'who sent it' and telling us:

—Who Are These Guys and explaining/guessing where they are (Lowry?), the year, etc.



(Salute continued from page 1)

contacted. This contact is critical toward our interaction with active duty members for the association's, and the command's, activities (golf tournaments, picnics, award ceremonies, etc.)

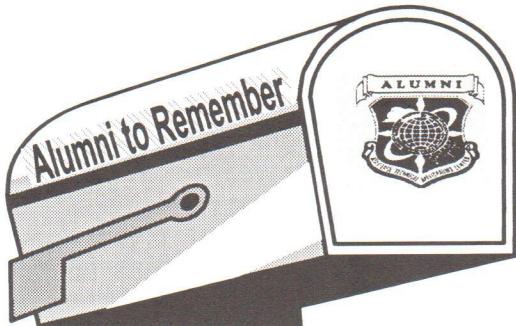
This 'Insider' support was never so vital as it was for the recent association reunion at the headquarters. Pat, with her 'Insider' capabilities and talents, was everywhere at once preparing for this reunion, enlisting the support of others 'in the building' and keeping the active-duty involvement and interest at a very high level.

Pat is also active at association 'events' - never failing to lend a hand to advertise to the active duty, and sell tickets, for our semiannual 'Golf n'Gettogether's' and the annual 'SnowBall.'

Pat lives in the area with her husband, Duke, and son, Brad, a senior at Satellite High School.

Thank you Pat, for always being there for us and your continuing service.

Thank You

**Personals...**

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

Transition(s)**We Look Forward to Your Transition(s)****Hopes of Health for...**

Wherein Alumni share hopes for themselves or others...

None Provided**TAPS**

*In Memory of
Those We
Knew Who Are
Now Gone But
Never To Be Forgotten*



Gen. Daniel Butterfield, 1862

Day is done; gone the sun,
From the lakes, from the hills,
From the sky.

All is well, safely rest,
God is nigh,

Fading light dims the sight,
And a star light the sky, gleaming bright;
From afar, drawing nigh,
Falls the night.

Thanks and praise for our days,
'Neath the sun, 'neath the stars, 'neath the sky;
As we go, this we know:
God is' nigh.

**In Memory Of**

Wherein Alumni share names of those gone but never forgotten...

Jimmy Mays, see below

Ernest R Medley, see below

Richard W. Frontera, see below

George Crotwell Jr., see below

Don Haas, see below

Rest in Eternal Peace**Jimmy Mays**

EMAIL, 8/5, VERN MIKKELSON>JIM PAYNE

I thought alumni members would want to know that our friend Jimmy Mays has passed away. Information that I received is that he was experiencing back pains, about 7 to 10 days ago and he went to the doctor's office and was put on pain pills. Pills didn't seem to do the job so he went back to the doctor. They performed tests on him and discovered infection in his back and within a couple of days it had spread to the point that he became paralyzed from the neck down so he was put on life-support. He could talk and move one finger. He told his wife, Lynn, that he didn't want to live that way and had the life-support removed. Info that I received is that it was just a matter of a couple of hours that he left us. Further info is that he died of a staph infection of the back/spine. Jimmy was taken back to Arkansas for burial. Lynn's e-mail address is: (as far as I know), JimmyMays@MSN.com. Lynn Mays address is: 7016 Cantell Drive, No. Highlands, CA, 95660. Phone: (916) 332-5375.

Ernest R Medley

MS. ANGELA MEDLEY IN A CARD DATED, 28 JULY '03

SMSgt (Ret) Ernest R Medley passed away June 17, 2003, after a long illness due to Fabry disease.

NOTE: Ernie was a lifetime member; he had assignments within the organization from '71 thru '83. Address is: 8016 WEST 78TH WAY, Arvada, CO 80005.

Richard W. Frontera

MS. BARBARA FRONTERA IN A NOTE DATED, 4 AUGUST '03

Much to my sorrow my loving husband (TSgt [Ret] Richard W. Frontera, Sr) of 4 years plus passed away July 14, 2003. If you would list him in your next 'Post-Monitor' it would do my heart good as Richard read it from cover-to-cover.

NOTE: Richard was a member since 97 and was assigned to AFOAT-1/1009/CFO/56-58. Address is 8088 GA HWY 135, Naylor, GA 31641.

George Crotwell Jr.

EXTRACTED FROM OBITUARY SUBMITTED BY ROBERT MASON

George Philip "Phil" Crotwell Jr., 63, of Aiken S.C., died Sunday, July 20, 2003, at his home after a battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. He was born in Albany, Ga

Mr. Crotwell was a graduate of Clemson University. He retired from the U.S. Air Force after 20 years of service, where he obtained the rank of Lt. Col. While in the Air Force, he received a master's degree in engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology. After his retirement from the Air Force, he began a career as an engineer with Bechtel, where he later retired.

Mr. Crotwell is survived by his wife of 17 years, Lila Turner Crotwell; three daughters, Patricia Crotwell of Nashville, and Amelia Crotwell and Elizabeth Lynch, both of Oak Ridge; a son, Matthew Turner of Edgemoor, S.C.; a brother, Hank Crotwell of York, S.C.; six grandchildren, Julia Bentley, Emily Parks, Maggie Lynch, Nicholas Turner, Christopher Turner and Noah Turner; and by several nephews.

The funeral was Tuesday, July 22, 2003, at Trinity United Methodist Church; burial followed at Southlawn Cemetery with full military rites.

The family requests that any memorials be made in the form of contributions to Trinity U.M.C., 2724 Whiskey Road, Aiken, S.C. 29803 or Carolinas Neuromuscular ALS Clinic, P.O. Box 32861, Charlotte, N.C. 28232-2861.

Memorium, Phil Crotwell

ROBERT C. MASON, COL. USAF (RET), AUGUST 6, 2003

LTC, USAF (Ret). Phil Crotwell Jr, retired from AFTAC in 1980. While in AFTAC, he worked in TD-6 and managed one of the major technical programs.

Phil's retirement in 1980 was caused by him becoming a single parent with three young children to raise. To gain support, he moved back to South Carolina to be near his folks and entered law school. Although he made the dean's list in law school, the economics of trying to raise three youngsters and pay for law school became a major burden. Phil contacted me in 1982 for a job and I was thrilled to gain another former AFTAC outstanding engineer for our company.

I brought Phil to Oak Ridge, Tennessee, to work for Bechtel National Inc. in the clean-up of the old Manhattan Project Nuclear Sites (FUSRAP) and the Three Mile Island Nuclear Plant 2 Recovery

Project. Phil's extensive experience in AFTAC and the Nevada Test Site was very instrumental in developing and completing major tasks in the nuclear clean-up programs. He was an outstanding engineer and well respected by all he worked with in Bechtel and the Department of Energy. A major blow to all of us that knew him was when he contracted amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, know as Lou Gehrig's disease.

Many times Phil talked about his good time in AFTAC and how he wished he had been able to stay in the organization. During his illness he lost contact with most of his AFTAC friends and was not able to attend the reunions.

He was a good friend and will be missed by his family and many work associates.

Don Haas

EXTRACTED FROM FLORIDA TODAY, 2002.08.20

Don Haas, a USAF veteran and Systems Test Engineer, Senior Manager, Program Integration, Titan Programs, formerly Martin Marietta and now Lockheed/Martin died quietly, as he lived, at home on Monday, August 18, 2003. Don was born October 13, 1939 in Belmont, Ohio. He graduated from high school in Annapolis, Md., and received his BS degree from Rollins College in Orlando, Fla. His battle with brain cancer was long and difficult but he endured with grace and dignity.

Don is survived by his wife, Gail; son, Randy of Micco, daughter, Donna of Dallas, Texas; the youngest son, Ed of Merritt Island; and three precious grandchildren, Joshua, Clancy and Benjamin. He is also survived by two sisters; two brothers; his father; father-in-law; and several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Private burial was at Florida Memorial Gardens. A memorial/reception was held on August 23, 2003, at the Suntree Country Club. All his friends from golfers, co-work and neighbors were invited to celebrate our "Quiet Man,"

The family also requested, in lieu of flowers, that donations be made to any organization that supports all branches of our armed services here and abroad. Arrangements were entrusted Florida Memorial Funeral Home.



(Golf n'Getogether continued from page 1)

\$40.00 for non-members, which includes a great BBQ dinner after golf. You may sign up by calling **Sam Sorice at 868-5730 or Pat Snyder at 494-6867.**

Deliver your payment to Sam or Pat, or mail to:
Long-Range Detection Alumni Assc, PO Box
254892, Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892.

Checks should be received no later than 27 Sept.

Check-in begins at noon and the shotgun start will be at 1:00PM. There will be plenty of water and soda on the course, and a beverage cart will be available. A BBQ dinner by "Smoke'n Joe" will be served in the Cocoa Beach Pavilion following the golf tournament. We will also award the prizes during/after dinner. We will then move into the **general membership meeting and the election of officers** (see slate at 'Chapter News' section).

This tournament usually fills up quickly, so sign up early to ensure a spot in the tourney. There will be a limit of the first 144 players to sign up. If you are not interested in golfing but would like to attend the BBQ dinner and/or general membership meeting/election, the cost for the meal is \$7.75. Reservations for dinner are requested. There's no fee for the meeting only.

OTHER SCHEDULED EVENT(S)

Dec 12th, AFTAC Winter Social, Imperial Hotel
see pg 19 for additional information and events



Chapter News

Prez	FROM THE TOP	Sez
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JOHN CABAN, FLORIDA CHAPTER ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

It's Been a Great Year

The time has flown! It's been a pleasure and honor serving with the Alumni Board and dedicated AFTACers—both active duty and retired—this past year. And what a year it's been. From the "SnowBall" to the upcoming AFTAC golf tournament (thanks to Sam Sorice for stepping in at the last minute), it has been a lot of hard work, but also a lot of fun!

And a lot of things have happened in between: The AFTAC picnic, where the Alumni did their part holding down the beer wagon, and of course the Alumni Reunion at the end of May. I want to give a special thanks to Carl **Gailey**, Reunion Chairman, for his sterling efforts to make this one of the best ever. As expected, we had tons of support from our loyal membership--active duty and retired AFTACers--and I want to thank you all for your excellence in every area.

I want to recognize our **OUTSTANDING** officers, who did much more than their titles suggest, pitching in on every effort we've put together this year. Joe **Marshall**, immediate past President, has really helped me this year in his role as Vice-President. Thanks, Joe, for a job well done, and we all salute you and Gail as you both look forward to retirement at the end of the calendar year.

Al **Moy** has been a rock of support as Secretary. Additionally, Al and Kathy hosted our very successful "SnowBall" in February. Al has steadfastly followed up on issues regarding our "new name" as Long Range Detection Alumni Association with the IRS and other agencies.

Joe **Goldian** stepped in and really put together our financial picture as Treasurer. Joe and Sue spent countless hours putting our financial records in order, and finding the best spots to invest our money. As a result, the Alumni Association is on its best footing, ever.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with everyone this past year. I am very excited about our slate of Officer Candidates for next year, headed by nominees Judy **Milam** for President, and Pat **Snyder** for Vice-President. Both Judy and Pat have been the "power behind the throne" for years, and it's time they are recognized for their efforts by leading us all!

Once again, my thanks to all, and God Bless!

BOARD MEETINGS

Board Members

Elected

President-John Caban Vice-Joe Marshall
Secretary-Al Moy Treasurer-Joe Goldian

Appointed

Activities-CMSgt Lloyd French Heritage Hall Committee, TBD
Hospitality-Judy Milam Internet-Mike Black - Clark Creery
Membership-Jim Payne Newsletter-John and Christel Horsch
Publicity-Swede Swansen

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A Few Minutes from the Minutes

AL MOY, SECRETARY

June 9th, July 14th and August 11th

-**Reunion actions** a hugely successful event and books slightly in the black! Thanks all around
-Golf Tournament set for Cocoa Beach Country Club on 10 October—see article, page one
-Nominees sought for Assc Elections which will occur at the general membership meeting fol-



NOTICE-Nominees now set and are as follows: President, Judy Milam, Vice, Pat Snyder. Al Moy (current secretary) and Joe Goldian (current treasurer) have agreed to reelection.

lowing the 'Golf n'Getogether' on 10 October.

-**Membership Directory:** Jim Payne has updated and mailed to members.

-**Assc name change** is official with the IRS!

Monitoring the Web Sites

CLARK CREEERY, 'UPCOMING EVENTS' WEBSTER/ROVIN' REPORTER

I have a few things to add to the newsletter this go-around! As the reporter in-roven, I have noted that there are several things that folks really should be aware of:

1. CSI-INC donates web space for the webpage and Mike Black does a very good job of helping us keeping it running.
2. Under the leadership of Carl **Gailey**, the reunion was a tremendous success. I know the pressure and he handled it in a manner that was above reproach. Thanks Carl, you "done good"! Often times folks attend one of these functions and have no idea what it takes to pull it off.
3. Our newsletter is the backbone of this association and the work that is done there is for one reason - "**THE EDITORS AND THOSE WHO TAKE THE TIME TO PROVIDE INPUTS.**"
4. Check out our web-pages and if you have any pictures that you might want to show on the page or if you have something special, let us know.

There are a few rules that make it a lot easier to post them to the web-pages:

1. Pictures should not be more than 1 or 2 meg in size. If they are, I have to go thru a process to reduce the size to 640 x 480 so it will fit on the screen.
2. Names cannot be Joe1.jpg, Trish2.jpg, pic-

nic05, etc. We would love to have the pictures named like this:

—Date, underline number, example: 081803_01.jpg would be a picture shot on 18 August 03, Underline is the separator and then number them 01, 02, 03, 04, 05....etc. If you want text added to the picture send such text and identify which picture it fits.

This saves me about 2 or 3 days processing time and I am a busy guy. With the genealogy sites I maintain it stresses the time scales.

The editors would like to strongly reinforce what the 'Rover' is highlighting here, and, even more important, please let Clark, and Mike Black (webmaster) know when you enjoy their extensive work each time you visit the website.

Other Chapter's News

WEST COAST CHAPTER

DEPOT FALLOUT

Email: TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com

President Rod Hinkle; Vice President Joe Johnson; Board Director Ken Denbleyker; Asst. Board Director Dave Tarquino; Director at Large Orv Pritchard; Treasurer Bart Carter; Asst. Treasurer Charlie Penn; Membership Chairman Danny Beach; Secretary Marge Iske; Asst. Secretary Ken Breitwieser; Newsletter Editor Dale Klug; and Asst. Newsletter Editor Bob Fitzgerald.

DALE KLUG, 8/23/03, FROM THE AUG 03 DEPOT NEWSLETTER

SPRING FLING – 2003 GOLF Get-Together

AL PAVIK, PRESIDENT

Ever get rained out on a golf outing and have a fantastic time? That's what happened at our April 25th golf outing. It was rainy and windy; Tom & Judy Niquette and Ann & I got to the 7th hole when the golf was canceled due to "not good weather." From the golf course we went to the Mather Clubhouse and called the people who were coming to the dinner. People showed up early with "extra drinks." Mather Club moved up the dinner and we had a fantastic evening. Thanks to Rod and Betty Jo **Hinkle** for putting this together and handling the unusual. It was truly a great day and evening.

Florida Reunion an Outstanding Success.

JOE JOHNSON, 2002 ALUMNI OF THE YEAR

It started with the Friday night Ice breaker. Met old friends and were served hors d'oeuvres to die for. Our 2005 California reunion has a high bar to clear if we are to match it. Earlier in the day, there was a "cruise to nowhere" on the Sterling Casino Line. Seems 33 people took the bus for the cruise but only 32 came back. Don't know if they ever

(Depot Fallout continued on page 17, 'mid left column)

MONITORing Active

Duty Doings' from around the AFTAC World

Command Section



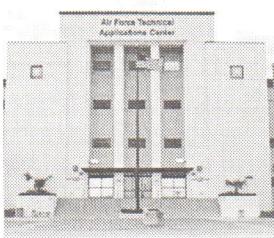
Col. Craig V.
Bendorf

Commander, 2002.12 previously AFTAC CV and before that, Chief, Global Attack Area Team, Directorate of Requirements, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Langley AFB, VA. He has a Bachelor of Science, Astronautical Engineering from the AF Academy and a Master's from Ohio State and is a graduate of the USAF Test Pilot School. Col. Bendorf has served in SAC, Space Command, Systems Command, Air Combat Command and the Joint Staff. He is a command pilot with 3200+ flight hours.



CMSgt Lloyd S.
French

Superintendent, 2003.01 AF/AFTAC since '77, trained in Gamma Spectroscopy and Special Equipment Operations—has attended Leadership School and the NCO and Senior NCO Academies receiving the Levitow and Commandant's Awards. He has also earned a BS in Business Administration. The Chief has served Airborne in many capacities at all command levels. He is married to the former Michelle Rostosky of Satellite Beach, FL and has three children, Lindsey, Nicholas, and Christina.



From the 'Head Shed' Global Notes

AFTAC CCS, CMSGT LLOYD FRENCH

The AFTAC/CC, Col **Bendorf**, and I visited several locations recently for orientation, conversation, and to thank those at the "pointy end of the AFTAC spear" for their hard work, sacrifice, and dedication to our strategic mission. Without exception, the units laid out the red carpet and provided us with insightful peeks into their daily operations and into the off-duty lives of their extended families.

Our first foray into the field was a hardship visit to SMSgt Mickey **Ruehs** and his team at Detachment 419 at Hickam AFB, HI. Col Bendorf visited several agencies on Hickam to facilitate the planned relocation of the detachment to another site nearby while I sat with a surprisingly large number of normally-TDY technicians and discussed everything from operations tempo to career progression. The detachment members and their families joined us for dinner and conversation for both our evenings there. We came away

from the detachment impressed by their leadership, their facility, and their achievements under extremely austere conditions. Then—true to form—Col Bendorf and I red-eyed it to Detachment 460 to see how maintenance and mission meld in America's "frontier state" at Eielson AFB, AK.

We were met at 'oh-early-thirty' in the morning at the Fairbanks airport by Major **Broady**—the CC—and MSgt Eric **Thompson**—the superintendent—who delivered us safely to quarters. When we visited the detachment, we were struck by the tremendous condition of the building—it looked like a brand new museum! Memorabilia adorned the walls marking a long history of quiet service during the Cold War Era as well as continued service to our strategic defense. Although the original itinerary called for a 4-wheeler tour of the array, an unexpected outage at Burnt Mountain necessitated a trip above the Arctic Circle courtesy of the US Army at Fort Wainright. The boss and I—carefully monitored by Major Broady and 3 very-talented maintenance technicians—got a first-hand look at how far our reach really is. While I helped shovel snow away from the equipment, the rest commenced a day-long ballet of maintenance actions which brought the site to 100%. Our return flight—this time through some pretty dicey weather—underscored both the challenges and risks our people endure on a routine basis. The commander and I left the detachment in total awe of what they do.

Our recent trip to Detachment 452 injected the oriental factor into mission challenges. The change of command from Lt Col **McNeely** to Lt Col (sel) **Ho** was a very telling event by the presence of senior host-nation and Camp Long dignitaries. MSgt **Drury**, the detachment superintendent, is immersed in the ongoing efforts to upgrade equipment at Wonju and was proud to show off the mettle of our technicians at this remote assignment. Of course our first order of business was a little PT up the "Mebong Incline" followed by a ½-day maintenance excursion via HUMVEE crossing rivers, levees, and traversing mountain roads where the ruts were deeper than the boreholes! Again, the skills of some of our most junior technicians were plainly visible. I can say from 26 years of experience that our mission will be in good hands for many years to come. Next Time: The Rocky Mountain Space Mission!



AFTAC Vice Commander retires after 30 years

TSGT BILL LINDNER, AFTAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS



Col Benoit presents a flag to his father, Eugene

The retirement ceremony for Col. Mark E. **Benoit**, vice commander of the AFTAC, was held Friday, May 23, in AFTAC's **Singlevich** Conference room.

Col. Benoit, who was the AFTAC Director of

Operations prior to becoming vice commander in January 2003, served in the U.S. military for 30 years. His military career began in 1973 when he graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

During his career, Col. Benoit was stationed at locations throughout the world, including South Korea, the Philippines, Hawaii, Washington D.C. and Patrick AFB.

During the ceremony, AFTAC Commander Col. Craig **Bendorf** said the 98% inspection rating AFTAC achieved during the ACC IG Unit Compliance Inspection conducted last week was, to a large degree, due to the efforts of Col. Benoit.

Quarterly Awards-2nd Qtr

FROM THE 'AFTAC FAMILY' MAGAZINE

Headquarters and Center AMN-SRA Joshua Bricker, DO
Field Unit NCO-TSgt Theodore Josue, Det 319
Headquarters and Center NCO-SSgt Larry Graff
Field Unit and Center SNCO-MSgt Cooky-Gam, Det 460
Headquarters SNCO-MSgt Mitchell Miller, LS
Headquarters and Center CGO-Capt. Heather Bogstie, TT
Headquarters Jr. Tech.-SRA Karen Payne, LS
Headquarters Sr. Tech.-SSgt David Jones, DO
Center Jr. Tech.-SRA James Atkinson, Det 46
Center Sr. Tech.-SSgt Chad Madore, Det 319

Sage Salutes to these performers, and the results of the UCI reported on below**AFTAC excels in Unit Compliance Inspection**

'AFTAC FAMILY' MAGAZINE, TECH. SGT. BILL LINDNER, AFTAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Months of preparation paid off for the men and women of the Air Force Technical Applications Center when the organization received a 98 percent compliance rating during the unit compliance inspection (UCI) conducted here May 19 – 23 by the Air Combat Command Inspector General Team. Units do not receive an overall grade for a UCI. Instead, individual areas are graded separately for compliance/non-compliance.

"The inspectors were impressed," said AFTAC Commander Col. Craig **Bendorf**. "The IG team said if we were given a rating, it would be excellent to outstanding. "The ACC IG team of 36 in-

spectors, led by IG Team Chief Col. John **Diggins**, inspected 155 areas throughout AFTAC. Colonel Diggins echoed Colonel Bendorf's comments. "The AFTAC inspection went extremely well," said Diggins. "Colonel Bendorf is providing solid leadership and his people are highly motivated. Morale is high and AFTAC members exhibit strong pride in their unit."

With such positive results, there were many individual and unit highlights during the inspection. "The IG team recognized 43 superior performers," said Colonel Bendorf. "They also identified four Best Practices and gave out six team awards. The inspectors said they couldn't remember when another unit received so many team awards in a UCI."

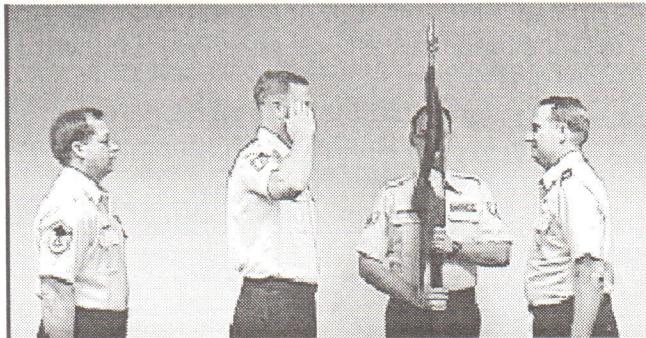
It was no accident that AFTAC was ready for the inspection. Preparation had actually begun long before Senior Master Sgt. Mark Lambert took over as AFTAC IG chief in January. "When I got the job we already had a good team established," said Sergeant Lambert. "The inspection was supposed to be last September but was postponed, and since then we've kept up with our self-inspections and conducted staff assistance visits to make sure we stayed ready."

Sergeant Lambert attributed the UCI success to the efforts of the people in AFTAC's directorates. "There was a point of contact in each directorate. The inspection went well because we were able to leave the preparation in the hands of these experts," said Sergeant Lambert. "Each of them did an outstanding job."

Thailand unit welcomes new boss

'AFTAC FAMILY' MAGAZINE, SSGT JOHN BANNISTER, CHIANG MAI, THAILAND

Col. Craig **Bendorf**, commander of AFTAC, presided over the Change of Leadership ceremony conducted April 2nd at Detachment 415.



Master Sgt. Steven Revels accepts leadership of Detachment 415 from AFTAC Commander Col. Craig Bendorf as Master Sgt. Gary Johnson, left, looks on.

The detachment, manned by four Air Force non-commissioned officers, is collocated with the Royal Thai Navy Seismic Research Station in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Thirty Thai enlisted members, officers and civilians operate the post.

Distinguished guests included the station commander, Royal Thai Navy Captain Charnchana **Buathep** and U.S. Consul General Eric **Rubin** as well as all detachment members' families. TSgt Mike **McCoy**, the detachment's Chief of Logistics, narrated the event. SSgt John **Bannister**, NCOIC of Systems Administration, was the guidon bearer while SSgt Aaron **Paul**, NCOIC of Maintenance, handled photography duties.

The brief ceremony centered on the exiting Detachment Chief, MSgt Gary **Johnson**, passing the unit's guidon to his replacement, MSgt Steven **Revels**. Next came speeches from Col. Bendorf and Capt. Buathep. Both men spoke of the excellent relationship AFTAC and the Thai Navy share and their dedication to preserving the association.

Sergeant Johnson spoke of the challenges he had met as Det Chief and bid a fond farewell to his coworkers. Col. Bendorf then presented the Det 415 NCO of the Year award, CY '02, to Sergeant Bannister. The ceremony concluded with everyone dining on a magnificently decorated cake ordered especially for the event.

Sergeant Johnson moves on to Patrick Air Force Base where he will be assigned to AFTAC. MSgt Revels arrived from AIA headquarters at Lackland Air Force Base where he was assigned as the 9S100 career field manager.

AFTAC, 'Reunion 2003' Alumni Open House

TSGT BILL LINDNER, AFTAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Florida – On May 31 the Air Force Technical Applications Center opened its doors and said, "Welcome back" to some old friends. Around 200 former AFTAC members, military and civilian, traveled to Florida for the Center's annual Alumni Open House and Reunion, where they got to meet with current AFTAC personnel and get a close-up look at the mission. The day began with mission briefings conducted by AFTAC Chief Scientist Dr. David **O'Brien**, followed by tours of some work centers, which included equipment demonstrations and static displays.

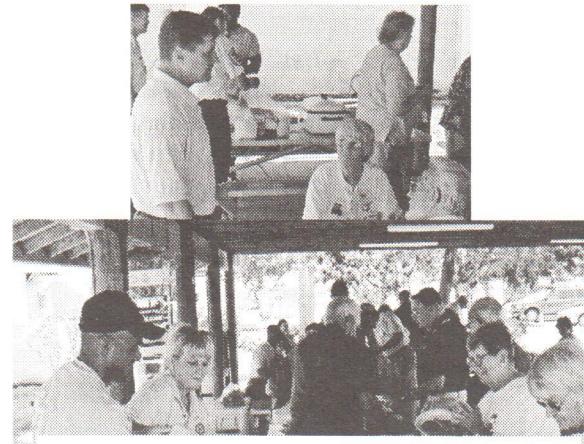
During many of the Open House activities, cur-

rent AFTAC members found the alumni to be a curious and knowledgeable audience. "They had a better understanding of the mission than many of the other groups I've briefed," said Capt. Heather **Bogstie** of AFTAC. "They gave me some insight on how AFTAC used to operate, and asked if the systems and equipment they used to operate were still being used. Talking to them was a real history lesson for me."

After the work center tours, many of the Alumni compared the equipment and technology in use today with what they worked on when they were assigned to AFTAC. "Now everything is computerized," said retired Senior Master Sgt. George **Cronin**, who was assigned to AFTAC from 1969 – 1990. "We used to do everything by hand or with film and tape. Jobs that used to take us three hours can now be done in about 30 seconds."

The event concluded with a cookout in AFTAC's Outback picnic area. During the cookout, alumni and current AFTAC members had the opportunity to share stories about common assignments they had held and asked about friends they had lost touch with. Other events held during the reunion included an icebreaker, golf tournament, cruise and banquet.

(below) CMSgt French visits with alumni
(below) The booster club feed the hungry open house attendees



SSgt. Portgee and SMSgt. Jacobs serve lunch to alumni

Winter Social 2003 Details

TSGT VERONICA REED, BOOSTER'S CLUB PRESIDENT

Friday, 12 Dec 2003, 1830 hours (Social Hour), 1930 hours (Dinner Buffet), Imperial's Hotel and Conference Center, 8298 N. Wickham Road, Melbourne, FL. For additional info/tickets, contact TSGt Ryan, AFTAC Winter Social 2003 Chairperson, AFTAC/DOA, DSN: 854-2565, COMM: 321-494-2565 NOTE: alumni may also contact Pat Snyder (321-494-6867/patricia.snyder@aftac.patrick.af.mil)

COMMANDER'S RECALL

Background: In light of the ongoing process that is the command, and a desire to record the impressions of this process "from the top," we ask previous commanders to give us a synopsis of their time with the command. We have received these impressions from many commanders to include Gen's **Silliman, Gordon, Clapper, O'Leary, Bingham and Shaffer** and Col's **Meisenheimer, Wigington and Beatty** (below). We thank these gentlemen for taking the time and effort to share their enlightening remembrances.

We anxiously await inputs from the remaining commanders, continuing 'Distinguished Association' members all: Jaynes, Jaegar, Dettmer and Horton.

We feel confident they will write as they find the time and opportunity—in the meantime, we will 'stand-by' and be at the ready.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO 'COMMANDER'S RECALL' INPUTS.

NOTE: Gen (Ret) Jaegar attended 'Reunion 2003' and plans to file his recall, when requested, for the December issue.

Col (Ret) Beatty, who also attended the reunion, provides the following outstanding 'reCall'

AFTAC – The Most Rewarding Part of My Air Force Career

Previously when I was asked, "What was your best assignment," I would say it all depended on the type of mission you were referring to. This was not an easy question to answer given that my Air Force career covered more than 35 years (13 enlisted and 22 officer), 19 permanent changes of stations, and five overseas tours (including two remote tours). But, in the reflection that only comes with retirement, I now know that AFTAC was without a doubt my favorite assignment.

You often hear the statement, "AFTAC is like no other military unit." This is true, but many people don't know the history about why. Because the early nuclear testing monitoring mission was so unique (and highly classified) it didn't fit into the Air Force's organizational structure. Therefore, the original AFTAC organization was allowed to develop its own command, personnel management, assignment, logistics, training, and operations structure. This created one of the most powerful, but least known units and missions in the history of the Air Force. In fact, many of the "old-AFTACers" will tell you "war stories" about what it was like being part of an operation that enjoyed one of the highest priorities in the U.S. Government. This led to many of the unique as-

psects of AFTAC. This includes, special equipment operators, close-looped assignments, enlisted detachment commanders, relationships with the national laboratories, close interface with and oversight by U.S. government agencies, and involvement with foreign countries and international treaty monitoring organizations.

I took command of AFTAC in the summer of 2000, not long after the Indian and Pakistani nuclear tests. This was a watershed event because it served to link the organization with its historical core mission (nuclear test monitoring) while AFTAC struggled to remain relevant in a changed strategic and military environment. One of my first tasks was to visit many of our units, both in the U.S. and overseas. These visits taught me my most important lesson – the people of AFTAC are our most valuable asset. This was confirmed everyday of my assignment. This was highlighted during my first visit to our former main AFTAC laboratory, the Technical Operations Division (TOD). I still remember walking into one room with five electron microscopes manned by airmen and junior NCOs. This is work and equipment I'd associated with a major research university or laboratory, not a military unit.

I was extremely impressed by the professionalism and technical ability of the AFTAC personnel. Even more impressive was the extraordinary level of responsibility given to our personnel, especially our enlisted members. I know of very few organizations that would put a detachment of NCOs and airmen in a foreign country where they are the operational, social, cultural, and civic representative of not only AFTAC, but also the United States. For many of these units they were the "face of America" for the foreign communities where they worked and lived. I was also amazed by the tireless dedication and resourcefulness of our detachment personnel who worked under very challenging circumstances. Where else can you find a detachment commander who rents a farmer's horse to carry equipment through a Turkish snowstorm to repair a seismic monitoring sensor. For me, detachment operations represented the best of the AFTAC "can do" spirit and the "point of the spear" of the AFTAC mission.

Our overseas operations were also an important component of AFTAC's relationship with our foreign partners and the emerging international treaty monitoring system. This was especially true for our relationship with the International

Monitoring System (IMS) organizations as they began to build their Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) monitoring capability. The CTBT would ban all testing of nuclear weapons and have the capability to monitor compliance. AFTAC was the lead U.S. organization for the monitoring portion of the treaty. Since AFTAC already had a worldwide monitoring capability and a fifty-year history in this mission, we were the logical choice as the model for the IMS monitoring network. I found the IMS personnel very technically competent and willing to learn from AFTAC's extensive experience. Working with the IMS professionals toward our common CTBT goals was one of the most rewarding parts of my command.

One of my duties as the AFTAC commander was to host many of our U.S. and foreign partners. Since many of our operations depended on their support and cooperation, this was a critical part of maintaining these relationships. While this required time on my part, it is my wife, Diane, who deserves the credit for making this a success. I can't even begin to recount how many hours she spent preparing and hosting dinners and attending social functions. She also worked very hard to spend time with the other AFTAC wives and the local alumni wives. She was more than willing to open our home to anyone associated with the AFTAC family. She was a tremendous asset to me and AFTAC. I wouldn't have succeeded without her, and I owe her a great debt of gratitude. I know this is true of many other AFTAC wives (and husbands) who have played a critical role in the success of AFTAC. We can't thank them enough for their continued support.

The time at AFTAC is something that stays with most of us for the rest of our lives, especially for those who spent most of their career with AFTAC. This was very evident at the recent Long Range Detection (AFTAC) Reunion. Although the attendees spanned over fifty years of AFTAC experience and history, there was a shared bond that could only be understood by fellow alumni. Although many of us came from different backgrounds, worked with different "techniques," or were assigned to different locations, we all knew that we had been (or still were) part of something very special. That is why the AFTAC Alumni Association is so important, especially as it strives to expand the alumni membership by attracting younger members. It is only through the memo-

ries of its alumni that the AFTAC legacy is assured of continuing. For me, my time at AFTAC was the most rewarding part of my Air Force career.

THE WAY IT WAS ... AND THE WAY IT IS

THE COMMAND, OVER THE YEARS

PREPARED BY GARY NULL, COMMAND HISTORIAN. Mr. Null has kindly agreed to prepare a series of articles concerning command entities ... how and when they started and what their status is at this time. This is the first of that series, thank you Mr. Null and we look forward to your series as a regular 'Feature Article.'

1155TH TECHNICAL OPERATIONS SQUADRON, McClellan AFB, California

In the beginning (or at least on 14 Nov 47) there was the Special Weapons Group, DCS/M, under the command of Maj Gen William E. Kepner. Within the Special Weapons Group, in December of 1947, General Kepner organized a Long-Range Detection Division. This soon became known as the Air Force Materiel, Special Weapons – One (AFMSW-1). The following year, on 1 Jul 48, the "parent organization," the Special Weapons Group, was redesignated the Office of the Assistant for Atomic Energy, DCS/O (AFOAT) and it was under this agency the AFMSW-1 continued to function.

Then, a month later (28 Aug 48), the 51st Air Force Base Unit was redesignated the 1009th Special Weapons Squadron. At the same time the Air Force Materiel, Special Weapons – One was redesignated AFOAT-1 and placed under the new 1009th Special Weapons Squadron. This remained the organizational setup until 1959 when the entire organization inactivated and ceased to exist, while the monitoring mission was taken over by an entirely new and different organization, which eventually evolved into Headquarters, Air Force Technical Applications Center. But there was a lot of activity in those eleven years.

In the fall of 1950, AFOAT-1 created a facility at McClellan AFB, California, for a newly created subordinate organization, which it named the Western Field Office. This office acted as an extension of the Washington staff to administer the increasing field responsibilities. The Western Field Office was housed either in or near Building 280 at McClellan AFB. By the end of the year,

logistics was added to the responsibilities of the Western Field Office. This placed the support activity for specialized Atomic Energy Detection System equipment directly within the organization.

In anticipation of this change, arrangements were made earlier for the modification of Building T-39 at McClellan AFB. By 1952 additional space was needed, so action was taken to modify Building T-740 at Camp Kohler, California. Toward the end of the same year, further modifications of the other buildings of the Western Field Office at McClellan AFB were undertaken.

Another need, which was quickly recognized, was the requirement for field radiochemical laboratories. Planning began in 1949 and the first radiochemical laboratory built was at Eielson AFB, Alaska, for Team 202 of the Western Field Office. This laboratory began operations in 1950. Supplies and other logistical support material were maintained at McClellan AFB, California. Some of the buildings used by the Western Field Office in the McClellan and Camp Kohler sites included S-34, S-39 (later called 339), T-39 (warehouse), T-734, T-740 (supply activity and chemical storage), T-741 (combustible storage), T-811 (operations supply), and T-626 (main warehouse and field maintenance). In 1958 a new laboratory (Building 628) was completed and occupied.

In the process of continuing atomic testing, it was determined that certain types of polyfiber filters would be needed. On 21 Jul 52 AFOAT-1 requested the Army Chemical Center to manufacture the filters and send them to Team 101, McClellan AFB. This was done and the Western Field Office began storing filters. Western Field Office personnel also made a study of different types of Cathode-Ray Oscilloscopes and selected a Type 513-D, manufactured by Tektronix, Inc. of Portland, Oregon, as being the most suitable for AFOAT-1 use. Several of these were procured by the Air Materiel Command and by 31 Mar 53 had been shipped to the Western Field Office at McClellan AFB. The Western Field Office continued this sort of logistic activity and support for its subordinate units for several subsequent years.

By 1954 there were, in addition to the Western Field Office, the Delta Field Office at Brookley AFB, Alabama, and two other field offices located overseas. Late in that year the status of the field offices in the organization of the 1009th Special

Weapons Squadron was modified. The leaders of the field offices, up until then, had been known as "Field Office Chiefs." In late 1954 this title was changed to "Field Office Commanders" and they were given limited Uniform Code of Military Justice authority.

As mentioned above, on 6 Jul 59 the 1009th Special Weapons Squadron was discontinued. This is of particular significance both for the unit lineage and honors and legally. This is because once a Major Command (MAJCOM) unit is discontinued (1944-1968) or inactivated (1968 to present), its existence terminates. Even if another MAJCOM unit is formed immediately thereafter with the same designation, at the same base, with the same people, and with the same mission, the latter unit is brand-new and completely separate in lineage from the former unit and does not inherit any honors from the other unit. Incidentally, an easy way to identify a MAJCOM unit is by its designation. If it has four digits – such as the 1009th – it is a MAJCOM unit.

The following day, 7 Jul 59, another unit was created to perform the long-range detection mission. This was the 1035th USAF Field Activities Group. Technically, it should have been called Headquarters, 1035th USAF Field Activities Group and this oversight was corrected by a redesignation of the unit on 1 May 60. However, the 7 Jul 59 date is accepted as the start of the organization. Twelve years later the name was changed again to HQ 1035th Technical Operations Group, effective 26 Jun 72. This lasted for eight years and then the unit was redesignated again. This time it became Headquarters, Air Force Technical Applications Center, effective 1 Oct 80. This most recent change is particularly significant as far as its lineage is concerned. By changing the organization to a named establishment it was automatically changed from being a MAJCOM unit to being an Air Force-controlled (AFCON) unit. Incidentally, HQ AFTAC celebrated its 44th birthday on 7 Jul 03.

Out in the field where the teams were working, all of these organizational gyrations were probably hardly noticed. The creation of the new 1035th also included a mirror set of field offices and teams copying the field organization of that previously possessed by the 1009th Special Weapons Squadron. No further major changes occurred until 1960. Then, on 1 Jul 60, the subordinate field offices of the 1035th were redesign-

nated numbered squadrons. The Western Field Office became the 1155th Technical Operations Squadron. This was done to bring the organizational unit status into conformance with the appropriate Air Force regulations. Another effect of this change was to result in the teams being changed to detachments of their parent squadrons. In this change, all of the new detachments retained the numerical designations of their previous teams.

Subsequently, a general consensus arose that the 1155th had been misdesignated as a squadron. In the summer of 1983 the commander of the 1155th Technical Operations Squadron, Colonel Alvin L. **Pavik**, requested to the AFTAC Commander, Colonel Robert A. **Meisenheimer**, that the squadron be redesignated as a named unit. Colonel Pavik noted, "I am not adamant about changing to any particular name, but I do desire to eliminate our designation as a squadron. Because of our size, rank structure, diversity of function, and level of responsibility, we are inappropriately named." Colonel Meisenheimer agreed and the process was begun to have the unit redesignated. This was accomplished on 1 Mar 84 when the 1155th Technical Operations Squadron was redesignated the Technical Operations Division.

The Technical Operations Division continued to provide the expertise and service for which it was deservedly well-known until 30 Sept 99 when the organization was inactivated, ending just under fifty years of exemplary service by its people under two organizations and through many, many technological changes.

I REMEMBER...

LRD HISTORY BY THOSE WHO WERE THERE

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS We solicit your **unclassified** memories of your career (events, people, etc.). Forward these to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN Remembrances column, to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish them as in the order received and as soon as we can. Thanks for your help.

Frank **Calenda** was preparing for a garage sale and found a bundle of older newspapers. Included in these were 'Florida Today' (local Brevard paper) articles and, in particular, the following that is very interesting to 'those of us of that time':

Tech Center Crew Begins Move

TOM MYERS, ASSISTANT METRO EDITOR (NOTE: SOMETIME AROUND JULY 1972)

The vanguard of the Air Force Technical Applications Center has arrived at Patrick AFB, and the entire complement of 557 persons will be

here by mid-September. "About 24 are on board so far," a Patrick spokesman said Tuesday. "The bulk of them will be arriving this summer," he added, probably in July and August.

AFTAC's staff will consist of 497 military personnel and 60 civilians, commanded by Brig Gen. William R. **Goade**, who will arrive here in August. His service commander, Col. William **Walker**, will be here "within a few weeks" to prepare for the main body of AFTAC personnel.

The super-secret center will occupy 79,000 square feet of the Patrick Technical Laboratory on A1A. That's slightly less than half of the building, which has a missile and rocket display facing the highway. Renovation of the Tech Lab is currently under way to make the building suitable for AFTAC. The research unit will bring a 6 million payroll and a total of about 3,000 persons.

AFTAC is moving to Patrick from Alexandria, Va. The center performs highly classified work "involved in the exploration, measurement and tabulation of the effects of natural phenomena on the physical structure of the earth and of its atmosphere, with the possible application of such events toward the improvement of the military capability." The Pentagon declines to go beyond that in defining, the center's research role.

As translated by an aide to Congressman Lou Frey, the statement means "they work in geological and aerospace areas with an eye to bettering our weapons systems."

2003 WorldWide Reunion Memories to Share

CLARK CREEERY, FROM A NOTE SENT HIM BY BOB MILLER

This is not a BS tale that normally graces the pages of our newsletter, but a 'ST' (substantiated tale) that actually happened. LTC (Ret) Bob Miller sent me an exceptional article and I have extracted from that for your pleasure:

On 31 May 2003 former members of an unnamed detachment gathered for a three hour "Survivors Gathering" in Suite 608 at the Radisson just up the road from the headquarters. Amidst laughter, a couple of tears, and a passel of good memories, stimulated by a twenty minute slide show, twenty-eight former detachment members and their wives unofficially decide that:

1. We all dearly loved the place and the experiences and would do it again if that were possible.
2. The site opened in '68 or so and closed almost a decade later in '79.
3. Some 1550 personnel had the honor of serving 'on the hill', and about forty keep in touch with

the whole alumni force from time to time.
 4. We figured out those that spent two years there went – up the hill – 700 times.
 5. We talked of the 5 commanders and their wails and woes keeping us in line.
 6. The first man into the site is only known to God, however the last man out is known to the driver by hiding on the floor of the car when he departed.
 7. Tom Sullivan and Bob Miller survived two tours each (nuts they are).

Bob also passes on these afterthoughts:

1. Next time you have a chance, visit the "Hall of Fame" – this place now has an identity.
2. The notorious club relocated many times because the troops had a passion for causing local leaders consternation.
3. Bob presented each member – at the reunion – with a bottle of the most wonderful contraband.
4. Things that required people to do in those days are now done via computer from Patrick..... takes all the fun out of stomping around the country.

Bob adds:" I have forwarded a personal letter of thanks to the 2003 Reunion organizers (Carl **Gailey**, Pat **Snyder**, and Judy **Milam**), volunteers who did it out of love to perpetuate a tradition.

Clark Creery then notes: I served there too!! Bob, thanks for adding the mini-reunion at room 608 to this reunion. It was wonderful.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

LRD FAMILIES ... OVER THE YEARS

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS. Some families have served the mission over several generations. With this column we ask those families to share that history. Forward to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN Family Affair column, to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish them in the order received and as soon as we can. In the past, these brave souls have stepped forth, with a 'father's response' by Frank **Curt Miller** and Tony **Calenda** (with a 'father's response' by Frank **Calenda**), and we hope to hear from the others we are aware of. Randy **Vlassick**, Curt **Stephens**, Nick **Kappel**, and Mark **Smith**. If you are aware of more, please let us know ... Thanks for your help and inputs. *know* *days a rat*

WE LOOK FORWARD TO 'A FAMILY AFFAIR' INPUTS.

We were able to talk to several of the LRD family members (Randy Vlassick, Mark Smith, Nick Kappel) during 'Reunion 2003' and they have agreed to share their stories with us

WHERE ARE YA???

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS. Where we attempt to get you to let us know "where ya are" and "what'cha been doin" - Forward these updates to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN Updates column to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish them in the next issue. Thanks for your help

WE LOOK FORWARD TO 'WHERE ARE YA???' INPUTS

BS (BARELY SUBSTANTIATED) TALES!

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS. We solicit unclassified humorous tales about LRD events and people - recognizing these anecdotes may be Barely Substantiated (BS). Forward your BS to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN BS column, to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish them in the order received and as soon as we can. Thanks for your help.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR 'BS' INPUTS

John Horsch

Since we did not get an input for this section, another BS about yours truly must be tolerated; to prevent recurrence, please send YOUR story in today.

1958-59 Timeframe. I finished 'B' tech school (Lowry) in late '58, graduating with two other individuals, Fran **Endler** and Phil **Barr** (current whereabouts unknown to me). As luck would have it, we were all assigned to the 'new' detachment in Pinedale Wyoming to report January 59.

Upon receiving this assignment I bought a 48 Studebaker Land Cruise from one of the instructors whose name, as I recall, was Bobby **Aycock** (his favorite saying was, 'finer than frogs hair'). It cost \$100 and options included a wire coat hanger antenna, seriously balding tires and a bad lean to the right. In any case, off we went to our new assignment.

When we got to Pinedale it was very cold and snow was everywhere and waist deep, but the highways were open. We stopped at a gas station in town and they told us the detachment was 'out toward Boulder' and pointed the way.

We eventually got there but we first stopped at this official looking building with a locked gate and barred windows, waded thru the snow, climbed over a barbed fence, waded thru a few more yards of snow, and beat on their door. They got a kick out of the fact we thought the Pinedale Airport might be the Air Force Detachment.

The airport people gave us a few more instructions and we showed up with our first 'Pinedale' story before we even reported for duty.

(Depot Fallout continued from page 8)
found that person.

I skipped the tour of the AFTAC building on Saturday morning, but went out in the afternoon when the AFTAC boosters were serving hot dogs and hamburgers. I talked with a number of active duty people and they are the same outstanding type of people I remember from many years ago. The banquet Saturday night had many highlights.

There was a striking program tracing the history of the American flag. There were five AFTAC past commanders in attendance including Major General Glen D **Shaffer**, Director for Intelligence, J2, Joint Staff. General Shaffer addressed the group. On a personal note, I was presented the AFTAC alumni of the year award for 2002. Thank you to all alumni. I feel honored and humbled. Maybe the award clouds my judgment (I doubt it) but alumni not there missed a great party.

I almost forgot to mention the hospitality room, which from the start was stocked with all the goodies except Coors beer. California alumni know George **Thompson** and many know he drinks only Coors beer. The hospitality staff made a special Coors beer purchase just for George. **Way to go!** And that applies to the entire reunion.

Winter Social Nov. 16th

SUBMITTED BY AL PAVIK, PRESIDENT

Come and join us for our Winter Social to be held at the "Sheepherder Inn" (11275 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova) on Saturday the 16th of November at 6:00 PM. We have a room reserved and need your reservations by Nov 10th. You will have a selection of three entrees (Chicken Cordon Bleu, Baked Salmon or Prime Rib). Total cost is \$24/person (including tax and gratuity). Dinner includes entrée, bread, tossed salad, appropriate starch, vegetables, coffee or tea, with chocolate or carrot cake for dessert. Please send check (payable to Al Pavik) to 9371 Troy Way, Granite Bay, CA 95746

Summer Get-together at Clear Lake

SUBMITTED BY AL PAVIK

Twenty four members and guests joined together for a great cruise/lunch and camaraderie on Clear Lake on 10 August. We enjoyed a three-hour cruise viewing the lake, the surrounding mountains as well as a large number of new homes (mansions) that are being built especially on the south side of the lake. In addition to the cruise and the excellent lunch, it was especially

good to see old friends, i.e. Sam & Gloria Houston, John & Dorothy Lanigan who live in Browns Valley and Jim & Evelyn Gilmore from Concord. A very special thanks to George Thompson for handling this great "day on the lake".

Words From The Prez' by Al Pavik

We are sad to hear of the passing of Virginia Carter, wife of Bart Carter our chapter treasurer. Virginia was a warm, hospitable lady who will be missed by us all. We want to express our deepest sympathy to Bart and his family.

Events Calendar for 2002/2003

Scheduled/Proposed: 16 **Nov**, 6:00 PM: Dinner at Sheepherder's, 11275 Folsom Blvd, Rancho Cordova, 2 **Dec**, 7:00 PM: Business meeting/social, Paviks' 9371 Troy Way, Granite Bay

Quarterly Business Meetings (at McClellan Air Museum at 7:00 PM) (Call ahead, 797-1472, to confirm time & place), 4 March, 3 June, 2 September, 2 December 2003

Mail Call

Don't forget our E-mail address: TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com

Joe Johnson Telecon: We still have some shot & wine glasses left from the reunion. Get in touch with me at 916-783-8676 if you'd like some. Shot glasses @ \$4.50 and wine glasses @ \$5.50.

Jim Dorman E-mail: I served as DLP Chief, Chief of Supply and MCL Director during the period July 1992 to June 1996, and then served as Commander of Det 460, Eielson AFB from 1996 to 1999. My seven years with AFTAC were the best of my almost 25 year career. I'm now on the faculty of the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. I teach physics and math and instruct in a couple of different flight simulators supporting the cadet aviation programs. If anyone would like my current contact information, please feel free to publish it in your next edition of the "Depot Fallout" Thanks very much; with warmest regards to all, Lt Col James M Dorman, Assistant Professor of Physics, USAF Academy, DSN 333-2091, COM 719-333-2091 jamesdorman@usafa.af.mil Jim Dorman, 3920 Barrelwood Court, Colorado Springs, CO 80920 (H) 719-487-0845 (W) 719-333-2091 Cell 719-330-9304 joshuafamily@earthlink.net

Bob Fitzgerald E-mail: please have a courtesy copy of the next quarterly CA newsletter of our West Coast Chapter of the AF-

TAC Alumni Association sent to: Barry S. Johnson.

I was introduced to Barry, a consultant for Shooting Star, today and learned he is a retired USAF Officer who was assigned to TOD "SC" during the years 1987-1990. (Barry, if I messed up that info, please correct me.) Note: I don't have Barry's home address, just his card with his business address info, so please send the newsletter there. Barry can decide then if he'd like to join our chapter and may send in the correct mailing and other information required using the form in the newsletter. Thank you.

Barry Johnson E-mail: I was at TOD 87-91. At the time LtCol **King** was the SC and Col **Werner** was the CC. I worked for Capt Larry **Moncada** and later LtCol Steve **Sincoff**, PhD. I was there for the BIG move from the rickety old two story building to the new state-of-the art analytical facility at the end of the inactive runway

Rich Charles E-mail: Just got the Sergeants Magazine in today and saw Tim **Burn's** name on the Final Flyby list. I think you might remember him from WFO (1155th). Also please check your membership roster to see if John **Madden** was a member of the West Coast Chapter. Back in the late 50s, John was one of the drivers for Generals **Hooks Rodenhauser**, along with Gale **Alexander**. John lived here in North Highlands. His obit notice was in the 30 Sep edition of the Bee.

Depot Fallout Updates

DALE KLUG FALLOUT EDITOR EMAIL, 2003.09.03

New West Coast Officers/Chairpersons

Congratulations to our new West Coast leadership team who took office at our Sept 2nd general membership meeting. Team members are: President Rod **Hinkle**; Vice President Joe **Johnson**; Board Director Ken **Denbleyker**; Asst. Board Director Dave **Tarquino**; Director at Large Orv **Pritchard**; Treasurer Bart **Carter**; Asst. Treasurer Charlie **Penn**; Membership Chairman Danny **Beach**; Secretary Marge **Iske**; Asst. Secretary Ken **Breitwieser**; Newsletter Editor Dale **Klug**; and Asst. Newsletter Editor Bob **Fitzgerald**.

All these people are ready for a productive two years in office and you can expect to hear from us.

AFTAC Reunion, 2005

AL PAVIK, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

The AFTAC 2005 reunion will be hosted by the

West Coast Chapter. Jack **Allison** and I have volunteered to work this get together. We will be contacting people to support this function. Currently we are doing tentative planning and have identified either early May or September 2005 as tentative time frames.

We will be putting together sub-committees (Facilities, Publications, Funds, Golf, Registration, Commemorative etc.) to support this effort.

We will be asking for your support and inputs for this effort. We will be providing more information in the future, however if any of you have recommendations/inputs please let Jack (916-331-3891) or myself (916-797-1472) know.

COLORADO CHAPTER ECHOES

Email: bdunn@qadas.com

CHAPTER OFFICERS

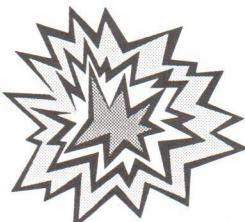
President, Jack **Smith**-Vice President, Earl **Pierce**
Treasurer, Bill **Schmied**-Newsletter Editor, Bryce **Dunn**
Webmaster, Bill **Harris**

Annual Picnic occurred on 21 June.

November Dinner Dance-We are in the early stages of planning our annual dinner dance social. We usually have it in November, close to Veteran's day, at the Buckley AFB CAMANA club. Since the club is under new management, we are checking to see if we can have the function there again this year. If you have a good idea on where to hold this function, please contact Jack Smith or Earl Pierce.

Website - Have you been to www.aftacco.org lately? You'll find information about upcoming events throughout the year. There's a photo "Quick Tour of the Wings Over The Rockies" museum located on the former Lowry AFB grounds. If you didn't receive your 'Echoes' newsletter like this one in the past, we've begun an archive of previous issues you can review whenever you like. Stay in touch and be informed. Visit www.aftacco.org anytime!

Good Health Wishes - Bill **Braukman**, Mayme **Gailey**, Frank **Hall**, and Eunice **Harris**.



CALENDAR

**Monthly HQ AFTAC WindDowns
Association Board/Membership Meetings**
All Alumni are heartily invited to these events.
**VERIFY WITH PAT SNYDER, (321) 494-6867/
patricia.snyder@aftac.patrick.af.mil BEFORE COMING**

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

WHEN: 1530 (3:30 PM)

WHERE: Behind AFTAC HQ building

HOW: park behind the building-find the crowd

—Board/membership meetings are scheduled for the **second Monday** of each month (dates below)

WHEN: 1730 (5:30 PM)

WHERE: AFTAC HQ's Building

HOW: come to rear entrance

2003

October

5, 1530 WindDown at the Outback
13, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

November

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

December

5, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback
8, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

Scheduled Events

**EVENT CONTACT—PAT SNYDER, (321) 494-6867/
patricia.snyder@aftac.patrick.af.mil**

October-December

Oct 10th, Assn. Golf n'Getogether, see page one
Dec 12th, AFTAC Winter Social, Imperial Hotel

Projected Events

(for planning purposes only)
Jan-Mar

Assn. SnowBall VI

Command Awards Ceremony

Command Picnic

Apr-Jun

Assn Golf n'Getogether

2005

Reunion 2005, CA Chapter

ALUMNI SHOP

Mail orders to: Long-Range Detection Alumni Assn
ATTN: Sales Staff, PO Box 254892
Patrick AFB FL, 32925-0892

Include additional \$3.00 for shipping and handling*

*No shipping and handling charged on logo pins

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE (as of 2003.09)

PURCHASED WITH ALUMNI FUNDS-Multi-Color Logo

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

GOLF SHIRTS, with pocket, \$14

Sea Teal (aqua blue)	2	2	4	3
Jade (medium green)	3	4	3	2
Navy	3	2	3	3
Red	2	3	2	2
White	2	6	4	2
Royal Blue	3	4	4	3
Teal (dark aqua)	2	4	3	4
Maroon	3	4	2	2
Black	3	2	1	

T-SHIRTS, without pocket - \$7.00

Light Blue	2	3	3	3
Royal blue	1	3	3	1
Navy	3	2	1	1
Ash Gray	2	2	4	1
Purple	2	1	3	2
Red	2	2	3	2
Fuscia	2	2	2	2
Mint Green	2	2	2	2
Jade Green	2	4	4	2
Black		3	3	3
SWEATSHIRTS , Ash Gray, \$15	1	3	3	1

HATS - \$6.00 # MISCELLANEOUS

Green	7	50th Commem. Coins, \$3	146
Gray	3	Logo Pin, \$3.25	298
Red	7	Logo Disk, \$5.50	12
Light Blue	8	Alumni License Plate, \$7-members/ \$10-nonmembers	6
Navy	0		
Blue/ Gray	25	TOD History Book, free, s/h—\$4.00	

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

JACKETS -

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

GOLF SHIRTS-

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

CONTENTS

◆ 20

Long-Range Detection Alumni Association, Patrick AFB FL

◆ NOTE: the web-like pound sign (#) identifies articles that are also featured on the association webpage, "csi-inc.com/aftac"

- Page 1 #Sage Salute - #Alumni Alerts - Alumni Events
Page 2 #Association/Chapter Information - #Editorial
Page 3/5 Mail-Call/#Alumni To Remember
Page 7/9 Florida and Other Chapter News/Monitoring Active Duty Doins'
Page 12 Feature Articles, "Commanders reCall" - "The Way It Was - The Way It Is" (NEW)
"I Remember" - "Where Are Ya?!!!" (none this issue) - "A Family Affair" (none this issue)
"Barely Substantiated (BS) Tale" (none this issue)

check # articles

Page 19-20 #Calendar - #Alumni Shop/#Contents/#Address Label

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SNFE the Snail Sez, keep us up-to-date on your life and forward unclassified organizational adventures and tales - inputs are due the 1st Monday in the month of publication (March, June, September & December).

Membership Application

(complete and mail to ATTN: Membership Chair) (address/contact information on Page two, left panel)

FLORIDA Chapter dues (check one, enclose sum): \$10 annual dues \$75 lifetime

SPECIAL OFFER, For first time (new) members only, three years dues for \$20

NAME _____ (Spouse) _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER(s): _____ EMAIL/HOME PAGE (optional) _____

NOTICE: Membership information will be passed to other AFTAC Alumni Chapters and members unless you state that this information is not to be released, and may be made available on the association website.

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



<<<) The emblem used by the alumni association was in active service from 1970 to 2000 (the replacement is a less detailed rendering). The association continues the use of this version because so many alumni served while it was 'on duty.'

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