

AFTAC Alumni Association Meeting Minutes

9 June 2023

The AFTAC Alumni Association (AFTACAA) Monthly General Membership & Teleconference Meeting was held at the Beef O'Brady's on Lake Washington Rd., Melbourne. Members present were Eileen Best, Frank & Edna Calenda, Bill Cooley, Tony De Marco, Judy & George Henderson, Wally Jones, Ed Lindsay, John Loftis, Arlin Massey, George Mirda, Al & Kathy Moy, and Lou Seiler. Online attendees included: Mike Clark, Bill Danvers, and Sean Ryan.

Welcome New Members/Guests: Ed welcomed those attending and opened the meeting at 1130. He introduced those tuning in online.

Approval of Minutes: As there were no suggested changes to the May meeting minutes, Lou Seiler made a motion that we accept the minutes as published; John Loftis seconded the motion. All voted to approve the minutes as written. **(CLOSED)**

Comments by AFTAC CC/CV/Command Chief: No representatives were present. **(CLOSED)**

Treasurer's Report: Sean Ryan reported that, as of 7 June 2023, the Wells Fargo Bank Business Checking Account balance was \$7388.37. Wally Jones made a motion that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, as presented. Frank Calenda seconded the motion. All voted to approve the report as presented. **(CLOSED)**

Membership Report: Pete Gilbert was not present to report on membership, but Ed Lindsay reported there are 517 members. One new yearly member and one lifetime member were added; one member was removed from the Chapter at his request. Seven duplicate records were removed from the list. **(CLOSED)**

Post Monitor (PoMo): Judy Henderson reported that the next PoMo will be published in August and requested that inputs be sent to her by mid-July. Reminder: Articles that include information about the mission or detachments must be submitted through John Horsch, and he will have them reviewed by HQ AFTAC personnel, if needed. **(OPEN)**

Website: Al Moy is tweaking the website and getting photo galleries ready to be added to the site. Al will be adding pictures from the 2022 reunion and the recent golf tournament. Downloading pictures can be slow; it was suggested that if the system hangs up, try Ctrl and F5. **(OPEN)**

SAGE Shop: Ed reported that items available at the SAGE Shop are posted on both the website and in the PoMo. He is exploring the possibility of obtaining a new coin and Sean Ryan will check with Deborah Carson about the coin obtained in 2015. George Mirda is also checking on AFTAC Boosters Club coins to see if we could get some coins from them. Ed is looking at the cost of hats; it was suggested that we might obtain a patch that could be added to hats and other items. George also suggested we might want to check with GIFTIQUE, a store near the Arcade in Melbourne; evidently, the proprietor has some relationship with AFTAC. Tony De Marco is looking at items from his neighbor that may be appropriate for the SAGE Shop. **(OPEN)**

AFTAC Heritage Committee: There was no one present to offer any input. Ed suggested that we might want to add the Alumni of the Year (AOY) selection in this group; see NEW BUSINESS for a report on the AOY program. **(OPEN)**

AFTAC Memorial Corporation (AFTACMC)--Memorial for Line of Duty Deceased AFTAC Members:

Lou Seiler reported that the Memorial Wall is in place, and all were encouraged to go by and see it when they are on base. Unfortunately, there are a few errors that will need to be repaired; Lou is working on this. George Mirda reported that the Memorial is beautiful and heartwarming, and he offered a big "Congratulations" to Lou Seiler for his leadership. The dedication date has not been set, but invitations will be sent out when the date is established. Alumni members will be invited, as we were instrumental in raising funds and establishing the corporation to have the project completed. Former Commanders and dignitaries will be invited. There was

talk about illuminating the Memorial for night viewing, but the cost, upkeep, and sea turtle issues will probably make it difficult. Lou will stay on the committee, as updates will be needed and names will be added in future years. Funds will also be needed to maintain the wall and add new names, so it's never too late to donate to the Memorial. **(OPEN)**

20-Year Wall: Tony De Marco reported he is working on updating some posts to the wall and working on adding a new member. He's also working on a way to denote the AFTAC Wall of Honor recipients on the 20-Year Wall. **(OPEN)**

Golf n'Get Together: Ed Lindsay reported that the 12 May 2023 Golf Tournament was a big success with 108 players – 27 teams. Only one sponsor donated money to the tournament, but other donations, including many certificates from Beef O'Brady's made it possible to have a door prize for each participant and still come out slightly ahead on the cost. Many Alumni members came out to help with registration, sell mulligans, pack and distribute snack bags, draw the tickets for the prizes, and count the money for the tournament. Ed especially thanked John Loftis who manned the SAGE Shop sales table. The first-place team joined the tournament with no affiliation to AFTAC. After much discussion, it was decided that we will look at our rules for future tournaments and will likely require that at least one person on each team must have a relationship with AFTAC or AFTAC contractors. **(OPEN)**

Hosting 1st Friday: Ed is looking at August, September, or October for the AFTACAA to provide beverages and snacks for the AFTAC HQ 1st Friday. Budget for this event is generally about \$200. **(OPEN)**

NEW BUSINESS:

Fall Golf Tournament: Ed is looking at possible dates for a fall tournament and will likely schedule it in late-September, as AFTAC HQ is planning several functions in October and November, including a Veterans Day 5K run and other physical enhancement programs. **(OPEN)**

Alumni of the Year: Frank Calenda reported on the Alumni of the Year (AOY) selection process. There seems to be no set rules except that nominations are voted on by former AOY recipients, but Frank would like to document how and when the nominations are made each year. Frank will look at how the selection was made in previous years and ensure that California and Colorado Chapters are included in the process. Frank will report back when he has a better understanding of the program. **(OPEN)**

Cost of Mailing the PoMo: Since printing costs and postage are increasing, we need to look at the costs for mailing a paper copy of the PoMo. Currently, 27 copies are printed and mailed to those members who pay an additional \$10 annually to receive the three issues via mail rather than electronically. This issue was tabled until the July meeting. **(OPEN)**

Future AFTACAA Reunions: We received information from a Reunion company that is promoting the Dayton, Ohio, area as a potential place for Air Force reunions. Information has been received about their proposal, but we need to take a hard look at what they offer, and the costs for a reunion planned by them. **(OPEN)**

Next AFTAC Alumni Meeting: The next AFTACAA monthly meeting will be held on **Friday, 14 July 2023**, at 1130 at Beef O'Brady's on South Patrick Drive, Satellite Beach.

Adjournment: Sean Ryan made a motion that we adjourn; Al Moy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1245.

Judy Henderson
Acting Secretary, AFTAC Alumni Association