

*Remain  
In  
Touch*



***FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE  
ASSOCIATION***

***NEWSLETTER  
2015 Annual Reunion Issue***

# ASSOCIATION OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

## Executive Board

Ron Haygood.....	President
Andy Smith.....	Vice President
Bob Cope.....	Treasurer
Loran (Phred) Sevening.....	Secretary
Lee Anthony.....	Past President

## Directors

Bob Baert.....	Membership Chair/Web Support
Mark Hess.....	Official Activities
A. J. Harrison.....	Hall of Honor
Ted Colquhoun.....	Fallen Eagles
Ken Williams.....	Social Chair
Dennis "Rass" Rassmussen.....	Newsletter Editor
Joe 'Pepito' Figueroa.....	Associate Newsletter Editor
Dennis Buxton.....	Sports
Barnie Gavin.....	History
Jacque Lerma.....	Picnic
Jerry Gething.....	President, National Capital Chapter
Ronald Graham.....	President, Heritage Chapter
John Toillion.....	President, Aloha Chapter
John Aurelius.....	President, Gold Country Chapter
Jim Kaus.....	President, Sunshine Chapter
Greg Roman.....	President, Rocky Mountain Chapter
Barnie Gavin.....	President, Alamo Chapter



## Directors Emeriti

Bob Sherwood, Doug Holden  
Joe Hurst, Jim McLendon



## 25<sup>th</sup> Air Force Advisory Members

Col Kyle Forrier.....	Senior Liaison Officer
Capt Heather Ross.....	Reunion Coordinator

### Newsletter Editor

Dennis "Rass" Rassmussen  
9511 Aqua Verde  
Helotes, TX 78023  
Ph (210) 695-1334  
[newsletter@ftva.org](mailto:newsletter@ftva.org)

### Associate Editor

Joe 'Pepito' Figueroa  
8843 Veranda Ct  
S. Antonio, TX 78250  
[Ph 210-267-1846](tel:210-267-1846)  
[falleneagles@ftva.org](mailto:falleneagles@ftva.org)

### Auxiliary Staff

Ken Maynard  
8522 Modred  
San Antonio, TX 78250  
Ph (210) 521-9244  
[newsletter@ftva.org](mailto:newsletter@ftva.org)



## The President's Corner



Football, basketball and hockey are in full swing and so is FTVA support to 25th AF. We joined with Maj Gen Shwedo, Command Chief Towberman and the six Wing Commanders and Command Chiefs honoring the Larson Award (Sensor Olympics) gold winners here in San Antonio in mid-November. The FTVA has made major contributions to continue to highlight our talented airmen by recognizing excellence in their technical skills (including polo shirts, plaques and medals for each winner). We are hoping the AF can bring the gold, silver and bronze award winners back to San Antonio next, but bringing back the gold winners is a step in the right direction. The 25th AF is trying to find a way to bring back all of these outstanding airmen, even in these dire economic times for the military. The Larson awards program is one of the few "technical" recognition programs across the Air Force that has survived the numerous cuts in resources. We will keep you informed.

In another good news story, working with the 25th AF JAG, the FTVA will be able to market/advertise more in the HQs building. Because a lot of the rules and regulations have changed over time, we were running into some well-intentioned, over-cautious individuals that had put the brakes on our attempts to advertise/market the FTVA. That has now been cleared up and we will sit down with the new Chief of Staff and work out a plan. The HQ Command Section continues to be our biggest cheerleader...now we need to get the word out to our units in the field. I will ask Chief Towberman to send an e-mail to the field units about the FTVA and its local chapters. I know many of you have tried to engage local units with varying degrees of success. I also know some have been/are frustrated in these attempts. Please keep trying. The FTVA needs the infusion of new blood in order to stay viable in the future...to keep the flame burning. I know you will do your best. We will keep pushing from our side, too.

As we enter into the holiday season, here's wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy New Year and any other holiday you may celebrate. And always remember to "REMAIN IN TOUCH"!

*Ran*



Hi!! Lots and lots of photos in this *Annual Reunion Issue*. In addition, I had to use my editorial “redacting” eraser a few times to keep our magazine within the 3.5 oz. size limit for postal mailing. Enjoy this issue of YOUR Newsletter... you'll see it's plumb full!

*Merry Christmas & 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 any article or notice in this Newsletter does not assure accuracy or endorsement by FTVA or the 25<sup>th</sup> AF.*



**Letters To The Editor**

To: FTVA Newsletter ([newsletter@ftva.org](mailto:newsletter@ftva.org))

I am enclosing the original letter and attachments so that **those FTVA members who have received the Commendation Medal and live in Texas will be aware that they can receive an Auto Specialty License Plate effective January 1, 2016**. The bill (HR127) was signed into law by the Governor and is effective January 1, 2016. I hope this can be disseminated to members of the FTVA network through our newsletter and meetings.

Former S/Sgt Peter P. Montera,  
USAFSS, 1952-54 ([Monterap@aol.com](mailto:Monterap@aol.com))

September 27, 2015

Dear Mr. Haygood:

On behalf of myself and my wife, Evelyn, please let me express to you and the FTVA my deepest appreciation for the honor given to my brother, Robert "Bob" Lantz by being one of the Hall of Honor Inductees for 2015. It gave me a little insight into Bob's life and I certainly came away feeling very humbled by the words spoken on his behalf. Our parents would have been very proud of what their son accomplished during his career in the Air Force as was I. This weekend was special to my wife and me, as we were unable to attend Bob's service because my wife had major surgery and could not travel. This weekend gave some closure for both of us.

Sincerely, Bill Lantz

Captain Rafael Toro-Quinones  
USAF Band of the West  
1860 Carswell Ave, Suite 1  
JBSA-Lackland, TX 78236-5500

Capt Toro-Quinones,

I wanted to let you know that MSgt Castle's rendition of "Taps" at the recent (25 Sept) 25<sup>th</sup> AF and the FTVA's Remembrance Ceremony was flawlessly impressive. From both the current active duty side and retirees, the reaction to his performance was unanimously viewed as awe-inspiring. We cannot thank you enough for MSgt Castle's participation in front of a crowd of over 100 proud "silent warrior" veterans going back to the early days of the Viet Nam War... he helped make their day.

Sincerely,  
Col (Ret) Ron Haygood, FTVA President

**Annual 2015 FTVA Officer Elections**

At the annual membership meeting held on Sep 26, 2015, Ron Haygood and Andy Smith were duly re-elected to serve as your President and Vice President respectively for the upcoming 2016-2018 term.



Ron

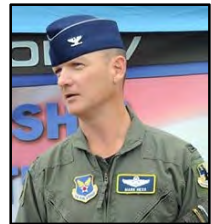


Andy

**FTVA Vigilant Partner Program**



Our POC for all things having to do with Vigilant Partners is **Col (Ret) Mark “Mutley” Hess**. Mark retired from the USAF in 2011 as Vice Commander, National Air and Space Intelligence Center (NASIC). He has 4500 hours (150 combat hours) in the



B-52G, B-52H, T-37B, T-38A, T-38C and the T-6A. He currently works for General Dynamics as Director, Intelligence Solutions Division. For Vigilant Partner info phone 210-380-6328.



**HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEES FOR 2015**

Compiled by Newsletter Staff

The Hall of Honor (HOH) was created by FTVA 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. Four new members entered into the HOH during a ceremony held at 25<sup>th</sup> AF HQ on Sept 26<sup>th</sup>. The foursome was selected for induction by a 9-member FTVA alumni group of prior HOH members.

*A.J. Harrison*, HOH Chair



### Col. (Ret) Joseph Hurst

As the 6922<sup>nd</sup> ESS/CC, Col Hurst was put to the ultimate test when Mount Pinatubo erupted in 1991. He was the “go to” person for local commanders and directed members of all services in life-saving salvage efforts -

All without power, with limited food and water, and with buildings collapsing around him. He oversaw the evacuation of thousands of troops and dependents aboard naval ships...his actions

on Clark and at Subic save lives. At the same time, his team continued to provide the 13<sup>th</sup> AF/CC with critical threat information throughout the crisis. As the Director, Misawa Cryptologic Operations Center, Col Hurst stood up a “visionary” Watch Reporting Center that combined the strengths inherent in each service, and made quantum improvements in tactical support to Pacific commanders. The first Medina Regional SIGINT Operations Center Director of Operations, he initiated new missions every month, added over 800 new personnel the first year, and coalesced three services into a team supporting two Combatant Commands. At Buckley AFB, he won the support for a new Base Exchange, commissary, family housing and medical support.



Left) Maj Gen Shwedo and FTVA President Ron Haygood presenting Joe Hurst with his wall plaque.

(Below) The Hurst family and friends who attended the event.



**Col. (Ret) Margaret (Meg) Czapiewski**



As the 94<sup>th</sup> IS Director of Operations, Col Czapiewski brought an entirely new, advanced sensor, U-2 downlink mission on-line, and executed a marketing campaign convincing skeptical flag officers to allow the 94<sup>th</sup> IS to perform direct reporting. She shattered the “U-2’s are for strategic intel” paradigm, and with her requirements package, “The U-2 will now mirror the RJ in its ability to provide direct support to tactical ops.” She developed the complex distributed, simultaneous information operations on three continents thousands of miles apart, manned by 30+ multinational/multi-service operators working as one team. She led the intelligence revolution in bringing signals to analysts, which saved money, reduced operations tempo and improved the quality of life. She gave USAFE the first U-2/Global Hawk/Predator SIGINT processing node; huge EUCOM/AFRICOM gains. As the first female commander of a USAFSS-AIA airborne unit, the 488<sup>th</sup> IS, she took a demoralized squadron with a lack of aircraft for over 11 months, and made it shine with crews ready to deploy to Operation Iraqi Freedom.



(Left) Maj Gen Shwedo and FTVA President Ron Haygood presenting Margaret Czapiewski with her wall plaque.

(Below) The Czapiewski family and friends who attended the event.



### CMSgt (Ret) Kevin Slater, USAF



CMSgt Slater is “1 of only 18” NSA military professional translators (Russian). He instituted the first-ever Chief’s Charge Book; drove standup of first Info Ops Aggressor Squadron at Nellis AFB, and integrated ANG associate units into AIA Award programs. As Command Chief, 480<sup>th</sup> Intel Wing, he built a leadership course based on Starship Troopers. Selected as 380<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Wing CCM in UAE, he excelled as SEA for 8000 deployed Airmen. He became first-ever and “only” Intel Chief selected as ACC 1<sup>st</sup> Fighter Wing CCM and quickly set benchmarks for all fueled aircraft, trained with EOD. He was selected as CCM for USAF 1<sup>ST</sup> Cyberspace NAF: 24<sup>TH</sup> AF and was instrumental in the rise of SNCO education – 90% of MSgts AND 100% of MSgt-selects completed CCAF degrees when the AF average was only 70%. He served as 1<sup>st</sup> SEA for Cyber Command where he secured a position for the 1st USAF enlisted intern at the FBI!



(Left) Maj Gen Shwedo and FTVA President Ron Haygood presented Kevin Slater with a wall plaque.

(Below) Kevin Slater and family.





### SMSgt (Ret) Robert Lantz

With the expansion of North Vietnamese air defenses, and the introduction of Russian technicians, Soviet Aircraft, and SAMs into the Vietnam War, SMSgt Lantz' knowledge of the Russian language, Soviet equipment and tactical operating procedures proved to be a godsend. He contributed immeasurably to the extensive bombing of North Vietnam targets during Operation ROLLING THUNDER; the 1968 Tet offensive and the battles to retake South Vietnamese cities overrun by enemy forces; and the 1970 Son Tay prison raid to rescue American POWs. During the initial stages of Operation LINEBACKER II, the B-52 ARC LIGHT losses were devastating, and he was the primary information source that provided details on why and how U.S. forces experienced such losses. He coordinated directly with SAC to implement a change in their operational procedures which immediately reduced B-52 losses by over 50%. A true Silent Warrior!



Maj Gen Shwedo and FTVA President Haygood presented Bob Lantz' wall plaque to his widow, Hideko, at the HOH ceremonies on 26 September.

(Below) The Lantz family who attended Saturday's induction.



## 25<sup>th</sup> AIR FORCE NEWS



Compiled by Ken Maynard, Auxiliary Staff

### BEALE CONDUCTS “FINI” FLIGHT FOR MC-12W LIBERTY

Adapted from an article by A1C Jessica B. Nelson  
9th Reconnaissance Wing Public Affairs



9/17/2015 - BEALE AIR FORCE BASE, California -- Beale Airmen conducted a "fini" flight in the MC-12W Liberty at Beale Air Force Base, California, Sept. 16, 2015. A 'fini' flight is an aviation tradition that can be traced back to the Vietnam War era. It honors aircrew members or an aircraft model in a final flight at a particular location.

*Family and friends spray the aircrew aeftr the final flight of a MC-12W Liberty Sept. 16, 2015, at Beale Air Force Base, California. Although deployed Airmen are still supporting the mission downrange with the Army, the final flight represents Air Combat Command's last MC-12W sortie. The MC-12W is a medium- to low-altitude, twin-engine turboprop aircraft, which provides intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance support directly to ground forces. (U.S. Air Force photo by A1C Ramon A. Adelan)Type to enter text*

"Every single person that I've met has poured their heart and soul into this and we've had some great successes," said Lt. Col. Joseph M. Laws, 427th RS commander. "The real victory is the people that got to come home."

Although deployed Airmen are still supporting the mission downrange with the Army, the "fini" flight represents Air Combat Command's last MC-12W sortie. The final flight is a step toward the transformation of joint capabilities of the MC-12W.

The MC-12W is a medium- to low-altitude, twin-engine turboprop aircraft, capable of full motion video, communications intelligence, and signals intelligence that directly supports ground forces. The MC-12W has flown more than 400,000 combat hours and participated in more than 79,000 combat sorties since flying its first combat mission June 10, 2009.

"Warfare is ultimately a human endeavor; it is the marriage of technology and people," said Col. Douglas J. Lee, 9th Reconnaissance Wing commander. "The MC-12 is a great story because it linked those people in the aircraft with people on the ground and it allowed them to carry out a critically important mission."

"Throughout the program, MC-12 Airmen have often been called airpower pioneers and game-changers, but even these bold terms understate the achievements of more than 2,200 Airmen who built and strengthened the program." said Col. Darren B. Halford, 9th Operations Group commander. "While we reflect and commemorate today; we remember that our Airmen are still in combat, augmenting Army crews for another few weeks. This has been a landmark joint program, from air-to-ground joint integration, to joint aircrews flying together in the aircraft."

An American flag was flown in the MC-12W on the "fini" flight to commemorate its historical achievements thus far. The flag will be sent to the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, to be archived.

"Its bitter sweet for a lot of us to see this plane be transferred," Laws said. "Our MC-12 Airmen are excited to go on and move towards their next challenges throughout the Air Force, but we are all going to miss the MC-12." Laws added, Beale has been the home to the MC-12W since June 6, 2011. The hard work and dedication of Airmen have made it possible for the aircraft to accomplish its mission.

"Our Airmen will miss this rewarding mission," Halford said. "Although the mission is leaving Beale and Air Combat Command, the aircraft are going to very good homes. Our joint and Total Force partners will ensure the MC-12 continues to help find, fix and finish the enemies of freedom."

## 70TH ISR WING TEAM CONQUERS MUD, ICE, COLOSSUS

Adapted from an article by Staff Sgt. Dillon White, 70th ISR Wing Public Affairs

10/22/2015 - Fort George G Meade, Md. -- Get muddy. Run. Climb. Jump. Now repeat 26 times along a 6.5-mile trail weaving through corn fields, cutting through creeks and up slick muddy hillsides with your wingmen.



*Airmen from the 70th ISR Wing and family and friends pose for a photo after finishing a Savage Race Oct. 10 at Kennedyville, Maryland. The team completed the 6.5 mile course that included 26 obstacles in roughly two hours. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt Dillon White)*

Col. Thomas Hensley, 70th ISR Wing commander, challenged his Airmen to form a team and train to do just that. On Oct. 10, a team of nine people from the Wing, comprised of Airmen, family members and friends, were high-fiving one another and warming up at the start line of the Savage Race held in Kennedyville, Maryland.

"The Savage Race reminded me of an American Ninja Warrior competition," said a Senior Airman named Michelle from the 94th Intelligence Squadron. "At times throughout the race I

did feel like an American Ninja Warrior. So in that way the race was exactly what I was expecting." Michelle said the mentally challenging aspect of the course hit her the moment she jumped into the first obstacle of the course, a pond crossing called the swamp donkey.

Cold mud aside, one of the obstacles even challenged racers to jump into a steel container filled with ice water then fully submerge under a board halfway through the obstacle. The Savage Race website claims crews use 60,000 pounds of ice to get the temperature down.

"My hands became instantly numb, and I couldn't stop thinking about the variety of monkey-bar obstacles I had in front of me," she said. "Not to mention, after running several miles and pulling myself up over several

high walls and suspended logs, I lost any confidence in my arm strength. I approached the more difficult obstacles with some trepidation, but when I noticed more frigid, muddy water underneath them a determination to stay as warm and dry as possible took over."

"I ended up completing all of the obstacles without falling and was greeted by the cheers of my teammates. It was a really rewarding experience for me." Michelle said she counted on her teammates to help her climb over some of the taller obstacles.

Also competing in the race with Michelle was Airman 1st Class Cameron Gentry, from the 707th Communications Squadron. Gentry said that overcoming the obstacles as a team heightened their sense of camaraderie and the cold mud increased the challenge. "I thought I was going in the water on the monkey wheels," Gentry said, referring to an obstacle named wheel world. "The cold really impacted the strength of my extremities ... my hands were still caked with mud from the military crawl, which made it difficult to grip the bars."

After the team careened down the opposite side of colossus, they waited for each other, high-fiving and hugging one another, then jumped over the final hurdle of burning logs before a final sprint to the finish.

"We crossed the finish line as a team, and it was glorious," Michelle said. "A number of us had run ahead at the end, and the adrenaline begged us to keep going. We turned around and realized that a few of our teammates were a little ways behind and we knew it wouldn't feel right to cross the finish line without them. We waited, and finished as a team with our hands held high."

---

## **70TH ISR WING AIRMEN COMPETE IN 6TH MILITARY WORLD GAMES IN S. KOREA**

Adapted from an article by SSgt AJ Hyatt, 70th ISR Wing

10/30/2015 - **FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md.** -- The Military World Games are a multisport event organized every four years, one year before the year the Olympic Games are held. It is an event that is based on the International Military Sports Council, which is also known as the Conseil International du Sport Militaire (CISM).



*The U.S. Armed Forces Men's and Women's triathlon team poses for a group photo during the 6th Conseil International du Sport Militaire (CISM) Military World Games in South Korea. The Military World Games are a multisport event organized every four years, one year before the year the Olympic Games are held. This year's event was held from Oct. 2 -11, 2015. (Courtesy photo)*

Recently, three 70th ISR Wing Airmen traveled to Mungyeong, South Korea, to participate in the 6th CISM Military World Games from October 2 - 11, 2015. This year's event featured more than 80 nations with 5,000 athletes from around the world.

Anwar, a captain from the 32nd Intelligence Squadron, was the U.S. Armed Forces Basketball team assistant coach, Stephanie, a captain from the 29th Intelligence Squadron Triathlon team, and a first lieutenant named John, from the 94th Intelligence Squadron, played for the U.S. Armed Forces Men's Soccer team.

The U.S. Armed Forces delegation consisted of more than 170 active-duty athletes, which competed in 16 sports to include archery, basketball, cycling, soccer, golf, marathon, modern pentathlon, parachuting, sailing, shooting, taekwondo, track and field, triathlon and wrestling.

Anwar, who played collegiately at the United States Air Force Academy, was selected as a coach of the U.S. Armed Forces team for the CISM Military World Games after the U.S. Air Force Basketball team won the Armed Forces Men's Basketball Championship at Camp Pendleton, Calif. in 2014.

Despite having the second best overall record, 4 wins and 2 losses, the U.S. Armed Forces team placed 5th.

"Our average margin of victory was nearly 50 points," said the U.S. Armed Forces assistant coach. "Both of our losses came in overtime, including one to the eventual champions - Qatar. I'm proud of the way we performed, and especially considering our limited time to practice as a team and adjust to Fédération Internationale de Basketball Amateur (FIBA) rules."

One of the main challenges of this event was the preparation time.

John, who has been playing soccer for roughly 24 years, said the soccer team had only 13 days to prepare for the tournament.

"It was a very difficult experience to try and mesh that many different people and playing styles in such a short amount of time," he said. "But, we had a great time and we gave everything we could to try and win each of our games. It was a blast getting to compete with some of the greatest men that I've even known."

The U.S. Armed Forces soccer team finished tournament with 1 win, 1 tie, and 3 losses.

Stephanie competed in the triathlon event, which consisted of a 1.5-kilometer swim, a 40 km bike ride, and a 10 km run.

"I really enjoyed meeting and competing with the women's and men's U.S. triathlon team members," Stephanie said. "A triathlon is very much an individual sport but the format of the Military World Games race was draft legal; allowing for team work - especially during the bike portion of the race."

This teamwork led to two individual bronze medals and a Master's Division team bronze medal for the U.S. Armed Forces triathlon team.

"The 70th ISR Wing Airmen are very proud of their service and accomplishments," said Col. Thomas Hensley, 70th ISR Wing commander. "We are honored that they represented the Wing, Air Force, Armed Services and our Country so well."

"It was an incredible honor to wear our nation's flag and to represent all the men and women who we serve with on a daily basis," John said. "Representing the United States of America on a global stage and getting to see the best of South Korea with countries that I never dreamed of interacting with was the most humbling and memorable experience. I will never forget the happiness that was shared at the closing ceremony with a lasting message of global peace through friendship."

## NUCLEAR TREATY MONITORING CENTER ACTIVATES FIVE NEW SQUADRONS

Adapted from an article by Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs

10/16/2015 - **PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla.** -- The Air Force Technical Applications Center here activated five newly-designated squadrons this week as the center takes steps to reorganize after becoming a wing equivalent in August 2014. The ceremonies were historic events for the center as well as the Air Force. AFTAC was first organized in 1959 as the 1035th U.S. Air Force Field Activities Group. For the next several years, five technical operations squadrons carried out specific portions of the nuclear treaty monitoring mission. In 1980, the 1035th was renamed the Air Force Technical Applications Center and became a direct reporting unit to Headquarters Air Force. The squadrons were deactivated at that time.



*Lt. Col. Ehren Carl (at podium) delivers his first remarks Oct. 15, 2015, after assuming command of the Technical Surveillance Squadron, Air Force Technical Applications Center, Patrick AFB, Fla., as AFTAC commander Col. Jennifer P. Sovada (right) looks on and members of Carl's new squadron stand at parade rest. Carl is the first officer to assume command of one of five newly formed squadrons at AFTAC. (U.S. Air Force photo by Matthew Jurgens)*

Now that AFTAC falls under Air Combat Command (major command) and 25th Air Force (numbered Air Force), leadership reasoned that as a wing equivalent, the squadron structure should be revived and returned to AFTAC's unit composition. A squadron is the Air Force's most basic unit, responsible for critical, day-to-day operations - it's where the job gets done. Each new squadron held an activation and assumption of command ceremony, with an Air Force field grade officer respectively taking command.

Two of the squadrons will be aligned under AFTAC's Directorate of Operations; the remaining three will align under the Directorate of Mission Support. The new squadrons and their associated missions are as follows:

Two of the squadrons will be aligned under AFTAC's Directorate of Operations; the remaining three will align under the Directorate of Mission Support. The new squadrons and their associated missions are as follows:

Technical Surveillance Squadron (TESS) - this squadron, now commanded by Lt. Col. Ehren Carl, provides the nation with persistent surveillance to monitor treaty compliance through AFTAC's 24/7 Operations Center and the U.S. Atomic Energy Detection System to detect, identify and locate nuclear explosions underground, underwater, in the atmosphere or in space.

Technical Operations Squadron (TOPS) - this squadron, led by Lt. Col. Robert Light, conducts Olympic Titan (mobile maritime platform foreign missile and space activity operations) and worldwide reconnaissance missions via technical sensors, radar systems and aerial sampling operations to provide national authorities quality technical measurements to monitor treaty compliance involving weapons of mass destruction that threaten national security.

Technical Support Squadron (TSUS) - this squadron, under the command of Lt. Col. Dennis Uyechi, provides a broad range of world-class operations support to AFTAC, including intelligence support, training, standardization and evaluation, command staff and operations support to 17 worldwide locations employing more than 1,000 personnel executing the center's nuclear treaty monitoring mission.

Technical Sustainment Squadron (TSMS) - this squadron, with Maj. Patrick Carpizo at the helm, empowers AFTAC with quality sustainment of the U.S. Atomic Energy Detection System and innovative global logistics and maintenance support to the Department of Defense's sole nuclear treaty monitoring mission.

Cyber Capabilities Squadron (CYCS) - this squadron, commanded by Lt. Col. Brian Hippel, provides AFTAC with decisive and assured cyberspace capabilities through innovative and robust global network architecture, data management, systems engineering and integrations services with unrivaled expertise and commitment. "As an organization, AFTAC is changing rapidly and we must embrace these changes to ensure our continued success," said Col. Jennifer P. Sovada, AFTAC commander. "All of our officers taking command have the responsibility to lead and take care of their Airmen while still executing the mission. I have full confidence in their abilities to do just that and to carry on with the rich legacy of excellence at AFTAC."



**FTVA CHAPTER NEWS**

**ALOHA Chapter, Honolulu, HI**  
 John “Tilly” Toillion, President

Aloha! It sure is a pleasure and privilege to be here from Hawaii for just my 2nd FTVA Reunion. It’s also a pleasure to be surrounded by a lot of really “old” cronies – it makes me feel so much younger! On behalf of my compadres out in Hawaii – that being Ken Een, Dickie Hites, Steve Crain, and Al Teel – I pass along their “Alohas.”



Ron Haygood and ‘Tilly’ Toillion



Dave Piirto & Diana Toillion

I’m saddened, however, to report we recently said our final Alohas to long-time friend, Ken “Hopi” Hopkins who passed away on August 2, 2015. I first met Hopi in the Kunia Tunnel while we were both on active duty – he with the 324th IS and me with the Army. We both retired from AD about the same time and both of us were hired back as Dept of Army Civilians. Hopi moved on to the JIOC (aka JICPAC), but we renewed our friendship through Aloha Chapter get-togethers. I believe we may be the smallest FTVA Chapter; however, we continue to meet socially for our

RIT quarterly event. As we “mature” more with each passing year, I believe we each realize the importance of maintaining friendships and just “being there” for each other.

As I have reported previously we continue to struggle with connecting and engaging with our active duty counterparts. Now that I’m fully retired I no

longer have a venue to see our AD on a regular basis. I think back of the days when Ken Williams was the Cmdr of the 324<sup>th</sup> IS when we had without a doubt the largest AD engagement – I think around 20-25. Of course Ken helped out by combining our get-togethers with his mandatory Officer's Call at the Hickam O'Club. I thought if we ever have another AD Cmdr who's familiar with FTVA, perhaps we could get something going again. We also need to work extra hard at getting more retirees engaged. Am really open to any ideas from the other Chapters who may have experienced the same challenges we have. Again, thanks for allowing me to share a few words about our Aloha Chapter and know that the welcome tea leaves are always out for any of you who find your way out to paradise.

---



Front Row, L-R: Dickie Hites Fred Collins  
Back Row, L-R: Ken Een, John Toillion

The Aloha Chapter met on October 15 at Ruby Tuesdays Mililani. Highlight of our latest get-together was to welcome first time attendee Fred (ric) Collins. Fred entered the Air Force back in the late 1950's as a 291X1 and retired after 34 years. Fred also has the unique distinction of being assigned to Alaska when Alaska became the 49th State and then PCS'd to Hawaii when Hawaii became the 50th State. Other topics discussed included a summary of my attendance at this year's FTVA Reunion. Also, we're reaching out to four other FTVA members I just realize live in the islands. As always it was great getting together to continue our pledge to "RIT." "Til Next Time, A-loooooo-ha!!



### Heritage Chapter, San Angelo, TX

Ronald 'JJ' Graham, Chapter President  
Ed Bendinelli, Chapter Vice President

2015 was another prosperous year for our small but robust group in San Angelo! It was sad to see Col Joos retire, but we were lucky to get Col Michael Downs in to replace her. We look forward to continuing our involvement on base and to

keep the momentum going into 2016. As always, we sincerely thank the FTVA for their continued support! Here is a recap of the year's events to date:

**Brandenburg Project:** On 27 Oct 2014, building 448, which houses the Command Section of the 17<sup>th</sup> Training Group, was dedicated as Brandenburg Hall in honor of Sgt Dale Brandenburg, an airborne radio maintenance technician who was killed when EC-47/Baron 52 was shot down over Laos in Feb 1973. Until this time he was the only one of the 17 USAFSS EC-47 crewmembers killed in SEA who had never been memorialized. We were honored to have in attendance two of Sgt Brandenburg's nieces, Mrs Beth Jewell and Mrs Clara Woodburn. Both Ed Bendinelli and Tommy Guy did an excellent job talking about Sgt Brandenburg and the sacrifices of all the silent warriors; Ed got rave reviews on his speech in the local press.

**EC-47 History Exhibit:** the EC-47 exhibit continues to be a "must see" for visitors coming to Goodfellow! We continue to hear very positive feedback from the numerous DVs that visit the base. Since its installation, we have had a number of DVs visit the exhibit. Between Doc Garrett (base historian), Tom Nurre, Ed Bendinelli, and Larry Ross, visitors continue to learn all about the history of the EC-47 program in Southeast Asia. We're happy to announce that the EC-47 exhibit was named the AETC historic display of the year!

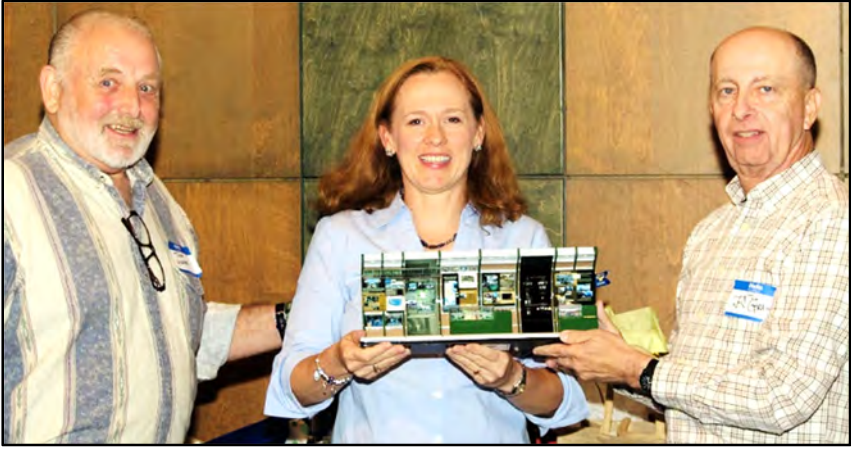
**Award Ceremony:** On 30 April our chapter participated in a ceremony awarding Paul and Nita Clever the Commander's Public Service award for their efforts in finding and recovering human remains and artifacts from an Air Force EC-47 lost over Laos in 1969 (this was an initiative of Col Kimberlee Joos). This was the same aircraft, CAP-72, on which Paul's father, TSgt Louis Clever, and nine other crewmembers were killed. Their

efforts in 2012 resulted in the identification and repatriation of 7 of the 10 crewmembers lost on that mission. We were able to spend some quality time with Paul and Nita, and listen to some of their stories. They are an exceptional couple who plan on returning to Laos to continue the search for missing aircraft and crewmembers.

---



The Heritage Chapter thanks each of you for your continued support. On September 9th, Heritage Chapter Vice President Ed Bendinelli spoke to members a San Angelo Rotary Club about the nation-wide Vietnam Commemoration program and the role of the Commemorative Partner in planning and conducting local Commemoration ceremonies. To date there are over 5,200 Commemorative Partners across the country recognizing Vietnam-era veterans. The EC-47 History Site became a Commemorative Partner in May, joining with the Heritage Chapter, The West Texas Collection and History Department of Angelo State University, the Chamber of Commerce, Vietnam Veterans and the ELKS Lodge #1880. To date, the group has conducted four recognition ceremonies, two at Angelo State University, one at the VFW in Rowena, Texas and the most recent on August 30th at the San Angelo Country Club where Ed and Heritage Chapter President J.J. Graham recognized 14 Vietnam-era O-6s and one E-8.



**Change of Command at Goodfellow:** On 11 July, Tom Nurre and I attended the retirement dinner for Col Kimberlee Joos (a sad day for us!) and presented her with a scaled down model of the EC-47 exhibit on display in the Norma Brown Bldg. We also gave her a plaque to accompany the display piece. Apparently our gift was the hit of the evening – everyone wanted to see it and touch it.

We'll miss Col Joos and her engaging personality and support for our chapter as she begins a new chapter in her life. Col Joos did promise to "remain in touch." Col Michael Downs assumed command of the 17<sup>th</sup> Training Wing on 14 July; he's a former Commander of the 94<sup>th</sup> and has picked up right where Col Joos left off; he's already letting us know he is interested in getting involved in future projects. I think he'll be a good fit for Goodfellow!

**Cressman and Leftwich Projects:** Our on-going mission to recognize our fallen intel heroes with connections to Goodfellow continues, but at a slower pace than we'd like. Our next target, the Cressman Dining Facility, is closed again for a complete make-over and should re-open by Feb 2016; we'll work with the base to do something in conjunction with the grand re-opening; after that, it's on to Leftwich Hall. We have shadow boxes designed for those buildings already dedicated that will "personalize" each building. We will continue to work these.

## Vietnam Vets Commemoration Ceremony



L-R: Vietnam War veteran Don Goff with San Angelo Mayor Dwain Morrison at the commemoration ceremony held at Angelo State University on August 14, 2015. Mayor Morrison presented Goff with the City proclamation.

**Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee:** In May, the Heritage Chapter became a partner with EC-47.com and Angelo State University in the Vietnam War Commemorative Partner Program (VWCPP), in commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vietnam War. On 8 July we participated in a ceremony at ASU awarding Vietnam vets a commemorative pin to honor their service. The recipients in San Angelo received their pins immediately After the pins were awarded for the first time at a ceremony at the Capitol Building, Tom Nurre emceed the event and I was lucky enough to pin on some vets!

We also participated in a 14 Aug VWCPP event. This was another extremely successful event with over 60 Vietnam Veterans and their families attending. Col Downs spoke for a while and visited with as many vets as he could. Briefings went well and the ASU part – pinning ceremony and reception – went off without a hitch. Many of our members were there and local legend Larry Mills was there as well! This event also signaled the end of the “Vietnam: Through the Lens” display at the Angelo State University’s West Texas Collection. This display opened on 17 November 2014. Tom Nurre and 6994<sup>th</sup> Vietnam Veteran Joe Martin – who now run the EC-47 website – helped the folks at ASU put the display together. At the opening ceremonies in November, Ed Bendinelli was one of four panel members who shared their Vietnam experiences. Ed, Tom, and Joe each had memorabilia on display as part of the “Vietnam: Through the Lens” display.

A full house of over 100 people attended a special Vietnam War Commemoration ceremony honoring nearly 40 veterans and their families. Each eligible veteran was presented the official Vietnam War Veteran lapel pin introduced by the Speaker of the House in a Congressional Ceremony on July 8, 2015. This event was hosted by The EC-47 History Site, a registered Commemorative Partner (CP). CP chairman, Tom Nurre, emceed the program. This photo is Don Goff immediately after receiving his lapel pin and the City of San Angelo Vietnam War Commemoration proclamation from Mayor Dwain Morrison. Morrison is also a Vietnam War-era veteran. Don is mentioned in Tommy Smart's membership entry in the News section.



**//From: Tom Nurre, USAFSS/ESC 61-90, HQ USAF 90-94//** Rass, for your editing pleasure. In the after action reports, we use the words "Vietnam War-era" vs "Vietnam-era" to describe the group of veterans honored and thanked through the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration

ceremonies. It's how the national committee handles it as well. For the record and courtesy to all the committee member organizations, please note these specifics when referring to the committee in public releases:

The [www.ec47.com](http://www.ec47.com) website managers registered the site as The EC-47 History Site Commemorative Partner on May 18, 2015, and they serve as the chair for The EC-47 History Site Commemorative Partner Program committee. Additional committee members are:

Heritage Chapter, FTVA

West Texas Collection, Angelo State University Library

Department of History, Angelo State University

Military Affairs Committee, San Angelo Chamber of Commerce

All Veteran's Council of Tom Green County

Vietnam Veterans of America, Concho Valley Chapter 457

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Lodge 1880

Not all committee organizations participate in every event, but all committee organizations have access through the EC-47 History Site Commemorative Partner portal on the national website:

<http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/>

or photos from the June 1, 2015 after action report are in the national website gallery: [http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/the\\_ec-47\\_history\\_site/](http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/the_ec-47_history_site/)

For additional background, and more super good photos of Ed Bendinelli and JJ Graham, please check out this website link:

<http://www.ec47.com/commemorative-partner-program>

---

Next event was a pinning ceremony with the Goodfellow Eagles Group on 30 Aug. Ed and I recognized/ pinned 15 officers and one enlisted member (our very own Larry Ross!). This was very well attended by the O-6s and their families – they had to bring in extra tables and chairs. Ed was invited to speak to the Rotary Club on 8 Sep to help spread the word on the VWCPP committee efforts.

**Heath Hall:** It looks pretty good now that Heath Hall is going to be used to train international students sometime in 2016. I'm working with Doc Garrett (Wing Historian) and John Pope (retired 202 Chief and Goodfellow POC for the project) to make sure any & all artifacts housed inside the building are accounted for. Main goal here is to preserve Heath Hall & the legacy of the late CMSgt Jim Heath. The status of all the artifacts right now is not clear; the base would like to leave at least some of them in place. Doc is monitoring the situation. More to follow...

**International Students:** Students attending the international officers course are invited to one of our chapter dinner /meetings; normally host 2-3 classes per year; there have been many interesting exchanges on domestic and military topics; some productive "international mentoring." Class attendees represented Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan, Estonia, South Korea, Japan, Italy, Egypt, Nigeria, The Republic of China, and Thailand. There has been a recent change in course leadership so we anticipate going back to the way things were a couple of years ago (dinner-meetings); our next meeting w/these folks will be in November.

**Chapter Admin Issues:** Our chapter takes pride in our inputs to the Newsletter...our noble scribe, Larry Ross, takes great pains to ensure "all the news that's fit to print" (in both words and pictures!) is forwarded to the *Earl Of Ink (Rass)* for publication. We've decided to stick with the "Christmas Hangover" theme and continue to hold our Christmas party in January. This seems to work better for everyone.

Cheers, JJ

**Alamo Chapter, San Antonio, TX**

Barnie Gavin, Chapter President

Mike Nielson, Chapter Secretary



**August 2015:** A meeting of the Alamo chapter, Freedom Through Vigilance Association (FTVA) was held on 20 August 2015 at Conroy's Irish Pub, 9091 Fair Oaks Pkwy, Fair Oaks Ranch, TX 78015. 14 members and/or spouses/significant others attended with a social gathering starting at 6:00 PM. New Business included a motion to schedule regular Chapter meetings every other month vice every month and sit-down dinner meetings every four months to increase membership participation. One of the chapter meetings would convene at the annual Spring Fling. The motion was tabled until more of the membership can be polled. Also discussed was scheduling of guest speakers at our quarterly sit-down dinner meetings. This will be discussed more in-depth at future meetings with more members.

**September 2015:** No meeting was held due to the FTVA Annual Festivities.

**October 2015:** Meeting was held at the Lion and Rose Pub at the Rim, 17627 La Cantera Pkwy, San Antonio, TX 78257 on 15 October 2015. 17 members and spouses attended with the formal meeting being called to order at 6:30 PM. We welcomed Robert Burger as the newest member to the Alamo Chapter. Robert was in USAFSS for a good portion of his 292X1 career. New business included Barnie Gavin introducing the idea of a Spouses Auxiliary on behalf of Sheila Williams. This group will work in conjunction with the 25th AF spouses on projects such as care boxes for our 25th AF deployed members. The members present agreed this was a good idea and approved it. Ken Williams graciously accepted the new position of Membership Chairman. Thank you Ken and Sheila for all you did and continue to do for our Air Force and FTVA.

As a reminder the Alamo Chapter meets the third Thursday each month with the next meeting scheduled for 19 November 2015 at Logan's Steak House at 12477 I-10 West, San Antonio, TX 78230. The formal chapter meeting will start at 6:30 PM but feel free to show up at 5:30 for the social gathering.

*(Some of the folks who attended the Aug 20<sup>th</sup> Alamo Chapter meeting.)*



L-R  
Libby and John  
Evans, Daniel Martin,  
Karen and Alan  
Daugherty

L-R  
Mark Hess, Ken  
Williams, Lee  
Anthony and Ron  
Haygood



Ken Gendolfe and Ted  
Colquhoun



Ken Maynard



Andy Smith



**Rocky Mountain Chapter, Colo Springs, CO**

[Ftva-rockymountainchapter.com/](http://Ftva-rockymountainchapter.com/)

Greg Roman, President

Submitted by George "Ike" Eichelberger

We now have a new President, along with 42 current members. We find that keeping track of the snowbirds is a challenge, as we see people come and go at our meetings. Like the Heritage Chapter, we are also getting in on the Vietnam Commemorative activities. Our outreach efforts remain strong as we collaborate with the Air Force Academy Cadets to mentor as many of the new Intelligence Officers as we can. Since our treasurer, Sharon Frizzell, had to resign due to a summer-long commitment to Yellowstone National Park as a volunteer, so I will be acting secretary until we hold elections. The Chapter undertook to assist the family of our recently departed and most faithful member, George Williams in settling some of his estate matters.

\*\*\*\*\*

**National Capitol Chapter**

Jerry Gething, President Erreka Coleman, Secretary

The FTVA National Capitol Chapter met on 1 October 2015. The following members were in attendance:

- Mr. Jerry Gething (President)
- Mr. Bob Bastian (Treasurer)
- MSgt Erreka Coleman (Secretary)
- Mr. Ron Jacobs (NCC Member)
- John Fiveash (NCC Member)

**OLD BUSINESS:** MSgt Danielle Harmon provided an overview of the FTVA and NCC to several Senior NCO promotees. Recommendation for future events is to use the Orientation briefing and provide the Senior NCOs with copies of the FTVA tri-fold. Also suggested establishing a reoccurring award for ALS graduates. ALS world Affairs Award- Student write an Essay on an event and receive award at the ALS Graduation

**NEW BUSINESS:** Discussion on proposed National Capitol Chapter web site: John Fiveash is the POC. It should be a fairly easy process – i.e.

Hang the Chapter page off the National Page and send HTML files to the National Page's POC. Recommended keeping the content simple, upkeep done with minimal effort: Send John Fiveash graphics, ideas. Although John can maintain the site, he will be busy with other activities so recommendation is to find a tech-savvy person. John believes he can get the page set up in one weekend; might need 30 minutes of maintenance per week Business Plan was created to capture mission and objectives.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Mr. Jerry Gething suggested our goal should be to hold two social events per year, one in the spring (early April 2016, after Easter) and one in the fall (September/October before or after the FTVA reunion in San Antonio); could hold some fundraisers to offset costs. Also need a venue. Mr. Ron Jacobs volunteered to help ID a venue/organize a social; also stated he has an "in" with a caterer. Mr. Bastian will also contact the two museums identified above to determine their potential use Mr. Gething also recommended we try and have someone from the Chapter attend the FTVA Annual reunion

**OTHER:** MSgt Coleman, our Secretary, has been selected for reassignment and leaves in December. We need to identify a replacement. We discussed briefing the new 70<sup>th</sup> ISR Wing Commander on FTVA and the National Capital Chapter; need to work with the Wing Command Chief and possibly Protocol to get on the CC's calendar. Discussed other ways the Chapter and its members can be more involved with local activities, to include the Wounded Warrior project, Welcome Home, etc. Discussed possible Lapel pins and a few coins for FTVA

Erreka Coleman, MSgt, USAF  
Secretary

\*\*\*\*\*



**I've found the English language is full of contradictions...  
for example, consider the following:  
Boxing rings are square  
Quicksand can work slowly  
And a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a Pig.**



**REUNION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Combat Apple 50th Reunion**



I am planning to host **the Combat Apple 50th Reunion** here in Rockwall, Texas (with some activities at L3 Communications in Greenville) in September 2017. If all goes as planned, our reunion will precede the FTVA Reunion in San Antonio by a few days such that we can move the party to San Antonio and celebrate FTVA. The second reason to elicit input from those of you who were involved in Combat Apple. So ... please provide your feedback directly to me at [rfc2k@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rfc2k@sbcglobal.net) please. I will guard and protect any information you share ... and I do look forward to reading MANY stories with great anticipation.//Bob Cotti//

**1960's Chicksands Reunion Planning**

Several elder statesmen are organizing a reunion of OED/OPN-X RAF Chicksands assignees during the period 1960-69. Co-chairs for the activity are Ernie Maldonado and Ron Betts. Contact either of us if you were a part of the transition or the follow-on activity. We are open to anyone who served in that section during that period and immediately following. Ron Betts: [penelope@vermontel.net](mailto:penelope@vermontel.net) or [802-259-3740](tel:802-259-3740).

**January 28-31, 2016**

**USAFSS Mini-Maxi Roll Call**

Location: St Augustine, FL

Comments: We have signed a contract for our 8th year at the (same but renamed) Magnuson Historic Hotel, 1111 N. Ponce de Leon Blvd, St. Augustine, Florida 32084. Phone: [\(904\) 824-5554](tel:904-824-5554) for reservations. Mention USAFSS Roll Call.

POC: Jay Johnson e-mail: [jjohnson1203@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jjohnson1203@cfl.rr.com)



**Wanted: Operators, Analysts, Maintenance, Administrators, of all ranks who were ever assigned to Elmendorf, Alaska. Reunion forming for June of 2016.**

**POC: Jim Kaus**

**Email: [jjim@floridajim.com](mailto:jjim@floridajim.com) for info**



## REUNION REPORTS



### **PMFR 2015 PWG Annual Reunion @ San Antonio**

Submitted by Lonnie Henderson

“Put me in coach, I can still hit...” ...perhaps not those exact words, but certainly the sentiment expressed by the nearly one hundred Silent Warriors gathered in San Antonio last week. A bit older, a bit of gray in the receding hairline, (of those who still had hair) a bit over our best fighting weight – but still nothing changed in the enthusiasm, dedication and desire of those Prop Wash Gang folks.

The Eagles gathered once again, renewed old friendships, made a few new friends, told a few lies, embellished a few stories, remembered things that never happened – or did they? “There I was, at 28,000 feet, hanging by my patch cord...” the opening line to countless war stories. In another era, that's what we did – told war stories, recounted battles won and lost, reminisced about long boring flights punctuated by the proverbial moments of sheer panic. But it's a bit different now. The opening lines heard most often were, “Are you a member of the zipper club? You wanna see my scars? What kind of pill are you taking for that leprosy you caught in the PI?” Or something similar.

However, when we met with some of these legends, some in their own time, some in their own minds, they years melted away and the memories flooded in with accurate and descriptive accounts of the coming of age of countless young men. We stood in humbled silence as the names of Fallen Eagles were recited. We “Saw an Eagle Fly” way too many times since our last reunion. As those names were called out, each of us was reminded of our own vulnerability. That brought home to me that tomorrow is promised to none of us, and made the re-connection with other PWGers much more meaningful.

The oldest PWGer there, Bob Finch, a past recipient of the Elder Award, is in his 80s. This year's recipient, Larry Lane, is a youthful 77 – a mere child. Sparky Rogers, the Elder Award recipient in 2013, was there as well. According to the PWG bylaws, one can never be “The Elder” more than once, so both Bob and Sparky were ineligible. And another bylaw states that a female will never be the recipient, since no woman will ever admit to being the eldest... I always thought nobody was older than Joe Bissett, but this proved me wrong. Joe came in second oldest. Who knew?

Copious amounts of liquid refreshment were consumed – mostly Diet Coke, Diet Dr. Pepper, Diet Water and at least five bottles of beer. Maybe six, but who's counting?



Julie Warfield, Michelle Ireland,  
And Jen Anthony



Chief Sparky Rogers shows his talents!  
(1st enlisted Action Officer on the Air Staff)

I was glad to see a large contingent of Athens folks there, although most of them served after my time. I recognized Billy D., but then Billy D. is almost as old as Joe Bissett. Ty Peters was there from Show Low, Arizona. Ty told me he had a whole herd of ponies out in the parking lot, and wanted to do some trading, but I'm not sure what he had in mind.

Bob Cope is thankful that he did not have to post bail money for anyone, as he has done a few times in the past. Bubba Armintrout and Lee Anthony, both of whom worked for me at one time, were there. They are responsible for most of the gray in my hair. Bob says he received a few irate calls from SAC folks because of me, but I cannot for the life of me imagine why. We all know that, had it not been for us, our good Colonel would have retired a Captain. We also know that, had it not been for us, our good Colonel would have retired a Major General. We have all returned to our respective homes, some back to work on Monday, many of us starting yet another seven-day weekend. There are no Mondays in my week. So until the next time,

FLY HIGH, FLY LONG, SILENT WARRIOR  
September 29, 2015

Lonnie Henderson ([greymountain40@gmail.com](mailto:greymountain40@gmail.com)) sending from the Cultural Center of the Great Southwest, if not the known universe.

## RAF Kirknewton Holds 13<sup>th</sup> Reunion

Submitted by George Cunningham

The 13th reunion of RAF Kirknewton was held 21-25 September 2015 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in downtown Dayton, Ohio. Including family members there were 41 people attending. RAK Kirknewton was open from 1952-1966 with unit designators of 37<sup>th</sup> RSM, 6952 RSM, and 6952 RSG. Stan Harris (59-62), president of the RAFK Association, and George Cunningham put together a great agenda for the group.



From L to R: Larry Wible (62-63), Don Ritter (54), Ken Bedient, Bob Hill (62-65), Joe Mullican (56-59), Paul Heroux, Bill Thomsen (60-62), Fred Crawford (63-65), Karl Thomas (53-54), Roger Oleson (53-57/59-62), Ray Shoemaker (58-62), George Cunningham (63-65), Dick Selway (55-58), Harry Hathhorn (55-57), Dick Littlefield (60-62), Robert Penry (65-66), Stan Harris (61-64), and Henry Slopek (53-54).

On 22 September we visited the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, including a visit to the Presidential Aircraft hangar. We were escorted by knowledgeable volunteers throughout the tour. The RAFK Association had a Legacy plaque made which will be mounted on the exterior wall of the museum and inscribed. On 23 September the group went to La Comedia Dinner Theater for an afternoon play and a very tasty meal. On 24 September we held our Reunion dinner at the Crown Plaza hotel. An Honor Guard from the Kettering American Legion conducted the American Flag ceremony. Following the flag ceremony a Scottish piper played several tunes to the delight of all but specially to the several Scottish wives. A great dinner was followed by an evening of enjoying each other's company.

**FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 691616  
San Antonio, TX 78269-1616  
15 May 2015**



**PLATINUM PARTNERS**

**Leidos**

**Osmen Family Foundation at the  
Community Foundation of Western Nevada  
(IMO Maj Gen Paul Martin)  
General Dynamics Information Technology**

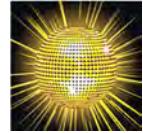


**GOLD PARTNERS**

**Prop Wash Gang**

**Security Service Federal Credit Union  
Air Force Federal Credit Union**

**Mrs. Doyle E. Larson (IMO Maj Gen Doyle E. Larson)  
William F. (Bill) Sheck  
USAFSS Roll Call  
Neil T. Robinson**



**SILVER PARTNERS**

**Grover Jackson**

**Bob Cope**

**To The Penny Tax Services  
Arrowhead Electric Service**

**Lee and Jen Anthony  
Regis F.A. Urschler  
Jeff and Cecelia McRaney  
Anthony F. Jensen  
“Picnic Partners”**

**Grant and June Howells (IHO CMSgt (Ret)Larry Mills)  
Ken and Hide Lantz (IHO CMSgt (Ret) Larry Mills)**





**BRONZE PARTNERS**



**Joseph Hurst  
Berlin Island Association  
Association of Spanish Flyers  
(IMO Col Bruce Strotman)**



**PATRON PARTNERS**



**Marco and Rachel Aldaz  
Thomas H. Tennant  
James Mayer  
Charles Bishop (IMO Mike Gilroy)  
Engrave-Tech & Graphics  
Mark and Amy Hess  
Douglas and Kayoko Gaines (IMO Robert Pfister)  
Kenneth W. Larson (IMO Robert Pfister)  
Jerome Ring (IMO Jack Riedel)  
CMSgt (Ret) Ronald D. Hentz (In Memory of Robert Pfister  
and Col Grover McMakin)  
314<sup>th</sup> TRS Booster Club (IHO CMSgt Roger Towberman)  
William Lantz (IHO CMSgt (Ret) Larry Mills and  
IMO SMSgt Robert W. Lantz)**

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



**2015 FTVA & 25<sup>th</sup> Air Force Golf Tourney**

By Dennis Buxton, FTVA Golf Tournament Coordinator

This year’s reunion was kicked off on Thursday, 24 September on a glorious sunny day as 142 aficionados of ‘pasture pool’ teed it up at the Alsatian Golf Course in Castroville, TX. After opening remarks by special guest and The First Golfer, Maj Gen B.J. Shwedo, 25<sup>th</sup> AF Commander, the golfers climbed aboard their chariots for a noon shotgun start and were soon knocking their way around the acreage in pursuit of fame and glory, but mostly a good time with friends new and old. This latter objective was more than accomplished according to RUMINT.

While it was all for fun and fun for all, not everybody got a trophy but did receive a delicious post-round meal with door prizes abounding. As golfers love scoring (isn’t that what it’s all about?) the following folks outshined the tough competition (playoff holes had to be computed!) and placed in the Top 6 (and Last Place) and received a tangible token of recognition.

<b>1st Place</b> /Score 56: The Champion Golfer(s) of the 2015 FTVA/25AF Annual Golf Tournament - Team 14A – Shawn Davis, Adolpho Garcia, Derek Johnson and Rick LaFosse.
<b>2nd Place</b> /Score 57 (playoff): Team 8A – Lee & Jen Anthony, Casey Clifford and Eddie Warfield.
<b>3rd Place</b> /Score 57 (playoff): Team 17B – Mitch Cooper, Paul Salaz, Zach Salaz.
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Place</b> /Score 58 (playoff): Team 7A – Gene Dudley, J.O. McFalls, Dave Sheppard, Gene Sloat
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Place</b> /Score 58 (playoff): Team 11B – Logan Armga, Jay Glendenning, Ian Hertzke, Jay Thompson
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Place</b> /Score 59 (playoff): Team 16A – Bob Benitez, Ted Colquhoun, Tyler Cresap, Brent Grissom.
<b>We Had More Fun Place:</b> Team 13B – Dartangan Butler, Brian King, Feliz Perez, Stan Sparrow

There were also four skill’s challenge with the following sharpshooters garnered the honors:

**FLOP WALL Contest:** Using Phil Mickelson-esque talent flopped their orbs over a 12’ wall and actually holed-out their shots on the green.

Simply amazing were the swings of Mark Smith and Tyler Cresap. Honorable mention went to Guy Sherburne, who was the leader in the clubhouse at 17” from the hole until the dynamic duo holed-out.

**PUTTING CONTEST:** This even required great skill as it was on a tricky layout (the chipping green) this year. The putter of the year, who rolled the pill to 5’5” of the hole was Rod Teuscher.

**LONGEST DRIVE:** The “**Big Boomer**” of the year was Ernie Lazard who drove the ball on Hole #10 up the hill almost to the green. I believe he used the Red Tees – as per the rules – and as that hole measures 309 yards from the Reds on the card, it was an awesome display of accuracy and power. Hoo-Rah!

**CLOSEST TO THE PIN #12:** Honors for scaring the pin out of the hole on this little downhill cupcake (170 yards from the senior tees) goes to Casey Clifford. Congrats. Too bad it didn’t go in so we could have enjoyed a free beverage as is customary.

**CLOSEST TO THE PIN #6:** This 152-yarder (Blue Tees) was more competitive despite the vast ocean between the tee box and the green as several names graced the card. However, OJ Stalford took the final honors.

**KUDOS AND THANKS.** No tournament of this magnitude can happen without the efforts of many, many volunteers. As a result, the following folks have our deep gratitude for their able assistance:

**Laura Reed and the Staff** of the Alsatian Golf Course. Great set up, great course, great facility, great meal.

**Jay Thompson and Karl Cator**, 25<sup>th</sup> AF Reps and organizers taking care of thing on the Hill.

**Wes Tarte**, set up/administrative/shut-down help and minister without portfolio all over with his camera. Thanks Wes for making the drive from Arkansas to help out. Appreciated.

The set up team of **Joe Hurst, Jay Thompson (again!), Ken Maynard and Ken Williams**. Thanks guys for staging and putting those SWAG Bags together. A special nod to Ken Maynard and Ken Williams for the hand during check-in.

**Andy Smith** for lending his stentorian voice to the after party proceedings to ensure all door prize were awarded to the correctly-called golfer ☺.

*Golf Tournament Out-Takes*

**Spinnin' & Grinnin':** Ray Lafreniere, Rod Teuscher, John Stallings and Al Bench



**Standing Guard**  
**Mount:** Jimmy Jones, Jim Broadhead, Art McEwen and Guy Sherburne

**Gang of Four:** Golfers Denny Vey, Doug Williams, Ron Scott and Dave Piirto



**Who ARE These Mugs?** Stewart Skeen, Ken Gendolfe, Bob Blair and the in-dominatable Jim “Thumper” Mason.



**What EXACTLY are they measuring?**  
Bobby Guthrie with his team of Jose Linares, Larry Watkins and Larry Boggio

**Leading it All Off:**  
Team 1-Alpha  
Scotty Lee, Col Tim Sipowicz, the 25 AF Commander Maj Gen B.J. Shwedo and FTVA Vice President Andy Smith.



Hope to see you all again next September!



## 2015 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

RIT Staff Compilation

After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, the FTVA along with the 25<sup>th</sup> Air Force honored its own ""Silent Warriors"" on Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> during a Remembrance Ceremony in front of the 25<sup>th</sup> Air Force Headquarters building. The ceremony brought together current active duty and former intelligence professionals to honor the Silent Warriors who have given their lives in service to the United States. The term ""Silent Warriors"" refers to Airmen who served under the various AF command iterations over the years--the United States Air Force Security Service, Electronic Security Command, Air Force Intelligence Command, Air Intelligence Agency, Air Force ISR Agency and the present day 25<sup>th</sup> AF.



With the C-47 display in the background, Maj Gen Bradford Shwedo reviewed the importance of fostering the relationship between our FTVA fraternity and the current 25<sup>th</sup> AF.



Following Maj Gen Shwedo's address, Col (Ret) Ron Haygood, recently re-elected as FTVA president, gave some thoughtful reflections regarding the history and reason for the ceremony.



As is the tradition, a roll call of former civilian and military service members who have passed away during the past year was read aloud by CMSgt (Ret) Ted Colquhoun, Jr. who maintains the Fallen Eagle database for the FTVA.

Culminating the ceremony, 'Amazing Grace' was played by a lone bagpiper, MSgt Castle. The event ended with the wreath laying by SrA Adam Fiddler.



Remembrance can also be a time for sorrowful reflection. Dave Domyancic and Bill Sheck, spent this reunion week missing their close friend, P.F. Pfister, who passed away at this time last year.

They personified friendship in providing substantial, caring support for P.F. during his final, difficult months.



Pat & Larry Miller, Pete Siegel and Mark Kirner were among those who witnessed this year's Remembrance Ceremony which included a flyover by Air National Guard F-16's.



Larry Ross & 'JJ' Graham



Ken Williams Bob Cope



Larry Lane & Jesse Greene



Ed Jolly & Chris Cook



***THE PICNIC***  
***At Stapleton Park***



Jacque Lerma, AJ Harrison and Bob Crabtree were the terrific smiling trio who hosted the beer booth again this year (for the umpteenth time).



L-R Lonnie Henderson, Rudy Smith and Lee Anthony found each other long enough to compare some war stories from the old days.

*Picnic Out-Takes*



(L) Ron Graham, Heritage Chapter president, and Bernie Gavin, Alamo Chapter president, visited at the FTVA help desk while (R) Bob Baert provided help with membership renewals and handled all FTVA matters.

(L-R) Rich Yanagimoto, Jesse Greene, John Lopes, Ed Jolly and Ken Maynard found each other in front of the FTVA help center.



Bob Finch and Larry Ross found some shade between the help desk and the beer booth.

*Picnic Out-Takes (cont'd)*

(R) Three (Old) Amigos: Jack Guida, Segundo Espinoza and Mike Alexander shared a few minutes on the picnic main street.



Two stalwarts of the reunion, Kay and Ron Weaver - haven't missed a picnic since the flood of '98 (just guessing).

Roll Call's new president, Steve Mobry, donned a reunion hat festooned with over 20 unit pins and found a nice, shady picnic table to share with his wife and a few friends.



*Picnic Out-Takes (cont'd)*



(L-R) I caught 25<sup>th</sup> AF Vice Cmdr Brig Gen Lambert, Joe Martin, 25<sup>th</sup> AF Cmdr Maj Gen Shwedo and Tom Nurre visiting about the ARDF display at Goodfellow. Joe has played a major role in providing 6994<sup>th</sup> history and support for Tom’s award-winning project.



(L-R) Tom Baker, who traveled all the way from Pennsylvania, got together with Walt Ritter, Tom Nurre, Rick Lowe, Tom “Junior” Barnes and JJ Pitzeruse at the picnic for their annual performance review. From what I heard, they all passed with flying colors.

**2015 FTVA/25<sup>th</sup> AF Annual Reunion Banquet**  
Newsletter Compilation

On Saturday evening, over 230 members and their guests gathered at Lackland’s Gateway Club to celebrate the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of USAFSS and its successor commands. Maj Gen Bradford J. Shwedo, who recently assumed command of 25<sup>th</sup> AF, headed up the list of distinguished attendees as the evening’s guest speaker. Each of this year’s HOH inductees were introduced after the pledge of allegiance.



When we first arrived, we found the welcoming smiles of (Left) the 25<sup>th</sup> AF HQs Protocol Office team (L-R) of Tim Duncan, Matasha Austin and Brian King who made sure everything ran smoothly,

FTVA President Ron Haygood and Aloha Chapter President John “Tilly” Toillion found time to visit during the banquet. Tilly came all the way from Hawaii to attend this year’s get-together.



(Left) Maj Gen Shwedo presented an entertaining and informed overview of what he sees as the current state and future challenges of the 25<sup>th</sup> AF.

(Right) Following the General's well-received speech, a donation made out to the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund on his behalf was presented by FTVA President Ron Haygood.



(Left) Ken and Sheila Williams were much in demand whenever there was a 'break in the action' during the banquet. Ken recently retired from HQ 25<sup>th</sup> AF and continues to serve on the FTVA BOD.

(Right) Matt Poole (middle) found himself outflanked by Dave Domyancic (left) and Marc Kirner (right)



(Left) Pat und Larry Miller, who came down from San Angelo, TX, for the event, were able to catch up on the latest with John Lewis.

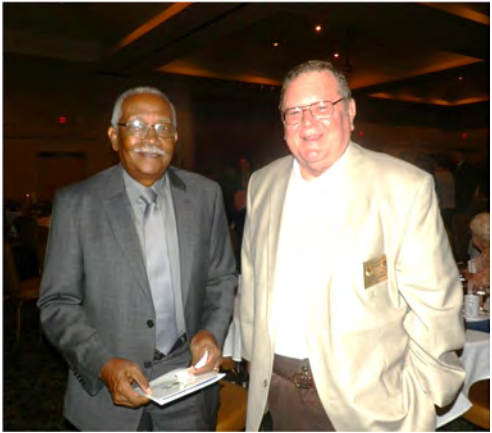


The Lantz table: HOH inductee Bob Lantz' family table: (L-R) daughters June & Mickie, Mrs Hideko Lantz, Evelyn and Bill (brother) and Ken Lantz (son)



AF 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenants Amanda Claussen and Tawny Pelletier are assigned to 25<sup>th</sup> AF HQ. They heard about the banquet, and came to see what FTVA is all about.

CMSgt (Ret) Tom Crump (l) served on Okinawa in the 6990<sup>th</sup> together with Col (Ret) Bob Cope (r) back in '67 – '69 timeframe. Chief Crump travels here each year from Panama to visit with old friends during the annual reunion.



## **Airborne Maintenance Technician Association Reunion**

Submitted by Johnnie Estes

The **AMTA** had their reunion at the Marriott in San Antonio September 23 – 25, 2015 to correspond with the **FTVA** reunion to ensure everyone could attend the festivities of both organizations. The **AMTA** reunion started a day before the **FTVA** reunion which was September 24<sup>th</sup> through the 26<sup>th</sup>. The **AMTA** and **FTVA** work closely together to ensure no conflicts in scheduling. The **FTVA** golf tournament is always well attended by the **AMTs** and this year was no different as the **AMTA** had three teams playing in the tournament. The **FTVA** picnic and the Hall of Honor are **FTVA** functions that every **AMT** likes to attend when time permits.

The **AMTA** elected four board members to serve another four year term. The board members were re-elected and the **AMTA** officers remained the same. The **AMTA** banquet was Friday evening at the Marriott and Gabe Marshall was our guest speaker. Gabe came a little early and fit right in with all the **AMTs**. He gave an excellent briefing on the security for our country. Beginning with the first security organization right up to the present and how we operate today. The banquet had a two entrée buffet which was outstanding.

The Hospitality room was a little small but worked out great as Mike McLaughlin and Bob White did a great job of putting everything together. The Silent Auction on Friday evening was a bit hectic due to limited space but Bob White and Whitey Gross overcame every obstacle and everything worked out in the end.

Most everyone remains at the reunion hotel on Friday night and all except a few depart for their homes on Saturday.

Sometimes we have an informal reunion during the even numbered years such as in 2014 we had a reunion in Las Vegas that proved to be a great John Hurst idea and was organized and sponsored by Johnnie and Betty Jo Estes. We even had a small golf tournament at one of the local courses and a nice barbeque at the Estes household afterwards with everyone being invited and most everyone attended. Thanks to Joe Jesty we plan to have another informal reunion in 2016 in Tucson, Arizona. The great thing about informal reunions is we have no meetings, no voting, no decision making, but we do have lots of fun and drink a lot of beer and tell a ton of lies. We look forward to seeing everyone in Tucson next year and we will be back in San Antonio in 2017.

Johnnie Estes

### Roll Call Reunion at New Orleans La Newsletter Staff Compilation

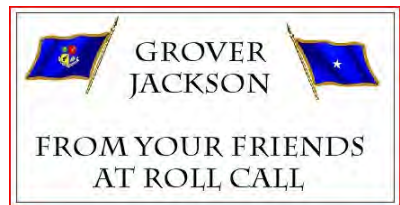


Circumstances have caused Bob Askew to fill the President of Roll Call position for three years now. As he gives up that position, Jim Kaus presented him with a mantel clock as a token of our appreciation. It is also engraved saying "thanks from your friends at Roll Call".



(Left) Brigadier General Grover Jackson receives his Pioneer hat from Jim Kaus. Gen Jackson began his career as a Flight Commander in Chicksands in 1962. Note the

lightning bolt on the cap brim. Jackson gave a terrific presentation at our closing banquet as Guest Speaker. He told the history of USAFSS, not just what happened, but often why. He had a front row seat when many of these decisions were made. Jim presented him with a thank you gift, consisting of a personalized portfolio, which inside is inscribed:





Recognized vets of South East Asia at the 2015 reunion are from L-R: Bill Burhans, Bob Peden, Al Skipper, Grover Jackson, George Britain son, and Tommy Smart.



New USAFSS Pioneers (served in Security Service over 50 years ago) from 2015 reunion L-R: Pete Ritzel, David Dildy, Joe James, Steve Smart, Richard Loker, TomMcCullough, Bobby Peden, Ray Shoemaker, Addy Paul, George Britain grandson, Charlie Millsap, Grover Jackson, Wes Mills, and Al McComber.



(Left) To everyone involved with the Roll Call reunion, Alice and I want to say a special “Thank You” for thinking so much of us in ceremonies at the closing banquet. New President Steve Mobry presented us with this wonderful award. //Bob Askew//

**Roll Call Certificate for Perry Bullard**  
Submitted by Jim Kaus



(Left) We all have a dear friend in the Roll Call group named Perry Bullard. Perry helped me put Roll Call together, and served as its first President. His contributions to our group are unmeasurable, helping me build a constitution and by-laws that would stand a lawyer’s scrutiny, helping build the membership in the earliest days,

helping members with computer technical issues, far too complicated for me to understand. With his wife Giesela, we put together the first reunion, helping with several subsequently. Perry Bullard is so well known among the Roll Call membership, that this past spring, they demanded that Perry be recognized as a Roll Call legend. A few years ago, Perry lost his beloved Giesela, and subsequently fell into deep depression, and has not yet recovered. He recluses himself and does not accept visitors. He seldom ventures far from his home. I have had weekly phone conversations with him, since I am the only person with whom he will speak. Accepting the award for Perry is Don Haygood. When they return to San Antonio, he and Bob Askew and I placed it in his hands. With that, the Reunion was another rousing success.



**HISTORY & MEMORIES**



**My Recent Honor Flight Trip**  
Posted by Aubrey Keeter



I was one of about 80 War veterans that traveled from Columbus, Ohio to Washington, DC to see several military memorials there. The trip was sponsored by the city of Westerville, a suburb of Columbus, at a cost exceeding \$50K. The group included Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine veterans that represented WWII (14), Viet Nam War (2) and Korean War era (66 + or – a few). Each vet was assigned a guardian that accompanied us throughout the day and assisted us taking pictures of the memorials, pushing our wheelchair (if needed) and listening to our stories. My guardian is an E5 (2nd class Petty Officer) that is stationed at Fort Meade with duty in the NSA bldg. I enjoyed the trip immensely –ten times more than I expected. It was the best morale booster that I’ve experienced in many years. The pic (above) was taken at the USAF memorial - I am 3rd from left in wheelchair. //Aubrey Keeter//

## 2001 Visit to The Back Gate at Darmstadt

Comments by Roger Fowler and Paul Laffitte



A group of 18 of us old 2ndRSM guys from ELK, went back to Darmstadt in 2001 for one last look at ELK before the wrecking ball took it down. We were given a tour also of CFK for us that were also stationed there and we visited one of the current NCO barracks (two room)

digs. Had computer access, refrigerator, M/W, booze out in the open, a bike stored in one room. We were given a reception and briefing of what was going on there. Much different from my time on CFK, 55-57. We also got a big reception from the Burgermeister of Darmstadt, a table full of goodies, then over for Lunch in the Mess Hall and then over to the opened up ELK for our last visit. Went thru our old barracks and Ops in the Attic. The parade grounds were full of weeds. Hated to see it in such bad shape. Next was a tour out to the Ops and we finally was able to gain access to the area just inside the fence and snack bar area, nothing behind the Green Door, What a change. We did get a group photo at the Main Entrance during our time there. Brought back many memories.// **Paul Laffitte**//

Been through a few times also. It is sad how unkempt and forlorn it looks. The height of the trees makes one realize how many years have passed since a lot of us were there. The last troop I have talked to who was at CFK was there in 2003. I thought it closed before that. His signal unit was at CFK. When I talked to him, he couldn't relate to us old timers from the 60's. A lot of them seem to think that American influence should be everywhere to the point that it is almost like still being in CONUS. I am glad to have been steered to this site to talk to guys who relate to the great days and great times that we had in the USAFSS days. I don't think I would enjoy Germany in this 21st century force. So much has been closed, demolished, returned to German control and the feeling of close kinship and Allied ties has been somewhat tarnished over the years. I'm sure that we all agree that we had great times and great memories but that we also knew the importance of our presence there. // **Roger Fowler**//



**FALLEN EAGLES**



We were notified of the following losses from caring relatives, friends or obituaries and we offer prayers and sympathy to 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.”* D. MacArthur

Compiled by Joe Figueroa, Associate Editor

---

Bruen, Frank G., USAFSS  
Chapman, William J., SMSgt Ret, USAFSS  
Coley, Lucius M., Maj Ret, USAFSS  
Davey, Kenneth W., Col Ret, USAF  
Dever, Francis J., MSgt Ret, USAFSS – Lifetime Member  
Johnson, Jerald L., USAF,  
King, Lawrence V., USAFSS  
Koehn, Kenneth L., USAF  
Lee, Wendell K., USAFSS  
Morrow, William, MSgt, USAF  
Prosise, James W. USAFSS  
Robinson, William D., CMSgt Ret, USAF  
Rome, LeRoy J., USAFSS  
Snively, Jackie L., CMSgt, USAFSS  
Talley, Gene W., USAFSS  
Toulouse, Bartley J., MSgt Ret, USAF  
Uranga, Jason D., 25<sup>th</sup> Air Force  
Vickery, Max, USAFSS  
Wagner, David E., USAFSS – Lifetime Member  
Weiser, Francis J., USAFSS  
Zobel, Rudolph, D., Lt Col Ret, USAF



**Frank G. Bruen**, 70, died June 4, 2015. He is survived by his wife and two children. Frank was a 292 assigned to Hakata from 1964 to 1965. //Obit – Tampa Bay Times//

\*\*\*\*\*



**William J. Chapman** passed away Oct 2015. He enlisted in the US Air Force in 1954 and headed south from upper New York State for basic. After being selected and trained for service in the equally young, secretive, and tight-knit, Security Service branch, he was assigned to Chicksands, San Angelo, Kirknewton, Misawa, and Iraklion. Chap then accepted a Career

Advisory role at Kelly AFB in San Antonio and formally retired from Service as SMSgt in 1975. //Obit – San Antonio Express News//

\*\*\*\*\*



**Major Lucius Milburn Coley, Jr.**, 89, passed away 12 Jul 2015. He enlisted in the Army attending Radio Mechanics School, Advanced Electronics School, and Airborne Radar Mechanics School. A twenty year career veteran, Major Coley served in the Army, Army Air Corp and USAF. In December 1947, he was selected to

attend the first Officer Candidate School (OCS) Class 48A at Lackland Air Force Base of the newly formed USAF. His duty stations included Ellington AFB, Mather AFB, Elmendorf AFB, Keesler AFB, and Lackland AFB. In 1960 he was assigned to the USAFSS Command Headquarters, at Kelly AFB. He served as a Staff communications/Electronics Officer and was the Command's M.A.R.S. (Military Amateur Radio Service) Director. He retired from the USAF in June 1964 at the USAFSS HQ. //Obit – San Antonio Express//

\*\*\*\*\*



**Colonel Kenneth Davey**, 101, passed away 15 Aug, 2015. He commanded several B-17 bombing missions over Germany. Just before his retirement from the U.S.A.F., as a Commander of the 6921st Security Wing, he spent time in Misawa, Japan, Turkey and many other places in the Middle East; as well as the Pentagon//Obit – Tampa Bay Times//

Colonel Kenneth Davey was the commander of the 6921 Security Wing when I arrived at Misawa, Japan in March 1965. Colonel Davey was the commander when we made the "big move" from the old compound into the new compound and operations in March 1965. Construction of the brand new AN/FLR-9 at Misawa had just been completed under Colonel Davey's command. As I recall, Colonel Davey retired out of Misawa in the fall of 1965. The unit participated in a huge parade (pass in review), in honor of the colonel's retirement. //Ed Benningfield//

\*\*\*\*\*



**MSgt Francis (Frank) Joseph Dever**, age 77, passed away on October 16, 2015. Frank joined the United States Air Force in 1958. While in the Air Force, Frank spent time in Japan, Germany, Vietnam and Crete. He retired from the Air Force after more than 20 years in 1979 at the rank of Master Sergeant. He is survived by his loving wife, Barbara and his daughter Fran Dever.

//Obit – Donaldson Funeral Homes//

I relieved Frank as S&W of Baker Fight in Crete in 1970, Thanks to him the transition was relatively smooth and he proved to be a good mentor (all hell was breaking loose on a daily basis). Frank made my transition from a "newby" having spent 16 years on the Far East problem to a brand new ball game very smooth. I know Frank served in Misawa, Danang, NSA and I suspect Germany with distinction. He was a good friend and will be missed by many of us old timers. //Dave Naab//

\*\*\*\*\*



**Jerald L. Johnson**, 50, passed away Aug 16, 2015. He proudly served in the U.S. Airforce. //Obit – Times Herald

\*\*\*\*\*



**King, Lawrence V. Jr.**, 68, passed away Jul 24, 2015. He served with the US Air Force from 1964 to 1968, serving in Intelligence Services. He spent two years in Japan and one year in Da Nang, Vietnam. He was a member of the Kochville VFW Post #9809, where he served on the Honor Guard and as Adjutant. He leaves to cherish his memory two daughters and one son. //Obit – Case Funeral Home//



Larry was assigned as a 202, while at Hakata during his 1965-1967 assignment. Larry left Hakata and spent 1 year in Vietnam. //Carol Farr//

\*\*\*\*\*



**Kenneth Lynn Koehn**, 68, passed away Oct 25, 2015. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1965, and attended Polish language school in Monterey CA. He served as an airborne voice intercept processing specialist. After survival training he was assigned to USAFSS and flew RC130 aircraft at Rhine Main AB in Germany. He finished out his Air Force career back in Electronic Security Command flying on RC135's. He had over 800

flight hours. He retired from the Air Force in 1985. Ken is survived by his wife, Ty; a daughter, one son; step-daughter, and step-son. //Obit – Kruse

**Phillips Funeral Home**

\*\*\*\*\*



**Wendell "Daddy Boy" Kaahiki Lee**, 77, passed away 30 June, 2015. He was a 292 while at Hakata during his 1958 to 1959 assignment. He is survived by his wife, Carol (Luka); and daughters, Keala and Malia. //Obit – Honolulu Star Advertiser// //Carol Farr//

\*\*\*\*\*



**William "Bill" Morrow**, 84, passed away Oct 20, 2015. Bill was a Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force during the Korean War. He was stationed at Eielson Air Force Base in Fairbanks, Alaska, O'Hare Field in Chicago, Ill., Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines and Fort Meade Army Base in Maryland, where he worked as an intelligence analyst for the National Security Agency. //Obit – Grand Island Independent//

\*\*\*\*\*



**James Wesley Prosize**, 83, passed away 10 May 2015. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1951 to 1956 as a radio operator in the USAFSS spending several of those years in Darmstadt and Rhein Main, Germany. He is survived by his wife, Patsie; one son Kenneth; two stepsons, Daniel and David. //Obit – Lake View Funeral Home//





**CMSgt William D. "Robby" Robinson**, 72, aka "the Traveling Man", passed away Oct 12, 2015. His military career in the USAF spanned over 20 yrs, retiring as a Chief Master Sergeant. Remembered by many as the Traveling Man, having traveled to five continents, and crossed 6 of the 7 seas, he continued to travel extensively in the USA after retirement. He is survived by his wife, Charmaine, one son and one daughter. //Lewis Funeral Home//

Will miss Robby and the many memories from Offutt AFB, Nebraska where we both we on flying status. Love and prayers to Charmine, Stacy and Sterling during their time of bereavement. //Evangelist O'Neil//

\*\*\*\*\*



**LeRoy James Rome, Sr.**, 80, passed away Oct 31, 2015. He worked at Kelly AFB at Security Hill and met many presidents as well as helped in the U.S. Mission to help keep America safe. He is survived by his daughters, Melody and Cynthia. //Obit – San Antonio Express//

\*\*\*\*\*



**Jackie L. Snively**, 86, passed away 25 Jun 2015. Jackie joined the Army Air Forces in 1946. His first overseas assignment was with the Far East Air Forces Headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. He was assigned to the 2044th AACS (Airways and Air Communications Service) Squadron at the Pentagon. Jackie served 4 years with the 6913th RSM in Bremerhaven, Germany (1957-61) with the Communications Branch as

NCOIC of Cryptographic Operators. He retired from the Air Force with the rank of Chief Master Sergeant. //www.6913th.org//



**Gene Warren Talley**, 86, passed away on Sep 15, 2015. In 1952 he joined the U.S. Air Force. After Tech School at Keesler AFB, Mississippi, he served a three-year tour of duty at the 41st/6913th RSM in Bremerhaven, Germany, as a Morse Intercept Operator on "D" Trick. He left the Air Force in 1956 with the rank of Staff Sergeant. He is survived by his wife Carol; sons Kevin,

Craig; Daughters Deborah and Kim. //www.6913th.org//



**Bartley J. Toulouse**, 55, passed away 9 Sep 2015. After a decorated and distinguished 22 years of service as an Airborne Cryptologic Language Analyst in the US Air Force, Bart retired as a master sergeant in 2007. After his military career, Bart continued his work in the aeronautical defense field as an independent contractor and most recently a civil servant. Bart is survived by parents, Tom and Ann; sisters Molly, Laurie, and Lynn; and brother Michael. **//Obit – Wright Funeral Home//**

In honor of Bart Toulouse, whose wit, wisdom, and tenacity made us all better people. His professional contributions and friendship will forever be remembered. Fly high Silent Warrior! **//Plaque presented to family by Association of Spanish Linguists//**

“Fly long, Fly High, Silent Warrior. Forever on watch, forever on orbit.” **//Certificate presented to family by Prop Wash Gang//**

Bart was one of the most respected people in the community. He was never too tired or frustrated to do whatever was needed to get the mission done. I saw him go on numerous 24-26 hour work binges throughout both of his careers. Bart epitomized our community during his time at Offutt, Panama, Washington D.C., and Texas. **//Lee Anthony, SMSgt (Ret), USAF. HOH//**

I was fortunate to be Bart's supervisor at Offutt AFB when we were stationed there. One of the finest troops I ever had. He was a kind, generous, brilliant man with a heart of gold. He was hard working and patriotic. Most of all he was one of the most loyal friends anyone could ever ask for. You will be missed my friend. **//John "Bubba" Armintrout, MSgt (Ret), USAF. HOH//**

I was very sad to hear this news about Bart Toulouse. Bart worked in my office in Northern Virginia in the late 90's. He always went the "extra mile" in all his endeavors and Bart was known by everyone as the "expert" in his field. **//John Wheeler, Col (Ret), USAF//**

Bart's passing created a huge loss throughout the Recon community! Everyone that had the pleasure to work with Bart in any capacity are better today because of him! He was a professional and a great friend! May God rest your soul! Rest in peace! **//Richard Holsinger//**I made a point of telling all my co-workers how Bart was one of the stand-out supervisors

early in my AF career. The USAF community is small, and the RC-135 community is smaller. Today it feels smaller still. Good-bye Bart. RIP my friend. **//Michael Brokas//**

\*\*\*\*\*



**Jason David Uranga**, 33, passed away on Feb 20, 2015. He attended Auburn University before joining the United States Air Force in 2008. At the time of his passing, he was stationed with the 743rd Intelligence Support Squadron at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, TX. He loved serving his country and being part of his AF family. He traces a military tradition from his parents to World Wars I and II, Korean War, t Vietnam War and the Persian Gulf War. Survived by his parents Linda and David Uranga and four siblings.

\*\*\*\*\*



**Max Vickery**, 81, passed away 20 Aug 2015. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force when he left the family farm after high school. Max served two tours at Bremerhaven, Germany with the 6913th RSM (1957-60 and 1963-66). He completed his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Maryland while on active duty, and was proud of his 20 years of service as a civilian at the National Security Agency (NSA). He is survived by

his wife, Lillian; son, Scot; and daughter, Alicia. **[www.6913th.org/](http://www.6913th.org/)**

\*\*\*\*\*



**David E. Wagner**, 75, passed away Oct 18, 2015. David enlisted in the AF in 1959, serving eight years which included his work in Security Service as an intelligence agent in Vietnam. He trained at Yale University where he became fluent in both the Korean and Chinese languages. He served on the Logan County Veteran Honor Guard for several years and was a lifetime member of the American Legion #173, Bellefontaine, where he had served as Past Commander. He was instrumental in beginning the movement that allowed the

Vietnam Veterans Memorial to be erected in Rutan Park in Bellefontaine. He is survived by his wife, Carole. **//Obit – Eichholtz Funeral Home/**

Assignments included 6929 RSN, Osan and 6988 SS, Yokota. Logged 2900-plus hours on C-130 missions and a few missions on C-135 (Rivet Joint aircraft). **//Bud Rosenstrom//**



Dave Wagner was one of the very best. That was a pretty amazing IFEL class producing Dave, Hopi, and Jim Henderson. I flew many GOT missions with Dave (and Hopi) '65-66. Always level headed, always cool under fire. Had he stayed for a career he would have continued to be a leader. More and more those days are on my mind with many good memories of those missions. We got so much done with so little. RIP, my brother. **//Bud Rosenstrom//**

Dave Wagner, a 3-striper AMS at the 6988<sup>th</sup> at Yokota, took off on his final mission at 0930 EDT this morning 18 October 2015. Another Agent Orange casualty. I knew him for 50 years. He and Ken Hopkins are together now. He did not stay for a AF career. **//Bob Cotti//**



**Francis James Weiser**, 84, passed away Sep 26, 2015. He entered the U.S. Air Force in 1953 and served until 1977 retiring in San Antonio. He was a Communications Specialist in the Air Force Security Service. His assignments included the Philippines and England. Frank's last station was San Antonio, Texas. **//Obit – Porter Loring Mortuaries//**

\*\*\*\*\*



**Lt Col Zobel, Jr., Rudolph (Rudy)**, 86, passed away Jul 22, 2015. He is survived by his daughters, Kathryn and Hallie. Rudy attended the Citadel and traveled extensively during his military career. He was a Vietnam veteran. **//Obit - Baldwin-Fairchild Goldenrod//**  
Rudy was an 8035, Baker Flight Commander while at Hakata during his 1960-62 assignment. **//Carol Farr//**



### THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday school teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was very nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."



## BEDSIDE MATTERS

**Danny Prichard**//Nov 9, 2015//Well, kind of a cool thing happened this morning. I had to go to Eisenhower Army Medical Center for my 2-week checkup after my cancer surgery. They brought me back to one of the rooms and a female Army Staff Sergeant gave me a big smile. I mean, I know I'm a handsome devil but still ... Anyway, a few minutes

later the doctor/surgeon came in with a group of students from a local hospital. He said "This is retired Air Force Chief Master Sergeant Prichard. We forgive him the 'Air Force' label because he is our resident superman. Not only has he beaten cancer multiple times, but as you saw from the photos, we removed a large tumor from his stomach and had to repair four hernias. He walked out of the hospital exactly one day after the surgery and as you can see, is doing just fine. Virtually all of his medical issues have been caused by his exposure to chemicals released by our enemy during Desert Storm. Yet, I've never heard him complain nor seen him have a down moment. Ladies and gentlemen, these are the type of heroes you'll get to take care of should you choose to join the military after your internship is finished or if you choose to work at a VA Hospital." Needless to say, I was shocked. I guess Doctor (Colonel) Frizzi decided he was going to say something before-hand and some of his staff (like the Army Staff Sergeant) knew about it before-hand. It was weird because the "students" were clapping and I stood there holding onto my gut like a goofball. However, I was wearing my "Retired Air Force CMSgt" hat and my "POW/MIA" shirt so it's all good. Sometimes it pays to get out of bed. Oh, by the way. Everything from the surgery looks good with the exception of a "pocket of fluid" in my stomach they are going to monitor. (A little embarrassing but hey, it was a compliment and I'll take it as such).



Danny with "mini-me"

---

**Wayne Tallant**//Nov 10, 2015// Our favorite RIT Associate Editor is a shining example of strength and positive attitude as the Pulmonary Fibrosis continues to take its toll on his energy level. When we visited last week, he told me he weighed-in at 105 lbs. "soakin' wet". His wife, Margaret, is always by his side. Let's continue to keep Wayne and his family in our thoughts and prayers. //Editor//



.....BITS::AND::BYTES.....

E-Mail: [robert.danielson24@gmail.com](mailto:robert.danielson24@gmail.com)

Name: Robert Danielsom

Comment: hi! Coming to Japan (for the sixth time) in September, 2015. This will be the 50th anniversary of being stationed in Misawa. I would like to take the train up and buy my fellow servicemen a drink to celebrate. AP alley is gone...lots of great memories for me there. Any way that I can meet some of the guys there now and thank them for serving? Best regards,

---

E-Mail: [vpc1sgt@twcny.rr.com](mailto:vpc1sgt@twcny.rr.com)

Name: Vince Coon

Unit: 6970 ABG, Ft. Meade, MD

Comment: 6970th, 1972-1975. 203X0, Serbo-Croatian. Too many fond memories of those years to list. Found this site while doing some research on USAFSS/Col(MG) Norma Brown. Entered back to NYANG in 1982, retired in 2004 with 26 yrs total svc. Still stay in touch with a couple other "partners in crime" from those Ft Meade days!!

---

Name: David S. Gammelgard, Vancouver, Washington

Comment: I served in Taiwan 1958-60 as a 29270, my family joining me in Jan 1959, concurrent travel having been cancelled in 1958 & our fourth child was born there. Back to Taiwan with my family in 1964-66 as a 30670. Was a Technical Instructor in our Crypto School on Lackland AFB for a total of 8 years. Attended several special schools at USAFSS in San Antonio. Was Superintendent of Maintenance on Kelly AFB 1970 - 71. Retired 1 Oct 1972 as a Master Sergeant with 22 1/2 years total military service. Loved the military, the Air Force, our country.

---

E-Mail: [lbsharpe@comcast.net](mailto:lbsharpe@comcast.net)

Name: Gary Sharpe

Unit: HQ USAFSS Kelly AFB TX

Comment: Personnel Specialist, 6985 Security Sqdn, Eielson AFB AK Dec 1965 - Mar 1968. Personnel Technician and subsequently Computer Programmer, HQ USAFSS, Kelly AFB TX, May 1968-Nov 1971. Highlights? Working for Lt Col Duane E. Russell, 6985th CC and Lt Col Norma E. Brown HQ Dir Plans/Programs, the two finest officers I ever met in my 30 year career. I retired as a CMSgt in 1991.

**To: Newsletter**  
**From: Joe Brickey**

I just joined FTVA this past weekend at the reunion picnic in San Antonio. Your membership may be interested in the following information about a new NRO History book. Please post/share with FTVA membership as you see appropriate.

v/r Joe Brickey

A 166-page history of the organization called "SP" is now available for purchase. Title: Birth of Air Force Satellite Reconnaissance: Facts, Recollections and Reflections

**Background:** This history of SAFSP is dedicated to all those men and women who fought the Cold War, in silence – from above. No organization is better at gathering overhead intelligence than the U.S. National Reconnaissance Office (NRO). Today’s NRO grew out of 3 organizations: AF, CIA, and Navy. The AF office for satellite reconnaissance was called: Secretary of the Air Force’s Office of Special Projects [SAFSP]. This monograph describes the birth of Air Force satellite reconnaissance. When SAFSP was created in response to Presidential recognition of a national imperative, four tenets captured the sense of urgency: direct access to national leadership, covert management/operations, highest national priority, and rapid procurement. In addition, three management principles led to SAFSP’s success over 30+ years of providing reconnaissance intelligence: strong dedication to mission, empowerment at all levels, and reporting by exception.

For Information: Go to www.lulu.com and search for ‘Birth of Air Force Satellite Reconnaissance’ or, go to:

http://www.lulu.com/content/paperback-book/birth-of-air-force-satellite-reconnaissance-facts-recollections-and-reflections/16772943

(Note: All proceeds go to the SAFSP Alumni Association)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Was Just Wondering...**



**Who was the first person to look at a cow and say, “I think I’ll squeeze those dangly things and drink whatever comes out”?**



*Then and Now*



***CMSgt (Ret) Ray “Pappy” Ivey***  
**USAF Feb 1963 – March 1993**

I joined the AF on 6 February 1963 to avoid the draft. After tech school at Keesler I went to Misawa as a 292X1 (Ditty Bopper) Morse Systems operator. Selected for the 2-T COT promotion program and went to Northeast Cape in ‘66. Returned to Misawa in ‘67. Left Misawa last part of ‘68 for Vietnam where I spent time at Na Trang, NKP, and Phu

Cat. Spent my year-and-a-half in Nam on flying status. (EC-47). Went back to Misawa in July of ‘70. Left Misawa in ‘73 and moved out of Security Service. Spent time at Plattsburg and Offutt, then became a First Sgt at Shaw AFB, S.C. Next two stops were at Ramstein, Germany and Myrtle Beach. Went over to Desert Storm with the Wart Hogs (A-10s) as the AGS First Sgt then retired in March 1993 and worked at Whispering Pines Golf Course in Myrtle Beach for 6 years.



Above: Taken at NKP, Thailand in 1969.

Moved back home to Gaffney, SC in 2000 and joined the city police force in 2001 as school resource officer. Successfully completed the Police Academy at the tender age of 60. Have to thank my wife for getting me in peak condition. Had to run 3 miles every morning at 5 O'clock. Have been happily retired for 11 years and living at the ol’ homestead in Gaffney. Have made it to the FTVA Reunion in San Antonio every year since (stay @ my buddy Walt Ritter’s home there).



Most recent photo (2015)



**CMSgt (Ret) Okey Warden, Jr.**  
**USAFSS/ESC 1955 – 1985**



A West Virginia native, Okey joined the USAF on 26 April 1955 and attended the Intelligence Analyst School at USAFSS HQ at Kelly AFB following basic training. His first assignment was to Landsberg AB, Germany in May 1956, where “Moscow Molly” on her radio show, welcomed A2C Warden and two other Airmen, by name, to their Landsberg Unit. He also served overseas at Zweibrucken Casern, Germany; Peshawar West Pakistan; Korat and Ramasun Station, Thailand; Clark AB, PI (twice); Hickam and Wheeler AFB, HI; and Osan AB, Korea as well as stateside at Brooks AFB and Kelly AFB. He held



*Okey taken c. 1956* positions ranging from basic Intelligence Analyst up to Unit Operations Superintendent. Okey graduated from the ATC NCO Leadership School, was an Honor Graduate of his USAFSS NCO Academy class and a graduate of the USAF Senior NCO Academy. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Business from Chaminade University of Hawaii and a CCAF Associate’s Degree in Communications Management. The Chief was presented 18 commendations (both medals and ribbons) during his career in addition to the Legion Of Merit upon retirement. He served for 11 years in TRANSEC, OPSEC, DC3CM and led the first PURPLE DRAGON mission to Thailand. He also authored several 3- and 5-Level COMSEC course materials and training aids. Chief Warden served as President of the Hawaii Round Robin Group, the Senior Enlisted Adviser (SEA) to the Commander Pacific Areas; and in 1983 was selected to be the ESC SEA. He was inducted into the FTVA Hall of Honor in 1995 and serves on the HOH selection committee. After retirement, Mr. Warden assumed a position with E-Systems, MELPAR Division in Falls Church, VA as a Defense Contractor where he worked closely in the management of all mission elements associated with the Distributed Common Ground System (DCGS and later CARS). Proud of his 42 years of service to his country, he now resides in San Antonio with his wife of 38 years, Helen.



## Membership Application

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	M.I.
HOME PHONE	E-Mail Address (optional)	
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE

Inclusive Years of Service:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(MM/YYYY) (MM/YYYY)

Make your check or money order to the:  
**FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION**  
 Mail to:  
 P.O. Box 891818, San Antonio, TX 78288-1818.

Yearly Memberships are \$20.00  
 Please check one:

NEW REGULAR MEMBER

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
(\*\*see below for description)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

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 yearly directory:

Rank/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Retired? Y / N

HAM Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

CELL Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Organization  
 (USAFSS / ESC / AFIC / AIA /  
 AF ISR Agency)

---

**PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT:** The authority to request this information is contained in Public Law 88-38 and Executive Order 12038. 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 USAFSS, ESC, AFIC, AIA, and past or present military and civilian personnel of the 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.

**WE ARE ISR**

**Past Present Future**



***THE FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE  
ASSOCIATION***

THE FTVA IS A PRIVATE, NON-PROFIT CORPORATION ESTABLISHED IN 1981. WE ARE DEDICATED TO THE SUPPORT AND PERPETUATION OF SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND HUMANITARIAN SERVICES FOR THE USAF AND 25<sup>TH</sup> AIR FORCE .

ALL FORMER AND CURRENT MILITARY OR CIVILIAN MEMBERS OF 25<sup>TH</sup> AF AND ITS PREDECESSOR COMMANDS OR AGENCIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP. SURVIVING SPOUSES OF DECEASED PERSONNEL ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBER STATUS.

***WE ARE YOU !!***