

♦ POST-MONITOR ♦

Volume 6 Issue 3

Membership Stands at 674 (391 are Lifetime)

Sept 1998



The Alumni Anthem
Over the years and at
younger ages ...
GS, E and O were our
gauges

But now we've reached
the best of stages ...
Being one of AFTAC's
SAGES

A Sage Salute - Swede Swansen

We salute Swede for the many times, things and areas he has helped with since he became a part of the association board (Publications) in '93.. He has served on the board so long that he has become one of the few - one of our five "perennials," (those who have served on the board over five years). This just begins to tell the story of his contributions - when help is needed, Swede is there, be it golf, be it a meeting, or be it a social event - Swede is always doing his part to make it "happen" and to make it better.

Swede's alumni association assistance is a natural follow-on in his service to AFTAC. TSgt. (Ret.) Swansen was on active duty from December '73 to December '93, spending 16 of those years in AFTAC - beginning as a Satellite troop in January '78. He spent over 8 years in Space Operations that was broken up with a 2-year tour to Det 452. He ended his career in AFTAC in Training, Small Computers, Computer Security (see upper left, page 3)



Back By Popular Demand

submitted by CMSgt Ken Myers

Another night has been set aside to socialize and have dinner with your AFTAC Alumni friends and coworkers. Saturday, 23 January 1999 has been reserved at the Patrick NCO Club to host this festive evening. Last April the Alumni Association hosted its first social and dinner to honor its "High Five." With almost 50 people attending the event, we're ready for even a bigger turnout this time.



No agenda this time except we know many of you out-of-towners are always looking for any excuse to come to Florida in the winter time. It's a great way to have a nice evening out in your "Florida casual" attire and stay in touch with "old" friends. Sorry about the use of the word "old" there, but as one of the youngest lifetime members, I can get away with that until someone younger joins the association.

Watch the Post-Monitor in the coming issues for more details, but put this date on your calendar now!! See you there.

GOLF & Get-Together

submitted by Frank Hall

30 Oct, 12:30pm

Mark 30 Oct. 1998, 12:30pm on your calendar. This is when we will have the AFTAC Alumni Association fall golf tournament. Again, we will be playing Four Person Select Shot format (Scramble) with handicapping by teams, but you can sign up individually and be placed on an open team. (lower right, page 4)

A reminder from Carl Gailey, Treasurer **ATTENTION Dues Due Month ATTENTION** Don't be "out" - check this out! It's that time of year for all us members who pay dues annually to check the address label on this issue. The first line on your label indicates when "Dues are due." If your label reads "99-<FY Dues Due in Oct!" it means our records indicate that your Dues are due 1 Oct 1998 (the beginning of FY 99). The label for lifetime members will read "LT-< Dues Due in Oct!". Just remember the first two digits on the first line is the fiscal Year(FY) your Dues are due. **EXAMPLE;** "00-<Dues Due in Oct" indicates your Dues would be due 1 Oct 1999.

Association Honor Roll

Alumni Of The Year Recipients

Judy Milam, 1997 – Carl Gailey, 1996

Clark Creery, 1995

"PERENNIALS"

Members who have served on the association board for five or more years

Frank Hall - President/Vice, '89-'96, current

Judy Milam - Secretary, '89 to current

Mary Welch - Membership, 91 to current

Carl Gailey - Treasurer, 92 to current

Swede Swansen - Publications, 93 to current

AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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

Florida chapter

Membership dues, \$10 per year (based on FY, 1 Oct.-30 Sep.), payable in Oct., or \$75 for a life membership. You're encouraged to attend regularly scheduled monthly meetings beginning at 5:30pm on the second Monday of each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC headquarters building (#989) at Patrick AFB., FL. For verification and information about the association, its meetings or membership, contact Mary Welch at (407) 259-0629 or Judy Milam at (407) 494-3871 (daytime). Dues, membership applications, and other queries/information may be mailed to:

AFTAC Alumni Association

PO Box 254892

Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892

The association provides a quarterly (Mar., Jun., Sep., Dec.) newsletter, "Post-Monitor" (staff information below), namesake of a previous AFTAC active-duty publication, "Monitor." & a Webpage, "<http://www.csihq.com/aftacalumni>", with association/alumni information, a "Post-Monitor" Sampler, and photos - Webmeisters are Dave Johnson and Mike Black

Colorado chapter

Membership dues are \$5 per year, payable in February; this chapter also publishes a newsletter, "Echoes," and meets several times a year. For additional information contact Bill Schmied, (303) 367-0625.

AFTAC and Alumni Honorarium

There are several permanent and ongoing projects representing and honoring AFTAC people and history. Two of these, the "Hall of Heritage" (with information and artifacts) and the Photos/Biographies of Alumni who served AFTAC for 20 plus years, are housed at AFTAC Headquarters, another is an AFTAC display at the Encampment Wyoming Museum.

Your Newsletter Staff

Newsletter Editor(s): John and Chris Horsch

Information/Research/Proofing: Judy Milam and Mary Welch

Executive Review: Frank Hall and Carl Gailey

Technical Assistance: Dave Johnson and Mike Black

Roving Reporter(s): Clark and Ruth Creery

Publications: Carl Gailey and Swede Swansen

"A Team"...of Horsches'

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING



A lot to write about this month so we've exceeded our normal limitation of "half-a-page." Bear with us - first, to the active-duty, we started a program whereby each detachment is supposed to be receiving an issue of the Post-Monitor...tell us if this is happenin' and is it getting read? We'd also like to solicit inputs from you "out there" still "Monitoring"...we Sages remember our times and would like to hear of yours...how you're carrying on "what we used to do." So, please, we'd like to have active-duty information in every issue, be it headquarters or Timbucktu...drop a note!!

Back to association matters, we've got a lot of ideas we kick around in our meetings and often wonder if we are really meeting memberships expectations...give us feedback on how we're doin'..it's your dough that makes the bread and we'd like to hear your comments about the taste (i.e., how we spend your \$'s). Here are some working items we **REALLY** need input on...

-\$100 to the Sensor Olympics, now what is that? The Sensor Olympics is an annual enlisted skills competition for the Air Intelligence Agency and its supported units. It was initiated in November of '79 to officially express the appreciation of the command to its enlisted operational and support technicians. This year will mark the 18th year of the Agency's search to identify, recognize, and reward the "Best of the Best." Throughout the world some 700 people in 21 specialties compete - of these, only 63 (top three of each) will be "finalist" and feted in San Antonio, TX, with tours, receptions, and VIP treatment by the military and civilian community. Gold, Silver and Bronze medal winners are announced at a culminating banquet. "Your" \$100 will be used directly for the AFTAC participants in this event - what a great way to recognize, and reward, the outstanding performance of our active-duty force!!!...or is it? -A scholarship program is being considered-we've kicked this one around for several years and just can't quite decide if this is a worthwhile expenditure of funds for a world-wide association such as ours. Tell us what you think. Is a scholarship program of \$500 a year, one award a year and one award per winner a program you support?

(page 3, center left)

(Salute, from page 1)

and Network System administration.

His civilian career has involved jobs in Computer Security and Software Quality Engineering. He was a Computer Security Administrator on the Range Technical Services Contract at PAFB and CCAS. He currently is a Software Quality Engineer working on ground support equipment for the International Space Station at KSC.

Swede continues in his unending support of Alumni activities - thanks Swede, for serving AFTAC and the alumni in so many capacities

(editorial continued from page 2, right column)

Do you want us to spend your money in this manner?

-How about offering a trial membership in the association at \$25 for three years to be available on a one-time basis as a retirement gift....or offer two or three free issues of the "Post-Monitor" if those retiring will just "ask" for them, i.e., fill out an application giving the association an address to send the issues to...these ideas may bring us additional membership at a small price.

-We're thinking about the association presenting an award to a deserving active duty member at the annual AFTAC Awards Ceremony. The active-duty are very helpful to many of our efforts, and an award at this important ceremony would result in positive attention to our alumni....criteria, give us ideas.

-Last, but not least (as it's said), come out to a meeting once in awhile, and certainly to our golf & get-togethers...these are like mini-reunions, and on 30 Oct we're going to elect the '99 board and discuss many of the issues mentioned in this editorial...how about goin' one step further and volunteering to be on the board...some of these guys have served a long time and would appreciate your help. See you there, Sages...

"OK, having asked us for our inputs on all this, how can we give you our two cents worth while its fresh in our minds?" you might

ask. Well, how about this...we'd like to start one more feature this issue, and if it "goes" we'll continue it. Let's call it "A Way - To Say"

Wherein we'll seek your inputs on the variety of issues your association has going at a particular time. At this point we solicit your "vote," (so to speak) on...

1. Scholarship program idea
2. An award for active-duty at AFTAC annual award ceremony proposal
3. A trial membership, or free Post-Monitors, good idea or bad
4. The Sensor Olympics, worthwhile or not

Drop us an email at, chrisjohn@juno.com, or a postcard to the association address (see page 2), mark it for the "Way to Say" column with your "yea" or "nay", with or without comments. We'll tally and let you know the outcome.

THE WEB "UNWEBBED"

What follows, for you non-webbers, is a "copy" of a regular feature maintained on the alumni webpage (csihq.com/aftacalumni)...thought you might find it interesting and informative, and if any webbers have not been there yet, go have a look - of course, on the webpage itself we have colors and flags flying. Our "Rovin' Reporter," Clark Creery, keeps this portion of the webpage up-to-date



AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS UPDATES

GOLF MATCH - It is official.....Friday, 30 October 98 Manatee Cove Golf Course at Patrick Air Force Base. Fee: \$32 for non-members of the club; \$25 for members. This covers the golf, the cart, food, drinks, and prizes. Format is 4-person, select shot (scramble) 12:30 start!!!

Handicap is done by TEAM! Call Frank Hall 773-2430 or Judy Milam 494-3871

Hurry up - we have 1/2 the teams covered already.....

General Membership: Meeting will be held immediately following the golf match. Elec-

tion of officers for the 1999 year is at hand. There is still time to run for office. We have the beginnings of a good slate this year, and we can use YOU! You are the KEY to our collective success.

NEWSLETTER: John and Chris have outdone themselves this time and the newsletter should be mailed within two weeks. For those of you who cannot afford to join, a smattering will be presented on this website. You really should join and see the actual product!

CRITERIA: The association will present an award to an Active Duty AFTAC'er during the annual awards ceremony in 1999. We need some selection criterion and welcome any ideas that you might have???

WINTER SOCIAL: More to come on our dinner on 23 January 1999 at the NCO Club. The last outing was very successful and we anticipate your support at this outing.

MEMBERSHIP: 674 currently on our roles; 391 are Lifetime; 15 are complementary. Lets shoot for the 700 Club.....

California Events:

TOD is being inactivated. The inactivation ceremony will take place on the morning of 9 April 1999, followed by a reception, and concluded with an evening banquet dinner-dance in memory of the unit and those who served proudly.

AFTAC/WFO-1155th-TOD Reunion, April 8 - 11, 1999. A reunion for all AFTAC'ers is being planned to incorporate the TOD events mentioned above. Tentative events are a golf match and cocktail dinner party on Thursday, 4/8/1999, the TOD ceremony and reception Friday morning and a dinner/dance that evening. The reunion activities will wrap up on Sunday morning with a final farewell breakfast buffet. The reunion activities will be held

at the Holiday Inn Northeast Hotel. Details are in the AFTAC Alumni Association "Post Monitor" newsletter. Final details and registration information will be mailed by the reunion committee to the 3,800 or so AFTAC'ers that are in our database. Comments can be sent to: AFTAC/WFO-1155th-TOD Reunion, P.O. Box 888, North Highlands, CA 95660 or

E-mail TOD.Alumni@Bigfoot.com

Stand Down: Jack Jackson reports that the official date for the Brevard County Stand Down for "Homeless Vets" will be on 24 April 1999. Keep that date in mind, we may need your assistance.

AFTAC Alumni Association

As always: Your rovin' reporter: Clark Creery Clark312@metrolink.net

Updated 16 September 1998



This time it will be held at the Manatee Cove Golf Course on Patrick AFB. Immediately after the golf outing, we will conduct the yearly General Membership meeting in the Clubhouse.

We are limited to 144 players this time. A word to the wise, get your reservations in early. The cost will be \$32.00 for non members and \$25.00 for Manatee Cove members. This will cover green fees, carts, prizes, drinks on the course, at the turn, and food and beverages when prizes are being distributed.

If you are not a golfer, we encourage AFTACer's, Alumni and active, to bring their spouses for an enjoyable evening. The cost for food and beverages just for the General Membership meeting at is \$7.00 We would like to have as many people as possible to elect our new AFTAC Alumni Board for FY 99, and we've a lot of business to conduct (reference my column later this issue). Contact: Judy Milam, **494-3871** or Frank Hall, **773-2430/867-1613** to make your reservations. See you on the 30th...we have a large selection of gifts to pass out, so don't miss out on the goodies.

I REMEMBER

AFTAC HISTORY BY THOSE WHO WERE THERE...

prepared by the editors from your inputs. We solicit your unclassified remembrances of highlights in your AFTAC career (events, people, etc.). Forward these significant memories to us at "chrisjohn@juno.com" or ATTN: Remembrance column to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish them as soon as we can. Thanks

The editors deeply thank Jim Payne (CMSgt/AFTAC CMS Ret.) for sharing this story with us. We were there that day, and it was inspiring to see so much AFTAC history being celebrated in one place. If one could know the number of AFTACers these Chiefs touched one would probably know the full population of AFTAC at that time...it means a lot to hear you tell it Jim



The four Chiefs were on the reviewing stand, standing tall behind their Commander and V.

Commander, each one lost in their own thoughts in anticipation of the event - a milestone for each. Shown left to right at their retirement ceremony, Chief Payne with over 31 years (21 years in the command); Chief Dibble with 30 years (5 ½ years in the command); Chief McClelland with 30 years (19 years in the command); and, Chief Dionne with 30 years (20 years in the command). It was 27 January 1984 and Col. Niquette had 4 flights of troops under his command and traffic on A1A had been stopped (How did Chief George Rogers do that?).

We Chiefs faced the color guard and the Navy band played the National Anthem. The Commander and V. Commander came forth and conducted the retirement and awards ceremony and included each wife being presented with a certificate of appreciation. (We were doing a job we enjoyed; the wives had been holding down the fort all those years).

The Chiefs then escorted their wives to the reviewing stand and the days activities were going fine; prior to the ceremony, we had enjoyed some "flavored" punch in the com-

mand section. The day was quite memorable and concluded that evening with a Dining-Out at the NCO club; Col. Jimmie Heinbaugh (seen here paying respects) presided over the mess and Mr. Vice assured the grog bowl was well visited. I vividly remember the seis-

mic group getting Chief Mac to the grog bowl and the standing ovation when he

partook of the liquid vitamins.

Retired Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Robert Gaylor, was the speaker and gave a stimulating, informative speech...if you don't remember it was "High Tech, Low Touch", or some people say "Low Tech, High Touch" depending on your perspective (his words).

Following an excellent meal of Cornish Hens or Top Sirloin with all accoutrements, and a stimulating speaker (CMSTAF Gaylor), the evening was capped with musical entertainment provided by the Navy dance band, "Seabreeze" from Orlando NTC.

I remember Col. Oliver and his wife coming late into the mess and trying to work (inconspicuously) their way to their seats. I sent a note to Col. Niquette about the rules of the mess and that perhaps Col. Oliver should serve some form of penance or retribution. Col. Niquette agreed and retribution was swift...so fast I didn't see it but the good Col. assured me it would be (or was) taken care of....and I trust him.

I remember TSgt Julie Gray being the escort for my brother, son and daughter to the Dining Out; I don't know which one had the hardest time keeping their eyes off of Julie - either my 19 year old son or my 50+ year old brother.

The retirement ceremony and Dining Out was fabulous and, speaking for the other Chiefs, the 120 + years of service was exciting and rewarding.....thanks to all those we were able to serve with. (editors: more fun and pictures on page 13)



...sometimes even the old troops must pay



A BARELY SUBSTANTIATED (BS) TALE!

prepared by the editors from your inputs. We solicit your unclassified-humorous stories about AFTAC events and people - recognizing these anecdotes may be Barely Substantiated (BS). Forward your stories to us at "chrisjohn@juno.com" or ATTN: BS column to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish as soon as we can. Thanks

Before we get into some new BS, let us reflect on the previous issues tale - you know, the one about cable through a vehicle...well guess what, our BS Became Substantiated (BS squared?)...now we understand why **Randy** (son of a Sage disclosed below) works so hard...he has a lot to overcome. Seriously Ben, thanks for setting the record straight...even if it took 33 years!! email from **Ben Vlassick**, 7/27

The occurrence I am familiar with happened on Attu Island, circa 1965. Two AFTAC NCO's were repairing a faulty spiral-4 while sitting in the vehicle because it was raining (normal occurrence on Attu).

However, the cable was not passed through left and right windows (editor: as reported in BS last issue) of the vehicle but through the wing window and main window on the same door. After the splice dried, the window was opened to toss the cable out. It would not leave because it was retained by the wing window brace.

After a frustrating few minutes debating whether to remove the wing window brace, the cable was cut, rerouted through ONE window and re-spliced - mission accomplished.

...Oh, did I mention that the two NCO's were **Joe Johnson** and **Ben Vlassick**? Yours truly, Cableman. P.S. Don't tell Joe where you heard this true account of one of the dismal days during the Attu Island equipment installation.

Thanks again, Ben...now onto this months rendering... The editors thank Brian for being the first "on purpose" BS inputer (besides our own)...please take the time to share one of yours.

Hi there. My name is **Brian Berenbach**, I served at McClellan and Yokota AFB from 1967-1971. I was at McClellan when the commander called me into his office and informed me that I was being sent to the detachment in Alaska. He showed me a picture of a smokestack sticking out of a snow field. I had to think fast. I said "Sir, if you send me to Alaska, within six months I will be stark raving mad and of no use to either the Air Force and myself." It must have worked because I went

to Japan, and my compatriot, a fellow lieutenant by the name of **Luthor Elrod**, went to Alaska. No harm done. Luthor was in his element as he intended to enter Roman Catholic seminary school after his discharge.

When I got to Japan, the detachment commander laid down the law, "No mustaches and no motorcycles." Shortly thereafter he was replaced by an absolutely great guy, Col **Michael Lubin**. Col. Lubin had a handlebar mustache and was president of the motorcycle club. He had this great idea of riding around with a large wig over his motorcycle helmet, and his wife **Mary** was a fantastic cook.

While I was stationed at Yokota, Shlomo Goren, the chief rabbi of the Israeli Army came visiting. Being Jewish, I was asked to act as a guide. Rabbi Goren's car had two stars on it, and I chauffeured the Israeli attaché (a Lt. Colonel) and his wife in a second car. While we were riding, the attaché asked me "Where do you keep your nuclear weapons on this airbase?" Notwithstanding his wife's presence, I replied with several colorful metaphors terminating with "... and even if there were I sure as hell wouldn't tell you." His wife turned beet red, but he didn't bat an eyelash. I later reported the conversation to OSI, and was told "Never mind, they are friends."

About that time SAC started drafting captains to serve as missile launch officers. "Why not Minot?" The saying goes. Not for a single fellow, I thought. I applied for an extension to block the reassignment, and then before the ink was dry applied for an early out. The personnel officer, **Rick Post** said "Berenbach, you'll never get away with it!". But I did.

After I left the service, I spent two years in Israel. They must have remembered me, because I was approached and offered a commission as a Rav Seren (major) in the Israeli Air Force. I responded with colorful metaphors.

Now I am a single dad with three boys living in New Jersey. I work as a senior MIS consultant, and am helping the Educational Testing

Service (ETS) devise new and better ways of torturing college applicants (SAT and GRE).

I did actually learn something useful in Japan, as I have a 4th degree black belt in Karate, and am the township instructor for the dept. of parks in Edison.

I would love to hear from anyone I served with. note: Brian, You are the first person who took the time to share experiences (except our own...). You are hence a certifiable "PoMo Friend"...can you also dredge up a "I Remember" piece (an unclassified remembrance of a highlight in your AFTAC career [events, people, etc.])? Again, thanks and congrats for being "First."

WHERE ARE YA?!!!

by our Rovin' Reporter, Clark Creery - where, through this newsletter or through more direct contact, we attempt to get you, the reader, to let us know "where ya are" and "what'cha been doin" since last heard from -drop Clark a note at www.webpages/metrolink.net/~clark312 or www.metrolink.net - look for users homepages, Click on Clark312, snail mail is Clark E. Creery, 578 Ford Circle West, Melbourne, Florida 32935, email: clark312@metrolink.net or Clarkie123@aol.com, Electronics: 477-259-8140, Carrier Pigeon: look for the white roof and the squirrels

No inputs...we run this space to shame someone, anyone, into "lettin' us know how they're doin."

MONITOR ing Active-

Duty Doing' prepared by the editors from your inputs from around the AFTAC World

AFTAC CHANGE OF COMMAND

Extracted from the Missiller, the PAFB newspaper, 6/10/98

Air Force Technical Applications Center Commander Col. John T. Wigington III relinquished command to Col. Harold J. Beatty in a July 15 ceremony at the front steps of the AFTAC building.

Brig. Gen. (sel.) Paul J. Lebras, vice commander of the Air Intelligence Agency at Kelly AFB, Texas, presided. Everyone with base access was invited to attend. A reception by invitation followed in AFTAC's Singlevich Conference Room.

WELCOME...AFTAC CC COLONEL HAROLD J. BEATTY

Col. Harold J. Beatty comes to AFTAC from Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, where he was the Chief of Intelligence for the US Central Command Air Forces and commander of the 609th Air Intelligence Group. Col. Beatty received his commission upon graduation from Officers

Training School (distinguished graduate), Lackland AFB, TX, in 1980. Prior to assuming duties at Shaw AFB, he was the Commander of the 488th Intelligence Squadron, Royal Air Force Station, Mildenhall, England, and attended the National War



College, Washington DC.

Col. Beatty joined the AF in 1967 and attended basic training at Lackland AFB, TX. After attending Electronic Intelligence (ELINT) analyst training, Col. Beatty served as an ELINT analyst and communications specialist at Trabzon, Turkey; Loring AFB, Maine; Utapao Royal Thai AFB, Thailand; Fort George G Meade, Maryland; and Tempelhof Airport, West Berlin, Germany.

Col. Beatty also served at HQ AF, Washington DC; attended Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, VA; and served at HQ US European Command, Stuttgart, Germany.

Col. Beatty received his Bachelors degree in Government & Politics from the University of Maryland and his Masters degree in Education & Counseling from Vanderbilt University. Major Awards & Decorations include: Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, and Air Force Achievement Medal.

Col. Beatty is a native of Bonny Blue, Virginia, and his wife, Diane, is from Quebec, Canada. They have two children: Matthew & Melanie.

FAREWELL...OUTGOING AFTAC CC

COLONEL JOHN T.

WIGINGTON III

We bid farewell to the Col. and his family, and thank him for the support he provided the Alumni Association during his tenure. Col. Wigington showed his support both in action and word, often stopping by the monthly meetings as he could, awarding the AFTAC coins in our recent ceremony, and allowing personnel and material support, when needed and as appropriate.

We wish him luck in his future endeavors and look forward to hearing from, and seeing him, as an AFTAC Alumni Association member...welcome aboard sir...you've just been promoted to "Sage."

Warning! Warning! Warning!

Do not read the following special insert unless you can free up April 7th through April 11th '99.

The following three pages contain information that is not good for your health and well being if you are unable to participate. We recommend, for readers, unable to free these dates, to skip right to page 11 - there you will find other items of interest and thus will not complicate your life with knowledge and festiveness not possible for you - YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED (The editors)

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

AFTAC/WFO-1155th-TOD

AFTAC/WFO-1155th-TOD Reunion, P.O. Box 888, North Highlands, CA 95660-0888

Vol 4 No 1

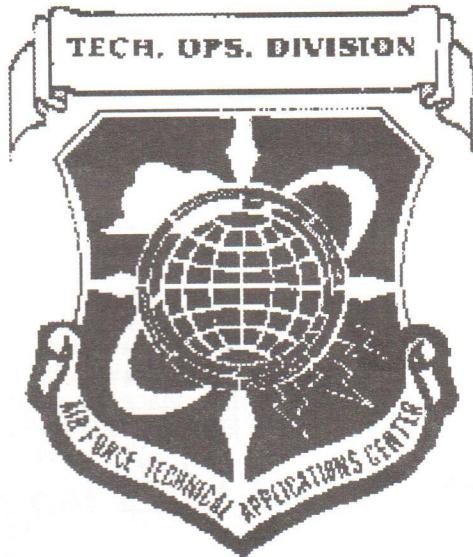
Sacramento, California

Fall 1998 Edition

A PROUD ERA ENDS

After 49 years, the illustrious unit, first known as the **Western Field Office** (WFO), then the **1155th Technical Operations Squadron**, and finally, the **Technical Operations Division** is coming to a close. The commemorative inactivation ceremony will take place on the morning of 9 April 1999, followed by an open house, and concluded with a banquet dinner-dance. The theme for the scheduled events will be "A Heritage Remembered" and will focus on the history of the unit and those who served proudly. The Technical Operations Division will officially be inactivated 30 September 1999 with most of the unit members to leave McClellan AFB by 13 August 1999. The world-class McClellan Central Laboratory (MCL) component of TOD will be outsourced and the depot maintenance, supply, and technical services will be moved to San Antonio, Texas

by CMSgt Sue Spencer, TOD



A TIME FOR REMEMBERING

WFO-1155th-TOD alumni are planning a reunion for everyone, active duty and retired, who has ever served anywhere under the 1009th Special Weapons Sqdn., 1035th FAG, AFOAT-1, AFTAC or any of the Squadrons or Field Units. Put April 8-11, 1999, on your calendar.

The reunion committee is working hard to make this a truly memorable event worthy of the ending of a historic era, which many of us will never forget. The committee is making plans in such a way as to allow time for everyone to really enjoy their short time together here in Sacramento.

I urge all to come and see the current TOD operation. Those that are only familiar with the operations at Building 628 will be impressed by the current facilities in the Irving J. Russell building.

A last thought: none of us is getting any younger. Come visit with old friends now, lest St. Peter be your host.
..... by Joe Johnson, Committee Chairperson

Wed, 4/7/99, Registration opens in hotel lobby.....	pg 1
Thu, 4/8/99, Golf Tournament.....	pg 2
Thu, 4/8/99, Cocktail Buffet Party.....	pg 2
Fri, 4/9/99, TOD Closing Ceremony and Reception	pg 2
Fri, 4/9/99, Tour of McClellan Air Museum.....	pg 2
Fri, 4/9/99, Banquet Dinner/Dance.....	pg 2
Sat, 4/10/99, Tour of Old Sacramento.....	pg 3
Sun, 4/11/99, Farewell Buffet.....	pg 3

A FIRST CLASS REUNION

The reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn Northeast. This hotel is currently going through major renovations which are scheduled to be completed this November.

Major events will include a golf tournament, a cocktail party (including a full buffet meal), the TOD closing ceremonies, a tour of the McClellan Air Museum, a banquet dinner/dance, and a final farewell Sunday buffet.

The committee has been holding the line on costs while at the same time planning a "first class" celebration. Estimated cost per person for the cocktail party and banquet dinner/dance should be approximately \$50-\$55.

Reunion registration will open on Wednesday evening, April 7th, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the hotel lobby area and open at 9am on Thursday, April 8th, in the hospitality suite. Registration forms, along with complete details of all the activities and prices, will be included in a special mailing in early December to the 3,800+ the reunion committee has in their database.

The facilities will be first class, the food and drink will be first class, the dance band will be first class, the banquet program will be first class, the golf tournament and souvenirs will be first class, and the company will, of course, be first class.

..... by Bob Fitzgerald

Thursday, April 8th, 1999**HOSPITALITY SUITE**

The suite will be our place to relax, enjoy a cool drink or coffee and renew old friendships.

This suite will serve as the location for the reunion registration desk. It will also serve as a focal point for the reunion when nothing else is scheduled.

The hospitality suite will open on Thursday at 8 a.m. and close on Sunday at 11 a.m.

The suite will have a room that can be reserved for mini-reunions, which must be coordinated at the reunion registration desk. Signup will be available upon arrival.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Lawrence Links (McClellan AFB Golf Course) will be utilized for the tournament. Lawrence Links is a par 72 nine-hole course with separate tees for the front and back fairways. A maximum of 72 players (male and female) can be accommodated with a shotgun start.

Lawrence Links requires soft spikes. Presently, green fees are \$6 for E1-E4, \$11 for E5 and above, and \$11 for DOD civilians. Reciprocal fees are 75% of regular fees (bring your base membership card). Golf carts are available for \$16, pull carts for \$2 and rental clubs for \$5 per set.

The tournament will be stroke play. To assist us in establishing handicap flights, please advise us of your present handicap. Those without a handicap will compete within a Calloway flight. Be at the links NLT 12:00 noon for a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m.

There will be a signup form for golf with the registration information that will be mailed out later this year. In the mean time, for an answer to any questions relating to the tournament, contact Cal Brown at (916) 961-5646 or Jim Esping at (916) 481-5664 (email: jesping@juno.com). by
Cal Brown

COCKTAIL PARTY

There will be a cocktail party at the hotel from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. There will be a no-host bar available. A buffet meal will be served during the party.

**KEEP THIS INSERT FOR
LATER REFERRAL
AND USE**

Friday, April 9th, 1999**TOD**

TOD staff are working hard on the inactivation ceremony and open house/reception for everyone. There will be transportation from the hotel to the base for the 9 a.m. ceremony and then to the reception at the Russell building TOD facility.

AIR MUSEUM TOUR

Following the TOD open house/reception, transportation will be provided from the Russell building to the McClellan Air Museum. Following the museum tour, transportation will be provided back to the hotel.

BANQUET DINNER/DANCE

A banquet dinner and dance will be held at the hotel from 5:30 p.m. to midnight. TOD will provide the guest speakers and special presentations. There will be a no-host bar for drinks. Those who wish to have wine with dinner will be able to order it by the glass or bottle. John Skinner and his Big Band will provide great music for your listening and dancing pleasure.

THE JOHN SKINNER BIG BAND

John's 14 piece orchestra with a repertoire of music that includes everything from the '40s - '90s, from nostalgia to rock-and-roll will provide music for listening and dancing.

**THIS COULD BE
YOUR GUIDE TO
THE "GOOD TIMES"**

Saturday, April 10th, 1999**OLD SACRAMENTO TOUR**

Shuttle service will be available between the hotel and Old Sacramento.

What to do in Old Sacramento:

- Take a tour of the world renowned California State Railroad Museum and/or a ride down the river front on the steam train.
- Tour the Towe-Ford Museum.
- Tour the Military Museum.
- Take a boat ride down the Sacramento river.
- Shop 'til you drop at all the wonderful gift shops in Old Sac.
- Eat and eat and drink at all the great watering holes and eating places in Old Sac.
- Walk the new river front promenade just south of the Tower Bridge in Old Sac.
- Enjoy the walk and browsing all over Old Sac.
- Take a surrey ride around Old Sac in an authentic carriage.
- Take a short taxicab ride to the restored State Capitol building 11 blocks away.
- Walk, or take an even shorter taxicab ride, to Crocker Art Museum.
- Bring your camera. There are lots of "photo op's."

OTHER POSSIBILITIES FOR FUN

(You make your own arrangements here)

There are regular bus tours that will take you to South Lake Tahoe or Reno for the day for gambling or a show. Most of these offer coupons and cash back from the sponsoring casino(s).

San Francisco is just 2.5 hours away. Lots of shopping and sightseeing opportunities there.

SOUVENIRS

TOD is creating a special commemorative coin and other souvenirs (T-Shirts, caps, etc.) which you will be able to pre-order with the registration forms that will be sent to you. Look for detailed information in the reunion newsletter this December.

**DON'T FORGET,
KEEP THIS GUIDE
AVAILABLE**

Sunday, April 11th, 1999**FAREWELL BUFFET**

Sunday morning: This is our last chance to get together with friends, new and old, to say our goodbyes "until we meet again."

YOUR REUNION COMMITTEE

(Left to Right)

Back: Lew Horne, Frank Goodreau, Rich Charles, Orville Pritchard, Jack Allison, Harm Aning, and George Thompson

Front: Bob Fitzgerald, Cal Brown, Joe Johnson, Bart Carter, CMSgt Sue Spencer, and Jim Lucas
(Not pictured: Dale Klug, Lew Milligan and Jim Esping)

Chairman.....	Joe Johnson (Bob Fitzgerald, Vice Chair)
Secretary.....	Frank Goodreau
Treasurer.....	Jim Lucas
TOD Liason.....	CMSgt Sue Spencer
Database.....	Bob Fitzgerald, Harm Aning
Newsletter Editor.....	Bob Fitzgerald
Facilities.....	Jack Allison, Bart Carter
Publicity.....	Rich Charles & Bart Carter
Banquet Program.....	CMSgt Sue Spencer
Hospitality.....	Lew Horne, George Thompson, "Frank Goodreau, Lew Milligan
Registrations.....	Bob Fitzgerald, Jim Lucas, "Frank Goodreau, Dale Klug, Harm Aning
Golf Tournament.....	Cal Brown, Jim Esping
Postal Liaisons.....	Orville Pritchard
Souvenirs.....	CMSgt Sue Spencer, Orville Pritchard
McCellan Air Museum Tour.....	Orville Pritchard

Note: Old photos of WFO, 1155th, TOD and MCL wanted. Send them to Joe Johnson at AFTAC/WFO-1155th-TOD Reunion, P.O. Box 888, North Highlands, CA 95660-0888

Comments or questions can be sent to the address shown above or via email to
[<TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com>](mailto:TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com)

**Hello...to those who found it necessary
to skip ahead heeding the warning on
page 7, we welcome you...to those able
to read the insert, we also hail you
heartily. For both, we now bring
“Moments of Reflections”**

**Inputs from Alumni - innocently sent to us
with no thought of being published but - in
our minds - too memorable to simply “delete”
and not share**

**We start with something Ron Cook sent us
several weeks ago...he liked it and we probably
saved it because it is about our flag by some-
one we believe truly cares - we just had to
hang onto it, and now we share it with you ...**

Johnny Cash the Songwriter

Submitted by Ron Cook, 7/15

Here are some of the lyrics that are responsible for Johnny Cash's induction into the Songwriters' Hall of Fame. This is one of my favorite Cash Classics. Editors note Ron thanks for sharing and we think others would also enjoy these words



Ragged Old Flag

By John R. Cash, 1974 House of Cash, Inc.

I walked through a county courthouse square,
On a park bench an old man was sitting there.
I said, "Your old courthouse is kinda run down."
He said, "Naw, it'll do for our little town."
I said, "Your old flagpole has leaned a little bit,
And that's a Ragged Old Flag you got hanging on it."

He said, "Have a seat," and I sat down.
"Is this the first time you've been to our little town?"
I said, "I think it is." He said, "I don't like to brag,
But we're kinda proud of that Ragged Old Flag."

"You see, we got a little hole in that flag there when
Washington took it across the Delaware.
And it got powder-burned the night Francis Scott Key
Sat watching it writing Say Can You See.
And it got a bad rip in New Orleans
With Packington and Jackson tuggin' at its seams.

"And it almost fell at the Alamo
Beside the Texas flag, but she waved on though.
She got cut with a sword at Chancellorsville
And she got cut again at Shiloh Hill.
There was Robert E. Lee, Beauregard, and Bragg,
And the south wind blew hard on that Ragged Old
Flag.

"On Flanders Field in World War I
She got a big hole from a Bertha gun.
She turned blood red in World War II.
She hung limp and low by the time it was through.
She was in Korea and Vietnam.
She was sent where she was by her Uncle Sam.

"She waved from our ships upon the briny foam,
And now they've about quit waving her back here at
home.
In her own good land here she's been abused --
She's been burned, dishonored, denied, and refused.

"And the government for which she stands
Is scandalized throughout the land.
And she's getting threadbare and wearing thin,
But she's in good shape for the shape she's in.
'Cause she's been through the fire before
And I believe she can take a whole lot more.

"So we raise her up every morning,
take her down every night.
We don't let her touch the ground
and we fold her up right.
On second thought, I do like to brag,
'Cause I'm mighty proud of the Ragged Old Flag."

**we continue with something Fred Van Dyck
sent us recently...it too made us ponder
awhile...we hope you enjoy it.**

A PROFOUND “DASH of LIFE”

email from Fred Van Dyck

I read of a man who stood to speak
at the funeral of his friend.

He referred to the dates on her tombstone
from the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came the date of her birth
and spoke of the second with tears,
but he said that what mattered most of all
was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time
that she spent alive on earth,
and now only those who loved her
know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own;
the cars, the house, the cash.
What matters is how we live and love
and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard,
are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left.
(You could be at "dash mid-range.")

If we could just slow down enough to consider
what's true and what's real,
and always try to understand
the way other people feel.

And...be less quick to anger,
and show appreciation more
and love the people in our lives
like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect,
and more often wear a smile,
remembering that this special dash
might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy is being read
with your life's actions to rehash...
would you be pleased with the things they
have to say
about how you spent your dash?

Source unknown

Looking For...

Editors: another feature on the Webpage...where AFTACers look for each other. We thought maybe some of you non-webbers could help these folks find each other...Thanks

This is a forum for trying to find people. You can post a message here like: "Trying to find Clark Creery, anybody from TR 1969-1971" (be sure to leave your e-mail address)

Add a Message

5 Entries

Messages are listed in reverse of date submitted and will be kept 90 days

Posted: Thursday Sep 10 1998

Does anyone know where Charles A. Meyer, Jr. is?
He was a Lt Col in XP at HQ/FL
Judym@aftac.gov

Posted: Friday Jul 24 1998

Still looking for anyone from DET407---1963/67
Randy Creamer
PRC28@AOL.COM

Posted: Sun Jun 28, 1998

fat fingered in my e-mail address. It's
epwillison@juno.com

Posted: Sun Jun 28, 998

Spent 8 years as a "99". Lowry, Turkey, Korea.
Left the service in Dec 77. want to contact anyone
epwillison@juno.com

Posted: Tue Jun 234, 1998

Where in the world is Virgil Brown...Please contact via email
Jthompson@bbt.net.com

PoMo Editors Note: let us know if anyone finds anyone



**More pictures from "I Remember..." (pg 5)
and some fun after the serious
ceremony...**



"The Chiefs with their Chiefs"



"I gotta get a set of stripes like
those guys have!!"

(and, deservedly so, he did!!!)

see article in last issue)



"How many times I gotta
tell you Chief, no sun-
glasses at these formal
events!! no matter what
your fellow cohorts here tell
you...and let go of my
hand."

"Sir, you say your
guys found what
in this stuff?...and
whats an alert all
about anyway."



"One more
remark
from this
guy, and
he's goin'
where it's
cold."

**More MONITORing
of Active-Duty Doings'**

submitted by the editors, information from Judy Milam

AFTAC Winter Social

December 18 1998

Hilton Rialto

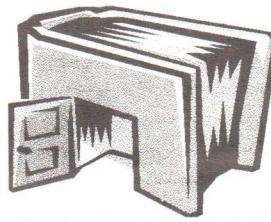
Sages and Spouses warmly invited - good friends, good food, good music, all for a decent price...and at the time of year we all need to get together...what more can you ask for?

Oh yea... as usual contact

Judy Milam, 494-3871

for prices, reservations and information on seating....get your group together and "do it!!!"

Ye Old
AFTAC
Alumni
Archives



stories
from
the
past...
to pass
on

Here's some "stuff" **Frank Calenda** passed on that he just could not throw away...its from the "early days" of the Alumni Association - when we have the space, we'll run some more...

This is the "Oldest" letter we could find

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE TECHNICAL APPLICATIONS CENTER
PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 32925-6091

4 MAR 1985

The response to Colonel Clapper's 25 Dec 1984 letter pertaining to the establishment of an AFTAC Alumni Association was overwhelmingly positive. The Commander found it very gratifying to discover that so many of you and your associates shared his philosophy. It is obvious that creation of an association is feasible and desirable.

A meeting to elect Alumni Association Officers will be convened in the Party Room of the Patrick AFB NCO Open Mess at 1830 hours, Tuesday, 12 Mar 85. The attached agenda is furnished for your information.

To facilitate the election process, a short resume on the individuals who have already indicated an interest in running for office is attached. This does not preclude nominations from the floor during the meeting.

If you are unable to attend the meeting and you desire to run for office, please contact me at 494-6251/5252. If a telephone call is not convenient, a short note in the mail stating your availability would suffice.

We look forward to seeing you at the gathering!
Sincerely,

RICHARD D. GORDON, SMSgt, USAF
Alumni Association Project Officer

2 Atch 1. Agenda 2. Resume's

Post Monitor editors notes: How many of you were there? It's "fun" to see these names again, "Col" Clapper, as we know, went on to continue an outstanding career, making LtGen along the way - Richard Gordon now works at Wickham Park as a ranger, as anyone who goes to the picnics knows...he always manages to "show up" and "share our friendship."

We could not find a copy of the resume's, but think it might include Howard Dibble, Bob Jones, Ron Kane, Carl Gailey, Norm Harris, Charlie Butler, Bob Meisenheimer, Ed Pickle and Jim Madigan...names from the "old days" and picked up in a later letter offering their services...does anyone have these resumes?

The agenda was not "copied" but shows introductions to include CC and CV (Tom Ciambrone, whose wife Theresa was a special guest), Rick Gordan, TSgt Willie D. Raulerson (President of the Hq Advisory Council) and TSgt Thelma J. Bankey (Hq Sq Retiree Liaison). We see that CC had opening remarks and they closed with the new Association President making announcements (remember who was the "lucky" First Association President?)

Our membership program under the guidance of **Mary Welch** continues to make positive strides. We have nearly 700 members and are always searching for ways to find AFTACer's in the 50 states and outside of the United States. One sad note is that Mary Welch will be retiring from AFTAC in October of 1998. She will certainly be missed in the Command. However, we are hopeful that she will stay in the local area and continue with the membership duties.

Financially, we had a good year. We still have a nice balance in the bank and sponsored a few events during the year that reduced our financial balance. We supported the AFTAC picnic in the spring and sponsored the AFTAC "Wind Down" in June. We provided the food and beverages for all of the Command and for Alumni that made it to the outing. The bottom line is we are financially sound going into 1999 and will strive to improve our position next year.

What additional things have we been up to this year? Well, We designed a new license plate for the AFTAC Alumni. It turned out very nice and is a good seller from our Alumni store. Through the efforts of **Judy Milam**, we have initiated the development of permanent AFTAC Alumni badges. It is a nice badge and is helpful when we have an Alumni event.

On the 25th of April, an Awards ceremony was held at the NCO Club. On this occasion, five members of the Association were recognized with a plaque and the AFTAC coin that flew on the Space Shuttle. This recognition was for their support to the Association over the past 10-15 years. We had approximately 50 people in attendance and it was a most enjoyable evening with the AFTAC Commander, **John Wigington** participating in the ceremony. On 1 May, we had another Golf Tournament at the Cocoa Beach Country Club. It was a superb day and we even made a few dollars.

Currently, we are looking at the feasibility of starting a Scholarship program for members of the Association and their dependents. This

FRANKLY

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATIONS

SPEAKING



As the outgoing President, I would like to relate a few of the things that occurred during the year that is rapidly drawing to a close.

will be voted on at the General Membership meeting which will be held at the Patrick AFB Golf Course on 30 October, immediately following the golf tournament. We are considering being a sponsor for the Sensor Olympics that is conducted out of higher headquarters in Texas. Our AFTACer's have won many honors in this competition. We are also supporting the AFTAC Annual Awards Banquet that is held in February of 1999. We would like to provide an award to a deserving active duty member. At the 1998 ceremony, **Judy Milam** was recognized as the AFTAC Alumni of the Year for her outstanding support to the Association. It certainly was well deserved. The Alumni Homepage was undertaken by **Mike Black** and needless to say, it is outstanding. Thanks Mike for a job well done.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of the people that supported the Association this year. In particular, **Judy Milam** for always being there and providing assistance on any tasks that needed to be done. To **Mary Welch** for her splendid membership work and the program that she has established. To **Clark Creery** for always being there and being the positive influence that he has on the Association. To **Carl Gailey** for his efforts to keep us out of jail and solvent in the financial arena. To **Ken Myers** for his unique active duty support to the Association especially in the activities arena. To **Dave Johnson** for being the stabilizing influence and for the wisdom that he brought to the Vice-President chair.

One couple deserves special thanks. **Chris and John Horsch** have been real trouvers with the Newsletter. A full 20-page magazine takes an inordinate amount of time, but they find the time to make it happen. John and Chris thanks for a job well done!!!

I've enjoyed being your President in 1998. If I can be of assistance in the future, I'm just a telephone call away.



BOARD MEETINGS

Alumni Association Board Members *Elected*

President-Frank Hall	Vice-Dave Johnson
Secretary-Judy Milam	Treasurer-Carl Gailey

Appointed

Membership-Mary Welch	
Activities-Ken Myers	Publicity-Swede Swansen



A Few Minutes from the Minutes

submitted by our Secretary, Judy Milam

JULY - AUGUST 1998- Col John Wigington thanked the association

for their support during his tenure as AFTAC's Commander. Col Wigington relinquished command to Col Harold J. Beatty on 15 July.

- Additional Alumni member badges were prepared; if you haven't requested your badge, there's still time.

- The California reunion committee is making arrangements for their 8-11 April 1999 reunion; information will be provided in our newsletter.

- We're still looking at the pros and cons of offering an Alumni scholarship; input from the general membership will be solicited.

- Plans are underway to hold a golf tournament at the Patrick AFB Manatee golf course on 30 October; price is \$32 for non-members of the course and \$25 for members. The annual Alumni General Membership meeting will be held immediately after the golf tournament.

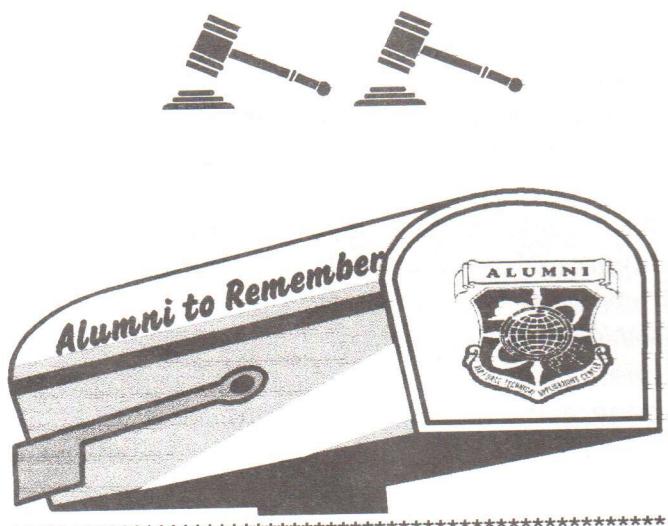
A program was completed to allow printing of address labels through an Access program.

- A vote approved a \$100 donation for award of a prize to an active duty AFTAC member at their Sensor Olympics awards banquet. Sensor Olympics is an enlisted skills competition in which AFTAC members compete with other enlisted personnel throughout the command.

- An Alumni "snowbirds" banquet will be held 23 January 1999 at the Patrick AFB NCO

Club. This will provide an opportunity for Alumni members visiting FL in the winter to participate in an Alumni social function and meet some of the local members.

- A nominating committee is working up a slate of officers for election at the general membership meeting to be held on 30 October.
- The Alumni homepage has proved to be a valuable source for contacting AFTAC alumni and keeping up-to-date on address changes.
- A suggestion is being considered to offer special introductory membership packages that would be attractive as gifts for retiring AFTACers and to encourage new membership. Perhaps 3 years membership for the \$25.



HOPES OF HEALTH FOR...

Richard (Alky) Summers

TAPS

In Memory of Those We Knew But Are Now Gone
(1862) by Gen. Daniel Butterfield
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 lights 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

JOHN POE, JULY 1998
MIKE PENNEFATHER, June 9th, 1998
(reported last issue, additional memorials follow)

REST IN ETERNAL PEACE

We thank Jane Pennefather for providing articles about her husband, Mike, whom died June 9th and was mentioned in our Memorials last issue. She also provided a letter written by his daughter, **Sister Rose Marie**, which the sister had read at her father's funeral Mass thanking the church, the community, and all those who had remembered her father at this time.

We have extracted from the articles as best we could and also pass on her words from an appreciation card she sent –

*"Dear AFTAC, Mike thought the world of you folks. Thank you for your prayers. God bless you.
Jane Pennefather."*

A Beloved Coach Passes On Nearly 1,000 Attend Funeral for Coach Community Mourns Mike Pennefather

Extracted from "The Washington Post, Prince William Extra," June 4, 1998. Story by Brad Parks, Staff Writer

Mike Pennefather liked to say that he had his priorities in order in life, faith first, family second, and basketball third. Then he'd wink from underneath a bushy eyebrow, flash the broad grin that always preceded one of his jokes and say, "I just don't tell my family how close a third basketball is."

They already knew, of course. Pennefather, who last week died of cancer at age 60, coached all seven of his children at one point or another, including his two youngest daughters at the Seton School in Manassas. Basketball became as much their love as it was his.

Officially, Pennefather, a retired Air Force Colonel, was the assistant girls basketball coach at the Seton School, a small Catholic school, not exactly a high profile position. But his impact on girls basketball in the Prince William area and the state went far beyond that. He coached four Amateur Athletic Union teams in state championships. And there hasn't been a girl from Prince William who went on to play basketball at a Division I college over the past few years who hadn't worked with Pennefather.

But Pennefather was more than the counties shot doctor. He dispensed wisdom. He dispensed love. A devout Catholic, he taught the girls moral lessons but did it with the humility and humor that were his hallmarks. "Colonel P," as the players called him, was famous for his one liners, such as "Why are you giving the ball way, this isn't Catholic charities!" or "Shoot the ball! No ones guarding you but fresh air!" He could talk endlessly about basketball and remember names and games that were decades old.

Even at the end Pennefather never stopped coaching. On March 19 doctors diagnosed cancer attacking his body. Pennefather had skin cancer, and it was spreading. Doctors told him that treating it would likely do little good. So his family said that Pennefather, who had spent his life being a good example of how to live chose to spend his final months being a good example of how to die. He never fought his illness, choosing to live his final months with his family, not in a hospital. He reached out to hundreds of people he had known and coached over the final months of his life, talking to them about dying-and, of course, basketball when they came to visit. He told them he was at peace with himself. He gave many of them a book, "Trustful Surrender," before they left his bedside.

Pennefather died at his home in Manassas on Tuesday. Nearly 1,000 people attended his funeral at All Saints Church in Manassas three days later, lining the aisles and flowing out the doors of the church. They came to say

goodbye to the coach, father, husband and friend they loved, crying and laughing much of the time.

Still, the wake, held on Thursday may have been a little more Pennefather's style. The family held it in the Seton gym, where Pennefather had spent so many hours working with kids over the past few years.

Pennefather's casket was placed at center court.



The Mail Room

Any requests for action should be sent to **AFTAC Alumni Association, PO Box 254892-Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892**
Letters of a general nature, requesting no action, may be e-mailed to the editors, chrisjohn@juno.com

Letters may be edited for clarity and space; any opinions are those of the writer(s) and may not reflect Association belief or policy

Orlando, FL

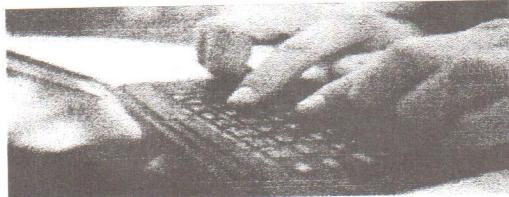
6/17/98

Hello, Just received the June '98 POST-MONITOR, and was especially pleased to read about "Colonel Tom's" honorary promotion to the rank of Chief Master Sergeant when he retired. Couldn't have happened to a

'gooder'guy! Wish I had known about it when it happened, I'd like to have been there. Also got a chuckle from the story about the "warm winter splice!" And after having spent two winters at Det 301 - plus being aware of some of the 'odd' things which happened there during my tour - I wouldn't be surprised if it had happened there. I'm actually writing to update my mailing address, since this issue of the POST-MONITOR was forwarded. My new address is at the end of this letter. I'm also interested in obtaining an Alumni badge, of which I just learned. Is there a fee for this badge? I'm including a bio of my AFTAC experiences on a separate sheet. Could you get it to the right people? And as for what am I doin lately, I've been an accounts payable technician for DFXIS-ORLANDO for the past two plus years. Part of my job is paying the lease for some 'AFTAC property' out in Texas (see "Chief Joseph" Young.) One 'downer' which I read: The WFO/1155TOS/TOD had gone to its 'Laboratory in the Sky'! What next? Gee I hope AFTAC doesn't get shut down too, pretty soon ..(I received my invitation to join the AFTAC elite while assigned to the 2867th GEEIA Sqd, right next door to WFO.)And a possible downer for you to verify if possible/appropriate. I just spotted the obit for a 63 yr old Mr. **Jim Hicks** a few days ago. Could he have been the retired LTC Jim Hicks who was the AFTAC Comptroller (I think) just before I retired in 1985? I worked in that office for my last year or so, and I'm quite sure he took a position in Orlando when he retired (1984). I don't see his name in the alumni rolls...

Well, it's been good to chat awhile with an "auld acquaintance!" I'll have to try to do it more often in the future. Y'all take care, and I'm trying to get to the next Winter social!

L E (Leo) Orr



Cyberspace

7/98

LETTERMANS TOP TEN SIGNS

THAT MILITARY ISN'T DOING SO WELL?

10. The Secretary of Defense assures the Joint Chiefs of Staff that we will be able to staff and equip all TWO active Army divisions simultaneously in TEN Theaters of Operation.
 9. The Secretary demonstrates theater missile defense by having a squad of infantry surround a crowd during a Fourth of July fireworks display.
 8. Upon witnessing this, Texas Congressman Dick Armey changed his name to Dick Navey.
 7. The Army announces a new theme called "Be a Lot of What You Can Be."
 6. The new GI Bill is the amount of money you have to pay in the future for benefits that are now free.
 5. Entitlement to "space-available health care" now means "health care that is only available in space."
 4. The "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is replaced with the "Your Secret is Safe With Me" policy.
 3. The Military decides to organize a contest entitled "Guess Our Mission."
 2. The Military "Guess Our Mission" contest ends after a year with no winner.
- And, the number one sign that the military is not doing well:
1. To show its level of support for the retired military population, the Defense Department names as the new Undersecretary for Health Affairs: Dr. Jack Kevorkian!

Bob/Ethel Jones



Sagey sez...

Come on, write
if we don't have
your two cents
worth, we won't
have change

Important Dates

Association Board/Membership Meetings

All members and prospective members are encouraged to attend. Meetings are scheduled (verify before coming) for the second Monday of each month (dates listed below):

WHEN: 1730 (5:30 PM)

WHERE: AFTAC HQ building

HOW: come to the lobby and a Board Member will meet , greet and escort

CALENDAR

October 1998

12th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

Major Event!!!

October 30th, Golf & Get-Together, Annual General Membership meeting with election of officers, see page one of this issue

November 1998

9th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

December 1998

14th - Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

18th - AFTAC Annual Winter Social, see page 13

End of Month - Post-Monitor mailing

January 11, February 8, March 8, 1999

Board/Membership Meetings, 1730

End of March - Post Monitor mailing

Major Event!!!

January 23rd - Alumni Association Social, see page one of this issue

April 12, May 10, June 14, 1999

Board/Membership Meetings, 1730

End of June - Post Monitor mailing

Major Event!!!

April 7 - 11, 1999; WFO-1155th-TOD Reunion, see insert in this issue, pages 7-11

"Holy Alligators - they have a lot going on, hope we see you at some of the events

Sagey sez



Shopping Center

Mail orders to: AFTAC Alumni Asc., 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

Thanks for your support!!

prepared by the editors from association minutes - also on webpage

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE (at publication)

ALUMNI PURCHASED

Logos are multi-colored

	Med	LG	XL	XXL
JACKETS, \$20 (one XL has white logo)				

- Unlined/Royal Blue 2 2 1 2

GOLF SHIRTS, with pocket, \$14

- Jade (medium green)	2	3	2	2
- Maroon	2	3	3	2
- Navy	2	2	2	6
- Red	2	2	2	2
- Royal Blue	2	2	2	2
- Teal, Sea (aqua blue)	1	5	4	2
- Teal (dark aqua)	2	0	0	2
- White	2	1	2	2

T-Shirts, no pocket, \$7

- Ash Gray	1	1	1	2
- Fuchsia	2	2	2	2
- Jade Green	1	2	3	2
- Light Blue	1	0	2	1
- Mint Green	2	2	2	2
- Navy	3	3	3	1
- Purple	1	2	1	1
- Red	2	2	2	2
- Royal Blue	1	2	3	4

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

HATS - \$6	#	Ceramic Mugs - \$7	8
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- Ash Grey 14 Logo Pins - \$3.25 ~120

Logo Discs - \$5.50 ~20



50th Commemorative Coins - \$3.00

~400

Alumni License Plate, \$7/Member - \$10/Nonmem.

Worldwide Directory (choice of cover photo) - \$25

\$

The following items were purchased by the Boosters Club and are also available-most say ALUMNUS (vs ALUMNI)

Sm	Lg	XL
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JACKETS, unlined/medium blue, \$20

3

GOLF SHIRTS, Med. Blue/with pocket/white logo - \$14

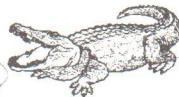
14

10

GOLF SHIRTS, White/no pocket/multi-color logo - \$18

1

Hats, cotton - \$5 Med. blue, 2



"YEA, YOUSE CAN'T
SAY THEY'RE SITTIN'
STILL TO BE BIT"

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

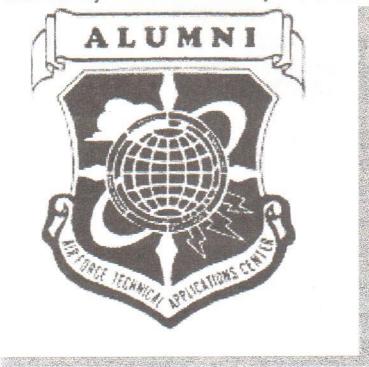
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The AFTAC Emblem symbolizes the unit and, when in color, contains the AF (blue and gold) as well as the national colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of AF operations; yellow, the sun and excellence of personnel. The globe indicates worldwide mission, locations and geophysical studies; the lightning and cloud depict study on natural phenomena and the compass points reflect the assigned tasks around the world. The rings around the globe symbolize electronic instrument readings and unity of purpose and display electronic measurements accomplished. The elliptical belt symbolizes the study of the atmosphere.



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