

# ◆ POST - MONITOR ◆

VOL 24-ISSUE 01 WEBSITE: [HTTP://SITES.GOOGLE.COM/SITE/LRDALUMNIASSNEEDTOKNOWNOW](http://SITES.GOOGLE.COM/SITE/LRDALUMNIASSNEEDTOKNOWNOW)

2016.04



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

But now we've reached  
the best of stages  
Being one of the  
Center's Sages

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

Recognized for 65 years  
of service to our country  
16 September 2012  
**1947 – 2012**

A 65TH COIN WAS NOT MINTED



## \*SPOTLIGHT\*

AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PROUDLY PRESENTS



### Frank S. Calenda 2016 ALUMNI OF THE YEAR



Frank started his Air Force career in August 1955 and was in one of the last flights to complete the 3 month basic training at Sampson AFB in upstate New York. He attended a year long school at Lowry Air Force Base to become a Nuclear Weapons Technician, working on some of the earliest Strategic weapons in America's arsenal. In 1960,

he progressed to working with the nuclear warheads on the Atlas missiles at Offutt Air Force Base and Titan missiles at Larson Air Force Base. In 1964, he was selected to attend AFTAC's year long "Q" systems class at Lowry. That was followed with an assignment to the installations shop at McClellan. There, he installed "Q" equipment at several classified locations around the world. In 1967, he left to become the Maintenance Technician at the remote Navy site H2 in northern Iceland. The following year, he and his family were assigned to John Hay Air Base at Baguio City in the Philippines. He was the Assistant Chief Operator at that location. In 1970, they left for an assignment to Headquarters AFTAC in Alexandria where he worked in the Operations Directorate as the Supervisor of the Q data terminal. The year 1972 brought the move of AFTAC to Patrick Air Force Base. **Continued on Page 3**

## \*SAGE ALERTS-WHAT'S DOING?\*

IN TRUE ALERT TRADITION, WE ASK SAGES AND ACTIVE-DUTY TO 'REPORT IN'

### Snowball XVIII, Saturday, 20 February 2016

SEAN RYAN / RUTH CREEERY, 'MAJOR ARRANGERS'

"WE THREW A SNOWBALL"



Since 1999, the AFTAC Alumni Association, Florida, has 'thrown a Snowball' at the start of the new year. **Snowball XVIII, Saturday, 20 February 2016** was no exception.

**WALL OF HONOR** - 16 December 2015 the Alumni were invited to the 2016 Wall of Honor Induction Ceremony at the HQ. This year we honor: Mr. Michael L. Harkins, CMSgt Charles A. Butler and Dr. Gerard M. Leies. Families and friends witnessed the presentation of the Honor Medal and an escorted visit to the Wall where they could see the plaques honoring these special AFTAC members.

## \*ACTIVE-DUTY ALERTS\*

IN TRUE ALERT TRADITION, WE ASK ACTIVE-DUTY AND SAGES TO 'REPORT IN'

### ACTIVE DUTY SCHEDULE, SAGES WELCOMED



'Spring Picnic' and 'Toilet Bowl' TBD. See 'Active-Duty' section for more, if any, information. **Sage Contact for tickets, and questions,** Carol Snyder, [carol.snyder@us.af.mil](mailto:carol.snyder@us.af.mil)

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**NOTE: Alert updates** are posted at our website: URL above in 'Banner' Area. Pg 5, 'Calendar,' has a complete listing of alumni and active-duty events. You can also 'Auto-Receive' 'eALLerts' (deaths, breaking news, etc)-contact your editors, [chrisjohn2@gmail.com](mailto:chrisjohn2@gmail.com)

## \*SAGE/ACTIVE-DUTY EVENTS-WHAT'S GOING ON\*

IN TRUE ALERT TRADITION, WE REPORT 'EVENT DATA'

**ASSOCIATION INFORMATION *Deceased... (D)*****Honor Roll: Alumni Of The Year Recipients (21)**

Frank Calenda/2015/Sean Ryan/2014-Lonnie Gibbons/13-Gene & Dee Melchior/12-Dale Klug/11-Jack Smith (D)/10-Jack Jackson/09 (D)

Bob Wiley/08-Bill Schmied/07-Deborah Carson/06

Mike Black/05-Joe Goldian/04-Pat Snyder/03

Joe Johnson/02-Jim Payne/01-Ben Vlassick (D)/2000

John & Christel (D) Horsch/99-Frank Hall/98-Judy Milam/97-Carl Gailey (D)/96-Clark Creery/1995

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

Several ongoing projects represent and honor Center people and history. Two, 'Hall of Heritage' (data/artifacts) and the '20-Year Wall of Service' (alumni who served the Center for 20+ years and have mailed in their photos/bios), are housed at AFTAC Headquarters.

**Association History** A group of retired/active duty AF-TACers, by invitation from then CC, Col **Clapper**, met at Patrick AFB, FL, on March 12, 1985, and formed the **AFTAC Alumni Association (AFTACAA)** (chartered, 1986). (from 2001-2014, we were renamed 'Long Range Detection' (LRD). In 2015 we reverted back to the AFTAC Alumni Association and dropped the LRDA acronym.

--The Association provides a forum for those wishing to maintain a relationship with the Center and its people, active-duty and retired. Membership is open to all who serve/served our mission in any organization associated with LRD (AFMSW-1, 1009th SWS, AFOAT-1, 1035th FAG, and AFTAC), and any field detachment.

We function as three independent groups. Our groups were known as chapters in the past but our using the term as an association with independent groups fits much better.

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

**"PERENNIALS"** (5+ years board service) Clark Creery-Newsletter, 85/89-95, Pres 94/95, Webpage/Mbrshp, 01/10-Current; Frank Hall, Pres/Vice 89-98/01; Judy Milam, Sec 89-06, Hospitality since 01 Pres 04; Eunice Harris, Hosp 89-00; Mary Welch (D), Mbrshp 91-99; Carl Gailey (D), Treas 91-99; Swede Swansen, Pub 93-06; John & Christel (D) Horsch, Newsletter since 96; Pat Snyder, 'Insider/Sage Shop' 96-2010, VP 04, Sec 05; Mike Black, Webmaster since 96; Jim Payne, Mbshp 99-04; Joe Goldian, Treas, since 2003; Randy Vlassick, Mbrship 04-09; Sean Ryan-Sec, 09-15; Steve Revels, Sage Shop 2010-2016.

**2. Colorado Group:** Formed Nov 1986, **\$5/year**, they publish a newsletter, 'Echoes', have several meetings and social events a year. See website at :

<http://www.aftacco.org> for additional information and email contacts.

**3. California Group:** Formed 1999, **\$10/year/\$75 lifetime**. For more, email, [TOD.Alumni@AFTACWC.org](mailto:TOD.Alumni@AFTACWC.org)-mail, Alumni Assn, PO Box 3974, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-3974. The Group meets several times a year, publishes a newsletter,

**"FROM THE HORSCHES MOUTH"**

# EDITORIALLY SPEAKING



Happy 2016 to all you folks out there in AFTAC Post Monitor Land. This issue I was given quite an honor and that was bestowed upon me because our Editor John Horsch came down with some sort of bug and he asked me to take on the production of the current Post Monitor. Any misspellings have been and are created by yours truly so you can e-mail me. Ok, where to start....? It has been a very busy year with the new building, extra security, tons of events to support but our lil group steps up to the plate and delivers. From the Winter Social, the Snowball, the Toilet Bowl, A new commander who is over the top, various Chief positions, retirements and losses of some of our critical functions. AFTAC folks always stand tall and volunteer to help. Chief Revels (Retired) has taken another job in San Antonio and we are currently working to find a Sage Shop Proprietor. We were very fortunate when Arlin Massey was elected to our Secretary's position. Sean Ryan, our all-time volunteer continues with monitoring calendar creation and keeping us in tune with the happenings around town. As your membership chair I have been suffering a major computer crash and I had to rebuild our various files. I may be giving up this position! Not that we do not back them up, but the task of ensuring that the data is current is mind boggling. No complaints, just stating the facts 'Jack' and with John down for awhile it is difficult to be as up-to-date as he always is. He knows everyone and with that ability he is able to keep a wealth of information inside these pages. Thank you John, you are missed and we look forward to your next issue. Lou Seiler fills the role of president with the finesse of a typical leader. He has planned, directed, and controlled so much folks will never realize what goes on behind the scenes to keep us running. Thanks Lou, it is very much appreciated. Now let us talk membership!!! We hope you enjoy what we have to offer and it is a time-consuming job with much love and affection. It is an honor to be able to send words of wisdom out to each of you, receive comments and complaints, and yet—get the job done. We have given some thought to going totally electronic with our Post Monitor because Postal Costs keep increasing. If you have time, drop us a line and let us know if that would fit the bill? We know that most are not all that computer wise, but we are willing to help.

Sage Communicators-Newsletter Editor/Publisher John Horsch; Information/Proofing: Judy Henderson/Susan A Romano/GG12/AFTAC PA; Executive Review: Frank Hall; Rovin' Cameras/ Reporters: Judy Henderson/Bob Wiley/Clark Creery/Lou Seiler; Printing/Mailing: Editors/Clark Creery/Terry Hammond/Curt & Eunice Harris; Web/Media: Editor/Clark Creery
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**AOY 2015 from Page 1.** Frank joined the advance party in Florida and his task was to set-up the Q-System. Shortly thereafter, Frank and his family were assigned to Det 422 at Misawa, Japan. Frank became the "I" System Chief Operator at this location. The following year, they were sent to a classified OL where he performed advisory duties for two years. In 1976, he was reassigned to AFTAC headquarters at Patrick as the Superintendent of the Satellite Terminal until his retirement in April of 1978.

Following USAF retirement, Frank attended Brevard Community College where he attained an Associate of Science degree in Bio Engineering and was immediately hired by the then Holmes Regional Medical center in Melbourne as a medical equipment technician. He worked there for 10 years progressing to the Director of the BioMedical department with prime duties in the Radiology Department. Because of his experience with maintaining the cancer radiation treatment machine (a linear accelerator) he was offered a position with Varian Associates Medical Division in Palo Alto, California. He completed his BioMedical training with Varian through courses from Stanford University. He worked for Varian installing the Accelerators at various medical facilities around the United States and Japan. Frank retired from the work force in 1998.

Frank was married to his wife Edna in June 1959 in Hampton, New Hampshire. They have two boys. Tony, their oldest son, graduated from Satellite High and joined AFTAC for his entire 22 year Air Force career. Michael is an Associate Professor of Culinary Arts at Johnson and Wales University in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Frank, with the close support of Edna, has been a member of the AFTAC Alumni Association since 1978 when it was first formed by a small group of AFTAC retirees. Membership was around 40 members and was then a venue for comradery and friendship. During General Clappers command of the organization a number of years later, the formal Alumni Association was formed and members of the initial group were awarded lifetime memberships for their initial efforts. Because of his extensive traveling with his company early on, Frank's involvement with the Association was minimal. Since his full retirement, he has become quite active with our present organization involving himself in many active duty functions in support of the Booster Club and other Alumni functions. Frank was the chair for the financial database and overall registration for the 2015 Worldwide Reunion, not to mention his forming a mini-reunion for Detachment 412 during the Denver, Colorado Worldwide Reunion in 2014. Frank is a go-to guy and we salute his selection as the AOY.

**Very Well Deserved!!**

## The FLORIDA Alumni Makeup

### YOUR FY2016 BOARD

**Office (Tenure) Name, AF/AFTAC dates, last active-duty position (rank), prior Assn position(s)**

**ELECTED:** President (2014) Lou Seiler, Jr., AF69-89/AFTAC/76-82 & 85-89, Chief, Alert Operations and Evaluation Branch/DOOA (Maj)

**Vice President** (2015) Ed Lindsay, AF83/AFTAC88-00/07-13, Superintendent of Maintenance/LSM(CMSgt)

**Secretary** (2016)/**Publicity** (2016) Arlin Massey, AF64-93/AFTAC84-91, Computer/Communications Officer (Major)

**Treasurer** (2003) Joe Goldian, AF/AFTAC68-91 (MSgt), Manager, Treaty Monitoring Operations, Vice, 99

**APPOINTED: Activities** (2016), **Hall of Heritage**: (2011) Mike Young/CC HO, Army73-05/AFTAC11

**Hospitality** (2001) Judy Milam-Henderson, Civilian, AF65-99/AFTAC65-71&72-99, Scientific & Technical Information Officer (GS-11), Sec 90-2000 & 06-09, Pres 04

**Web/Electronic Media** (1997) Mike Black, AF72-92/AFTAC81-92, NCOIC Test and Analysis Branch (MSgt), NOTE: Horsch and Creery (info follows) have been, and continue as, mainstays since inception (97)

**Membership** (2010) Clark Creery, AF60-80/AFTAC66-75 & 77-80, J Technique Acquisition/LGEQ (MSgt), Original newsletter editor 81-84/89-95, President 94/95

**Newsletter** (1996)/**AOY Coordinator** (2013) John Horsch, AF/AFTAC 58-87, Sen Enl Adv (CMS), Publicity, 87-90

**Sage Shop** (Currently searching for a volunteer!) Let us know if you are interested.

**Publicity**— Sean Ryan (2009-2015), AOY 2015 (MSgt)



**NEW COINS**—MSgt Chad Taguba went way out of his way to design, set-up fixtures for our new silver coin. Chad has retired and accepted a job in VA, we will miss him and his ability to work with cad designs and the cutting of molds for the fabrication of our coins. Chad, thank you and we are certainly going to miss you. Stay in Touch!



## AFTAC WALL OF HONOR



You may have noticed that the HQ has established a Wall of Honor where we can honor those who have gone out of their way to make our missions a success. A committee was formed in the HQ whereby names of those thought highly enough to be honored with their names on this wall and a special medal presented to the individual or the family to recognize this honor. HQ directorates and the Alumni were asked to submit a name or names plus a detailed listing of facts to backup their nomination. These were the first 12 so honored around Worldwide Reunion time in Fla. Those initially recognized were:

Walter Singlevich	Tom Ciambrone
Doyle Northrup	Delbi Solari
Frank Pilote	Carl Romney
Charles McBrearty	Kathy Leggett
Marvin Owen	Thomas Niquette
Marcel Kniedler	Howard Hayden

A second group was selected and honored in Dec 2015 and those selected were:

**Michael Harkins      Charles Butler  
Gerald Leies**

We of the alumni realize what these giants have done for the Organization and may God bless them.

ALUMNI 20 YEAR WALL

Years ago the Florida Alumni Group started asking those who had served 20 or more years in the outfit to submit their record of service and the detachments or squadrons they supported for an honor wall we were working on. It is overwhelming as to the service that these folks have had and our Editor started publishing the resume and picture of the person in this newsletter. Mary Welch saved all the data and kept that history and as we understand it now the new Historian has plans to post this information on the internal electronic historical locations so that everyone can enjoy our history. When we have some of them available, our editor publishes a picture and facts in the Post Monitor.

# What is an Alumni Association?

Our alumni Associations are groups comprised of current and former personnel (military and civilian) that were associated with the Air Force Technical Applications Center. There are currently three groups: Florida, Colorado and California. Each group holds organized events as well as reunions and since they are geographically spaced in the United States this permits all to keep in touch by making friends with those you knew out in the field who were doing similar jobs.

Being a member of one of the groups may benefit you professionally in other ways. If you are going on job interviews after your formal career, you never know when you may wind up being selected by an alumnus or even one who will conduct your interview.

You may be wondering why you should bother to join one of the groups? If you are moving to another state or away for the outfit that is a good question! We are organized into regional groups scattered around the country and these local groups are a great way to get together more frequently than waiting for big events to surface.

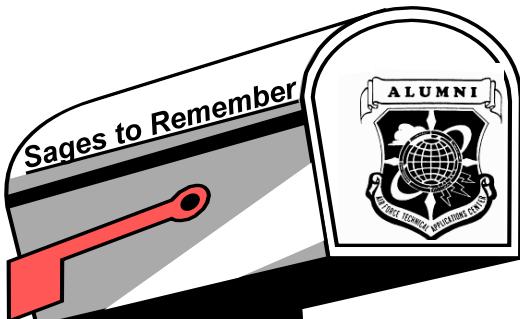
Each group maintains a website that keeps news current and often individual newsletters keep members apprised of the activities and goings on. This past year the Florida group has participated in singular events as well as organizational issues. Some examples are: "The Toilet Bowl, a gathering of directorate softball teams searching for the ultimate bragging rights to the "Bowl." Colorado has breakfast outings, California has picnics in the local area and last year our Worldwide Reunion in Florida brought out folks from all over the world. It is fun just to sit back and listen to the stories that flow forth and comments like: "Did you remember?"

MSgt Aaron Trudel recently reported: I've had a few really cool re-enlistments but this one beats them all. I was humbled to have General Carlisle (ACC/CC) reenlist me. My way of saying thank you was to present him with our Lab Rat coin. He lit up...not every day a MSgt gets to say he surprised a Gen.

I want to thank my CoC for making this happen...all stemming from an off the cuff comment I made. It's a good feeling when you know those appointed above you go out of their way to make you feel special.

Aaron, this is what AFTAC and the alumni are all about.....congrats on your re-enlistment...

**GOOD JOB**

**Personals ...**

Wherein alumni report major events or turning points in their lives that are of interest to fellow Sages. Please send information about awards, births (children, grandchildren), weddings, retirements, illness, deaths and other events (military or otherwise).

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Lance A. Kinney      | 2. Bruce A. McPeek     |
| 3. Marvin V. Richardson | 4. Richard L. McManus  |
| 5. John R. Johnson      | 6. Robert I. Stoeckert |
| 7. Jack L. Matthews     | 8. Joan Singlevich     |
| 9. Jerri Toner          | 10. Col Clentis Bailey |

**In Memoriam*****Rest in Peace***

**Kinney, Lance A.** (AL), 64, passed on 12-21-2015 in Durham N. Carolina. Funeral Home: Hall-Wynne Funeral Service & Crematory, Al's son Ben reports that they will have a formal Obituary and he will let us know when it is printed.

**Bruce Allen McPeek**, (question asked by Geno Wagner so we searched him out )born December 9, 1937, in Muncie, Indiana, suddenly passed away on 8 June 2013. An Air Force veteran, he served as a communications specialist and Retired in the grade of Master Sergeant, serving twenty years in the United States Air Force. He chose Colorado Springs as the location to retire and call home for his family. Bruce was 76.

After military service, he made his living as an independent salesman for health and wellness products. Bruce spent the latter years of his life at Summit Glenn retirement community in Colorado.

Bruce is survived by his brothers Charles and Keith McPeek, of Muncie, Indiana, his children: Diana (O'Neil) and Marisa (Perez); grandchildren: Patrick, Justin, Shannon, Braedan

and Rachel.

He is dearly missed by his family and friends. Bruce's life will be celebrated with full military honors at 1230 p.m., Thursday, June 14th, at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver.

**Marvin V. Richardson**, 74, (Reported by Wally Huffaker who was stationed years ago with Marve.)

Marve was a retired Chief Master Sergeant with the United States Air Force and Civil Servant, died Monday January 4, 2016. A native of Georgia, he lived and worked in Brevard County, Florida, for over 30 years. Survivors include his wife Theresa; son, Marvin II; Sisters, Thelma and Gloria; three Grandchildren; five Nieces, one Nephew and many other relatives. Interment was at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery, 5525 U.S. Hwy. 1, Mims, Florida, 32754ments. Donations may be made to the Disabled Veterans Administration in lieu of flowers.



**Richard (Dick) L. McManus**, 84, of Suntree, passed away on January 14, 2016. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Arlene, and their children Kym Miller, Marla (Bill) Veit, and Chris (Susan), and 7 grandchildren Emily, Brad, Ryan, Kevin, Jordan, Kaitlyn and Mallory. Dick was born and grew up in Portland, OR, with his parents

Frank and Lola McManus and his older sister Kathleen all of whom have predeceased him. Dick graduated from the University of Portland and received his commission in the United State Air Force. During his 25 year career with moves throughout the United States, France, Germany, and Vietnam, he earned many medals and awards and retired with rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Family and friends were invited to celebrate his life at the McManus home on Saturday, January 23, 2016. Bob Wiley reported that Dick may have been assigned to XP when he was with AFTAC.

**Singlevich, J. / Colonel C. Bailey**

Turn to page 20 where we list obituaries for Mrs. Singlevich and Colonel Clentis Bailey.



**John Riley "J.R." Johnson** died peacefully on Friday, Feb. 5, 2016, in Granite Bay, Calif., at the age of 93 with his son and daughter in attendance. John was born March 22, 1922, in Providence, Ky., the fourth of seven children of J.R. (Lucas) Johnson. He graduated from Frankfort High School in 1940 and in 1942 joined the U.S. Army Air Corps as a pilot.

During a mission over Holland, he was shot down and held as a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft 1A, Barth, Germany. His memoir about this period, "Un-Armed, Un-Armored and Un-Escorted, A World War II C-47 Airborne Troop Carrier Pilot Remembers," was published in 2014.

After the war, John returned to Frankfort and married his high school sweetheart, Lou Avah Pevlor. He graduated from University of Kentucky with a B.S. in Industrial Chemistry and was subsequently awarded an M.S. in Nuclear Chemistry from Ohio State University and an M.A. in International Relations from George Washington University. John served in the U.S. Air Force for 30 years with assignments in Yokota, McClellan, Wright Patterson and the Pentagon. He retired from the military in 1973 as Deputy Director for Scientific and Technical Intelligence, Defense Intelligence Agency.

After his distinguished career in military service, he spent another 22 years working in private industry in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

Following the death of Lou Avah in 1993, he moved to Granite Bay, Calif., where he was actively involved with his church and community.

He was preceded in death by Lou Avah Johnson, his son Kenneth Layne Johnson, his second wife Anne Deets Johnson and then Lois Johnson.

He is survived by his sister Rosemary Dodds; his three children, Jenefer Lee Johnson, Cindy Lou Johnson and husband Nick, John R. Johnson and wife Claudia; and his two grandchildren, Scarlet Teresa Johnson and Eva Ruby Johnson.

He will be remembered as a pilot and patriot and as an admired father, grandfather, brother, uncle, friend and neighbor, loved by all who knew him.

Service was held at the First United Methodist Church in Frankfort, Ky., on Saturday, Feb. 27, was at 2 p.m. with a burial following at the Frankfort Cemetery.

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**Jerri Toner** Wife of Chuck Toner passed away on 4 April 2016. She had not been feeling well and passed peacefully. Memorial service at 10am at the funeral home of Horan & McConaty in Aurora. Catered food at the house at 12 noon, 3218 Ursula St., Aurora, Co.

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**Robert I. Stoeckert** of Rockledge, Florida, passed away in the early morning hours of February 27th, 2016. Robert (Bob to all his friends) was born on January 3rd, 1935 in Centerport, New York to Christian & Eva Feger Stoeckert. Bob was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Ruth Ann. He is survived by his children; Lee Stoeckert of Viera, Florida, Robert Stoeckert, Jr. of King George, Virginia and Elizabeth Stoeckert Davis of Orlando, Florida. His brother Christian J. Stoeckert of Laverne, California. His three sisters; Joan Stoeckert Eure of Prince George, Virginia, Mary Stoeckert Stevens of Suffolk, Virginia and Barbara Stoeckert Meloy of Colonial Heights, Virginia. His five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Bob served his country in the U.S. Air Force for over 26 years, from 1954 to 1981. After retiring from the Air Force, Bob worked in home improvement and then moved into property management before finally retiring.

At Bob's request his remains are being cremated and scattered at sea. In lieu of flowers, please feel free to make a donation to the Cancer Society..




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**Jack Lee Matthews**, 80, of Oneida, TN passed away Tuesday, March 8, 2016, at the William R. Courtney Texas State Veterans Home in Temple, Texas. He was preceded in death by his wife Monique Giard Matthews, brothers, Bill, Roy, and Kenneth; sisters, Doris Sexton and Peggy Phillips. He is survived by one daughter, Deanna Matthews and husband Bob Jansen of Round Rock, Texas; one son James Matthews and wife Michelle Matthews of Virginia, grandchildren, Dean LaTulip, Mindy Taylor and husband Derek Taylor, Will Matthews, Sarah Sednek and Andrea Jansen; sister Marilyn Foster; brothers, Allen Matthews and wife Judy, Jerry Matthews and wife Betty; and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends. Jack served in the US Air Force in the 822<sup>nd</sup> Air Division, 356<sup>th</sup> Tactical Fighter Squadron, the Air Force Technical Applications Center (AFTAC), and as a recruiter. After retiring from military service, he received a Master's degree in Vocational Counseling from Texas State University (formerly Southwest Texas State University). He became a teacher and guidance counselor for the Alternative Center for Education (**ACE**), an alternative instructional delivery program for at-risk students in the Flour Bluff School District in Corpus Christi, Texas. He taught GED night classes for adults. Burial at a later date.

# MAIL - CALL



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

Missives requesting no action may be mailed/mailed to the editor, '[chrisjohn2@gmail.com](mailto:chrisjohn2@gmail.com)'. Those may be edited for clarity and space but not normally for punctuation, wording, etc; opinions are those of the writer(s) and may not reflect Association belief or policy.

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**Thanks to all who contact us!** We publish all correspondence, unless otherwise requested, so your name, and the memories it invokes, may be recalled.

Normally, we will not include personal information, e.g., address, phone number, etc, unless you ask or seemingly appropriate (e.g., follow-up).



**Editor Note:** John, our Editor gets some really nifty e-mail. Below is a response from Joe Johnson talking about the Feature Article concerning Encampment Wy.

**Joe Johnson** responds to that article: "Just read the latest PO MO. Great read as you did a good job as usual. Sorry to learn of your illness and wish for your swift recovery! The photo of the 1948 DeSoto in the PO MO. —**That car was mine.**" **Editor:** *That vehicle is pictured on page 15 of Post Monitor 2015.12 and it shows the Encampment bldg. and that car.*

**Bob Hummel:** I am seeking information on the "20 Year Wall of Service." I realize you probably do not have this information but thought you might be able to point me in the right direction. I couldn't find an email address where to send my question.

**From the Alumni Newsletter** - "the 20 year Wall of service for alumni who served the Center for 20+ years and have mailed in their photos/Bios." Send information to the address listed in this publication.

## Bob continued his question:

Do you know where I can find more information on the above? Such as appropriate photos, size, type of picture required (digital, hard copy, etc), information required for bio (required info, appropriate/inappropriate information, etc.) Where to send/mail the information.

**Editor remark:** *We sent Robert an answer in that the Headquarters is undergoing quite an upgrade and the person to talk to was Dr. Young our historian. As we understand things information like this will be imported into the various Directorate Kiosks that are throughout the Headquarters. We often get bios from individuals and black and white digital photos and we endeavor to post those within this newsletter. This is a plus for our Alumni, membership and it reflects great credit upon our folks.*

**Tony DeMarco writes:** Hey John...As the new year kicks off, just thought I'd check in and see how you are doing. Haven't seen any chatter lately...Tony

**John responded:** *Tony, thank you for thinking of me. My daughters family drove me home from Boca Saturday and stayed the night with me. Physically I'm doing well limited by my pulmonary challenges, mostly mucous. I believe I am making headway on that front also.*

**And we all chime in:** John, do what your doctor's say because we have more for you to do as soon as you are well.....

**Guenther Lang writes:** Hanna and I wish you and your wife a very Merry Holiday season and lots of good things for the coming New Year, especially health. May the New Year be more peaceful! My back is getting a little better, I can walk a bit more, but have to be very careful.



**Guenther and Hanna in Germany**

**Dave Ladd** sent Clark Creery a one-liner email: "**Finally**!!!! This will take a bit of explaining to show you exactly how history unfolds and how valuable folks are in the AFTAC family. In our Post Monitor published in 2006 we wrote an article about Richard A. Lema, CMSgt, USAF. He passed on 5 May 2006. Four or five years later we received a letter from Japan: "**Please forgive me to write an unexpected letter to you. The Reason why I am writing to you is I am looking for** Mr. Richard A. Lema was CMSgt and his family in Yokota Air base in Japan around 70's. I have been looking for him and his family for a long time, but I did not know how to get a way to find them. However,

today I finally found your website 'AFTAC Alumni Association West Coast Chapter.'! I understand that his daughters Michele and Linda are still alive. If you know their addresses, would you please contact them for me?" **PLEASE!!!** Dave with help from the chapter tried and tried and after all these years Dave received a letter from Mr. Kenji Noda telling him that Michele was on Facebook. It goes to show you that our world is becoming smaller and smaller. All the folks who helped located the Lema children and we have made contact.

Michele in Japan and her trip to Japan today!!



#### **TOP 10 BEST PLACES IN THE US FOR VETS**

Best Places for the veterans in the us. Several folks have written us notes about a study that was done showing the best places to live in the United States. Their survey covered 100 cities but here are the top 10: There is an article on the internet about this but here are the ones listed as 1 to 10.



- Irvine, CA
- Scottsdale, AZ
- Raleigh, NC
- Orlando, FL
- Gilbert, AZ
- San Diego, CA
- El Paso, TX
- Sacramento, CA
- Austin, TX
- Lubbock, TX

**DOWN UNDER at 421** Col. Jennifer Sovada made the 10, 200 mile journey to get an up-close view of the seismic work being conducted by AFTAC Detachment personnel at Det 421 in Alice Springs, a small outpost in the center of the Australian outback. She wanted to see the steps the detachment has taken to improve the living conditions for the assigned Airmen. In addition to visiting detachment personnel and facilities, Sovada met with the U.S. Ambassador to Australia to cement our relations with the in-country residents and leaders. She came away impressed with how our detachment fosters relations on a daily basis.

The meeting gave the commander an opportunity to thank the ambassador for his continued support of the work being accomplished at the detachment and discuss the ongoing networking between the diplomat and the detachment. "I am extremely impressed with the level of professionalism and scope of work being undertaken at Det 421," said Sovoda. "These skilled Airmen are performing a vital international mission and have built solid, long-lasting relationships with all our partners across Australia. As Ambassador Berry aptly said, I am very proud of their accomplishments."

**Exceptional article by our Public Affairs Officer, Susan Romano who shares her article inside the 25th Air Force with us!**

**Jim Davis writes:** I usually contact John Horsch when I suddenly lose contact with a friend who I served with in AFTAC. I served with **Don Humphries** on a couple of assignments and have stayed in contact with him since we both retired in the early 70's. Usually I always receive a card and letter at Christmas time however I did not hear from him this past year. I do not have any contact with any of his family so consequently, I feel something has happened. He had a stroke a while back and I am concerned he may have had another stroke. Sometimes information is provided from former members of AFTAC when things like this happen. If there has been any contact with AFTAC regarding Don this past year that you may be aware of I'd appreciate letting me know...Sorry to bother you, but I know John is still in the recovery stage of his problem and I hate to ask him to check this out for me... Thank you very much for any information you may have regarding Don.....Jim

**Editor Note:** Jim, we did some checking and you will find that we responded with his address in Springfield, VA, his listed phone number and a smattering of information that we have had about Don in our Post Monitor's since 1993. We have no Email address for him but we know that he receives the printed Post Monitor. Let us see if this stirs him up?

#### **NAMES AND ADDRESSES**

Help us help you—we continually discover that folks move or get new E-mail addresses. When we use the postal service to send items out, they are returned as non-deliverable and we must fork over 0.59 per unit so we can update our records. Please help by keeping us informed!

**Sean Ryan**, our publicity guru reports: Federal facilities no longer accept driver's licenses from five states as valid identification for individuals seeking entry without an escort, but some military bases are offering workarounds, granting grace periods, or continuing with current access rules that require more than a single Identification Card to obtain access.

# Lou Seiler PREZ FROM THE TOP SEZ

The Alumni Association continues on its' goal to foster communication, friendship, and good times among all alumni and active duty AFTACers. Since the last issue of the PoMo, the Alumni were invited to attend the AFTAC holiday (December) open house in the AFTAC building. We assembled in the Heritage Room of the building and had a pot luck lunch, followed by an excellent building tour highlighted by a private briefing on the Ops Floor by current "Technique" operators. The discussion was lively and all had a great time talking 'without saying anything'! We were also invited into the AFTAC Hall of Honor. The attending Alumni were treated as honored guests with individually reserved parking spots and seats in the AFTAC auditorium right up front! And in February (the 20th to be exact) we held the annual Snowball social. This year the theme was "Life as Part of the 25th AF". Col. Sovada provided a presentation of the ongoing changes in the AFTAC organization structure moving from a "center" to a Wing structure. All very interesting and promises to offer more promotion opportunities to the active duty members. And of course, we were able to honor the 2015 Alumni of the Year, Frank Calenda, for his excellent support to the alumni over the past years. Plans for the 2017 Snowball are already under way. It is sure to be an event to be remembered, so put January 21, 2017 on your calendar now! (I believe I heard something about an Hawaiian type celebration.) I continue to encourage our members to attend the monthly meetings of your Alumni Association. The meetings are held on the second Monday of the month (Tuesday if Monday is a holiday). The meetings are at 4pm (aka 1600 hours) in AFTAC Lobby Conference room. Each third meeting is a lunch time meeting at a facility off-base. The meetings are always interesting, informative, and fun, so plan on attending one or more! **See you there?** Check the website calendar for dates and places.



AFTAC Alumni Association Coin, developed and first minted in 2015.02.



**Florida Membership/Sages WorldWide (WW) Directories:** WW is an expanded listing of all who serve(d) and we have recorded. See at <https://sites.google.com/site/lrdalumniassnneedtoknownow/> -Pg 07. Directories available via email to requesting paid-up members.

# BOARD MEETINGS

<p><b>Board Members Elected</b></p> <p>President-Lou Seiler Secretary &amp; Publicity-Arlin Massey</p>	<p>Vice-Ed Lindsay Treasurer-Joe Goldian</p> <p><b>Appointed</b></p> <p>Activities-CMSgt Brown (Temp), CCMS, Hall of Heritage-Mike Young/CC HO</p> <p>Hospitality-Judy Milam-Henderson, Web/Electronic Media Clark Creery, John Horsch, Membership-Clark Creery Post-Monitor Editor/ Alumni of the Year Coordinator-John Horsch Sage Shop-Position Open</p>
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## EVER WONDER HOW WE GET THIS NEWSLETTER OUT TO EACH OF YOU?

*(The Indian River Press performs the service for us.)*

The Indian River Press started in 1987 as an office supply and printing business in Indian Harbour Beach. During that time, they have changed names and even had three different owners, but the commitment to our clients, and community has not. They no longer are in the office supply business, but focus on commercial/corporate printing, Quick copy/printing, direct mail and creative design work. They have always been a family owned business that strives to provide clients with the highest level of service, products and partnerships. They are grateful that the customers trust them and give them the opportunity time after time to help them grow. They believe that commitment to excellence and serving the clients needs form a lasting first impression.

They have numerous awards from the Florida Press Association over the years that represents the skill of our graphic artists for their design work with clients, our pre-press processes that ensure quality of material before being printed, our pressroom to monitor quality during the printing process, post production and final quality check before any product is sent to our clients or to their customers. It takes a highly skilled crew to put the pieces together to create our masterpieces, but it requires our clients trust most of all. We are proud to have a loyal client base that have been with us for years and years. We of the AFTAC Alumni Association are proud of and thankful for the Indian River Press and their service to us. **Thanks to all!**



## COLORADO NEWSLETTER, EXTRACTS

**ECHOES**

President, Steve Clark-Vice, Darrel Kline-Treasurer, Bill Schmied-Newsletter Editor, Jerry Moxley/Publisher, Ken Behrens-Webmaster, Bill Harris-Website @ <http://www.aftacco.org/>. Membership: 87



**FL Editor Note:** Jerry Moxley (Moxi), ECHOES Editor, advises Sages can request a complimentary 'electronic' issue via email, [mox@wispertel.net](mailto:mox@wispertel.net), on a one time basis for review and consideration of joining the Denver Chapter.

**RCAF**

How do groups and/or chapters form? How many remember the RCAF mentioned above? Ben Vlassick in Colorado had a concept that he shared with everyone he could find: Establish a single point of contact for Colorado retired and ex-AFTAC personnel, organize willing participants, schedule occasional gatherings and distribute an annual newsletter.

**A survey:** September 1986, a survey letter was mailed to 115 potential participants, retired and ex-AFTAC'ers. (Name and addresses were gleaned from mailing lists used by SPINSTRA, 1155th and HQ) Unfortunately, the results were less than anticipated. Nineteen envelopes were undeliverable, four of the addresses used were incorrect and there were 75 non-responders. However, we did have some responders and some sent money.

**What now:** Ben talked to several of the responders at the 3454th Christmas Party in December and they encouraged him to continue with the concept and the list would grow. That was so true because the group grew and grew and here is a list of Charter Members:

R. T. Bennett, Richard E. Dalton, Glen Feakes, Lonnie Gibbons, Ernest D. Long, Fred Matthews, Wilber C. McAllister, Jerry Moxley, William Osteen, Herbert J. Pabst, Dick Platt, Dennis Ramy, Earl Pierce, Felix Riveria, Stan Schultz, Charles Toner, Ben Vlassick, Ron Zorratti.

These guys started RCAF and now it can be said that it stood for **Retired Colorado Attackers' & Friends**. Colorado grew from there and now they publish **ECHOES** and they had a bang-up reunion in Denver several years ago.

**Colorado we salute you!**

**COLORADO HAD A WINTER SOCIAL**

Thank you for coming to the Winter Social at the Tin Cup. We had 55 in attendance, and we hope you enjoyed the dinner provided by Cindy and her crew. Here are a few photos from the event, many of them taken by Cammy, my daughter.

**WINTER SOCIAL PICS**

(This may require you to sign-in to Yahoo.com)

I'd like to thank our guest speakers, Majors Dalton and Fulton, Commanders at DET 46 and DET 45, who provided unit and personnel updates, and Col Bud Weis, USAF retired, who gave us some great stories from Tech Ops Division. It was very good to see all of the active duty in attendance. We also enjoyed the increased numbers of children attending. We appreciate all the work Joncee and Glen put into the decorations, Darrel for the gift exchange, and Bill for taking care of the bills. Thanks again for attending, we hope your holidays are wonderful. **Steve Clark**

\*\*\*\*\*

**FLORIDA MEMBERSHIP****DATABASE**

AFTAC DATABASE : 4671

CALIF LISTING 159

COLO LISTING 93

DECEASED 525

E-POMO 346

US POSTAL POST MONITOR DELIVERY 283

FLA MEMBERS 621

FLA LIFETIME MEMBERS 557

(See individual group newsletters or websites for their information)



**California newsletter, 2015 extracts**

# DEPOT FALLOUT

2015-16 Board: Dave **Tarquino**, President; Joe **Johnson**, Vice; Ken **Denbleyker**, Chairman of the Board of Directors (COB); George **Thompson**, Asst. COB; Bob **Fitzgerald** (D), Director At Large; John 'Butch' **Kemna**, Treasurer; Dennis **Nolan**, Asst. Treasurer; Bob **Baker**, Secretary; Ken **Breitwieser**, Asst. Sec; Dave **Price**, Membership; Don **King**, Newsletter Editor; Bob **Fitzgerald**, Webmaster - Website @ <http://www.aftacwcc.org>. **Florida Editor's Note:** The 1st Page of this 'Fallout' is available at the website - full earlier issues are also available. This editor can personally attest to the value of reviewing CA's posted issues. There are articles of high interest for Sages not available elsewhere, better yet, become a member..

**Events Calendar**

Just a reminder business meetings are the 2nd Monday of March, June, September and December at 7:00 PM at the Lionsgate Hotel on McClellan Park. The meetings last about an hour and all Alumni are welcome.

(Always check our 'Events' page, <http://www.aftacwcc.org> or call ahead to our President to confirm time & place.)

**A Word from the Staff**

DAVE TARQUINO. FROM THE 2015 WEBPAGE

Asst. Chairman of the board: It is time to put a reunion committee together. A committee chairperson plus at least six members are necessary to get the job done. All seven committee members must be identified by the **14 March 2016** board meeting. The board will make a go-no-go decision to host a reunion at that meeting based on sufficient volunteers coming forward. Many of our members that could have been counted on for support have passed away. The rest of us aren't getting any younger! So let's squeeze out one last bash **LET'S GIV'ER ONE LAST HOORAH**. There will **NOT** be a reunion unless at least seven volunteers come forward. Check the California Website for more information and we in Florida will keep you advised.

**Membership News**

DAVE PRICE, MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Members = 159 Life Members = 137. Annual membership fee of \$10 is due by 01 Jan each year/\$75 Lifetime.

**CALIFORNIA FALL SOCIAL**

**14 Nov 2015**

**Sam's Hof Brau, Country Club Center  
Sacramento, California**



**As Of: 12/12/2015**  
**Active Members : 159**  
**Lifetime Members: 137**

**The Russell Building at McClellan AFB**

**1155th in the Mid 50's**

# **MONITOR**ing Active Duty Doing's from around the AFTAC world

## **Command Section**



**Commander/CC/2015.06** Colonel Sovada graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1994. She is a career intelligence officer who has commanded an intelligence squadron and served at the squadron, center, major command, joint, and interagency levels. **NOTE:** Complete Bio: <http://www.afisr.af.mil/units/aftac/index>



**Command Chief Master Sergeant/CCMS/AF/AFTAC**. Currently under review and this will be reported when we have the data for publication. CMSgt Matt Brown is currently filling that position.

CMSgt Matt Brown

## OUR NEW HOME IN 2014-2015



## **WINTER SOCIAL**

Each year the AFTAC Booster's Club supports a Social Event whereby folks can come together and enjoy an evening out. This year Capt. Chris Medve acted as the chair for the event and the Alumni were requested to participate. Naturally when a group as large as AFTAC decides to have an affair, funding is always an issue. This year the Booster's Club volunteers supported some football events that the University of Florida needed to assist with security during the games. Volunteers were paid to help at the local games and the Booster's Club was able to make a few bucks from this activity. On top of that tickets were sold and that helped defray some of the expense. Each Directorate and the Alumni were asked to a create a Christmas basket for a drawing during the event. This year the event was billed as a Masquerade

social and we in the alumni were able to attend the night of the event. What glamorous costumes and the whole event was handled with full professionalism.



The Alumni Basket

The Crowne Plaza Hotel was selected as the location, and the Booster's Club Committee ensured that they had a DJ, childcare, buffet dinner, and dancing. The Winter Social was definitely a night to remember.



## **AFTAC Cares**

Packages for those Deployed

Details and needed items, at Alumni Assn website, 'Need To Know Now' link. <https://sites.google.com/site/ldalumniassnneedtoknownow/aftac-cares-program-support-our-deployed>

Carol Snyder at the HQ reports that we currently have 9 personnel deployed.

Brig Gen Aaron M. Prupas responds: Team AFTAC, Thanks again for your continuing support to all of us down range!. We truly appreciate your care packages and know the time, effort and resources the AFTAC family puts into these comes from the volunteerism and dedication that is at the core of your great organization. **All the best, General Prupas**

*EVENT****ALUMNI INVITED*****	DATE/TIME	LOCATION	POC/REMARKS
WindDown	1st Friday Each Month/1530	Outside HQ's Building	See website/calendar note below.
AFTAC Alumni Assn Monthly Meet	2nd Monday/Ea Month/1600 or other designated time	1545 HQ's Lobby or other Venue	See website/calendar note below.
Burger Burn, Suspended at this time.	Every Thursday/1100 -1230	HQ	See website/calendar note below.
Pack-n-Wrap for the Troops	Bi-Monthly/1830	Various, contact POC	See website/calendar note below.

\*Ed Note: Active-Duty recurring events, Alumni Always Invited ... for a complete current and recurring listing, see the 'Schedule of Events' kept up to date by a Member, Sean Ryan, '<https://sites.google.com/site/ldalumniassnneedtoknownow/4-active-duty-schedule>'

## WE ARE NOW PART OF THE 25th AIR FORCE



The Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency is now the Twenty-Fifth Air Force, following its redesignation ceremony Sept. 29 in the headquarters. It's the sixth iteration of the organization which was activated as the United States Air Force Security Service in October 1948.

This latest re-designation allows 25 AF, realigned under Air Combat Command, to focus on ISR, electronic warfare, airborne national command and control, nuclear detection and treaty monitoring, targeting and analysis operations. The newest Numbered Air Force will provide decision advantage from those operations, through ACC, to joint commanders etc.

"Placing Twenty-Fifth Air Force under ACC is all about operations effectiveness," said Gen. Mike Hostage, Commander of Air Combat Command, who officiated the ceremony. "It'll be the one-stop shop for operational ISR within the Air Force, which will streamline program accuracy and presentation by the USAF."

As the ISR force provider, ACC can ensure consistent presentation of ISR resources to warfighters.

Maj. Gen. John Shanahan, former Air Force ISR Agency commander, assumed command of 25 AF and presided over the re-alignment of the 55th Wing, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., and the 9th Reconnaissance Wing, Beale AFB, Calif., from 12 AF to 25 AF.

"As we begin to write the next chapter of Air Force ISR, titled Twenty-Fifth Air Force, our legacy will become even richer and even more storied," Shanahan told the courtyard gathering.

"For the first time in Air Force history, ISR will have a 4-star leader with the mandate, force structure and resources to truly maximize the entirety of the vast Air Force ISR enterprise."

Twenty-Fifth Air Force will create an opportunity for greater operational synchronization and greater integration of Air Force ISR products and analysis for the national intelligence community.

"The men and women of Twenty-Fifth Air Force have a tremendous opportunity to shape Air Force ISR in ways I and other AFISRA commanders could only have dreamed of," said Lt. Gen. Robert Otto, Headquarters United States Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance and former commander of the Air Force ISR Agency. "I know it's your hard and selfless work that has gotten us to this day. Your leadership, innovation and commitment will deliver success. It's in your DNA."

The newest NAF will also provide an organizational link to strengthen full-spectrum targeting and threat warning to Air Force and Joint Force commanders through ACC.

Through nearly seven decades its silent warriors have analyzed and exploited near real-time intelligence to provide decision advantage for combatant commanders on the ground and our Nation's leadership.

## DECEMBER EVENTS

What a year we had in 2015. Special events like the ribbon cutting and dedication of the new building took place early in the year - we finally had a new home, and what a beautiful place. We supported a golf match, the Toilet Bowl, and the AFTAC Winter Social.

We of the Alumni received quite a Christmas present when our Historian, Dr. Mike Young, notified our President, Lou Seiler, and told him that it had been decided that on 16 December AFTAC was inviting local Alumni to an Open House at the new building.

Unfortunately, we could not invite everyone because we had to attend as a group and be supervised by escorts during our visit. In reality, Mike told us that we were going to be considered as a Directorate and we were having a Potluck lunch visit. We scrambled and put out the invitation to everyone we could find in the local area. We requested that alumni respond by the end of business on 8 December as it was only for an Alumni member and spouse or significant other. Potluck caught our eye so Lou and Clark decided to have a vote as to how we needed to handle this quick reaction invite.

Potluck or food trays from a local vendor? It was cast in concrete – all voted for the local vendor and decided to come with a donation for the food. We had 21 folks who said they could attend. Lou and his wife Joan made a trip to a local Publix store to ensure that we would enjoy a great lunch. Mike Young told us that we would be sequestered in the Heritage Room? Well, Heritage is a misnomer. That room on the first floor has pictures of sampling aircraft, pods from various missions, filter paper, and many other examples. Mike, created a wonderful Heritage display. Our escorts then herded us down the long hallway to the elevators and we were transported up to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor where we received a briefing in the war room where worldwide inputs are reviewed. The active duty troops gave us a great overall briefing telling us how they reviewed data, alerted and provided our government with necessary data. From there we managed to con Carol Snyder into giving us a tour of the Command Section. (*Made me mad because I retired too early!*) Quite an efficient operation and once they raised the sun shades in the long line of windows in the conference room - the view was unspeakable.

During our visit, we were visited by the Vice Commander and many other folks who are the leaders of today. It amazes me that in a few short years AFTAC has consolidated efforts and created a process lab for samples here in Florida in the Tom Ciambrone lab. Thank you Mike and all associated with the approval of members of the Alumni for a visit. We greatly enjoyed it!

1. "I Remember ... "/This issue
2. "Enlisted Pilots" ..from Susan Romano / This issue
3. "Pearl Harbor survivors honored." This issue
4. "BS Tales"/(This Issue)
5. "Tom's Trivia"/(2016.03)
6. "AOY background continued" This issue

**NOTE: 'FEATURE ARTICLES' DO NOT ALWAYS HAVE INPUTS.**

**We list them in the hope it will trigger you to sit down and share a tale or two. It is also a reminder of our dependence on you, our readers AND WRITERS!!**

Send inputs to 'chrisjohn2@gmail.com' or mail to the Alumni Address (see pg 2, left column).

### "I REMEMBER ... "

#### LRD HISTORY BY THOSE WHO WERE THERE

**PREPARED FROM YOUR INPUTS.** We solicit your unclassified 'Long Ranger' career memories/reports:

**HONOR ROLL:** Jack Binkerd, John Horsch (3 reports), Jim Payne, Tom Ciambrone (D), Robert Jones (D), Mary Miller, Jim Davis (7), Rick Holdeman (2), Carl Raines, Dan Burk, Harry Bedsworth, Walter Franks, Bill Braukman (D), George Kraus (2), George Waters (2), Marvin Ross, Joe Marshall, Chuck Conrad, Joe Johnson (2), John Bright(3), Robert Mason, Curt Smith (3) Jim Lillethun, William Koerschner, Glenn Kennedy (D), Tom Dunn, Bob Long, Vern Mikkelsen, Brian Swan (D), Bruce Deffler, Les Miller, Clark Wilberg, Lloyd French, Tony Valentine, Wayne Myers, Clark Creery, Gary Warfield (D), Cletis Bailey, Dr. Romney, Bob Chadwick, Dave Wingfield, Bill Moran, Ron Geleta, Harry Hodges, Mary Welch (2, D), Karl Starzinger, John Johnson, Buford Clendenen, Brian Berenbach, Gene McKay, Gary Hamm, Bryce Dunn, B. Chadwick

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR 'I REMEMBER' REPORTS**

### ENLISTED PILOTS?

Clark Creery reports: We noticed a very interesting turn of events by the Air Force as reported in December 2015. Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James announced that enlisted airmen will be able to fly RQ-4 Global Hawks, unarmed RPAs that fly high altitude reconnaissance missions. The Air Force has not had enlisted pilots since the service became independent in 1947. During World War II, a small number of enlisted pilots served in the U.S. Army Air Force.

*"Our enlisted force is the best in the world and I am completely confident they will be able to do the job and do it well," said Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James. "The [drone] enterprise is doing incredibly important work and this is the right decision to ensure the Air Force is positioned to support the future threat environment. Emerging requirements and combatant commander demands will only increase; therefore, we will position the service to provide warfighters and our nation the capability they deserve today and in the future."*

Gen. Mark Welsh stated that, *"It is too soon to speculate on any expansion of enlisted aircrew beyond the Global Hawk program."* We shall see how this unfolds in the future—AFTACKers may be flying missions like this in the future. We know that Special Equipment Operators are listed in our master database indicates that we have had 170 SEO's who have flown with special missions all over the world. What a treat for such a valued enlisted force!

### MAILINGS

With this issue I must remind you folks how important it is to keep us advised of email changes, address changes or deaths of AFTAC folks you know. This has been a sore subject with me for awhile and I know, it is not a Feature Article, but to me it is an important feature to me. I have control of our master database which is kept in Microsoft Access and whenever folks have a question they call me and I am able to look at our data and give an intelligent answer, like DUH? Each quarter I prepare two listings for our mailings. One list is of everyone who has paid their dues and has asked for us to email the Post Monitor. That list is then cross-checked with the listing we maintain in our Google Site. When the ok is given for that Post Monitor to hit the streets we send out a link to our Box.net location where we have uploaded the electronic file. Now our listing also gives us those of you who have elected to become lifetime members but have no desire to use our on-line method of delivery. We cross check what you have given us with the US Postal Office records to ensure that we have a proper mailing address. Once checked one-for-one this listing is provided to our mailing guru who prepares addresses, folds the issue and mails it out via the local postal group. Others who are not Lifetime Members and who have elected to get their dues up to snuff are also provided a link to the electronic post monitor. As you can see, this can be time consuming and we try to keep everything clean so the errors are minimum. Once a Post Monitor has been released, all the fun starts. Kickbacks for improper email address flood in almost immediately and depending on the number, we have to research each and everyone of those. Often individual letters are prepared asking for an update. Our controls with box.net permit us to review how many have seen or downloaded the issues. John Horsch then receives many kudos for his exceptional expertise into packing everything except the sink into his publications. We thank those who care enough to send the very best.

All we ask is that you keep us informed. Each failure takes time to research. Today, I had one order for items from our shop and that person was not a member. Not sure how management will handle that request—I think we will honor it, after all that individual is one of us, member or not. We receive quite a few notices that the mail cannot be delivered because they are temporarily away. If I see this happen 3 or 4 times that individual will not receive more notices until that address is resolved.

We are not complaining, just want you to know what this function takes to keep you up to date with email as well as the time we take to update the website.

We love what we do!



## SNOWBALL 2016

What an interesting evening this year even if we were slightly upstaged by the HQ Awards Ceremony where we let the cat out of the bag as to the Alumni of the Year 2015. Our goal was to make it a total surprise and it actually was. We then followed that ceremony with the Alumni Snowball on the 20<sup>th</sup> of Feb 2016. Our advertising only brought forth 64 alumni to the Holiday Inn of Viera, Florida. The hotel did a bang-up job setting up the tables and serving Chicken Marsala, Roast Beef or a Vegetable Plate depending on your individual order.



The evening began with a slide show of the 2015 Alumni Activities running in the background while members networked and renewed old friendships. That is the beauty of such an event. Once the assignments are served, folks move, retire or just decide to go their own ways, the Snowball event is one that brings us back together for a few hours. A full bar was set-up in the ballroom and that gave us access to the refreshments. The evening was opened by our President Lou Seiler who welcomed all, recognized members of the senior staff in attendance and led us in a pledge of allegiance to the flag as well as a song by Rebecca Lehnerz. Invocation by Sean Ryan followed and dinner was served. We had a slight hick-up with the presentation of names of those who have passed since our last Snowball. Folks took that in stride and Lou Seiler stepped in and read the names so folks might know who has passed.

Following the meal we took a short break before the main Speaker had agreed to brief the Alumni. Colonel Jennifer P. Sovada, Commander, Air Force Technical Applications Center, graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1994 addressed our group. The Colonel is a career intelligence officer who has commanded an intelligence squadron and served at the squadron, center, major command, joint, interagency levels.

Colonel Sovada gave us a briefing on where we were, where we are going, and how we now fit into the 25<sup>th</sup> Air Force as a Wing. This was quite interesting and her grouping of 7 slides certainly showed us graphically just how we are serving the country in our very important mission. Those who

missed the Colonel's briefing certainly missed quite an interesting twist on how AFTAC has and is improving as a necessary intelligence arm in our country.

Following the Colonel's briefing, our President called John Horsch to the podium who announced that, yes – **Frank Calenda** was selected as the 2015 AOY. Frank was presented the traditional 'T' and copy of the silver coin that he will be presented once a slight glitch can be rectified at the jewelers. The presentation was made by Colonel Sovada and CMSgt Brown. Frank was asked to say a few words and once he was at the podium he announced that his speech would be very short. Then he pulled out a stack of notes about 5 inches thick. Frank is often not a man of few words, but this was a joke for effect.....Good Job Frank.

Past AOY's were asked to assemble for a photograph and those present came forward and said "cheese". Pictures will soon follow on the website. The presentation culminated a very great evening and that was supported by many Alumni Volunteers, specifically Lou Seiler, Sean Ryan, Carol Snyder and Ruth Creery...Thanks to all of you.....

### A few Pictures of the event.





**Group picture of AOY's and the Commander**

### **Five New Squadrons ??**

AFTAC activated five newly-designed squadrons as the center takes steps to reorganize after becoming a wing equivalent in August 2015. AFTAC was first organized in 1959 as the 1035th U.S. Air Force Field Activities Group. For the next several years, five technical operations squadrons carried out specific portions of the nuclear mission. In 1980 the 1035th was renamed AFTAC and became a direct reporting unit to Headquarters Air Force. The squadrons were deactivated at that time! Now that AFTAC falls under the Air Combat Command (major command) and the 25th Air Force (numbered Air Force), leadership reasoned that as a wing equivalent, the squadron structure should be revived and returned to AFTAC's unit composition. A squadron is the Air Force's most basic unit, responsible for critical, day-to-day operations—it's where the job gets done. Each new squadron held an activation and assumption of command ceremony, with an Air Force field grade officer respectively taking command.

(extracted from an article by Susan A. Romano, AFTAC PA)

### **NEW PROGRAM....Check this out!**

Tech. Sgt. Dan C. Visan, an intelligence analyst at AFTAC, participated in the Air Force's Language Enabled Airman Program, or LEAP, which is designed to sustain, enhance and help employ the existing language skills and talents of Airmen from all Air Force specialty codes. LEAP was founded on the principle that language, regional expertise and culture are critical competencies. This is really an interesting program and I hope more take advantage of LEAP.

## **THE CHALLENGE**



How many remember the practice of carrying a Challenge Coin? Here is one of the first wooden coins that has done service to this Alumni. Often times one can remember the use of a Heinekin Bottle Cap as a stand-in when a coin was not available! There were times when one would even take the coin to the shower, just in case....Here is the history of what I can find concerning 'The Challenge.'

The challenge, which can be made at any time, begins with the challenger drawing his/her coin, and slapping or placing the coin on the table or bar. In noisy environments, continuously rapping the challenge coin on a surface may initiate the challenge. (Accidentally dropping a challenge coin is considered to be a deliberate challenge to all present.) Everyone being challenged must immediately produce the coin for their organization and anyone failing to do so must buy a [round of drinks](#) for the challenger and everyone else who has their challenge coin. However, should everyone challenged be able to produce their coin, the challenger must buy a round of drinks for the group.<sup>1</sup>

### **Tom's Treasure of Tantalizing Aftac Trivia"**



IN HONOR OF TOM CIAMBRONE (DECEASED)

'Trivia' was suggested and initiated by Ex-CV (9/81-5/87), Col/CMSgt (Ret/Honorary) Tom Ciambrone (pictured), who, in the '80's, knew the organization like no one else. He asked all retirees to send unclassified ideas for this series and to provide additional information, or corrections, when appropriate. We ask 'those who remember' to provide content to continue 'Tom's Trivia.' **We ask you to consider an input.**

HONOR ROLL: Tom Ciambrone (4 trivia), John Horsch (8); Dale Klug (7), Bob Wiley, Don Moore, Steve Herrick, Hank Raymond, Chuck Schuster, Clark Creery, Bob Long, Joe Johnson, Les Miller, and this issue, John Nederhoed, Eugene McKay, Tom Dunn



This was on a table at the Snowball....what is it?

<----- The 'Rock'

## HOCKEY DOINGS



When Robert Wallace was injured in a traffic accident while helping a motorist on Interstate 95, the Wounded Warrior Hockey Club, comprised of military and civilian personnel from Patrick Air Force Base, knew they wanted to help their colleague. "It was a natural fit, We're doing what we can do to help, plus I love playing hockey. It is something that is going to help our brethren. Just to be able to turn something we love into something that can help someone is a win-win for everyone."

### AFTAC HONORS PEARL HARBOR



Two Pearl Harbor survivors were the distinguished guests of honor at the 20th Annual Pearl Harbor and Pacific Theater Veterans Ceremony Dec. 7, hosted by the Air Force Technical Applications Center

"The ceremony's purpose was to pay tribute to those who served at such an important time in our military history," said Col. Jennifer P. Sovada, AFTAC commander. "They are a vital part of our military heritage, and we pledge to continue this tradition that began 20 years ago."

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No one succeeds alone. Taking care of your teammates means they will take care of you when the time comes...and the time will come. Want a successful career with a shadowbox full of great memories? Then remember, memories are not made alone. Those to your left and right are easily as important as those above you, and will help you take care of those below you.

## LATE BREAKING ACTIVITIES FOR THE SUMMER

### GOLF TOURNAMENT

Ed Lindsay, our Vice reports that the Alumni Golf Tournament is locked in for the Manatee Cove links at Patrick for 20 May 2016. Registration will start at 11:00 with Tee Off at 13:00

Dinner and Awards following Golf



### PICNIC— 16 APRIL 2016 (See flyer on website)

**Wickham Park (Pavilion Near Eastern Florida State College (EFSC))**

### AFTAC Annual Spring Picnic

Tickets: \$5.00; \$7.00 on picnic day.....kids 10 and under are free.

1100-1700  
Monitor the website for updated information, costs, where to get tickets.



## REUNIONS?

Following Christmas, discussions always turn toward the future. Folks ask when the next golf tournament is scheduled; what about that picnic; and of course, the various festivities for the upcoming summer and the years that follow? All of this leads to a discussion of AFTAC reunions, the next one, where will it be, what shall we do, and all of those comments that we all have heard so well. What is a reunion? That is hard to describe and for AFTAC it is even harder. We have all been sent to the ends of the earth to spend several years watching, waiting, and reporting. We all have made some very special friends and as we returned to the CONUS most have returned to their familiar stomping grounds. A reunion is a way to meet again and share those stories that will be with us forever. If you have never attended an AFTAC reunion you have not lived. Some of the stories are not only funny, but also hard to believe and each knows the sacrifices that we endured for the Mission. No complaints, just facts and now years later we will have an opportunity to attend 3 or 4 days of memories. We now have three groups which we all call Chapters but they are at opposite ends of the country and planning is often difficult. Not only do folks now have families and responsibilities that require them to stay home, but also with the costs of transportation today, it is often out of the question as to a yes or no for attendance. That is not the half of it, because members must step up and help plan and execute the affair. Folks grew older and quite a few will attend but they do not want the responsibility of helping. We of the Florida Group have discussed this Reunion thing and we know that those who attended our last outing really enjoyed themselves. Of interest to us is now almost a survey type questionnaire. Will you come?, What would you like to do?, What specific events are you interested in? In Florida this was often simple, we have the Space Center, we have the New Headquarters, we have the Atlantic Ocean, we have Air Boats for rides in the swamp....and on and on and on. We have scheduled Reunions for Florida, Colorado, and California and their group numbers have dwindled quite appreciably - If you have some ideas how we can improve our thinking do not hesitate to send us an email or a note or even a letter.

We want to do what folks would like. Watching folks at the last reunion was a study in perfection and listening to the stories was almost too bizarre to believe. I will not report those here, but those who attended know exactly what I mean. AFTAC certainly has changed over the years. From the inception back in the late 40's to becoming a Wing as a part of the 25th Air Force is beyond comprehension. We have gone from remote detachments, lonely outposts, frozen tundra to blowing sand storms. Throughout the years we have worked very hard to be successful and we all take pride in how we got here today. This is what a reunion is all about—if you can, help us help ourselves and know that we are not about to give up we just want to improve and hope we are on the right track. At one time I asked: What is our product? It was rather simple....Cohesion by each group putting forth a small newsletter, holding events in the local areas which included all the troops, and above all reunions over the years. Should we take a look at spacing them out, having fewer, something of interest because this is your organization and we intend to please if possible. So take a few and keep us informed. Our editor, John needs something to keep him busy from time to time. (As if he does not do enough already). I owe him a salute and a thanks! John tells me that he may not be doing more newsletters so if you have a hankering....let us know.

## Photographs on the website

Since the launch of Google Photos, we've had a lot of questions around what this means for the future of our Google Site (Picasa). After much thought and consideration, we've decided to retire Picasa over the coming months in order to focus entirely on a single photo service in Google Photos.

If you have photos in a Picasa Web Album today, the easiest way to still access, modify and share most of the content is to log in to Google Photos, and all our photos and videos will already be there.

We made a decision years ago to store most photos on Google because it was easy to place links to these items from our Photo Area of the Website. So now be patient because we will be working to enhance the site and make those pictures much simpler to access. We have a backlog of quite a few and we will be sorting those out and moving those to the Photo site. Of special mention is the way that Bob Fitzgerald maintains the California Group Photo's, Bob, your website is very much appreciated.

## \*\*\*\*\*SOME SCHEDULES\*\*\*\*\*

1. **WindDowns**-(normally sponsored by the active-duty force) are scheduled for **1st Fridays** at 1530 taking place to the west of the HQ building, fondly referred to as 'Stonehenge.'
  2. **Alumni Assn Board/Membership Meetings-Normally-2nd Mondays** at 1600 just inside the HQ Building, #10989. Park across the street and the meeting will be in conference room just to the left as you enter the front entrance lobby.
- a. If a **Federal Holiday**, the meeting will be the next day.  
 b. **Quarterly**-meetings during the last month of a quarter (Mar/Jun/Sep/Dec) may be a luncheon, or a dinner, and at the venues noted below. **NOTE:** Sites/Times will be determined at the preceding meeting and announced via eALLert and posted at the association website. Other Patrick dining venues (Tides, Golf Clubhouse, Marina, Dining Facility), and off-base sites, may be considered for any meeting.

**3. WorldWide (WW) Alumni Reunions**

Normally scheduled 'every other year.' Hosting rotates between the Association and the two sub-groups. Last host, FL-2015.05, CO-2013.06 and CA-2011.05.

The next is scheduled to be hosted by the  
**California Alumni Group, mid-2017**

**Note:** California is currently evaluating this event and we hear that folks may have stepped up to help support!

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**SAGE SHOP**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Orders, unless otherwise instructed, to: AFTAC Alumni Assn, ATTN: Sage Shop, PO Box 254892, Patrick AFB FL, 32925-0892. Check our website for the latest info.

**SHIPPING:** Add \$5.00 for shipping/handling of 1 item & \$1.50 for each additional. (no shipping cost for Logo pins)

The shop with available items can be perused on our website:

[https://docs.google.com/viewer?  
 a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbnxzaXRlc2FsdW1uaWZpbGVzfGd4OjMwMjQ1NTI5MWRkOTZKNlI](https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbnxzaXRlc2FsdW1uaWZpbGVzfGd4OjMwMjQ1NTI5MWRkOTZKNlI)

**SAGE SHOP MERCHANDISE FROM OTHERS**

AFTAC SEO Airborne Coin - SrA TJ Benscoter - 402-232-1917/Theodore.benscoter@us.af.mil or SrA Chris Hayes 402-232-9182/Christopher.hayes.13@us.af.mil

**Det 45 has minted a commemorative coin.** Contact the CO Chapter Treasurer, 'Bilschmied@aol.com,' for info/purchase.

**Please note:** That we have not used this page to list any traditional event plans and their timeframes. This has not been used in this Newsletter to permit us to utilize what space we have available. It will reappear in the next issue. Sage merchandise can be viewed on the webpage noted above. For those of you who do not use a computer, please excuse us and if you have a neighbor or friend that might help you, please do. If not, do not hesitate to write and we will do our utmost to get you the information that you desire.

**Old Buildings never die they just fade away.**



☺This is a view of the old HQ building taken from the rear parking lot. It is totally gone now, and Susan Romano obtained a large piece of concrete that she had Chief Brown bring to the Snowball. All AFTACers present who served in that building were given the opportunity to sign their names to that rock in an appropriate location to display. When that happens we will post a photograph of the signed rock. *Thank you Susan!*



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**ADDRESS CHANGES:** We are charged for incorrectly addressed mailings & we have several every issue. Send corrections, as soon as known, to 'Membership,' Clark Creery, [ccreery@cfl.rr.com](mailto:ccreery@cfl.rr.com). If that is not possible, mail to our Chapter address listed on page 2, left column.

**"Tom Trivia," Answer of Question on page 16**

**That rock is a piece of concrete that was captured by Mike Young and Susan Romano. It was brought to the 2016 Snowball to enable Alumni who wanted to sign it, could! It is a chunk of the past!**

**-Trust and Verify-**

**RISING to CARRY-ON the MISSION**

This is a view of the new building from the parking lot across the street. It is a huge, modern structure and it shows off our professionalism every day.

**WATCH THE WEB FOR SPORTS**

This is a mite late for this issue. Our Vice President tells me that he is thinking about working up a Golf Outing for April or May of 2016. We will have more information once that is finalized.



**PICNIC— April 16th at Wickham Park in Melbourne, Florida is the date set by the boosters Club for the Spring Picnic. More to follow and just as in previous years this will be quite an event.....We will keep you advised. Flyer was given to us and it was posted to our website.**

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**Looks like we have a volunteer, more later.**

\*\*\*\*\***SAGE SHOP\*\*\*\*\***

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbnxzaXRlc2FsdW1uaWZpbGVzfGd4OjMwMjQ1NTI5MWRkOTZkNjI>

**OBITUARIES—OVERFLOW FOR LATE INFO**

Obituaries in this issue are many, we received them late so we had to juggle where they are listed. Accept our apologies! In some cases the funeral home link we found is listed. Copy and paste into your browser and you can see more information.

**Thank you for your patience.**

**OBITUARIES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6**

**Singlevich, Joan, Marie** 91 She was known as: Joan, Jo, Jody, Doc, Mom, Grandma, Grandma Jo Aunt Joan, and friend to so many.

She was born in 1924 in Beloit, Kansas. She received her college degree in bacteriology from the University of Washington. She worked as a bacteriologist at the Hanford Nuclear Plant in the 1940's where she met her husband, Walter Singlevich. They later moved to Washington, D.C. where they lived until 1972. In 1972 they were transferred to Patrick Air Force Base in Satellite Beach, Florida.

In 1992, after Walter had passed away, Joan sold their Florida home, drove across country to Colorado, and built the house that she and Walt had planned to build and reside upon his retirement. She lived there until her home was destroyed in the Waldo Canyon fire in 2012. After that time, she relocated to another home in the Colorado Springs area.

Joan was an incredibly beautiful, brilliant, funny and talented individual whose love had no boundaries.

She is survived by her two children, Scott Singlevich and Rebecca Beardslee as well as three grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Her memorial service was Saturday, April 9th, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at the Swan law Funeral Home at 501 N. Cascade, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. (719) 471-9900. There was a public viewing from 12:00 Noon to 2:00P.M on April 9th. \_\_\_\_\_

**Col. Clentis "Clent" W. Bailey**, USAF, began his final journey to the Lord on March 31, 2016 at the age of 84. He was preceded in death by his parents, William J. Bailey and Addie Bea Bailey; his first wife, Shirley Gordon Bailey; and his son, Clentis William Bailey Jr. He is survived by his beloved wife of 33 years, Betty A. (Zoppo) Bailey; two dear sons, John G. Bailey and stepson, Lester A. Bingaman III and his wife, Cynthia Bingaman, Harrogate, TN; grandchildren, Abbey Bingaman and Tsumi Bailey; great-granddaughters, Ember Kalani and Sofi, Maui, HI; brother, Terence "Ted" Bailey and his wife, Linda Bailey from Little Rock, AR; and nephews, Kerry L. Bailey and wife, DeeDee and Michael Bailey and wife, Theresa.

A Celebration of Life Service was held Saturday, April 9, 2016, 1:00 p.m. at FRENCH Funeral Home. Military Honor Service followed at Sunset Memorial Park, 924 Menaul Blvd NE. Cremation followed. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking donations be made to the Make a Wish Foundation of NM, 144 Louisiana Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM ..For a Picture of the colonel and his obit. <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/abqjournal/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=179553888>