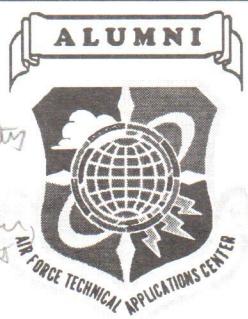


♦ POST - MONITOR ♦

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 2

Membership—659, Lifetime 503 (18 Distinguished)

2003 JUNE



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

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

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

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



SAGE SPOTLIGHT

THE LONG-RANGE DETECTION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PROUDLY PRESENTS

JOHN CABAN
USAF COL (RET)
ASSOCIATION
PRESIDENT, FY 2003



John joined the Air Force in '72 as an ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate after completing his Masters Degree in Math. He served at AF-TAC as Directors of 'Plans and Programs' (XP), 'Advanced Systems' (TX), and what is now TC ("cement company"-CMTCO), '93-'95. He retired in '96 after serving at AIA as 'Director of Plans and Requirements' (XR) in San Antonio, TX.

John's other assignments include tours in SAC and NATO. He was Commander, 343rd Reconnaissance Squadron (RC-135), during the Gulf War, and flew as Electronic Warfare Officer on B-52 aircraft in Thailand and Guam. He flew over 3500 hours, and attained flight status as Master Navigator.

In NATO, he controlled all electronic warfare aircraft during annual live-fly exercises and war in the Central Region. He was one of three Americans to attend the RAF Staff College, and graduated from the Naval War College as Senior Air Force Officer, with a Masters Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

John, and his wife Karla, remain active with AF-TAC friends and activities. Their children, Sasha, Brett and John, and his wife, Heather, reside in the local area.

Thank you John, for your continuing service.

New
Issue
Date
+ Grants
+ Col. Beatty
+ Randy
+ See Calendar
Upcoming Events

John
Col. 1



CA
Website
Slate
Judy (1)
Pat (V)
Cindy New

ALUMNI ALERTS-WHAT'S COMIN' UP

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

OCTOBER GOLF N'GETOGETHER

Details will be provided in the September issue
See page 19 for additional scheduled events
'REUNION 2005' - CA CHAPTER

ALUMNI EVENTS-WHAT'S GONE OFF

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

COMMAND PICNIC, 2003

EDITORS: SEE PHOTOS BY BOB WILEY AT CLARK CREERY'S 'UPCOMING EVENTS' WEBPAGE ON THE ALUMNI WEBSITE

April 12th and it was a beautiful day at Wickham Park. The covered and grassy areas were filled with pre-Sages (active-duty), Sages and families (we understand 400 tickets were sold). The band was hot and so was the food. Hamburgers, hot-dogs and all the trimmings' - umm umm good.

(Picnic continued on page 4, left column, midway)

WORLDWIDE REUNION, 2003

EDITORS: MAY 30TH-JUNE 1ST, FLORIDA CHAPTER, SEE PHOTOS BY BOB WILEY/JUDY MILAM/TOM DUNN AT CLARK CREERY'S 'UPCOMING EVENTS' WEBPAGE

We proudly present, for your reading pleasure, reports of the 2003 reunion events. However, before we turn the 'tale-tellers' loose, a recall of this command's alumni reunions.

Alumni reunions have been held in this chronological order: 85 (CA), 87 (FL), 89 (CO) 92 (FL) 94 (CA), 96 (CO), 97 (FL), 99 (CA), 01 (CO), 03 (FL), which summarizes, by chapter, as follows:

CA-85, 94, 99 (TOD deactivation); CO-89, 96, 01; FL-87, 92, 97 (AF and AFTAC 50th) and 03.

(Reunion continued on page 4, right column)

ASSOCIATION HONOR ROLL ALUMNI OF THE YEAR RECIPIENTS

JOSEPH 'JOE' JOHNSON 2002-JIM PAYNE 2001
BEN VLISSICK '00; JOHN HORSCH '99-FRANK HALL '98
JUDY MILAM '97-CARL GALEY '96-CLARK CREEERY '95

(Deceased)

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. You're encouraged to attend monthly meetings beginning at 5:30pm on the second Monday of each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC HQ's building (989) at Patrick AFB, FL. Information: Jim Payne, (321)777-4731/paynejb@juno.com, Carl Gailey, (321)777-0569/gaileyc@juno.com, Judy Milam, (321)254-8878/jem2415@worldnet.att.net, or Pat Snyder, (321)494-6867/patricia.snyder@aftac.patrick.af.mil. Dues/membership applications/queries/ should be mailed to:

**Long-Range Detection Alumni Asc., PO Box 254892
Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892**

Chapter has 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 assn & alumni information, 'Post-Monitor' 'Samplers' and back-issues and photos-WebMaster is Mike Black, Clark Creery writes an 'Upcoming Events' ('What's Happening') section.

Florida Chapter Board "PERENNIALS"-Alumni serving for five+ years. Frank Hall-President/Vice 89-98/01, Judy Milam-Secretary 89-00, Eunice Harris-Hospitality 89-00; Mary Welch-Membership 91-99; Carl Gailey-Treasurer 91-99, Swede Swansen-Publicity since 93, John (Christel) Horsch, Newsletter editors since 96

Colorado chapter

Formed in 1989, **dues, \$5 per year, payable in February;** chapter publishes a newsletter, 'Echoes' and supports a website, '<http://www.aftacco.org>': Webmaster, Bill Harris. They meet several times a year-for information, Bill Schmied, (303) 367-0625. There are ~130 members.

West Coast (California) chapter

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

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/Swede Swansen

"A TEAM" ...OF HORSCHES'

'58-'87



Summertime, and the living is easy ... however, getting the newsletter out to you on our usual schedule (mailing around mid-month) was not so easy. The reunion pushed itself right up against our self-imposed deadline and it required the help and timely reporting of many to put this issue in your hands. Plus, we wanted to leave on our mid-year jaunting by early-mid month as we had promised my brother to be 'Kansasing' around that time.

First, heaps of praise on our 'Major Arranger,' Carl Gailey, who early on volunteered to push the rest of us around and get this thing off the ground and flying. Frank Hall stepped up to his specialty, golf matching; John Caban arranged for our banquet speaker, MGen Shaffer (AFTAC CC, '94-'96) and spoke himself (MCed); Swede Swansen promised 'hospitality' and lived up to his promise; Judy Milam, Pat Snyder and Deborah Carson, and others mentioned later, made the banquet hall look great and a mountain of other people including Col Bendorf, CMSgt French, the Boosters Club, the Honor Guard, all got behind the event to give us one heck of a show throughout the weekend.

Next, piles of praise to those busy people who wrote articles for us about the reunion, all in an attempt to help those of you who could not be there feel like you were. In particular, we asked a lot of Judy Milam and she took on the task of writing about many events, the registration, the icebreaker and the breakfast, in addition to taking notes while our guest speaker (Gen Shaffer) spoke. Thank you Judy.

The reunion was a success and it was great getting together with a bunch of old friends, all at the same time, and remember/elaborate on the past. We finally got to recognize our 'Alumnus of the Year,' Joe Johnson, in person, interact during the building tours with the active-duty who carry on 'our' duties, and stay up too late doing too much with too many.

Finally, thanks to you who traveled near and far to perform a most important service for this reunion, being there. We'll now wait patiently for the California chapter to carry on this tradition and host 'Reunion 2005.'

MAIL - CALL



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

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

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

NEW/RENEWING SAGES

Melbourne, FL **2002.12.20**
 (new lifetime member) 20 years in AFTAC. Satellite and airborne techniques. Det 452 Superintendent, '98. Plans, Programs and Requirements: Exercises; Deployments. **Daniel Rivera**

Casselberry, FL **2003.01.17**
 (new lifetime member) Please send me a 'name badge' for alumni events. My assignments with AFTAC were at Detachments from 1962-'69 (10X, 1XX, 3XX) and then the 1155th TOS until '71. **William N. Peek, Jr.** we cannot provide these badges since our resource is no longer available

Melbourne, FL **2003.02.17**
 (new member) '57-'58, instructor at Lowry after completion of 'B' – left for OCS, Sept '58.
T. A. Clampffer

Naples, FL **2003.02.20**
 (renewal) **Bill Malloy**, AFTAC 1947-56

Aurora, CO **2003.03.15**
 (new member) Lowry, 1968 (Q Student), '77-'80 & '83-'86; Det 41X, '68-'70, Det 42X, '73-'75 & '80-'83; TOD, '86; Det 057, '86-'91. Other, Keesler, AFB, MS, '62, student-AC&W Radar Rpmn. **Bill Schmied**

Fairfax, VA **2003.04.17**
 (new member) Det 40X, DO-'82/CC-'83 to '85, AFTAC DOR-'85 to '87, Exec-'88.

Robert (Fitz) Carty

LETTERS/EMAIL

Belden, MS

2003.02.24

We have moved to Mississippi in order to be close to our only grandson. Maureen and I are delighted with our new home in the Tupelo area. Reid Macallan Hardisonis, our new grandson, was born August 30, 2002, weighing in at 8 lbs and 19 inches.

Old friends are welcome to stop by for a visit if you find yourself in the area.

Bert R. Miller

Orlando, FL

2003.03.3

Thank you for the lifetime membership package that included a copy of 'TOD Heritage Remembered.' A few years ago I became an annual member and received a copy of 'AFTAC History' – I loaned it and lost it. Is it possible to receive another copy? I'll be happy to purchase, if necessary.

David A. Reynolds Sorry we could not honor this request as the history is no longer available.

Bainbridge, GA

2003.03.5

Got to looking over the registration papers for Reunion 2003. Much mention was made of name tags and what they would be used for. However, you did not ask what was wanted on the name tags. It may not seem like it, that that is a very important point. Many people are known and want to be known by names other than what's on the driver's license. e.g., Albert C. is actually known as Pat, Charles is not Chuck but Chick, and so on.

As for my wife and me, put Maxi Lillethun and Jim Lillethun. If you can not do that, let me know right away so that I may promptly cancel and claim a refund.

And, by the way: look at the address you put on the inclosed card. It is wrong. You should have long ago changed the ZIP to 39818 as I requested.

And, on the last line of the text of the card I'm supposing you meant to be southren and write "y'all" for you all rather than the contraction for 'you will'. Pays to proof read before signing and mailing.

Hope to see y'all in late May, but let me know if I need to cancel.

Jim Lillethun Wow ... since you so good-naturedly ribbed us of our 'proofreading' abilities, we have printed your letter 'as-is' to let our members decide if there are any similar errors in your letter. Also, while our proofreading skills could stand upgrading, our flexibility skills are outstanding - we will print up a nametag in any manner desired.

Lynn Haven, FL **2003.unknown**
 (address change) **Debra Richlin**

DeKalb, IL **2003.04.01**
 (online application) In AFTAC from June '55 to Sep '72. Served at four detachments and at Hq/Zip Room and Depot (WFO). Also was B instructor at the field site on Genesee Mt.

Jack Dorneden and Jack has already sent us two BS's ... enjoy them later in this issue.

Newman, GA **2003.04.07**

(address correction) The info about the reunion was forwarded to me but unfortunately I am unable to attend. Enclosed is \$20 check for dues in 2002 and 2003.

Charles L. Copeland our membership chair, Jim Payne, replied:

I am returning your \$20 check which you sent to us for your alumni dues for 2002 and 2003. You are a Lifetime member, having paid your dues in full October 5, 1994 hence; annual dues are not applicable for you.

Sometimes our mailing label is misconstrued, i.e., in this case there are no Dues due because it is a Lifetime member. However, if the label had said "04--Dues Due in Oct", that would mean dues are due in October 2003 as we use the Fiscal Year calendar.

Your integrity for wanting to pay dues is noteworthy, however none are due.

'tossing' - Bob **Wiley** and Tony **Calenda**, Frank **Calenda** and Debbie **Winchester's** brother Jeff. We understand that Frank and Jeff took this one.

Another site to behold was Dr. **O'Brien** taking his chances in the dunking booth, often not faring well. But, it was for a good cause, entertaining the picnickers and letting them test their skills.

(Reunion continued from page 1)

Over 200 alumni and guests attended 'Reunion, 2003' - a listing of attendees follow (this list may not be inclusive of 'very late' registrations and changes, and is not, in all cases, in alphabetical order):

ALEXANDER, WILLIAM & HELEN—BACK, DENNIS & SHIRLEY—BAKER, HAL & SHIRLEY—BEATTY, HAROLD & DIANE—BILYEU, JAY & JUDY—BOND, JACK C.—BOROWSKI, JOSEPH J.—BOWMAN Jr., GEORGE/JUDY BRAUD, BRENT & FAYE—BRIDGES, BILL & RUTH—BROWN, CAL & ALICE—BROWN, JERRY & BILLIE—BURKE, WHITNEY P.—BUTLER DORIS—CARSON, DEBORAH & JOHN—CARTY, ROBERT (FIZT) & ALICE—CAUDA, JEROME E.—CHAPMAN, CONRAD & IDORA—CIAMBRONE, THOMAS N.—COFFEY, JOHN & RAE ANNA—COUNCE, JERRY & NORMA—CREERY, CLARK & RUTH—CRIBBS, CHARLES & WINNIE—CRONIN, GEORGE & SHERRY—DAVIS, RICHARD & MARLENE—DOBINS, CAREY & OLENA—DOUGHTY, ALBERT & MARGARET—DUNN, THOMAS & DONNA—EDDELMAN, TOM & MOIRA—GAILEY, CARL & MAYME—GARRETT, WAYNE & HOLLEY—GIBSON, MARVIN & SUE—GILB, DANIEL & BETTY—GOLDIAN, JOSEPH & SUE—GORBY, RICHARD/NANCY/BRIAN/CRISS—HALL, FRANK & BEVERLY—HAMMOND, TERRY & PATTY—HART, WILLIAM—HARTLEY, WALTER—HIGGINS, MICHAEL W.—HORSCH, JOHN & CHRIS—HORTON III, ROY E.—HUMPHRIES, DONOVAN L.—JACKSON, WALTER N. (JACK)—JAEGER, JAMES & RITA—JENNINGS, RUBY & SAMMIE—JOHNSON, JOE AND GAYLE—JOHNSON, JOHN R. & LOIS—JONES, MAX & NANCY ANN—KANE, RONALD & BERT—KATER, MARTIN & VALARIE—KENNEY, JOHN F.—KRAUS, GEORGE & ROLANDE—LILLETHUN, JAMES R & MAXI—MARSHALL, JOE & GAIL—MARTIN, HAROLD—MARTIN, WHITFIELD A.—MASON, ROBERT & ANN—McCLOSKEY, Jr, CHARLES & PAT—MCLELLAND, BILL, VONDA & CHERYL—MCMURTRY, JAMES & DEAN—MEISENHEIMER, ROBERT—MELCHIOR, EUGENE & DEANNA—METCALF, NORMAN C.—MILAM, JUDY—MOSLEY, DON & VERA—MOY, AL & KATHLEEN—NELSON, JOHN & PAM—O'BRIEN, DAVID & PJ—OYER, KEN & JUDY—PAYNE, JIM & MYRNA—PEEK, WILLIAM N. Jr—CORDES, ANN D.—PENN, CHARLES—POST, ROBERT & JANET—POWELL, JOY—PRESTON, DEAN & JAN—RAMRATH, THOMAS & JERI—RICHARDSON, JON & VI & CLAYTON—RIGGS, CURTIS & LEONA—ROBERTSON, DONALD & SHARRON—ROBINSON, WILLIAM (CONNIE) & DENISE (DENNIE)—ROWLAND, DONALD & BETTY—RUMSEY, WILLIAM & SHERYL—SAILERS, ROY & YVONNE—SETTERBERG, MARY—SHAW, HARVEY & CAROL—SILHANEK, LARRY & SUSAN—SIMAS, JEFFREY J.—SMITH, DENNIS C.—SMITH, CURTIS, MARK & MARTI—SNYDER, PATRICIA & DUKE—STACK, PAUL V.—STESKAL, MICHAEL J.—SULLIVAN, THOMAS & MARION—SWANSEN (SWEDDE), RICHARD & CHUN—TASTO, DENNIS & DORIS—THOMPSON, GEORGE—VAN DYCK, FRED & CISCO—VLASSICK, GINGER & RANDY—WALSH, MAURICE & JANET—WATERS, GEORGE & GENEVIEVE—WILEY, ROBERT & JUDITH—WILKINSON, TERRY & CINDY—WOHLMAN, JONATHAN—ZAHM, WAYNE & CATHERINE—HUFFAKER, WALLACE & KATHRYN—BENOIT, MARK & TOI—TODD, KIMBERLY & SHAWN—RYAN, SEAN & MICHELLE—SORICE, SAM & KATHY—CABAN, JOHN/KARLA; JOHN/HEATHER; BRETT/SASCHA(DAU)/TIM THEIN—BUCKLEY, HOWARD—UNRATH, THOMAS—SHAFFER, GLEN—DeMARCO, TONY & LOUISE late additions: DIBBLE, HOWARD—ANDERDON, ANDY—BEASELY, GEORGE/CAROL—BENDORF, CRAIG—BOYER, BRIAN /SUZIE—BROOKS, NOREEN—HARRIS, KATHY BROWN—CHASTAIN, JIM/ANITA—COOLEY, BILL/EVA—CORNWELL, HELEN—COUCH, RON/MARLENE—CRONAN, BILL/LIZ—FORTENBERRY, RUSS—GILBERT, DON/DEBBIE—GOETZ, KRISTINA/ETHAN—HICKS, BRANDI/DANNY—HARRIS, CURT/EUNICE—JOHNSON, DAVE/KAREN—JOHNSON, JIM—MATTESON, TED/SHERRY—NICHOLS, DON—RIVERA, DAN/MONICA—SECOP, JON—STANLEY, CHEVIS—WUCHTE, TOM/SUSAN—WHATLEY, DAVID/VALARIE ANN—MILLER, BOB/MARGO

(Reunion continued on page 9)



Digipic, Bob Wiley 'A Group of 'Wagon Masters'

proud were the food lines and the horseshoe pits. There was no 'formal' tournament at this picnic, however the following teams were seen

**Personals...**

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

Transition(s)

None Reported

Hopes of Health for...

Wherein Alumni share hopes for themselves or others...

None Reported



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



Gen. Daniel Butterfield, 1862

Day is done; gone the sun,
From the lakes, from the hills,
From the sky.
All is well, safely rest,
God is nigh,

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

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

**In Memory Of**

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

George E. Plunkard (see below)

Rest in Eternal Peace

George E. Plunkard

STEPHEN P PLUNKARD/DIANA M LAMBERT

Relatives, Friends, and Acquaintances,

It is with a heavy heart that we are informing you that our father passed away on April 18, 2003, after struggling with cancer for several months. He was told in November 2002 that he had terminal lung cancer and had only six months to live. He fought as hard as he could but the dreadful disease won. He was a comfort to so many of his friends who suffered terminal illnesses in their last days and knew full well what he was in for. He was comforted by his children, grandchildren, brothers, sisters and many friends over the past months and was so appreciative of your love and kindness.

He was married to Violet Plunkard, whom he met in England, for 38 years. Violet died in 1998 from lung cancer. He is survived by his son, Stephen Plunkard of Cavendish, Vermont, and his daughter Diana Lambert of Strasburg, Colorado, three grandsons and one granddaughter. He was dearly loved by his family and will be particularly missed by his two sisters Grace Hauver and Emily Firor of Thurmont, Maryland, and his three brothers Clyde, Franklin and Felix of Hagerstown, Frederick, and Woodsboro, Maryland, respectively. He was predeceased by his sisters Louise Mae Plunkard, Mildred Crawford, Anna and Dorothy Sears. His heart was as big as his family.

Our father lived a full life with distinguished careers in the Air Force (23 years) and for the City and County of Denver (21 years). He was awarded the Bronze Star and several other medals for his tour of duty in Vietnam. He retired as the Maintenance Supervisor at Stapleton Airport in August of 1992. During his military career he traveled around the world several times over, visiting 38 countries. Most recently he visited Ireland with his loving companion Jeannette (Jan) Patchak to see his family's ancestral home and have some fun.

He was an amazing athlete winning numerous awards in baseball, softball and bowling. He loved playing cards with his friends and swap-

ping stories about his days in the military. His life ended in much the same way he lived it - with a deep love for his family and friends, a generous heart and a zest for living not dying.

Just before he died he told us, "That he had found strength in his Christian faith and had lived a rich and productive life. He had loved, and been blessed by two wonderful women, our mother Violet and his dear friend Jan. He was ready to move on, and in fact, was looking forward to seeing his new place in Heaven."

In the "spirit of how our dad lived," remember him by calling a family member or friend, helping someone in need and living life to the fullest. God bless you all.

COMMANDER'S RECALL

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

We anxiously await inputs from the remaining commanders, continuing 'Distinguished Association' members all: Jaynes, Jaegar, Beatty, 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.**

Col (Ret) Beatty and Gen (Ret) Jaegar attended 'Reunion 2003' and plan to file their recalls, when requested.

As we did previously, we will request Col Beatty's for the next (September) issue and Gen Jaegar's for the one following that (December).

A FAMILY AFFAIR

LRD FAMILIES ... OVER THE YEARS

PREPARED FROM READER INPUTS. Some families have served the mission over several generations. With this column we ask those families to share that history. Forward to us at 'chrisjohn@juno.com' or ATTN Family Affair column, to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish them in the order received and as soon as we can. Thanks for your help.

Jack

Tony Calenda

We look forward to 'A Family Affair' inputs.

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

WHERE ARE YA?!!!

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

We look forward to 'Where Are Ya?!!!' inputs

BS (BARELY SUBSTANTIATED) TALES!

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

As we reported in the 'Mail-Call' section, a friend from the past recently sent in an application for membership. Not only that, he has sent two BS's for members to enjoy. Here we present, 'Jack's Back ... '

Jack Dornedan

The Basic Electronics course for "B" systems when we were the 1009th was shared with the 'Atomic Energy' troops on Lowry 2. I vaguely remember the instructor as A1C Schott. That may or may not be right. At any rate the class wrote a theme song, with people contributing throughout the course. Due to a car accident I started with one class and graduated with another and don't remember which one wrote the song. I do remember Ted Devorak was in the one I started in and Bob Umbarger, "Young Jim" Walker, and Jim Silliman were in the one I graduated with. So here's the song, sung to the tune of "Stranger In Paradise":

The Love Theme from Basic Electronics

Take my voltage drop
I'm a resistor in parallel
All lost in an RCL
A resistor in parallel

If I stand heated up
That's the danger in parallel
For resistors that stand beside
Capacitors like you

FEATURE ARTICLES

I see your color code
I get delirious
You have a golden band
This must be serious

This resistor's so shy
Has great reluctance
To ask the question
Just what's your inductance?

'Up Over' 'Down Under'

I came across this picture yesterday, and it sure brought back memories. This would have been sometime in 1957 or early 1958. A group of us were in (I think) Ted Devorak's Austin A40 one night when I told a story of how we would, on occasion while I was in high school; put someone's bicycle up the flag pole in front of the school. Well, as we were probably under the influence of one of the local brews, someone said "Hey, there's a flagpole on top of the Alice Springs Pub ain't there?" at about the time we were driving past someone's bike.

Brakes, grab bike, hold it by reaching out the window, down to the back of the pub. As it happened they were doing some major remodeling on the back of the pub and there was scaffolding and ladders just there, waiting to be used. Of course by this time now it was some ungodly time of the morning so of course up we went, manhandling the bike along with us, and dragging a ladder behind. We needed the ladder to



get to the upper roof where the flagpole was. To top it off we discovered the owner of the pub was having a party just below us.

Not to worry mate. With much low level giggling and snorting we got the bike up to the top of the flagpole and made our escape undetected. We went somewhere and continued ingesting whatever until dawn when we returned to the area and walked into camera range where I took this picture.

Look carefully above the hotel, towards the center of the picture. You can't see the flagpole, but the bicycle really stands out.

Really wish I could make the reunion, but I have to get to Maine to visit my daughter and granddaughter this year, plus the APA national pool tournament in Vegas and just can't handle three trips so close together.

Pass my greetings to all

Jack, consider greetings passed to all. What great stories! Thank you for taking the time to write and share these with the members—we'll take all of these we can get.

Chapter News

Prez FROM THE TOP Sez

JOHN CABAN, FLORIDA CHAPTER ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

This article is dedicated to the 2003 Worldwide Alumni Reunion. It was an outstanding success! From top to bottom, this was one of the finest reunions I have ever attended—anywhere.

We were blessed to have six active and former AFTAC Commanders participating in the weekend activities. Colonel Craig V. **Bendorf**, AFTAC Commander, returned from TDY to join in the festivities before his departure overseas on Sunday. Other former CCs included Banquet Guest Speaker Major General Glen D. **Shaffer**, Brigadier General (Ret) James A. **Jaeger** and wife Rita, Colonel (Ret) Robert A. **Meisenheimer**, Colonel (Ret) Harold J. **Beatty** and wife Diane, and Colonel Roy E. **Horton**, III.

A highlight of the Alumni Reunion Banquet on 30 May was awarding Joe **Johnson** as 2002 AFTAC Alumnus of the Year. Joe and wife, Gayle, came forward to receive a plaque containing one of the last AFTAC coins flown on Shuttle Orbiter Atlantis, flown September-October 1997, in honor of the 50th Anniversary

of the United States Air Force. Also presented was a trophy originally awarded in absensia at the Annual AFTAC Awards Banquet.

Yet, the high point for me during the Banquet was the personal, thoughtful address given by Guest Speaker MGen Glen **Shaffer**, outlining the War on Terrorism, and the roles that AFTAC active duty and alumni contribute.

The success of the Alumni Reunion was due to the tremendous support of our local AFTACers, and by the Alumni Chapters around the country who traveled to Florida to tell and retell old stories once again.

Reunion Chairman, Carl **Gailey**, headed an all-star cast of people committed to making this the best reunion ever. Carl did all the worrying for all of us, ensuring all areas were covered and running smoothly.

The Decorations and Registration Committee were headed by Judy **Milam**, Pat **Snyder** and Deborah **Carson** with assistance from Doris **Butler**, Helen **Cornwell**, Joy **Powell**, Mary **Smith**, Mary **Setterberg**, and Jack **Jackson**.

The Golf Tournament Director, Frank **Hall**, was aided by wife, Bev **Hall**, John **Horsch**, Brenda **Clarson** and John and Rae Anna **Coffey**.

Swede **Swansen** hosted the Hospitality Room with staff Russ **Fortenberry**, Jerry **Cauda**, Joe **Johnson** and John **Coffey** assisting.

Jim **Payne** prepared the data base for the attendees and Clark **Creery** the nametags. Linda **Felton** prepared the beautiful welcome package and banquet brochure programs, with inputs from Pat **Snyder** and Deborah **Carson**.

Sgt Frank **Woodard** and Capt Ken **Dean** co-hosted the Open House at AFTAC. Open House briefers included Dr. Dave **O'Brien**, Maj **Singer**, Capt **Bogstie** and Capt **Brykowytch**. Myrna **Irriary** and MSgt Chip **Carter** provided the Booster Club lunch at the Outback.

Honor Guard Support was provided by Lt **Meza**, TSgt **Rousseau**, TSgt **Pariseau**, and SrA **White**.

Kim **Todd** provided an acappella singing of the National Anthem, and Kim and TSgt Sean **Ryan** were 'Flags of Freedom' narrators. Music for the 'Flags of Freedom' was compiled by Mike **Pinnick**.

Karen **Boyd** provided the beautiful embroidery for the shirts given to MGen **Shaffer** and Joe **Johnson**.

Other highlights included the recognition of AFTAC Alumni John **Johnson** as a WW II POW,

which made the POW/MIA ceremony even more poignant. Current AFTACers Mark **Smith** and Randy **Vlassick** were recognized as sons of AFTAC Alumni Curt Smith and Ben (deceased) Vlassick. Mother, Ginger Vlassick, and Mark's wife, Marti Smith, were in attendance.

My two favorite venues during the terrific weekend were the Icebreaker on Friday night and the Alumni Banquet Saturday evening. If you missed either one of them, then you really missed something. People really stayed to visit, laugh, cry, and rave about how well all the events were carried out.

Again, my thanks to our many volunteers who made this a memorable AFTAC Reunion, and to the AFTAC Chapters around our great Country who came and supported it—my sincere congratulations to all on a job well done--and a weekend well-lived!

BOARD MEETINGS

Alumni Association Board Members

Elected President-John Caban Vice-Joe Marshall

Secretary-Al Moy Treasurer-Joe Goldian

Appointed

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

A Few Minutes from the Minutes

AL MOY, SECRETARY/JUDY MILAM

10 March, 14 April, 12/20 May

-Joe **Goldian** offered/was approved to assume the duties of treasurer recall treasurer item, last issue

-The Reunion was again the major topic:

—there will be a special tribute to our flag

—table centerpieces, registration package details and the golf tournament are set

—a student band (8th through 12 grades) from across the county was selected for entertainment

—family day is set, there will be an unclassified briefing, 20 escorts, and building tours will take approximately 2 hours

- the boosters club will prepare and serve lunch at the 'Outback'

—alumni sales items will be available at the registration table

—additional alumni will be contacted concerning attending the reunion

-In order to ensure the Post-Monitor can best manage graphics and text, the purchase of a new scanner was unanimously approved.

(Reunion continued from page 4)

Now let us return to the business of members reports of the 'good times' of the reunion. We begin, as we should, at the beginning.

THE BEGINNING

YOUR EDITORS

Following tradition, the Patrick Chapter, voted to host 'Reunion 2003' many months ago. It was our turn and we were ready to step up to the plate. Carl **Gailey** offered to lead the effort, and from there numerous other members joined in to make the reunion a success. Many of those have given us the reports you will read below, but there are many who helped behind the scenes—those are remembered and thanked here.

Needless to say, Carl was constantly in motion during the ensuing months to make sure everything stayed on track, and to react to the many changes a complex operation entails. Jim **Payne** kept a detailed data base listing of 'who's coming' and 'what are they going to do and eat.' Clark **Creery** got busy and made sure everybody had a badge to personalize 'what are they going to do,' while Judy **Milam**, Pat **Snyder** and Deborah **Carson** (these latter two our very able 'in the building' representatives) did everything they could to make sure the registration table and the banquet ran smoothly. From table decorations to the outstanding, many paged document loaded with reunion and local information, to arranging the ceremonies that honored our POWs, and the many flags of our nation, these ladies enhanced our events tremendously.

Our reunion would not have been the success it was without Col **Bendorf**, (AFTAC CC), CMSgt **French** (AFTAC Superintendent), and other Active-Duty members, contributions. We have already mentioned our 'insiders' (Deborah and Pat), but there were many, many others that provided support on every front:

- help with the beautifully printed programs
- honor and color guard members to enhance our evening banquet
- narration, and materials, for 'Flags of Freedom' and POW programs
- throwing open the doors for an open house to include excellent update briefings provided by Dr. **O'Brien** and MSgt **Woodward**. These inclusive updates were followed by a tour of the building. We were escorted by a cadre of AFTAC active duty volunteers, and, at every center, given a very professional presentation by the operators on duty and in the 'Hall of Heritage' area.

—and we certainly can't forget the great meal the booster's club arranged for lunch, hamburgers, hotdogs, chili and the trimmings.

We apologize that, in all cases, we do not have names for everyone that contributed so much. And, if we have forgotten any particular deed it is because so much was done by so many that this could happen.

Now we turn to the business of members recalls of the 'good times' beginning with signing in right through the last day's breakfast buffet. Our reporters worked very hard, and in some cases, report on several events. We also had a short fuse on these reports as we wanted the PoMo to stay on schedule and get it into your hands while the news was fresh.

In light of this, your editors cannot thank each of these reporters enough that they took the time following a busy time setting up and enjoying the reunion, to then turning right around and reporting on it. In particular, we would like to recognize Judy **Milam**—we asked so much from her, and in her usual fashion, she did that and more. Enjoy!

REGISTRATION, HOSPITALITY ROOM, AND ICE BREAKER

JUDY MILAM

The official festivities began with the Ice Breaker on Friday evening, but many of the 200 plus attendees had already starting trading memories and renewing misplaced friendships long before the official festivities began. The Registration Table opened on Thursday afternoon, and the visitors began arriving in great numbers. Registration volunteers -- Pat **Snyder**, Doris **Butler**, Judy **Milam**, Jack **Jackson**, Helen **Cornwell**, Mary **Setterberg**, Joy **Powell**, and Mary **Smith** -- greeted the attendees and provided nametags prepared by Clark **Creery** and registration brochures prepared by Pat **Snyder**, Deborah **Carson**, and Linda **Felton**, including agendas, maps, tickets, and everything needed to get their weekend rolling.

Next, the 'Hospitality Room,' where Swede **Swansen**, Joe **Johnson**, Russ **Fortenberry**, Jerry **Cauda** and John **Coffey** manned the 'liquids' and alumni clothing sales. There were also plenty of photos from "the old days" to browse through and jog the memories of happy times. The liquids and snacks flowed until the wee hours of the next day; new memories were born (some old ones exaggerated) and donations "nearly" covered the cost of the refreshments.

Friday morning was a frenzy of activity with at-

tendees preparing for the cruise or golf tournament. Those who were headed to the port boarded the bus, hoping Lady Luck was accompanying them. Shortly after the bus left for the cruise, the golfers headed to the golf course. (Ken Oyer reports on the cruise, and Frank Hall on the tournament, in separate reports.)

Activity at the Registration Table was much slower on Friday, but attendees continued to arrive throughout the day and right up to time for the Ice Breaker.

The Ice Breaker provided time to mingle through the crowd and seek out friends and acquaintances from all points of the country, from Texas to California to Northwest Minnesota, to Florida, and all points in between. More than one special group of attendees gathered throughout the weekend for mini-reunions to view pictures and swap stories of their days at the dets. As the golfers ambled into the Convention Center, the Ice Breaker got rolling. The food was good and abundant, and everyone took time to sample the fare. There was a lot of laughing and hugging and handshakes. The Ice Breaker was fun for all, with old friends taking up where they left off at the last reunion, or when they left AFTAC. Many attendees were still trading stories when the hotel staff began to clean up the buffet table, so the attendees joined the parade as they took the leftover food and headed to the hospitality room where the festivities continued into the night. Finally, at 1:30 AM, the last remaining partiers – Swede Swansen, Joe Johnson, Deborah Carson, Pat Snyder, and Judy Milam – called it a night and headed to their rooms.

ALUMNI REUNION CRUISE

ALUMNI 'CRUISER'-KEN OYER

It was a great day for a cruise and 33 participants loaded up for a short bus ride to the port and a "cruise to nowhere." Just in case you never have contact with one of your alumni friends again it might be because only 32 returned. None of the passengers complained/fessed-up/etc. Anyway, a lot of fun was had (especially if you measured the fun by the number of empty glasses on the lounge tables!).

A guy who called himself "Buddy Holly" and another who called himself "Hank Williams Jr." entertained us in the lounge to our delight; however, there weren't enough empties to quite fool us from knowing they were impersonators. I'm not going to reveal his identity but an alumnus named Don was putting on quite a show for us

on the dance floor doing some fancy gyrations called "Hand Jive" (with Mashed Potatoes). Obviously all his past AFTAC training contributed to his great movements!

The casino seemed to have a happy day also (note I didn't say the casino patrons). But, all in all we had a lot of fun and the memories will be "monitored" in our minds for a long time. We only hope the 33rd participant enjoyed the cruise as much as we did.

GOLF REPORT

MAJOR GOLF ARRANGER, FRANK HALL

On Friday, May 30th, at the Patrick AFB Manatee Cove Golf Course, the sun was shining, the temperature was in the mid 80's and the wind was calm. These were the right ingredients for the Long-Range Detection (also known as AFTAC) Alumni Association Worldwide Reunion golf tournament. The select shot (Scramble) was scheduled to start at 1230. However, it was interesting to note that many of the alumni arrived at 1000 hours. It certainly appeared that everyone was eager to get started. All attendees had the opportunity to eat hamburgers, hot dogs, and chips prior to going on the course. At 1230, the starting horn was sounded and 137 golfers began making their way around the course. We had a few good players, many duffers, but from feedback that was received, everyone seemed to enjoy the day of golf and camaraderie.

Putting on a tournament of this magnitude requires people that are dedicated and sponsors for golf holes. We were extremely fortunate to have a number of contractors that sponsored golf holes. They were **SAIC, CTI, ENSCO, Multimax, All Points Logistics, QTSI, and Zeltec**. As a result of their assistance, we were able to give away approximately \$1400 in prizes. These prizes were awarded at six o'clock in the Manatee Cove Clubhouse which left us enough time to go to the "Ice Breaker" at the Radisson in Cape Canaveral. Many thanks to the contractors for their sponsorship!

Planning and making the tournament a success requires many volunteers. Again, we were fortunate to have people who volunteered to help. Pat Snyder performed yeoman functions of signing up people, collecting funds, obtaining handicaps and developing team rosters. Thanks, Pat, for a truly outstanding effort.

During the day of the tournament, we needed lots of help to get people signed in, and ready to play. John and Rae Anna Coffey, Brenda Clar-

son (Vice Cmdr/Secretary), and John **Horsch** arrived at 1000 and finally left the course at six O'clock in the evening. They controlled everything during sign-in and kept the coolers filled with soft drinks. Thanks for a superb effort. It made my job so much easier.

Thanks also goes out to Beverly **Hall** and Tyler **Davidson** (my grandson). They took on the task of selling mulligans and giving away golf balls. They kept the lines moving and everyone seemed to be pleased with the free golf balls that we passed out to mulligan buyers.

Sam **Sorice**, as always, played a key role in the tournament. He took the lead in getting contractor sponsors for golf holes. Additionally, Sam developed and published the golfing ground rules and helped me in choosing prizes for the golfing participants. Thanks Sam for your assistance. It really helped.

Thanks to Ron **Couch** for his assistance helping John Coffey with the scoring of the teams and the awarding of prizes.

GOLF TOURNAMENT WINNERS AND PRIZES

1st place, \$40 per player;; Mike Hoy, Mike Stiewig, Steve Davidson, and Tom Levan

2nd place, \$30 per player: Joe Hauser, Mike McLaughlin, Jim Short and Steve Parlesky

3rd place, \$25 per player: Norm Fish, Scott Harris, John Bernhart and John Howorth

Longest Drive, 1 dozen Titleist balls: 8th Hole, Sam Sorice III, 15th hole, John Holshey

Closest To The Pin, 1 dozen Titleist balls: 5th Hole, Tom McArdle, 16th Hole, Susanne Leonard

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS:

Umbrellas (5 ea), Larry Silhanek, Bob Daniels, Carey Dobbins, Val Calenda and Dan Lefler

Vests (3 ea), John Pitkethly, Mike McLaughlin and Dave Cormack

Golf Shirts (10 ea), Joe Goldian, Al Siegel, John Howorth, Charlie Penn, Sam Sorice, Bob Wiley, Val Calenda, Susanne Leonard, Vince Chimelis and Tom McArdle

Golf Gloves (4 ea), Wes Tracy, Walt Kiska, Addison Mitchell and Wally Brown

Towels (4ea), Walt Kiska, Scott Harris, Tony Cox and 'Murf' (Pat Murphy)

Head Covers (5 ea), Marv Crumpton, Jim Jaeger, Gary Killian, Toni Benoit, Ron Couch

Head Covers (pack of 3), Jack Bond

Straw Hat, Pete Sherman

Golf Hats (5 ea), Walt Kiska, Jerry McElreath, Sam Sorice, Sara Case and Susie Glasgow

'Travel Skate' Travel Cover, Dave Panter

Wedge, name not provided

Putter (2 ea), Tom Wuchte, other name not provided

Wood, V. Hsu

Golf Bag, Joe Hauser

Golf Shoes, name not provided

BUILDING TOURS

EDITORS

Thanks to the Command Section, and many active duty personnel, update briefings (Dr. **O'Brien** and MSgt **Woodward**) were made available several times on Saturday. The briefings were lively and left us feeling we had a good handle on the current status of the command along with planned improvements, and itching to get back into uniform.

We were then escorted by a fine cadre of active duty personnel who were interested in what we had done when we were in their place ... and in telling us how they were doing 'our jobs' now. We saw, and were briefed on, the 'Operations Centers' and all that goes into keeping them up and running. At one point I offered to lend a hand but was politely rebuffed. They did let me touch the 'tape ball.'

We then visited the 'Heritage Hall' area where there are a lot of old pictures and equipment. The Airborne people were also in this area, with the simulator, and were explaining AFTAC's airborne mission. The 20-Year' Wall of Honor' is also found in this area.

The briefing and tour ended at the 'Outback' where the Boosters Club had arranged to feed those who had worked up an appetite watching others work. There were many takers.

AFTAC 2003 ALUMNI REUNION BANQUET

EDITORS

What a great evening it was. AFTACer's, old and new, dressed in their finest and, supposedly, on their best behavior.

The room was also dressed to an nth degree, with center pieces of a patriotic theme-so fitting for this evening of military pomp and circumstance and there was an expectation of enjoying old and new friends.

The Florida Chapter President, John **Caban**, made a few remarks and then ordered AFTAC's Color Guard forward to open the evening's activities with professionalism, style and grace.

We then witnessed the very poignant ceremonies honoring our POWs and MIAs, and the 'Flags of Freedom.' These were narrated by AFTAC active duty personnel with the AFTAC Honor Guard presenting the flags. We then stood for our country's pledge of allegiance.

Several of the attending dignitaries were then introduced, our speaker for the evening, a previ-

ous AFTAC commander, MGen **Shaffer**, and the current AFTAC Commander, Col **Bendorf**. Col Bendorf then gave welcoming remarks, noting that the AFTAC of today recognizes the contributions alumni have made, and current active duty carry on the high standards set before them.

John then recognized other distinguished guests. He also introduced the band for the evening. They were a group of young men and women from the Brevard County High Schools.

A nice dinner was then well served. Conversation flowed easily around the room and there were lively exchanges everywhere. During the meal the orchestra played and sang hits from the past. Following dinner, the various reunion committees and volunteers were recognized.

Following this, we took a break to check under our chairs for winning coupons for the lovely table centerpieces and to refresh and refuel. Upon returning from the break, John **Caban** introduced the guest speaker, MGen **Shaffer**.

In making this introduction, John noted that MGen Shaffer had a long and distinguished career serving his country and noted:

"GEN SHAFFER RECEIVED HIS COMMISSION IN 1970 FROM THE RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORP (ROTC) AT OTTERBEIN COLLEGE. SINCE HIS GRADUATION HE HAS SERVED ASSIGNMENTS IN SAC AT WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB AND ANDERSEN AFB, GUAM—AND HEADQUARTERS TAC AT LANGLEY AFB. HE SUBSEQUENTLY SERVED IN JOINT ASSIGNMENTS AT LANTCOM, NORFOLK VA, AND THE JSTPS AT OFFUTT AFB NE. FOLLOWING HIS GRADUATION FROM THE PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE, GENERAL SHAFFER SERVED IN IMPORTANT ASSIGNMENTS AT THE JIC—PATCH BARRACKS, GE, AND WAS THE FIRST COMMANDER OF THE JAC—AT RAF MOLESWORTH UK. FOLLOWING HIS ASSIGNMENT AT AFTAC, GENERAL SHAFFER WAS DEPUTY DO AT NSA, FT MEADE, AND THEN RETURNED TO GERMANY TO SERVE AS J2 AT USEUCOM, STUTTGART, GE. HE RETURNED TO THE STATES TO BE AF/XOI, DIRECTOR OF ISR, DSC, AIR AND SPACE OPS AT USAF HQS. HIS MAJOR AWARDS INCLUDE DEFENSE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL, DEFENSE SUPERIOR SERVICE MEDAL W, OLC, AND A LEGION OF MERIT. GENERAL SHAFFER'S COMMAND AT AFTAC WAS A TIME OF TAKING ON NEW, IMPORTANT MISSIONS TO SUPPORT THE WARFIGHTER WHILE MAINTAINING THE TRADITIONAL ROLE OF NUCLEAR TREATY MONITORING. MANY OF THOSE NEW PROGRAMS INSTITUTED BY GENERAL SHAFFER HAVE FORMED THE BEDROCK OF PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORTED OUR OPERATIONS DURING THE IRAQI WAR." LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS MY DISTINCT PLEASURE TO PRESENT TO YOU OUR SENIOR RANKING ACTIVE DUTY AFTACer, M GEN GLEN D. SHAFFER."

NOTE: A synopsis of General Shaffer's speech follows this report.

At the conclusion of the general's speech, John presented several mementos of the occasion and

to mark the General's upcoming retirement.

He then announced:

"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, OUR FINAL FORMAL EVENT IS TO PRESENT OUR AFTAC ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR AWARD—PRESENTED TO SMSGT (RET) JOSEPH 'JOE' JOHNSON. JOE, PLEASE COME FORWARD. WE MADE THE FIRST PRESENTATION IN ABSENIA AT THE ANNUAL "SNOWBALL" GETOGETHER AT THE PATRICK NCO CLUB. THE PLAQUE HAS ONE OF THE LAST AFTAC COINS TO FLY ABOARD THE SHUTTLE ORBITER ATLANTIS, STS-86, FLOWN IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER OF 1997. THE SECOND AWARD WAS PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL AFTAC AWARDS PRESENTATION, ALSO AT THE PATRICK AFB NCO CLUB. JOE HAS MADE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR HIS ALUMNI CHAPTER IN SACRAMENTO. HE HELPED FOUND THE CHAPTER THERE, AND HOSTED AFTACERS AT THE FINAL STAND DOWN OF THE TECH OPS DIVISION IN 1999. HE IS PAST PRESIDENT OF THE SACRAMENTO CHAPTER AND CURRENTLY SERVES AS VICE PRESIDENT. HE SPENT SOME 23 YEARS IN AFTAC, WORKING ENTIRELY IN THE "B" PROGRAM."

Joe then spoke. It was obvious the recognition meant a lot to him and he said as much. He also noted that the California chapter is planning 'Reunion 2005,' and asked that we all make our plans now. Joe then spent some time giving his interpretation of events that were reported on in a BS article that appeared in the March issue of the 'Post-Monitor.' This very factual article concerned his activities at our detachment in Pine-dale, WY, a long, long time ago.

Before formally closing the banquet, John recognized one more very special guest. John **Johnson**, a former POW. He was asked to stand and be recognized.

The ceremonies were then closed and everyone was invited to stay, continue their good times, and listen and dance to the orchestra.

And so, a great time of ceremonies and camaraderie, good food, drink and music, and visiting with old and new friends was drawing to a close ... some lingered awhile in the hospitality suite to prolong the enjoyment as long as possible while others called it a night and looked forward to tomorrow's breakfast get together.

MGEN SHAFFER'S SPEECH

JUDY MILAM

General Shaffer started by saying we should be proud of ourselves on the way we sang the National Anthem. As a group, we were great and showed a lot of patriotic enthusiasm. He thanked us for honoring him, and the other commanders—for remembering them, and for carrying them 'on our shoulders' in such a professional manner as they passed through AFTAC during their careers.

The General then talked about the war that began on September 11 – a war that is now being fought on 4 fronts: 9/11, Afghanistan, Iraq, and Al Qaida. It's a running battle, and there are more to come. This is a different type of war.

He went on to say, "there has been a rebirth of the American spirit. We've seen a different kind of coalition, with countries now supporting us that we wouldn't normally consider allies, and countries that we have considered allies that we can no longer rely on. This is an intelligence war and battles will be won or lost according to the reliability of intelligence. Even though the Air Force has a profoundly accomplished war-fighting technology that enables us to fight better, this war is mostly about the soul and spirit of the American fighting men and women. The training, technology, and professionalism of the military are important, but the support and prayers of the Americans at home have a great impact on the service members fighting overseas.

It has been just over 70 days since we launched this war-fighting campaign in Iraq, but the joint vision war-fighting effort has shown superb command and control. We can be proud of our nation and what we've accomplished in the fight against terrorism. We're a nation who did the right thing. Changes are part of what comes next. We can expect new alliances and a mix of new and old – new ways of fighting based on old traditions.

What can we expect to come? This is a new type of war that's tough to define. There is no clear line or territory or measure of victory. It will be a long war. How and when can we declare victory? No one knows. It's a war that will need all kinds of resources to win – individuals, companies, science, hi - tech, low - tech, the full spectrum. It will require new alliances, perseverance, courage, and anticipation.

AFTAC was born at the beginning of a time in history much like we're in today -- at the beginning of the cold war when nuclear weapons were in their infancy, a time of unknowns and uncertainties. We're fortunate that AFTAC is still here in this similar time in our history, this time of full contact multidimensional warfare that we've never seen before. We're going to win this war – but no one can say when.

This reunion says a lot to AFTAC today. Alumni can bring to AFTAC today a history of what we're about – a heritage of leadership, accuracy, cour-

age, persistence, and pride. The nation still counts on AFTAC today, just as it did when we were on active duty. The old traditions of excellence in what we do continue to the new generation at AFTAC. The Alumni remind us of the tradition of excellence, service, and integrity that AFTAC has always held important to mission accomplishment. The example and heritage continue through the stories that we offer and the foundation of the AFTAC spirit as we pray for our nation and its airmen."

BREAKFAST BUFFET

JUDY MILAM

After a busy weekend, you would think everyone was talked out by Sunday morning. Since the breakfast was scheduled to run from 6:30 to 10:30 AM, I thought everyone would have already departed by the time I arrived shortly after 9 AM, but that wasn't the case. The room was set up with seating for about 50 people, and I had to scramble for a seat. It was almost as if people didn't want the weekend to end, but many had flights leaving that day. There were more hugs and handshakes, and "thank you for a job well done" comments to the Reunion Committee members, as I departed with the room still half full of Alumni members who didn't want it to end. As I was leaving, Joe **Johnson**, 2002 Alumnus of the Year, asked if he would see us in California in two years. God willing, I'll be there. Hope you will, too!!!!

NOTE: On the following pages we have included pictures from the events. Also, at this time, we'd like to highlight some individuals who devoted so much time to make the main event, the banquet, as splendid as it was. Deborah **Carson** and Pat **Snyder** spent an inordinate amount of time planning and preparing for the 'Flags of Freedom' and the 'POW/MIA' table. Another notable feature of the banquet were the centerpieces. Many hours were spent by some of our volunteers to make it so—Judy **Milam**, Doris **Butler**, Carl **Gailey**, Jack **Jackson**, Deborah **Carson**, and Joy **Powell**. It was a big task placing the centerpieces, programs, etc, on each table; positioning the flags; and setting up the POW/MIA table.

HALL OF HERITAGE UPDATE/INFORMATION

DEBORAH CARSON

Wow! What a wonderful reunion. So many people to talk to ... so many delightful stories of the past. Many of the names I've seen on documents which are in the historical records center. This is what reunions are all about.

I also received several contributions for the LRD 'Hall of Heritage.' Carey **Dobbins** delivered possibly the only "one of a kind" early marketing tools for the McClellan Central Laboratory. Joe **Johnson** gave us pictures of building construc-

tion of one of our older detachments and an early technical publication which still has application today. Thanks guys.

If anyone else has mementos they would like to contribute to the 'Hall of Heritage,' you can send them to either Deborah H. Carson, (321) 494-6537, or Ms. Patricia M. Snyder, (321) 494-6867, at AFTAC/LSCR, 1030 S. Highway A1A, Patrick AFB FL 32925-3002. Great weekend! I'm looking forward to Sacramento in 2005.

EDITORS NOTE: THANK YOU DEBORAH AND PAT, TWO OF THE ALUMNI'S GREAT 'INSIDERS' (WORK INSIDE THE HQS BUILDING). WE APPRECIATE YOUR UNENDING SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE. ALSO NOTE, THEY WILL ALSO ACCEPT MATERIAL (PICTURE/BIOGRAPHY) FOR THE '20-YEAR WALL OF HONOR.'

REUNION 2003 ALBUM

FROM CLARK CREERY'S 'UPCOMING EVENTS' SECTION OF THE ALUMNI WEB-SITE—PHOTOGRAPHS BY BOB WILEY, JUDY MILAM AND TOM DUNN

Cruisers to 'Nowhere,' 5/30/03,
Digipic by Tom Dunn

Tom & Donna
Dunn



Curt & Leona
Riggs



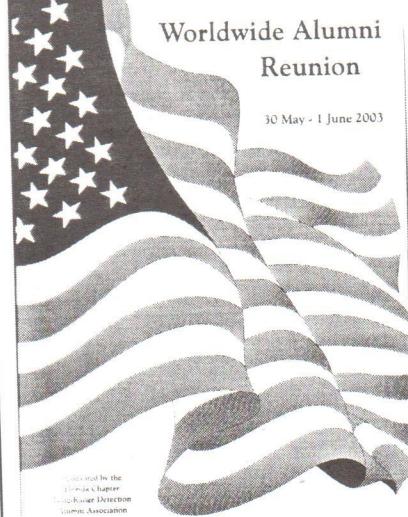
Mrs. Water

Ken & Judy Oyer



Golf 'Players,' 5/30/03, Digipic by Bob Wiley's Friend

(L>R) John Caban, our 'Prez', Tony DeMarco, Terry Hammond and Bob Wiley



Welcome Brochure

EDITORS

This is the cover of this very useful and professionally produced brochure. It contained detailed information on the area, the base and 'Reunion 2003,' a real 'keeper.'

REUNION 2003 REPORTS

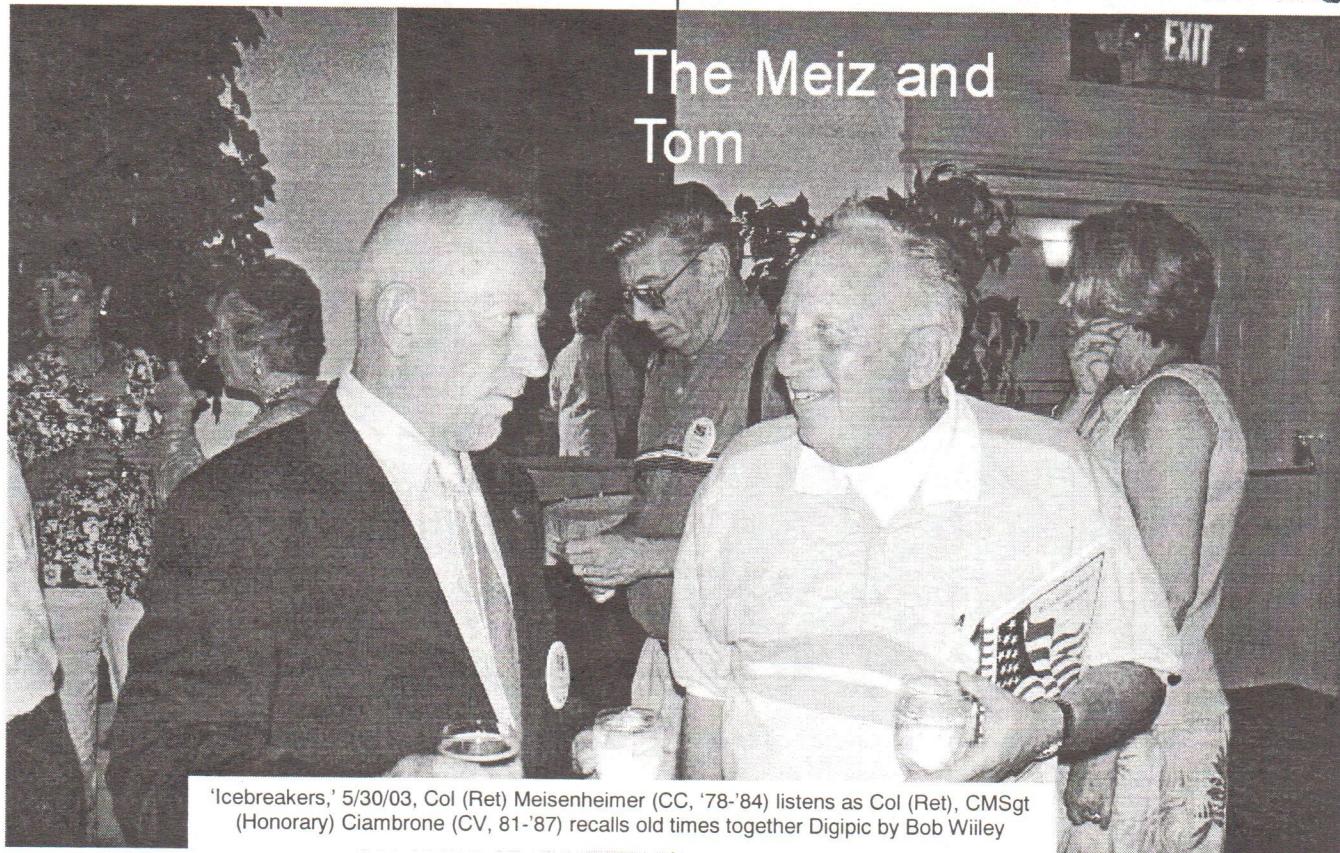
◆ Long-Range Detection Alumni Association, Patrick AFB FL

15 ◆



Golf 'Workers,' 5/30/03, John Horsch
Brenda Clarson

Rae Anna and John Coffey
Beverly and Frank Hall, Digipic by Bob Wiley



'Icebreakers,' 5/30/03, Col (Ret) Meisenheimer (CC, '78-'84) listens as Col (Ret), CMSgt
(Honorary) Ciambrone (CV, 81-'87) recalls old times together Digipic by Bob Wiley

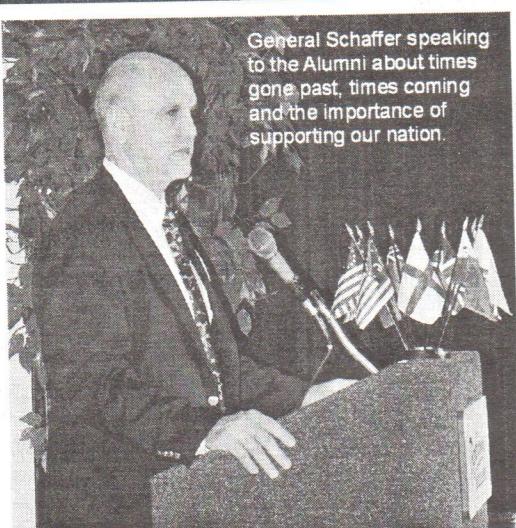
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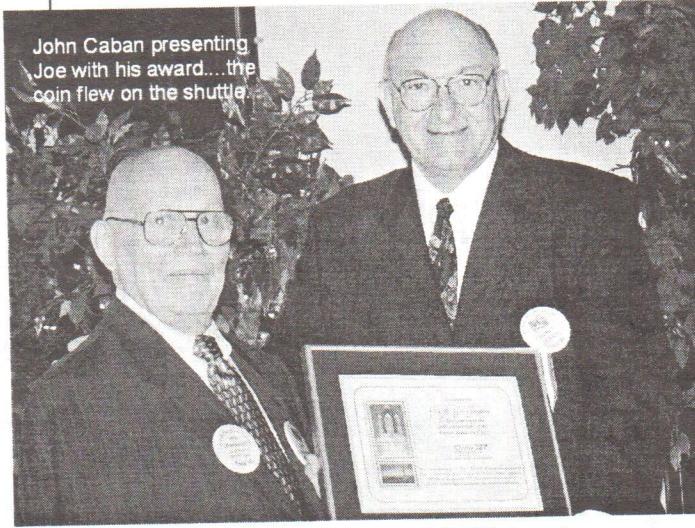
Long-Range Detection Alumni Association, Patrick AFB FL



Banquet Attendees, 05/31/03, (L>R) MGen Shaffer ('94-'96), Col (Ret) Beatty ('98-'00), Col (Ret) Meisenheimer ('78-'84), BGen (Ret) Jaeger ('91-'94), Col Bendorf ('02-current), Col Horton ('01-'02), Digipic by Bob Wiley



Digipic by Bob Wiley



Banquet, 'Alumni Of The Year' (2002) Award
Joseph 'Joe' Johnson, CA Chapter VP, accepts the honors from the FL
Chapter President, John Caban, Digipic, Bob Wiley



(L-R) Joseph 'Joe' Johnson-2002, Jim Payne-2001, Randy Vlassick for his deceased father, Ben Vlassick-2000, John Horsch-1999, Frank Hall-1998, Judy Milam-1997, Carl Gailey-1996, Clark Creery-1995, Digipic-Bob Wiley

FOR ADDITIONAL REUNION PICTURES GO TO THE ALUMNI WEBSITE, 'csi-inc.com/aftac'

MONITORing Active

Duty Doings' from around the AFTAC World

Command Section



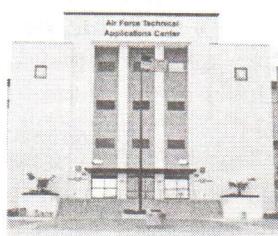
Col. Craig V.
Bendorf

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



CMSgt Lloyd S.
French

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



ABC Report

SUBMITTED BY SSGT VERONICA REED, BOOSTERS CLUB PRESIDENT

The weekly Burger Burns are cancelled until further notice. We are waiting to see if 45 SW would approve of the ABC having weekly Burger Burns (Private Organization allowed 2 fundraisers per quarter).

The 'burger burn ban' does not affect the support of the Alumni Open House where we will provide 'lunch for a fee.' However, it does affect other activities, i.e., the Winter Social, Spring Picnic and other morale activities we support. Hopefully, the base approval will come soon. Thank you for alumni concern and support.

The Booster club earned a total of \$2007.84 for operating the food booth at the Air Show. The Clothing Sales earned \$824 selling AFTAC coins, t-shirts, etc. during a recent Air Show.

Editors Note: Over the years many alumni have served at HQs, Patrick AFB, FL. With this in mind, your editors often read articles in the local newspaper, 'Florida Today' that we feel would be of interest to our readers keeping abreast of current base and command items.

Radiation monitor relocating to airport

BY SCOTT BLAKE FLORIDA TODAY, 2003.04

A system that monitors radiation in the air, primarily to detect fallout from a nuclear blast, will be moved from Patrick Air Force Base to Melbourne International Airport, under a proposal supported Wednesday by airport officials. The system, operated by Arlington, Va.-based Veridian Systems Division, will move to improve its accessibility, which has been hindered from heightened security at Patrick, according to Bob Shipman, Veridian's program manager.

Shipman said the federal government contracts with Veridian in connection with the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty, which includes protocols for monitoring nuclear emissions. Veridian operates similar monitors around the world and sends the information to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization in Vienna, Austria, which receives the information for the United Nations, Shipman said.

The company's monitoring system at Patrick is on the roof of the Air Force Technical Application Center. The military uses the center to track any nuclear explosions around the world.

Shipman said Veridian's system has been at Patrick for three or four years. During that time, he doesn't think the company has picked up any radiation in the air locally, although "my memory is hazy on this," he said.

Melbourne International Airport Marketing Director Larry Wuensch said Veridian will have an unstaffed trailer within the airport's secured area, where the company will monitor the air to determine whether it contains traces of nuclear activity. The data is transmitted to Vienna via satellite, and the information also is sent separately to the U.S. government, Shipman said.

He expects the trailer to be in operation at the airport by the end of the year. Although it will be unmanned, the device needs to be serviced occasionally, Wuensch said. The company will lease property from the airport for about \$1,800 a year, he said.

Because the United States supports the nuclear monitoring under the treaty, it gets to see the data sent to Vienna from around the world, Shipman said. However, such information coming from within the United States doesn't pass through the federal government before it gets sent to Vienna. "That's done so individual nations can't mess with the data," Shipman said.

Hangar is History, Literally

New buildings replace World War II hangar By R. Norman Moody
FLORIDA TODAY, March 27, 2003
Editors Note: As of this writing, this hangar is completely



demolished and the debris carted away. The 'new' modern hangar has been in use for several months and is a little south of the old. How many of you have memories of coming and going from this site?

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE A prominent base landmark since World War II will soon disappear from the edge of State Road A1A. The hangar at Patrick Air Force Base, completed in 1945 as part of Banana River Naval Air Station, will be demolished in the coming weeks. It served as the base's air terminal from 1948 until about two years ago. A new air terminal and two new buildings have replaced most of the hangar's functions. A much smaller hangar is being built nearby for nonmilitary aircraft.

"It's going to be a different view of this area," said Mike Hale, chief of design and construction at the base. "I don't think there is any plan for this area. They'll leave the concrete (floor) for future use." The arched metal roof building, known as Facility 800 on the base, serves as a landmark both on base and to civilians on the outside. "I think everybody says 'north of 800' or 'south of 800,'" said Dennis Newell, a resident engineer with the Army Corps of Engineers at Patrick. Local surfers refer to the popular surfing area across the road as "Hangars."

Covering more than 87,500 square feet, plus the additions that include a control tower, the building is large enough to contain a football field and plenty of spectators. It once protected large planes, and in recent years housed small single-engine aircraft from the flying club at the base. But age and salt spray have gnawed away at the metal. Some of the hangar's concrete has swelled and cracked. Metal doors on the building are badly corroded. Window panes are missing

and the beige paint is peeling.

The hangar has changed little over the years other than additions that were made early on. It was first sight for arriving visitors to see and their last impression as they departed.

A sign inside the now dusty, unoccupied front lobby reads: "Welcome to Patrick AFB, The best air terminal in the Air Force Space Command, '94, '95, '96, '98, '99."

"My first trip down-range was in 1980, and I came through this terminal," said Don George, an Air Force cultural resources manager at the base. "The building is a little more rusty, but in all the years coming through it, it hasn't changed much."

The building was first designated Project Baker Hangar for experimental and developmental stages of electronic and other equipment for naval aircraft. It was first occupied June 15, 1945, when it was about 75 percent complete.

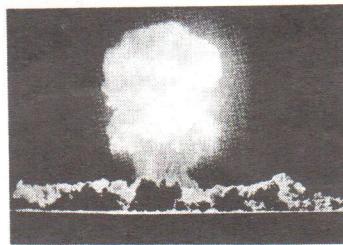
A new passenger and freight terminal, control tower and supply building have been built southwest of the old hangar, roughly midway along the base's main runway. A 13,000-square-foot hangar and administrative building for the flying club's small planes is being constructed nearby at an estimated cost of \$700,000.

The \$180,000 demolition job is expected to begin within the next few days after asbestos is removed from parts of the building at a cost of \$7,000. There are plans to recycle the metal from the old hangar.

Ten years ago it would have cost an estimated \$9 million to renovate the hangar. It would have taken about \$8 million to build a similar hangar. So the idea of saving it was scrapped.

George said that around the time of World War II, military buildings were designed and built in different locations without too much consideration of such things as the effects of the salt spray.

"A better example of this building exists somewhere not next to the ocean," he said.



CALENDAR

Association Board/Membership Meetings

Monthly HQ AFTAC WindDowns

Members and prospective members are encouraged to attend these events for fellowship and participation.

ALWAYS VERIFY WITH PAT SNYDER, (321) 494-6867, BEFORE COMING
—Board/membership meetings are scheduled for the **second Monday** of each month (dates listed below):

WHEN: 1730 (5:30 PM)

WHERE: AFTAC HQ's Building

HOW: come to rear entrance

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

WHEN: 1530 (3:30 PM)

WHERE: Behind AFTAC HQ building (the **Outback**)

HOW: come to the back of the building-find the crowd

2003

July

Unknown - (1st Friday Holiday) WindDown at the Outback
14, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

August

1, 1530 - WindDown at the Outback
11, 1730 - Board/Membership Meeting

September

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

2003-04 Event Projections
 (for planning purposes only)

Oct-Dec

← Assn. Golf n'Getogether [Election]
 Command Winter Social
 Jan-Mar
 Assn. SnowBall VI
 Command Awards Ceremony
 Command Picnic
 Apr-Jun
 Assn. Golf n'Getogether

2005 Event Projections
 (for planning purposes only)
 Reunion 2005, CA Chapter

ALUMNI SHOP

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

Include additional \$3.00 for shipping and handling*

*No shipping and handling charged on logo pins

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE (as of 2003.04.16)
 PURCHASED WITH ALUMNI FUNDS-Multi-Color Logo

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

GOLF SHIRTS, with pocket, \$14

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

T-SHIRTS, without pocket - \$7.00

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

SWEATSHIRTS, Ash Gray, \$15 1 3 3 1

HATS - \$6.00 # MISCELLANEOUS #

Green	7	50th Commem. Coins, \$3	146
Gray	3	Logo Pin, \$3.25	298
Red	7	Logo Disk, \$5.50	12
Light Blue	8	Alumni License Plate, \$7-members/	
Navy	0	\$10-nonmembers	6

Blue/ Gray	25	TOD History Book, free, s/h—\$4.00	
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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

NOTE: As promised, **Sagey** and **Alex** are not here. They will be back when three alumni mention them. Judy (**Milam**) and Ron (**Cook**) make two as they noticed in the December '01 issue—we need one more.

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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"
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Page 2 #Association/Chapter Information - #Editorial
Page 3/5 Mail-Call/#Alumni To Remember
Page 6 Feature Articles, "Commanders ReCall" (none this issue) - "I Remember" (none this issue)
"Where Are Ya?!!!"(none this issue) - "A Family Affair" (none this issue)
"A Barely Substantiated (BS) Tale" (two this issue)
Page 7 Florida Chapter/Other Chapter News (none this issue)
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Page 17-20 Monitoring Active-Duty Doins'#/Calendar - #Alumni Shop/#Contents/#Address Label

Technical data - issue size, ~20MB, 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

(for your use or pass on-complete/mail to ATTN: Membership Chair) (address/contact information on Page two, left panel)

FLORIDA Chapter dues (check one, enclose sum): \$10 annual dues \$75 lifetime
SPECIAL OFFER, For first time (new) members only, three years dues for \$20

NAME _____ (Spouse) _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

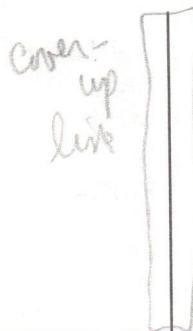
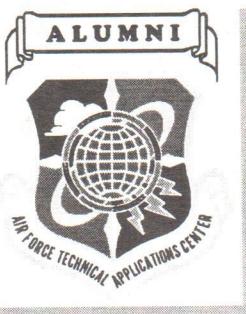
PHONE NUMBER(s): _____ EMAIL/HOME PAGE (optional) _____

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

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



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