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In
Touch*



***FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE
ASSOCIATION***

***NEWSLETTER
2014 Annual Reunion Issue***

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| Wayne Amann..... | AFISR Agency/PA |

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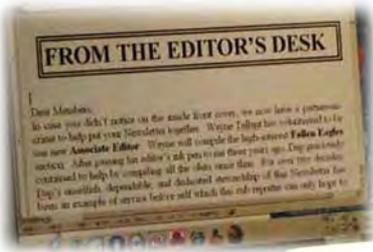
Howdy FTVA Members,

Well, the run-on holiday season is approaching at the speed of light. The stores are combining Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas into one swirl making it harder to separate them. We had another successful Anniversary season with our annual golf outing, a new endeavor with Laura Shanahan packing holiday boxes for our deployed personnel, the Remembrance Ceremony, Picnic, Hall of Honor, and Saturday night Banquet. Very special this year: four great HOH inductees and an outstanding banquet guest speaker, General Mike Hayden. Maj "Meat" Waters led a dedicated AF ISR Agency team, with significant help from key FTVA Board members, through a gauntlet of activities and "devils in the details" mine-field pretty much unscathed. Unfortunately, recent changes in the Air Force have made it harder to get on base without an ID card (even though the process had been fully coordinated with the base security forces in advance); and no fly-overs or 21-gun salutes due to money issues, etc. The AF ISR Agency (now 25th Air Force) team will continue to refine our checklists. If you have ideas on how we can improve these activities, please let us know so we can pass them on to our Active Duty team.

Now that the AF ISR Agency has reorganized into 25th Air Force, it's now Six Shields over Security Hill instead of Six Flags over Texas. The organization is back under Air Combat Command (ACC) like we were in 2001. This time we are a Numbered Air Force vs a Primary Subordinate Unit (PSU). We have added the 55th Wing at Offutt AFB that fly RC-135s, EC-130s and E-4Bs and the 9th Reconnaissance Wing at Beale AFB flying U-2Rs, RQ-4s (Global Hawk), and the MC-12s (Project Liberty aircraft). So, we have the iron and the back-end under one organization for the first time. NASIC was left under the AF/A2.

Bottom line, nothing has changed for the FTVA. We continue to support 25th AF, its units, and especially its people. Over the years, some unit nomenclatures may have changed and some locations may have changed, but they still do the same, critical missions we were all a part of back 'in the day'. So if you hear about an old/young intelligence command buddy you worked with and they aren't a FTVA member, encourage them to join our fraternity of brother/sister silent warriors. From Korea to Desert Shield/Storm, to countless other conflicts to the present day, there is no better way for all of us to "Remain in Touch" than the FTVA.

Cheers, *Ron*



Hi Everyone,
Over the years, we've been trying to add more of a "personal touch" to your News Magazine. So, since this is your *Annual Reunion Issue*, I hope you find the additional photos and captions we've added to be helpful. Our special thanks to Wayne Tallant who has been researching and "filling

in the blanks" while compiling an expanded military background on a number of Fallen Eagles with each successive issue. In October we welcomed CMSgt (Ret) Joe 'Pepito' Figueroa to our Newsletter staff to assist us in this effort. Thanks to those of you who helped make this issue worth reading by contributing your postings and submissions. A lot of photos and reading material reflecting our team effort await you.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,



Editor's Disclaimer

Information in the form of letters, notes, fax, e-mail, or by phone is accepted as true and factual. In order to include as much information as possible, some of it may be edited for brevity or may be delayed for later publication. Publishing of any article or notice in this Newsletter does not assure accuracy or endorsement by the Association or Command.



October 6, 2014
To: Freedom Through Vigilance Association
PO Box 691616

Dear Friends,
Thank you for your recent contribution of \$250.00 to the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund. Your generous gift will support our program assisting wounded military personnel and their families. 100% of your contribution supports this program; our Board of Trustees underwrites all the Fund's administrative costs. Thank you again for your concern for our wounded heroes in uniform and their families. Together we are helping to repay the debt all Americans owe them for their selfless service.

Sincerely,
David A. Winters, President

Letters to the Editor



Chief Rass,

The September issue is great, Saddened to hear that the 6920th/301st has left the building. I ran many a URC-53 message through Missy during my days flying on C-130s as a Bat 2 (Airborne Analyst) and Bat 1 (Airborne Mission Supervisor) at the 6988th Scty Sq Yokota AB, Japan.

Just a note about the photo you posted in Aloha Chapter section of Sep RIT. I've known Ken Hopkins for almost 50 years and Ken Een for over 40 years, so I have to tease them when I have the chance. They helped keep this former MSgt turned butter bar Lt out of trouble at his first unit of assignment. I notice in the photo that Chief 'Hopi' has finally stopped using Grecian Formula, Just for Men, or whatever he was using to camouflage the gray. I guess Myoko brought him to his senses. Ken Een needs to use something to tone down the shine on his topside when flash pictures are taken.



Pete Siegel

Douglas EC-47D Painting Available

Submitted by A J Harrison



(Left) FTVA is now able to make copies of this beautiful 16in x 20in painting which hangs in the 25AF Command Section available to members at cost. Copies are available on either heavyweight (430) gsm canvas with an acid-free, pH-neutral coating or on MOAB ENTRADA RAG BRIGHT which is a double-sided, award-winning art paper. The cost will depend on the total number of canvas and/or art paper copies ordered. Prices range from approximately (read canvas/art paper) \$104.05/\$87.00 each for one copy down to 88.50/\$71.00 each for ten or more copies with the final price determined by the total number of

paintings ordered regardless of whether they are canvas or art paper. The price includes shipping and handling as well as a protective coating for the canvas. I will take orders through 31 March 2015 and then let each of you know the price based on the orders received prior to ordering. **You can send your orders to cougar6994ss@gmail.com or snail mail to CMSgt (Ret) A.J. Harrison, 12338 Prince Solms, San Antonio, TX 78253. Please be sure to indicate if you would like canvas or art paper and provide quantity, contact phone number, e-mail address, and full mailing address.**



AFISR AGENCY NEWS

Compiled by Ken Maynard, Auxiliary Staff

Oct 1 2014

General Hayden,

Thank you so much for your gracious acceptance of our invitation to speak at the FTVA Anniversary Banquet last Saturday. The banquet capped off a terrific week of activities, especially the Hall of Honor induction ceremony in which four remarkable intelligence Airmen were recognized for their peacetime and combat accomplishments.

Your remarks were pitch perfect and very well received! On the eve our transition to 25 AF (which went off without a hitch, by the way), your words on the deep roots of innovative thinking, of a warrior culture, and of the propensity for action hit precisely the tone at the right time. It was what that audience needed to hear.

Very Respectfully, Jack

25 AF: New Chapter in a Storied Legacy

By Wayne Amann, 25AF Public Affairs



Gen. Mike Hostage, Commander of Air Combat Command, left, passes the guide-on of Twenty-Fifth Air Force to Maj. Gen. John Shanahan who assumed command of the newest Numbered Air Force during the re-designation ceremony of the Air Force Intelligence,

Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency to 25 AF Sept. 29 on Joint Base San Antonio - Lackland's Security Hill. (U.S. Air Force photo by William Belcher)

9/29/2014 - **JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - LACKLAND, Texas** -- As the Air Force's premier intelligence organization approaches its 66th Anniversary, it will mark the occasion under a new unit name and structure. The Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency is now the Twenty-Fifth Air Force, following its re-designation ceremony Sept. 29 in the headquarters Ardisana Courtyard here on Security Hill.

It's the sixth iteration of the organization which was activated as the United States Air Force Security Service in October 1948. This latest re-designation allows 25 AF, realigned under Air Combat Command, to focus on ISR, electronic warfare, airborne national command and control, nuclear detection and treaty monitoring, targeting and analysis operations. The newest Numbered Air Force will provide decision advantage from those operations, through ACC, to joint commanders, national leaders and coalition partners.

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

As the ISR force provider, ACC can ensure consistent presentation of ISR resources to warfighters. Maj. Gen. John Shanahan, former Air Force ISR Agency commander, assumed command of 25 AF and presided over the re-alignment of the 55th Wing, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., and the 9th Reconnaissance Wing, Beale AFB, Calif., from 12 AF to 25 AF. "As we begin to write the next chapter of Air Force ISR, titled Twenty-Fifth Air Force, our legacy will become even richer and even more storied," Shanahan told the courtyard gathering. "For the first time in Air Force history, ISR will have a 4-star leader with the mandate, force structure and resources to truly maximize the entirety of the vast Air Force ISR enterprise."

Twenty-Fifth Air Force will create an opportunity for greater operational synchronization and greater integration of Air Force ISR products and analysis for the national intelligence community. "The men and women of Twenty-Fifth Air Force have a tremendous opportunity to shape Air Force ISR in ways I and other AFISRA commanders could only have

dreamed of," said Lt. Gen. Robert Otto, Headquarters United States Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance and former commander of the Air Force ISR Agency. "I know it's your hard and selfless work that has gotten us to this day. Your leadership, innovation and commitment will deliver success. It's in your DNA." The newest NAF will also provide an organizational link to strengthen full-spectrum targeting and threat warning to Air Force and Joint Force commanders through ACC.

During the ceremony Otto and Shanahan teamed with AF ISR Agency Command Chief Master Sgt. Roger Towberman to furl the AFISRA flag which is now a permanent part of the unit's storied heritage. It joined predecessor flags representing the USAF Security Service, the Electronic Security Command, Air Force Intelligence Command and Air Intelligence Agency. Each iteration met growing mission requirements. Through nearly seven decades its silent warriors have analyzed and exploited near real-time intelligence to provide decision advantage for combatant commanders on the ground and our Nation's leadership.

Today, 25 AF continues that commitment as it meets ever-changing global challenges.



FTVA Hall of Honor Inductions



JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO -

(Adapted from an article by Wayne Amann, AFISR PA)

Four of the most influential leaders of the Air Force intelligence community were forever enshrined here into the heritage of the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency, Sept. 27.

Retired Chief Master Sgts Ronald Davey and Michael Meermans and retired Master Sgts William Dickerson and Navid Garshasb were inducted into the organization's Hall of Honor in the agency's headquarters building on Security Hill. Their selection from among 17 nominees brings the total number of inductees to 176, spanning the 66 years of the United States Air Force Security Service and its succeeding iterations.

The foursome was selected for induction by a nine-member FTVA alumni group committee of prior Hall of Honor inductees. The 2014 inductee class plaque is permanently displayed in the Hall of Honor.

The Hall of Honor was created in 1983 to honor individuals who served USAFSS/ESC and its successor commands with great distinction and contributed immeasurably to mission excellence. The Hall preserves the legacy of those who have gone before, highlights their deeds, and honors their contributions. CMSgt Davey and MSgt Garshab are both deceased so their families accepted for them.

A. J. Harrison, HOH Chair

CMSgt (Ret) Ronald “Combat Ron” Davey



Chief Master Sergeant Ronald "Combat Ron" Davey entered the United States Air Force in 1954. He arrived in Berlin during the construction of the Berlin Wall where, as a mission supervisor and senior voice controller, he reported on this historic event. After volunteering for Vietnamese language training in 1966, he spent 2 years at DaNang AB, and then transferred to the 6990th SS, Kadena AB, for flying duties. He progressed quickly to become an Airborne Mission Supervisor on EC-121K (Rivet Top), EC-121T (College Eye/Rivet Gym), EC-47 (Phyllis Ann), C-130 (Silver Dawn/Commando Lance), and RC-135 (Combat Apple); flying over 600 combat and combat support missions, accumulating over 2,400 combat hours and earning the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, and numerous Air Medals. Returning to Kadena AB, in 1979, he was selected as the 6990th ESG Senior Enlisted Advisor, and then as Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Commander, Electronic Security Pacific, Hickam AFB, Hawaii. Chief Davey continued distinctive service until retirement in November 1985 with more than 12,000 flying hours.

CMSgt (Ret) Michael “Mike” Meermans



Chief Master Sergeant Michael "Mike" Meermans served with distinction at ground stations and on both the RIVET JOINT/COMBAT SENT and COMPASS CALL aircraft. As Chief of Airborne Reconnaissance Operations, HQ USAF/INXY, he was the "Air Force Lead" in the RC-135/EP-3 debate resulting in a ~\$1.5B appropriations decision for additional systems. Invited by the Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) to join the committee, he authored and gained directive language in the National Defense Authorization Act, and convinced members of the House to re-engine the entire RC-135 fleet, which resulted in the avionics and engine modernization we have today. He is personally responsible for providing support and funding for the original DCGS imagery "reachback" operations (allowing worldwide ISR and reducing deployment lines). He retired from the HPSCI in 2004, however, was recalled by the HPSCI Chairman and the Speaker of the House to become the HPSCI Staff Director, the Intelligence Advisor to the Speaker of House, and the first enlisted USAFSS/ESC/AFIC/AIA/AFISRA alumni to hold this position.



Col (Ret) Ron Haygood introduced the 25th AF Commander, MGen John Shanahan who addressed the members and guests attending the 2014 induction ceremony in the Larger Auditorium.

MSgt (Ret) William “Skeeter” Dickerson



Master Sergeant William "Skeeter" Dickerson served six consecutive tours in Vietnam (6 and one half years), flying a total of 755 combat missions and over 5,000 combat hours, on the EC-47, as an Airborne Morse Operator and Airborne Mission Supervisor. While serving on Airborne Radio Direction Finding missions (Phyllis Ann), over extremely dangerous enemy territory during the Vietnam conflict, his outstanding performance, involvement with extremely critical mission activities, and dedication while under hostile ground fire and attack, resulted in the awarding of four Distinguished Flying Cross medals. During his assignment to HQ ESC, MSgt Dickerson managed 6948th SS Emergency Reaction Air Force Special Security Office support for a special operations wing, as well as the unit's response to a special NSA tasking for participation in a classified project; which brought ESC extensive laudatory comments. MSgt "Skeeter" Dickerson is a legend among the many personnel who served and flew with the EC-47 Airborne Radio Direction Finding missions (Phyllis Ann) in South East Asia.



Left: CMSgt (Ret) and HOH member Ed Jolly joined the large group congratulating 2014's class of HOH selectees.

MSgt (Ret) Navid “G” Garshashb



Master Sergeant Navid "G" Garshashb, a 25th Intelligence Squadron Direct Support Operator, distinguished himself by heroism on 2 November 2001, while engaged in air/ground operations against the Taliban in Afghanistan. Extreme weather forced his MH-53 Pave Low helicopter to make a crash-landing behind enemy lines. The situation worsened when local villagers approached the injured crew. MSgt Garshashb suffered two fractured vertebrae and a fractured rib in the crash. Despite his injuries and the onset of hypothermia, he set down his weapon and engaged the villagers, not knowing if they were friend or foe. Using his mastery of the local language, he diffused the situation by convincing them of the dangers of continuing toward the aircraft. MSgt Garshashb's language and human interaction skills saved many Afghan lives preventing an international incident. He was awarded the Air Force Association Pitsenbarger award for bravery and heroism for this action. MSgt Garshashb's courage, linguistic expertise, and negotiation skills cemented the Air Force Special Operations Command's perception of the value of airborne cryptologic linguists on AFSOC platforms.



Left: Maj Gen Shanahan, 25th AF Commander, along with FTVA President Ron Haygod display the 2014 HOH Inductee Plaque.

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|------------------------|
| BEDSIDE MATTERS |
|------------------------|

Tom Baker Oct 20

“Just wanted to let you all know that I had a Pet Scan this week. Doctor said a couple indicators still need to be checked further. Will have another scan in six months. More later. Take care.”



George Williams//Sep 30 2014// (Redacted) My last trip to CU Hospital in Denver was not an entire success. The esophageal dilation went well, but the news we got afterwards was not good. They didn't get all the cancer on Sep 2nd. I begin a radical regimen of radiation and chemo including removal of part of my esophagus later. God is helping and I will fight this cancer to the best of my ability. Thanks for all your thoughts and prayers.”

Walt Ritter//Sep 24// Walt was laid up during the Annual Reunion this year. His wife Lily took him to the hospital Wed evening with stomach pain. Found an ulcer the size of a 50 cent piece. **//Oct 1//** “I left the hospital last week on a liquid diet and 5 prescriptions. Following the diet for 30 days then undergo another endoscopy to see how the ulcer is doing. The biopsy didn't find any cancer genes. Lost 20 pounds.”

//Nov 7//Walt's feeling better. “Doc says ulcer is healing nicely but wants me to say on a liquid diet for another 8 weeks - just what I need, more soup. I gained 3 pounds back and taking only 4 antibiotics a day.”

CMSgt (Ret) Bill Strickland (USAFSS Comm Center Ops) Austin, TX//Oct 10 – follow-up: “Back in hospital for a month. Foot still won't heal so my chemo treatment on hold. The cancer center tells everyone all will balance out, so will try to hold it all together but that's quite a task. Keep the faith old ch'ingu, looks like I will lose the foot and spend more time in another rehab center in Austin, TX.”

Maj (Ret) Ned Gates//Oct 30 – follow-up; (Hospitalized in late April for complications encountered from Lymphoma) Ned continues to progress. Taking his “pill-a-day” chemo and regularly undergoes a recurring evaluation of his lymphoma. **//Bob Cope//**



Heritage Chapter

Ronald 'JJ' Graham, President
and Larry Ross, Secretary/Treasurer

Vets Replace Man's WWII Medals

by Rick Smith - San Angelo Standard Times
(2014 – Adapted for RIT Newsletter use)

SAN ANGELO, Texas - An old soldier's search for his missing military medals began with a classified ad he posted in the Standard-Times in May. "I'm 89 years old, and they were my only treasure," Gilberto Torres, a San Angelo resident, wrote of his medals the May newspaper ad. "Please safely return."



in

The veteran's original medals, including a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart, may never be found. But thanks to a group of San Angelo veterans, including the FTVA, his search ended in early July with a presentation at Kenny Blanek's Village Café. Veteran Bruce Foreman read that news so this group of veterans and others presented the soldier identical medals to the ones he lost. They are housed in a beautiful shadow box. He also was handed an American flag that has flown over the national's Capitol in his honor. Torres earned those medals on a D-Day beach when he and his comrades who stood their ground, then started moving inch by inch through France along hedgerows, fighting snipers and concealed German positions. He survived the beach fighting, but 48 days later was shot in his right arm by a German machine gun as he and his comrades moved into the French countryside. "I was just lucky," he said.

After the presentations were over, he confessed, "My God, I don't know how to say how much I appreciate what they have done for me." Then the old soldier said, "I have my medals."



Gold Country Chapter **Yuba City, CA**

By John Aurelius, President

2014 Goals

Near the beginning of 2014, the Commander of the 548th, Colonel Tim Sipowicz, and I sat down in his office along with Chief Edward Slacum. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss what our Gold Country Chapter could do to help the 548th during the coming year. In that meeting we agreed upon three major objectives.



The first goal was for us to acquire an MQ-1 Predator for static display in front of their building at Beale Air Force Base. With the help of our former chapter

President, Richard Sacchetti along with the employees of the manufacturer, General Atomic, I am happy to say that this project is moving forward with a yes from General Atomic, a liaison appointed at the base and paperwork is moving through the approval cycle. I am very proud of this progress and look forward to seeing the aircraft sitting in front of the 548th HQ building.

Since the base gym is not open all of the time and is located miles away, the second goal was for us to acquire gym equipment that would be located within or very near the 548th so members can access an exercise area and more quickly return to their positions. I am happy to report that we secured and delivered a MultiGym to them last month. This equipment allows up to three Airmen to workout at the same time. I am waiting for the call to return to the base and assist them in assembling it.

The third goal was to acquire photographs of historical significance that would show the history of the 548th and the units that preceded it, the foundation of their legacy. These would be displayed on the bare walls of the 548th so that all can see images of the locations, the equipment and the people over the last 50 years. This goal is still in progress.

I am also happy to report that at a recent meeting, the members reelected myself as President along with Russ Clark and Thomas Roach. We will serve for another two years.



2014 REUNION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notifications of Upcoming Reunions for 2015

NOTE: Any Reunion plans for 2015? Let us help. Use the form found on the FTVA web site to ensure widest dissemination: go to <http://www.ftva.org/> and/or call me at 210-695-1334.//RIT Editor//

January 23-25, 2015

USAFSS Mini-Maxi Roll Call

Location: St Augustine, FL

Comments: We have signed a contract for our 7th year at The Quality Inn Historic, 1111 N. Ponce de Leon Blvd, St. Augustine, Florida 32084. Phone: [\(904\) 824-5554](tel:9048245554) for reservations. Mention USAFSS Roll Call.

POC: Jay Johnson e-mail: jjohnson1203@cfl.rr.com

March 2015

2nd RSM (Darmstadt, Germany) 8th Biannual Reunion

Location: Houston, TX

Comments: A Princess Cruise Ship reunion to the Western Caribbean. (A ground tour is scheduled prior to sailing.)

POC: Richard Campbell 281-245-4927 e-mail: rpc12333@gmail.com

Louise Campbell 281-703-8372 e-mail: lcg410@msn.com



*Merry
Christmas
2014*



*Happy
□□□□
Year
2015*



REUNION REPORTS



Misawa Alumni Social Newsletter Compilation

As usual, Walt Ritter hosted his 17th annual Wednesday Golf Tourney, Ice Breaker and BBQ at Lily’s King’s Lounge complete with complimentary hot dogs, sausage, hamburgers, beans and ‘taters.



Photo by Jim Lipa

After the traditional telling of “war stories” and reviewing golf scores, the Misawa alumni gathered for the annual ‘family’ picture. The group welcomed ‘BJ’ Cook (center front holding sign) back from Florida this year after taking sick leave during last year’s gathering.



(L-R)
Some real-life stalwarts at the annual get together at Walt’s:
Jane Doolittle,
Tommy Cook,
Doris Ruff,
Wayne Tallant,
Jim Stephens,
& BJ Cook

(Right)
After golf there's refreshments:
John Frock
Bob Burns
Dan Rivera
& Margarit Frock



(Left)
Repeat offenders:
John 'J J 'Pitzeruse
& Dick De Bosh



(Right)
Three amigos:
Charlie Millsap
Harold Hollingshead
& Terry Cullivan



(Left)
Reunion fixtures:
Cathy Leach
Gary Koehn,
Dave Domyancic
& Dan Leach,





(Left)
They never get old:
Dave Shepard
& Al Budington

(Right)
Table in the corner:
Joe Hornsby
Ron Marcoullier
Gino Giannadriana
Waco Wetterman
Jim Lipa
Eric Hornsby



(Left)
And a good time was had by
all:
Wayne Tallant, Jane Doolittle,
Dennis Rassmussen, and Jay
Emmer

Note: This is the first time Walt was unable to make it to his own 'party' at King's Lounge across from Security Hill. Turns out, Walt had a 'bout with a pesky stomach ulcer that night. Lily had to take Walt to the emergency room where the hospital admitted him for tests. They put him on a liquid diet and sent him home a couple days later. See [Bedside Matters](#) section for more details.

Skivvy Niners Meet at Rudy's BBQ during FTVA Reunion

Newsletter Compilation

Thursday evening Sep 25th, a motley group of veteran and current Korean linguists (AFSC 203-9/MIMI/1N3) mingled with the brisket, ribs and "Sause" at Rudy's BBQ on Hi-Way 151 under the watchful eye of "Red" Lloyd.

(Right) L-R Ken O'Neil, Pam Schledwig and Chet Holmes had to "get in line to get their grub" on their way to join the others in the outside patio.



(Left) Rick Brumm and Chris Norman enjoyed some time for reminiscing along with Rudy's famous BBQ.

(Right) "Red" Lloyd and Craig Carter were first to arrive and the last to leave the Skivvy Nine linguist outing at Rudy's.





2014 Reunion Week Golf Tournament

By Dennis Buxton, FTVA Tournament Chairman

Dateline San Antonio, TX, 25 September 2014 - The FTVA Annual Golf Tournament kicked off the reunion week's festivities and events on 25

September at the Alsatian Golf Club, Castroville, TX. On a beautiful Thursday afternoon, 137 golfers from the FTVA and AFISR teed it up to test their skills in a scramble format against fellow alumni and guests. The distinguished guest was Maj. Gen. Jack Shanahan, AFISR Commander.



Scores from the 35 teams (32 foursomes and 3 threesomes) ran the gamut from the winning 18 under par (cries of "foul" and "fixed" and the proverbial "sandbaggers!" rang out during the awards presentation) to the "Braveheart Award" winners' +7 at the other end of the spectrum (perhaps more mulligans were in order?). Overall, all but two groups turned in cards reflecting under par scores but the author hopes everyone had a great time.



Some of the Crews and Crewmembers without whom the mission would have either gone INDEF DELAY or NOGO Status. Regretfully, space limitations prohibit publication here of all "crew members".

In addition to the team competition, the golfers tested their skills to win fame (but not fortune, unfortunately) in the individual skills competitions which featured a Putting challenge, a 'Flop Shot event' a'la Phil Mickelson, two closest to the pins (smart technology clubs were not allowed), and the Longest Drive competition in which participants were tested for PEDs before and after the shot IAW the golf world's new procedures :-).

After the round, the assemblage was treated to a culinary repast while swag was passed out. This year's bonus prizes were a USAF Golf Bag and Headcovers kindly donated by Dave Fowler who was unable to be here this year. Thanks Dave! Hope to see you next year.

In other kudos, we thank "The Hill" Golf liaison's Karl Cator and Rick Brumm, set up volunteers Joe Hurst and Barney Gavin, the staff of the golf course for the logistics (and food!) provided, and to able assistant Wes Tarte who assisted from opening to closing. Sincere gratitude.

In fact, we hope to see all of you next year as well to renew old ties, meet new friends, honor the past and have a great time.

Congratulations to the following teams and individuals (the envelope please):

| | |
|--|---|
| 1st Place Team @ 18 Under Par | Kenny O'Neal, Lones Seiber III, Lones Seiber IV and Chip Von Heiland. |
| 2nd Place Team @ 17 Under | Kenny Belinfante, Bill Hall, Daniel Hoffman, David Hoffman |
| 3rd Place Team @ -15 (won the tie-breaker) | Ed Rodriguez, Sam San Miguel, J.O. McFalls and Dale Bartos |
| 4th Place Team @ -15 | Shawn Davis, Rick Lafosse, Adolpho Garcia, and Wick Tolliver |
| 5th Place Team @ -14 | Al Binch, Ray LaFreniere, John Stallings and Rod Teuscher |
| 6th Place Team @ -13 (won the tie-breaker) | Ernie Lazard, Earl McDonald, Ron Moyer, and Greg Skeckowski |
| Last Place Honors - and an awarded prize category | Mike Knapp, Ed Schenck, Scott Swanson and Eric Westmoreland |

Individual skill honors belong to:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Putting Contest | Rod Teuscher |
| Longest Drive | Lones Seiber III or IV |
| Closest to the Pin #12 | Rodger Lanciault |
| Closest to the Pin on #6 | Romeo Bautista |
| Flop Shot Over the Great Wall Contest | Tie: Scott Cunningham & Rick Lafosse |



PRE-MISSION BRIEFING: Prior to taking off for the tees, Golf Mission Supervisor (GMS) Dennis Buxton (Left) briefed the various crews on the Rules of Engagement as Flight Commander Maj. Gen. Jack Shanahan (Right) looks on approvingly.



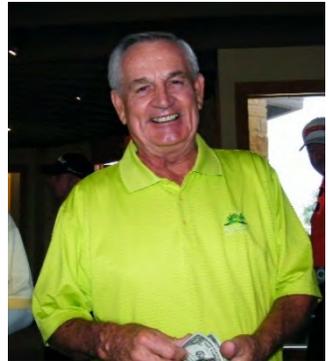
(Right)
MAINTENANCE: Once the logistics were in place volunteers quickly assembled everything for 'pre-mission deployment' to the golf courts. Depicted here are Wes Tarte and Bernie Gavin.



Photo Gallery 2014 FTVA Golf Tourney "A Selective Compilation"



(Left) **LOGISTICS:**
Don't know if he was a former USAFSS Logistician, but volunteer **Barnie Gavin**, easily handled the logistics required to get everyone a "Goody Bag"



(Right)
Jesse Coultrap buying Box Bennies



(Left)
In the No Threat Environment:
Rick Brumm,
Karl Cator,
Chip Helms,
Mike Labbe

(Right)
The Proverbial Motley
Crew:
Earl MacDonald,
Greg Skeckowski,
Ernie Lazard, and
Ron Moyer.



(Left)
Front End Crew:
Joe Gignac,
Josh Davis,
Paul Turner
Maj. Gen Jack Shanahan

(Right)
Dream Team:
Joe Hurst,
Jim McLendon,
John Koch, and
Ron Haygood





2014 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

(Adapted from an article by Wayne Amann
25 Air Force Public Affairs)



Honoring those no longer with us was the theme at the Agency's annual Remembrance Ceremony Sept. 26th. Held in the shadow of the agency headquarters EC-47 static aircraft display, the event honored those Silent

Warriors who gave their lives to the agency's vital mission and the national security. The term 'Silent Warriors' refers to members who served under the various iterations of the organization starting with the United States Air Force Security Service, followed by the Electronic Security Command, Air Force Intelligence Command, Air Intelligence Agency and the present day Air Force ISR Agency.



"The name of our esteemed organization has changed a number of times since it was born 66 years ago," Shanahan told the ceremony crowd. "But what has not changed and will never change, is the DNA of the ISR Silent Warrior."

Ron Haygood, FTVA president, paid tribute to our past warriors who served in silence and gave their lives in that service. In conjunction with these ceremonies, the 2014 FTVA Reunion week marked the Agency's 66th Annual Anniversary and included the HOH induction, FTVA's annual membership meeting, a golf tournament in nearby Castroville, Texas, a picnic at Security Hill's Stapleton Park and a reunion banquet at JBSA - Lackland's Gateway Club.



a reunion banquet at JBSA - Lackland's Gateway Club.



(Left) The Remembrance Ceremony culminated, as has been tradition, with a roll call of unit members, referred to as Fallen Eagles, who have passed away during the previous 12 months. Retired AIA Command Chief Master Sgt. Edward Colquhoun, Jr. (Left) read a list of 62 Fallen Eagles assisted by FTVA Secretary Loran Sevensing.



A wreath was laid to commemorate our Fallen Eagles, followed by a lone bagpiper playing Amazing Grace - then a moment of silence - the bugler played Taps.





FTVA SPOTLIGHT



Colonel (Ret) William T. Ballard

Oct 26, 1929 – Sep 8, 2014

Co-founder & First President of the USAFSS ALUMNI ASSN



Colonel (USAF, Retired) William T. Ballard, born to Coleman and Irene Williamson Ballard in Beaumont, Texas, passed away on September 8, 2014. He is survived by his loving and faithful wife of 65 years, Tonia V. Beltram Ballard; three daughters, Valli Dimmery, Nikki Cavanaugh and Shawn Garza; nine grandchildren, Dr. Kristy Dimmery Edwards, Eric Dimmery, Brian and Cory Cavanaugh and Stacey Ward, and grandchildren that were adopted, Brandon, Courtney, Chad and Bridgette Ballard; and many great grandchildren.

Bill and Tonia first dated at ages 13 and 12 respectively. Bill's military career started as an Airman Instructor in control tower operations. Commissioned in 1953, Bill flew B-36 and B-52s as a Navigator/Bombardier. Assigned to USAF Security Service in 1958, he had a most distinguished, worldwide intelligence career; earning four Legions of Merit, and two Bronze Stars. He commanded units at Tan Son Nhut and Danang ABs, South Vietnam, and in Berlin, Germany; ending his career as the DCS Operations, USAFSS in 1980. **Col Ballard co-founded the USAFSS Alumni Association (now FTVA) and was its first President. Inducted into the Air Force Intelligence Hall of Honor in 1986, he chaired the HOH program for many years.** He received his B.A. from George Washington University, his M.A. from Auburn, and studied at the Doctoral level at MIT. Bill graduated from Squadron Officers' School, AF Command and Staff College, Industrial College of the Armed Forces and the Air War College. He was a partner in Centurion Enterprises and on the SSFCU Board of Directors for 20 years. Bill was a wonderful husband, a great father, and an outstanding and available Papa to his great and grandchildren. He will be missed by all.



Colonel (USAF, Retired) William T. Ballard

TRIBUTES

(Following are representative of the many tributes we received.)

Thanks. He is an icon in the USAFSS/ESC world and will be missed. **//Col Paul Redhead//**

Colonel Ballard was my first commander on my first tour in ESC. He set the model for all the others. One of the finest men I have ever known. He was so good to me over my career and afterwards. This is a sad, sad day. **//Chief Susan Douglas//**

Sorry to hear the news. Col. Ballard was one of a kind ... always willing to pitch in to make things better, to make a difference in the intelligence community, and to be a friend to all who knew him. RIP, Colonel. **//Chief Bob Cotti//**

A sad day for our nation. There was only one. RIP and God bless Colonel Ballard. **//Col John Lewis//**

Served under Col Ballard in Berlin - one of the best for sure - perhaps even T-H-E best! Rip, Colonel! **//Chief Michael Petersen//**

A sad loss for his family and many friends. He was a true gentleman and always had time for this junior pup. //Col Greg Roman//

Colonel Ballard was a good guy. He treated enlisted troops with respect. He'll be missed. RIP Sir. //Chief Danny Prichard//

Col Ballard was my CC at the 6924th/DaNang....wonderful man and great leader...will be missed...RIP Sir. //SMSgt Daniel Rivera-Lugo//

Only good memories of Col Ballard. When I arrived at the 94th, Major Ballard noted that I was qualified as AMS on the Drill Press project, but I didn't have all the airborne qualifications. He got me through Basic Survival School at Fairchild and waived AZK. A few years ago he got me in touch with "Turk" Claire, the other main AMS on Drill Press. RIP, Col Ballard. //Darwin Bruce//

I had the distinct pleasure of serving with Col bill Ballard on several occasions. My condolences to his family.//Louis Rocha//



Several members of Col Ballard's family addressed the large crowd attending his Funeral service in Castroville, TX.



Many family & friends attended -



Messrs. Buchholtz, Bishop & Crabtree

Sorry to hear. The following write-up was provided at Col Ballard's induction into the FTVA/ESC Hall of Honor in 1986. I do have the program from that year...one of the few early programs. // Hope this helps. // **Bob Cope//**



FTVA Floral Arrangement.

Col (Ret) William T. Ballard

Highly versatile, totally dedicated, fiercely loyal, and an innovative leader aptly describe Bill Ballard. His keen insight and creative technical knowledge permitted him to devise many unique procedures to support the USAF combat mission. During the seventies, Bill continued his distinguished career as Commander, 6924th, in Vietnam; USAFSS special project officer; Chief, SIGINT Branch, at HQ USAF, Commander of the 6912th SS in Berlin; USAFSS DCS/Plans and Operations; and DCS/Operations, ESC. USAFSS/ESC support to tactical air operations was his forte, and he served us well.

Col Ballard's Bio (PWG web site):

Enlisted in January 1951. Became control tower operator and instructor. Commissioned in March 1953 and flight school as navigator/bombardier. Flew combat crew from 1955-1958 in B-36 then upgraded to B-52. Grounded medically in 1958 and assigned to USAFSS at Goodfellow.

In USAFSS since 1958 with operational assignments and as commander of several USAFSS units, including 1st CC of 6994th/Tan Son Nhut, 1st SS Liaison Officer to 2nd AD/7th AF @ TSN/Vietnam 65-66; set up & served as 1st Cmdr 6994 @ TSN in 66-67. Wrote/coordinated 1st joint agreement w/7AF for joint use of ARDF; HQ USAFSS 67-69 (deployed to Osan to coord w/5AF during PUEBLO & USN C-121 shoot-down incidents.); 6924th/Danang CC 69-70; War College 70-71; HQ USAFSS 71-72; MIT Research Associate 72;

HQ USAF as Chief INYS (USAF SIGINT) working on, among other things, the successful approval for the upgrade on Rivet Joint, Block III , 72-76; 6912th/Berlin CC 76-79; HQ USAFSS/ESC, DCS Operations 79-80 -- retiring in Oct 80.

PICNIC AT STAPLETON PARK

Newsletter Compilation



The FTVA Information Center and most of the food booths were up and running before noon. Bob Baert made sure all the handouts and paperwork were in order for member support and annual membership renewals. The BOD took turns keeping the “watch”.

It was a beautiful day for a picnic and, judging by the smiles on the faces of those who turned out for the event, it was enjoyed by one and all.



Segundo 'Espy' Espinoza



Ron Laske & Dave Naab



Tom O'Conner & Bob Askew



H. Holingshead, Bob and Charlotte Willis

Picnic Out-Takes (cont'd)



(Above) Steve Mobry sported some creative artwork on his red T-shirt.

(Right) Jim Klaus, Ron Moyer and Ron Marcoullier were all smiles.



(Left) Nancy Cornelius & Linda Lowry found a shady table near one of the pavilions.

(Right) Ron 'JJ' Graham (L), president of the Heritage Chapter, comes all the way down from San Angelo every year to join the fun. Here he is with Dan Ashline .



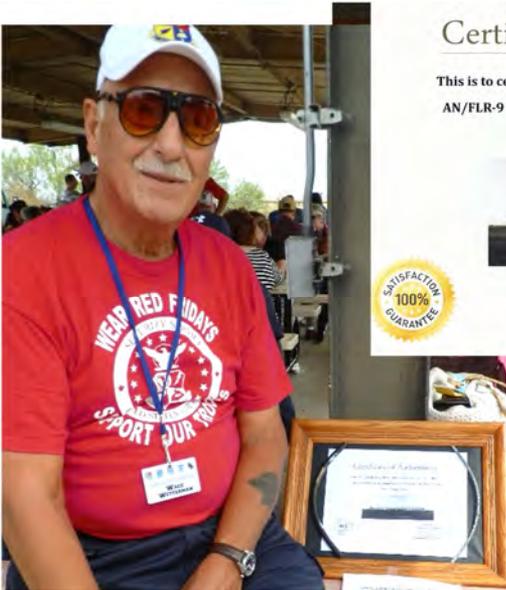
Picnic Out-Takes (cont'd)



Chris Alms (Left) with Joe and Joanne Magert sat across from John Alms to save on hot air.

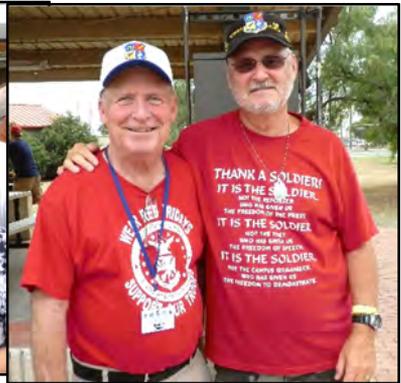


(Right) Hilda & Leroy Rogers are always fun to visit with at the picnic each year.



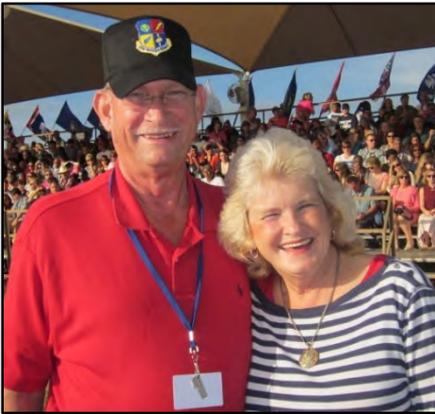
Waco sat next to a display of the Certificate of authenticity signed by Cecil Hahn with a keepsake from Misawa's soon-to-be dismantled FLR-9 Elephant Cage.

Picnic Out-Takes (cont'd)



B. Gavin, Lowell Cornelius, Toni Anderson catchin' up on 'old' times.

Randy Roby & Jay 'JJ' Johnson sported their Red Shirt Friday garb.



(Left) Harold and Linda Hollingshed were part of the Roll Call reunion touring Lackland AFB to see BMTS graduation ceremonies Friday morning -- then they headed over to the picnic.

(Right) Raymond Kennison AFSC 702/732/202 Began his first USAFSS tour in admin with a 1953-55 assignment to the 12th RSM in Germany. He was soon assigned as OJT trainer for two 30-man increments of incoming 202's. A career USAFSS "man for all seasons", Ray has' been a lifetime member of FTVA since its start as the original Alumni Assn.



FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION

Nov 2014



PLATINUM PARTNERS



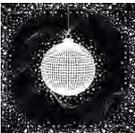
Booz Allen Hamilton
Ozmen Family Foundation at the
Community Foundation of Western Nevada
(In Memory of Maj Gen Paul Martin)
Computer Sciences Corporation
General Dynamics Information Technology



GOLD PARTNERS



Prop Wash Gang
Security Service Federal Credit Union
Air Force Federal Credit Union
Mrs. Doyle E. Larson (In Memory of Maj Gen Doyle E. Larson)
Mrs John P. Shean (In Memory of Col John P. Shean)
Rhinos Sports and Spirits
Ozmen Foundation
NCI, Inc
William F. (Bill) Sheck
USAFSS Roll Call



SILVER PARTNERS



Grover Jackson
Bob Cope
To The Penny Tax Services
Arrowhead Electric Service
Lee and Jen Anthony
Regis F.A. Urschler
Barnie and Judy Gavin
Anthony F. Jensen
SCITOR
Gregory C. Radabaugh
Trofholz Technologies, Inc
“Picnic Partners”



BRONZE PARTNERS



Donald Bundy
Stanfield Systems, Inc.
Berlin Island Association
Tom Holden
Jeff and Cecelia McRaney
William (Bill) F. McCarthy
Col (Ret) Usto Schultz
Hank Whitney

Association of Spanish Flyers (In Memory of Col Bruce Strotman)
Steve Mobry (In Memory of Dave Eddy)
Robert Pfister (In Memory of Marvin Brossett)

PATRON PARTNERS



Francis R. (Frank) Sabourin
Thomas H. Tennant
James Mayer



Richard P. Cheney (In Memory of Fred Sebers)
Ron Hentz (In Memory of Col Grover McMakin)
Bob Smith
Richard Sacchetti
Charles Bishop (In Memory of Mike Gilroy)
Marc and Rachel Aldaz
Michael Wright
Vernon Humbert
Yiming Tung
George and Mary Williams
CMSgt (Ret) Rich and Janet Harrold
Jeff Tschida
Sharon Frizzell
Bob Finch (In Memory of Bill Nye)
George and Diane Honsaker
Bob and Debbie Cope (In Memory of Bill Ballard)

*Platinum Partner \$2,500 +//Gold Partner \$ 1,000 - \$2,499// Silver Partner \$500- \$999//
Bronze Partner \$ 250 - \$499// Patron Partner \$ 100 - \$249

2014 FTVA/AFISR ANNUAL REUNION BANQUET

Newsletter Compilation

On Saturday evening, over 300 attendees gathered at the Gateway Club on Lackland AFB for the annual FTVA/AFISR Banquet celebrating the 66th anniversary of USAFSS and its successor commands. After a strong rendition of the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance the program got underway led by our resident Emcee Mr. Wayne Amann. Heading up the distinguished attendees was our guest speaker for the evening, General (Ret) Mike Hayden, a Principal at the Chartoff Group and former Director of the CIA (2006-2008). Also joining us in the audience from the AFISR Agency were Maj Gen John N.T. "Jack" Shanahan, Vice Commander Peter Lambert, and Director of Staff Ken Williams along with former Vice Commander Brig Gen Grover Jackson and Brig Gen Charlie Bishop.

Seated at the head table: (L-R)
Kathy Haygood,
Gen Hayden,
Col Lambert,
Gen Shanahan and
FTVA President
Ron Haygood.



Each of the 2014 Hall of Honor inductees was then introduced. After a moment of silence for those past and present serving our nation in harm's way and the invocation, the members and guests enjoyed a tasty buffet.



(Left)

After dinner, our guest speaker, Gen (Ret) Mike Hayden presented his views on the need for 'what we do' in gathering intelligence against the terrorist threats around the world. Rapid advances in modern communications technology pose multiple challenges to those engaged in our military intelligence mission.

Banquet Out-Takes



L-R (part of) Ken & Judy Maynard, Donna & Bob Crabtree, Mary Henderson, Elizabeth Mouritzen, Garland Henderson, Jim Poplock & Marta Argumento.



(L-R) Pete Siegel, Tom Nurre, Mikie & Larry Mills, Bill Sheck, Harry LaClair III, Randy Roby, Pat Mower, Anna & Michael Harasimowicz.



(L-R) Mike Niemirtz, Jacque Lerma, Mark Walters, Ann Williams, and Rita Kay Driggers (Mssrs Williams & Driggers were absent at this time).

Banquet Out-Takes (cont'd)



(L-R) Ed Barnes, Helen & Okey Warden; HOH inductee Skeeter Dickerson w. daughter Forence on his right and son Alyn & daughter-in-law Francis Dickerson to his left, and Mel Berg.

TRANSEC/COMSECers Mini

A few "well-seasoned" veterans got together for a mini-reunion in San Antonio on 26 and 27 September. Submitted by Bill Buchsbaum



(Left) Helen & Okey Warden, Nancy & Aubrey Hayward.



(Right) Miyoko Botsford, Kim Buchsbaum



(Left) Homer Waring & Jim Botsford

2014 Worldwide ROLL CALL Reunion
San Antonio, TX
Newsletter Compilation



September 25 – 27th saw Roll Call's opening on Thursday which included an ice breaker in the hospitality suite, a tasty Mexican Buffet and then culminated in an outstanding performance by Randy Roby (Left) as emcee/auctioneer for the evening's entertainment.



(Right) The assembled crowd seemed to enjoy the not-so-silent auction and entertainment following the Mexican Buffet.



(Left) Jim Kaus presented a mantle clock to AFISR's Director of Staff Ken Williams inscribed with "Thanks from your friends at Roll Call." Jim said, "I can't begin to tell you all the things Ken has done to support us."

2014 Worldwide Roll Call Reunion (cont'd)

For three days, this stalwart group of over 70 USAFSS World Wide Roll Call members enthusiastically joined hands in San Antonio, TX for their biennial reunion held in conjunction with FTVA/AFISR Agency activities. Bob Askew hosted this year's shindig with Waco Wetterman's help. With much to see and do, the group enjoyed an ice-breaker and rousing Mexican Buffet, a River Walk Tour, Lackland AFB BMTS graduation, FTVA Remembrance ceremony and picnic followed by a special banquet on Friday evening. Highlights of the gathering included recognition of Roll Call's USAFSS Pioneers" (those attendees who were serving in USAFSS 50 or more years ago).



(Left) The Reunion hospitality room, complimentary comfort food & drink, Lackland tours, buffet and banquet were planned and arranged by Bob & Ginny Askew.

(Right) As is his custom, Roll Call founder and CEO Jim Kaus provided comprehensive planning & oversight for the reunion including such member enhancements as name tags, and thoughtfully individualized Roll Call Pioneer certificates & hats, key chains, and SEA coins which he personally crafted for selected attendees.



2014 Worldwide Roll Call Reunion (cont'd)



(Left) FTVA President Ron Haygood addressed a large gathering of Roll Call members at their Reunion Banquet on Friday evening.

(Right) As is the Roll Call practice at its San Antonio Reunion, Jim Kaus presented their \$1200 Gold Partner donation in support of the FTVA to Ron Haygood.



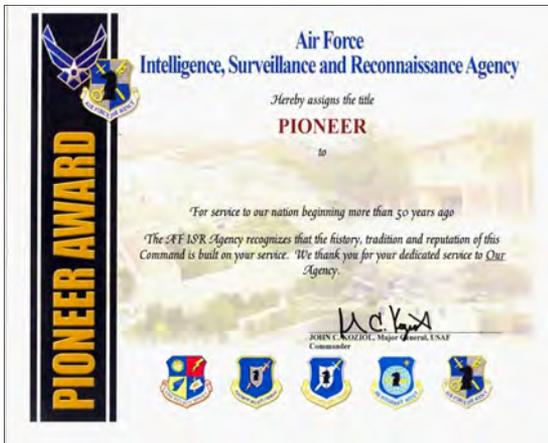
Roll Call Reunion held its Banquet at the Lackland AFB Gateway Club on Friday evening.

Roll Call Reunion (cont'd)



(Left) ‘JJ’ Pitzeruse looked to be enjoying the conversation at his table during the Roll Call Reunion banquet on Sep 26th.

(Right) Colonel Peter J. Lambert, Vice Commander of the AFISR Agency, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, was the Roll Call Reunion guest speaker this year. He provided an unclassified slide show update on the activation of the new 25AF and its capabilities.



At the annual Roll Call reunion each year, founder Jim Kaus presents a ‘USAFSS Pioneer’ personalized certificate, (Left) to those Roll Call members attending the reunion whose service in USAFSS began 50 or more years ago along with an embroidered “pioneer” cap.

Roll Call Reunion (cont'd)



Back, L-R: Floyd Box, Tom Nurre, James Lee, Stan Van Meter, Ron Noble, Joe Moyher, Ray Ivey, Patrick Otis, Jim Sains, Jay Johnson, Tom Lewis
Front, L-R: Rod Klemp, Buzz Frederickson, Dick DeBosh, Jay Emmer, Jim Kaus, Bill Burhans, Dennis Rassmussen, Colonel Lambert.

(Right) Jim Kaus presented this year's guest speaker, Col Peter Lambert, with an individualized "Apprentice" Pioneer Hat (bill embroidered with scrambled eggs).



(Left) James Lee, who joined USAFSS in 1951, was recognized as this year's "Grand Pioneer" with a certificate, cap and personalized coffee mug.

Roll Call Reunion (cont'd)



Jay Johnson & Randy Roby



Ron & Kay Weaver & daughter Susan.



Elsie and Bill Patterson



Norma & Dave Shepard



Stan & Gal Van Meter



Sandra & Rod Klemp

Roll Call Honors Larry Tart

Submitted by Jim Kaus



Rass,

Earlier this year, Roll Call presented its first Legends Award. Attached is a photo of me and Larry Tart, the first to be so honored. Following are the words I said that evening when giving him the plaque. Could you please include this in your Remain in Touch newsletter?

Jim Kaus

USAFSS Roll Call wishes to thank you for attending today's award ceremony, naming Larry Tart a Roll Call USAFSS Legend. While his service record is one to be proud of, which includes 11 Air Medals, that's not the basis for this award. This award is because of Larry's continuing efforts in retirement supporting his colleagues from his days in USAFSS.



It is because of Larry that a Memorial Park and static C-130 Hercules display exists today near NSA honoring the memory of a crew of airmen, lost to hostile enemy fire, in the skies of Armenia. It is because of Larry that a monument stands today in memory of seven Airman who perished in a barracks fire at Syracuse University while in training acquiring foreign language skills. It is because of Larry, a detailed, multi-volume history of Security Service was published. Not just "A" history, but "Our" history which tells of how things were and how we contributed to the winning of the Cold War! That's why many members of USAFSS Roll Call consider Larry a 'Legend'!



PWG 2014 Reunion
 (Omaha, NE)
 Posted by Bud Rosenstrom

What a reunion! Our thanks to Jimmy and Molly Mayer, Bill and Mary White, Pete Ogaard, and all the others for putting this together. I'll get over the lack of bourbon. :-)



Great company with many of the old flyers in attendance. At 74 and 32 years retired, it's reassuring to see the legends still around and kicking. Great to see Lloyd Johnson (the go to guy for LBJ stories), Artie Doyle, Jerry Dubyak,

Perry Eisenhower, Tom Tennant (still the guru for SIGINT operations anywhere), Sam Clark (and his HUMINT tales), Don Heckert (always one of my favorite 292s to fly with), Monte Pettit (another of the great 292s and plans man extraordinaire). If I've forgotten any of those, I apologize.



Lonnie Henderson Auctioneer

Plenty of younger legends there as well, Gary Beadle (at the top of his game in 2 difficult languages when an illness did him in. But typical of Gary and Sue, they bounced back stronger than ever), Jimmy (The Ironman) Mayer (if you have to ask how he got the nickname, you weren't there), Dick Hahn, Bob Lambert, Segundo Espinoza, Lee Anthony. And many more.

Got to see Ken Kramer (one of the best at the 90th) and Mick Cole (an old Bat who understands all too well the days spent at Danang). Doggers in attendance were me, Mick, and Roger Whidden.

Many highlights to report. Got to spend the day with Gary and Sue Beadle and my bride strolling Old Market in downtown Omaha. Fun day with terrific company.

Spent the day with the young troops at the 97th. While I didn't beat on transcription as in years past, I'm happy to report that, from what I was able to glean, they have come up with a way to put the kids on significant recent traffic in their individual shreds. What a bunch of inspiring young NCOs and airmen.

I went over to the SOB gathering for a few hours to spend some time with some old 130 SILVER DAWN guys that I flew with 65-66. Dave Wagner, John Collins, Steve Senderling, Dane Zeller, and others. Those are some awesome flyers from back in the day that the AMS positions were filled by 3-stripers and a couple of brand new SSgts. Even though many of those guys only stayed 1 term, they are legends. That's where I made my bones as a flyer and it was kind of bittersweet to re-live those days.

The dinners were fun even with the lack of a dynamic speaker at the 97th ball. Still great to mingle with the current troops. The speaker at our banquet the next night was a big improvement speaker-wise. Marty Neubauer, you know how to keep it dynamic and relevant, concise and pointed. That talk could be given anywhere that folks are interested in improvement or reminiscing.

Another highlight is seeing Bob Cope (Right) receive the first "Spirit of the Eagle" award. You'd be hard-pressed to find anyone who has done more for the troops and he and Debbie are still doing it.

I'll try to get pictures posted. That could take a while. If it ain't thumbs and dials, I'm a little slower than most.



Bob Cope

Rosie Rosenstrom

(PWG Reunion out takes cont.)



Debbie Cope & Margaret Tennant



Artie Doyle & Bob Cope



Messrs Ellis Tart and Conners



Segundo Espinoza & Larry Tart



(Left) George Montague with PWG Banner and the Memorabilia table (below)



(PWG Reunion out-takes cont'd)



Hospitality Suite



Messrs Jetzer & Connors



Messrs Huggins & Neubauer



Jose Ybarondo



Rosie & Gary

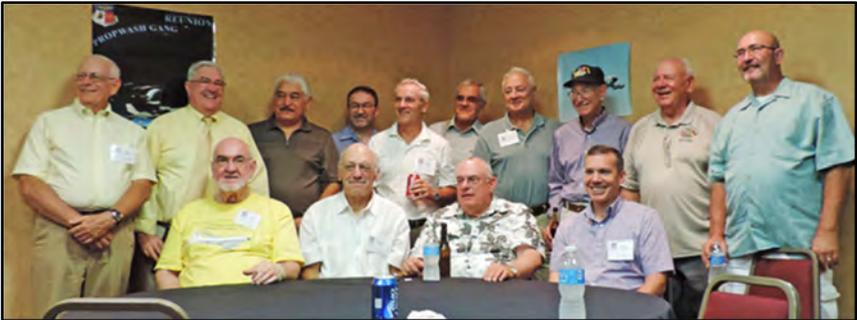
(PWG Reunion out-takes cont'd)



Anthony - Winn - Espinoza



Sam Clark Tribute



Gathering of the Airborne Mission Supervisors



At The Banquet

Association of Spanish Linguists Reunion – 2014

Submitted by Lee Anthony



The Association of Spanish Linguists held its annual reunion at the Holiday Inn SeaWorld in San Antonio, 16 – 19 October 2014. Over 100 members and guests attended to socialize (excessively) with old friends.

The reunion kicked off Thursday with a “Besos y Abrazos” icebreaker in the hospitality suite. A great mixture of active duty, retired, and special guests enthusiastically stimulated the San Antonio economy via the hotel sports bar, and attendees stayed well beyond midnight to exchange old stories and updates. The icebreaker was followed by the annual golf tournament at Cedar Creek on Friday morning, won by Jimmy Ayala. The tournament winner (perhaps the shortest adult golfer on record) scrambled his way in and out of a disbelieving gallery to garner a myriad of meaningless prizes and verbal “accolades” from his fellow competitors.



(Above) Friday afternoon featured the retirement ceremony of CMSgt Joe “Pepito” Figueroa (in Class A Dress center), who completed 29 years 8 months of outstanding service to our nation.



(Above) The 25th Air Force hosted over 200 attendees in the Bernard A. Llarger Auditorium to celebrate Chief Figueroa’s service and many career accomplishments. Following the ceremony, nearly 100 close friends and associates attended a dinner in his honor at Viola’s Ventana restaurant.

The evening closed and the next day opened with yet another informal social gathering at the Holiday Inn hospitality suite.

The Association’s annual banquet was held at VFW Post 7108 on Saturday evening. 80+ celebrated the Spanish Linguists’ heritage, paid homage to “Fallen Eagles”, and recognized this year’s award recipients. Lee Anthony emceed the festivities with numerous senior leaders in attendance including Maj Gen-Ret Paul Dettmer, SES Jim “Snake”

Clark, SES Ken Williams, Col-Ret Chris Cook, Col-Ret Greg Roman, Col-Ret John Nichols, Col-Ret Ron Haygood, and Col-Ret George “Ike” Eichelberger. Rico Vasquez led a stirring tribute to our Fallen Eagles by reading his poem, “An Eagle Died Today” and the names of over 30 deceased members of the Spanish linguist community. A new standard for banquet entertainment was established by Greg, John, Chris, and Snake as they enacted “A Day in the Life of Lil’ Paul” which amused General Dettmer (photo left),



and drew rave reviews from the audience.

Maj Gen-Ret Paul Dettmer was our Guest of Honor and delivered the keynote address. The General took everyone on an emotional walk down memory lane as he recounted his career, key personalities, memorable events, and his special relationship with the Spanish linguist community at Offutt AFB, NE, and Howard AFB, Panama.

Note: The CMSgt Eliot Lopez-Sanchez “Gracias” Award is presented to the individual who has faithfully worked and supported the Spanish Linguist community both during and following military service. It is named for Chef Lopez-Sanchez who was a demanding leader, mentor, and loyal friend. The Association’s committee unanimously selected Maj Gen Dettmer as this year’s recipient. He cited previous winners such as the late SMSgt Jack Reidel, CMSgt-Ret Tom Tennant, and MSgt-Ret Segundo Espinoza as key influences as he accepted the award.



(Above) A key part of each annual reunion is our recognition of the accomplishments by one active duty member as determined by his/her peers. This year, the TSgt Rocco Lastes/SSgt Shane Kimmett “Young Gun Award” was won by SSgt Luis Cortez, for his operational and training contributions over the past 12 months. MSgt Ken Hindman recounted SSgt Cortez’ operational and training achievements and jointly presented the award with Segundo “Espy” Espinoza (above far right), the Association President. The reunion banquet continued with an “open mike” session led by John McDonnell. During this time old stories and jokes were told by John, Juan Flores, Bubba Armintrout, and Greg Roman (among others). Having run the gamut of emotions, Association President Espinoza provided closing remarks to formally end the 2014 reunion. Pictures and stories continued long after the bar closed.



HISTORY & MEMORIES



“Without a Parachute”

Posted by James Cox - Aug 25

(Without a Parachute, mid-air landing gear repair by a woman in 1924.) Has anyone out there heard of the air-to-air re-fuelling of one biplane to another using a long hose during the 1920's? Those people had to be either fearless or just plain crazy! (When you get a chance while you're on your internet, click on the following link. <http://www.flixxy.com/mid-air-airplane-repair.htm>)

This shows a woman with more guts than a sausage factory. Fabulous footage, although grainy due to time and bad equipment in those days. Gladys Ingles was a member of a barnstorming troupe called The 13 Black Cats in the 1920's. Ingles was a wing walker; in this film, she shows her fearlessness to save an airplane that has lost one of its main landing gear wheels. Ingles is shown with a replacement wheel being strapped to her back. She transfers herself from the rescue plane to the one missing the main landing gear tire. She then expertly works herself down to the undercarriage only a few feet from a spinning propeller. Most wouldn't even try this on the ground with the engine running. Gladys died at age 82 of non-aviation related natural causes.

“We Made It”

Posted by Ed Bendinelli



Been going through some of my old slides. This one is from my Vietnam collection. Circa 1966-67. Thought you'd enjoy it. (L-R) Dean Welch, George Crenshaw, Mike Hunt and Ed Bendinelli after completing PACAF survival school at Clark AB in late 66 or early 67. EC-47 crew-members assigned to Det 1, 6994th SS, Nha Trang, RVN.

Iconic 'Elephant Cage' Laid to Rest

By Ann Jordyn Rucker, 35th Ftr Wg Public Affairs / October 17, 2014



MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan (AFNS) -- Misawa Air Base began the long-planned dismantling of the Cold War-era antenna array known as the "Elephant Cage" on Wednesday, Oct. 15 after nearly 50 years of service.

Construction on the iconic antenna began in 1963 and was completed in 1965 at a cost of \$3.3 million. While operational, the antenna could intercept and directionally locate high-frequency radio transmissions up to 4,000 nautical miles away. Its capabilities helped ensure U.S. and allied forces had the needed secure command, control and communication to support senior military and defense officials. The antenna array was composed of three concentric rings of antenna elements. A total of eight Elephant Cages were constructed in various locations around the world. "While it performed its mission well for 48 years, outlived technology and fiscal constraints have driven Misawa Security Operations Center to seek new ways of doing business," said Col. Joseph Winters, a 373rd Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance commander. However, the assembly will not soon be forgotten. "This massive structure has architecturally graced the northern skyline overlooking Lake Ogawara and is said to be considered a symbol of luck by the local Japanese," Winters said. "The Elephant Cage was undoubtedly part of Misawa's past and present, and it will be missed." The demolition project will bring an additional \$4.97 million into the Japanese economy and employ more than 250 Japanese nationals. The project is expected to last until September 2015.

Dawg Flt Open Ranks at 6918th SG Hakata, Japan

Posted by Dave Bethard



(Above) This is a photo of the 1968 Dawg Flight open ranks inspection. L to R starting in front row are: James Howards' left arm, Troy Powell, Mike Calvert, Cleve Green, Mike Ryan, James Brady, Tom Winter. Row 2: (hand on hat) Larry Penn, Howie Floyd, Ray Harty, Fred Brelsfoard, Bob Fuerstenau, Bill Guerard and Bob Brume. 3rd row: Unknown, Rich Caraway, Larry Sanchez, Stan Freymuth, James Kaub, not visible, Dave Bethard. 4th row: only 2 visible on right end are Gary Brown and Marshall Gregory.

Darmstadt Chapel (Taken 2007)

Posted by Rex Carey



Tom Echols -Yes indeed, I remember the chapel well. We always left Lincoln Village School, where I taught Sunday school and drove up the hill to the chapel for 1100 hrs service.

Merritt Barthlet - first tour at Darmstadt. I lived in bldg. 86 across the street from the Chapel.



FALLEN EAGLES



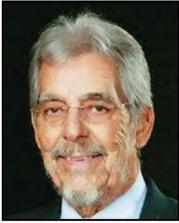
We learned of the following losses from caring relatives, friends or obituaries, and offer prayers and sympathy to their loved ones. *“It is the soldier above all others who prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.”*

Douglas MacArthur

Compiled by: Wayne Tallant, Associate Editor assisted by Joe Figueroa

-
- Aldaz, “Pat” Patrucino, USAFSS-Vet.
Allen, William “Bill” Arthur, MSgt-USAF-Ret. **Mbr.**
Babb, Thomas Wayne, CMSgt-USAF-Ret.
Baker, “JK” “Kenny” John Kenneth, MSgt-USAF-Ret.
Ballard, William T. Col-USAF-Ret. **Co-Founder and First President of USAFSS Alumni Association HOH 1986, Life Mbr.**
Bepko, Stephen Joseph, USAFSS-Vet. **Life Mbr.**
Bogue, Herbert W., SMSgt-USAF-Ret.
Daily, Larry, USAFSS-Vet.
Edborg, Kenneth Frans, USAFSS-Vet.
Fries, George Joseph Charles, Col-USAF-Ret.
Gerhardt, Larry Lee, MSgt-USAF-Ret. **Life Mbr.**
Hatcher, Donna Jean, TSgt-USAF-Ret.
Henry, James Frederick, USN/USAFSS-Vet.
Kuopus, Larry, USAFSS-Vet.
Lantz, “Bob” Robert, SMSgt-USAF-Ret.
Ligon, Myrtle Caldwell, Spouse of Jack Ligon, USAFSS-Civ-Ret.
Lopez, Fermin E. MSgt-USAF-Ret.
McGowen, Milton, SMSgt-USAF-Ret.
Palmer, Millard ‘Pete’ Fillmore, WWII-USN Maj-USAF-Ret. **Life Mbr.**
Palumbo, Dennis Gus, Capt-USAF-Ret.
Radigan Jr., William “Bill” J., Lt Col-USAF-Ret.
Scott, Billy J. USA MSgt-USAF-Ret. **Life Mbr.**
Smallwood, Donald “Don” J., TSgt-USAF-Ret. **Life Mbr.**
Ullrich, Whalen “Tommy” T., USAFSS-Vet.

*Note: Notifications received after 1 Nov and that of Chieko and Robert ‘PF’ Pfister will be posted in the March 2015 issue.



MSgt Patrocino “Pat” Aldaz, 80, died Sept. 8th, 2014. In 1953, he married his first wife, Charmaine Ruth Niccum and joined the USAF. Pat served with distinction as a Russian linguist in the USAFSS, including assignments to Bremerhaven and Hof AS, Germany; Peshawar AB, Pakistan and Goodfellow AFB, TX. He retired with 20 years of military service in 1973. Pat then accepted a position with

General Telephone and Electronics Corporation (GTE - later Verizon) as a training instructor and manager. In 1978, he married his second wife Leah Alice Vaughan, adopted two sons and eventually relocated to Flower Mound, Texas. Pat is survived by his son, Marc Aldaz, daughter, Patrice Aldaz; and sons Jason and Zachary Aldaz //Obit – **San Angelo Standard-Times**//
//Notified – **Larry Ross**//



MSgt William “Bill” Arthur Allen passed away Aug. 17, 2014. Through the cultures he met and embraced and the leadership he exemplified through his career in the Air Force and afterwards in the civil service, he paved a path that led the way to a better life for many. He enlisted in USAF in July 1951 and was a Korean and Vietnam War vet. His career as a Chinese linguist included assignments to the Philippines,

Taiwan (ROC), Hong Kong, South Korea, Germany, North Africa/French Morocco, Thailand, Oregon, Washington, Fort Meade, Maryland, Keesler Air Force Base, MS and Goodfellow AFB, TX. Among his awards and decorations were the AF Expeditionary Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; AF Commendation Medal; Republic of Viet Nam Gallantry Cross; AF Outstanding Unit Award; and Army Occupation Medal. After retirement from the AF in 1971, he earned a Bachelor of Arts (1973) and then Masters of Arts (1975) from Angelo State University. He then returned to Goodfellow Air Force Base serving as the Wing historian, registrar, training development chief, training advisor and flight commander. Additional awards: Air Training Command Civilian Commendation Award; and the Department of AF Performance Award for three consecutive years. He retired again in 1997. //Obit// Fwd from **Larry Miller**//

Was just notified that Bill passed on at 10:15 this morning. He was resting comfortably and in no pain. Funeral arrangements pending. //Larry Ross //

We always loved and respected Bill & Celeste during our association with them at the Catholic parish on Goodfellow AFB and the FTVA Heritage Chapter. Bill was so well traveled and could always add insight about so many people, places, and things. We will surely miss him. Rest in Peace, friend. //Tom & Kitty Nurre - San Angelo, Texas//

It's been over half a century since I had the pleasure of working under Sgt. Bill Allen as an Air Force Chinese linguist in the Philippines. I still remember him, and the memories are all good. Thanks for the memories, and I hope someday to share a couple of San Miguel's with you in that big NCO club in the sky. //Dennis Conklin - Stockton, New Jersey//

So sad to wake to this news this morning and realize I didn't have a chance to say "Goodbye." Bless you, Bill Allen, for all the hard work you put in and all the smiles you brought to those who worked with you. I'm so happy our paths crossed for a little while. //Sharon Frizzell - Parker, Colorado//

I got to know Bill well enough while we were both involved with the Church and at the schoolhouse at Goodfellow AFB to pal around off-and-on from the late 70's through the 90's. He was so caring that he made everyone he knew feel like his special friend. //Dennis Rasmussen//



CMSgt Thomas "Wayne" Babb, 74, of Chattanooga, TN died Sept. 19, 2014. He retired from the USAF in 1992 after 30 years of service. His duties included Air Force intelligence analyst and trainer. After the military he worked for the CIA and the NRO. He was also the author of eight books. He is

survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Frances. Wayne's career was almost equally divided, with about 15 years in the intelligence collection field and a little over 14 years in education and training. As a SIGINT analyst, served 2 tours at Misawa, Japan; one at Wakkanai, Japan; San Vito, Italy; Ramasan Station, Thailand; Iraklion AS, Greece; Osan AB, Korea; and two at HQ ESC, Kelly AFB, TX. Jobs included Analyst, Reporter, Advisory Support, 3 different stints as S&W Supervisor, 1 on the Command Inspector General Team, and Director of the Command Alert Center. He had 7 years as instructor and curriculum developer at Goodfellow AFB, TX; 3 years as instructor and Comm Skills branch chief at USAF SNCO Academy, Gunter AFS, and almost 5 years as Superintendent of Training for HQ ESC. //Obit – Turner Funeral Home//

I first met TSgt Babb when I was an instructor at Goodfellow AFB in 1976 and worked for him. That was an experience I'll never forget. That was the beginnings of a good friendship over the years until we both served together again prior to both our retirements at HQ ESC. An exceptional individual who left his mark on everyone he met. He will be sorely missed but fondly remembered.//Mike Prosser//

I met Wayne at the 6921st Scty Gp Data Reduction Shop in 1962 and jeeped him in on two major programs. We shared a common interest in partying hard. We both went to the Day Shop together in '63, then in November he went to Wakkanai while I went to Pakistan. Over the years we kept in touch and party'd whenever we happened to meet up. When Wayne died I lost a soul-mate of over 50 years. Happy Landings Bro! //Roy Heath, Yamagata-Ken, Japan//

My wife and I are so saddened. We've held the Babb's in a memorable and loving friendship since 1975. Wayne was one of our most talented and caring amigos. I was so fortunate to have had the pleasure of knowing him... truly an exceptional human being! Working with Wayne over the years created pockets of sunshine during my AF career - Sayonara Chief! //Dennis Rasmussen//

Chief, a tear came to my eye as your name was called at the FTVA "Remembrance" ceremony 9/27/14 "On The Hill"...The playing of "Taps" was so appropriate. From one "Skivvy Niner", may you RIP. //Randy Roby//



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the death of our dad, brother and husband, **MSgt John "JK" "Kenny" Kenneth Baker**. He died of a sudden heart attack at his home in Fukuoka City, Japan. John enlisted in the USAF serving in USAFSS for 25 years. After serving several tours of duty — Italy, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Okinawa, Japan and some stateside assignments — he retired to Japan with his wife of 41 years, Yumiko Fujimoto. John flew 200 missions over Vietnam. A few of the medals and ribbons John received are The Distinguished Flying Cross; The AF Commendation Medals; The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (6th Oak Leaf Cluster). //Obit – Circleville Herald//

John was a 292XX on B flight with the 6918th Scty Gp in Hakata, Japan from 1966 to 1968. John served in Vietnam and returned to Hakata for a second tour from 1970 to 1971. //Notified - 6918th RGM/RSM via John's daughter//



Stephen Joseph Bepko, 90, died on August 3, 2014. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Florence Jane. Steve joined the Army Air Corps on December 21, 1941, flew B-25s in the South Pacific, and returned to the USA after flying 54 combat missions. He was just 19 years old. He was at HQ USAFSS in the early 70's and retired from the Air Force in 1974. He was a devoted member of the Lions Club and served as Governor of District 2-A2. //San Antonio Express News Obit// //Notified - Jim Youngson//



SMSgt Herbert W. Bogue, 84, of San Antonio, TX passed away suddenly on 2 Aug 2014. He is survived by his loving wife of 63 years Kathleen. During WWII, as a teenager, he trapped furbearing animals to make cold weather military uniforms. Graduating from Sharpsville, IN high school in 1947, he enlisted in the USAF and went to bomber school, then was sent to a fighter regiment at Otis AFB, MA sighting P-51 (later F-84 & F-86) fighter's guns. During the Korean

War, he also was assigned to recover aircraft parts and pilot remains and while loading weapons onto a fighter, he suffered a severe back injury that doctors told him would have him in a wheelchair by age 40. Over the years, he proved those doctors wrong, still walking briskly at age 84. His USAF career continued and he was tapped as a buck sergeant to run the O Club at Hickam, HI and rapidly returned it to a solid financial condition. Finally, he was chosen to attend intelligence school, and spent the remainder of his career as a cryptanalyst in the USASS, with assignments in Okinawa, San Antonio, & Taiwan (thrice), retiring in 1975. //Obit - Express-News//



Larry Leo Dailey, 75, passed away on Oct 2, 2014, after a brave 2 year battle with leukemia. All who knew him loved him and our shared memories will last forever. He is survived by his wife, Nancy. //Obit – Surprise Funeral Home//

I am deeply saddened to report that one of my family and one of my heroes is gone. Larry Dailey whom many will remember from Rhein Main, Omaha, BONUS BABY and other locations in the 50's and 60's, lost his battle to leukemia this afternoon. After his years as a 292 in USAFSS, Larry worked at E-systems, and at Space Systems followed by a full career at Lockheed Space, at Buckley Field. He relocated to Surprise, AZ after retiring. Arrangements will be settled in the coming days. //Ron Chappelle//



Kenneth Frans Edborg, 84, of San Angelo, died Aug. 13, 2014, in San Angelo TX. He served honorably in the USAFSS for 23 years as a linguist translator. Ken was assigned to Japan, Pakistan, Lybia, Saudi Arabia and Germany among other countries. He was stationed at numerous bases in the United States and also served for the NSA in Fort Meade, Maryland.

Ken was very proud to serve his country and retired in August of 1975. After retirement, he went to work for the United States Postal Service as a clerk and retired from there after 17 years. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Dorene. //Obit – San Angelo Standard-Times// Larry Ross//



Col George Joseph Charles Fries, 76, passed away Aug. 7, 2014. George was a native of Brooklyn, New York and a Yorktown resident since 1994. He graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1960 and retired in 1988 as a Col. after 28 years of faithful service to his country. He is survived by his wife of 33 years Rebecca. //Obit – Daily Press// //Notified – Bobby Edwards//

George Fries shared with a couple of times that he was with the EC-47 Program, and I know that George, a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy retired as a Colonel. His days with the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 824 were of his own choosing, but significant in his contributions to his fellow Veterans and the Community he lived. He made several send offs for our local Honor Flight, providing support for the WWII Veterans. He spent a few days at the hamburger grill doing cooking for the Wounded Warriors at Fort Eustis, and the adopted unit of VFW Post 824 - the 192nd Fighter Wing ANG. In hot days in May, and the Chill of November, George endured the weather in Post Poppy collections. He was doing his part. George loved the role in presenting deserving ROTC students awards at York High School. It was nothing fancy, just good old Community Service, with a dedicated love for his fellow Veterans. I am not sure what role he played with the EC-47 program, but he did have the respect for the Back Enders that he brought up from time to time. I am hopeful that some will remember George. //Bobby Edwards//



MSgt Larry Lee Gerhardt passed suddenly from this life on August 18, 2014 at the age of 72. He is preceded in death by his loving wife, Ryuko Gerhardt. He is survived by his two Sisters, Nadra Moore of Nolanville, TX and Kathy Drumm of LaVernia, TX. Larry retired from the USAF with more than 20 years of service. Larry served his entire career with USAFSS/ESC in overseas assignments to Japan, Italy, Germany and concluded at ESC HQs Kelly AFB. He was a true "Silent Warrior" who fought the good fight, who ran the race, and who loved his family and friends, especially the ones from Misawa, Japan and San Vito dei Normanni, Italy. He will be missed for his generous heart and exceptional sense of humor. May the good lord receive him into his loving arms. //Notified by Michael Drumm//

Michael - I am so sorry to hear this. We saw Larry each month at our Applebee's get-togethers. He will be missed. Please accept my deepest sympathy for your sorrow and loss. //Lanny Abee//



TSgt Donna Jean Hatcher, 82, of Canon City, Colo., formerly of Woodbine, Iowa, passed away Aug 2, 2014, at Progressive Care Center in Canyon City, Colo. Donna married Robert H. Shannon on September 19, 1993, in Gainesville, Texas. Robert passed away on May 2, 1995. Donna was a Communication Center Specialist for the USAF for twenty

years. She was assigned to the 6944th SW from 1977 until her retirement in 1979. Survivors include her brothers, David and Melvin, and sister Margery.

//Obit – The Daily Nonpareil// //Notified – Benny Spear//

Donna retired from the 6949th at Offutt in the late 1970s. She spent her AF career in Comm. Centers of USAFSS. A great gal, always one of the boys at beer calls and such. **//Pete Ogaard//**



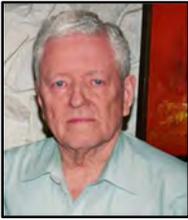
James Frederick Henry, 78, of rural Murphysboro, TN. died October 13, 2014. Graduating from high school in Springfield, IL in 1954, he immediately enlisted in the US Navy. Jim spent 4 years serving on the USS Montrose, in the Pacific Ocean. After his discharge from the Navy, he reenlisted in USAF as an Intel Technician for four more years. During his years in the USAF, he was stationed in Misawa, Japan with Larry Twardzak and

C.P. Hawkins. He taught the English language to Japanese children and also served on a snow ski patrol where he would deliver heat oil to rural families, carrying it on his back. He was discharged in 1962. He is survived by his adoring wife, Jan. **//Obit – Crain Funeral Home// //Notified - Larry Twardzak//**



Larry Kuopus, 73, died Sept. 30, 2014. After high school graduation he joined the United States Air Force where he served for 20 years in the security services until he retired in 1979. He was stationed all over including Korea, Pakistan, Italy and many other bases in Texas and the other states. After retirement from the Air Force he returned to school and

graduated from ASU with a BBA. He also attended Yale University during his military years where he studied languages. Larry is survived by his beloved wife of 49 years, Sue. **//Obit – San Angelo Standard-Times// //Notified – Larry Ross//**



SMSgt Bob Lantz passed away quietly on Sep 2, 2014 in Las Vegas, NV. Survived by his wife, son, daughter, and son-in-law. Services were held at veteran's cemetery in Las Vegas. //James Abbit//

Heads-up -- I'm sure you've heard that Bob lost his fight with Alzheimer's yesterday. The tributes are pouring in from around the world, and he deserves as much printed space as

FTVA can afford, IMO. Sometimes, in the heat, we can make simple things complex, but Bob simplified the complex.//**Joe Turney "JET"**//

(Ed Note: Due to limited space, the following consolidation is offered as representative of the many tributes to Bob)

Bob was on aircraft #139 position 11 for takeoff from the PI when the bells sounded after the second ground loop. Position 11 was the furthest forward position on the M models, right up against the maintenance bulkhead, with three other positions (8, 7 and 3) between him and the compartment entrance. In an instant, he was out of his seat and across the desk tops reaching the aisle before the other three ops. No one has ever figured out how he did that. True story. I was there.//**John Simmons**// Legends are made of such feats. We will be telling 'Bob' stories for years around the campfires. Lantz had a way of looking at the whole of things, supplying detail for the cutaways, and staying calm through all of it. I love that guy.//**Rosie Rosenstrom**//Others commenting were **John Cheek**//**Pete Seigel**//**Mickey Neeley**// **Larry Mills**//**Lee Anthony**//



Myrtle Caldwell Ligon, 93, died Aug. 8, 2014, in San Antonio, Texas. She worked for many years as a legal secretary before marrying the love of her life, Jack Ligon, in 1957. She then stayed home and became a devoted wife and mother. She is survived by her sons Jack and Ben. //Obit – **Express News**//

A couple weeks ago I saw an obit in our paper on a Mrs. Ligon. Her husband was Jack Ligon, a Civilian Personnel guy who serviced the Cryptologic Depot, when I was there in 1965-1966. //Info - **Jim Youngson**//



MSgt Fermin E. Lopez 77, passed away August 22, 2014 in Raton, NM. Fermin. He was a twenty year Veteran of the USAF, worked as a coal miner for ten years and attended St. Patrick's-St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Raton; was a past member and exalted Ruler of the B.P.O. Elks Lodge and the Knights of Columbus. He loved golf, fishing, hunting, camping and his family.//**Notified by Lee Anthony**//

Please consider using Jorge David Colon's tribute to MSgt-Deceased Fermin Lopez in the next edition of the Remain In Touch. Fermin was a colorful guy with a very distinguished career.//**Segundo Espinoza**// (The following was abridged for RIT use and is representative of the tributes for Fermin.//**Ed Note**//

//Aug 25, 2014 //“We respectfully acknowledge the passing of our brother, Master Sergeant Retired Fermin Emegildo Lopez, the U.S. Air Force Association of Spanish Flyers would like to convey to Fermin’s family and friends just exactly what he meant to all of us. There is insufficient ink, paper, time, or space to record all the memories and the history of the friendships, as well as the adventures that we shared with Fermin. Aside from the fact that he honorably served his country for over 20 years in the USAF, Fermin played an important intelligence role in the business of managing our defensive fronts against the Soviet Union and Cuba. In the early years of his military career, he was tasked with monitoring the Soviet Union military activities and space missions from Alaskan outposts and reported collected intelligence to higher headquarters. After 1962, he flew our RC-130 and RC-135 reconnaissance aircraft continuing his vigilance of the threat posed by the same Soviet Union which was combined with their Cuban allies on America’s southern front.“

//The gist of this tribute detailed MSgt Fermin’s technical intelligence collection skills and command of the Spanish language especially his performance during the Cuban Missile Crisis.// “when he played an important role in averting what would have been World War III, no less. Fermin Lopez, our brother and your family member, was one of our silent warrior heroes. So Hermano mio, I will not say good bye. I simply say, "Until we meet again Sir, VAYA CON DIOS.”// **J.D. Colon**//



SMSGT Milton McGowen, 75, of Duncan, OK, died Oct. 23, 2014. Milton served 24 ½ years in the USAF serving during Vietnam. During his time with USAFSS as a Morse Systems Operator/Supervisor, he served at Misawa AB, Japan, RAF Chicksands, England and San Vito AS, Italy. After retirement he made his home in San Antonio. Milton is survived by his daughter, Katherine and son James. //Obit –

Express News// Notified – Leroy Intorn//



Maj. Millard “Pete” Fillmore Palmer, 88, died 25 December 2013 in San Antonio Texas. Following high school graduation in 1943 he enlisted in the US Navy serving in the South Pacific. Following college graduation he reentered the military in the USAF and was commissioned on March 1951 serving as a Security Police Officer in the Korean and

Vietnam Conflicts. In 1966 Millard served as a Provost Marshall in Bangkok Thailand. Major Palmer served a total of 29 years active duty honorably retiring in 1970. He was preceded in death by his spouse Opal. Millard is survived by his nephew Michael. //Obit – Express News// //Notified - Henry H Sadler//



Dennis Gus Palumbo, 71, died Sept. 12, 2014 in Castle Rock, Colorado. In 1961, after a year of Junior College he enlisted in the United States Air Force. He was involved in the intelligence operations field of the USAF his entire career beginning as a Russian linguist, analyst and then as an operations officer of an entire squadron of Intelligence officers and aircraft operations. During his military career he

was assigned to various squadrons to include the 6940th Tech Training Group, 6985th Security Squadron, and 6988th Security Squadron. He received his Bachelors of Science degree from the University of Colorado in May 1971 and was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant in Sept. after attending officer training school. He was promoted to Captain in Sept. 1975. From 1976-1979 he was the Chief Instructor at Lowry Air Force Base Intelligence School. During his military career he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross as well as the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and others. After 21 years of service Dennis retired from the USAF in December 1982. Survived by children, Stephanie and Vincent. //Obit – All Veterans Funeral and Cremations// //Notified by Daughter – Stephanie//



Lt Col William J “Bill” Radigan, 69, of Helotes, TX passed away after a motorcycle accident on Sept. 30, 2014. Bill enlisted in the USAF in 1963. During a career spanning 40 active duty years, Lt. Col. Radigan served both USAFSS/ESC as enlisted and officer. His enlisted assignments include Offutt AFB, NE., Takhli RTAFB

Thailand, Beale AFB CA., and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Lt Col Radigan received his commission in 1975 and served the next 4 years in SAC at Grand Forks AFB, ND. In 1980, he returned to the intelligence career field with command and staff assignments to HQ ESC, Italy, Germany Hawaii, Croatia, NSA, and Saudi Arabia. Bill’s awards include: Defense MSM, 8 MSM’s, 1 JSCM, 5 AFCM’s, and the AFAM. He has also been awarded the Vietnam Service Ribbon with 7 battle stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Presidential Unit Citation and Vietnam Gallantry Cross, The United Nations Medal, NATO Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Senior Missile Badge. Bill is survived by his wife, Jane. //Obit – Express News// //Notified – Bert Pickell//



MSgt. Billy J. "BJ" Scott, 83, died Sept 20, 2014. At the age of 15 he falsified his age and joined the U.S. Army. He served as a medical corpsman aboard the Army hospital ship, Mercy, in the Pacific right after WWII. His story, along with 198 other under-aged veterans, is published in "America's Youngest Warriors," dated 1996. Upon discharge, he returned home to graduate high school. In 1950, using his true age, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and in 1955 married his beloved wife, Virginia. After 26 years of service, he retired from the Air Force Security Service Command. He served in both the Korean and Vietnam wars. BJ was a 292 on Baker Flight in Hakata 1970-1972. Some of his medals and decorations include the Bronze Star, Air Force Commendation Medal with OLC, Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Service Medal with four Bronze stars and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm. He was a life member of the Veterans of Underage Military Service, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 14 and VFW Post 9174. He was the VFW All-State and All-American Commander from 1991-1992. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Virginia. //Obit – Express News// //Notified - Bob Cope//



TSgt Donald J. Smallwood, 77, died March 2, 2014. Left to cherish his memories are his loving wife of 54 years, Nancy and many loving family members. Don entered the USAF in 1956 and served our country for 21 years working mainly in electronics. Assignments include South Africa, Dover, DE, San Angelo, TX 61-63, Chicksands, England 63-67, Orlando, FL 67-68, Anchorage, AK 68-72 and finally San Antonio, TX where he retired in 1977. Don loved to play darts and held many positions in the dart league, VFW Post 6012, as well as the Knights of Columbus. //Obit – Express News// //Notified - wife – Nancy//



Whalen T "Tommy" Ullrich, 72, died Aug. 9, 2014. Tommy was a 292 on C Flight with the 6918th in Hakata, Japan during 1961 to 1963. He is survived by wife, Susan. //Obit – Cumberland Chapels// // 6918th RSM/RGM//

My deepest sympathy on the passing of a very good friend from a long time back. I had the privilege to serve with Tom at North East Cape AFS, Alaska and Hakata/Brady AFB, Japan. He was my best friend and I will always remember him. May he rest in peace.//Steve "Pete" Peters//

Anniversary Announcements



CMSgt (Ret) Myron Taylor & Shirley A Taylor, celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on a cruise from Seattle to Alaska. They were married Sept 25, 1954 after his return from the 34th RSM, Wheeler Field, Tripoli, Lybia. His 25 years with USAFSS started 1952 at Keesler AFB as an intercept radio operator. Retrained in 1958 at March AFB, CA to become Traffic Analyst (202). Spent tours at 6901st Spec Com Group at Zweibrocken, Germany, 6980th, St. Lawrence Island, 6981st at Anchorage. Spent 10 years overseas with assignments from

Alaska to 6918th at Hakata, Japan then to Augsburg, Germany, 6910th (S&W Sup) until closed, then to Karamursel, Turkey as S&W Supervisor and finally to NSA, where he retired Sept 1978. Owned a ranch and 20 head of Black Angus. They have three children, Chris, Lynn, and Patrick. The chief now lives at Stillwaters Estates, and is active with the old car group and drives his A1 Caddy around just for the Ohhh's and Ahhh's.

!!! NOTICE – YOUR ATTENTION – PLEASE – NOTICE!!!



We would appreciate your help in locating a most treasured and priceless personal photo album chronicling four tours of duty in Vietnam by MSgt (Ret) Skeeter Dickerson. His album went missing after the FTVA Spring Social at the Marriott Courtyard Hotel on March 8, 2014.

Unfortunately, continuing efforts by the FTVA Newsletter to track-down Skeeter's missing album have been unsuccessful thus far. If you have any information concerning the whereabouts of this album please notify the Newsletter Editor at 210-695-1334 or Skeeter at 210-573-2954. Many Thanks

Membership Application

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| City | State | Zip Code |
| Inclusive Years of Service: ____/____ to ____/____ (MM/YYYY) (MM/YYYY) | Make your check or money order payable to: FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION P.O. Box 691616 San Antonio, TX 78269-1616 | |
| Yearly Memberships are \$20.00 Please check one: <input type="checkbox"/> New Regular Membership <input type="checkbox"/> New Associate Membership <small>(**see below for description)</small> <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change | Age range for life membership rates: <input type="checkbox"/> 76 and over..... \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> 71-75 \$95 <input type="checkbox"/> 66-70 \$115 <input type="checkbox"/> 61-65 \$160 <input type="checkbox"/> 56-60 \$170 <input type="checkbox"/> 51-55 \$185 <input type="checkbox"/> 46-50 \$200 <input type="checkbox"/> 41-45 \$220 <input type="checkbox"/> 36-40 \$235 <input type="checkbox"/> 31-35 \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 and under \$265 | |
| Optional information we publish in the yearly membership directory: Rank/Grade: ____/____ Retired: Y / N HAM Call Sign: _____ Cell Phone: _____ | Last Organization: (USAFSS / ESC / AFIC / AIA / AFISR Agency) | |
| PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT: The authority to request this information is contained in Public Law 86-36 and Executive Order 12036. The principle purpose of the information is to establish a mailing list for membership rosters containing the name, address and telephone number of all members of the association periodically. Furnishing the information is voluntary; failure to provide the requested information will result in your not being listed. Your signature below* indicates that you have read and understand the above. | | |
| Signature _____ | | |
| Regular Membership: Former military and civilian personnel of the United States Air Force Security Service (USAFSS), Electronic Security Command (ESC) and Air Force Intelligence Command (AFIC), Air Intelligence Agency (AIA), and past or present military and civilian personnel of the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency (AF ISR Agency). | | |
| **Associate Membership applies to the following categories: (1) Surviving spouse of deceased individual who would qualify as a regular member. (2) Vigilant Partner organizations that actively support AF ISR Agency recognition programs. (3) DOD personnel (as individually approved by the Board of Directors) who, because of their close association to USAFSS, ESC, AFIC, AIA, or AF ISR Agency, perpetuate the objectives of the Association. (4) Air Force personnel, assigned to intelligence organizations which are not assigned or attached to the Air Force ISR Agency, who support and perpetuate the objectives of the Association. The Board of Directors may designate persons eligible for membership in this category as individuals, by Air Force specialty, or may designate organizations whose members are eligible as a group. | | |

THE FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE
ASSOCIATION
[HTTP://WWW.FTVA.ORG](http://www.ftva.org)

WHAT IS FTVA??



We Are You!!

