

◆ POST - MONITOR ◆

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 3

Membership—673, Lifetime 575 (16 Distinguished)

2004 SEPTEMBER



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



SAGE SPOTLIGHT

THE LONG RANGE DETECTION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PROUDLY PRESENTS



CAROL SNYDER
LRD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
SAGE SHOP DISPATCH



There are a number of items ordered from the 'Sage Shop' (page 13) in any given quarter. The workload in this area has gotten to be enough that we asked Carol if she could help out. Sure enough, she was very willing and able. Welcome aboard Carol. She is also an 'insider' (works in the building) and we can use all of these we can get. We asked our new 'insider' to give us a few words about her time with the command-Carol replied:

"My current "real job" is as 'Office Automation Assistant' in TMN. I've been in the building since '96 when I started in TTA in the same position. I then transferred into LSC in '98 as an Editorial Assistant. From there, I was offered the opportunity to work in the Command Section as Dr. O'Brien's Executive Secretary. After a short while, I decided it was time for additional challenges and I volunteered to be the Protocol Officer. I found this time in the Command Section to be a great experience where I worked with and met some outstanding people.

Well, as they say, all good things must come to an end and such was the case when my husband Doug retired and shortly thereafter we moved to Virginia. Soon afterward I was offered a job at ACC which provided a whole new perspective of the GS world. This was a somewhat familiar but different (left column, page 6)

AIR FORCE MEMORIAL

Last issue we announced a unified contribution by Alumni Association Chapters, and some individual members who wished to do so, for the **Air Force Memorial Foundation**. See page 6 for a final report.

ALUMNI ALERTS-WHAT'S COMIN' UP

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

OCTOBER 15, GOLF N'GETOGETHER

General Membership Meeting Follows with
Association Board Elections

MAJOR ARRANGER, FRANK HALL

The Association Fall Golf N'Getogether Tournament will soon be underway. This event is scheduled for **October 15, 2004, at the Patrick AFB Manatee Cove Golf Course.**

As always, our corporate sponsors have come through with some excellent grand prizes as well as a great assortment of door prizes. The charge for this afternoon of fun and camaraderie will be **\$35.00 for association members and \$40.00 for non-members**, which includes a great sub meal after golf. You may sign up by calling

Pat Snyder at 494-6867.

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

Checks should be received no later than 7 October.
(continued on page 6)

WORLDWIDE REUNION, 12-15 MAY, 2005

Reunion is set for eve of 12 May to morning of 15 May 2005 to be held in Sacramento, California, at the Holiday Inn Northeast.

The folks 'out west' have planned a grand time and there is no better way to renew friendships (and revive old stories) than a grand reunion of this sort.

See page 10 and 23 for additional details.

ALUMNI EVENTS-WHAT'S GONE OFF

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

SEE THE CHAPTER REPORTS BEGINNING ON PAGE 8

ASSOCIATION HONOR ROLL

Alumni Of The Year Recipients

Pat Snyder 2003-Joseph 'Joe' Johnson 2002-Jim Payne 2001

Ben Vlassick '00 (deceased)-John Horsch '99-Frank Hall '98

Judy Milam '97-Carl Gailey '96-Clark Creery '95

Florida Chapter "PERENNIALS"

(board members serving for five+ years)

Clark Creery-Newsletter 81-84/89-95, Pres 94/95, Webpage-since 01, Frank Hall-Pres/Vice 89-98/01, Judy Milam-Sec 89-00/Hosp since 01, Pres 04, Eunice Harris-Hosp 89-00; Mary Welch-Mbrshp 91-99; Carl Gailey-Tres 91-99, Swede Swansen-Pub since 93, John (Christel) Horsch, Newsletter since 96, Pat Snyder, 'Insider' since 96, VP 04, Mike Black, ,Webmaster since 97, Jim Payne, Mbshp 99-04

ASSOCIATION HISTORY

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

Florida chapter (application on back page)

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

Long Range Detection Alumni Assoc, PO Box 254892, Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892

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

Colorado chapter

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

West Coast (California) chapter

Formed in 1999, dues, \$5 per year, \$50 for lifetime; for information-Joe Johnson, (916) 783-8676-address:AFTAC Alumni Assoc, 161 Southcreek Circle, Folsom CA, 95630-1510. They meet several times a year and publish a newsletter, 'Depot Fallout' and have a website, 'www.AFTACwest.org' There are 152 members.

Long Range Detection Alumni Honorarium

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

Newsletter Editors: John & Christel Horsch

Information/Proofing: Judy Milam/Pat Snyder/Deborah Carson

Executive Review: Frank Hall/Carl Gailey

Rovin' Photographers: Judy Milam (film) and Bob Wiley (digital)

Rovin' Reporter: Clark Creery/Bob Wiley

Printing/Mailing: Carl Gailey

"A TEAM"...OF HORSCHE'S

'58-'87

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING



Thanks to you, this issue is 24-pages, a record high and possible because so many of you took the time and effort to write, and the new mailing procedures allowing more than 20 pages. And, even then, you gave us so much (thank goodness) we still had to make font adjustments to get it all in here. We figured you'd want the stories 'hot off the press' even if we had to squeeze a little. However, we try never to take the font down lower than normal newspaper print.

Another comment about inputs. We truly appreciate the 'editorial license' you permit and understand when sending in articles. We recognize that some of the inputs are going to be 'just as they popped into your head' and can be 'earthy' ... and we prefer them that way, go ahead, push the envelope. But, we also think you empathize when we add editorial 'polish' (nudge) to some words so no one in our audience will be dis-comforted. We know that spouses, and Sage household members, read the newsletters to figure out what dad and mom 'were up to in the Air Force.'

Importantly, we bid farewell to Col **Bendorf** and a hearty Sage Welcome to Col **Turner** as the reins of AFTAC changes hands once again. We appreciate the support Col Bendorf provided, especially during the '2003 Worldwide Reunion' held in Florida and the Command Awards Banquet, and we look forward to assisting Col Turner in any way possible.

An interesting newsletter fact occurred to us this quarter. We began enjoying our editorial duties with the June '96 issue. As you would imagine, we use a lot of paper as we prepare the initial draft issue, go through the review process, and then present a final product to the printers. Over this eight-year period we have never had to ask the board for any money for paper. This is/was possible because of the generosity of one of our Sage's family members.

Harvey **Shaw's** daughter, Darlene **Ownings**, once was involved in a printing business. When they would have left over paper, Darlene would call and off we'd go to load up on what would later become your quarterly issue of the PoMo. A belated and heartfelt **Sage Thank you** to Darlene for this, and her friendship since she was a wee child (with a slight bow to Mom and Dad for anything they had to do with this).

As a side note to this story, Darlene's husband, Russell, works for '**Bar-S**' who places food items in the commissaries, so ... the hot dog you buy may be helping us in this thank you to Darlene (and the Shaws).

And lastly, an old friend recently acted on impulse and telephoned. We know he did this to get his name in the PoMo. We grant his wish. Thanks, Jim (**Salus**).

MAIL - CALL



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

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

Thanks' to all who write; **Welcome,**
or Welcome Back, to new and returning alumni.
 We recognize all correspondence so your name, and the memories it invokes, may be recalled.

LETTERS/EMAIL

Philip Dwyer-Austin, TX

2004.04.12

(Ordered a commemorative coin) I believe this is the same coin I was issued some time ago. It had my name and the years I was assigned to AFTAC engraved: Phil Dwyer, 1964-1967, 2044 Det 1 Comm.

I carried the coin as a lucky piece until I misplaced it. If you are able to have it engraved, I will gladly pay for the work. My service with your organization were the best years out of the 26 I served. I was so proud to be selected for this assignment, it was an honor to me. PS You're a great organization and a closer knit group ain't around. I was thrilled when some years back, I received a letter asking me to join the alumni-thanks again. Your letter is very touching, and it reminds us all what a great outfit we served in when it draws this type of praise. Thank you for making us all "feel proud."

Bruce Thomas-Wash DC

04.15

Last Saturday evening I was sitting at home with nothing to do and for some reason I typed 'Shemya' into my 'Google' search and hit enter. And, here I am a few day later, sending a check off to the AFTAC Alumni Association!

Even though I only served four years in the USAF, my time working as a 99125-Q was rewarding and very interesting. I would love to connect with some of the guys from long ago. See Bruce's 'Membership Application' that follows (in that section) for more information on his assign's. As we have said before, we are always in awe of those who served AFTAC a short time and 30 years later still want to be involved

Tom Niquette-email

05.19

I have been watching these scenes on the Television about the treatment of Iraqi prisoners and it sickens me. It is impossible for me to believe that an American soldier could do such a thing. Then I remem-

bered that weird things happen in a war zone. But it also reminded me of a question that people always seem to ask once they find out that I spent some time in the service. The question is always the same and my answer is always the same. What do I miss most about the service? my answer is easy. The people. I miss their honesty and integrity. Since I spent eighteen years in AFTAC, it is these people that I miss the most. Those people who did not ask for much but gave a lot. An organization that asks not to be in the lime light but gave great service to this country. AFTAC'ers are truly a favored group. However, most of other personnel that wear the uniform also possess these same qualities. I think that it is at this time that we stop and remember them. I know that I do. Very well said, and it is especially meaningful coming from the level of command you represented. And, we could not agree more.

Jim Lillethun-Bainbridge, GA

05.25

A while back someone there (sorry I can't recall who) suggested that since I date back over 50 years in LRD terms I should maybe write down some things about times past. So, here, I've done it. Hope you use it. PS I personally knew 4 commanders of AFTAC. I first met Larry Gordon when in 1959 he was a Major in Plans (CC, '73-'78). Jim, we are always asking the 'old timers' to write and appreciate very much that you took the time and effort to do so. Your recalls are very valuable to us and we have published them in our 'Feature Articles' area as an 'I Remember,' 'The Command I Knew' section.

Editor's-email>Pete Sherman

06.29

(concerning identification error in the June, '04, PoMo)

Pat (**Snyder**, association Vice) called and said you had a question about the 'Pete' in the last PoMo. I understand you were concerned that you may not be the only 'AFTAC Pete Sherman.' After a lengthy, exhaustive investigation you can rest easy - this 'Pete' is not a re'Pete' - he is a 'Larry' (Lawrence). Prior to the time of the picture, Howie (**Dibble**) was sitting by him having a mug of tea (something yellow anyway) and introduced him. I'm sure Howie said his name was 'Larry' but who knows what I heard-maybe I can never again know another 'Sherman' without thinking 'Pete.'

To compound the likelihood that we would get this wrong in the PoMo, Tony **DeMarco** took the picture and sent it to us (and Clark **Creery** to put on the alumni website). It is my remembrance that he also had the name of this 'Sherman' as 'Pete.' (correct me if I am wrong on this Tony)

Finally, after your query, we determine through a phone call to Howie that he is CMSgt (Ret) **Lawrence** (Larry) Sherman. He worked in the vault and remembers most of us of his time. I also remembered him when Howie introduced him, but obviously 'Larry' did not soak in that day.

TONY DEMARCO-EMAIL FOLLOWUP

Guess it takes an old "Q" Troop to set this straight. Without a doubt, there is only "Uno" Pete S. With a reputation at stake, and concerned that John might be

inferring that he might have caught me in my "first" mistake, I did some quick research and came up with the following. If you look at the first group of picnic photos provided by Judy, top left, you'll see that the error has already been propagated. Don't know who first started calling Larry, Pete, but it wasn't Watash. I submitted my photos, including the BeerMeisters photo, about a week later to Clark sans names for which I was chastised by both Herr Web Meister and our illustrious Senior Editor. Further evidence is provided by the following e-mail from... ahhumm!!!

Tony, Great pics, and thanks for forwarding same to our outstanding website maintainer, Clark (who has already posted them), and, it helps us if you provide names, when you can. We'd like to use the one of you guys in front of the beer wagon for the next PoMo and our Picnic article. I think I know everyone but the guy on the 'right end,' i.e.,Pete Sherman, Howard Dibble, Tony DeMarco, Terry Hammond, Dr. O'Brien, unknown. Do you know him?

Need I say more. To summarize, what I think we have here is a slight case of CRS surfacing..

EDITOR'S (WITH HEAD BOWED)-EMAIL REPLY

Aha, it was moi that started, and propagated, this shameless shameful name mess. No fears, thru my tears, in arrears, we make amends for this trend by posting this correction. All who I propagated this poolful, awful info to, initially, are in this missive. We should now all be on the same name page. I'm hopeful the real 'Pete' will forgive, as will Tony for my mis-speak; also Clark who I also misled.

And thru all of this, 'Larry' Sherman remains in bliss. He is not a member so he does not know his name was wrongly rendered.

TONY RETOTED

A most appropriate and eloquent response. Apology accepted ... one thing though, to truly wipe the slate clean and restore one's good name, it would be considered an honorable act to render to the offended party, a Flagon of Classic Teutonic Amber Fluid (TAF), properly chilled of coarse, at a time and place TBD. Till then.....

EDITOR REPLY

All right, all right. How about I take care of the first beer for each of you at the next AFTAC picnic. In this case the TAF could be that lively drink of Sages, Amber Bock.

TONY, HAVING THE LAST WORD

Sounds like a winner...just received the latest POMO in the mail yesterday. As usual, an excellent job putting it together, and the stories are always a great read. Now if we can only get Curt to be a little more humble uh. A true 99... Take care

Jack Wagley-Ann Arbor, MI 07.06

This is just to let you know we are still alive. I was 74 on 28 May and my wife Frances will be 73 on 9 Aug and we will celebrate 56 years of marriage 12 Jul. We have our ailments but we are finally getting some of the compensation we should have gotten earlier. We are retired now on Office of Personnel Mgt Annuity (20+ years Army, Air Force, AF Civil Service/16+years

US Postal Service) and VA Disability Annuity after I appealed their denial with the help of Regional National Service office, my new Michigan Senator and others. I should have started receiving more disability. I have had a heart condition since before I even retired from Army/Air Force (1970) and I had type II diabetes since before that (Thailand, '66).

They had no quarters for most of us and we were on duty 7 days a week, 12 hours a day. This gave us little time to boil our drinking water, and they had no bottled water for sale in the village so we drank a lot of soft drinks (saturated with sugar) and ate yak steak-well done in the one 'on-limits' restaurant (the 'Lotus Club'). Those who had the fortitude even ate rice cakes until they found cockroaches in them.

The VA did make the disability increase retroactive-but for two years only and since we had Mail handlers Federal Employment Health Benefit plan when we became eligible for enrollment in Medicare B, we opted out of Medicare B and got socked with big surcharge on Medicare B premium, so big that every time we receive a COLA raise it is more than offset by the surcharge. They were supposed to stop surcharge 1 an '04, but we are still getting even less S.S. Annuities than we did in '03. I guess we could be still getting only 40% VA disability.

Up here they even sold us a Michigan license tag that says, "Michigan Veteran," that hurt! I had Michigan as my home of record when we left Virginia/DC and 1009th. I had to leave my wife and four daughters in Michigan until I got housing in Weisbaden but do you think the state of Michigan would pay me the \$200 Veterans bonus they were paying at that time. Not on your life!

Well, we saved our money with both of us working after I retired from USAF and went to work for Postal Service (my wife drove school bus for 29 years in Lawrence, KS, during my last 4 years in AF, 16 years in Post Office, and 9 years after that). She now has had carpal tunnel operations from opening and closing the doors (manually operated) and has lost some hearing after listening to those children all those years.

I know you are going to say I am writing a book again, but I ask you to edit at will-perhaps you will not understand some of my colloquialism-they don't understand me here in Michigan when I tell them, "I'm not buying a pig in a poke," I want to know what it costs.

I just wanted to say, I do not know if you can do it or not, but if any of you can do it. You might be able to have better retirement if you can merge your military service and Civil or Postal Service.

PS Please forgive me for my poor penmanship. It has been going downhill ever since I left the little one-room school house near Columbia, MO. I think that was 1943 or maybe 44. I do remember dancing the minuet in full costume on what was then the basket-

ball court for Missouri University.

PS2 I just noticed my name is listed on "Barley Substantiated" tales, so maybe you won't need to print much of my letter at all. Jack, we are always glad to receive your updates and get a committee together to decipher your writing. Seriously, you still write very well, just 'small.' And, we appreciate your correspondence whether classified as BS or not.

Carl Romney-Alexandria, VA 07.09

I enjoy reading the newsletter, and appreciate your work in making it possible to keep in loose contact with some other old-timers. Dr. Romney, it is a true honor that you take the time to write. Thank you for the compliment.

Bob Fitzpatrick-email 07.16

Dain Leadmon recognized Don Parr in the Mystery Photo thanks for the update (photo was in the March issue)

Carl Raines-email 07.16

I know in the Mail Call heading it says "letters that require no action" to you but I could not find another address for E mail. Anyway if you can't pass this on to the proper person, just a quick note "can't do" and I'll understand... (new address), e-mail, sstraines1009@msn.com .. Thanks bunches. We'd be proud to take 'action' in your case, and have Cced 'those in the know,' and more, on this reply. Good to hear from you. Did you 'move on up to the east side?' Or just go 'where the livin' is easy (ier)?

Jon Kempe-email 07.18

Read in the latest Post-Monitor that Harvey Shaw may be ill. What's going on? I have sent him an e-mail. We had planned on visiting Florida this past March but I came down with throat cancer in January. I've finished my treatments and now in the healing process. We are now again traveling a bit, but sticking closer to home. May try to get to Florida this next year - who knows! I really enjoy the Post-Monitor - you two really do a outstanding job. OLE Smitty is writing up a storm - I do marvel about his and Ben Vlassick's son spending a career in AFTAC (or what ever they call it now). Do take care - and good health (something that gets shakier as we age-good seismic term huh!) Now this is what the PoMo and email are all about. Thanks for your close reading and great compliments. Readers, and alumni, like you guys are what make our editorship so much fun; especially when we hear from you of your thoughts. And you're right, Smitty is good at remembering details that make us all think about the small things that kept us so busy as '99.'

RENEWING SAGES

Bill Taylor-McArthur, OH 01.22

I just got a postcard that my dues are AWOL. My address label says they aren't due until Oct '04. In any event, here is a check to cover it. If you have any left over, give it to Carl Gailey and tell him the next item he is back in the PI, he can go to Angelus and pop a San Miguel on me. Bill, I see our address label fooled another, we try to explain that dadgum label at dues time. And, how about other alumni and that SM offer?

Terry Jordan-Potomac Falls, VA 01.23

Since I have not been able to make it to any functions yet ... what would it cost to get a copy of the World-Wide directory by mail? Terry, even tho we don't get to 'see' you it's good to 'hear' from you.

David Whatley-Christmas, FL 04.01

Sorry I am late on my dues. Since I am this late I will pay this years and next.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORMS

(FORMS ON WEBSITE AND FINAL PAGE OF POMO)

L Wayne Brasure-Albuquerque, NM, 02.25

AFTAC/TM, July '95-October '98

Glenn Kennedy-San Diego, CA 03.12

99125KZ2, Det 207 Alaska, '68-'70. Did the Burnt Mountain site survey, borrowed the Det SnoCat to fish grayling in the China River. Fortunately never succeeded in using the Det safety rope to lasso the resident moose. Fed the Det dog, 'Blackdog,' and frequently kept him from eating visitors. Loved everything about my time in 1035th. Coupla good BS's in there Glenn, let us have them.

Franklin Kitchen-Folsom, CA 03.10

Stationed at Det 313, Sonseca, Spain, for 5-years from '72-77. I am trying to establish a reunion of those families stationed in Sonseca from '56-'96. Check out the website, <http://www.baytel.com/sonseca313/>. In the process of establishing a better site. Please contact me (email, sonseca313@baytel.com) if you plan to attend the reunion. We have emailed Frank offering PoMo pages to advertise his great idea. The alumni website, <http://www.geocities.com/aftac9000/> also contains the website link.

Willard Barber-Dunn, NC 03.17

Det 271, '66-'67; AFTAC/IGS, VA, '67-'72, FL '74-79; 1157TCHOS, '79-'82

Bruce Snelgrove-Melbourne, FL 04.04

20+ years in AFTAC, B, O and J systems; Det 313 and 452

Bruce Thomas-Wash, DC 04.15

Assigned Det 46X, Aug '73-Aug '74; returned to Lowry and 3420th School Sqdn as Q Instructor till Q was shut down, then moved over to finish my enlistment in the 3415th Instructor Sqdn.

'CHECK/NOTE' ONLY MAIL

(new/renewal, unless noted)

Jack Tucker-Bluffton, SC - Kellis Moore-Arlington, TX (address change) - Ray Mallard-Aurora, CO—Vernon Bone-Colorado Springs, CO—John Dungan-Prospect, KY (order) - Harlan Hatfield-N. Highlands, CA (order) - Warren Wascher-Kent, WA 9 (order) - Glenn Kennedy-San Diego, CA (order)

SAGE SPOTLIGHT (continued from page 1)

experience in that I dealt with the "real" Air Force which I hadn't done in awhile. What a difference!

Just when I began getting comfortable, Doug's contract came to an end and he was offered a position back in Florida. In the length of time it takes to say "yes," we came running back and returned to the Melbourne area in Oct '03 and started back at AFTAC last April. Needless to say, I feel very "at home" here and both of us are extremely happy to be back in Florida with all of our friends, working in very fulfilling jobs.

You're might wonder what brought me to AFTAC in the first place. My husband Doug worked for AFTAC for more than 22 years and while we were on assignment in Germany I started my GS career in the Post Office. From there it was on to 17th AF, Space Command, and then back to the states where I first started with AFTAC in 1996. All told, I've worked in the GS world for over 11 years now. I've always enjoyed being active in such things as the Booster's Club, helping with just about everything at one time or another. When the opportunity came along to help with the LRD Alumni Association, it just made good sense. So far I've enjoyed it immensely and am looking forward to many new adventures with the LRD Alumni Assoc.

FALL GOLF N'GETOGETHER (continued from page 1)

'SAGE, ON THE RANGE'



Check-in begins at 1130 and the shotgun start will be at 1300. There will be plenty of water and soda on the course, and a beverage cart will be available.

Food will be served in the entertainment room in the back of the Pro Shop immediately following the golf tournament. We will also award the prizes during/after dinner. We will then move into the **General Membership Meeting and election of officers**.

This tournament fills up quickly, so sign up early to ensure a spot in the tourney. There will be a limit of the first 144 players to sign up. If you are not interested in golfing but would like to attend the dinner and/or general membership meeting, the cost for the meal is \$8.00. Reservations for dinner are requested. There's no fee for the meeting only.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION UNIFIED CONTRIBUTION TO AF MEMORIAL FUND COMPLETED

As we advised in an email to all 'registered' alumni, and in the June, 2004, Post-Monitor, the alumni association planned to send a joint contribution to the

building of the Air Force Memorial in Washington DC. The ground breaking remains scheduled for September of this year and completion two years later. Contributions are important as this project moves forward and an estimated \$4 million is still needed.

Also, as we reported, this donation was made in the name of the 'AFTAC-Long Range Detection Alumni Association' as a whole, i.e., the three chapters making a unified contribution from their treasuries. All chapters' boards met on this matter and agreed - the funds were consolidated and totaled \$275.00.

In addition, as this idea went forward, several people also wanted to make personal contributions to this donation in the name of the association. While it was not an original intent to seek individual contributions, it was gratifying that some of you felt that way. This phase of your generosity resulted in an additional \$235 giving us a grand total of \$510.

Your boards thank everyone for making this possible. Our contributions, both joint and individual, will trim what is needed by a small amount, but if everyone makes a small difference a large difference results.

PS: the website for the memorial is: <http://www.airforcememorial.org/> and, as you will read, with this contribution we will be listed on the Memorial's 'Charter Sponsor Registry' and receive a certificate. See below an artist's rendering of the memorial.

**Hurricane Frances** (continued from PoMo Banner)

EDITORS: 9/1-7, FRANCES RUNS US OUT OF TOWN AND BEATS ON BREVARD FOR HOURS. WE DON'T HAVE POWER OR USABLE WATER FOR DAYS, BUT WE'RE OK.

Hurricane Frances Dances,
and does a 'slow blow' on Florida, and gets rida alumni to work on PoMo.

But not for ever mo'
We are back, without slack
And will attack
What's left to be done
This issue is late, due to this fate,
But it did get done, now you have fun.



Personals ...

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

Transitions

We look forward to transition inputs.

Hopes of Health for ...

Alumni share hopes for themselves or others
None Received

And Others In Our Thoughts

In Memoriam

Johnny Ponds (see below)
Nils Hofmann (see below)

Rest in Eternal Peace

Johnny Webster Ponds

SUBMITTED BY CHARLES M. ECKERT, CMSGT, USAF RETIRED.
THE WASHINGTON POST OF JULY 4, 2004 CONTAINS THE OBITUARY
OF JOHNNY PONDS WHO SERVED AFTAC FOR 21 YEARS.

Johnny Webster Ponds, Mathematician

Johnny Webster Ponds, 85, a retired Air Force mathematician and the former chairman of the mathematics department at Bowie State University who helped establish its computer science program, died of cancer June 22 at his home in Washington, DC.

At Bowie State, Mr. Ponds rose from associate professor of math, to department chairman, to acting associate dean for academic affairs, to special assistant to the vice-president for academic affairs. Upon retirement, the university named its Computer Science Study Center after him.

He coordinated the establishment of the school's dual degree in engineering and mathematics with George Washington University and the University of Maryland in 1976, and served as its director.

Bowie State awarded him a presidential proclamation in 1994, and the state gave him a governor's citation in 1995.

Mr. Ponds was born in Prosperity, SC and at an early age moved with his family to Spartanburg, SC. He earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from what was then called North Carolina A&T State

College in 1940.

During World War II, he was a commissioned officer in the Army Corps of Engineers and served in the South Pacific. Upon discharge, he earned a master's degree in math from Howard University. He later completed graduate studies in mathematics at American University and taught as an instructor of mathematics at West Virginia State College from 1947 to 1951.

In 1951, Mr. Ponds moved his family back to Washington, when he accepted a position with the Air Force Technical Applications Center. He worked as a senior mathematician for the next 21 years, and retired as a supervisory mathematician in 1972. He then went to work at Bowie State.

Charles adds: "I had the honor of serving as NCOIC of Mr. Ponds' Mathematics Branch of TD-5 from 1964 to 1972. As an aside that tells a 'tale of the times,' although he completed his graduate studies at American University, he did not 'graduate.' This was because in the 40s' American University refused to give him his Ph.D. because they had never granted a doctorate to a Black man. He never forgave them for that."

Nils Hofmann

BILL SCHMIED, 8/3/03

Today I received a card from Darley Hofmann in Montrose, Colorado, informing us of the death of her husband Nils. I quote:

"Just a note to let you know that Nils passed away on June 21, 2004. He had lung surgery on May 4th for fluid that had congealed around his right lung. We thought he was doing so much better after he came home as he was able to do some work in the yard. So it was very unexpected. He had very fond memories of his time with AFTAC."

Nils has been a member of the Colorado chapter since its beginning in Feb 1991, and along with the card I got today, Darley enclosed a check for current dues. I thought this was noteworthy. Her address is: 59253 Spring Creek Rd, Montrose, CO 81401. FYI, Montrose is located about 260 miles WSW of Denver.

DWIGHT MCCARTY ADDED:

Nils went through the B School at Lowry from Feb-Sep 1960. He was an E4, A1C, at the time and taught a lot of us E1/2's the ropes about being in the AF. I believe he had been with AFTAC previously and was a cross trainee from supply. Also I think he had an older brother who served either in AFTAC B systems or somewhere in the seismic field. AFTAC in those days was known as the 1035th Field Activities Group (at least our surveillance fields, A, B, Q, H, Z etc).



Chapter News

FROM THE TOP

JUDY MILAM, 8/28/04

It was a pleasure to welcome the new AFTAC Commander, Col Guy Turner, at our August meeting, and we look forward to seeing him at future meetings.

As I come upon the home stretch as President of the FL Alumni Association, I look back and realize that this is a really easy job. Being President has special rewards, and since we have an unwritten rule that a President will not serve two consecutive years, someone else will be doing the job next year. The following have agreed to run for office, and the election will be held at our October General Membership Meeting: **Jack Jackson** for President, **Carol Snyder** for Vice President, **Pat Snyder** for Secretary, and **Joe Goldian** for Treasurer. As you can see, we have only one name per office, but that doesn't mean we can't add others to the slate of officers. If you would like to run for office, please give me a call (321-254-8878) ASAP, or email me at jem2415@worldnet.att.net. At our August meeting, we polled the regular attendees and found no others present who would be willing to run for office, but others can be added to the ballot or nominated at the General Membership Meeting (with their permission). I urge all members, especially those in the local area, to attend the General Membership Meeting, which will be held immediately after the fall golf tournament to be held on 15 October at the Patrick AFB golf course. Since we can't be sure what time the tournament will end, an exact time can't be given, but the golfers generally start coming in from the course around 6 PM. Tournament prizes will be awarded while everyone eats. If you would like to join the golfers and tournament volunteers and eat before the meeting, the cost is \$8, and we need to know if you plan to eat so we can order enough meals. Remember, though, you do NOT need to play golf or eat with the golfers to attend the 'General Membership Meeting.'

When I said that being President is a really easy job, I wasn't exaggerating. The regular meeting attendees just seem to step up and volunteer to get things done. Our three main events each year are the two golf tournaments and the

winter snowball banquet. We also volunteer to monitor the beer wagon at the AFTAC spring picnic. These events don't "just happen," but we do manage to get them done without much stress on any one person. Of course, we have such faithful volunteers on this year's executive board – Pat Snyder (Vice President & clothing sales rep), Al Moy (Secretary), Joe Goldian (Treasurer), John & Chris Horsch (POST MONITOR editors), and Randy Vlassick (Membership chair) – as well as those who set up the special events – Frank Hall, Sam Sorice, Pat Snyder, Lloyd French, Deborah Carson – and others who regularly (and sometimes irregularly) show up at monthly meetings to help conduct the business and do their part to get things done – Eileen Best, John & Rae Ann Coffey, Mike Dobrin, Carl Gailey, Jack Jackson, Joe Marshall, Jim Payne, Swede Swansen, etc. We sure would like to add your name to this list next year. If you feel inclined to attend the monthly meetings, meet us at the Outback, behind the HQ building, at 5:25 PM on the second Monday of the month, to be escorted into the building by active duty members.

I thank those who entrusted the job of President to me (my first time being President of anything), and I look forward to just doing my part to keep the Association running in the coming year.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board Members

Elected

President-Judy Milam	Vice-Pat Snyder
Secretary-Al Moy	Treasurer-Joe Goldian

Appointed

Activities-CMSgt Lloyd French	Heritage Hall Committee, TBD
Hospitality-Judy Milam	Internet-Mike Black - Clark Creery
Membership-Randy Vlassick	Newsletter-John and Christel Horsch
Publicity-Swede Swansen	Sage Shop Mailing-Carol Snyder

#####

A Few Minutes of the Minutes

2004.06.09, 07.12, 08.09

Constitution and By-Laws: The constitution and by-laws were submitted to the base together with the annual financial report and the request for insurance waiver. All annual requirements are fulfilled. **CLOSED**

AF Memorial Donation: Several email were sent to those on-file, and an article was posted in the previous Post-Monitor, inviting those interested in contributing to the memorial with the association to have their donation in by 1 August. We appreciate everyone's support for this project, and our donation will be truly appreciated. See article on page 6. **CLOSED**

Tax-Exempt Name Change: The name change request has been submitted to the State and Al Moy will follow up until it is complete. **OPEN**

NewAFTAC Commander: Judy Milam provided Col Turner an overview and history of the Alumni Association that included the normal activities in the California, Colorado, and local chapters. The next worldwide reunion, to be held in Sacramento from 12 to 15 May, 2005, was specifically noted. Col Turner applauded the Association's activities and remarked that he looked forward to participating in future events.

CLOSED

Annual Balance Sheet. The Association's early history was discussed, in particular the fact that the association had been dissolved once and then restarted. The limited number of annual members remains a concern due to the limits this places on annual dues revenue. Several additional options were discussed to limit annual expenditures, including electronic publishing of the association's newsletter, the Post-Monitor. While the board was not ready to adopt the suggestion at this time, they did feel it was worth looking into. The annual balance sheet that was provided to the 45th Services Squadron this Spring was reviewed and indicated that the Association remained in the black through 2003. The board felt this satisfied the immediate concern and suggested the item be closed. Future annual reports should be reviewed by the board with this concern in mind. **CLOSED**

Fall Golf Tournament and General Membership Meeting. Frank Hall has completed most of the arrangements. There will be a 1300 shotgun start at Patrick's Manatee Golf Course. Food following the tournament will include ham, turkey, and roast beef subs. Fees will be \$35.00 for members and \$40.00 for non-members. The cost for those wishing to join us for the meal and the meeting only will be \$8.00. Jack Jackson will check with Al's Trophy Shop to see if they would donate trophies. Pat will begin to advertise in the building and Frank will ask Sam Sorice to work business contributions, and to run the tournament. Frank and Bev will be away on vacation. **OPEN**

Elections: Elections will be held at the October meeting. An initial slate of potential officers has been assembled. The names will be published in the September Post Monitor. **OPEN**

Editor's Note: The Association's Presidents Column (From the Top, preceding page) contains our current slate of potential officers.

NEW BUSINESS:

Membership Directory: Carl Gailey noted that we need to begin working on a new membership directory as the last one was sent out in August of 2003. **OPEN**



OTHER CHAPTER'S NEWS

COLORADO CHAPTER, NEWSLETTER

ECHOES

President, Jack Smith-Vice President, Earl Pierce
Treasurer, Bill Schmied-Newsletter Editor, Bryce Dunn
Webmaster, Bill Harris
Website @ <http://www.aftacco.org/>

Planning Committee Announces 2004 Events!

FROM THE WEBSITE AND FEB NEWSLETTER

Fall Dinner, 11/13, Aurora Hills Golf Club.

Det 45: 2004 1st Qtr Award Winners, TSgt Doug Thomas-Schepeler NCO of the Quarter, and A1C Robert Connell, Airman of the Quarter.

POMO NOTE: THERE WAS NOT SPACE FOR THIS EMAIL SENT TO THE CO CHAPTER LAST ISSUE BUT WE BELIEVE IT INTERESTING ENOUGH TO 'CARRY OVER' TO THIS ISSUE.

Jim Hall-Fort Worth, TX

DON'T THINK WE HAVE EVER MET BUT I AM AN OLD 1009th/AFTACER AND NOW A MEMBER OF YOUR CHAPTER OF THE OLD OUTFIT. AM RESPONDING TO YOUR NOTE IN THE LATEST "ECHOES" NEWSLETTER REQUESTING INPUTS FOR SAME. I AM TOO OLD TO REMEMBER MANY NAMES NOW BUT HAVE A SHORT INCIDENT ABOUT THE PINEDALE DETACHMENT, ERA 1973.

BACKGROUND: I WAS IN 1009th/AFTAC FROM JULY 1958-OCTOBER 1968 SERVING IN THE WASHINGTON D.C./ALEXANDRIA, VA HEADQUARTERS, THE WIESBADEN, GERMANY FIELD OFFICE AND THE SACRAMENTO FIELD OFFICE BEFORE IT BECAME "TOD," TRAVELING EXTENSIVELY ON STAFF VISITS TO MANY OF OUR WORLDWIDE DETACHMENTS AND MAKING MANY FRIENDS, I RECOGNIZE A FEW ON YOUR CURRENT ROSTER, BUT THERE ARE MANY, MANY NEW ONES WHO NEVER HEARD OF ME.

INCIDENT: IN 1973 I WAS THE BASE COMMANDER AT HILL AFB, UTAH, WHEN MY COMMISSARY OFFICER CALLED ME AND SAID THERE WERE SOME PEOPLE FROM SOME AIR FORCE DETACHMENT IN PINEDALE WANTING TO LOAD UP A LARGE TRUCK WITH GROCERIES AND OTHER SUPPLIES. WHAT SHOULD HE DO? I DON'T REMEMBER WHO THE PINEDALE REPRESENTATIVE WAS NOW, BUT ON THE PHONE HE EXPLAINED TO ME WHO HE WAS, THAT THE DETACHMENT WAS PART OF AFTAC AND HILL WAS THE NEAREST BASE WHERE THEY COULD GET COMMISSARY ITEMS. AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, I WAS SURPRISED TO HEAR FROM AN AFTAC DETACHMENT, TOLD MY COMMISSARY OFFICER TO "LOAD THEM UP" AND WENT TO MEET THE TRUCK CREW. IT WAS A DELIGHT TO MEET PEOPLE FROM MY PAST DUTIES IN AFTAC AND ASSURED THEM OF CONTINUED SUPPLY IN THE

FUTURE. SEVERAL YEARS LATER MY WIFE AND I WERE TRAVELING THROUGH THE NORTHWEST AND STOPPED IN AT THE PINEDALE DETACHMENT AND VISITED THE DET COMMANDER AND WIFE IN THEIR HOME (DON'T RECALL NAMES NOW-MIGHT HAVE BEEN BILL BRAUKMAN, I HAD VISITED HIM AT HIS DETACHMENT IN THE MID-EAST WHEN I WAS STATIONED IN WIESBADEN AND KNEW HIM LATER), OTHER THAN MY ASSIGNMENT AT HILL, AFTAC WAS THE BEST, MOST INTERESTING ASSIGNMENT I HAD IN MY CAREER-SURROUNDED BY ABSOLUTELY THE BEST PROFESSIONALS I HAVE EVER SERVED WITH.

MIGHT NOT BE WORTH PRINTING, BUT HERE IT IS ANYWAY. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK YOU GUYS ARE DOING. AM GETTING TOO OLD TO TRAVEL EXTENSIVELY BUT MADE ONE OF YOUR REUNIONS "WAY BACK," A COUPLE OF FLORIDA REUNIONS AND TWO OR THREE AT SACRAMENTO. GREAT OUTFITS. TALLY HO

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

DEPOT FALLOUT

President-Rod Hinkle; Vice-Joe Johnson; Board Director-Ken Denbleyker; Asst.-Dave Tarquino; Dir at Large-Orv Pritchard; Treasurer Bart Carter; Asst.-Charlie Penn; Membership-Danny Beach; Secretary Marge Iske; Asst-Ken Breitwieser; Newsletter Editor-Dale Klug; and Asst/Webmaster-Bob Fitzgerald.
Website @ <http://www.aftacwest.org/>

WorldWide Reunion 2005 Update

JACK ALLISON

We signed a contract with the Holiday Inn, Northeast, Sacramento. We have 50 rooms reserved each night; May 12, 13, & 14, 2005 with checkout on Sunday the 15th; all rooms are "Kings" with possible switch to or addition of doubles, triples and double/doubles. All rooms are \$89/night plus 12% tax. Check-in: 4:00PM; Checkout: 12:00 noon.

Schedule: 2005 AFTAC Reunion is set for eve of 12 May to morning of 15 May 2005 to be held in Sacramento at the Holiday Inn Northeast
 5/12 5-7pm Registration/Welcome Reception (McClellan Suite)
 5/13 3-11pm Hospitality Suite Open (McClellan Suite)
 5/13 6-9pm Cocktail Reception
 5/14 3-11pm Hospitality Suite Open (McClellan Suite)
 5/14 6pm-12am Reception/Dinner/Dance
 5/15 (time tbd) Breakfast Buffet (No host @ Aces Restaurant in Hotel)

The cut-off date for individuals to make their reservations is 4/21/05. Keep watching our website(<http://www.aftacwest.org/events.htm>) and this newsletter for further developments.

MONITORing Active-Duty Doings' from around the AFTAC Command Section



Col. Guy D. Turner



CMSgt Lloyd S. French

Commander, 2004.07 previously Deputy PM, SIGINT Support to IO, NSA, Fort Meade, MD. He attended the AF Academy graduating in '80 (BS in Civil Engineering) and in '85 received an MBA. His professional education includes Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, Air War College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He is a command senior navigator with over 1800 flight hours. He is married to the former Sara Ann Davis. They have three children: Adam, Rebecca, and Benjamin.

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



AFTAC gets new commander

TSGT. BILL LINDNER, AFTAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Col. Guy D. Turner assumed command of the Air Force Technical Applications Center during a Change-of-Command ceremony at the center on July 15. Colonel Turner takes over from Col. Craig V. Bendorf who commanded the center since Dec. 10, 2002. Colonel Bendorf has been selected for an assignment with the Secretary of the Air Force at the Pentagon. Colonel Turner previously served as Deputy Chief, SIGINT Support to Information Operations, NSA, at Ft. Meade, MD.

As commander, he will oversee the worldwide mission of operating the U.S. Atomic Energy Detection System (USAEDS). The USAEDS is a global network of nuclear event detection sensors that record disturbances underground, underwater, in the atmosphere, and in space. The nuclear event detection mission is directly linked to the nuclear treaty monitoring mission, which monitors signatory countries' compliance with several nuclear treaties.

Colonel Turner is a graduate of Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and the Air War College. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the US Air Force Acad-

emy in 1980. He also earned a Masters Degree in Business Administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University, NJ, in 1985 and another Masters Degree at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Wash. D. C., in 2002.

Maj. Gen. Paul **Lebras**, commander of Air Intelligence Agency, officiated the ceremony. AFTAC is administratively supported by AIA.



Gen Lebras, Chief French, Col Turner...Col Turner address troops
Photos by Jim Laviska

COLONEL GUY D. TURNER

EXTRACTED FROM THE OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY

Colonel Guy D. Turner is the Commander of the Air Force Technical Applications Center, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla. AFTAC operates and maintains the United States Atomic Energy Detection System to monitor foreign compliance with the treaties limiting nuclear testing. AFTAC's 700 people are responsible for detecting special events in the atmosphere, underwater, underground and in space; determining if they are nuclear; and reporting them to national command authorities.

Colonel Turner was born September 9, 1958, at Craig Air Force Base in Selma, Alabama. He has served in the Tactical Air Command, the US Air Forces in Europe and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

FLIGHT INFORMATION: Rating, Senior Navigator, Flight hours: More than 1800, Aircraft flown: T-37, T-38, T-43, F-111 A, F-111 E, and F-111. A Certified commercial pilot with over 900 hours command pilot time.

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS Distinguished Flying Cross, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters and Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters

New CC Discusses Assignment

BY TECH. SGT. BILL LINDNER, AFTAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

According to Col. Guy Turner, new commander of the Air Force Technical Applications Center (AFTAC), his main role is to help keep AFTAC pointed in the right direction. While mission success is the key task in any military unit, Colonel Turner constantly stresses that the way to best accomplish the mission is to "take care of the people."

"I am very focused on the mission, but I fully subscribe to the saying, 'mission first, people always,' said Col Turner. "My responsibility here is to enable our people to achieve success by providing a combination of the right work environment with the right resources."

Col Turner has the good fortune of taking over a very

experienced organization.

"The first thing I noticed when I arrived was the people have a lot of knowledge," said Colonel Turner. "Plus, they genuinely seem to enjoy working here. That combination leads to a great work environment."

The leadership already in place also impressed him, "I'm very excited about our senior leadership; officer, enlisted and civilian," said Col Turner. "I'm especially pleased about our chief master sergeant corps. They are top-notch and really have a sense of the heartbeat of our people."

In his speech during the AFTAC change of command ceremony July 16, Col Turner said he would always be available to listen to suggestions on ways to improve. He plans to lead by establishing open lines of communication at all levels.

"A leader has to make sure the people in the unit understand his expectations," said Col Turner. "Communication between leadership and the workforce is essential for success."

Col Turner also plans to ensure AFTAC personnel get the proper training and equipment to make sure they can accomplish their mission.

"If necessary, I want to upgrade and replace any equipment our people need to do their jobs," said Col Turner. "This will ensure they are empowered to sustain the level of excellence they currently maintain."

The positive attitude Col Turner has encountered at AFTAC is especially important in this post-September 11 period.

"Since 9-11, I truly feel we have been defending our homeland. Pride in serving in the military has increased," said Col Turner. "In daily work and on deployments I see this pride reflected in every service member I meet."

When Col Turner talks about AFTAC and the challenges facing America, he always mentions the importance of the people assigned here.

"I want to take care of and empower the people of AFTAC to ensure it remains a center of excellence," he said.

National Softball Association Military World Tournament

EMAIL, PAT SYNDER, 7/22/04

The AFTACers who participated in the 'National Softball Association Military World' Tournament are:

MSgt Josh **Williams**

TSgt Scott **Harris**

TSgt John **Howorth**

SSgt Brad **Schultz**

Mr. Steve **Kallemeres**

The team finished in First Place in the B Division -- woo, woo!

Sage Footnote: Way to go. **Continue the Tradition.** We're sure these five-AFTACers represented the command, and the Patrick AFB Team, in a sterling manner.

FEATURE ARTICLES**COMMANDER'S RECALL**

Background: In light of the ongoing process that is the command, and a desire to record the impressions of this process "from the top," we ask previous commanders to give us a synopsis of their time with the command. We have received these impressions from many commanders to include Gen's Hall (deceased, 1999) (reCall from 1970 speech provided by George Waters), Silliman, Gordon, Clapper, O'Lear, Bingham and Shaffer and Col's Meisenheimer, Wigington and Beatty. We thank these gentlemen for taking the time and effort to share their enlightening remembrances.

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

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

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

NOTE: Gen (Ret) Jaeger attended 'Reunion 2003' and agreed to file his recall. We have corresponded with him and we look forward to his 'reCall' for the near future.

In January, George Waters sent us a very interesting package. It contained a hard to read copy of a document from long ago. The document was hard to read because it was a copy several times removed from the typewritten original, and there were many hand written changes. George also wrote:

"I am pleased that you will use Gen Hall's address. I think many of his remarks are relevant today. I worked for him at the HQ in Va. and found him to be fair and forthright. I spent a month on a trip through the South Pacific with him as a member of his staff on "Ole Bullet," the AFTAC airplane. I could tell you some stories regarding his penchant for being on time. I'm not sure how I came about having a copy of his speech, but I'm glad I did. He was in all respects an officer and a gentleman."

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a most interesting and informative speech when taken in the context of its time and place. It reminds us of times past, the way things were, and even, the way some things still are. This is over 30 years ago and recalls a time in the command that many of our alumni were a part of. We apologize for the picture, but it is the best we could do.

We made the editorial decision, because of the type of 'memento' it is, that it should be a 'Commander's reCall' feature. Also, because of its length, and our wish to preserve the speech 'as it was,' it will be presented in two parts, so here we proudly present:

General Linscott A. Hall (Deceased 1999)

The Command's Eighth Commander
ENLISTED DINING-IN, 1970.04.07, PART II OF II

As you recall, Gen Hall was explaining why he was in the military as we finished Part I.

I was able to go to West Point, get a commission, chose a wife rather than a horse, and went to Hawaii for three wonderful years. Isolated from the world as Hawaii was in those days, we buried our heads in the beautiful coral sands like so many ostriches and forgot about the problems on the mainland, in Europe, in Asia, until World War II crashed onto our doorstep.



GEN Linscott A. Hall
August 1966 - May 1970

I think history will generally confirm the fact that in times of great national crisis brought about from without, the internal struggles and woes are quickly healed in an effort to unify the country against the common foe. I hope that I am wrong, but it may very well take something like the British burning of Washington, Lee's advance into Maryland, the sinking of the Maine, the torpedoing of the Lusitania, or the bombing of Pearl Harbor, to shock the people of this country back to their collective senses. We probably did not all come to this country on the same ship but there's no doubt in my mind but that we are all in the same boat now.

When I look back on some of those major events following Pearl Harbor and how the people of the country, including the press and radio, rallied behind a shocked and confused government, and how what appeared to have been ordinary men suddenly became great and dynamic leaders, one's confidence in the American people is greatly restored.

I know that I am frequently both amazed and amused when I note that one of my contemporaries has just been appointed a high place in the government. In some cases I wonder whether I had misjudged him or whether the government has gone to hell. I think, most of us would agree, that people of real ability will eventually reach the top. It is when those of mediocre ability reach the top that I am amazed. I'm sure all of us have observed those who reach the top by tromping on the toes, fingers, and head of their friends and acquaintances; as well as those that are shoved and boosted to the top by friends or relatives; however it is the great mass of us the pluggers, who struggle up the ladder of life one rung at a time that are always of interest. I think that I might qualify myself among that great mass of pluggers, climbing the ladder of life, moving up a few rungs at a time, slipping back one or two rungs, then reaching up for another rung. In any event, in this struggle I never reached the top, but I am sure a whiz at climbing ladders.

In my years in the service, and particularly my sixteen years in the Washington area, I have been tremendously impressed with two things: First, the importance of the experienced Serviceman, and Secondly, the importance of knowing people. In these days of continuous pressures to reduce the military budget, while at the same time demanding increasing efforts and responsibilities on the Service, the trained and experienced Serviceman has become more important than ever before. I am sure you've heard many times that trained and dedicated people are the nerve and muscle of any organization.

I am a great believer that the people make the organization, not vice versa, and the spirit and dedication of any outfit are clearly reflected in the interest, enthusiasm, experience, and responsiveness of the members of any organization. It makes little difference whether we are talking about family, squadron, base, civilian community, or this country.

Also, did you ever realize that the trained Serviceman is probably the most valuable, and certainly one of the most flexible, items of our military resources? Thousands of dollars, your dollars and mine as taxpayers, are spent in selecting, equipping, supporting, and training these individuals. Look yourself over, and look your neighbor over, you are looking at a very valuable military resource.

The Serviceman is also one of the few military items that does not become obsolete in a few years. As a matter of fact, with proper training, supervision, experience, and leadership, he is the only military item I can think of that improves with age. Oh, we all know of some, who were obso-

FEATURE ARTICLES

lete when they enlisted, but the day is over when the first sergeant says, "When I want some dumb SOB to do a job, I'll do it myself."

Commercial outfits are also well aware that the experienced Serviceman is an excellent source of trained and talented personnel for their companies, and many excellent financial offers are made to our people. In many cases our people are tempted, or do leave the Service at the very peak of their military career, so that their really effective period in the Service is far too short.

It is important to recognize, however, that though the Service may lose the benefits of this experienced man and has to develop new trained replacements, the civilian community, and thus the country has usually gained an effective, dedicated, and responsible individual and family.

A second point I would like to make with you is the importance of meeting and knowing people; introducing yourself and learning peoples' names, particularly those with whom you are going to work. I am sure many of you are aware of statement: "I love mankind - it's people I work with I can't stand." In spite of that, it has been my experience that if you know, or at least have met and remember the name of the individual with whom you are working or requesting something, the chances of getting effective and rapid results are greatly increased. This is true even though you may not necessarily care for the individual concerned but at least you know what to expect. An acquaintance of mine was once described as even-tempered - always mean!

For example: How often have you submitted through channels a request or order for something and, after some weeks and no action, you have traced it and found it lying in someone's hold basket? I would guess several times. On the other hand how many times have you telephoned a member of your bowling league, a golfing acquaintance, or a fellow PTAer, who also happens to be located in the channel for work orders, and told this guy you have a piece of paper coming his way and to be on the lookout? You don't have to guess twice to know which technique moves the paper along the faster. This is true, no matter what level or whether in the Service or not.

I have already mentioned a few ways of meeting people and there are many others. As many of you know, Washington has a reputation as a great place for semi-official cocktail parties. It is also generally believed that many important decisions are made at these gatherings. Actually, the major purpose served by these parties is the opportunity to meet people with whom you are likely to work. I doubt if many, or really any major decisions are made, but attending them is important and it is work not only for the men but for their ladies as well. I would hate to try to estimate the number of hours that Mrs. Hall and I have spent at such gatherings or the weird things we have eaten and drunk in the interest of the Air Force; however, we have met many important and interesting people and many of them have helped us get things done in this Washington merry-go-round and some of whom we now consider lifelong and good friends.

Now I would like to take a few moments to talk to you like a father. There are three things to remember - try to be presentable, punctual, and personable. It makes little difference whether we are discussing the military service, government or civilian work, the same guidelines apply. I think everyone understands what I mean by being presentable, particularly in days when the hair is long and skirts are short, males wear ruffles and necklaces, and females pants and pon-

chos, hats look like flop-eared hounds, and with hip huggers navel movements are no longer secret. In spite of all the great enthusiasm for individuality of dress and appearance, everyone seems to agree, that you can still judge a person's character by how he or she looks., and also that the best jobs generally go to those who are clean, clean shaven, well groomed, and conventionally dressed.

As far as being punctual and personable are concerned, if you are punctual, people will generally appreciate that you are considerate and that you can save many people a great deal of time, worry, and trouble. Those of you who have planned any of our trips to our overseas installations feel perhaps that we go into too much detailed scheduling, but keeping to such minute to minute itinerary is the only way one can accomplish everything that should be done but also, in the long run, it is easier on all concerned, except perhaps the old man and the project officer. I must say that planning such a trip for a group from headquarters is difficult enough, but when you add your wife and her itinerary to the program - you have a really complicated problem. I remember late one night after a very full day, when Mrs. Hall and I had been going full speed over separate itineraries, she picked up her itinerary card which showed the minute by minute program for the day and said, "Oh good, it says here 2300-0700 hours - Free Time!" Never the less, she, reluctantly, and everyone else agreed, that being punctual and keeping to a tight schedule, was probably the best way to do all that had to be done.

Finally, by being personable I mean, as I mentioned earlier, knowing people and getting them to know you. Anyone who has been in Washington for any length of time, appreciates that one really can't get too much done unless you know the people who must take the actions or make the decisions on items of interest to you.

During the past three years, Mrs. Hall and I have had many opportunities to visit our people all over the world. I hastily add that, although Mrs. Hall worked hard and put in almost as many working hours as I, we paid for her trips ourselves. During these visits we have seen families living under a great variety of conditions, and I thought you would be interested in some of our observations, as at some time you might very well find yourselves in similar situations, either the visitor or the visited. You would also be interested to know that although we visited families in Europe, the Middle East, Far East, and Latin America, some of our most isolated stations are in Wyoming. In our travels, we have experienced all the joys of travel in faraway places, as well as such sorrows as the 'Green Death' that is Montezuma's Revenge, Turkey Trots, Bangkok Belly, etc.

Some of the many things that we both noticed were the high caliber of the men and wives, how different they all are, but how attractive and how much initiative most of them have. We also found, that usually the more isolated the station, the higher the morale and more active the group. Frankly, I was amazed at the number of our people who actively participate in local community activities, whether overseas or in the States, also the number who take correspondence courses to improve their education and technical know-how. It certainly seemed clear that the greater the challenge to both the men and their families, the greater and the more enthusiastic the response and the higher the morale. In general, these visits were a most satisfying experience, and tended to verify much of what I have already mentioned to you.

FEATURE ARTICLES

NOTE: The editors again remind you to consider 'time and place' as you read the following 'story' ending Gen Hall's speech.

In closing, I am reminded of a French cavalry toast I became acquainted with in the early days of the North African Campaign. For those of you who speak French, it goes, "A nos femmes, a nos cheveaux; Et lea hommes qui les montre." Which translated means: "To our women, to our horses; and the men who mount them." I'd like to paraphrase that and propose a toast to AFTAC: "To our ladies, and to our techniques, and to our men who man them. To AFTAC."

I REMEMBER ...**LRD HISTORY BY THOSE WHO WERE THERE**

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS We solicit your unclassified memories of your career (events, people, etc.). Forward these to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN Remembrances column, to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2).

The 'I Remember' HONOR ROLL: Jack Binkerd, John Horsch, Jim Payne, Tom Ciambrone, Robert "Bobby" Jones (deceased), Mary Miller, Jim Davis, Rick Holderman (2 articles), Carl Raines, Dan Burk, Harry Bedsworth, Walter Franks, Bill Braukman, George Kraus (2), George Waters (2), Marvin Ross, Joe Marshall, Chuck Conrad and this issue, Joe Johnson, John Bright, Robert Mason, Curt Smith (Smitty) (2) Jim Lillethun (this issue)

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

Feedback to Smitty, Part I,
Outstanding, continuing reminiscences. We have heard many positive comments about your articles. I particularly enjoy your detailed remembrances and writings about the specifics of 'Det Life' - i.e., film handling, generators, cabling, etc. Thanks so much Smitty ... we know how much work it is to dredge these things up from memory and get them written down, but you are SO GOOD at it.

The Editors

THE COMMAND I KNEW

MSGT (RET) CURTIS E. SMITH (A.K.A. SMITTY)

"THE GOOD OLD DAYS"

Continued: Part II

After two years at Team 204, Ladd AFB, Fairbanks, Alaska my next assignment was to Team 141, Douglas, Wyoming. Douglas is located 135 miles north of Cheyenne, Wyoming and at the time I was there, it had a population of about 2,800 people. The people of Douglas accepted us as one of them and for the most part we all got along pretty good.

There were exceptions of course, but it was usually because some of the younger guys didn't like us AF guys dating their girls. Words were exchanged sometimes, but as a general rule, fights were averted. I was witness to two fights (and came close to getting into two) while stationed there. The first was between one of my buddies and a local guy (it wasn't over a girl, but a snide remark the local guy made about the AF), and my buddy came away better than the local (Remember Yost, Alex?). The other was between two of my AF buddies at one of our parties (no names) and I got a busted lip trying to break that one up. Lesson learned!

I really enjoyed being in the AF and being stationed in such a small town. Being able to draw quarters pay, plus \$2.57 a day for rations, was a distinct privilege that most two stripers at that time in the AF never experienced. Remember now, \$2.57 in 1959 would buy a lot of food and apartments were cheap, so we thought we were living the good life. I remem-

ber the apartment Dave Olson, Everett Yost and I rented after Alex went PCS. The rent was \$70.00/month and at one time there were five of us living there. \$14.00/person/month ain't too shabby! It had two humongous bedrooms (each had two double beds), a living room with two couches, an easy chair and a fireplace, separate dining room and a small kitchen. The only drawback was it only had one bathroom without a shower. It also had a long porch with railings in front. Another advantage was that there was an apartment below us, which was sub-buried, and the heat from it would heat our place so our heating bill was practically nil. Four of the guys were shift workers so it was very seldom that all five of us were at home.

Team 141 was located on Fred Grants ranch twenty-eight miles southwest of Douglas, Wyoming. It was a seismic station like Team 204 and the Central Recording Building (CRB) was similar to 204's with a few minor exceptions. In fact all of the CRBs in AFTAC were built along the same lines. Here, my workload went to about one fourth of what it had been in Alaska. A seismic Team/Det at that time had about five hundred line items in its supply whereas a B/Q Team/Det, which 204 was, had close to 3000 line items.

When the weather was good and there was no snow on the ground, it took approximately forty-five minutes to get to work and the same going home. I knew one guy who made it from the Det to town in less than thirty minutes. You can bet he was hauling you know what! In the wintertime, depending upon how much snow was on the ground and how many snowdrifts we had to fight our way through, or if we had to take the long way to work, the time varied. There were days when we got to the Det in time for lunch and then we turned around and went home.

In those days, four wheel drive vehicles were a luxury that the AF didn't provide so one either became an excellent driver or else dug the vehicles out of a lot of snow drifts. In fact, when I arrived in January 1959, Team 141 had three GSA vehicles; a station wagon, a carry-all and a pickup truck, all two wheel drive, plus two AF Weasels (tracked vehicles). One good thing about GSA vehicles is you don't have to wash and wax them---just take it to the service station, tell the man what you want done and put it on the credit card. Another plus for AFTAC! Some of us even worked part time at those service stations so we got paid to wash our own vehicles. Not bad, huh?

In three an a half years, I only had to spend one night at the Det and that was because it got so cold the brakes froze up on our vehicles. One winter the snow was so deep that only about six inches of the tops of the fence post beside the road were visible. We drove to the end of pavement with our regular vehicles, about fourteen miles, and the rest of the way we traveled in the track vehicles. Pretty bumpy, but at least we didn't have to dig out of any snowdrifts. As you have probably guessed, we were the only ones doing any traveling off the paved roads.

Lots of funny things can happen at a small AF detachment or at least to some people they are funny, but to others not quite so funny. I'll let you decide. One spring day in 1959, the NCOIC told me to drive the pickup truck around to the back of the building and back it up close to the ops room door to facilitate loading a piece of equipment to be turned into the base. I complied and the piece of equipment was loaded without incident. However, when I tried to drive up the slope, the back wheels started spinning (ground was soggy from a snowfall) and splattered mud all over the Det

FEATURE ARTICLES

wall including the door. After parking the truck in front, I went back and like a good trooper took a garden hose and started washing the wall down. The commander, Capt. Clentis **Bailey**, heard the noise and opened the door to see what was going on and got a face full of water. Never, never, never spray the commander with a garden hose!! It's a cardinal sin. Horrified, I flipped the hose to the left (wrong way) and a stream of water went through an open window (CRBs didn't have AC in those days) into the operations room. And wouldn't you know it, some idiot operator or maintenance man (gotta blame somebody) had left the door open to one of the equipment racks and we all know hot electronic equipment and water doesn't mix too well. They (operator, maintenance man, NCOIC and CO) didn't kill me (close), but I sure got a lot of dirty looks. Never did ask how they explained that outage to Sq and Hqs on the operations log, mainly because I was 'afeared' for my life.

The other incident involves a guy named **Jack Wallace**. Jack was changing the film on the Mark II Recorder one day when we had a power failure (the procedure for changing the film was to lay the strips to be loaded by the recorder and hang the ones taken off around your neck). All Dets have generators for backup power and a 99 is trained to get it on line as soon as possible when a power failure occurs. Jack had those strips of film hanging around his neck when he came charging out of the dark room into the ops room, realized where he was, (should have seen the look on his face) grabbed his neck with both hands—arms over the film-- and started "crabwalking" back to the darkroom. **TOO LATE!!!** I like to died---funniest thing I had ever seen. The good thing about it was that Jack didn't have to analyze eight hours of data. The bad thing was trying to explain eight hours of lost data to Sq and Hqs. If you told the truth, they wouldn't believe you and if you lied (which we never did, honest!!!) they would say, Yeah, right!! I bet the guys at Sq and Hqs had a score card for each Det to see which ones came up with the best stories about why they lost data. I know for a fact that there were some really good ones that went forward. In those days if you wrote the ops log at a Det, you had to have a good "imagination" or you were in deep sheempsky!! I've seen the NCOIC and maintenance man study a schematic for hours trying to come up with a plausible explanation why data was lost.

While I was at Team 141, I worked with two more of AFTAC's legends; SMSgt (ret) William N. **Alexander** (a.k.a. **ALEX** or **BILL**), and SMSgt (ret) **Pete Sherman**. Gonna run out of legends eventually, folks! Alex lives in the Melbourne area with his lovely wife Helen and Pete lives in the Orlando area with his feisty wife, Louise.

Hi Louise—still love you, kid. Alex and I lived in the same apartment in Douglas and since both of us worked day shift, we usually drove the pickup back and forth to work. He was the one who taught me how to drive through snowdrifts. If there was one thing Alex hated to do it was to have to dig a vehicle out of a snowdrift. Alex was the "BOSS" at the apartment and he used to get us up early on Saturday mornings, and you wouldn't believe how clean that apartment was when we got done. Just a regular old slave driver, that's what he was! Monday through Friday, he and I had a routine that I know he liked. I used to get up first of a morning, shower/shave, get dressed and then wake him up. By the time he got out of the shower, I had breakfast ready—Ham 'n eggs, bacon 'n eggs, or maybe sausage 'n eggs--maybe even grits! ---no cold cereal for us. I know he never

went to work hungry! Right, Alex? When we came home, he would wash the dishes while I started dinner. Usually, he liked what I cooked. I only remember one thing he didn't particularly care for and that was a chicken and noodle dinner I fixed one day. Guess I must have used too much black pepper because I couldn't even eat it. Then, I would take a nap and he would get ready for a date or just go visit someone. About the time he came home, I was heading for the bars downtown, all five of them. This went on for a few months until I met Ruth Ellen **Hess**, who, in 1961 became my wife. Quite a few of the men stationed at Dets in Wyoming married local girls. In fact, Delbe **Solari's** wife, Mickey, is from Douglas and John **Horsch's** wife, Chris, is from Pinedale, Wyoming. All of us are still married to these wonderful ladies so they must make pretty good mates. Right, guys?

Being a supply man at one of AFTAC's seismic Dets in the early days had its advantages. One, the supply was small so I wasn't exactly worked to death. Two, I was my own boss. Usually, if I kept the required parts on hand that were needed to keep the Det operating and passed all inspections, the "old man" and NCOIC left me alone to do my thing. I remember one inspector, I think it was John **McGettigan** from Sq, who walked into the supply room, looked at the highly polished floor and supply bin shelves, checked a few supply cards for posting errors (all entries were typed--very impressive), checked the quantity on about four supply cards against the quantity in the supply bin (the ones I knew he would check) and gave me an "excellent rating". Length of inspection--less than an hour. Loved that kind of inspection!

In those days, if you were stationed in Wyoming, AFTAC had a policy to provide free sunglasses (to combat snow glare) and free boots because the snow and terrain tore them up pretty fast. Just two more reasons to stay in AFTAC! Everyone liked that policy, even me and the admin trooper (we didn't really qualify, supposed to be for 99s only) but I was the supply man and if I didn't tell who would? Besides, we were honorary 99s.

One summer day in 1959, one of the guys made the remark that it would be nice to have a freezer to store their deer and antelope meat in when hunting season began. Knowing how lenient AFTAC was when items of this type were requested, I said "You want a freezer, I'll get you one." They looked at me in disbelief. So, I wrote up a justification for a freezer, sent it to Sq for approval, and ordered the freezer from F.E. Warren AFB, Cheyenne, Wyo. A few weeks later, a twenty-one cubic foot upright freezer was delivered to the Det. Talk about a bunch of happy hunters!

The next thing they wanted was a snowplow to plow the roads to the Det. Now, getting that freezer was easy, but getting a snowplow might be another matter. I looked at them and said, "Ok, can do!" Boy, you should have seen the amazed looks on their faces a couple months later when a "Seventeen ton, dump bed, four wheel drive, angle blade snowplow" was delivered. "To those 99s I was God, I could get anything they wanted"! It took two people, the admin trooper and me to operate that snowplow. One to drive, one to operate the controls for the blade. (Royal goof-off time is what it was). However, we didn't get to keep that snowplow very long. We thought we were doing a super job keeping that road plowed and it would really make it easy, not only for us, but also for the local ranchers to travel back and forth. However, we made a fatal mistake a couple times

FEATURE ARTICLES

while plowing the fourteen miles of unpaved road to the Det--we (me) forgot to lift the blade when we got to side roads going to surrounding ranches. Boy, talk about irate ranchers--- no sense of humor at all ----one would have thought a bunch of sheepmen had moved onto their range instead of just having a couple feet of snow dumped on their exit to the main road!! Goodbye, snowplow!

In the early sixties, AFTAC started to upgrade technology for existing Dets and to increase the number of techniques. Don't know how many new techniques/Dets were activated, but AFTAC personnel went from about five hundred to about thirty five hundred worldwide. About ten years later, AFTAC was back to the old "standbys" it started out with. Since I was at Det 141 (by this time, Det had replaced Team), I was right in the middle of the upgrade. New Long Period (LP) system; Zipagram system---data was now transmitted/zipped to the Hqs Ziproom via telephone lines (the seismic data terminal was known as the Ziproom for a long time until PC (Political Correctness) came into being); Expanded array---from four Benioff seismometers to thirteen Johnson Matheson (JMs), and Developorders replaced the Mark II Recorders for recording/analysis at the Dets ---analysis could now be done on a near real time basis. Approximately eleven minutes after the signal was recorded, it could now be viewed and analyzed. Quite an improvement, and the Developorders lasted a long time. Some Dets might still be using the DEVs for all I know; the Hqs seismic data terminal, which also used Developorders, was replaced by the GSS in 1989. AFTAC sure got its money out of those DEVs.

Data lines (Spiral 4 which comes in quarter mile sections) had to be pulled by hand over sagebrush, gullies, ravines or whatever and laid on the ground so air force personnel from Hill AFB, Utah, could string them up on data poles. Remember, I told you earlier the admin guy and I were "honorary 99s." Now, we had to pay our dues and help do that job. We tried to resign our "honorary" membership, but the real 99s wouldn't let us. Their motto was---"In good times and in bad, once a 99 always a 99."

Folks, that was one helluva job but, being 9 uh AFTACers, we persevered. Then and there, I decided if I was going to be treated like a 99 I would become one and get the same benefits they did. Mainly, faster promotions and "Pro Pay"--\$75.00/month extra. Little did I know that in about three years, supply personnel would be getting promoted with minimum time in grade while the 99s would only promote four percent of the ones eligible. Couldn't win for losing, back then. So, I applied, was accepted, and in June 1962 PCSed to Lowry AFB, Co., to start an eleven month course in the seismic technique.

**AND, PRESENTING OUR NEXT CONTRIBUTOR ...
THE COMMAND I KNEW**

REMINISCENCES ABOUT AFTAC, JIM LILLETHUN, MAY 2004

My involvement with the AFTAC mission began over 50 years ago and spanned a bit over fifteen years - early 1954 to late 1969. It covered what to me were some very interesting times and events.

It began with B school at Ft. Sill in March 1954, went next to Thule AB where I was the last OIC of Team 140, then transferred to WFO in July 1955. I worked in the Materiel Division there for 4 years before reporting in at HQ in Tempo U in August 1959. In mid-62 I went off to Command and Staff College for almost a year before returning to the fold as commander at Det 41X in mid-63. From there I went

back to HQ in the Operations Directorate in July 1965. In early 1968 I actually left AFTAC but worked for its mission as a Program Element Monitor in the Pentagon until September 1969.

Over that time I worked with and learned to know a variety of marvelous people, each of whom was absolutely committed to doing the best possible job for the mission. That in itself was inspiring, a wonderful experience.

The people included, most memorably, Lester Jackson, Jim Dunn, Frank Griffith, Leonard Glaser, Woodie Douthit, Merrill Seaman, Gene Ross, Bill Deem, Earnie Long, Hank Serynek, Denny Back, Harry Lemly, Frank Henley, Jane McCullough, Frank Reed, John McGettigan, Richard Ardell, Art Meek, Pete Sly, Dave Kyser, Frank Dungan, Bill Leone, Bob Gill, Pat Genzler, Doyle Northrup, Don Rock, Harold Moffet, C. D. Johnson, Barney Kuntz, Bart Carter, Jack Allison, Lew Horne, Buck Copeland, Walt French, Harry Bedsworth, Joe Andre, Jerry Rodenhauser, Scot Hall, Karl Dankof, Larry Gordon, Frank Phelps and others I wish I had the presence of mind to recall and list. There was also CMSgt James T. Langley who I met again at WFO in the mid-60s where he was NCOIC of F Troop. I had first met him in 1951 at Hunter AFB where we were in the A&E Sqdn of 2nd BWG. He was NCOIC of the radio shop. He was one of our most senior NCOs, ranking MSgt since early 1942.

I had some interesting adventures over those years. I was in charge of getting Q-3 built at the depot at McClellan. We started the first of 4 runs in late 56. We did final assembly and checkout in-house before sending the equipment and a technician to field stations. I simply assembled much of the original operation and maintenance manual but actually wrote a good bit of it from scratch using data from Alex Opeilia and Bob Duff, designers, at Defense Research Lab (DRL) of Univ. of Texas.

While at WFO in early 59 we hosted Jack Little and his team from NBS come to test the Rapid Read Out (RRO) adjunct to Q-3. You will be interested to know that the original name of the gear was Fast Data Reader (FDR) but that was judged in the Eisenhower era to be politically incorrect. Ergo FDR became RRO.

When first transferred to HQ my work involved getting Welex Inc. going on building production RRO equipment. In late 59 and early 60 I was much involved in designing and outfitting equipment trailers. Recall that in the early 60s to make operating facilities quickly for new stations we many times bumped two 30-foot trailers tail-to-tail. We did this for I, Q and R stations.

The self-imposed objective was to have a trailer with a flat, unimpeded floor of the greatest possible area that could be readily rolled into a C-124 (Old Shakey), the heavy hauler of the day. I well remember making scale cut-outs of trailers and "rolling them up the ramp" into a scale side-view cut-away of the C-124. It worked out that a 30-foot long 10-foot high trailer could have interior headroom of about 6 1/2 feet if one used unusually small wheels on the running gear. I recall that the wheels had 8x16 10 ply tires. We did have some nervous seniors; so after a number of trailers had been built by Kentucky Trailer in Louisville we had a test loading of an empty trailer into a C-124 at the depot in Middletown, PA. It cleared by almost 2 inches, just as planned. John Allred, TDY from my HQ office to see to equipping trailers, saw to the test loading too.

At Det 41X I had the task of over-seeing construction and outfitting of a new masonry building to replace the 4 trailers

FEATURE ARTICLES

(2 Q, 2 I) that were on station. We kept Q-3/RRO going in the trailers until shutdown for conversion to Q-4 in the new building in mid-64.

At this Det we had our own 3-engine power plant, 1 on-line at a time. These were 60 KW machines and supposedly "commercial" power was soon to be connected. But then in late 63 the Thai AF power plant "lost" one of its three 1000KW units and we had to compensate. We converted to a 4-engine power plant running 2 units at any given moment, one on tech and one on the base load. This was essential to carry increased loads. Three 1 1000KW units with 6-cylinder Cummins engines were inside the power plant building. The fourth unit was a 60 KW with a 4-cylinder Cummins sitting outside in the weather. It was attached to the main buss with 4 runs about 75 feet long of double-ought cable.

As you are aware, Thailand is noted for bronze ware, bronze being made of tin and copper. Thailand has internal sources of tin but copper must come from elsewhere. One night in late 64 Det 41X became a source. Sometime around 2 or 3 a.m. two very astute and enterprising kemoys (thieves) used our power man's safety gloves to disconnect the off-line outside generator from the powered main buss. The theft wasn't noticed until daylight. We readily found where the kemoys had taken the 300 feet or so of 00 cable out into the tall grass to whittle the insulation off. One surely wouldn't want to be encumbered by excess baggage! It was a struggle to find replacement cable, but we did find some locally.

What was probably my best contribution to the AFTAC mission occurred after I had left AFTAC itself and had gone to the Pentagon as PEM. It happened this way:

In early 69 we learned that an overseas base previously used by WC-135 samplers was likely not to be available for an upcoming need except, perhaps, at great cost. Well, my associate Lt. Col. Lloyd Smith in USAF Ops had been working the basing problems and he'd been in regular contact with Col. Don Black, the special projects officer in DCS Materiel. Lloyd had learned that most of the pieces needed to convert three more C-135s to refueling receivers were on hand at Tinker AFB. Boeing was agreeable to quickly making up 3 full kits. Problem: How to get the money to pay for the work and how to quickly get it scheduled?

The Semi-annual Aircraft Modification Review Board was to meet Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. As I remember, I called Col. Harry Pattison, the AFTAC Deputy (BGen Hall was on leave) telling him that we urgently needed a solid statement of requirement for the refueling capability by not later than Monday morning. It would go to the Mod Review Board. On Monday morning, by courier, I got the AFTAC paper. It was three pages long and none of it was usable. I threw it in the burn bag (recovered it later) and typed out my own letter to the Mod Review Board leaving quite a bit of white on the page. I quickly got it signed by BGen Jamie Philpot and handed it in Monday afternoon, just in time.

Lloyd Smith and I attended the Tuesday afternoon meeting of the Mod Review Board and quickly concluded that our project didn't stand a chance under the prevailing rules: It didn't involve combat capability in SEA and didn't affect flight safety.

Then I had an inspiration. The Deputy Under-Secretary of the AF for International Affairs was a wonderful old man (then 65 or so) named Phil Hilbert. Among other things he

kept AFTACs interests under his wing. I'd been to see him only 2 or 3 times before but had observed that he was a phenomenally quick study and was fairly tolerant of Lt. Col. Action officers. Mr. Hilbert heard me in his outer office telling his secretary Rita that I had an urgent need to speak with Mr. Hilbert on an important matter. He called out. "Come on in Lillethun." It was about 0930 Wednesday.

I gave Mr., Hilbert only the briefest outline of the problem and showed him a copy of the letter to the Mod Review Board. In just a moment he said, "Rita, get me Sam Byerly." That was MGen Sam Byerly, Deputy Dir. of Opsns, who was chairing the Mod Review Board.

"Sam, I understand you've got your Mod Review Board in session. Just wanted you to know that I'm really interested in that requested receiver modification to some weather 135s.. Yeah. Yeah. Unh, Hunh. Oh I know all about systems, Sam. They are what you use to keep from having to do what you didn't want to do in the first place. Yeah.... Un Hunh. I'm really interested, Sam. I'll appreciate your help."

Then he sent me on my way saying "If you don't get favorable word tomorrow you let me know right away."

Thursday morning the favorable word came. I had told Lloyd Smith of my talk with Mr. Hilbert and of his action.. Lloyd's hopes were high and he'd already tipped off Air Weather Service to prepare.

On Thursday afternoon I was in the basement at Lloyd Smith's desk where I overheard his end of the conversation with the AWS Dir Opsns. I recall Lloyd saying, "Well, Colonel, the airplanes are going to make the mission whether you fly them or not. If you can't, I know someone who can and would be glad to do it..... Fine. You have your 3 crews at Offutt on Monday morning. The 55th Strat Recon will check them out."

So it was that just a bit over 60 days after Lloyd Smith, Don Black and I started working the problem AWS flying McClellan-to-McClellan with down-range refueling made the richest particulate sample collection achieved up to that time. An AFTAC man was aboard of course and new sensors helped.

I went to report the event to Mr. Hilbert right away. He smiled a little bit and said "Splendid. You call on me whenever you think I can be of help."

I did have one further, AFTAC-related assignment. In late 69 I went to Task Force Alpha at Nakhon Phanom, Thailand which operated and analyzed the sensorized battlefield of the Ho Chi Minh trail. A good many ex-AFTACers were there. I especially remember Lee Ben Byrd.

I outlined the WC-135 story about 20 years ago in a letter to the then-commander WFO. I don't know what he did with it. Perhaps it crept into the history book, perhaps not.

I retired from HQ USAF 1 Dec 74 after 25 years as an officer, the last 5 as a Colonel, 29 years total service. Thank you, Jim, for taking the time to send us these remembrances. The stories from the early days are always great to read. If you remember more, please let us know.



FEATURE ARTICLES

A FAMILY AFFAIR**LRD FAMILIES ... OVER THE YEARS**

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS. Some families have served the mission over several generations. With this column we ask those families to share that history. Forward to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN Family Affair column, to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2). These brave souls have stepped forth, Curt Miller, Tony Calenda (with a 'father's response' by Frank Calenda), and Mark Smith (with a reply from Smitty). We hope to hear from the others we are aware of, Randy Vlassick, Curt Stephens, and Nick Kappel, If you are aware of others, please let us know.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO
'A FAMILY AFFAIR' INPUTS.**

EDITORS: THIS ARTICLE CONCERN'S TWO 'SECOND GENERATION' FAMILIES, THE CALENDA'S AND THE SMITH'S. WE PRESENT A RARE, MAYBE THE FIRST, 'DUAL FAMILY AFFAIR DAY' THAT JUST RECENTLY OCCURED.

Wow! Did we have a day on May 27th. Two command second-generation gentlemen took diverse turns in their lives, and careers, on that day. And it was so reminiscent of the history and traditions of the command, and days in our lives-highlighted by the uniqueness of these command families.

On that day, Tony Calenda followed his father, Frank, into retirement some 26 years later and Mark Smith followed his father, Smitty, into the rank of MSgt by exactly 27 years (1 June). (pictures below)



Tony retires on May 27th, Frank retires 26 years earlier. In the first picture, Tony is seen receiving congratulations from Frank (dad) and Edna (mom). In the second picture brother Mike gets in the picture. Mike was also at Tony's retirement but eluded photos.



Mark's MSgt Promotion Ceremony. Pictured are:
Back row, L>R-AFTAC CMS French, AFTAC CC Col Bendorf, Ellen (Mom), Shawn (sister), Ian (son)
Front row, L>R-Taylor (niece), Curtis (dad), Mark, Marti (wife) holding Wilder (son), and Grace (daughter). Smitty could not locate pictures of his promotion to MSgt 27 years earlier.

This says a lot about a command that we all served so well over the years, and it was very moving that these dates coincided for these gentlemen and their families. Good luck to both of you as you walk the diverse paths you began on that day.

As a side-note, both of these gentlemen, and their fathers, were kind enough to recount for Post-Monitor readers their thoughts of their careers being a 'Family Affair.' In previous issues we read what Frank and Tony (had to say, and in the last two issues we have read Smitty and Mark's recounting. We again thank them for their service and giving us those recollections, and adding their uniqueness to a unique command.

BS (BARELY SUBSTANTIATED) TALES!

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

The 'BS' HONOR ROLL: Jack Binkerd, John Horsch (4 articles), Ben Vlassick, deceased, Brian Berenbach, Mike Gingrich (2), Frank Liberatori, Bill Taylor, Frank Calenda (2), Ron Cook (2), Walter Franks, Ken Oyer, Bob Chadwick, Frank and Nedra Szachta (2), Chuck Wallace, Jon Kempe, George Kraus (3), Bud Horrell, Mike Steskal (2) Ray Copeland (4), Geno Wagner, Harold Huhs, Jack Wagley, Leroy Jones, Jack Dorneden (7)

We've got two great stories this issue. Jack Dorneden's 'thoughts' are completed this issue and Mike Steskal submits a tale of a little known facet of the command's mission.

Thoughts While Maintaining a Remote System Seismic and/or Microbarograph

JACK DORNEDEN (AKA "OIL", "ITTY BIT", "LITTLE JACK", AND OTHERS I'D RATHER NOT REMEMBER)

CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE, PART TWO OF TWO

-You can get anywhere in 10 minutes if you go fast enough.

-The three progressive states of the military: SNAFU (Situation Normal, All Fouled Up), TARFU (Things Are Really Fouled Up), FUBAR (Fouled Up Beyond All Recognition.) (?)

-Two very basic rules: Don't worry about the little stuff, It's all little stuff. (?)

-Avoid those who are a legend in their own minds.

-Try to keep an open mind....but not so open that your brains start to leak out.

-The usual solutions for the usual problems are usually wrong. (P.J. O'Rourke)

-A Druidic computer hardware consultant was the one who said when the stone was the right shape & size.

-Don't let your train of thought go over a cliff.

-The perfect single person's menu: Salad for one, Soup for one, Dinty Moore single serving meal, Martinis for six

-At various points in life you will encounter a situation that requires waiting. When this happens, wait with patience.

-There are times when it is quite alright to let your mind

FEATURE ARTICLES

wander, especially if it brings back souvenirs.

- Accept that some days you are the pigeon and some days the statue. (Mark Twain?)
- Meddle not in the affairs of dragons, for thou art crunchy and taste good with ketchup.
- Never argue with an idiot. They drag you down to their level, then beat you with experience.
- You can go anywhere you want if you look serious and carry a clipboard.
- When life deals you crap, fertilize something.
- A good snake bite kit: A knife, A bottle of whiskey, A snake
- The probability of an obnoxious toddler being seated directly in front of, behind, or next to you is directly proportional to the length of the flight.
- It's easy to lead a good, clean life when you're too dull to recognize temptation.
- There is no problem to which a bureaucracy will not respond with a committee.
- There is more than one way to skin a cat, but they all annoy the hell out of the cat.
- Flies sure are fun when you're doing time.
- When servicing a remote location, the part that fails will not be in the spare parts package. Corollary: If there is one in the spares, the same part will fail twice for different reasons.
- The squeaky wheel often just burns out its bearings.
- When faced with two alternatives, the chances that you will pick the wrong or most inefficient one are roughly 80/20.
- When at a remote location listening to the BBC news on short-wave radio, the signal will fade to unintelligibility on nouns and verbs, while coming in clearly on names, adjectives, adverbs and prepositions.
- If you find yourself singing show tunes in a hotel room with Marv Albert, it may be time for a change in lifestyle.
- At the very instant someone says "Cheer up, things could be worse" they are.
- True gun control is the ability to put six rounds into a two inch group. (?)
- Don't beat a dead horse. (if it's been dead very long it tends to splash)
- However often you have been to China, however often you have attended a State dinner, when the main dish makes you think of a whale vulva, you cannot enjoy the meal.
- If you push tentatively at your food with your fork, and it pushes back, you're probably not in a very good restaurant.
- If it weren't for the last minute, nothing would get done.
- Where are areas 1 through 50??
- Why worry about tomorrow when you haven't made it through today yet?
- How many times must an abnormal thing occur before it becomes normal?
- When you're ass deep in alligators, it's hard to remember the job was to drain the swamp.
- Measure it with a micrometer, mark it with chalk, cut it with an axe.
- Don't force it, get a bigger hammer.
- More often than not, the light at the end of the tunnel is

the previous technician heading your way, trying to find the way out...

- Trying is the first step towards failure. (Homer Simpson)
- When all is said and done, there's usually a lot more said than done.
- I didn't fight my way to the top of the food chain to be a vegetarian
- We have enough youth, how about a fountain of smart?
- Don't Smoke, Don't Drink, Eat Well, Stay Fit,.....Die Anyway
- When standing between two mirrors, do you ever get the feeling that the smallest reflections are waving at each other?

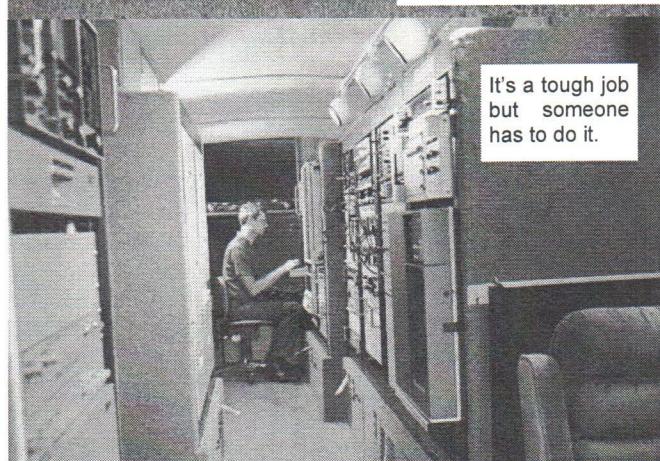
Tales from the ASDS

MIKE STESKAL

The ASDS Goes to Livermore, CA



The ASDS decked out for traveling and adventure



It's a tough job
but someone
has to do it.

Preamble

The Advanced Sensor Deployment System (ASDS) was acquired by AFTAC in 1984 to replace and incorporate the equipment from the Mobile Multi-purpose Diagnostic System (MMDS). The MMDS was a series of 5 to 6 fly away cases that held then state-of-the-art computer controlled collection equipment; because the cases had handles on them, they were considered man portable, each case weighed between 75 to 250lbs. So those of us who had to move and use the MMDS were definitely pleased to see the system upgraded to something with wheels and an engine. You may notice that the ASDS kind of resembles the Urban Assault Vehicle from the movie "Stripes," this is not a coincidence.

FEATURE ARTICLES

In the spring of 1987 AFTAC was invited to participate in a test conducted at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, Site 300 test area. Of course we had to go, and our collection platform of choice was the ASDS. This TDY covered about eight weeks and over the course of this time period involved six officers, six 99s, and one 702.

The Cast

Officers: Kurt Stevens, Mike Cauldwell, Jeff Granthem, Ken Dryer, Jeremy Thorne, Joe Nicholas; **99s:** Dave Johnson, Mike Steskal, Barry Seagraves, Mark Fields, Jack Messer, Dan Lowery (plane spotter); **702,** Sally Mathews (plane spotter)

The Story**Las Vegas, the starting point:**

The ASDS was forward deployed at an EG+G facility in Las Vegas, NV, so myself, Dave Johnson, Mark Fields and Jeremy Thorne hopped a flight from Orlando to Las Vegas. While preparing the ASDS for the trip, the new AFTAC commander Col Bingham and the Vice Commander Col Sherman stopped by with our boss Lt Col Angelo to get a briefing on some of the projects we were doing with EG+G and get a tour of the ASDS and our Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). Back then the UAVs were considered not necessary for our long-term collection needs and the program was canceled (ask Mike McClellan about this; he was the PM), now no one can live without UAV capability. I was selected to give the tour of the ASDS, and the rest of the crew went to tour Hoover Dam. The tour with the CC and CV went well, and we finished prepping the ASDS for its trip to California.

The next day we started out, Mark Fields and I were the ones licensed to drive the ASDS and while Dave wanted to ride with us, the ASDS had only two seats, so Dave rode with Jeremy in the chase car. This turned out to be a bit of an annoyance for Dave. We had installed our portable CB radio in the chase car so that we could communicate back and forth during the trip. We did a comm's check before the trip and things looked good. It turns out this was the only time the CB worked, Mark and I did not hear from the chase car after this, and since we could see them in our mirrors we figured nothing was wrong. After a few hours we pulled into a rest stop, to do what you do at a rest stop. Dave came up to me and started saying, "Funny you Steskal, Funny you Steskal," (editor touchup applied) I was a little surprised by this and asked what was up. It turns out that they had been trying to contact us via the CB the whole way, and Jeremy figured that the antenna cable got crimped in the window and when Dave transmitted he blew out the front end. Well this was all that Jeremy talked about for two hours and it drove Dave a little crazy. While the portable CB was plugged into the cigarette lighter for power, it also had six AA batteries installed that needed to be good for the CB to work at more than a range of ten feet. Once the batteries were replaced it worked fine.

The rest of the trip was non-eventful, and upon arriving in Livermore we were met by Ken Dreyer our liaison officer stationed at Livermore. We parked the ASDS in its collection location and started to set up. During this time period we found that the test had been delayed for a

few weeks, so we locked up the ASDS and returned to Florida.

Return to Livermore**The Mice must Die**

After a few weeks we headed back, this time the crew was myself, Dave Johnson, Kurt Stevens and Mike Cauldwell. Upon opening the ASDS we found some mice had found their way in and had started a family. Under the kitchen sink we found a nest of baby mice, we knew the mice had to die, and Mike Cauldwell volunteered to off the little guys. In today's PC world Mike would probably be brought up on charges and draw international condemnation for the way he got rid of them.

When the Livermore exterminator arrived he gave us two choices of how to trap and eliminate any other mice that might try to gain access. We could either use traps or poison. The exterminator told Mike the poison would be the best way, since after eating the poison the mice would become thirsty and would leave the ASDS in search of water (what a lie that was). Mike picked the poison probably because he felt bad about how he got rid of the babies.

It turned out that the mice ate the poison and died in the ASDS. One died on top of the AC/DC converter used to power the refrigerator in ASDS and cooked there for a couple of days before we could locate and remove the body. Another one died in the wall between the front cab of the ASDS and the equipment area, but we never found him, it quit stinking after a few months.

The Guards do look at badges

While working at site 300, it seemed that there was a security checkpoint every few hundred yards, at each checkpoint you stopped and had your badge checked in order to enter into the next area. One day after passing through our umpteenth checkpoint, Dave and I were discussing if the guards even really looked at the badges. After clearing the next checkpoint we noticed in the rear view mirror that the guard was standing in the middle of the road and giving our car a good hard look. When we mentioned this, our two captains Cauldwell and Stevens started to laugh, they had exchanged badges before we entered the checkpoint and had gotten through. The guard was suspicious and called the next check point where our badges were scrutinized and everyone had to take off their sunglasses to get a good look at each face. Once we cleared the last checkpoint we told the captains it was not nice to mess with the guards. We then proceeded to the ASDS to start our day's work. At the end of the day we went to leave our area we found that the gate was locked, and none of the guard stations would respond to our radio calls or phone calls. Our only option was to send someone over the razor wire to walk to the guard post. Dave and I told the captains to figure which one of them was going over, since this situation appeared to be their fault. Cauldwell volunteered, and we took the floor mat out of the trunk of the car to cover the razor wire and sent Mike on his way. About twenty minutes later Mike returned with the guard and we were let out. As we cleared the last checkpoint to leave the site the guard said, "You all will keep your own badges from now on, right!" We gave him a sheep-

ish smile and big thumbs up. So the moral of this story is-captains are like children, watch what you say around them, and do not mess with the guards.

The password is "Jesse Christopher"
(editor touchup applied)

As we started to get our collection gear set up, Livermore set up a trailer to be used as an office, break, and equipment storage area. One windy night when we were working late, the Livermore folks had dinner delivered to the trailer. They called over to the ASDS that the grub was on and we started heading over in ones and twos to get some. After all the Air Force folks had arrived, one of the Livermore scientist asked if we used some type of code words amongst ourselves. We asked what did he mean, he told us that as each Air Force person came into the trailer and closed the door against the howling wind, they would yell out "Jesse Christopher." He wanted to know if it was some type of code to let the others know that it was okay to come in. Of course we lied and told him that's exactly what we were doing and not to tell anyone else, since it was kind of a secret thing.

Radiation sticks to Dave

Because of the nature of the test, the ASDS and other collection vans were parked behind a big dirt berm, with only its sensors sticking up over the top. For the first week of testing everyone had to carry pocket dosimeters. After the first night's test, we lined up to give our dosimeter results and everyone is reporting a 1 or a 2, with an occasional 3, and then Dave reported a 7; this raised a few eyebrows, but since Dave was working right next to me and others who only showed a 1 or a 2, they figured he had a bad dosimeter and gave him a new one. Well the next night the same thing happens, now there is starting to be some real worry, was Dave's dosimeter right, if it was we would all be glowing soon or was it just Dave. The safety folks issued Dave a more reliable film type dosimeter and it showed that what the rest of us were seeing was correct. It turns out Dave can build up a huge static charge just standing still in the dry California climate and that was what was affecting the pocket dosimeter. We had to ground Dave, before he could touch any equipment in the ASDS, we found this out when he went to tune a receiver and gave it such a jolt that it reset. But to be on the safe side I kept close to Dave during testing so that he could absorb any extra radiation meant for me, and it must of worked since no one has any two-headed kids or turns green when they get mad.

King's of the collection hill

Once the collectors from the other national labs and government agencies started to show up, we had to see who had the coolest collection gear (a guy thing). It turns out we had the best stuff on the hill. Most of the others had some old Tektronix 7000 series o'scopes and collected the data from using scope cameras and no time tagging at all. While we had computer controlled collection gear and such accurate time tagging that we would pass the times of the tests to the remote collectors so they could check their data for results. Our officers would go to the daily meetings with hardcopies of already processed data, while everyone else showed up with Polaroid's of

some scope traces that had yet to be interpreted. Since this was when the movie "Top Gun" came out, we would intimidate the other experimenters by playing, the Top Gun theme, Highway to the Danger Zone, at the beginning of each night's testing and then stop at each collector's van to see how they were doing, which most of the time meant they were getting some data but were not sure how good it was, then we show them some of our results fresh off the computer and let them know what was really happening. We made a lot of friends this way. There was one old PHD we did not mess with, he had one sensor, an o'scope and a scope camera, and he had a mouse living in his o'scope. He would bring wine and cheese for each night's test and he would share with his mouse. He had the right attitude about life and science so we left him alone.

Bring trade goods for the natives

As with any deployment you will always find that you left a necessary item back home. To help with these emergencies we would normally set up a fund cite with the host lab and use this money to draw from their stocks or pay their technicians labor costs. For this test we had a paperwork snafu and had no money for this type of support. Now the big wheels from the other labs and government agencies tried the intimidation method to get supplies or support by saying that they were so-and-so from this agency and if they did not get support right now that heads would roll. The union guys in the support shops would just give these guys the bite-me look and send them on their way. Now, as 99s, we were much more savvy than the other agencies on how to get support when we had no money (our normal condition). We would always bring trade goods along that could be used in bartering with the local natives for goods and services. Because of our involvement with the Space Shuttle program we would always bring along a stack of shuttle and other cool space photos. So when our officers came to us with a tale of woe about how they could not get us the needed support items due to no funds, Dave just told them not to worry, and headed off to the shops with an envelope full of photos. Over the next few days the things we needed started showing up. Once again this made our organization look good and all the other experimenters were jealous.

Plane spotting and perverts

One of AFTAC's jobs during this test was to supply two plane spotters. We had to stop testing if any commercial or private planes came into our airspace. We brought out Sally Matthews, one of our 702s and Dan Lowery a young 99. Each night Sally and Dan would work with a guy from Livermore named Steve, who would drive all three out to the tower and then they would all look for planes. After about a week Sally came to Dave for advice, it turns out Steve was coming on to Sally and making lewd suggestions. Sally asked Steve to stop, but it did not work, and also Steve would try and scare Sally by driving the vehicle close to the edge of the cliff when they would leave the tower. Dave's initial response was to have Sally point out this Steve guy and he would go over and beat the sap (editor touchup applied) out of him. Sally gave Dave a curious look and said that is what

FEATURE ARTICLES

Steskal said he would do. So Dave used the more mature approach of talking to Steve to get him to change his ways. At first Steve told Dave that he could not do anything to him (I would have decked Steve at this point), but Dave explained to Steve that he would report his harassing behavior to the lab and see that he got punished and/or fired, and also let Steve know that if he kept this behavior up he could have an industrial accident one night. Well this changed Steve's attitude and we had no more trouble from him.

Captain's Chairs

The normal hours for testing were from 22:00 to 06:00, so we had to sleep during the day time, and just as you were falling off, the maid would knock on the door asking if you wanted service, even though the "do not disturb" sign was on your door, so after a few weeks we were all getting tired. One night, myself, Dave, Mike and Kurt are working in the ASDS. After about two hours of testing, the test was halted so work could be done on the device. We could not leave the test site and found ourselves with three hours to kill until testing resumed. The seats in the cab of the ASDS were called captains chairs and were really comfortable. So I say, "I'm going to grab me one of those captains chairs and get a few hours sleep," and Kurt says, "captains chairs, Mike and I are captains, those must be our chairs," and they gave me a smug look and settled in for a nap. I knew I had really said a stupid thing and could not bear to turn around to see the look on Dave's face. I just turned around and apologized to Dave and found the best place I could to sleep (a counter top). Even to this day I still get reminded about my Captains chairs comment.

**Captain Shik Head (editor polish applied),
or no sleep, Jolt cola and cookies don't mix**

On one of our days off we went to Fisherman's Wharf where Mike Cauldwell bought a hat that had a fake dog's turn (editor polish applied), on the brim and it said "Shik Head." Mike did not sleep well during the day and would usually get himself fired up for a night's testing by eating soft batch cookies and drinking jolt cola. One night after Mike had his cookies and cola he shows up for the experiment pre-brief meeting wearing his shikhead hat. During the brief he starts cracking jokes and commenting on things and in general making an ass of himself. Unfortunately this brief was attended by one of Livermore's top administrators and he got hold of Ken Dryer to let him know he was not happy with Mike's actions. It takes a lot to get Ken mad, but this did it. He came over to the ASDS and told Dave and me to take a break and proceeded to chew out both Mike and Kurt (Kurt was the senior captain in charge). When Dave and I were let back in, Mike and Kurt had that whipped puppy look and no ass's to speak of.

Top Van the movie

During the last few weeks of testing two more AFTAC captains, Jeff Granthem and Joe Nicholas arrived. They were monitoring some of the collections being performed by AFTAC contractors in support of this test. One night at about 1 am the test is halted for maintenance and we could not leave the site. So in the ASDS there's Dave, four captains, and myself. Remembering the shhh head

incident, Dave and I had to come up with something to keep the captains out of trouble. So we give them the ASDS VHS camcorder and told them to make a PG grade movie. They went for this in a big way, and came up with a movie called "Top Van." The plot is based upon then the current series of Joe Isuzu commercials that stretch the truth of a car's performance. Joe Nicholas stars as Joe Isuzu and gives an academy award performance on what the ASDS can do. Of course we showed the finished movie to everyone on the hill and it got rave reviews, and it also accomplished the main task of keeping our captains out of trouble. When we returned to Florida, we made a few copies of the movie and showed it to only to a select audience. Col Sherman the CV heard about it and wanted to see it. Joe Nicholas asked that we not show it to the CV, since his OER was coming up, but he could not come up with the amount of cash needed to keep us from showing it to the CV. Col Sherman, thought it was hilarious. If anyone still has a copy of Top Van it should be placed in the AFTAC Hall of Heritage.

End of Deployment

In the last few days of the testing we had 99s Barry Seagraves and Jack Messer come out. Their job would be to dismantle the collection gear, repack the ASDS and return it to Las Vegas. After the last night of testing, a Thursday, Jack and Barry started packing the ASDS, and that's when we get a phone call to take the ASDS ASAP to Los Banjos, CA, and connect it to an antenna at an SRI facility there (run by ex 99 Denny Gaydos) to support a collection to the west. So on a Friday morning I, Jack and Barry moved the ASDS hundreds of miles to the south, got it connected up and started 24 hour collection. We worked all weekend and on Monday we were told things were over and we could head to Vegas. While these last few days were like a fire drill it showed how quickly we could re-deploy the ASDS to support national level collection requirements.

Epilog

This was a highly successful deployment of the ASDS and generated many interesting tales. There are many more ASDS stories out there, and those who deployed with it should send in their stories. The current AFTAC superintendent CMSgt Lloyd French was part of the team that brought the ASDS home from the factory and took it out on its not quite successful maiden collection mission. Both stories are highly entertaining.

Editor's Note: Come on Chief, let's hear 'more of the story.'



CALENDAR

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

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

WHEN: **1530 (3:30 PM)**

WHERE: Behind AFTAC HQ building

HOW: park behind the building-find the crowd

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

WHEN: **1730 (5:30 PM)**

WHERE: **AFTAC HQ's Building**

HOW: come to rear entrance

October

1, 1530 WindDown at the Outback

15, Board elections/General Membership Meeting following **Golf n'Getogether**

November

5, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback

8, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

December

3, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback

13, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

Scheduled Events

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

October 15, golf n'getogether

General Membership Meeting Follows with Association Board Elections. See details on page 1.

12-15 May 2005

-Alumni Worldwide Reunion in Sacramento, CA

Reunion is set for eve of 12 May to morning of 15 May 2005 to be held in Sacramento, California, at the Holiday Inn Northeast. See page 10 for additional details.

Traditional Annual Events

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

January—March

-Assoc SnowBall VII, Feb time frame

-Center Annual Awards Banquet, Mar time frame

April—June

-Center Annual Picnic, April time frame

-Assoc Spring Golf n'Getogether, May time frame

July—September

Summer time and the livin' is easy

October—December

-Alumni Assoc Fall Golf n'Getogether, Oct time frame

-Center Winter Social, Dec time frame

SAGE SHOP

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

\$4.00 for shipping and handling plus \$1.00 for each additional item

*No shipping and handling charged on logo pins

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE (as of 2004.02)

PURCHASED WITH ALUMNI FUNDS-Multi-Color Logo

	MED	LG	XL	XXL
--	-----	----	----	-----

JACKETS , Unlined/Royal Blue, \$20	2	1	2	4
---	---	---	---	---

GOLF SHIRTS, with pocket, \$14

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

T-SHIRTS, without pocket - \$7.00

Light Blue	2	3	3	3
Royal blue	2	2	2	2
Navy	2	2	3	1
Ash Gray	2	2	2	2
Purple	1	1	2	2
Red	2	2	3	2
Fuchsia	2	2	2	1
Mint Green	2	2	1	2
Jade Green	2	3	5	2
Black	4	2	4	3

SWEATSHIRTS, Ash Gray, \$15

HATS - \$6.00 # **MISCELLANEOUS**

Green	3	-50th Commemorative Coin, \$3	128
Gray	0	-Logo Pin, \$3.25	252
Red	7	-Logo Disk, \$5.50	7
Royal Blue	0	-Alumni License Plate, \$7-members	
Light Blue	1	\$10-nonmembers	4
Navy	0	-WorldWide Directory, \$25	2
Blue/ Gray	16		

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

JACKETS -		
Unlined/Royal Blue - white logo, \$20		3
GOLF SHIRTS -		
Med. Blue/with pocket/White logo, \$14	11	7

CONTENTS

24

◆ Long Range Detection Alumni Association, Patrick AFB FL

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

- Page 1** #Sage Spotlight - #Alumni Alerts—Alumni Events
Page 2 #Association/Chapter Information - #Editorial
Page 3/7 Mail-Call/#Alumni To Remember
Page 8/10 Florida and Other Chapter News/Monitoring Active Duty Doins'
Page 12 Feature Articles, "Commanders recall" (one story) - "I Remember" (two)
"A Family Affair" (one) - "Barely Substantiated (BS) Tales" (two)

- Page 19/20** #Calendar - #Alumni Shop/#Contents, Application and Address Label

Technical data - issue size, ~56MB, using a Dell 2350 (1.8GH/256/60G/DVD/CD-RW/CIS30 Canon Scanner) with MSPub2000 software; the commercial printer is 'Indian River Printing Company.' Preparation/input/proofing time by the editors is in the neighborhood of 100 enjoyable hours, a figure not including the unknown hours of preparation and typing/proofing mailing by individual contributors/assistors



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

Membership Application

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

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

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

NAME _____ (Spouse) _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

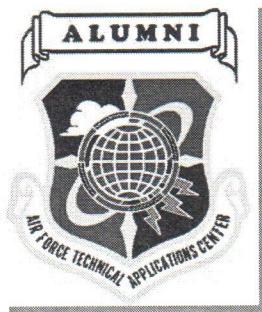
PHONE NUMBER(s): _____ EMAIL/HOME PAGE (optional) _____

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

Long Range Detection Alumni Assoc
P.O Box 254892
Patrick AFB, Florida 32925-0892

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
MELBOURNE, FL
PERMIT 578



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



John Horsch Fy Dues oct ----> LT
515 Temple St
Satellite Beach FL 32937-3324

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