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***FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE
ASSOCIATION***

NEWSLETTER
Annual Reunion Issue

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The President's Corner



Howdy fellow FTVA members,

It is an honor to be elected as the FTVA President for this coming year. This privilege comes with a lot of responsibility and I appreciate the confidence the selection committee had in recommending me and that the membership had in supporting me. I want to thank Ron Haygood, the out-going President, for his service and dedication over the past couple years. The Association has done great things under his tutelage and I definitely have

some big shoes to fill. From working on bringing in new Chapters, to raising the visibility of the Association within 25 AF, to improving our financial standing, Ron has done a tremendous job and I want to personally thank him and the rest of the Board for their great work over the past year.

We held another successful reunion this past September and while we had a few hiccups (a wet golf day), I think it was well attended and received by all. Thanks to the planning team provided by 25 AF, led by Capt Angela Mornese, and the FTVA members providing not only oversight, but lessons-learned from previous years. Special thanks go out to Dennis Buxton (Golf), AJ Harrison and Jacque Lerma (Picnic), and Phred Sevening and Lee Anthony (Remembrance Ceremony), plus a huge thank you to Ken and Sheila Williams for all their efforts to ensure the banquet was a success.

Those of you that made it during the week noticed a few changes to the agenda and those were made for a reason. One thing we didn't change was the golf tournament. The Golf Club of Texas was again a gracious host, and despite the early morning rain and the long day, Dennis Buxton ensured all had a good time. We also heard your comments about being late to other reunions different organizations scheduled for Thursday night, so one thing we are doing next year is starting the tournament two hours earlier. This should allow for the golf and a BBQ afterwards.

The big change for the Reunion Week was moving the Hall of Honor Induction to Friday morning. We did this to garner more participation and it worked. We honored four new inductees in front of a standing-room only crowd. Over 400 former and current members of our Command were present to honor Col (Ret) William D. W. Grimes, Lt Col (Ret) Jerry McKenna, CMSgt (Ret) Kenneth C. Maynard, and CMSgt (Ret) Jesse L. Greene. Thanks to AJ Harrison and his committee, this was a huge success and we plan on doing the same thing next year. The Remembrance Ceremony followed, and was moving as always. Unfortunately, we had to call out over 125 names this year. As someone who read the names for a number of years, this gets harder and harder as time goes on. Each name read off touches someone in the crowd and it is our privilege to honor their memory and contribution. The picnic followed with food, beverages, and the telling of a few...okay lots of war stories. One of the highlights was the performance by The Air Force Band of the West during the picnic. They enjoyed sharing some stories and promised us they would be back next year.

Saturday started out with the annual meeting of the membership and voting in of the new officers, and the Reunion week culminated with a superb banquet that evening. Our guest speaker had to pull out at the last minute, so we allowed the members attending to enjoy their time together telling war stories and then took some time to go over the accomplishments of each of the Hall of Honor Inductees. We hope you all had a great time and enjoyed the festivities. We have already set the dates for next year's reunion and hope as many of you as possible can make it. It's always great to see friends and family.

I want to close by asking for your support. I encourage you to reach out to your nearest FTVA Chapter and get involved. These folks meet once a month and definitely can use your help supporting the local units and members in their area. The Alamo Chapter (San Antonio), Rocky Mountain Chapter (Colorado Springs), Heritage Chapter (San Angelo), Gold Coast (Beale AFB), Mid-Atlantic Chapter (DC and Baltimore) and Aloha Chapter (Hawaii) are always looking for new members. A special shout out goes to Scott Lawson, who is working to stand up a chapter in the Salt Lake City region. Again, I encourage you to get out and support. We need each of you to remain proactive to keep our association strong. Encourage new membership to come in and continue the legacy so many started before us...and most importantly...REMAIN IN TOUCH!

Cheers, Ted Colquhoun



Hi Folks,

Lots of photos included in this *Annual Reunion Issue* along with a growing number of Fallen Eagles. We had to use our editorial “redacting” eraser a few times to keep within our size limit for postal mailing (so, sorry, the Roll Call reunion will be delayed until March issue and no jokes this time). Dennis Buxton was extra busy this

issue with the golf tourney and chapter news. Just a note: making our *Fallen Eagles* information available to members is sometimes enough to keep a couple of us busy; there are two primary people – Joe Figueroa and Lee Anthony (listed on the inside front cover of RIT under *Directors*) who deal directly with *Fallen Eagles*. **Please use the form available on the web site at <http://www.ftva.org> to report *Fallen Eagles*. This will ensure all relevant data is provided.**

Thanks again to everyone who contributed their postings and submissions. Hope you enjoy this issue of YOUR Newsletter... it's loaded!

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Sincerely,*





Letters To The Editor

(Following Transcribed)

Sep 14, 2017

Sorry! I've stopped typing or computer anymore.

To: Editor

Hi! I add this note on recent Fallen Eagle (Sep issue) Tom Emdy – just in case his Syracuse colleagues in Bremerhaven lost track. Tom served in Berlin, first at Tempelhof and then wherever it moved in the 60's. He was active in our Berlin alumni group (BIA) and headed up our final encampment in “Bib B” (2013). I did not know him well, but his personality left its mark on his “sky Top” buddies.

Sincerely,

Ronald R. Rader, Athens, Ga.

(Following Transcribed.)

September 2017

From: Roy Heath, Yamagata, Japan

Dennis,

Just got the latest newsletter. Thanks. Found a couple more friends among the Fallen Eagles. I pulled two tours with **Tom McDaniel** at Brooks. We were on different teams but got together once a month when we were in garrison. In Nov '79 we brought a bunch of Venison steaks for our monthly cook-out. Most of the kids in the 6906th had never tasted Venison, so that was a rare treat. The people in Human Resources next door must have wondered if we ever really worked. Every time they looked out their window we had BBQ fire going and were cooking something and Tom was always in the middle of it. True to USAFSS tradition, we worked hard and partied harder.

Another name jumped out and shook me badly. **Billy D. Griffin** was the AMS when I flew the RC out of Mildenhall. Reaction by Czech MIG-21's during my second mission. That one was snake bit. On our RTB the pilot flew us into the refueling tanker's wake turbulence! An experience even most of the guys with 5000 hours never had. Man, I'm beginning to feel like an ol' dinosaur with all of my friends checking out of the picture.

Oh well,

Cheers, amigo Roy

2017 FTVA Annual Meeting

The annual FTVA membership meeting was held on September 30, 2017 in the conference room at Security Service Federal Credit Union on La Cantera Pkwy in San Antonio.



Seating was provided for all members who attended along the side of the conference room while the BOD chairmen conducted business at the center table.

With the unanimous concurrence of the FTVA membership present, Ted Colquhoun and Evan Smith have been elected to serve as your President and Vice President respectively for the upcoming 2018-2020 term



Ted

Evan



HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEES FOR 2017

The Hall of Honor was created in 1983 to honor individuals who served USAFSS/ESC and its successor commands with great distinction and contributed immeasurably to mission excellence. The Hall preserves the legacy of those who have gone before, highlights their deeds, and honors their contributions. The 25th Air Force, along with the FTVA, inducted four new members into the Hall during a ceremony in HQ 25 AF Sept 27th. There are now 188 members of the Hall of Honor, and we know there are many who need to be recognized so please help by nominating those who are deserving.

A. J. Harrison, HOH Chair



The 25th Air Force Hall of Honor inductees for 2017 shown from left to right are retired Col. William D. W. Grimes, retired Chief Master Sgt. Jesse L. Greene, retired Lt. Col. Paul J. McKenna and retired Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth C. Maynard.

(Right) FTVA President Ron Haygood unveiling this year's inductee plaque which will be displayed in the Bernard Lager Auditorium.



Colonel William D. W. “Bill” Grimes, USAF (Ret)



Col “Bill” Grimes led the Big Safari Program to quickly bring together engineers, operators and acquirers to integrate systems for increased ISR warfighting capabilities. Under his leadership, Big Safari produced and maintained Predator/Reaper, RC-135, D, M, S, U, V, W and X, Cobra Ball, Combat Sent, Commando Solo, Scathe Mean, Pacer Coin, Combat Talon, ROVER, Compass Call, Senior Troupe, Senior Scout, Scathe

View, Silent Shield, Senior Crown SR-71 Reactivation, C-130A-528 Memorial, U-2R, Peace Mate, Peace Sentinel VI, Project Suter, TIBS, CFM-56 RJ reengineering and others. He didn’t simply field new systems, he supported them with a logistics system that kept them operating and modernized from “cradle to grave.” He provided upgraded/modernized ISR, IO, and Special Operations capabilities that supported El Dorado Canyon, Just Cause, Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Allied Force, Enduring Freedom and many other classified military operations. During Desert Storm, General Schwarzkopf called the RC-135 the “backbone” of his intelligence program. His Big Safari is considered by many to be the most revered acquisition organization in DoD history.



Maj Gen Mary O’Brien, Commander, 25th AF, Mr & Mrs Grimes, and retired Col. Ronald Haygood, FTVA President

Lieutenant Colonel Jerry McKenna, USAF (Ret)



In 1967, Lt Col McKenna was a “Squadron-of-One” as the advanced guard activating the 6990 SS that was established to carry out COMBAT APPLE – 24-hour-a-day operations over the Gulf of Tonkin. The squadron rapidly grew to over 1,000 personnel. He set up housing, dormitories, mess, transportation, flight equipment, and the required SCIF at an USA facility, Tori Station. General Larson hand-picked him to be a key member of the ESC Activation Team, and he worked with the CSAF to select “Electronic Security Command” as the command name. He is also credited with the final design of the “Chess Piece and Shield” command emblem. Lt Col McKenna helped establish the COMFY OLYMPICS program, and designed the first-ever presentation medals. He suggested that an award be established to recognize the ESC civilians named after ESC’s top civilian; thus, the Gordon Sommers Award. He was a founding member of the JEWIC and served as its first executive officer. At ESC/CC’s direction, he helped USAFE’s legendary Col. “Moody” Suter establish the Warrior Preparation Center (WPC) at Einsiedlerhof, Germany.



Maj Gen Mary O’Brien, Commander, 25th AF, Mr & Mrs McKenna and retired Col. Ronald Haygood. FTVA President

Chief Master Sergeant Jesse L. Greene, USAF (Ret)



Supervisor during two 6994 SS tours flying EC-47 combat missions. Quality Control Specialist and Morse Systems Operator at 6950 SS where he qualified in every Morse position. Step promoted to MSgt, his first, 1st Sgt tour was 6948 ESS (Mobile) where the ESC/IG rated his personnel programs “Excellent” and called him, “best First Sergeant we’ve seen”. As 6988 ESS 1st Sgt, he was key in the 6916 ESS move from Athens, Greece, to Mildenhall, the most heavily committed Squadron during DESERT STORM. While unit members spent 23000 man-days of TDY in one year, he mastered minded the sponsor program and reception of 100 6916th personnel when troops deployed to DESERT SHIELD & STORM before their families could find quarters. The IG rated his programs “Excellent”, and they were directly responsible for the unit’s “Outstanding” ORI rating. He served as AIA/IG Chief Personnel Inspections where he was a leader in building the first Quality Assessment criteria. Taking his expertise back to the field, he excelled as 303 IS 1st Sgt and returned as 67 SS 1st Sgt responsible for over 9000 personnel. He finished his career with 13 years as a 1st Sgt.



Maj Gen Mary O'Brien, Commander, 25th AF, Mr & Mrs Greene and retired Col. Ronald Haygood, FTVA President

Chief Master Sergeant Kenneth C. Maynard, USAF (Ret)



Chief Maynard was an exceptional linguist, collection operator, transcriber, analyst and reporter. As a SSgt, he was asked to rework the basic Russian course, impacting hundreds of future linguists. NSA cited his superior analytic and technical skills, and he briefed the results of his analysis to the Legislative and Executive Branches, to include the White House. Maj Gen Martin hand-picked him to stand up the 695th Intelligence Wing to support Tactical Air Command (TAC). He coordinated

requirements for a Cryptologic Support Group (CSG) TAC, the proposal, gained TAC and NSA approval, found facilities, acquired manpower and equipment and ensured on-time operations. His procedures for manpower and funding for the new Wing became the benchmark for delegating functions from MAJCOM to the divisions and wings. His career spanned reorganizations, transition to an all-volunteer force, wars ending, wars beginning, and the most dramatic changes in Air Force intelligence. As Command Senior Enlisted Advisor, his unparalleled leadership, integrity and care for the enlisted force during dynamic changes in our history made him the “top leader in toughest troop challenge—superb!”



Maj Gen Mary O'Brien, Commander, 25th AF, Mr & Mrs Maynard and retired Col. Ronald Haygood, FTVA President



The
McKenna
Family



The
Greene
Family



The
Maynard
Family



25th AIR FORCE NEWS



Compiled by Ken Maynard, Associate Editor

**RAFRC ENABLES TOTAL FORCE INTEGRATION WITH NEW
CYBER INTELLIGENCE SQUADRON**

Adapted from a story by Lt. Col. Todd Borzych, 512th Intelligence Squadron /
Published October 24, 2017

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. --

Air Force Reserve Command activated the 512th Intelligence Squadron “Mustangs” as the command’s newest Reserve squadron in a ceremony held on Sept. 10, 2017, at the Air Force Memorial in Arlington, Virginia.



Lt. Col. Todd A. Borzych (right) assumes command of the 512th Cyber Intelligence Squadron, 655th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group, by accepting the squadron flag from Col. John D. McKaye, 655th ISRG commander, during a formal ceremony September 10, 2017, at the Air Force Memorial in Arlington, Virginia. The 512th IS officially activated on September 2, 2017 along with the 655th ISRG, 23rd IS in Texas, and 820th IS in Nebraska.

During the ceremony, Col. John McKaye, 655th ISRG Gp Cmdr, presented Lt. Col. Todd Borzych the 512th IS guidon, as he took command of one of the Air Force Reserves' first cyber ISR squadrons.

The squadron has already begun to earn recognition among the

AFRC for being the fastest activated reserve ISR squadron to reach Initial Operating Capability (IOC).

During his remarks, Borzych called attention to the brilliant metallic spires of the Air Force Memorial and their significance to the ISR career field.

"The spires of this memorial symbolize the 'missing man formation' and honor the bravery of all Airmen, especially those who paid the ultimate sacrifice and did not return," he said. "I charge the members of the 512th IS to become the best Cyber ISR Airmen you can be. One day, some of you may face and prevent a cyberattack against an Airman and save someone from becoming that missing man or woman. Our nation faces grave threats in the cyber domain daily, so I charge each one of you to hone your technical skills and sharpen your swords. You must succeed."

The 512th Intelligence Squadron's mission is to provide robust and superior cyber intelligence by leveraging highly trained professionals interconnected with national, military and private sector entities. Squadron personnel have a high level of education and training. That, and their motivation to do great things in cyber space, are what makes the 512th IS really stand out.

When these "Citizen Airmen" are not on duty for the 512th, they often may be found working for some of the most elite government agencies and commercial entities dispersed at locations throughout the nation, Borzych said.

The accomplishments of the 512th IS were reiterated in the comments of their active-duty associate unit commander, Lt. Col. Johannes Moore, 41st Intelligence Squadron commander.

"Lt. Col. Borzych and his 512th IS 'Mustangs' are critical to the combat capability the 41st IS provides to the Cyber National Mission Force and U.S. Cyber Command," Moore explained.

In addition to their record-setting IOC achievement, they've also begun to set new records in cyber training. Two of their members graduated from the Joint Analysis Cyber Course at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida, with the two highest grade point averages ever achieved by Airmen.

<p style="text-align: center;">FTVA CHAPTER NEWS</p>

Compiled by Dennis Buxton, Associate Editor

The oppressive heat and humidity appear to have wafted away and late autumn-early winter - such as it is here in South Texas - has settled in. It was great to catch up with some of the chapter officers and members during our late September reunion and hopefully all have RTB-ed safely and are once again ready to share their local activities with all. Remember to forward your chapter inputs at any time (monthly, weekly or all at once) to Ted Colquhoun, FTVA Board President and current Chapter Liaison (Ted.Coquhoun13@gmail.com), with CC to your chapter input compiler Dennis Buxton <mailto:dennis.buxton@me.com>.



Alamo Chapter, San Antonio, TX
Barnie Gavin, Chapter President
Mike Nielsen, Chapter Secretary
Change of Venue

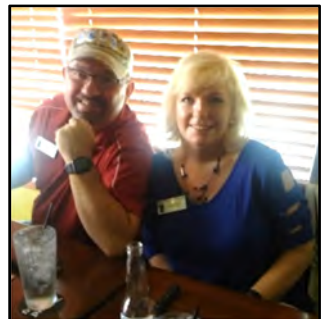
The Alamo Chapter began meeting at Houlihan's restaurant as the old trusty venue was closing. On **August, 20** members and spouses met at the new place for dinner, camaraderie and to conduct chapter business. The following items were discussed:

Shall I Stay, or Shall I Go? The jury is still out on the new rendezvous locale, so President Gavin is going to check into whether The Outback restaurant is available. If not, meetings will continue to be held at Houlihan's, with the next chapter meeting to be held the third week of October 2017.

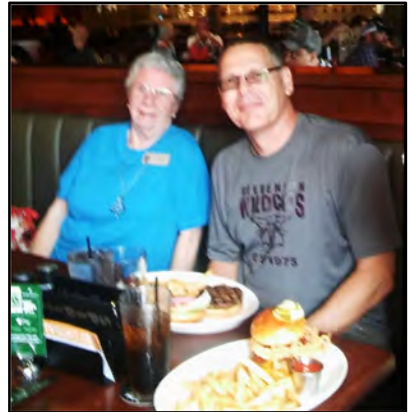
Showtime! The "They Served in Silence" DVD has been distributed. Those members requesting copies contact Barnie.

Happy to Be Here!

Andy and Jean Smith enjoying the festivities at the August Alamo Chapter get together.



August Fun Times



Above left: Heading up the August meeting are (left) Esteemed El Presidente **Barnie** and **Judy Gavin**. Right: Members **Kay Weaver** and **Kevin Slater** getting ready to dig in.

Stalwart Alamo Chapter Members Chuck Purkiss and Lee Carpenter mug for the camera.



Officer Elections. It is now time to select new officers (President, Vice-President, Treasurer) or reappoint currently serving officers. Chapter member **Dennis Rassmussen** agreed to form a committee to nominate new officers. More to come.

Shu Linkou Reunion. At the meeting it was announced that the 6987 Security Squadron (Shu Linkou Air Base, Taiwan) group will be holding their next reunion at the HuHot Mongolian Barbecue Restaurant, 12710 IH 10 W, San Antonio, TX, on 28 September at 1900.

Who Are You? Chapter members were reminded to order/pick up requested name tags for use at chapter and FTVA social functions and other events.

October Meeting

After the September reunion festivities, the chapter gathered again at Houlihan's on 19 October with a special guest Mrs. Doyle Larson.



DV's: Mrs. Doyle Larson (far left) attending the chapter meeting seated with Stacey and Don Haygood.

The meeting was called to order by President **Barnie Gavin** with an

outstanding attendance of 32 members, spouses, and guests. It was great to have Mrs. Doyle Larson and her daughter Nancy present as well. The following business was completed:

Election Season! Election of chapter officers was held with Dennis Rasmussen as the nominating chair briefing the group on the selection process. As we are a new chapter for continuity the current officers all agreed to stay on and were unanimously voted in for another two years. President is **Barnie Gavin**, Vice President is **Ken Gendolfe**, and Secretary/Treasurer **Mike Nielsen** are your elected Alamo Chapter officers.

Unanimously re-elected to serve another term are (l-r) Mike Nielsen Secretary Treasurer; Barnie Gavin, Chapter President; and his able Veep, Ken Gendolfe.



Moving Again. In other business the chapter continues to look for a more conducive venue for our meeting locations. **Barnie** is currently in discussions with the Saltgrass Steak House on I-10 West which offers a 15% military discount and very importantly, a semi private area for us to meet in. If anyone else has suggestions, please let us know.

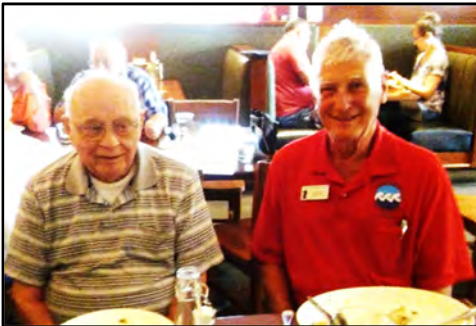
See Ya Next Time. The next chapter meeting will be held on November 16th at the Sawgrass Restaurant off I-10W.

Happy Snaps from the Alamo Chapter's October Meeting



(Left) Moe, Larry, and ??? nyuk-nyuk: (L-R) Alan Daugherty, Jesse Greene and Dennis Buxton clowning for Rass's camera.

(Right) Happy Faces Going Places. Ken Williams and Nancy Larson beaming for the birdie at the October 19 meeting of the FTVA Alamo Chapter.



(Left) Not to be out done in the grinnin' department are Lou Rocha (left) and Rick Waddle.

(Right) Last but Never Least - we have the lovely Clara with her dapper beau, Jesse Coultrap, awaiting the serving of their selected feast.



Mid-Atlantic Region Chapter (MARC),**Fort Meade, MD.****Jerry Gething, President****Mike Summers, Secretary**

“Two men sat in the corner of a dark, musky tavern, just outside of Ft Meade, MD, mulling over what to do next. Both were staring at the half-empty drink glasses in front of them, gripping the glasses with both hands and thinking about their last comments. It was January 2015 and it was cold outside.

The bespectacled, older, larger man spoke first: “So, what do you think? Is this something worth doing?” He spoke in English, but his thoughts were in Chinese Mandarin. The skinny one, also bespectacled, responded: “Well, nothing’s been done for 15 years. What makes you think anyone wants to do anything? What makes you think anyone cares like we do? How do we even get started?” He seemed to be tapping Morse code as he spoke, as if manual Morse was the language being interpreted into English in his head. As he was finishing his last question, they suddenly noticed the young, 26-year old waitress standing beside them, leaning on their table – and staring at them impatiently. Each ear had 4 piercings, her long blonde hair rolled up neatly on top of her head, seemingly held together with a pencil. Her blouse was adorned with several pins: the American Flag, a purple Air Force retiree pin and another that said, “Top Server”. “Look, you guys have been here for hours nursing that first drink. Your solution seems simple.” Both men were now staring intently. “You’re called the National Capital Region Chapter, right?” The men nodded. “Well, since that doesn’t really encompass the wider swath of territory such as Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, West Virginia and Ohio, why not call it the ‘Mid-Atlantic Region Chapter’? That way, you capture alumni from areas that don’t feel like they’re a part of the organization. You can use snail mail, e-mail, Twitter and Facebook to reach out to your existing list of members to determine the level of interest in rejuvenating the chapter. If there’s enough interest, you can elect an Executive Committee to help move the Chapter forward, figure out if your membership list is accurate and the best way to communicate with the membership. You can create a website to piggyback off the main Freedom Through Vigilance Association page, create some goals for the Chapter and plan some social events. In September of 2016, go to the main FTVA reunion in San Antonio, give them a ‘State of the Chapter’ address and after that, start over. Easy peasy.”

As she was finishing her last sentence, she set the check down on the table and said,

“Now if you gentlemen don’t want another Alka Seltzer and Pepto Bismo on the rocks, I’ll take this when you’re ready.” They noticed the tattoo on the back of her right hand as she laid down the check: a black knight chess piece with a yellow lightning sword behind it ...”

I guess I could have simply said, hey, we kick-started the FTVA Chapter up here in the DC/Virginia/Maryland area; however, a ‘story’ seemed more fun! It’s taken us about two years to get here, but together with Al Dowling (Most Senior Advisor), Bob Bastian (Treasurer), MSgt Danielle Harmon (Vice President), Mike Summers (Secretary) and Lee Wofford (Social Events Coordinator), we’ve managed to get things moving in a positive direction for the Chapter.



(L – R) Ken Russell (seated), Bob Bastian (standing), Steve Boles (making everyone laugh), Jim Griffie (seated), Andy W.

We hosted a Spring Social on June 10th of this year, at the Bavarian Brauhaus in Hanover, MD, attended by about 40 Chapter members and their families. Our first choice for guest speaker, behind Generals Minihan and Hayden, Johnny Depp and Justin Beiber, was Al Dowling. Al did a great job welcoming everyone to the social and talked about the importance of continuing to pursue Chapter goals and remaining in touch. As always, he was articulate, and his comments were very heartfelt.

(Right) We recognized Tom Carrington for his 15 years of commitment and dedication to the Chapter as an Executive Committee member (Treasurer) and plan to recognize Janet Leach (Secretary) in much the same way.



After a great buffet lunch, I asked each member to provide a brief introduction, introduce their family, name their AFSC, and talk for a minute about their careers in the Command. Let me tell you, the room filled with passion and emotion as each person described their assignments and careers. For about 40 minutes, nothing existed except for the careers of the members, ranging from 1955 to 2017. The conversation was so interesting and intense, the Brauhaus staff stopped what they were doing and were glued to what was happening inside that room. Each person – young or old, active duty or retired – was able to connect what *they* were hearing to what *they* had experienced or were currently experiencing in their careers. It was an awesome moment in time. We had a 50/50 a raffle, with prizes such as FTVA hats, Baltimore Orioles game tickets and of course, 50% of



the proceeds raised went to the recipient of that winning ticket. The overall winner – Ken Russell - donated the proceeds back to the Chapter and that made our Treasurer happy. The social event was another a huge success and we couldn't have pulled it off without the leadership and guiding hand of Lee Wofford, our most awesome Event Coordinator!

(Left) Al Dowling, guest speaker at the MARC Spring Social

We are planning to host social event for in the Winter of 2017, after the September FTVA Reunion, so look for more details on that in the very near future. I encourage our MARC members to reach out to us to make sure we have your best contact information, provide any ideas and suggestions you might have and maybe offer some form of assistance. We have some awesome initiatives in the works and can use some help from anyone and everyone with a little bit of time and energy. I promise we won't put you "in charge" of running your own ideas and suggestions – unless, of course, it's a really good idea or suggestion! Remain In Touch

Oh, one last thing: we will present a free one-year honorary Chapter membership to the first person to guess the two gentlemen patrons sitting in that tavern in the story. To make it fair, Al Dowling and Bob Bastian can't participate ... Oooops!



Heritage Chapter, San Angelo, TX
Ronald 'JJ' Graham, Chapter President
Ed Bendinelli, Chapter Vice President

Greetings from San Angelo! I hope all is well in your little corner of the universe! I believe Larry has already sent in our input. If you can't find it just holler and I'll resend it. We're gearing up for The Wall That Heals exhibit, 15-19 Nov. Everything is going well, and it looks like just about all the

T's have been crossed. The community is really supportive of the visit and we're looking forward to a busy four-day visit. I invite each of you to visit the exhibit if you can. And keep in mind that on Saturday, 18 Nov, there will be a Vietnam War Commemoration pinning ceremony at TWTH. It should be an emotional ceremony for the over 50 veterans scheduled to get pinned, as well as a number of surviving spouses of Vietnam veterans and family members of those veterans listed on The Wall. Please holler if you need anything from me. Thanks much and welcome aboard, Evan!

On September 7, Ed Bendinelli, Heritage Chapter Vice President, on behalf of the 6994thSS reunion association, presented a large display check to Ray and Kitty Leftish Jr., administrators of the RF LEFTWICH & 6994TH ARDFEC MEMORIAL FUND. Ray is the son TSgt Ray Leftwich, Sr. who



was killed in the shoot down of an EC-47 over South Vietnam. The money provides scholarships to JROTC students to attend college. Ray and Kitty were happy when presented with the display check but were even happier when given the real one.

The Heritage Chapter on behalf of the Freedom Through Vigilance Association presented a donation to the Vietnam Veterans Association to help restore damaged memorial pavers at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Over 40 pavers were damaged on 4 July by careless use of a BBQ grill underneath the helicopter display. All pavers have been cleaned and are awaiting a touchup of the lettering.

Cheers, JJ



ALOHA Chapter, Honolulu, HI
John "Tilly" Toillion, President

A dedicated cadre of FTVA Aloha Chapter members met 29 September for their monthly meeting at a local beanery to catch up, reminisce and break bread together.



Mahalo! Aloha Chapter Members (l-r) Dickie Hites, John Toillion, Fred Collins, Ken Een, John Toillion, and Oly Harrison mug for the cameraman during their September 28th get together.

New Rules of Engagement

Kicking off the meeting, President Toillion came with a list of non-waiverable, chiseled-in-stone, non-negotiable, not-open-for-discussion "Ground Rules" for this meeting which included:

"No Political nor Health Issue Discussions." PERIOD!

Of course, these rules promptly were broken early on, but Tilly exhibiting exceptional leadership and facilitator skills nipped this in the bud by asking two positive-focused questions.

Question 1: What great (thing/event) is happening in your life right now? Answers: **Fred** - looking forward to watching his grandson graduating soon with honors; **Ken** - meeting new friends out on the golf course; **Dickie** - spending time with his grandson Phoenix and staying in touch with friends; **Oly** - with wife Noriko they are the primary daycare providers for their grandson Andy; **Tilly** - blessed to have all 3 grandkids 5 minutes away and going to their sporting and hula events.

Question 2: What are you looking forward to doing in the next 6 months? Answers: **Fred** - a trip to Japan where he's a Board of Trustee member; **Ken** - selling his home in Waikale and moving to downtown Honolulu; **Oly** - looking forward to our next meeting; **Dickie** - more time with Phoenix and friends from years past; **Tilly** - celebrating his 50th anniversary in November.

That be it from the coconut wireless. A-looooo-ha!!

Salt Lake City Chapter

Salt Lake City, UT

by Scott Lawson
Chapter Member

Note: This is a new chapter just starting up. We wish to welcome them as they get set up, elect officers, begin meetings and help all current and former command members "Remain in Touch." The below input was contributed by Scott Lawson, one of the movers and shakers in setting up the welcome addition to the FTVA Chapter.

It was great to see most of you during the FTVA reunion last week (27-29 September). As I mentioned, we are standing up a local chapter in the SLC area and I have some great examples after reviewing your individual chapter web sites. I welcome any feedback any of you may have with recommendations (to help get) us off to a successful start.

Also, the 169th IS (now part of the 151st ISRG) held their 30th Anniversary celebration on 3 November. As many know, the 169th Electronic Surveillance Squadron was officially recognized in 1987. It was dubbed the "Darkhorse Squadron" because the squadron's success was considered a long shot at best. That small squadron of 7 Members has grown into the 151st ISR Group, now 200 members strong. This Darkhorse is still running strong.



2017-18 REUNION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Newsletter Staff Compilation

UPCOMING 2018 REUNIONS



Apr 25 – May 1, 2018
Fall of Saigon Party (FOSP)
2018 Doggers Reunion

Location: Key West, FL
POC: Joe Turney Ph: [5128257290](tel:5128257290) email: parrotjet@yahoo.com

Comment: 43rd Annual Fall of Saigon Party for all Vietnamese Linguists assigned to USAFSS/ESC/AIA, etc. The usual fishing & diving &

boating/ & beach stuff, a Duval Crawl, a Dry Tortugas trip (AKA Gilligan's Island Redux), general sightseeing and rabble-rousing, a memorial service and picnic, and a Saturday night banquet.

July 18 – 22, 2018
USAFSS ROLL CALL REUNION
Location: Colorado Springs, CO
Go to www.usafssrollcall.com
There will be three excursions.



Aug 6 – 12, 2018
16th Annual National
Misawa Project Reunion
Location: Branson, MO
Comments on Project website.



Oct 10 – 12, 2018
6918th RSM/Security Group
Brady / Hakata, Japan
Location: Jacksonville, FL
(Doubletree Hotel)
Comments on 6918th Website
<http://6918thhakata.com>



REUNION REPORTS

6918th RSM/SG Brady/Hakata Reunion
Colorado Springs, CO Sep 21 – 24, 2017
Newsletter Staff Compilation

A big "THANK YOU!" to Dave Bethard, Stan Freymuth, Carol Farr, Bill Spencer, their spouses, and all who worked over the past year or more to put our 2017 reunion. And "Thanks!" to all of you who attended, for it's the attendees who make the reunions special. The 6918th brothers and their family members, had a wonderful time to share the great memories we have of that special place and time.



Nancy Mink and Linda Freymuth ready to greet the early arrivals



(Left) Stan Freymuth snapped to a salute, using the only head covering at our table, which brought a laugh from co-MC, and current 6918th reunion chairperson, Carol Farr. At the banquet on Saturday the 23rd of

September. This photo was one of hundreds taken during our reunion, many of which were taken this final, banquet night, but lots of others were snapped in the hospitality suite, out on the town or on a tour, or just having a cup of coffee or eating breakfast.

(Right) Caught Larry Carson getting on the tour bus outside the hotel, as it was about to leave for the USAF Academy tour and lunch.





Our hospitality room: with (L-R) Rich Miklavic, Helga & Duke Schugt, Stan Freymuth, Carol Farr, & Bill Spencer and Sheila & Joe Barker



(Left) Roger Teska was the Able Flight Commander from 1963-1965. This was the first Reunion that Roger has attended. He and his lovely wife, Sondra, drove from Lenexa, Kansas for the Reunion. // Bill Spencer //

Major Dan O'Brien commanded the 6922nd RSM at Ashiya, Japan when the Unit was deactivated in 1958. He oversaw the personnel transfer to the newly activated 6918th RSM at Brady AB, Japan where he served as its first Commander. Though now a Fallen Eagle, his three daughters (right)) honored us by making the trip from California:

Front - L-R: Patti Heerhartz - Linda McKenny. Back - Danielle Corcoran and me.



After the 6922nd RGM deactivation, Joe Ojeda, (202 analyst), was transferred to Brady AB. Joe, who is an ordained Minister, offered the Banquet Blessing. He and his wife, Ruby, drove from Monroe, Louisiana to attend the Reunion. //Bill Spencer //

Ed NOTE: Due to space limitation, 6918th reunion flight and group photos will be published in a supplement to this report which will appear in our upcoming March 2018 issue).

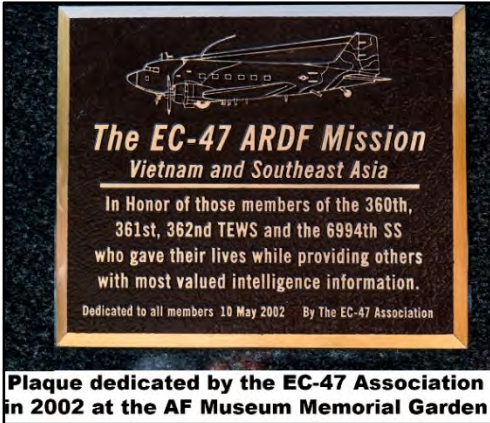
6994th Security Squadron

Dayton, OH 17-19 August

Submitted by Rick Yeh



Seventy-five veterans and their guests from the 6994th Security Squadron met in Dayton, OH from 17-19 August for its 2017 reunion.



The 6994th conducted the Airborne Radio Direction Finding Mission in Vietnam from Sep 1966 through May 1974. The squadron remains as the most highly decorated squadron in the history of USAFSS and its successor organizations to the present day 25AF. However, the squadron's success came at the expense of 17 members KIA.

The reunion kicked-off with 2 pre-reunion golf outings in the local Dayton area. Formal activities began with a tour of the Air Force Museum where the veterans posed for a group photo in front of the C-47 at the museum, followed by a wreath laying ceremony at the Memorial Plaque dedicated to the EC-47 crews donated by the EC-47 Association in 2002.

During the ceremony, the names of the squadron's KIA's were read, followed by the sounding of Taps. That evening, reunion guests enjoyed pizzas in the hospitality suite.





The highlight of the reunion was the presentation of 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative Pins to 35 veterans that had not previously been pinned. Members were also presented with Certificates of Appreciation from the VVA Chapter 97, a Certificate of Honor from the Heritage Chapter of the FTVA, and a EC-47 Challenge coin. Assisting in the pinning ceremony were Steven Ratcliffe and David Fuchs, from the Ohio Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 97, Ed Bendinelli, Joe Martin & Tom Nurre.



6994th Security Squadron 2017 Reunion

Front: Ellery Preece, Bobby Billups, Bob Burns, Archie McLaughlin, Frank Falkowski, Row 2: Tom Nurre, Dick Burda, Ed Bendinelli, Ed Finchum, Rick Yeh, Rich Kreisla, Bob Hull, Roger Sigworth, Tracy Rogers, Lewis Foster, Charlie Phippin, Dale Short, Lars Ritola, Ted Dietz, Row 3: Chris Jones, Tom Holt, Butch Maybury, Steve Underdahl, Tom Sheridan Larry Ross, Pat McCafferty, Rich Renkas, Mark Schaefer, Dave Abel, John Rosenburg, Mitch Cooper, John Lauser, Tom Hutchings, Ben Stewart, Row 4: Ron Whiteside, Randy Myers, Owen Costello, Karl Hammerle, Rick Sinks, Tom Pedersen, Bob Thomas, Ray Price, Jim Kimsal, Dave Shigley, Joe Martin, Wayne Klemme, Troy Powell, Bill Ash, Gary Schmitt, Jim Legleiter, John Crails, John Hannan, Ron Shelby, Jerry Jackson, Ron Shelby, Butch Proffitt, Darvin Bruce, Alvis Bagwell, Tom Grabacki, Tony Skok, Joe Giammichele, Jim Hart, Ben Dawson, Ray Payne, Gene Dugal, Tom Glass, Dan Loomis, Dave Seidle, Ken Versale, Ken Versale, Dave Brittingham. Missing from Photo: Frank San Nicolas, Bill Wood, Ben Spear



6994th Ladies

Row 1: Jennette & Lilie Hutchings. **Row 2:** Phyllis Woodruff, Sue Profit, Donna Whiteside, Donna Short, Brenda Preece, Cindy Krejsa, Abby Hull, Gloria Rogers, Joy Phippin, Lynn Cooper, Jan Pedersen, Sandra Burda. **Row 3:** Wilma McCafferty, Carrie David, Thao Hutchings, Jill Craig, Cathy Legleiter, Pat Loomis, Diane Ross, Jeanete Holt, Marie Sheridan, Jill Price, Rose Thomas, Helen Versele, Janet Dugal, Ann Dawson, **Row 4:** Nancy Abel, Debbie Schaefer, BJ Sigworth, Jill Thorne, Sharon Payne, Barbara Miklaucic, Sharon Underdahl, Barbara McLaughlin, Judy Ritola, Josephine Grabski, Shirley Hull, Wanda Jackson, Carol Martin, Karen Hart, Susan Lauser, Fran Seidl, Gionilda Myers, Paula Shigley, Melody Schmitt, Jan Jones. **Missing from photo:** Carol Howe, Sharon Renkas, Christine Falkowski, Josephine Acalie, Krong Hammerie



Joe Martin presents the Commemorative Pin to Darwin Bruce



David Fuchs presents Bob Profit with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Ohio VVA, Chapter 97



Rockwall, TX
September 22nd –27th, 2017
 Submitted by Bob Cotti



At 0345 local time on 12 September 1967, RC-135M 62-4135 took off from Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan, en route to the Gulf of Tonkin. Twenty-four crewmembers were aboard for this, the first Combat Apple Mission. The crew consisted of two Pilots, two Navigators, four SAC Operators, thirteen USAFSS Operators, two Maintenance Technicians, and the Commander of the 6990th Security Squadron and father of the Combat Apple Program, then Lieutenant Colonel Doyle E. Larson. With that as their start, the men of the 6990th Security Squadron flew round-the-clock missions until the final mission (Frequent Wind) which took off at 0635 local time on 29 April 1975, this time on aircraft 62-4138. Over the years from 1967 until 1975 the unit flew a total of 3,487 Combat Apple missions, accumulating over 65,000 hours of flying time.

So here we are fifty years later celebrating this golden anniversary of one of the most important and memorable operations ever conducted by the United States Air Force Security Service and Strategic Air Command. And, boy, did we celebrate. My wife and I were honored to host the nearly 100 Combat Apple Veterans, along with spouses, who gathered beginning September 22, 2017, in Rockwall, Texas (just 25 miles to the West of Majors Field in Greenville, Texas) for one of the finest reunions on record. Majors Field, of course, is now home to L-3 Mission Integration, the company that maintains the entire RC-135 fleet. Majors Field, as we all know, has a long history of maintaining our aircraft; in 1967 the company was known as Vought Aircraft Systems, then it became LTV Aviation, E-Systems, Inc., then Raytheon Aircraft Integration Systems, and now L-3 Mission Integration E.

After a welcoming reception on **Friday** night, everyone gathered at the Rockwall Golf and Athletic Club on Saturday evening for our Banquet.



Above: Among those gathered at the reunion to commemorate this milestone were Mrs. Doyle Larson, widow of Major General Doyle E. Larson, her son Mark and two daughters, Nancy and Mary. And, of course, Col (Ret) Bob Cope and his wife, Debbie, were there with us as they were in the beginning. I won't try to name all the others who were present ... but will simply say that there was no "Head Table" because everyone who attended was, in one way or another, a distinguished visitor. Some of those present flew the first mission, some flew the final mission, and all of us flew the missions in between.



Opening remarks and the invocation were offered by Rockwall Mayor, Jim Pruitt while smiling banquet attendees were readied for a sumptuous Texas BBQ.

Then the fun began ... food to feed us all, drinks for everyone, and conversations that I'll always remember.

A major part of our program occurred when we were honored to witness the presentation of Hanoi Hilton Bricks to several distinguished recipients. Those receiving bricks were Col. Bob Cope, Al Znoj, Perry Keeton, Kirk Carpenter, Gary Humphrey, and Jimmy Cavanaugh.

(Left) The Brick presented to Al Znoj.



One of the most memorable awards, however, was the presentation by Perry Keeton and Larry Mills of a Combat Apple History Commemorative Cane to Mrs. Doyle Larson.

(Left) This cane was hand carved by Joe Snyder, formerly of the 43rd Bomb Group and a dear friend to both Keeton and Mills. Prior to his recent death, Joe was acknowledged as an honorary USAFSS, Dogger, and Combat Apple Friend. (Left)

In addition, Vietnam Commemorative pins were awarded to fifty attendees.

(Right) Perry Keeton being awarded his Vietnam commemorative pin by Bob Cope.



(Left) The evening ended on a high note with our speaker, Lt. Col. (Ret) Rick Francona, a former Vietnamese Linguist.

In speaking of his vast experience in the world of intelligence, however, Rick made certain that we knew that "everything he needed to know was learned in the back end of an RC-135M."



Mrs. Larson visits with Al Znoj



Trio of friends, Leon Rollins, Jim Henderson & Tom Crump



Rosie Rosenstrom & Kirk Carpenter.



Gary Christensen in his experimental Plane flew in from Arizona



Cryppies: Eugene 'Ike' Matke, Roger 'Ramjet' Whidden, Butch Osborne, Joel 'Santa' Ware IV, and Lowell Cook



Debbie & Bob Cope on the bus

FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 691616
San Antonio, TX 78269
1 November 2017



PLATINUM PARTNERS

Mrs. Doyle E. Larson
(IMO Maj Gen Doyle E. Larson)
Prop Wash Gang
(IMO CMSgt (Ret) Tom Tennant)
General Dynamics Information Technology
Ozmen Family Foundation at the
Community Foundation of Western Nevada
(IMO Maj Gen Paul Martin)



GOLD PARTNERS

Jeff and Cecelia McRaney
Engrave-Tech & Graphics
Security Service Federal Credit Union
Air Force Federal Credit Union
William F. (Bill) Sheck
Bill and Fumiko Sheck
(IMO of SMSgt (Ret) Bob and Chieko Pfister)
USAFSS Roll Call



SILVER PARTNERS

Anthony F. Jensen
6988th SS, 698th ESS & 488 IS Alumni and
Active Duty Members
Grover Jackson
Bob Cope
To The Penny Tax Services
Arrowhead Electric Service
Regis F.A. Urschler
“Picnic Partners”
Charles “Jerry” Ellis
Greg Radabaugh
Grant and June Howells & Ken and Hide Lantz
(IHO The Doggers)
“Sparky” Rogers
(IMO Col Duane Russell and Capt Rory Foran)





BRONZE PARTNERS



Henry Whitney

BJ Cook

(IMO CMSgt (Ret) John Sinnard and CMSgt (Ret) AC Chamblee)

Donald Bundy

William F. McCarthy

Bob & Debbie Cope

(IMO of CMSgt (Ret) Tom Tennant)

Ronald Hentz

(In Memory of CMSgt (Ret) Tom Tennant and Col Grover

McMakin)

Larry and Alice Boyce

E.W. Forbess



PATRON PARTNERS



Mark and Amy Hess

Bob and Debbie Cope

(IMO Lt Col (Ret) Chancel T. French)

James Mayer

Richard Sacchetti

Jorge David and Patricia Colon

(IMO Ray and Joan Rivera)

Charles Bishop

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

We were all in for another treat on **Sunday** when our local Vietnamese Restaurant, Pho Garden, opened its doors to our group and served a memorable meal.



Several folks enjoyed this dining experience, others took a cruise on Lake Ray Hubbard as they "Sailed with Scott." The photos below are reminders of our Sunday fun.

Monday morning found many of the group aboard a beautiful bus en route to AT&T Stadium, better known as Cowboys Stadium or Jerry's World for a special tour of the home of the Dallas Cowboys ... including an escorted visit of the Cowboys and Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders Locker Rooms, the Owners Suite, and a photo op at mid-field. These photos reveal the delight of attendees.





The bus trip to and from the Cowboys facility was delightful and the driver was very entertaining. Good time was had by all, especially Rosie, the Cowboy fan, who had to get a Dez shirt.



Not everyone visited the stadium that day. Several decided to take in other local venues such as the Dallas Arboretum, the Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, and other shopping and dining opportunities. The evening was, once again, a time for folks to relax and enjoy the company of friends unseen for periods up to fifty years.

Tuesday was, perhaps, one of the most rewarding days of the reunion. For many of those who were here, none had set foot on an RC-135 since leaving the Air Force long ago. The folks at L-3 Mission Integration took care of that. After a 30-minute bus ride we arrived at the gates of L-3 and were escorted into the big conference room for a facility and history briefing along with a security overview. After bathroom breaks (we had too much coffee that morning), we had the opportunity to walk through the company's Memorial Garden (where they honor all of those who perished aboard reconnaissance aircraft). We then boarded the company bus for a facility tour. We were first taken to see one of L-3's more important programs, maintenance of the Presidential Fleet of Aircraft. We were briefed on that operation and, although we were unable to board, saw the First Lady's aircraft.

From there, we were taken to Bay 3 of Hangar 101 where work was being finalized on one of the RC-135 Aircraft in preparation for final equipment installation, painting, and flight test.



After a short presentation, we were allowed to board the aircraft in groups of six. The aircraft? None other than 62-4135 ... the aircraft that flew the very first Combat Apple Mission 50 years earlier. I can say there wasn't a dry eye among us. This photo, probably more than any other, is evidence of the joy we all experienced.

After that, L-3 treated us to a wonderful lunch prior to our boarding the bus to return to the hotel. We were saddened that there were so few of us able to make this tour (there were some company security and transportation limitations) but those who didn't make the trip took the opportunity to visit several of the local venues. Later that afternoon, while sitting in the lobby

of the hotel, a fellow named Neal Cooper joined us for some war stories, drink, and friendship. Neal, still working at L-3 ComCept, was as lively as ever in his story-telling, as he recalled his youthful adventures with the 6990th. So, this brought an end to the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Combat Apple. But, all of us who were there agreed that, God willing, it won't be our last.



//Thanks to Bob Cotti who made this reunion possible, for putting together a great hotel venue, trip and activities. Bob was a super host and provided a fantastic hospitality suite. //Randy Seitter//

Missy/Rollcall Alumni Ice Breaker Newsletter Compilation



As usual, Walt Ritter hosted his 20th annual Misawa Alumni Social Wednesday with hot dogs, sausage, hamburgers, beans and 'taters on Sep 27th at Lily's Kings Lounge across from Security Hill. The annual reunion Ice Breaker was full of the traditional telling of "war stories"

and catching up with old friends and a beer.

Walt's Crew

(L-R) Greg Herrera, J.J. Pitzeruse, Junior. Barnes, Walt Ritter, Ron Marcoullier and Dick Debosh. //Waco Wetterman photo//



As the bewitching hour (2000 hrs) drew nigh, the Misawa alumni gathered for their annual 'family' photo.





2017 FTVA & 25th Air Force Golf Tourney
By Dennis Buxton, FTVA Tourney Coordinator

Rain, Rain Go Away...Please!!

Duffers and Hackers Tee It Up at Annual Golf Tournament

Thursday, 28 September dawned dank and wet at the Golf Club of Texas (it fact it was very 'moisture-rous' in South Texas all week), yet at Noon, 142 brave souls armed with the latest in golfing rain gear (mostly towels), teed it up and sliced and sloshed their way around 18 holes (AKA Water Hazards) to kick off FTVA-25 AF Reunion Weekend at the annual golf tournament. Luckily, although ominously cloudy (could a deluge be behind those clouds?) the skies cooperated only dripping and dropping in concert with the clatter of golf balls dropping in cups (or not) to the raucous cries of "birdie!" or the mutterings of "pick up that bogie, it's good." But the preponderance of dew made it cart path only and although not quite a 'long day's journey into night' it was close, and extended the time needed to complete the tournament.

For the record, only 14 of the original 156 entries dropped out or did-not show (you know who you are!) but for the remainder, a great time was had reconnecting with old friends and making new ones on the course and afterwards during the dinner and post-tournament awards show.



The Starting Line: All golfers are mounted in their chariots and ready to head out to test their skills in adverse course conditions.

SHOW ME THE MONEY!



But as all golfers know, golf is a very results-oriented game as "*How did you get that score?*" asked no one ever. It's always "*what'd you shoot?*" Well, many of our teams shot very well indeed this day putting (pun intended) themselves into the award-winning category. These fine folks are:

1st Place /Score 55: The Champion Golfers of the 2017 FTVA/25AF Annual Golf Tournament: Brian Benson, Dave Domyancic and Brandon Ellis. CONGRATULATIONS!
2nd Place /Score 56: Bobby Guthrie, Larry Boggio, Jose Linares, and Larry Watkins.
3rd Place /Score 60: Scoty Lee, Paul Salaz, Zach Salaz
4th Place /Score 61: Randy Baronet, Jesse Coultrap, Pat Fisher, and Danny Stover.
5th Place /Score 62: Don McAuslan, Marko Saucedo, Robert Willhite, and Richard Yanagimoto.

There were also five skills challenges and the following sharpshooters garnered the honors:

- FLOP WALL CONTEST:** Jimmy Ayala
- PUTTING CONTEST:** Peter Holloway
- LONGEST DRIVE:** Blaine Theriot
- CLOSEST TO THE PIN #6:** Mike Lukowiak
- CLOSEST TO THE PIN #12:** Jim Shaffer

KUDOS AND THANKS!

Also braving the elements and supporting the stalwarts who teed it up are the volunteers. No one person can make a large tournament go like these without the super performance of the volunteers. The following folks (in no order) have our deep gratitude for their able assistance:

- The staff and crew at the Golf Club of Texas for putting on a great event with their outstanding support and service.
- The FTVA Board of Directors for their unstinting and tangible and moral support each year, every year.
- Security Service Federal Credit Union, also for their annual support with supplies, donations and prizes. Many thanks!

- All the FTVA's Vigilant Partners who kindly and annually support the FTVA's mission and vision. I hope you caught the signs of recognition for their support on some of the tee boxes.
- And speaking of signs, special thanks to Lee and Jen Anthony for their donation of material and labor in creating the signs as well as the logo-ed golf balls awarded as prizes. Thank you!!
- Much appreciation to my co-host, Will Thomson from 25th AF who ramrod-ed the Security Hill participation. Thanks, Will, and looking forward to working with you again next year.
- The set-up team arrived early to ensure all was well and ready. Sincere appreciation to Barnie Gavin and Ken Gendolfe.
- For the second year in a row, special thanks and high fives to Diana and Mike Nielsen and "Phred" Sevening for sticking with me all day. Mike and Diana were especially helpful during check-in and proffering up the mulligans. Great job. Mike also doubled down with Phred (the FTVA Hat Guy) to manage the fun flop wall contest.

Hope to see you all next September, bur first, some selected "mug shots" of this year's participants.

Gang of 4:



One of our traditional mainstay groups has San Antonio's Waco Wetterman (left) along with three stalwarts coming from San Angelo, TX: John Frock with his left wing over Ed Rodriguez next to Jerry Hale.

Supporting Cast: Some folks who helped make the tournament go.



Front Row, L-R: Daniel Treanor, Assistant Golf Pro, GCOT; Dennis Buxton, FTVA Golf Tournament Coordinator, Mike and Diana Nielsen, volunteers extraordinaire; Bernie Gavin, tournament set up.

Back row, L-R: Jerry Gething, FTVA National Capital Region Chapter President, Ted Colquhoun, FTVA President, and Loren "Phred" Sevening, Purveyor of Hats and Special Assistant @ Flop Wall and Putting contests.

Winner, Winner!

(L-R) Dave Domyancic (far left) with team mates Brandon Ellis and Brian Benson who made up "The Winning Team" with a score of -17.



Gpinnin' and Grinnin'. Another familiar annual group weathering the storm were (L-R) Eddie Warfield, John Simons, Mickey Markowitz and Lee Anthony.





Goodfellas

Posing with their faithful chariot, is another annual set of regulars: Left to right, Jim Shaffer, Ron Moyer, Earl McDonald, and Ernie Lazard.

The Ash Brood+1

When this group shows up every year, I swear I'm gonna figure out who's who. This time I called the senior member and discovered L-R it's Bill Ash, Jr., Bill Ash, Sr. (the patriarch), then there's Ken Ash and on the far right, Ted Manwaring. My head is spinning. But always good to see them again.



Airborne Maintenance Techies



(AMT's) Teeing it Up.

Johnnie Estes (far right) and his crew of Palmer McCoy, Whitey Gross, and Tom Crump (l-r).



2017 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

RIT Staff Compilation

After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, the FTVA along with the 25th Air Force honored its own “Silent Warriors” on Sept. 29th during a Remembrance Ceremony in front of the 25th 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 25th AF.





With the C-47 display in the background, Maj Gen Mary O'Brien addressed the attendees. She emphasized the need for us to remember and honor the contributions, sacrifices and recent demise of our active and retired professional

Following Maj Gen O'Brien's introductory comments, Ron Haygood, FTVA president, gave some thoughtful reflections regarding the history and reason for the Remembrance Ceremony. Ron' remarks read as follows:



“Good morning ... especially to our fellow silent warriors serving today and yesterday, from USAFSS, ESC, AFIC, AIA, AFISRA and now 25th AF. You have served in and continue to serve in wars, conflicts and skirmishes around the world...from Korea, Viet Nam, the Cold War, Granada, Panama, Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and countless 3rd world countries that many Americans don't even know about.



The last couple of years I have talked about what Remembrance and this ceremony means to me...to put it in personal context. Yes, remembrance is very personal to all of us. It is about the absence of family, friends and sometimes tragedies. It is the time to remember the downed airmen who lost their lives over the skies of South Viet Nam and Laos, the Bering Sea, Soviet Armenia, the Bering Sea, Elmendorf and the island of Shemya, and more recently Albania, Puerto Rico, Djibouti, and Afghanistan...and just last year, California.

A name you will hear this year was friend of mine starting back in 1979, Neal Robinson. A young 1st Lt Haygood met Capt Neal Robinson as I walked into NSA for the first when we were both in the JOCCP. Later that year he went TDY and disappeared for a while ... many of you know the Iranian hostage event (1969-70). Yes, it's personal to me. My first ground mission supervisor from Iraklion, Crete and first airborne mission supervisor from Athens, Greece names have been read out over the years and many others who I have served with or for. But through ceremonies like this and the Hall of Honor, their memories will continue to live on in our hearts and minds.



But it is also about all those good times serving around the world in those far off places working swings, days and mids in those windowless buildings or flying those 22-hour, two RC-135 tanker missions or even those EC-47 post-flight duties counting the bullet holes in the fuselage after a mission over Laos or Viet Nam. It's about the flight or squadron Christmas parties and picnics, after swings bowling or midnight movies at the base theater, the wine or beer festivals, the marching in the military parades, the flight, squadron or base sports teams and I could go on and on.



It's about the times you should remember your personal experiences, your assignments, your buddies, your time away from home... in Viet Nam, Berlin, Taiwan, Misawa, Augsburg, Chicksands, San Vito, Helenikon, Karamasel, Menwith Hill, Riyadh or countless other places that we no longer have units. It is a time to remember your favorite supervisor or trainer, flight commander, mission sup, S&W sup, airborne analyst, your best Morse operator or linguist, ops sup, DO, squadron commander, CMSgt,

roommate, or just that best buddy you haven't thought about in years. But most importantly, there is still time to reach out to those people whose names have not been called out over the years. Reach out, find them and talk to them while there is still time. Contact them thru social media, thru our FTVA's website or mutual friends.

This message is not just to the retirees in the audience, it's to the people still wearing the uniform. Reach out to those old flying buddies at Okinawa or Mildenhall, those DCGS friends at Langley or Ramstein, those Marines or sailors from NSA-Hawaii, those soldiers from Ft Gordon...you should do that now...why wait?



If they have already passed, you may want to talk to the family. During past Hall of Honor ceremonies, we talked about inductees and their contributions to our critical world-wide missions. Time and time again many of the accomplishments that were mentioned during the ceremony, the family (brothers, sisters and siblings) and friends had no clue. They had heard snippets in the overall nomination write-up and were awed by those truly

magnificent accomplishments. Many people came up after the ceremony and later at the anniversary banquet and told them stories from their assignments together. The family was thrilled because they had no idea...because we never talk about work or our accomplishments in the true silent warrior fashion.

I encourage you to change that. Now I'm not talking about giving away national secrets, but your family should know about things that have shaped your life, shaped who you



are, what you think, what you believe in and why. They may better understand how those things affected them, your extended family and friends thru the years. My wife would always know when something was going on, especially when I asked what was on the news, but she was never sure if, or how, I or the unit was involved. I personally have started doing that and I encourage you to do that, too.



So, take the time, take every opportunity you can to reach out and make contact while you can and before it's too late. Thanks for coming out today and hope to see you at the picnic afterwards and tomorrow evening at the reunion banquet. And, as always, remember the FTVA's motto to "Remain in Touch".

As is the tradition, a roll call of names of former civilian and military service members who have passed away during the past year was read aloud by SMSgt (Ret) Lee Anthony, (left) who maintains the Fallen Eagle database for the FTVA assisted by Loren 'Phred' Sevensing (right) FTVA Secretary.



Culminating the ceremony, 'Amazing Grace' was played by Bagpiper E.W. Forbes, USAF (Ret) as the event ended with the wreath laying and the playing of Taps by members of the AF Band of the West.

THE PICNIC at Stapleton Park

(Newsletter Staff Compilation)



The FTVA Information Center, beer booth and the food booths were up and running before noon. Bob Baert made sure all the handouts and paperwork were ready for member support and annual membership renewals.

It was a bit overcast, and we endured a “mist” in the air for a few moments but it turned out to be a comfortable day for a picnic. Judging by the smiles on the faces of those who turned out for the event, it was enjoyed by one and all.



First picnic responders arrived early to get the necessary booths ready for the many folks who come over to enjoy the festive reunion food and drink. In addition to 25th AF troops setting up their food booths, we can always rely on our faithful bar keeps Jacque Lerma (front) and Bob Crabtree (back right) along with A.J. Harrison (not pictured) to keep folks hydrated with water and hops.



(Right) Col (Ret) Bill Grimes was one of our four inductees into the Command Hall of Honor earlier in the day. Bill changed into his picnic garb and came over to share his special day with us.



(Left) A couple of early birds found each other in an empty pavilion.

(L-R) Charlie Millsap
Okie Warden
Waco Wetterman
Lou Rocha

(Right) It was B J Cook (back to camera) who got the ear of Dave Naab, Homer Waring and Mike Jones. Dave & Homer are locals while BJ came from Ft Walton Beach, FL and Mike from Glen Allen, VA.



CMSgt (Ret) Jesse Greene (L) got a congratulatory hug from Jay Johnson on being inducted earlier into the HOH. Jesse has been an active Lifetime member of the FTVA for over 25 years and supports our local Alamo Chapter.

Three “old” 202 (1N4) friends shared some stories from days of “yore” in the S&W Center. L-R Ronald JJ Graham, Bob Crabtree and Jim Gonzalez.





Axel Anaruk (left) drove here from Wylie, TX just to see some ol' buddies of his. Here he is checking in with Dennis Buxton, who pointed at the camera to remind Axel to “smile”.

(L-R) 25AF active duty airmen:
Primer (1N3)
Kardison (1N4)
Kustner (1N3)
Lowery (1N3)
stopped to visit with the “Ol’ guys”:



(L-R)
Jay Johnson
Danny Hartnett, Jr.
Tom Baker (from Hollidaysburg, PA)
& Ron Marcoullier

(L-R)
Jenn and Lee
Anthony
Ted Colquhoun
Keven Inman





Leo Walls and Jim Kaus



Okie Warden and Bill Sims

Your newsletter photog inadvertently chopped off the forehead of John Breeson (sorry, John) on left as he shared a beer with “Espy” Espinoza.



(Left) Leo Walls and Jim Kaus ran into each other at the big pavilion and made up for some “lost time”.

As you can see, the picnic was again another enjoyable opportunity for the active duty and retired communities to get together.

2017 FTVA ANNUAL REUNION BANQUET
Newsletter Compilation

On Saturday evening, over 180 attendees gathered at the Gateway Club on Lackland AFB for the annual FTVA Reunion Banquet celebrating the 69th anniversary of USAFSS and its successor commands. After a strong rendition of the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance the program got underway led by our outgoing president Ron Haygood. The evening took on a more relaxed atmosphere this year since there was no “guest speaker” and therefore, no “head table”. Each of the 2014 Hall of Honor (HOH) inductees was then introduced. After a moment of silence for those past and present serving our nation in harm’s way and the invocation, the members and guests enjoyed a tasty buffet.

The Youngest Attendee

One of our HOH honorees drove up just as the doors were swinging open at the Gateway Club on Lackland AFB Saturday afternoon. CMSgt (Ret) Jesse Greene (left) along with Marc Gibson, Jesse’s daughter Stacy, and the youngest attendee, Jesse’s two-month-old grandson, Steele (in stroller) had arrived.



Vince Colacicco & Greg Mahoney



Kathy Haygood & Judy Gavin



Tomiko and B.J. Cook



Left side: Bernie and Larry Fischer
Right side: Ginny and Bob Askew



HOH Inductee Col Bill Grimes



Dottie France, Ed Barnes & Ted Colquhoun



L-R

Evie Arrette

Jenn & Tim
Bernes

Fred Salyers



(L-R) Ken Gendolfe, A.J. & Judy and Ken Maynard along with Sue Douglas and Debra Williams with Annie Lively



(L-R) Ed Jolly, Jesse & Paula Greene Sr with Jesse & Jeannette Greene Jr



(L-R)
Nancy Larson
Mrs. Doyle Larson
Ron Haygood
Kathy Haygood



Received word of the following losses from caring relatives, friends or obituaries and 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.” Douglas MacArthur

Compiled by Joe Figueroa, Associate Editor

Andersen, Robert (Andy) N., Colonel (Ret), 94, USAFSS
Angel, Robert D., USAFSS
Autio, Clyde F., Maj Gen (Ret), **FTVA Lifetime Member *****
Brennan, Robert (Bob), USAFSS
Brewer, Robert (Bob) L., USAFSS
Davis, Jay D., USAFSS
Darnell, Bobby, SMSgt (Ret), USAFSS
Dorn, John E., USAFSS
Dunlap, Patrick (Pat), USAFSS
Gareri, Michael "Mike" William, USAFSS
Gronlund, Sherwin (Sherm) R., USAFSS
Hicok, Robert E., 82, SMSgt (Ret), USAF
Hollifield, Francis M., CMSgt (Ret), **FTVA Lifetime Member *****
Hopkins, James. D., TSgt (Ret), USAFSS
Johnson, Howard R., Col (Ret), USAFSS
Jung, Helen R., USAFSS
Kee, John E., SMSgt (Ret), **FTVA Lifetime Member *****
Keeter, Aubrey C., MSgt (Ret), **FTVA Lifetime Member *****
Keeton, Doris, E., SMSgt (Ret), USAF
Kerber, Robert F., USAFSS
Lance, Karl M., USAFSS
Merryman, Frank P., USAFSS
Moldenhauer, Neil, USAFSS
Norwood, James A., CMSgt (Ret), USAF
Pirkle, Albert Q., TSgt (Ret), USAFSS
Rosenberger, Albert S "Rosie", **FTVA Lifetime Member *****
Shackelford, Edward E., Maj (Ret), **FTVA Lifetime Member *****
Smith, Robert C., MSgt (Ret), **FTVA Lifetime Member *****
Dr. Tart, Robert Carlyle , Jr. "PopTart", USAFSS
Thomas, James B., USAFSS
Tucker, Coy G., USAFSS
Turner, Bryan, SSgt (Active Duty), USAF
Weddle, Bruce D., MSgt, USAFSS



Andersen, Robert (Andy) N., Col (Ret), 94, Oct 7, 2017.

He joined the Army Air Corps in 1942. as a 2nd Lieutenant on April 15, 1944. Served in the Pacific Theatre as a P-51 fighter pilot at Iwo Jima and the air-war over Japan. Separated from military service in 1945, he was recalled during the Korean conflict in 1953. Following service in Korea he was among the first assigned to then new USAF Academy as Flight Section Operations Officer from 1955 - 60. He graduated from the Command and Staff College in Montgomery, AL in 1961 to become the Chief Advisor to the Saudi Air Force School at Jeddah, S.A. In 1962 he was stationed with USAFSS at Goodfellow AFB in San Angelo, TX as Flight Division Officer then went to be Chief Operations Officer at Kelly AFB in San Antonio, Texas. From 1969 - 71 Col. Andersen was 6985th Security Squadron Commander at Eielson AFB, AK before assuming command of the 6990th Security Group at Kadena AFB, Okinawa until his retirement in 1974. Logging over 13,000 hours flying time he remained on active flying status his entire career. "Col. Andy" was most proud of never asking his troops to do something he couldn't or wouldn't do himself. He was recognized for gallantry in the air war over Japan and awarded the Legion of Merit. He is survived by Beverly, his devoted wife of 65 years, a daughter Lynn Andersen, and son Chris. //Sunset Funeral Home//



Fired cartridges given to Mrs. Anderson



Darr King and I attended the burial service for Col Andy at Ft Sam on Thursday, Oct 19, 2017. Col Eldred Blackwell was also there. I talked with Andy's son Chris who wore the SAPD blue uniform for 30 years. There was a fini flight photo of Col Andy by the crew entry ladder of the Hog. //Pete Siegel//

It was my pleasure to work for Col Andy on Okinawa when he commanded our top-notch squadron. //Walter C. (Rosie) Rosentrom//

The finest commanding officer it was my honor to serve. Very fond memories of serving with Col Andy at Eielson AFB, Alaska. //Darr King, CMSgt (Ret)//



Angel, Robert D., 78, passed away Aug 9, 2017. A USAF Veteran, he was stationed in Misawa, Japan in 1957. He is survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Patricia Angel; three children, James, John, and Sherry. //Obit – Mullins Memorial//



Autio, Clyde F., Maj Gen (Ret), 85, Jan 4, 2017. He was a pilot in the USAF and later worked as an aeronautical engineer at Wright Patterson AFB. He continued working in the USAF Reserves and retired as a Major General. He was past president of the National Aviation Hall of Fame. He is survived by his daughter Kim and son Kerry. //Obit – Tobias Funeral Home//

Major General Clyde F. Autio was mobilization assistant to the assistant chief of staff for intelligence, Headquarters USAF, Washington, D.C. From April 1980 to March 1981 he served as director, Central Area, Air Force Intelligence Service. and was selected as the nation’s outstanding liaison officer coordinator for 1978. From mobilization assistant to the commander, ESC, in April 1981, he went to the assistant chief of staff for intelligence at AF headquarters. In Oct 1986 he had extended active duty as deputy assistant chief of staff for intelligence, HQ USAF, Washington, D.C., and commander, AF Intelligence Service, Fort Belvoir. //USAF Biographies www.af.mil/



Brennan, Robert (Bob), 74, passed away Jul 8, 2017. He enlisted in the USAF in 1960, serving in Turkey and the Philippines as a Morse code intercept radio operator with the Air Force Security Service. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Roseann; sons, Keith and David; daughter, Cindy. //Obit - The Westfield Leader and The Scotch Plains//



Brewer, Robert "Bob" Ludwig, 73, died Jul 21, 2017. He worked at the DOD and his saying was that his duties were top secret, "if he told you he would have to kill you." He was a proud Veteran of the USAF. Survived by his wife, Sharon; two sons and a daughter. //Obit - Frost Funeral Home//

Bob’s was at Misawa in the early 60’s, then Berlin, and Fort Meade. We wore his USAFSS hat proudly. //Don Menel//



Burton, Robert C., MSgt (Ret), 93, Sep 15, 2017. He was a WWII Veteran. From Dec 16, 1944 through Jan 25, 1945, Bob and soldiers of the famed 99th "Checkerboard" Division fought in the Battle of the Bulge. His feet developed a severe case of frostbite that put him in the hospital and caused trouble with his feet the rest of his life. He was discharged on January 20, 1946. Bob spent his entire life in service of others. He served in USAF Reserve for 24 years and retired as a MSgt.

Bob is survived by sons John, Robbie; daughter, Patricia. //Obit//



Darnell, Bobby Gene "Duke", MSgt (Ret), 79, Oct 29, 2017. 1979. He served in the USAF for 24 years. He is survived by his wife of 46 years Fumei Yang Darnell and daughter Debbie. //Obit - Blue Ridge Funeral Home//

It gives me great sadness to report the passing of a dear friend (of 46 years), almost 24 yrs of that time in USAFSS. We served together at the 6987th SS, Shu Lin Kou AS, Taiwan and the 6940th SW, Goodfellow AFB, TX. Bobby was also at Peshawa and Japan as an admin specialist. He will be sorely

missed. //Pete Chamlee//



Davis, Jay D., 85, passed away May 7, 2017. In 1950, when the Korean War began, he enlisted in the USAF in the Air Force Security Service as a Special Intercept Radio Operator in Japan. After the war, he went to Long Beach State College. Jay completed writing a book based on his life titled, "Grandpa Superspy" shortly before his death. He is survived by his children, Michael, Debra, Cheryl Rebecca, and Brenda. //Obit San Antonio Express News//



Dorn, John E., 83, passed away Feb 5, 2017. He served in the USAF for 4 years, having spent 3 years in Darmstadt, Germany (2nd RSM USAFSS). After discharge from the service, he worked for the National Security Agency. He is survived by his wife, Patty; children, Kevin, Michael, Barbara. //Obit - Clymer Funeral Home & Cremations//



Dunlap, Patrick (Pat), 72, of Clarksville, MD, Aug 28, 2017.. He entered the USAF in 1963 attending Russian language training at Indiana University at Bloomington, IN. He served in Alaska and witnessed the massive 1964 earthquake, and served in Pakistan. In 1970 he started working at the NSA at Ft. Meade, and worked as a linguist, analyst, manager and staff officer until retiring early in 1994. He is survived by his wife Nancy, daughter Olga, son Patrick. //Obit - Witzke Funeral Homes//

I remember Pat well and saw him a couple of times at the Cryptologic Museum. He was an excellent linguist and manager. //John Riehl//



Fulton, Richard D., 74, Died Jun 29, 2017. Rick served in USAFSS from 1962 - 64. He trained at Biloxi, MS and then at Onna Point, Okinawa. He retired from the FAA in 2003. Survived by his wife Peggy and three children. //Obit-Oklahoman//



Gareri, Michael "Mike" William, 62, passed away Jul 27, 2017. He was a proud veteran of the USAF. Survivors include his fiancée, Nannette Kilbey-Smith; four children, Catina, Christopher, Marty, and Kristen. //Obit - Spry Funeral Home//

Mike Gareri a great friend and fellow Airborne Maintenance Technician He will be missed by all those who knew him.

The AMTA reunions will not be the same. Sgt Gareri earned an Air Medal while participating in sustained flight with the 6944TH Security Wing, USAFSS, from 16 Jun 1977 to 25 Apr 1978. //AMT Association Website//



Gronlund, Sherwin "Sherm" R., 84, Aug 11, 2017. He served in the USAF from 1952 to 1956. He served as an Operator at Elmendorf AFB during the Korean War and established many lasting relationships during that time. Hearing his experiences about "stealing" Morse code from the Russians was shared frequently with various family members. He was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant in February 1960. Sherm is survived by his daughters Pam, Claire, and Jane. //Obit – Amery Free Press//



Hicok, Robert E., SMSgt (Ret), 82, passed away May 23, 2017. Bob served 32 years in the U.S. Air Force as SMSGT at NORAD and did 11 tours, which were in the Korean and Vietnam Conflict, received two [purple hearts](#). Bob is survived by his wife, Delores. Bob’s assignments include Pakistan, Zweibrucken West Germany, Kelly AFB TX as a computer operator. I knew him from his time at Zweibrucken and Security Hill. //Clinton Bodine//



Hollifield, Francis M., CMSgt (Ret), 86, May 6, 2017. The AF ISR community lost one of its founding radio traffic analysts. Known as “Don” or “Holly” by friends, he enlisted in the AF Sept 1948, before USAFSS was created. Pvt. Hollifield and USAFSS grew up together. After completing the analysis course at Arlington Hall Station, he went to the 8th RSM, Brooks AFB, Texas. Holly was the only “202” from his analysis class to make a career in USAFSS. He transferred to the USAFSS HQ and was subsequently assigned to the 10th RSM at RAF Chicksands. On 30 Dec 1954, Don PCS’d to USAFSS HQ, Kelly AFB, Texas, where he taught in the USAFSS SIGINT School He returned to Chicksands in 1957, then in 1960, he was assigned to Goodfellow AFB, TX.. After a remote tour at the 6986th SG, Wakkanai AS, Japan, he PCS’d to the 6901st SCG, Zweibrücken, Germany, in late 1964. Promoted to CMSgt on 1 April 1964 at age 34, Holly became one of the youngest Chiefs in the Air Force when he went to the 6910th SW at Darmstadt in 1966, CMSgt Hollifield is believed to be the last of Air Force Security Service’s founding traffic analysts. //Obit – Larry Tart//



Hopkins, James D., TSgt (Ret), 74, passed away Jul 24, 2017. Known as “Hoppy”, his USAFSS assignment include Zweibrucken West Germany, Kelly AFB TX (Medina Annex), and Offutt AFB, NE. He was a 203X0. //FTVA Form Processor//



Johnson, Howard R., Col (Ret), 80, Mar 8, 2017. He was commissioned in the USAF after graduating Memphis State University. After serving three tours of duty in Vietnam and 97 combat missions in Southeast Asia as a B-52 crew member (navigator) he returned to Offutt AFB as an Air Targets Intelligence Officer on SAC’s Airborne Command Post. He concluded his 30-year career as Deputy Director for Studies and Analysis, Joint Electronic Warfare Center, Kelly AFB in San Antonio, Texas. //Obit – Heber Springs Funeral Home//



Jung, Helen R., 94, passed away Jun 21, 2017. On Sep 1952, Helen went to work as a secretary for Electronic Security Command at Kelly Air Force Base. She enjoyed a long and illustrious career before retiring in 1982. Helen is survived by her sons Cecil and Frank. //Obit – Afterlife//



Kee, John Edward, SMSgt (Ret), 90, passed away Oct 11, 2017. John proudly served in the USAF for 23 years. After retirement, he worked in civil service at Kelly AFB for 16 years. He is survived by his loving sons, Kenneth and Michael. //Obit – San Antonio Express News//

John served in USAFSS as a 202 during his 1962-1965 tour at Brady. //Carol Farr// John was a SMSgt 202 at Brady (62-65) and my boss from 1962-63. As I remember, John was a WWII vet who was well liked by the troops at Brady and participated with the NCO's in the Suds Buds excursions. //David Naab//



Keeter, Aubrey Chris, MSgt (Ret), 87, passed away Sep 10, 2017. At the age of 17 he enlisted into the United States Army where he served with the US Occupation forces in Germany. In 1950 Aubrey transferred to the United States Air Force and served in Germany and Libya during the Korean War. Upon receiving his discharge from the USAF in 1953 he was employed briefly with the United States Coast Guard, then re-enlisted in the USAF where he retired in 1968 after 20 years of service. For 16 of his 20 years in the military, Aubrey was with USAFSS gathering intelligence data as determined by the National Security Agency. He is survived by his wife DeLevia; three children; Melanie, Kenneth, and John. //Obit – Snyder Funeral Homes//



Keeton, Doris E., SMSgt (Ret), 64, passed away Jun 22, 2017. She worked in Air Force, Joint Military and NSA units as a Mission Controller, Senior Printer Systems Supervisor, Group Speech Systems Controller, Data Handler, Signals Evaluation Technician, ZUPPAS operator, SILKWORTH trainer and Mission

Supervisor. While a TSgt at NSA, she was selected to fill an 0-3 position as the Operations Watch Officer in charge of analysts and operators supporting an airborne reconnaissance program. As a SSgt Intelligence Support Staff Technician at NSA, Sergeant Keeton was the first individual to have responsibility for the

Operations Directorate's newly-established Significant Activity Report (SAR), used to keep the Director of the National Security Agency and other high-level officials apprised of current intelligence situations. She produced a document that presented the week's most relevant topics to the NSA Director and senior executives. On her own initiative, Sergeant Keeton educated herself about worldwide trouble spots to become the recognized expert preparing the weekly Indications and Warning report. One such report was so urgently needed by the National Security Council that she was driven to the White House with it handcuffed to her wrist. She regularly briefed the Director, NSA senior staff. SMSgt Keeton served as 207X2 Functional Manager and created a joint operations training program at Joint Base Misawa that combined the unique training needs of all operational positions for the four military services. Her assignments include, 6920 ESG, Misawa AB, Japan; 6950 ESS, RAF Chicksands, UK; 6974 ESS and 6972 ESS, National Security Agency, Ft. George G. Meade, MD; 6941 ESS, 6942 ESS, 6943 ESS and 6945 ESS, NSA, Ft. George G. Meade, MD; 6917 ESG, San Vito dei Normanni AS, Italy; HQs Electronic Security Command, Kelly AFB, TX; 2ZZ/2ZY School, Pensacola, FL //CMSgt (Ret) Susan Douglas//

Our thoughts and prayers for the Keeton family. Doris was a great lady, ultimate Air Force NCO who will be greatly missed by one and all. Rest in Peace "EZ"!!!
 // Rod Bidinger - Hanover, MD //



++Kerber, Robert F., MSgt, 85, passed away Jun 21, 2017. He was a veteran of the Vietnam war having served in USAF military intelligence. His service included assignment to the National Security Agency as a cryptologist. His assignments required he and his family to live in various places around the world including Italy, Japan, the Philippines and Texas. He retired after 23 years of service. Robert leaves behind three children, Patricia, Andrew, and Timothy. // **Obit** –

Tewksbury Funeral Home//



Lance, Carl Morris Lance, 83, died on Jan 8, 2017. He served in USAFSS from 1954 to 1959 as a Russian Linguist. He is survived by his son, Glenn; daughter, Barbara. //Obit – **Wright Funeral Home//**

Dad shared stories about his time in the Air Force. He told Glenn and I that he flew Airborne Reconnaissance in 1954-59. I was constantly asking him about his Air Force days and he would always say, "You focus on the task at hand, look

straight ahead, keep on going, do your best and trust your pilot. //Barbara Lance Alldaffer//

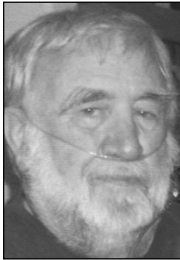


Merryman, Frank P., age 84, died Oct 3, 2017. Frank retired from the USAF. He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Natalie; 4 children, Vicky, Cathy, Becky, and Tim. **//Obit - Zoeller Funeral Home//**

Frank served his country in the USAF as a 702 during his 1963-1966 tour at Hakata. Frank also was Acting First Sergeant - 1965-1966.

//Carol Farr//

I was fortunate to work with/for Frank in 1959/60 at USAF Security Service at Kelly AFB. I was a young airman and frank was my NCOIC, supervisor. Frank made a lasting impression on me that helped guide me through a successful Air Force career. **//George Page//**



Moldenhauer, Neil, 86, passed away Aug 6, 2017. He enlisted in the USAF in 1950 and served four years in USAFSS. His tours included two years in Japan and Korea. He is survived by his spouse Donna; children, Cheryl, Scott, Julie, and Todd. **//Obit – Independent Record//**



Norwood, James A., CMSgt (Ret), 82, passed away Jul 28, 2017. He served a combined service with both USAF and NSA. He is survived by his children James and Lisa. **//Obit – Bellevue Funeral Chapel//**

His assignments included the 544th ARTW and SAC HQ. **//John Ridlehoover//**



Pirkle, Albert Q., TSgt (Ret), 78, died 15 Sep 2017. A Vietnam Veteran, he served 20 years in the USAF. He is survived by his children, Danielle, Quinn, Jeanette, and Laura. **//Obit – Memorial Park Funeral Home//**

Albert served our country as a 292 while stationed at Hakata in 1964. Reassigned: 6987th SG, Shu Lin Kou AS, Taipei, Taiwan. **//Carol Farr//**



Rosenberger, Albert S "Rosie", 89 Oct 9, 2017. Al served in the USAF from 1950 to 1978. His assignments include Germany to Pakistan then to Okinawa and England, plus three state-side tours. He retired in Ft. Meade, Maryland. He subsequently worked for the Department of Defense from 1983 to 1995. He is survived by his son, Randy; five daughters, Sheri, Vicki, Debra, Jill, and Michele. //Obit – Graceland Fairlawn Funeral//

I was assigned to Rosie's "Day Shop" section when I arrived at the Grünstadt 6910th RSM Germany and at the 6912th RSM in Bingen am Rhein. I discovered what a true gentleman Rosie was, what a very smart analyst and mentor he was to the guys who worked for him. I didn't cross paths with Rosie again until he retired and came to work at NSA as a civilian in 1983. A quiet reunion as were many within the "band of brothers" who were the pioneers in the USAF Security Service. //Jim Kimmet//

I met Rosie in England in 1967 where he was well known for his professionalism, dedication, and easy-going management style. We spent many Mid shifts together in the Surveillance & Warning Center. //Dave Shepard, CMSgt (Ret) //



Schutte Charles "Charlie" F., CMSgt (Ret), 85, died Mar 8, 2017. He served for 27 years in the USAF. He is survived by four children, Diane, Denise, Debbie, and Chuck. //Obit - Schildknecht Funeral Home//

Charles retired as a Chief Master Sergeant after serving 27 years in the U.S. Air Force. He was stationed with the 6913th RSM at Bremerhaven, Germany on Dog Trick from January 1952 to October 1988. //www.6913th.org//



Shackelford, Edward E., Maj (Ret), 96, Sep 22, 2017. Ed served in the Army Air Corps during WW II from 1943 until 1946. He served at New Caledonia, the Solomon Islands, Guadalcanal, Bougainville, and the Philippines. Ed remained in the AAC reserves after VJ Day. Ed was recalled to active duty in 1951 and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in USAFSS. Ed attended Cryptologist School at Kelly Air Force

Base in San Antonio, TX and Russian Language School in Syracuse, New York. His assignments include Misawa, Japan (1957 to 1960); Zweibrucken, Germany (1964 to 1967); San Vito de Normandy, Italy (1967 to 1969); Medina Air Base, San Antonio, Texas (1969 to 1971) and at Kelly Air Base, San Antonio, Texas (1955 to 1957 & 1960 to 1964). Ed retired from active duty at the rank of major on April 1, 1971 after 29 years. He is survived by his daughter Patricia; his son Edward. // Dave Naab // Obit – Cage Mills Funeral Directors //



Smith, Robert Conley, MSgt, (Ret), age 82, Aug 23, 2017. His 26-year career included an assignment to HQ USAFSS/ESC, in Manpower Division and ESR, in Operations. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Margaret; daughters, Shelley and Tracey Lynn. //Sunset Northwest Funeral Home//



Dr. Robert Carlyle Tart, Jr. "PopTart", 68, Oct 27, 2017. as a resident of SECU Hospice House in Smithfield, N. C. After graduating from East Carolina University, Dr. Tart went into the USAFSS and spent part of his four-year military service in Misawa, Japan. Surviving Dr. Tart are his wife Gail; daughters, Crystal and Chandra. //Obit - Padgett Funeral//

I was stationed at Misawa with Pop Tart from 1971 - 1974. Had a LOT of great times together. Thank YOU Pop, for your service to this great country... You will be sorely missed by your family and many, many, veteran friends on Trick Two (Deuce)!!!! //Bob Frazier, USAF, (Ret)//



Thomas, James B., 76, passed away Feb 9, 2017. Bob served in the USAF as a Morse Code interceptor in Pakistan. Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Carolyn; daughters Carla and Jennifer. //Obit - Andrews Mortuary and Crematory//



Tucker, Coy G., Died May 6, 2017. He served 4 years in the USAF. He is survived by his first wife, Nancy, and her children, Leo and Laurel, and their daughter, Shannon and her sons Brandon and Tyler, and by his second wife, Ellie. //Obit - www.legacy.com//

Tucker and I were co-owners of a 51 ford and we ran together with Fred Vega and Mike Neal for the two years we were in Misawa. Japan. MISS YA OLD FRIEND! //Charles Bunns Stockman//

On behalf of all your buddies who served together in the 6989th Radio Squadron Mobile USAFSS stationed in Japan we say, 'Job well done my friend - You were a Man for All Seasons' - We look forward to that day when we shall meet again - Onward //John Young//



Turner, Bryan, SSgt (Active Duty), 32, passed away July 4, 2017. He entered the USAF in May 2004 and served for more than 12 years, stationed in Colorado, Germany and Virginia. He did two tours in Iraq, and was deployed to Bulgaria. Bryan was a beloved member of the 45th Intelligence Squadron (IS) and a force of nature within the confines of Distributed Ground System. Bryan was one of the premier imagery mission supervisors, the 45IS' booster club president, a leader of the Mighty Owls; a cancer survivor, wingman, and a friend to everyone he met. He is survived by his beautiful wife, Nicki and his daughters Madison, Lillian, and Emma. He is also survived by his mother, Lt Col Laurie K. Turner and father, Billy Alan Turner. **//Obit – Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory//**



Weddle, Bruce D., MSgt (Ret), 85, passed away Sep 21, 2017. He proudly served his country in the USAF where he spent 20 years with their Security Service, and another 17 years in civil service with the Cryptologic Support Center. **//Obit - www.tributes.com//**

Addendum to Misawa Project June 2017 Reunion Report

Some may not know that while on their way to the 2017 National Misawa reunion, **Linda Dunham** fell ill, and passed away in Hersey PA. That was in June. Gary Dunham scheduled a celebration of her life in their home town of Lenoir City Tennessee, for August 12. Several of their veteran friends came long



distances to be part of it. Here, (l-r) Me, Jay Emmer, Gary Dunham (husband), Terry Cullivan, Bill Barnhart, Dan DeCunha, Jane Doolittle and Wayne Wheeler. **//Jim Kaus //**

(It is moments like this that make us proud to be a member of our USAFSS society. The contributions have no monetary value but are deemed priceless. My hat is off to all our alumni veterans. **// Walt Ritter //**

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:
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW REGULAR MEMBER
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER (*see below for description)
<input type="checkbox"/> LIFE MEMBERSHIP
<input type="checkbox"/> MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE

Age Range for Life Membership Rates	
<input type="checkbox"/> 76 and over	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/> 71-75	\$95
<input type="checkbox"/> 66-70	\$115
<input type="checkbox"/> 61-65	\$160
<input type="checkbox"/> 56-60	\$170
<input type="checkbox"/> 51-55	\$185
<input type="checkbox"/> 46-50	\$200
<input type="checkbox"/> 41-45	\$220
<input type="checkbox"/> 36-40	\$235
<input type="checkbox"/> 31-35	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> 30 and under	\$265

Optional Information we publish in 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.



Your FTVA hopes you and yours enjoy the blessings of this special time of the year

