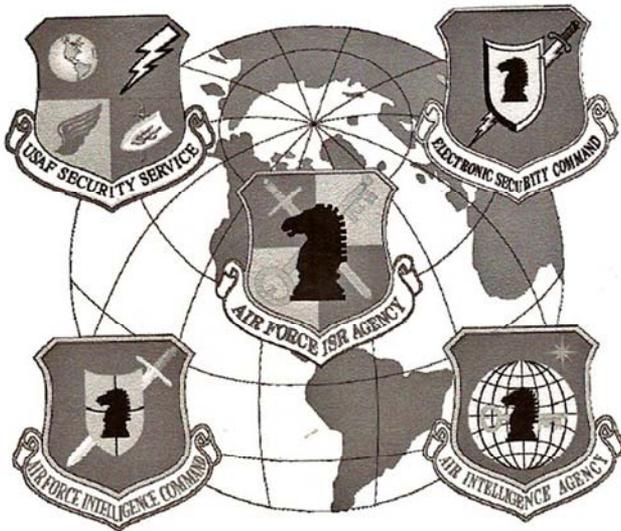


*Remain
In
Touch*



**FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE
ASSOCIATION**

2011 Annual Reunion Issue

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The President's Corner



Dear Members,

Thanks to all of you who attended, supported, and contributed to make our reunion one of the most successful and memorable in recent years. We've received many letters, e-mails, and calls of appreciation. All activities from the golf tournament, Remembrance Ceremony, picnic, to the banquet were enjoyed by all.

I'd particularly like to thank Lt Gen James for his insight and remarks at our annual banquet. For those unable to attend, start planning now for next year's festivities scheduled for 27 – 29 September 2012.

On that topic, what a pleasure it is to work with Maj Gen Bob Otto and his entire staff! Maj Gen Otto's commitment to our Association is incredible, and was so well-reflected by his team prior to and during the reunion weekend. As stated during the Remembrance Ceremony, I view our support to him and his current generation of ISR warfighters as an obligation. Reciprocally, General Otto's regard and respect for prior generations is equally evident, and I can't state how much we appreciate his advocacy and support.

As evidenced during our annual meeting, things are moving with the FTVA. It was a great pleasure to have John "Tilly" Toillion, J.J. Graham, and Jim Kaus brief activities on behalf of their respective Aloha, Heritage, and Sunshine Chapters. The Gold Country Chapter continues to do well (missed you this year, Sac), and there's good momentum with the National Capital Chapter via one of our recent Hall of Honor inductees, Al Dowling. Bernie Gavin is in the process of forming yet another FTVA chapter in the Colorado Springs area. I view these chapters as the lifeblood of the association – they ensure an active and involved membership, and the Florida and Colorado chapters have brought in new FTVA'ers. Our organization is financially healthy, but only as long as we have vibrant membership and Vigilant Partners programs. Thanks for your efforts in securing these areas!

I again had the honor of representing the FTVA at the Major General Doyle Larson Awards Banquet, one of our most significant support projects. Maj Gen Otto and AFISRA Command Chief Rick Ricker hosted a first-class affair, and it was exciting to see over 75 of the AF ISR Agency's most talented enlisted personnel recognized for their skills and efforts. As the late Maj Gen Larson once noted, this is one of the few recognition programs that recognizes individuals solely for their mission-related skills. It was an added privilege to have Mrs. Larson, and her daughters, Nancy and Mary, in attendance. I noted

many of our members present, and thank each of you for enabling us to support the Larson Awards.

In closing, I'd like to refer you to a blog written by MSgt-ret Rick Fenwick. Rick is a recent FTVA member and attended his first FTVA reunion this year. Take a few minutes to look it up – no mission statement, charter, or by-laws could possibly summarize the FTVA as well as this article. (See p.51 this issue.) <http://ruiningsterner.com/2011/09/26/for-ernie/#comments>

Remain in touch, *Lee*



Hi Everyone,
Making our *Fallen Eagles* information available to our members is sometimes enough to keep a couple of us busy around here. Here's how we track our *Fallen Eagles*: note there are two folks - Wayne Tallant and Ted Colquhoun listed on the inside front cover of RIT under

Directors who deal with *Fallen Eagles*. The reports are initially received from a variety of sources but mostly from members like you, letting us know that a USAFSS/ESC/AIA/AFIC/AGENCY veteran or civilian associate has passed-on. This information then takes two tracks:

1. Wayne does a daily scan of area newspapers and reports to locate recent obits. He takes care of initial review, composition and editing of all obits for the *Fallen Eagles* section of the newsletter. He then forwards them to me for final edit/processing..
2. Ted is in charge of our central *Fallen Eagles* data base listing. He monitors incoming notifications, updates and logs-in all notices. He then forwards these updates to our Webmaster Bob Baert on a monthly basis. Bob processes them for the *Fallen Eagles* list in FTVA's on-line web pages. **Using the form available on the web site at <http://www.ftva.org/FORMS/eagles.html> to report *Fallen Eagles* will ensure all relevant information is provided.** Hopefully, this information will prove helpful. Please enjoy this issue... it's a BIGGIE!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,



EDITOR'S DISCLAIMER

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



A Letter To The Editor

Thu, Sep 8, 2011

Hi, Rass. The last page of the Sept 2011 Remain In Touch has Ken Burger’s column from the Post and Courier about his military service. I read that when it appeared in the paper (since I live in Charleston) and was happy to see it reprinted in our newsletter. I think we all have that feeling toward our days in military service. Ken has since retired from the paper but I will see him next week when he speaks to the men’s breakfast at our senior center. Having read the newsletter, I was wondering if you had any objection to me giving him my copy since I don’t think too many FTVA members live in Charleston and will see Ken anytime soon. Maybe you sent him a copy already and that’s fine. But if you haven’t, I will gladly give him mine. Thanks for your time and all you do for us.

Bill Kanapaux, Charleston, SC
<bknapaux@comcast.net>

-----Response-----

09/10/2011 Bill -

Thank you for the nice note. Although that article looked to be from our sister service and dated 2010, it still rings true for so many of us "ol' timers" that it seemed appropriate to share with our FTVA membership. As a Life Member, you are an extension of our association and am heartened that you have found a positive way to use our newsletter. Please convey our appreciation to Mr Burger when you see him, and I will put a replacement copy in the mail for you. Remain In Touch. v/r Rass

-----Response-----

From : Bill Kapanaux 09/15/2011

Hi, Rass. Hope you are enjoying the FTVA reunion and events. This morning I gave the extra copy of our FTVA newsletter to Ken Burger. He was most appreciative and genuinely interested in the organization and how we function. I’m sure he will spend more than a little time reading the copy. He said whoever first published it changed two details in the original column: 1) It happened at Charleston AFB, SC not NAS, Meridian and 2) he was a TSGT in the Air Force Reserve. I assured him that the sentiment was sound for any service, even if our Navy friends tried to make him their own. Ken has set up a web site www.kenburger.com and a blog site www.kenburgerblog.com published two fictional novels with a third one coming out, if anyone is interested. Thanks again for the extra copy and best wishes to you and everyone in FTVA..

Bill

<p align="center">Soft Copy of Newsletter</p>
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Those interested in receiving the color softcopy of *Remain in Touch* newsletter in .pdf format (instead of hard copy), go to the web site and fill in the form at: <http://www.ftva.org/FORMS/enewsletter.html> to subscribe. When a newsletter is published, Bob Baert will put it in a protected directory on the website. An e-mail will then be sent to those who subscribe to the softcopy letting you know it is available and providing the new password. (Note: you still have the option later on to go back to receiving the hard copy via regular mail). **E-mail Bob Baert:** membersupport@ftva.org

Bob Baert

Membership Chairman/Web Support

<p align="center">Memorials</p>
--

We've all observed that our Fallen Eagles section seems to grow longer with each issue. If you served with an individual or spouse in USAFSS, ESC, AFIC, AIA or the AF ISR Agency and you see "...or **charity of your choice.**" in an obituary, please think of FTVA as that charity. A donation to the organization that has contributed over a quarter of a million dollars to the Command which provided some of the "best years of your life" is a great way to celebrate special friendships and honor shared Service. If you want the donation to be tax deductible, make the check out to the "USAFSS/ESC Memorial Fund". If you don't care about tax deductibility or don't file a Schedule A, make the check out to "FTVA". In either event, mail it to Col (Ret) Jim McLendon, 223 Blackjack Oak, San Antonio TX 78230 or FTVA (Official Activities), P.O. Box 691616, San Antonio TX 78269-1616. Please put the individual's name you wish to memorialize on the "Memo" or "For" section of the check. It would help if you'd also put the honoree's family's address in a note. We'll acknowledge your donation and advise the family that you have donated to FTVA in their loved one's name (we won't mention the amount). You can help this organization preserve the legacy of USAFSS and successor commands and celebrate your friendship and their Service at the same time -- truly a win-win situation.

Thanks,

Jim McLendon

Official Activities Chairman



"Ham and Eggs"
**Just a day's work for a chicken... but
 It's a lifetime commitment for a pig!**

Two Vigilant Partners Renew Support to FTVA

by Jim McLendon, Official Activities



(Left) Booz-Allen-Hamilton's Marc Benkendorf (L) and Al Dowling (R) present their Platinum renewal check to Lee Anthony (Center), FTVA President, at FTVA annual banquet.

(Right) Sierra Nevada Corporation representatives Julie & Ed Warfield present their Platinum renewal check to Lee Anthony, FTVA President, at the annual banquet.



Give an FTVA Membership for Christmas

Know someone who is eligible for FTVA membership but is not a member? Why not get them a yearly membership for Christmas. Once they see what we are about and get a look at the newsletters they will probably cherish the gift. If you include a personal note for them with your gift membership we will make sure that note is included with the new member package we send to them.

2011 Membership Dues

FTVA annual memberships run from January to December. So, if the label on this newsletter has the year "2011" after your name it is time to send in your 2012 dues. Please take some time and send us your 2012 membership dues. As a reminder, dues are now \$20.00 per year, or \$40.00 for two years. Please mail it to:

*FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 691616
San Antonio, Texas 78269-1616*

Bob Baert
Membership Chairman
(membersupport@ftva.org)



FTVA HALL OF HONOR



The Hall of Honor was created in 1983. It honors individuals who served USAFSS/ESC and its successor commands with great distinction and contributed immeasurably to successful mission accomplishment. The Hall of



Honor preserves the legacy of those who have gone before, highlights their deeds, and honors their contributions to the nation. The Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency together with the Freedom Through Vigilance Association, inducted four new members into the Hall of Honor during a ceremony held in the B. A. Langer Auditorium here Sept. 24. (Left: Maj Gen Otto and President Anthony display the 2011 HOH plaque.

The four new members to the Hall of Honor join 159 other members who have been inducted over the past 28 years as CMSgt (Ret) Bob Sherwood, HOH Chairman, announced this year's inductees: Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Charles Bishop, former Security Service and ESC Inspector General; Col. (Ret.) Chris Cook, former Director of Staff, AIA; CMSgt. (Ret.) Alan Dowling, former Command Chief, AIA; and Jimmy Jones, Department of the Air Force Civilian (Ret.) and former major command security chief.



Gen Bishop



Col Cook



CMSgt Dowling



Mr Jones

"Our Hall of Honor is one of observed achievements and national impact," said Lee Anthony, FTVA president. "The biographies (of the inductees) describe people who took definitive actions to make our Air Force, our Department of Defense and our nation a better and safer place."

"For me, it's great because I looked up to and served with them (fellow inductees)," Cook said. "This is totally unexpected because there are others who are as deserving or more deserving."

"I'm honored beyond words to be included with the legends of this command," echoed Dowling.

LISTING OF PAST FTVA HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEES

<p>Founders 1983</p> <p>LGen Roy H. Lynn** LGen Richard P. Klocko** Col John P. Shean** CWO Wesley G. Wineinger CMSgt Hugh T. Smith** Mr. Gordon W. Sommers</p>	<p>Decade of 1950s 1984</p> <p>LGen Gordon A. Blake** Col Lewis W. Fogg Col George Mason , Jr * Col Thomas C. Hyde** CMS Anthony Reiskis** CMS Ervin Fleischman** CMSgt Fred Barrett** Mr. Joe B. Porter**</p>	<p>Decade of 1960s 1985</p> <p>MGen Louis E. Coira** BG Bernard Ardisana** Col Richard D. Small** Col Einar Steelnack, Jr. CMS Marion S. Dyches CMS Thomas Tennant MSG Michael Preslar** Mr. Billy R. Locke**</p>
<p>Decade of 1970s 1986</p> <p>MGen Carl W. Stapleton** MGen Doyle E. Larson** Col Robert H. Touby** Col William T. Ballard CMS Richard D. Kisling** CMS Stewart Engbretson** CMSgt Louis Rocha Mr. Fred W. Blount**</p>	<p>1987</p> <p>Col James H. Macia Jr.** LTC David H. Eddy** LTC Delmar C. Lang** LTC Ernest L. Short CMSgt Waldo C. Kline CMS Richard M. Hain CMSgt Sam Mims** Mr. James D. Savage</p>	<p>1988</p> <p>Col Wesley C. Akins** Col Leslie Bolstridge** Col William Bowers** CMSgt Earl D. Carlile** CMS Clarence L. Fairly CMS Alfred Fullwood CMSgt Robert T. Haugh Mr. Frank Pinkston</p>
<p>1989</p> <p>Col William B. Barnes** Col William L Rice** Col Robert F. Stark** LTC Ivan L. Wolinsky** Maj Merle J. Vernone** CMSgt James Arceneaux CMSgt Robert C. Jones** CMS Joshua H. Ruderman Mr. William C. Evans Jr.</p>	<p>1990</p> <p>Col Eldred E. Blackwell Col James O. Bush** Col Grover McMakin** LTC Chancel T. French CMS Clarence Hobbs** CMS Melvin D. Porter Sr. SMS Horace Red Haire** Mr. Willard R. Ellerson** Mr. Douglas R. Holden</p>	<p>1991</p> <p>Col Robert N. Andersen Col Duane E. Russell Col Al "Buck" Rogers** CMSgt Willis E. Jorde</p>

<p>1992</p> <p>Col Michael T. Christy CMS James J. Reynolds** CMSgt Paul W. Weyandt** Mr. Craig Johnson</p>	<p>1993</p> <p>LGen James Clapper, Jr. MGen Norma E. Brown** CMSgt Bill B. Beard CMS Clifford Koonce**</p>	<p>1994</p> <p>MGen Harold Bassett** Col William Buchholtz Col Robert S. Cope CMSgt Edward Jolly, Jr.</p>
<p>1995</p> <p>LGen Donald L. Putt** MGen John B. Marks** MGen Harold E. Watson** Col Dale J. Hanks** Col John P. Lynch CMSgt Conrad R. Schott** CMSgt Okey Warden, Jr. Mr. Gerald M. Leies</p>	<p>1996</p> <p>Col Howard M. McCoy** Col Bruce D. Strotman CMSgt Jerry Cissel CMSgt Dwight H. Day ** MSgt David Klein Mr. Doyle K. Northrup** Mr. Carl F. Romney Mr. Walter Singlevich**</p>	<p>1997</p> <p>CMSgt Joseph. Dean** Mr. Roy W. Lynn** CMSgt James R. Mayer CMSgt Richard J. Wadle</p>
<p>1998</p> <p>CMS Billy Daniels, Jr.** CMSgt Richard W. Hites CMSgt Robert L. Sherwood SMSgt John H. Riedel</p>	<p>1999</p> <p>LGen Kenneth Minihan BG Travis Hethrington** Col Thomas Ciambrone CMSgt Jack Roberts CMSgt Raul A. Sandoval SMSgt John S. Deaver**</p>	<p>2000</p> <p>MGen John E. Morrison Col Wayne B. Fau** CMS Daniel Dapolito** CMS Thomas G. Nurre SMSgt Larry R. Tart</p>
<p>2001 Decade of 1980s</p> <p>MGen Paul Martin** Col John Lewis Lt Col Lance Harmeyer** Lt Col James Glenn, Jr. Mr John Guntharp CMSgt James Mahoney CMSgt Kenneth Een CMSgt Duane Larkin</p>	<p>2002</p> <p>MG Gary O'Shaughnessy BGen Grover E. Jackson CMSgt Robert P. Egger CMSgt Harold O. Overton</p>	<p>2003</p> <p>Lt Col Reginald Gilbert Lt Col Russell E Harriger CMSgt Alfred J. Harrison CMSgt James A. White</p>
<p>2004</p> <p>CMSgt Marco Aldaz CMSgt Robert V. Crabtree SMSgt Lee Anthony SMSgt Mike Conner</p>	<p>2005</p> <p>CMSgt Susan D. Douglas CMSgt Danny L. Prichard CMSgt Samuel Watson MSgt Segundo Espinoza</p>	<p>2006</p> <p>Col William P. Fife** Col James McLendon CMS James Swindell** MSgt Delano R. Jolly</p>

<p>2007</p> <p>Col Ronald L. Haygood Cpt David J. Cambridge CMS Wm B. Buchsbaum CMS Barry W. Matthews**</p>	<p>2008</p> <p>L Col Howard W. Bunton CMSgt Gerard V. Gething CMSgt Thomas M. Giroir CMSgt James N. Sickich</p>	<p>2009</p> <p>Col Robert A. Leech CMSgt Charley R. King CMSgt Larry E. Mills Mr. Steve D. August</p>
<p>2010</p> <p>Gen Michael V. Hayden LGen John C. Koziol CMSgt Edward L. Barnes CMSgt Donald W. Hatcher</p>	<p>2011</p> <p>BGen Charles L. Bishop Col Wyatt (Chris) Cook CMSgt Alan R. Dowling Mr. Jimmy R. Jones</p>	<p>**Deceased as of June 2011</p>

Bob Sherwood, Chairman
 Hall of Honor Program

BEDSIDE MATTERS

//Following Posted by Jim Kaus on Roll Call Site//

I have fought with myself all week as to whether to discuss this on site, but I've got to.

In 1969, I got assigned to the 6993rd at Medina, and went to work with MSgt Joe Gibney. We quickly became great friends, played golf, went fishing, we ate at his house, he and his family ate at ours. A year later I rotated, and left.

Over the years, whenever in San Antonio, I go to visit Joe. Joe long ago lost his breathing to smoking, and didn't get out much, but would gather his strength and attend the FTVA picnic. Two years ago, he didn't have the strength to attend, but we had a nice visit at his home. His wife Margaret was always at his side. Last year, he was weaker again, but still I had a nice visit with him and Margaret. This year, I had to visit with Joe in his bedroom because he didn't have the stamina to get to his den and back. But Margaret was missing. Turns out she developed Alzheimer's very quickly, her condition very poor. She was not in her home. I spent some time with Joe, learning of his situation, told him I had admired him all this years and loved him. He sincerely thanked me for coming. I went to the car, drove away sobbing. If you live in San Antonio and ever knew Joe, please give him a call, he's in the book, or better yet, go see him.



BEDSIDE MATTERS UPDATES

Sep 20, 2011//**Steve Acuff** has finished 6 weeks of radiation and chemotherapy which he believes significantly reduced the tumor behind his eye. Inflamed/enlarged sinuses continue to be an issue. An upcoming review should indicate whether all cancer cells have been removed or if



further surgery is needed. Steve's gained back some weight and feels much better. Thanks to all for your continuing thoughts and prayers.//**Phonecon**//

09/30/11 Good news! My MRI has confirmed the tumor is greatly reduced and, what's more, the Dr. believes a lot of it may be scar tissue. I'll have to have a PET done the first week of Nov to confirm. If cancer is still present, then I'll have to have surgery to remove it. If it turns out to be scar tissue, then no surgery. Thanks to all of you for your prayers. I'll keep you informed of the final result. God Bless you all.//**Facebook**//

From: Tom Baker [/tgbretired@aol.com](mailto:tgbretired@aol.com) 09/12/2011

Hi all,

My latest checkup went ok. I go back in November for the next review. I still have these quarterly visits because my cancer was deemed aggressive although in Stage 3. Quarterly visits does give one a sense of relief knowing that nothing new was found. I will be leaving for Texas on Tuesday. Will be visiting my brother and attending the USAFSS reunion. Hope to see you there if you are in the San Antonio area.//**E-mail**//

Tom

October 19, 2001// My wife Celeste and I stopped at Wal-Mart today and a gentleman by the name of James (Jim) Adams stopped me (wearing my Misawa hat) and said he had been in USAFSS. Jim said he had been stationed at Darmstadt (10th) and at the 81st in Alaska.

Jim's e-mail is: jabadams@att.net and phone (217) 546-6417.

We exchanged e-mails. Jim is in treatment for throat cancer and talks in a very low whisper so I had a difficult time hearing some of what he said. Anyone remember Jim? Not sure what years he was in USAFSS but I figured Jim to be in his late 60's. //**Terry Cullivan (Dawg 72-73)**//**Misawa Website**//



Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.



SILENT WARRIORS REMEMBER LEGACY

Maj. Gen. Robert Otto, AFISR Agency commander, delivers remarks Sept. 23, during the AFISRA 63rd Anniversary Remembrance Ceremony in front of the agency's EC-47 aircraft static display. (Photo by William Belcher)



LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas --

For more than six decades the legacy of the United States Air Force Security Service and its successor organizations has revolved around its people. That focus was evident throughout the 63rd Anniversary Week activities celebrated by the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency and its alumni group, the Freedom Through Vigilance Association, Sept. 22 to 24.

The annual Remembrance Ceremony, held in the shadow of the EC-47 aircraft static display in front of the agency's headquarters, honored those Airmen who gave their lives to the agency's vital mission and our national security. Fifty 'Silent Warriors' have been killed in action since 1953.

"These are not just names, they are people we still care about," said Maj. Gen. Robert Otto, agency commander, who officiated the ceremony. "These Silent Warriors represent the true characteristics of American Airmen. They don't boast of their successes, they just go on and on and on. We may never fully appreciate their sacrifices, but we must never forget."

Also remembered were 103 'Fallen Eagles' -- intelligence professionals who passed away since the 2010 observance. Each name was read aloud. That reading was followed by a 21-gun salute, the playing of Taps, the playing of Amazing Grace by the Alzafar Highlander Pipe Band and an F-16 missing man flyover by the 149th Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard from Lackland



FTVA CHAPTER NEWS

Rocky Mountain Colorado Chapter Established

Posted by Barnie Gavin

We had a very good exploratory meeting on Thursday, 6 Oct 2011. I have attached what we currently have as a membership list, a picture that Greg Roman took (should have had someone else take it so he could have been in the picture also) and the minutes provided by Sharon Frizzell. I only expected 3 or 4 people to show up, and ended up with 9, plus George & Mary Williams drove up from Pueblo.



(Left L-R): Rick Osmun, Dave Frank, Sharon Frizzell, George “Ike” Eichelberger, Jerry Nolan, Barnie Gavin, Rich Harrold, George and Mary Williams.

On 3 November 2011, the first regular membership meeting of the Rocky

Mountain Chapter FTVA met at Rhinos Sports Bar in Colorado Springs, CO. Minutes of the 27 Oct 11 organizational meeting were distributed and approved. The membership selected the name Rocky Mountain Chapter to identify this Colorado-based chapter of the FTVA. The membership agreed to meet monthly, while conducting most day-to-day business electronically. Possible projects were discussed, and the membership is agreed that our initial focus will be on mentoring cadets in the intelligence track at the AF Academy. Other projects will develop as the membership develops. It was agreed that a website would facilitate communication and public outreach for the chapter, and Rich DeYoung agreed to be the chapter webmaster and make that happen. It was also suggested that Facebook be utilized to enhance communications, and Mickey Markowitz volunteered to set up the page with himself, Barnie Gavin, and Sharon Frizzell as admins. Barnie Gavin provided information on the Vigilant Partners program which provides financial support to the FTVA airman recognition and development programs. Funds for the program are maintained and distributed by the parent organization in San Antonio.

The following were elected to serve a term of two years as officers and members of the Board of Directors of the Chapter:

- President: Barnie Gavin
- Vice Pres: Greg Roman
- Secretary: Sharon Frizzell



Note: While attending the recent FTVA reunion in September, Heritage Chapter President J.J. Graham spoke on the work the San Angelo group has done in 2011 at the FTVA Annual Meeting on Sep 24th. He said, “We are lucky to have a knowledgeable, hard-working ‘small but robust’ membership and they make things happen! We all believe it is important for the young folks coming in to the intelligence career field at

Goodfellow to know about the accomplishments and sacrifices of those that came before them.” He presented AFISRA Commander Maj Gen Robert Otto with a personalized coffee cup. The cup, displaying both sides of the popular Goodfellow EC-47 coin which the chapter had offered since 2006, was the brainchild of Chapter Secretary-Treasurer Larry Ross. //Ed Bendinelli//

Sebers’ Visit to Goodfellow

By Larry Ross



(Left) L-R Morris, Edna, Ed Bendinelli, Ron Graham)

On October 17th, members of the Heritage Chapter hosted a visit by Morris & Edna Sebers of Granite Falls, WA, to Goodfellow AFB. Morris is the brother of TSgt Fred Sebers, an Intelligence Analyst killed by hostile action in September 1967 while serving with the 6994th Security Squadron (USAFSS), Nha Trang AB, Republic of Vietnam.

This was the third such visit by members of the Sebers family since the dedication of Fred Sebers Hall in 2006. Morris and Edna visited the EC-47 in front of the Norma Brown Wing Headquarters building. TSgt Sebers flew missions aboard the EC-47 while stationed with the 6994th. The Sebers were then escorted inside Fred Sebers Hall to view the Sebers memorial. (Right).



That evening, Heritage Chapter members hosted a dinner for Mr. & Mrs. Sebers at a local restaurant.

(Left) L-R Kathie & Ed Bendinelli, Morris & Edna Sebers; Ron Graham and Diane Ross. (Photo by Larry Ross)



Sunshine Chapter

((Please check out our website on-line at <http://www.sunshineftva.org>))



(Sept 17, 2011)

by Jim Kaus, President

The 2Q meeting was held at Moose Lodge #2193, Ft. Walton Beach at 1200 hrs.

The luncheon meal register indicated 19 members present, 7 wives and 5 AFISRA personnel lead by Col. Jeffrey Kruse. After a well prepared meal by members of the Moose, hosted by B. J. Cook, pictures were taken, now posted on the website.

Col. Kruse introduced his team; Capt. Matt Norton (Capt Nemo), soon to be Major Norton, CMS Frank Bailey, SMS Ed Golombeski, soon to be CMS Golombeski and 1st Lt. Kelly Atkinson. Col. Kruse gave an excellent, in depth slide presentation of the 361st ISR, the Air Force's direct support ISR unit for AF Special Ops Command. It is tasked to train, equip and deploy specialized ISR forces around the world. Each member of the team presented specialized areas during the briefing. The question and answer session was most informative. The meeting continued with the minutes of the May 21st meeting read and approved. The treasurer's report was also read and approved, current balance as of August 31 is \$302.00. An anonymous donation of \$50.00 was received after the meeting.

The Constitution and Bylaws for the Sunshine Chapter were approved unanimously. Discussion was held on "What can the Sunshine Chapter do for the 361st ISR Group?" Col. Kruse outlined 5 issues:

- Annual Awards Sponsorship
- Nominations To AFISRA Hall Of Fame
- Memorial Golf Tournament
- Operation Homecoming & Reintegration
- ISR Commando Mentorship

Col. Kruse added he would like to see FTVA members provide info on what their experiences have been in the ISR world creating an good exchange of history and mentorship with current members of the 361st ISR. He is looking to build a sense of camaraderie with past members of the USAFSS, ESC, APIA and ALA. The next meeting site was selected to be early December in the Ft. Lauderdale area. Barrie volunteered to be the host. Details TBA. The 5 AFISRA membership applications were secured and forwarded to San Antonio. No further business came before the group, the meeting adjourned at 1430 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Ric C. Smith Sr.

Secretary / Treasurer



Gold Country Chapter

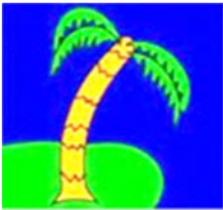
Yuba City, CA by Richard J. Sacchetti,

The GCC update: I volunteered a total of 20 hrs of service for a three-day event; "The Yuba-Sutter Stand Down/Vets helping Vets", at which the volunteers; feed, clothe, give medical and dental assistance, haircuts, showers, massages and a place to stay overnight - out of the elements. This is the fourth year, in a row, that I have assisted in this cause; representing the Gold Country Chapter of FTVA, the VFW and the American Legion.

It is sad the number of homeless Vets that are seen each year; as well as entire families that have been displaced for one reason or another, loss of jobs, foreclosures on their homes, etc.. We were able to raise a little money for the military families at Beale AFB, CA, that are in need of things. Each year I come away with a feeling of satisfaction that the event turned out to be meaningful for each soul we touched.

The GCC/FTVA held a meeting at 1830 on 9/15/11 at the "Taqueria Restaurante" in Wheatland, Ca. I was able to deliver 75 USAFSS – Continuous History booklets to Col Patrick Flood 548th ISR Group Cmdr, with FTVA flyers included in each of the booklets. Am attempting, again, to obtain membership in FTVA from the active duty Intel folk stationed at Beale AFB. We are in hopes the new ISR Cmdr, Col Flood and Col Hall will be able to help in that effort. We'll see how it pans out. That's it from my end.

Richard J. Sacchetti
President/GCC/FTVA



Aloha Chapter, Honolulu, HI

by John Toillion, President

The Aloha Chapter has not officially met since this past July; however, one of our members, Ken "Hopi" Hopkins was able to make

it up to our security meeting hideout on the North Shore on October 22 (see photo of the view). The hideout is not quite like the Eagle's Nest in Bavaria, Germany, but it will do out here in beautiful Hawaii.



On November 3 I will be meeting with Lt Col Kristofer “Giff” Gifford, Commander 324th IS, and CMSgt Kara Jordan, Squadron Superintendent, 324th IS, to discuss ways Aloha Chapter members can partner with the 324th to hopefully bring some new life and excitement back into our local chapter. We’re also looking for one more get together before the holidays. Since all chapter members have not yet been cleared for the secret hideout we’ll likely meet at the Hickam O’Club for some good ole....you guessed it, Mongolian BBQ.

It sure was a pleasure and privilege to be in San Antonio for my very first FTVA Reunion. It’s also a pleasure to be surrounded by a lot of really old cronies – it made me feel so much younger! It’s kind of ironic that both JJ Graham and I are Chapter Presidents. This is first time I’ve seen JJ since our days at Shu Lin Kou, Taiwan, and then briefly in our follow-up assignment at NSA HQ in 1976.

On behalf of my compadres in Hawaii – that being Ken Een, Ken “Hopi” Hopkins, Steve Crain, Al Teel and sometimes visitor, Dickie Hites – I’d like to pass on that all are doing just fine. We’ve recently become known as Hawaii’s version of the “Gang of 6” named after our Washington DC counterparts. Even though we’re a small group, we manage to stay active socially meeting once a quarter, usually for some good ole Mongolian BBQ at the Hickam O’Club with topics of discussion focused on old age, retirement, Medicare – you name it – just old stuff!

We’ve struggled a bit in connecting with our active duty counterparts and hope to return to the days when Ken Williams was the Cdr of the 324th IS when we had the largest group in our chapter – I think around 20-25. Of course Ken helped out by combining our get-together’s with a mandatory Officer’s Call – ha! Lt Col Kristopher Gifford aka “Giff” recently took command of the 324th and I had a chance to brief him on the Joint Reserve program I oversee in my day-day job and mentioned FTVA and Ken, who Giff says he knows very well. I’m hoping to build on these relationships and to re-establish a renewed partnership with the 324th. Giff seems interested in getting something started.

Two ideas we’ve kicked around is getting involved with the Wounded Warrior program up at Tripler and another idea I’ve been looking at is the Honor Flight organization which hubs scattered around the country. HF’s primary mission is to take WWII vets back to DC for a day of touring to include a visit to the WWII memorial. I got the idea from some classmates back in Iowa who have gone on several trips and just can’t say enough about it.

Our Aloha Chapter and the welcome tea leaves are always out for any of you who find your way out to paradise – where by the way there is always plenty of rain showers and rain bows!

Aloha!

John Toillion
President, Aloha Chapter



REUNION INFORMATION



NOTE: Let us help you get the word out. Although we've seen tentative reunion planning in progress, as of this printing, we have not received any formal announcements of upcoming Reunions for 2012 to post on line or in the newsletter. Using the Reunion Announcement Form found on the FTVA web site at: http://www.ftva.org/FORMS/sub_reunion.php will ensure widest dissemination of reunion contact details.

Thank you. *Rass*

Volunteer Reunion Coordinator
San Angelo, TX

Dear *Rass*,

Please post this in your next newsletter. I want to volunteer to act as a contact point here in San Angelo for any groups who would like to schedule reunions here. I've spoken with JJ Graham on this since he is our local FTVA chapter president and obvious "competent" point of contact for Goodfellow AFB for mission briefings, tours, etc. My part would be to work with the Chamber of Commerce and each group to reserve hotel rooms, restaurants, hospitality rooms, and entertainment, and provide them with all the area information they'll need for a terrific visit to west Texas. Based on my past experience, it can be a wonderful time reliving those days at Goodfellow when we were younger.

Regards, Larry Miller
3630 Briargrove Ln - San Angelo, TX 76904
lpmiller668@yahoo.com ph: 325-718-8661

Hi *Rass*,

The following 'News' item was posted today on the USAFSS Roll Call site. I am making you aware of it in case you didn't happen to see it; it's about an armed robbery that took place while our USAFSS Roll Call group was having our (very successful and well-received) 2011 reunion at this hotel in Laurel, MD. Since many USAFSS folks are constantly planning reunions, I think the word should be put out on this, and *Remain In Touch* is probably the best way of reaching as many as possible. I'm not saying anyone should avoid this hotel, but I do think all our folks should be well-informed in their reunion planning and decision making process.

Thanks. Chet Gulczynski



REUNION REPORTS



Mini in Baltimore, Md

Hi Dennis - Greetings from very hot and humid coastal North Carolina. I thought you might be interested in hearing a short "reunion" story. Back in 1966 - 67 I was at Det 96 in Karamursel, Turkey. I forwarded you a photo of the "dedication" of our FLR-9 Elephant Cage. However, I lacked names for 2 guys in the photo. You ran the photo and mentioned the 2 "unknowns" as well as me and **Tech Sgt Dan Dawidowicz**, who was working for me in Plans & Programs. Dan sent you the names of the 2 guys and also emailed and called me. So . . .



after 43 years, the 2 Dan's had a reunion in suburban Baltimore when I drove up there to surprise my son on his 40th birthday!!! You can imagine what it was like for 2 old USAFSS types trying to play the "do you remember" game for 3 1/2 hours. Our wives, of course, chatted about KAS as I had taken my wife to Greece & Turkey on our honeymoon in 1994. What a blast it was to reconnect after all those years.

((I've attached photo of me and Dan

[above] at our reunion lunch. Maybe you can use it in an upcoming FTVA newsletter.))

Best regards -

Dan Benson (1st Lt. back then)

6917th Scty Gp Alumni Monthly



The end of September proved to be a good time for a get-together in San Antonio. Eight alumni of the 6917th Security Group who served together in San Vito, Italy when Col "Bob" Andress was the unit commander, enjoyed their monthly mixer at Applebee's Grill in Helotes, Tx .

(L-R) Larry Gerhardt, Steve Chilcutt, Ed Klem, Dennis Rasmussen, Vernon Osteen, Wayne Tallant, Bob Andress and Jim Ray.



Walt & Maya Ritter's Misawa Mixer



A Golf Tournament and Mixer sponsored by Walt Ritter's Maya's King's Lounge was a hit with the Misawa alumni bunch on Wednesday, Sep 21st. This was the 15th anniversary of Walt's annual "kickoff" to FTVA reunion week-end. As usual, the icebreaker was enjoyed by many faithful ol' friends.

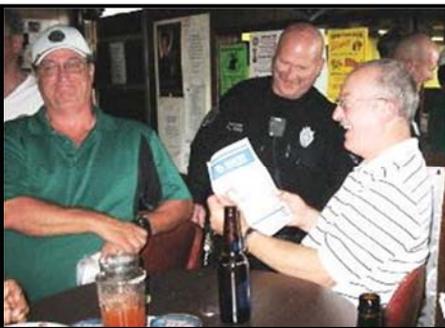


Left: Vicky and Mike Miller along with Tomi Cook chowing down on some great brats and brisket. Walt always feeds us really well. Thanks, Walt. //Posted by Ben Witten//

Right: Jim Kaus, Charlie Milsap, and Granny Welch sharing some tall tales. Did you know that Kaus' new Florida FTVA chapter already has 81 members? Great job, Jim! And of course Charlie is just full of stories. Speaking of stories, I got my copy of Granny's latest book, Eisenhower's Children//Posted by Ben Witten//



Left: Ken Gendolfe watches as Dick DeBosch is served with an arrest warrant from a local law enforcement officer. The officer came in Maya's King Lounge, he looked around - things became very quiet - walked up to Dick and served him with a Warrant. Unfortunately, I missed the picture when Dick had his jaw on the table. Terry Cullivan set it up and pulled it off perfectly.



// Posted by Waco Wetterman//



Terry Cullivan reports that he met 78-yr old Art Johnson at Kings. “I interviewed him and will write up a report on him. A real pioneer who went over



by boat in 51 to Germany and retired from headquarters in 73. Still working full time and a lot of fun to talk to. Anyone know Art? He was at Brooks, Medina, Goodfellow, Chicksands, San Vito, & Kirknewton.”

(L-R) J J Pitzeruse, Art Johnson, Jim Stevens, Jane Doolittle



Is it me -- or did Walt's buffalo wings taste kinda like chicken??



2011 Reunion Week Golf Tournament

Joe Hurst, FTVA Tournament Chairman

The 2011 Reunion Week activities again kicked off with our annual golf tournament at the Alsatian Golf Course in Castroville, Texas on September 22nd with a noon shotgun start. We had wonderful weather for the tournament this year, with temperatures in the low 90s. Once more we had a full field of 144 players, including the new AFISRA commander, Major General Bob Otto.

Despite our unusually hot summer this year, the golf course was in superb shape for the tournament. The Alsatian staff did their usual fine job supporting us by responding very positively to all requests. We did bid farewell to Jeff Bober, the Alsatian head professional, who is returning to his home near Dallas to join his family's business; we will miss his friendship to the tournament. A special thanks also to Harla Backer and her kitchen staff for the BBQ dinner served after the round. Our volunteers once more made the preparations for the tournament so much easier. A group led by Armando Zepeda was there to pack the goody bags and get them loaded on the carts, along with the scorecards, drink tickets and rule sheets. Everyone was off the course by just after 5:00, when we began the BBQ and the awards ceremony. The nine top teams and the last group received cash prizes, as did the two closest to the pin players and the longest drive champ. In addition, we were able to award several door prizes including cash, golf balls, and a drizzle stick umbrella.

The winning team was Maj Gen Otto, John Bansemer, Ken Gendolfe, and Ken Maynard. They graciously donated their winner's share to the FTVA to support the people programs at AFISRA. In second place this year was last year's winning team of Dean Daigle, Mickey Markowitz, Mike Robertson, and Dan Howell. In third was the team of Richard Yanigamoto, Don McAuslan, John Lopes, and Mark Whitten. Lones Seiber hit the longest drive this year, while Palmer McCoy and Steve Norton collected the prizes for nearest to the pin on two par 3s.

Security Service Federal Credit Union once more provided a significant cash donation to the tournament, along with the goody bags and most of the things in the bags. Our other significant cash donation was from the Freedom Through Vigilance Association. Computer Sciences Corporation (and Greg Skeckowski) donated several dozen golf balls that were given away as door prizes.

See you at the 2012 tournament,

Joe



Top Three Winning Golf Teams



First Place: (L to R) John Bansemer, Ken Maynard, Ken Gendolfe, Bob Otto

Second Place: (L to R) Mickey Markowitz, Mike Robertson, Dan Howell, Dean Daigle



Third Place:
(L to R) Don McAuslan, Richard Yanigamoto, Mike Whidden, John Lopes



When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the Fire Department usually uses water.

2011 FTVA REUNION PICNIC PHOTO GALLERY



Lonnie Henderson (center) introduces his brother Doyle (left) to another of' compadre during the annual FTVA picnic at Stapleton Park.



(Left) Roll Call / Misawa Project Folks mixed it up at the 2011 Reunion picnic. L-R Terry Cullivan, Ron Marcoullier & Bill Chapman

(Right) Perry & Gisela Bullard. Gisela is wearing a 'get well' T-shirt made by Jim Kaus with the best wishes and signatures of a crowd from the Roll Call site.



(Left) George (Granny) Welch (L) and Charlie Millsap (R), tomodachi's from early days in Misawa. This proves (?) what Granny's been saying for years: "I AM taller than Charlie."



The morning sun caught a few early arrivals doing business at the FTVA membership tent. George Williams (back to camera), Dave Naab, Jim Cox and Jim Kaus (seated).

(Right) When Maj General Otto stopped by to visit folks in the pavilions, Gisela Bullard caught his eye... this photo tells the rest of the story.

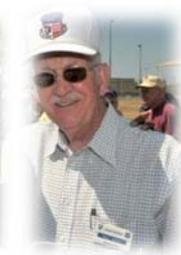


(Left) Two large pavilions were full to the brim with picnic goers.

No reunion picnic would be the same without our favorite reliable fixtures.



A.J. Harrison and Jacque Lerma



Mel Berg



B. J. Cook

FTVA REUNION BANQUET

On Saturday evening, over 250 members and their guests gathered at Lackland's Gateway Club to celebrate the 63rd Anniversary of USAFSS and its successor commands. Lt Gen Larry D. James, Deputy Chief of Staff for ISR, HQ USAF headed up the list of distinguished attendees as the evening's guest speaker. Each of this year's HOH inductees were then introduced by this year's event Emcee Wayne Amann (Right).



(Left) Sharon Frizzell, Pat & Larry Miller, and Kathy Amponin



(Right) John Toillion, Doug & Ann Williams, Beverly and Rob Spitznagel



(Left) Ed Jolly, Chris Cook and General James enjoy a discussion during the intermission.



(Right) The Mrs' Dinsmore, Hilliard and Cook



(Right) Maj Gen Otto, Lee and Jen Anthony visit with our guest speaker for the evening Lt Gen Larry D. James.



(Left) Mary Eddy daughter of Lt Col David Eddy (HOH 1987 - d.June 2011) attended the banquet in her father's memory along with long-time family friend Chuck Purkess.

(Right) Lt General James gave a lively and informal talk about the high quality of the military today and its reliance on ever advancing technology.



(Left) FTVA President Lee Anthony presented a check made out to the 'Center for the Intrepid' on behalf of Lt General James

(Right) L-R Cmd CMSgts Ricker, Wesloh, Barnes, Dowling, Sherwood and Warden gathered outside the Gateway Club following the 2011 reunion banquet.



PROP WASH GANG (PWG) ANNUAL REUNION
Neenah, Wisconsin – 18 to 21 Aug 2011 - Hosted by Ron Hentz
Submitted by Ron Buteau

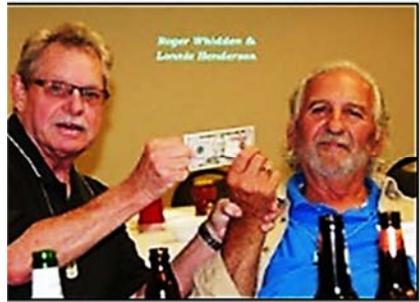
The members of the Prop Wash Gang (PWG) met again this year as they do every year. This year's event was held in Neenah Wisconsin a few miles from the Green Bay Packer Stadium. The Gang stayed at a Best Western in Neenah where they were met at the door by our co-host Debbie and Bob Cope. (Photo Right) Bob Cope getting things started.



The first evening was as expected... meeting old friends, reliving war stories and enjoying a few drinks.



Rosie Rosenstrom & Host Ron Hentz

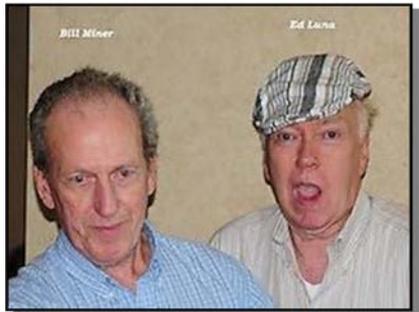


Roger Whidden & Lonnie Henderson

The following day (19 Aug), several of the group went to the Experimental Aircraft (EAA) Museum in Oshkosh where we viewed a short film highlighting the annual fly-in and air show in Oshkosh.



Experimental Aircraft Aviation Museum



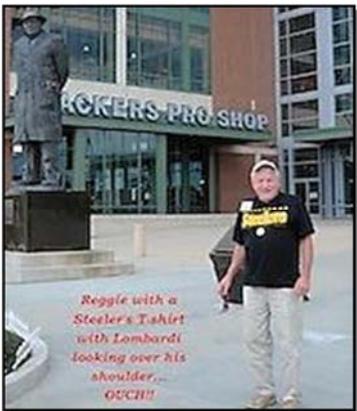
Bill Miner and Ed Luna

Others, like Larry Lane and John Corryn went fishing, caught a few fish and ended up leaving early due to upcoming storm on the lake. That evening, the activities continued.



Shirley Hull, John Armintrout, & Bob Hull Bob Cope, Reggie Urschler, & Ron Kriegel

Saturday was Green Bay Packer day. Several members of the Gang were treated to a background view of the stadium, a visit to the field itself via the Packer tunnel, and a tour of the Green Bay Packer Hall of Fame. A fun time was had by all (Photo Right).



(Left) Gen Urschler tempting fate with a Steeler T-shirt while getting a stern look from Vince Lombardi. A formal dinner was held along with awards for the “Youngest and Oldest Member” (John Armintrout was youngest again and George Montague was oldest). A silent moment for our Fallen Eagles, an auction of Airlee Owen pictures and memorabilia. An outstanding presentation by Brigadier General Reggie Urschler followed. He spoke of the introduction of Combat Apple to Okinawa with the 82nd SRS and 6990th SS.

PWG REUNION POSTSCRIPT

(Redacted)

By Lonnie Henderson

These PWG reunions are bitter-sweet. Again as I looked around the room, I was well aware that I will never see some of these fellow Silent Warriors again. We were once young, invincible, and afraid of nothing. But time has a way of eroding those thoughts of youth. Our "Elder" this year is George Montague, who will be 79 this week. George retired to Australia after an Air Force career and three tours in Viet Nam, and stayed there for 40 years. He only moved back to the States this year, and this was his first reunion.



(Left) The honor of using the "Blazer Stein" again went to John "Bubba" Armintrout, who at age 50 was the youngest PWGer in attendance.

The war stories we used to tell are now interspersed with accounts of our latest operation, of the pills we now take, of a body crying out in protest as we just walk up one flight of stairs. But with all that, we are who we were. We are a group of men who came together at a certain point in time, did incredible things – Hey! We were invincible! - shared a lifestyle about which the world never dreamed existed. Possibly the highlight of the event for me was performing a marriage ceremony for a 71-year old fellow PWGer. I am highly honored to have been asked to do that. I'll be at the next one. We'll tell the same old stories, talk again about our aches and pains, remember those not with us...and have a ball.

I NEVER GOT A CHANCE TO SAY GOOD-BYE

By Lonnie Henderson

Thought about him while back.
 Said I oughta give him a call.
 Just to say hi, to exchange a few war stories,
 maybe tell a lie or two.,
 Been some time since we'd made contact.
 Oughta give him a call.
 But forgot about it.
 Got busy with "stuff."
 Probably see him at the next reunion anyway.
 Oughta give him a call.
 Too late now.
 I never got a chance to say good-bye.
 Rest in peace, Silent Warrior.



6994th SS Alumni Meet In Colorado Springs

Submitted by Rick Yeh



6994th Security Squadron Personnel at reunion 2011

Front: Skeeter Dickerson, Rick Yeh. Row 2 l-r: Stan Long, Larry Ross, Bob Schrum, Dave Seidl, Pat McDonald, Mike Jones, Harold Stevens, Ralph Brown, Barry Moore, Leon Heying, John Cordova, Charlie Phippin, Pat Cafferty, Mitch Cooper, Tom Sheridan. Row 3 l-r: Steve Meyer, Ed Kelly, Joel Siskovic, Frank Falkowski, Ed Hart, Rich Krejsa, Bob Burns, Gary Schmitt, Joe Martin, Tom Glass, Ron Shelby, Gardner Gore, Ken Clause, Tom Nurre, Dan Loomis, Tom Holt, Ed Flinchum, Bill Simpson, Mike Smith, Gary Bennett, Ed Bendinelli, Chuck Turkiss. Row 4 l-r: Bob Hull, Rich Chacon, Howard Brummett, Dan Johnson, Dave Shigley, Karl Hammerle, Jill Hart, Bill Christian, Neil Sides, John Ritner, Larry Smith, JJ Pitzeruse, Jim Heimbucher, Al Budington, Kevin Critzer, Harold Hitt, Larry Leard, John Hannan. Absent from photo: Rick Valdez, Basil Henderson, Ken Bats

Alumni of the 6994th Security Squadron renewed old friendships at the Colorado Springs Marriott during their annual reunion on 4-7 August. The 6994th conducted the EC-47 Airborne Radio Direction Finding program in Vietnam from 1966 thru 1974.

In all, 67 Vets and 48 guests enjoyed a variety of activities including tours of the Air Force Academy & Garden of the Gods, Pikes Peak & the Cog Railway, a few rounds of golf at several local courses, and sport fishing for trout.

Four of the Vets rode to the reunion on motorcycles from as far away as Pittsburgh, PA thru heat that reached as high as 108 degrees and torrential rains. The squadron's next reunion is planned for Sep 2012 in Myrtle Beach, SC.



**Reunion Riders
Bill Simpson, Rick Yeh, John Hannan, Ed Flinchum**

6994th Colorado Reunion Photo Gallery



94th members visit the AF Academy



Rick Yeh chats with SGT Ian Vawter & LTC Danny Henderson, who posted the colors at the reunion banquet



l-r: Dave Shigloy, Ed Bendinelli, Ken Baxter, Charlie Phippin, Mitch Cooper, Pat McCafferty



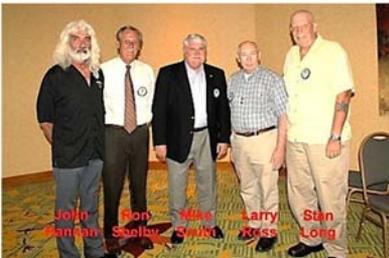
Larry & Diane Rana, Betty & Tom Murie, Sharon Fritzel



clockwise from far left: Ken Clauson, Jim Hart, Ed Kelly, Gary & Melody Schmitt, Jean & Ron Shelby Sharon Clauson



6994th Members on the Pike's Peak Tour



John Langdon, Don Skelley, Mike Swain, Larry Jones, Stan Long

Five of' Vietnamese Linguists were there.



Shirley & Bob Hull with the quilt Shirley made for a raffle prize

15th RSM Meets in Myrtle Beach

Posted By: Isaac Borland 1947 1953



Owner: Ernie Short

Description: This is the 15th RSM reunion men from 1951 to 53. It was held at Myrtle Beach from Sep 10 – 12 2011. A good time was had by all.

The following alumni attended (in no order) Tony Lundberg, Ike Borland, Warner McBride, Jim Bramwell, Bobby Armstrong, Ben Asdell, Gene Murray, Bobby Aceto, Gabe Suto, Hoyt Blackstock, James Schmidt, Winnie Ethridge, Ron Brochu, Ron Eagles, Bill Moore, Cliff Simmons, Ken Shelton, Jack Blair, Walter Redden, Ernest Short, James Smith, Billy G Davis, Lloyd Jackson, Sam Pope, Steven Park, Richard Boyack, Stan Telga, Joe Setzer, and Warren Hess.



Four of the originals that started the 15th RSM group in 1996. (L-R) Ike Borland, Billy G Davis, Ben Asdell, and Bill Moore. All but Bill Moore have attended every reunion.

Mini In Charlottesville, VA

8/19/11 After 48 years, we are back together. That's Larry Turner on left, Bridget Ryan, Gloria Turner, Tom Ryan, Smitty and Phyllis @ Woodgrill Restaurant in Charlottesville, VA before the quake.



Airborne Maintenance Technicians Association 2011 Reunion

See AMTA Website//Editor//

The AMTA reunion was again held at the Hilton at The Airport in San Antonio, TX on Sep 21 – 23, 2011. Many, many people were taking pictures. Thanks to the AMTA photographer Pat Riley who along with John Brown spent a large amount of their time taking and collecting pictures from attendees to make sure as many as possible were posted for everyone on the website to enjoy. Those members we know of include Ken Wondra, John Brown, Bob White, Larry Meade, Mike Gareri, Dan Greer, Ben Bennett, Tom



Joines, Betty Jo Estes, Bill Woodard, Bill Whitehead, and Pat Riley. Thanks to Mike McLaughlin, Don Sloan and Bob White for helping to host the reunion which coincided with the FTVA Reunion golf tournament and Friday's remembrance ceremony and picnic on Security Hill.



AMTA REUNION PHOTO GALLERY



Misawa Air Base Hosts Retiree Appreciation Day

""All Services Gathering of MAB Alumni""

Posted by Joe Roginski

Misawa AB held a RAD (Retiree Appreciation Day) Breakfast with the Commander at 0800 on 9/24/11 for a total 80 attendees . Over 50 retirees and their families, including 5 surviving widows along with Misawa base leadership attended the affair courtesy of the 35th Mission Support Group.



(R to L) 'T' Tinnirella, Richard Masoner, Craig Baker, Toby Finelli (red shirt), Cecil Hahn (behind Toby), Ray Eberhardt, Col Kimberlee Joos (CC 373rd IRSG), Joe Stevens (behind Col Joos), Lee Martin, Bob Wade, Don Ohman,(unidentified new attendee), and Joe Roginski (suit).



The Misawa AFB Med Group provided blood pressure, cholesterol checks, glaucoma, flu shots, lots of info, etc.

(Left) "Looks like Cecil Hahn is getting his temp taken and his blood pressure checked!"



Who was the first person to look at a cow and say “I think I’ll squeeze these dangly things here and drink what comes out”?

6922nd Det 4 Ramasun Station Thailand 2011 Reunion

Posted By Jim Scoggins

Place: Andover, MN Date: July 2011

A Tribute to Vince Wuwert



Description: This post is made for Andy Gow/Dusty Mosier. Each of the attendees signed a sheet (below) to acknowledge our respect for Vince Wuwert who passed away in early 2011. He was one of the original organizers of our small group.

Following is a Vince Wuwert quote:

“For those one or two “romantics” in the alumni club of Det 4, let us remember that although the Thai’s allowed Ramasun to go back to the weeds and cobras...each year for one weekend...it is 1968 & 69 again for us...and we are in our jungle boots, jungle fatigues...and hacking ditties, for Uncle Sam and NSA again...”



L-R Front: Ken Meier, Denis Thelen, Jim Schumacher, John Boettcher, Gary Gunderson, Dave Minnery; L-R Back: Jim Scoggins, Dusty Mosier, Mike Sanders, Dave Criss, Pat Shurtz, Andy Gow, & Paul Hoback

USAFSS Roll Call Reunion in Laurel, Md

Submitted by Jim Kaus



Our reunion this year was on Aug 18 - 21, and here's a brief rundown of how it went. On **Thursday** evening: we stocked the hospitality room with refreshments, and the early arrivals had time to get to know one another.

Friday morning, a snack breakfast at the hotel, and the bus arrived to take us on tour. First stop was the National Cryptologic Museum, pretty close to NSA. They split us in two groups, and the curator and his assistant took us on a guided tour of the facility which included relics from our national cryptologic past, like the Enigma machine (photo right), Code-Talkers, Hall of Honor, Viet Nam, and crypto key equipment.



A stop for lunch at a local restaurant and then, it was on to the NASA's Goddard Space Center (photo left) where they keep track of orbiting satellites - download data, and also are building the telescope to replace the Hubble. We could look down on the oxygen clean facility where construction is beginning. Launch of the telescope is scheduled for 2018.

(Right Photo) L-R Ralph McDonald, Pat Pucillo, Marcel and Cheryl Jeanfreau enjoy the evening dinner.



(Left Photo) Bob & Ginny Askew Visiting Washington D.C.

Friday night we were served an excellent dinner in the hospitality room, and then Pat Pucillo, a linguist, gave a presentation on what he thought of the other AFSC's. That was followed



by an presentation from Duke Keeter, Virgil Fordham, and Ike Borland, (above) on how things were in Security Service during 1948, 49, 40, 51. Super job by all three. All the feedback I got was on how much folks enjoyed that!

Saturday morning had another quick breakfast, and on the bus again for our tour of Washington DC. On the way we picked up our Tour Guide, Ruth. First stop was the Capital. A group photo, some personal shots, and on our way again. We had stops at White House, WWII Memorial, Korean Memorial, Air Force Memorial, Viet Nam Wall, and others, and had lunch at Union Station.



Lastly, we went to Arlington National Cemetery, for a ceremony honoring the crew who perished in the loss of RC-130/60528 which I am sure the reunion gathering and this old man will never forget.

Saturday night, we enjoyed another excellent meal, and a presentation from Mr. Ken Williams, on AFISRA today. He drew a line from what we did then to what the young folks do now. Ken is a great speaker, and his presentation was well received. Then we recognized our Viet Nam Vets, Hatted our new Pioneers, and gave a special hat to Ken Williams from Roll Call. The raffle completed the evening's activities. People say. . "Good Job, Jim" and I appreciate those words. But besides introducing the speaker, and handing out raffle prizes, I had little to do with the execution of this reunion. The bulk of the work, coordination, scheduling, bus acquisition, tour definition, refreshment buying and chilling, and worry was handled by Chet Gulcynski. Join me in thanking him!



Misawa Trick-3 Gathers in Las Vegas

Posted by Danny Hartnett



On Sep 26, 2011 we took the official group picture of the T-13/T-3 (66-72) gathering in Vegas. **Kneeling** L-R: Everett Goober Cowley, Dennis Smacksy Gould, Stephen Espi Espinueva, Sammy Spiro, Frappin Challis, Sam ?Wilfong. **Standing** L-R: Larry Abby Abercrombie, Charlie Lightning Walters, Mike ? Hitt, Jeff Hetch Hetchler, Ron Hymie Hendrix, Joe ? Zelnis, Danny Hartnett, Kit Sanders, Wayne Wah Hurst, Don ? Bryant **Not Pictured:** Buster Donahue, Jere Lurch Holt, Dave DeBusman & John Shaffenberger. (Names provided by **Stephen 'Espi' Espinueva**)

RAF Kirknewton Holds Reunion in Branson, MO

Posted by Fred Crawford



On September 21 through September 25, 6954th RAF Kirknewton held its 11th reunion in beautiful Branson, Missouri. We had a great time, as Branson is the most military friendly town in the United States. They really bend over backward to provide servicemen and servicewomen a great time while visiting all the shops and see all the great entertainment within the Branson area. Our headquarters was the Boxcar Willie Inn, a small but very hospitable hotel that provided a group our size everything we needed to relax, socialize and to renew and establish friendships as well as swap stories of our days in Scotland.

Wednesday- On Sep 21st our attendees all checked in and utilized the great hospitality room (Right) the hotel provided us, to gather and keep everyone updated with the daily activities that were planned.



Thursday afternoon, we boarded our Terry's Transportation buses for a ride to Branson Landing Cruises, where we boarded a very comfortable boat for a 2 hours luncheon cruise (Left). The food was great, the views were fantastic and we took time to shop along the waterfront. The rest of the day was open to see some of the many shows that were there.

Friday morning, we had a golf tournament at Thousand Hills Golf Course. It was a great day for golf, and all the golfers had a fun day. The course was very hilly, as the name implies, but we all navigated it fairly well. Karl Thomas was our winning golfer.

Friday evening, we had dinner at Dolly Parton’s Dixie Stampede. The show was great featuring horsemanship, dancing, singing along with charging bison and longhorn steers. The show was arranged around a friendly contest between the north and south, with the audience participating in fun contests to help determine the winning side for the night. In the end, our side, the south, won. We also had a great meal of Cornish game hens and various sides, all eaten without utensils. Everyone toughly enjoyed our time at the Stampede.

Saturday morning, we visited Stone Hill Winery to taste and purchase some wine and special wine glasses that were etched with our Air Force Shield, station name and date and location of this reunion. They will be a constant reminder of great times we had in Scotland.

Saturday night we had our annual banquet, with the Vietnam Veterans of Branson, presenting the colors and helping with our “Fallen Eagle” ceremony. As usual we had a piper play the National Anthem on bagpipes. What a moving rendition of “our song”. After dinner which was catered by Prime Cut Caterers, we danced and talked and finally said our goodbye’s until the next time. We had 42 attendees who came from all parts of the U.S., to spend time with comrades and for a short time become young again. We can’t wait ‘til next time.





Mini at Anapolis, MD – Aug 19, 2011

Posted by Lydia (Cottriss) Crooks \

Description: EZ Keeton and me at the Naval Academy in Anapolis. We’ve remained like sisters since Misawa (T4 73-75) and kept our friendship over all these many years.

Goodfellow 202/1N4 Instructor Group

Hosted By Guy Nelson

On 8/6/2011, an aging group of former GAFB 202/1N4 Instructors from the mid 1980's gathered in Arlington, TX to mingle and attend the Texas Rangers game there. In hosting the event, Guy Nelson arranged for an afternoon mixer, accommodations at the Sheraton @ Arlington and tickets for Saturday's night game. Upon arrival, Guy presented each attendee with an official Texas Rangers Baseball Cap and a monogrammed Reunion T-Shirt. The afternoon was filled with reminiscing about instructor and student 'classroom war stories' then it was time to head out to Arlington Stadium and

"THE OL' BALL GAME"



(L-R) **Top:** Bill Marr, Dennis Rassmussen, Kevin Burke, Nick Moorehouse; **Middle:** Brent Bolter, Brent's nephew Brian Hassien, Karen Zabel, Tom Zabel; **Front:** 'JJ' Graham, Guy Nelson and Cindy Soboleski (Attended but not shown: Dave Crane).

Mini-Side Reunion

Posted by J.J. Johnson

Aug 28, 2011 I was up in New Brighton, Pa. for my 50th High School reunion, and Keith Kuttesch came down from New Castle and picked me up to take me on a tour of New Castle. We went to a small Air Show/Car Show during the afternoon. There were 2 P-51's there, but were on the taxi way to take off before we could get a picture.//J.J. Johnson/



I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.



6918th RSM/Scty Sqdn Hakata Japan Reunion

22--25 Sep San Antonio, TX Posted by Dave Bethard

I sit here still full of adrenalin after the close of our 2011 reunion program. We finished in style, also closing the hotel bar for at least the second time in our stay. We welcomed many new and many returning friends this year--far exceeding the 2007 and 2009 events. It will take a couple of days to complete our analysis, but we had around 145 attend. San Antonio and the Holiday Inn Riverwalk were a wonderful setting for our group, and we believe everyone enjoyed the event, nicely executed by the hotel staff. Our goal, going forward, is to make sure that we continue to provide a good value and an excellent event for all. The next major reunion will be in 2013, probably in the Northeast. We solicited and received excellent additional volunteers and coordinators for the reunion organization and people locating efforts. These events cover a range of emotions--we honor our dead. We honor the living. We pay tribute to our friends and we try to do it in a tasteful and honorable way. We remember our past as we plan our future. Next, we want to help ensure that those of you who couldn't attend this one, hopefully, will make plans to attend the next one! Those who attended should share their feelings on-line, so that everyone can express their point of view and comment. On behalf of all the organizers--thanks to all who attended or made this reunion the success it was.

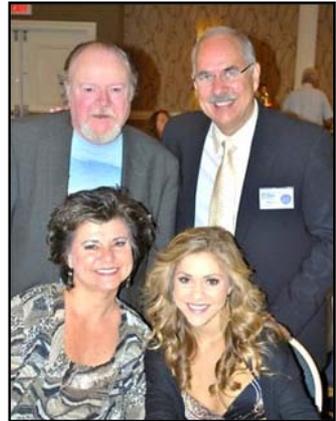


While on a tour of Lackland AFB and before the Friday picnic on Security Hill, our group paused long enough for a group photo at the Airman's Museum. Pictured left to right front row: John Baranoski, Wayne Graczyk, Bob Wolgemuth, Terry DuRei, Bob Burgess, Bill Spencer, Tom Drago, Dave Bethard, and part of TSgt Rotundo. Standing left to right, SSgt Anders, Frank Shemek, Bobby Alsobrook, Ted Croyle, Ken Sellers, Danny Johnson (behind), Al Benzing, Jack Thompson, George Buckbee (behind), Cleve Green, Ernie Woods (behind), Carl Aegler, Ken Young, Charles Stetson, Skip Persinger and Mike Weigand.

This photo shows three alumni who along with many others, opened Brady Base (Hakata) way back in 1958, after arriving from Ashiya. Shown are (L to R) Ned Belding, Norman Dorris, and Gene Rachels. These three received the applause and thanks of the audience of Hakata alumni, spouses and children. This year's attendance sets a new record, with 145 attending.



(Right) The 2011 6918th Reunion program featured Doug MacDonald (back left in photo) as keynote speaker. In addition, Val (Les) and Iora Haglund's daughter Kirsten, who served as Miss America 2008, lit up the room with her smile as they both also spoke to us. And Doug's masterful presentation was still being talked about long after he finished. Thanks to the entire Haglund family, and especially to Doug MacDonald.



(Left) One of many gatherings of the ladies of the 6918th during the 2011 reunion. Shown are (clockwise from the lower left) Evelyn Shemek, Carol Farr, Laura Sanchez, Nancy Mink, Jo Woods, Linda Freymuth, Takeko Bethard, Kathy Dickson, Eiko Page, Jill Thorne, Yvonne Minshew, Gloria Allen, Helen Wallace and Linda Sullivan. We have it on good authority that the girls took no prisoners and were pretty good tippers.



(Left) A camera happened to catch Lynn Kravitz (B Flt Cmdr 68-70) at Friday's picnic flanked by Lucy Webb and Marcy Perry, the daughter (L) and widow (R) of Lt Col (Ret) Hal Perry, Commander of the 6918th from 1967 – 1970.

(Right) Hakata alumni at lunch (L-R) Tatsuko & Dennis Rassmussen (C Flt Reporter 67-69), Paul Culp (C Flt S&W 66-68), Dave & Sue Naab (TA Shop 60-63).



(Left) Reminiscing in the hospitality suite about Hakata in the 60's. (L-R) Fred Barnes, Dave Bethard, Bill Spencer, Gene Rachels, and Tom Neeley (seated).

Reunion Postscript: Thank You, Thank You and Thank You. There are no words that can ever describe the feeling in my heart for the love that I experienced at the 2011 Reunion. This was my first Reunion and, even though I didn't personally know a lot of the brothers and their family members, ALL of them welcomed me with open arms and they ALL will forever have a special place in my heart. I am extremely humbled and honored that you asked me to become a member of your team. I pledge to you that I will do my absolute best to earn your trust in me and my membership on that team. I want ALL of you to remember me as the one who refused a handshake. To me, as I get older, I prefer a hug over a handshake. It doesn't matter to me if you are old or young, male or female, you ALL are my brothers and sisters. Last night, before I went to bed, I got down on my knees and thanked God for my many blessings and you can bet that I thanked Him for bringing ALL of you into my life again and I thanked Him for granting ALL of you safe travel to and from the Reunion. I'm already looking forward to 2013. May God continue to bless ALL of you and keep ALL of you healthy and safe until we meet again. // **Bill Spencer**//

6918th Reunion Photo Gallery



6918th Able Flight—Pictured back to front left to right are Ed and Mary O’Dell, Mac and Jean Heilman, Val and Iora Haglund, and seated next to Iora is Kirsten Haglund, daughter of Val and Iora, and Miss America 2008. Next, in the rear is John Baranoski, then, back to front again are Ted and Delores Croyle, then in back again is Mike Tazik, then seated in front are Edgar Beaty and Doug MacDonald. Attending but not in the photo was Ned Belding.



6918th Baker Flight—Pictured back to front, left to right are Richard and Barbara Miklaucic, Tom and Anna Neely, George and Carol Buckbee, and Bill Spencer. Not pictured but attending was Steve Paroby.

6918th Days with wives—Left to right are Bobby and Irene Alsobrook, Fred Barnes, and Anna and Tom Neeley. Not pictured but attending were Don Borak and David Naab.





6918th Charlie Flight—Left to right, first seated row are Carl Aegler, Rick Hull, Terry DuRei, Jack Thompson, Wayne Graczyk, and Ken Young. Second seated row, left to right are Wes Wodahl, Dave Minshew, Steve Hoegh, Fred Corsi, Randy Page, Bob Burgess, Mike Wiegand. Back row, standing, left to right are Bob Wolgemuth, Bill Francis, Charles Stetson, Richard Zahnle, Ron Way, Lex Cole, Gil Cadena, Ron Epperson, Gene Rachels, Al Benzing, Glenn Birdwell. Attending but not pictured were Billy Mayo, Dennis Rasmussen, Paul Culp, and Joe Waters.



6918th Dawg Flight—Left to right, first seated row are Dave Bethard, Tom Winter, Tryg Anderson, Bill Guerard, Mike Ryan, Ray Troche, Desi Sanchez, Al Lane. Second row (mostly seated) are Stan Freymuth, Cleve Green, Don Dickson, Ray Allen, Troy Powell, Bob Farr, Jim Sullivan, Rex Warlick, Mike Bratton, and Gene Rachels. Mixed back 2 rows, left to right are Bill Mink, Frank Shemek, PD Hartman, Ken Sellers, Ernie Woods, Bill Wineland, Robert Summerlin, Ed Stallings, Art Marin, Rick Elliot, Gil Cadena, Tom Dragoo, Danny Johnson, Skip Persinger, Tom Stephens, Ray Harty. Not pictured, but attending were Norman Dorris, Jim Kaub and Frank Pope.



HISTORY & MEMORIES



A HISTORY OF THE HACHINOHE HORSE CARVINGS

Photo Posted by Larry Mendonca Aug 14



Glenn Sellers Aug 20

This is interesting, When I was there, the horses were called “Yawata Uma”. I bought several, sent some home, brought some home, even received two unpainted signed ones. One of the unpainted ones came from DON workers, i.e. computer room, and the other one I believe came from my fellow Misawa Masquers.

BTW, one of the ones I bought was a pregnant one with two little ones in her belly. I thought it was a riot when I saw it and had to have it.

Joe Roginski Aug 22

You are right, Glenn. I had completely forgotten. These are called “Yawata Uma” and that is the name from the Yawata Jinja where wooden decorated horses were sold as gifts or toys in an annual summer tradition started hundreds of years ago of Yabusame, where riders would gallop past a square target hanging on a rope and shoot it with an arrow, as a demonstration of both riding and archery skill. It is the locals, mostly old locals, who call it 'chaguchagu umakko' after a festival I think is in Iwate Prefecture, probably Morioka. In this festival, they dress the horses up in elaborate saddles, with lots of jingly bells and ornaments and you can hear them coming from a long way. The riders have them prance, so they jingle even more than just a walk. Yes, we still use them for 'sayonara' gifts, and then co-workers and friends sign them with a little phrase of endearment or a private joke or something. Usually something nice gets written under the tail! We also use a type of Kokeshi doll which has a long blank scroll of 'washi' (Japanese handmade paper) wrapped around it that is painted on the very outside with the Kokeshi doll kimono design and it is tied with a ribbon that works as an 'obi'. Workers or friends will all unroll the scroll and sign and put little notes or sometimes long ones (plenty of room to write, more than the horse) and then roll it up, tie the OBI and put it into the box, wrapped and given as the sayonara present.

Dear Wayne and Rass,

Back in 1956, we lost a couple of our Silent Warriors, not to any work related incidents, but during a camping outing at Lake Menteith, Scotland. Both were members of Dog Flight, 6952nd RSM, Kirknewton, Scotland. The main reason I am bringing this to your attention is that I don't think either of them are listed as Fallen Eagles. In addition, it is a little bit of USAFSS history that probably shouldn't be forgotten. Also, Bill Davenport was indeed somewhat of a hero for losing his life in an effort to save one of the local civilians. I knew both very well and have kept the following newspaper account around for a long time. I thought it would be a good item for the 'Remain in Touch'. Thanks

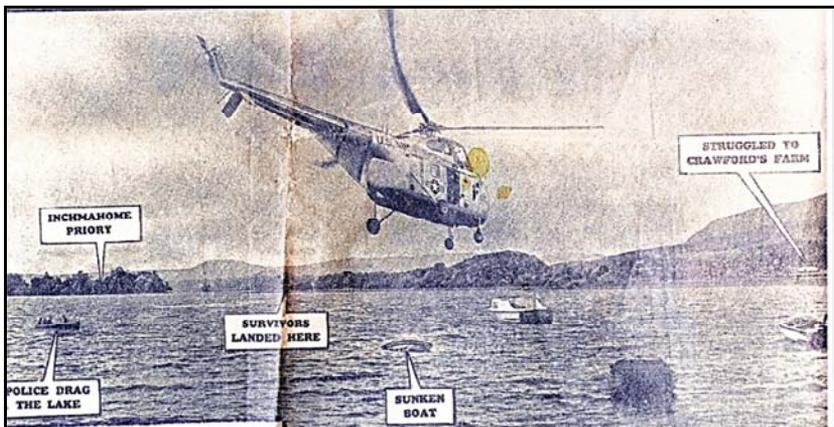
Cheers, Don Franklin

REMEMBERING GENE ASAY AND BILL DAVENPORT

Submitted by Don Franklin

Rass, I hope you find the attachment satisfactory- please feel free to make any changes you think necessary. I posted the newspaper clipping on the Kirknewton website a couple years ago and got a good response from a good friend, Frank Donovan. Frank was with the group on that trip and provided a good description - I included it in the attachment. I think Bill and a few others went by private vehicle rather than on the 6X6 truck. I just added the last picture of a few great guys on Baker Flight pioneers at that time. Since I took the picture, I guess I was also a proud member of that elite group.....

The following picture was on the front page of the Scottish Daily Express on Saturday, July 7, 1956. The search and rescue effort was for two Scottish gentlemen (David Drummond and Ian Cameron) and two of our own 6952nd Scty Gp Airman from RAF Station Kirknewton – Gene Asay and Bill Davenport.



Lake Menteith is a loch in Scotland, but one of the few Lochs that is actually called a lake. It is located not far from RAF Station Kirknewton and near Sterling. There are a number of small islands in the lake; on the largest, Inchmahome, is Inchmahome Priory, an ancient monastery. The Commander of RAF Station Kirknewton and the Chaplain thought the large Island would be a good place for our Airman to use for fishing and camping and made arrangements for them to do that. Members of Dog Flight were taking advantage of that opportunity starting on the evening of July 6, 1956. Frank Donovan was part of that group and describes that dreadful night this way:

“The years take a toll on the memory but some things we don't forget. There was a pretty large group from "D" trick who traveled by 6X6. A whole truck load! I don't recall how or why Bill came along. We had only the small dingy at our disposal and it took a number of trips to get us all to the island. Just prior to the fateful trip I had been in the boat.



Gene Asay, Jim Kouzes and Frank Donovan

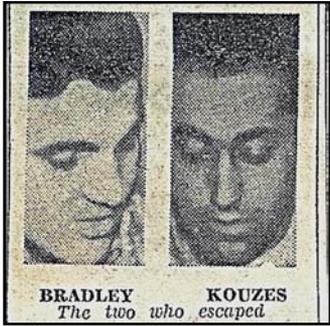


Bill Davenport

Strange how things work out. After the accident as I recall, everybody realized that it was not a six man boat. As to the incident, it was almost totally dark when we heard shouting from the lake and we knew someone, probably our people, were in distress. We couldn't see what was going on but only hear the calls for help. Eventually we realized that some survived but had no idea who. We didn't really have any information until morning when a boat came to the island to take us to shore. A major factor in the loss of life is that some or all of the AF personnel were wearing the fleece lined parkas. There is no way a person could survive unless he got out of the parka. According to Jess Bradley he and Kouzes got undressed and the others didn't. When the American helicopter hovered over the lake in the morning we had a further realization of what had happened.

Jesse Bradley and Jim Kouzes were the only two that survived the incident. Jesse was quoted in the Scottish Daily Express as saying, *“We were a little more than half way to the island when we ran out of petrol. We filled up quickly but the dinghy started filling up with water. The nose just went under and all six of us jumped over the side. I saw David Drummond go under right away. The rest*

of us started swimming towards the island. Bill Davenport went back for David Drummond and we never saw him again. I don't know what happened to the other four. They must have gone down I guess....." (Davenport and Drummond were found floating together near the island.)



The Scottish Daily Express write-up stated in their article, "The American serviceman, Bill Davenport need not had died with three friends in Perthshire's Lake of Menteith. He went back to save smallholder, David Drummond, and drowned with him". (Drummond was 59 years old.)

I remember talking to Jesse a day or so later and he said that he called to Bill to stay together, but Bill shouted back, "I'm going to get the old man". Jesse said that he and Jim then decided that they were losing their battle to reach the island and returned to the dinghy. Gene, who was probably the better athlete of them all, continued his efforts to reach the island. Jesse and Jim helped each other to strip down to their underwear and decided to swim with the current – which was away from the island. They eventually made it to the outer shore of the lake and stumbled half a mile to the nearest farm house.

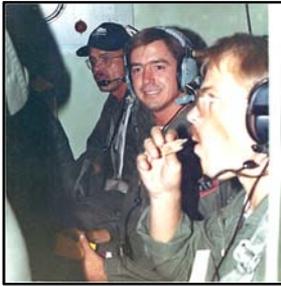
I really don't remember if any special recognition was ever given to Bill Davenport for what he tried to do on that July day in 1956 – but to me he was a true hero. Of course, Jesse and Jim actually saved each other's lives and they are also heroes! What made this incident even more painful was knowing that Bill had just came back from leave at home and couldn't stop talking about two things - the girl he was going to marry and a new song that they called their own, "Unchained Melody". For the past 56 years, I can't hear that song without thinking of Bill Davenport.



L-R
Dave Cambridge,
Wally Clayton,
Bill Davenport,
Dale Halverson.

A Tribute to Charles Frederick “Ernie” Paschall

From Rick Fenwick Blog - September 26, 2011



(Left) ((Steve Hanson and I in a C-130 over the Sea of Japan, 1987))

I'm a poor correspondent and, historically, a lousy friend. Raised in the Air Force, I moved all over the world, put down roots that were pulled out quickly, before friendship could take hold. I joined in 1978, just two years after my father retired. To my mind, everything was temporary: friends, temporary duty and temporary locations.

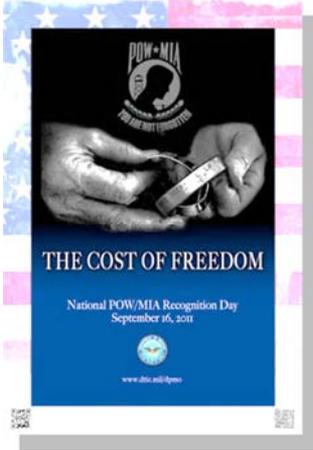
This past weekend those assumptions died when I went to the FTVA reunion in San Antonio where we remember the past, reminisce, and honor those who have fallen. I'm not sure why I wanted to go, and had some misgivings a few days after I booked the trip. I'd changed in 20 years and assumed former comrades had also. On Friday morning, we attended a memorial service on Security Hill. As part of the ceremony, they read aloud a list of names of people who have passed away this year. I held it together for a while, tried to, at any rate, but when they called out Ernie's name, I couldn't maintain myself. I flew with Ernie. We lived close to one another in Maryland, and often met in a little bar near Laurel. He was a quiet, generous man with a whole lot of humor and a brain the size of Detroit. While stationed in Greece, he ran with another old friend, and soon enough the twosome became known as "Bert and Ernie." During Desert Shield, Ernie and I hooked up again in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The laughs were a mile a minute, the stories pure and wonderful. After they read out the names, a tight formation of four F-16 fighters flew overhead in the "Missing Man Formation" for the perfect metaphor. I pictured Ernie's skinny frame in an oversized flight suit, lighting a cigarette after a long mission, hair parted in the middle, laughing about something. I could smell the stench of aircraft gas, hear the ground equipment and the back ramp of a C-130 being lowered. I was where I had to be just then. I had come full circle. These men are closer to me than brothers. They know more about me than my family. We flew insane missions together, roomed and drank together, calmed each other when troubles came. We knew one another's secrets, observed each other in the best and worst of situations. We backed each other absolutely, or cornered one another for a little "career counseling" over beer and sighs when something went wrong. It was terribly fraternal, and it was perfect. Saturday night, we laughed and drank and told too many war stories. I thought of Ernie, and admit if he had been there, we'd have gotten back to the hotel a lot later than 2:30. That's a guarantee!

Rest in Peace, Ernie: your life was temporary, but your friendship is forever.

IN MEMORIAM

**In Observance of 2011 National POW/MIA Recognition Day
Let Us Never Forget - September 16, 2011**

Submitted by Tom Crowley



Observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country each year and are traditionally observed on the third Friday in September. The President issues a proclamation commemorating the observances and reminding the nation of those Americans who have sacrificed so much for their country. This observance is one of six days throughout the year that Congress has mandated the flying of the National League of Families' POW/MIA flag.

****Since World War II, the official count of those still unaccounted-for number 83,582. (**DPMO as of 9/12/2011)**

WWII 73,787 – Korea 7,985 – Cold War 125 – Vietnam 1,683 – Gulf War 2

VETERAN'S DAY

Rass,
Here's a photo of the marker for the crew of Wrath 11, an MC-130H Combat Talon II, flown by the 7th SOS, RAF Mildenhall. TSgt Glenn P. "Rocco" Lastes of the 25 IOS, AF Mildenhall, was killed in the crash in Albania on 3/31/2005.

Pete Siegel





MEMORIALS

The FTVA acknowledges the following bequests, generously donated to the FTVA in memory of:



Maj Gen (Ret) Doyle Larson by:
SAIC

Maj Gen (Ret) Paul Martin by:
The Sierra Nevada Corporation

Col (Ret) Grover McMakin by:
Bob and Debbie Cope
Ron Hentz

All donations will be used in providing financial assistance directly to the people programs of the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Agency (AF ISRA) and its predecessor organizations



FALLEN EAGLES



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

Compiled by Wayne Tallant, Associate Editor

- Blauvelt, Roger Mourrie, MSgt-USAF-Ret.
- Braune, Clifford W. MSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Burgess, Gary, SSgt-USAF
- Cobb, William “Billy” E., USAFSS-Vet.
- Cook, “Gene” Oren, CMSgt, USAF-Ret.
- Croslow, Stephen “Steve” D., USAFSS-Vet.
- Dark, Hudson “Hud” Irving, USAFSS-Vet.
- Dawson, Kim A., SrA-USAF
- Dover, Margaret “Peggy” Diane, spouse of Frank D. Dover, USAFSS-Vet.
- Dow, Robert E., AIC-USAF

Duffy, Joanne Marie, Spouse of CMSgt Jim Duffy-USAF-Ret. **Life Mbr.**
 Emerson, Thomas "Tom/T Calhoun" C., MSgt-USAF-Ret. **Life Mbr.**
 Erving, Claude Moore, USAFSS-Vet.
 Fletcher, Marvin J., MSgt-USAF-Ret.
 Fuller, Charles E., MSgt-USAF-Ret.
 Haaven, Kent J., USAFSS-Vet.
 Hagle, Willis "Bill" Robert, A2C-USAF
 Hanable, William Shannon, USAFSS-Vet. **Life Mbr.**
 Hodshire, Donald "Sam" E., CMSgt-USAF-Ret.
 Hughes, Charles B., USAFSS-Vet.
 Hummel, Elline Frieda Lange, USAFSS-Civ-Ret. **Mbr.**
 Johnson, Lester, USAFSS-Vet. **Mbr.**
 Mackley, Arthur E., USAFSS-Vet.
 McMakin, Grover Staton, Col-Ret. **Life Mbr. HOH 1990, FTVA Director**
 Merrell, J.W. MSgt-USAF-Ret. **Life Mbr.**
 Morgan, Hugh "Buddy" Blair, SMSgt-USAF-Ret.
 Moulds, Marie, spouse of Maj Clayton R. Moulds USAF-Ret.
 Mueller, Oliver N., MSgt-USAF-Ret.
 Olive, "Pete" Donald, USAFSS-Vet.
 Pierantoni, Robert "Bob" J., CMSgt-USAF-Ret.
 Posther, Clara Mueller, spouse of BGen Art Kellond, USAF-Ret.
 Price Sr., Donald Lamar, USAFSS-Vet. **Mbr.**
 Robertson, John "Rob" "J.R." Neal, CMSgt-USAF-Ret.
 Sharpe, Lynn, MSgt-USAF-Ret.
 Shasteen, Kenneth "Ken" Richard, Capt-USAF-Ret.
 Smith, Burdette Raymond, Maj-USAF-Ret.
 Stefan, "Jeanie" Jeannette, spouse of John "Ox" Stefan, USAFSS-Vet.
 Storey, Bobby, A1C-USAF
 Thomas, "Tom" Thurman, USAFSS-Vet.
 Thompson, Eileen B., spouse of CMSgt Al Thompson USAF-Ret. (Dec)
 Tudino, Raymond "Ray" Frank, SMSgt-USAF



MSgt. Roger Mourrie Blauvelt, age 65, of East Haven passed away suddenly on Wednesday, June 8, 2011. Devoted husband of Laurel Faust Blauvelt, married for 45 years. Roger retired from the Air Force in 1985. He attended Yale University and the Defense Language School in Monterey, CA. having studied Chinese. He was stationed in Taiwan, Philippines, Vietnam and Germany.

//Obit//

Roger was a A203X1 and flew with the 6988th at Yokota 1965-1967. He left USAFSS and retrained into another AFSC. //Pete Siegel/



MSgt. Clifford W. Braune passed away July 16, 2011 in San Antonio, Texas at the age of 84. He was born in Nordheim, Texas on January 3, 1927. Clifford served his country overseas in Germany, Japan, Korea, and Okinawa. He is preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy. //Obit//



Gary Burgess (the French/Spanish Linguist, not the Russian Linguist) he would have been at Hellenikon from about 1978-1981, passed away last week of natural causes. I don't have all the details, but I just learned of this from Rudy Smith. I assume they were due to complications of his kidney failures in the past years.

Gary was a SSgt when he got out of the Air Force. I don't know all of his assignments, but in addition to the 6916th he was stationed at Fort Meade from 1980-1982 as a French Linguist; and the 6949th Offutt AFB from 1983-1986 as a Spanish Linguist. //Brian McGowan//

That is indeed sad news. Gary wasn't that old, and even though death does not discriminate, I guess I still picture him as that young, talented airman 20 years ago. RIP Gary. //Vernon Lee//

Gary had been in poor health for years. He was a complex person, a good friend, hilariously funny, a gifted linguist, and a troubled soul. Rest in peace my friend and brother. //Scotty Winn//



William E. "Billy" Cobb, age 81, of Bells Tennessee passed away September 29, 2011. Bill was in the USAFSS from 1950 thru 1954. Bill was my roommate in the 3rd RSM, Naknek, Alaska from 1952 through 1953. He was a Morse Intercept Operator and also served at NSA in 1954. He is survived by his wife, Pauline. He was a wonderful person and a friend for almost 60 years. He will be greatly missed. //Chuck Etheridge – Daphne, Alabama//



CMSgt Oren Eugene "Gene" Cook, 80, of Las Vegas, passed away Feb. 27, 2011. He was born in Porterville, Tulare, Calif., and resided in Nevada for 28 years. He joined the U.S. Air Force after graduating high school. Gene was very healthy for most of his life but suffered a heart attack in December 2010. Gene never married nor had kids but will be missed by his many family members and friends. //Obit//

I just found out that Oren passed away. That was a surprising and dismaying discovery for me. I first knew him as an instructor at Goodfellow AFB, then at assignments in Europe and the Far East. Always the consummate professional,

he insured that his troops were well trained, disciplined, top performers. He stood up for his men when troubles came their way. Oren was a mentor and a good friend. I will miss him. **//Homer Waring//**

Oren will be remembered by many of us. I too had him as an instructor in the same 202 class you as you. I found him to be the consummate professional NCO and I also served with him in Germany. He was really quite a character - another of a line of SUI GENERIS USAFSS folks. **//Augie D'augistino//**



Stephen D. "Steve" Croslow, 60, of Central Point, Ore. and formerly of Bridgeport, died Saturday, Aug. 20, 2011 in Medford, Ore. He was born August 13, 1951, the son of John and Marguerite Croslow. Survivors include three children and his lifetime companion, Kaycee Cottone of Central Point. Mr. Croslow was a real estate agent for many years. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran, serving during Vietnam. **//Obit//**



Hudson Irving "Hud" Dark passed away Sept 29, 2011 at his residence in Stockton, California. He was stationed at RAF Kirknewton in the mid 1960's. Hudson was born 3 February 1941. **//Fred Crawford//**
//Photos courtesy of Paul Nevola//

Hud, AKA Wuzafuz was from my hometown of Stockton. I didn't know him then, but we had many mutual friends in the port city of Stockton and kept in touch via e-mail and Facebook. Hud was a retired police officer, hence the Was A Fuzz handle. May he R.I.P. **//Ralph McDonald//**

Hudson "Hud" Dark was in my class at Keesler. He went to Pakistan and I went to Osan. He was from Stockton, California. When he attended the 6937th Reunion in San Antonio, he came and visited me and my wife. Not a career man, but he made a good civilian life for himself. I will notify other classmates from the class of 25119 - May 1960. RIP, my friend. **//Bill DeCamp//**



SrA Kim Dawson, 57, died of liver cancer on 3 June 2011. Kim was a 20250 and served at the 6931st ESG, Crete, Greece from 1975-1977. She is survived by two brothers. **//Jim Houle - Obit//**



Margaret "Peggy" Dianne Dover, 77, of Lompoc passed away on Sunday, July 24, 2011. Peggy was born and raised in Lompoc. She married Frank D. Dover on October 29, 1955; and they raised four boys. Peggy is survived by her husband of 55 years, Frank D. Dover. //Obit//

I have verified this via a phone call to Frank Dover today This was a very special lady that opened up both her home and her heart to a very homesick airman during my Misawa days. We stayed in rather loose contact via phone over the years, and the Misawa reunion in Seattle was the first time I had seen them since 1961. RIP Peggy, you will never be forgotten. //Jim Boone//



A1C Robert E. Dow, 77, died Saturday, June 25, 2011. Robert "Bob" was born in Centerline, Michigan on August 29, 1933. He served in the USAF during the Korean War as an aircraft electrician and was a member of the Flying Tigers. He was stationed at the 6922nd Scy Sq, Clark AB, PI and TDY at 6988th Scy Sq, Yokota AB, Japan 1966-1968. He married Julia

Sullivan in 1957. //Obit with input from Pete Siegel//



Joanne Marie Duffy, née Marquedant passed away quietly on September 19, 2011. She was born on August 24, 1933 in Holbrook, Mass. She married James F. (Jim) Duffy on April 29, 1951 and shared over 60 years together. As a military spouse, she volunteered with the Air Force Family Services Program, lending assistance to other military families on the move, highlighted by

receiving recognition for outstanding work in 1992 from Bergstrom Air Force Base Family Services. Joanne is survived by her husband Jim. //Obit// CMSgt Jim Duffy had a long career in USAFSS. //Jim Youngson//



MSgt Thomas C. "Tom/T Calhoun" Emerson, 77, of San Antonio, TX, died Wednesday, June 22, 2011 from emphysema. Born on February 6, 1934 in Washington, DC, he graduated two years early from Plattsburgh High School in 1950. He enlisted in the USAF in 1955 as a Russian linguist. After serving for 24 years, he continued his service in a civilian role at NSA until 1993. Survived by Marci Emerson of Burleson, Texas. //Obit//

Tom went thru Crypto school at GAFB while my dad was NCOIC of it. He used to go fishing with us. Later, he was in Germany while I was at the 16th and worked with Hizer on the tests with Guardrail. His ashes will be inurned at Arlington National Cemetery in June next year. Exact date has not been set. ((Marci Emerson)). Contact Marci at 817-484-3756 or email marci@usapathway.com. Please send on to anyone who might have known Tom. //Skip DeRousse//



Claude Moore Erving passed away peacefully on 4 August, 2011. He was born in Billings, Montana. After graduating from Santa Barbara High School in 1934, Claude lived in the Santa Barbara area, working as a ranch hand and rodeo competitor until the beginning of World War II. He then enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps, attended pilot training in

Arizona, and served as an instructor pilot, fighter pilot, and bomber pilot until the end of the war. In January 1946, he married Ingeborg Ella Marguerite Mauss, and was recalled to the Air Force in 1951. He was the Operations Officer at the 6915th at Hof, Germany in the 1950's. He flew cargo aircraft and worked as an electrical engineer until retiring from the Air Force in 1967. He then began a second career as an electrical engineer for the USAF until retiring in 1980. **//Obit with input from Lou Rocha//**



MSgt Marvin James "Jim" "Big Marv" Fletcher, 80, of Panorama Village died on Nov 4 2010. He was born Sept 25, 1930 in Fort Worth, Texas. Jim was known by his community as "Pawpaw the Clown". Jim honorably served our country in the United States Air Force for twenty years before his retirement.

Preceded in death by wife of 51 years, Wanda. **//Obit//**

Jim was NCOIC of the Special Signals (ELINT) shop at Yokota, 6988th Scty Sqdn. when I arrived for my first airborne assignment late '65. Recall, in the waning years of his career, he landed an embassy assignment in Tehran. He served that tour and PCS's just days ahead of the hostage crisis at the embassy there. "Big Marv" was a terrific supervisor. His leadership, guidance, and friendship served me well through my career. We shared many missions in the SOJ, and many a trip to SEA aboard 91537, "STRAWBRIDGE." Rest in peace, mi amigo. **//Darr King//Note: See Strawbridge photo on page 68//Rass//**



MSgt Charles E. Fuller, 68, passed away August 29, 2011. He was born on August 5, 1943 in Glens Falls, New York. He was retired from the United States Air Force and Post Office. He is survived by a daughter, son, and several grandchildren. Chuck, worked for me at HQ ESC in his last assignment before retirement. He was a long time USAFSS/ESC maintenance guy.

//Obit with input from John Lopes//



CMSgt Donald E. "Sam" Hodshire, 81, of Venus, Texas, passed away August 24, 2011 Sam was born November 24, 1929 in Granite City, IL. He served his country proudly in the USAF and retired in 1969. Married on December 5, 1953 in Dundee, Scotland, he is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 58

years, Etta "Pat" Hodshire. **//Obit with input from Elizabeth Ransom//**



Kent J. Haaven, 81, of Mesa, AZ, passed away on July 30, 2011. Kent was born in Crookston, MN, on March 18, 1930. He enlisted in the USAF in 1950 where he spent the next four years. He served with the 2nd RSM as a Teletype Operator from 1950-1953. His greatest joy outside of his family was the friendships he formed with the 2nd RSM and 6910th Darmstadt to Augsburg group. His art, poetry and patriotism is his legacy. //Obit - Paul Laffitte//

A great guy, Kent led a return to Darmstadt 2001 trip that 18 of us old 2nd RSM guys from Ernst Ludwig Kaserne made to see the Kaserne before it was demolished. Kent - may you Rest in Peace. Your designs and emblems for the AFSS units and contribution of Americana stories and graphics for USAFSS units was significant. He was a frequent contributor to the 6910th site. We will miss him and know that he was truly a great American - Always dedicated to his fellow USAFSS Veteran. //Bobby Edwards//

A sad day for the 6910th, 6911th and 2nd RSM. One of your great legacies will be the Return to Darmstadt and Beyond which you led the tour in 2001. It was better than any tour Caryl and I have ever taken. //Tom and Caryl Hunter//



A2C Willis "Bill" Robert Hagle died Aug 12, 2011. He was a resident of Pittsburgh, PA. Bill was born in Gary, Indiana. He joined the Air Force in 1965. After the service, Bill proudly worked for the FBI, retiring in 2002 after 33 years. He is survived by his wife Mary. //Obit//

At Bremerhaven, Bill was assigned to Dog Flight of the 6913th Security Group, working as a Morse Intercept Operator from late 1965 until 1 July 1967, when the 6913th was deactivated. Bill continued to serve at Bremerhaven as a member of the newly activated detachment of the 6950th Security Wing. Bill served as advisor to Navy personnel on "B" Watch from July 1967 until he lost his security clearance in early 1968 as a result of his marriage. Bill served the end of his enlistment at Carswell AFB, Fort Worth, TX. //Arlen Trapp//



William Shannon Hanable, died in Salem, Ore., on May 17, 2011. Bill is survived by his wife, Eloise Wasson Hanable. Bill began a 12-year stint in the Air Force in 1956 serving in USAFSS units in Alaska and Washington, D.C. He also taught for three years at an Air Force Technical School in Greenville, Miss., where he met and later married Eloise. While going to

school, Bill started a Naval Reserve career that began in 1969 as a petty officer and ended in 1994 with his retirement as a commander (special duty officer: intelligence). //Obit and E-Mail from Eloise//



Charles "Chuck" Bertram Hughes, 74, passed away on July 24, 2011 in Ocala, Fl. Chuck was born on March 20, 1937 in Miami FL He was an Air Force veteran and served with the 6913th RSM. He was proud of his time spent serving his country. Survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Linda. //Obit//

Chuck was assigned to Charlie Flight at the 6913th RSM (Bremerhaven), working as a voice intercept operator from September 1956 until September 1959. //Arlen Trapp//



Elline Frieda Lange Hummel was born March 3, 1926 in Floresville TX. After high school, she went to work at Kelly AFB learning keypunch operator/data processing. She married Malcolm Calvin Hummel on January 11, 1948. and became a stay- at- home mom. In 1959, the government recalled Elline to USAFSS where she worked Intelligence programs and became a computer programmer. Malcolm died in October 1973. Elline retired in July 1984 from ESC with 33 years of distinguished civil service. Elline is survived by her daughters Sheryl Hummel and Deborah Schrank. //BIO submitted by daughter Sheryl//



Lester Johnson of Guthrie, Oklahoma died today of congestive heart failure. Lester was NCOIC Operations Admin at Misawa and Rhein-Main in the 60s and 70s. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Dorothy. Les was one of those guys that always had a "howya doin'?" and a smile no matter how the day was going. Les will be missed. RIP my friend. //E-mail-Bob Hull//



Arthur Emil Mackley, 75, Deer River, Minn., died Aug. 2, 2011 at home. Art was born Sept. 1, 1935, in Grand Rapids, Minn. He was raised in Suomi and lived there until he joined the Air Force in 1954. He graduated from Deer River High School in 1953. Preceded by wife Lois. Survived by five children and many grandchildren. //Obit//

My Dad had nothing but good things to say about their stay in Germany. He enjoyed hearing from/about his old military friends. //Ellie (Mackley) Hall//

At Bremerhaven, Art was assigned to Charlie Flight of the 6913th RSM, working as a Morse intercept operator from February 1956 until March 1959. Lois joined him there on 17 March 1956. After separation, Art graduated from an electronics school and worked initially for Honeywell. Then, he worked 25 years for a natural gas pipeline company in the Duluth area. He had retired by the time I talked with him in September 2003. //Arlen Trapp//



MSgt J.W. Merrell died Sept 18 2007. Born November 29, 1933 at Hobbs, New Mexico, and died September 18, 2007 at San Antonio, TX. with son Terry at his bedside. He served in the Air Force from 1952 to 1979, mostly in Asia. He was an interpreter during the Korean and Viet Nam wars. He is preceded by wife Betty. Full Military services were held for

MSgt Merrell at Poarch Cemetery, Carter, OK. //Obit//



SMSgt Hugh Blair "Buddy" Morgan Jr., 78, a resident of Odenton for 39 years, died August 29 2011 of complications from COPD. He was born Feb. 11, 1933, in Birmingham, AL, to the late Hugh Blair Morgan Sr. and Nina (nee Groom), and attended Shades Valley High School in Birmingham and the University of Maryland. Before his retirement from the USAF, he was stationed in Korea, Japan, and Turkey on various assignments. //Obit//

he was stationed in Korea, Japan, and Turkey on various assignments. //Obit//

Hugh was assigned to TUSLOG Det 94 Karamursel and probably NSA. When I arrived there in '68, Hugh was my sponsor and got me settled in nicely. His tours included San Antonio, Samsun and Karamursel Turkey, JSPC at Okinawa, Japan, Korea and Ft. Meade. //BJ Cook with input from Bob Leach//



Marie Moulds 72, loving wife of Clayton R. Moulds, passed away July 27th, 2011 in San Antonio, TX. Marie loved being able to travel the world thanks to being stationed in Pakistan, Greece, and Germany. She enjoyed Square Dancing for many years. Her husband was Director of Operations (DO) at Crete and the Division at Ramstein. //Obit with input from Joe Hurst//



MSgt Oliver N. Mueller passed away in Lockhart, TX during February 2011. Oliver was born 28 Nov 1928 in Buckman, MN. Oliver served 22 years in the Air Force, much of those with USAFSS as an ELINT NCO. After retiring and locating to Lockhart, Oliver graduated from UT Austin in 1978. He devoted his remaining years to his wonderful wife, Ingrid and their families. //Obit//

his remaining years to his wonderful wife, Ingrid and their families. //Obit//

I was privileged to serve with "Ollie" at the 6912th RSM circa 1964. A professional NCO; one many of us "rookies" admired and looked up to. He kept us "on course" while launching several successful careers, including mine. I was blessed to have found him in Lockhart awhile back, and spent an afternoon reminiscing about the old days in Berlin. He was an E-6 then. Seem to recall he had 10 years in when he arrived at the 12th from Wakanai(?). When I left, he was NCOIC of the ELINT Section. After a couple years at the 12th, he married a Berliner and was reassigned.. Seem to recall he had a brief stint at NSA. Reasonably sure he retired as an E-7. Thanks Ollie! Rest in Peace, my friend.

//Darr King//



Donald "Pete" Olive passed away at the home of his daughter. Pete was a longtime resident of the Kitsap County area after his military career had allowed him to live all over the world. He finally settled in Yuma, AZ. Pete served in the Air Force for 23 years, then went on to a career in the construction field. He is survived by his wife of four years, Marlene Warren-Olive of Yuma, AZ and several other family members and friends. //Obit//

Pete's Prop Wash Gang "BIO": former Russian linguist at Rhein-Main, Eileson, et al. Assignments included: US Navy 49-54, SSO/SAC HQ 56-57, 6901st 57-58, TUSLOG Det 3 58-59, ESR 59-60, AFSCC 60-61. Language school 62, 6916th 63-66, 6985th 66-69, PSR 69-72; retiring in Sept 72. Pete flew and ran with the best. //Bob Cope//

I received a sad phone call from Cindy Pierson, Pete's daughter. Pete passed away as the result of a heart attack. He was visiting family in Washington State one last time. He had not been in good health for a couple of years and had been battling liver cancer which had metastasized. //Jack Reidel//



CMSgt Robert J. "Bob" Pierantoni, 71, passed away on Oct. 9, 2011. Bob was born on Sept. 3, 1940, in Iron River, Mich. He joined the Air Force at the age of 17 and served 22 years, being stationed in eight different countries. Bob received many awards, commendations and decorations, including the bronze star for his service in Vietnam. Bob achieved the rank of Chief Master Sergeant at the age of 38 and retired at the age of 41. Bob was an analyst/S&W and was stationed all over Security Service, including the Hqs, Chicksands, San Vito, Taiwan, DaNang and Misawa. Preceded in death by his soul mate and beloved wife, Davina (Diane). //Obit with input from Ron Moyer and Mel Meyer//

Bob and I were assigned together on a couple of tours and we always enjoyed bumping into each other in San Angelo. He was one of the good guys for sure. RIP friend. //Tom Nurre//

I'm sorry to hear this sad news. I knew Bob and worked with him in Misawa. Bob was a fine fellow and I am saddened by his passing. May Bob rest in peace. //Ed Benningfield//

I knew Bob well in Misawa. That was the 66-69 timeframe I think. I am very saddened to hear of his passing – one of the best in my opinion. //Joe Wesner//

It is always sad to learn of the passing of trail blazers who contributed so much to the Security Service close knit organization that spanned the world. It is my hope and prayer that Bob will rest in peace and his family will find strength and comfort knowing so many friends are praying for them. //Tom Echols//

Bob and I were together at Elmendorf and later in the 70's at HQ. He loved the AF. One favorite story - when we were off Deep Creek in Cook Inlet, Alaska in '73 trolling for salmon. I was using a home-made lure and he was using a store-bought one. After I boated my second 44 lb. King Salmon, he casually asked if I had any more of those home-mades. Three of us brought home six nice fish that day - all six caught on my home-made. He will be sorely missed. R.I.P. old friend. //Steve Mobry//



Clara Mueller Posther, 93, of San Antonio passed away on Tuesday, July 26, 2011. She was preceded in death by her husband, BGen Art Kellond. Widowed in 1993 by Richard Posther, Clara later met and married Art Kellond and greatly enjoyed their remaining years together. BGen Kellond was MGen Coira's Vice Commander from 16 Oct 1965 - 31 July

1966. Clara was a charmingly elegant Texas lady who was loved beyond measure by her friends and family. She had a life well lived and will be missed by all who knew her. //Obit//



Donald Lamar Price Sr. former Phoenix Society member, 86, died September 25 2011. He was born April 23, 1925, in Redoak, TX.. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and retired in 1980 from USAFSS for a total of 32 years of service. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Lois Price of Aransas Pass, TX.

//Ron Laske and Dave Naab//



CMSgt John Neal Robertson (Rob, JR) 83, passed away on September 29th. John was born in Marion, Ohio 11 Sept 1928. He enlisted in the USAF in 1950 and assigned to Brooks AFB, San Antonio, TX, home of USAFSS. At the end of a 30 year career (Taiwan, Hawaii, Japan, England) the Robertson family found itself back in San Antonio, where it all started, and working

as a civilian for HQ ESC. John's Air Force duties were always related to Communication Management. John married Lucille Helen Straube 18 July 1954. Memorial contributions in his memory to the charity of your choice. //Obit//

I worked with 'JR' in the early 80's at HQ ESC in the Communications-Electronics Plans and Programs branch. He was a hard working individual who performed miracles providing worldwide communications support for the command. Always over-worked, he still found time to bring a smile to everyone's face with bits of humor. He will be missed by his fellow program managers but now he is serving God. Rest in peace JR. // Ron Weaver//

MSgt Lynn Sharpe, 80, born Apr 1 1931 – died Sept 17 2011. Lynn was preceded in death by his wife Dolores. He is survived by wife Doris. //Obit – **Omaha World Herald submitted by Pete Ogaard//**



Capt Kenneth (Ken) Richard Shasteen, 75, of San Antonio passed away October 14, 2011 in Keene, TX. He was born August 15, 1936 in Bragg City, MO to Kenneth and Margie Summers Shasteen. Ken served 28 years in the USAF. He retired from the 6948th in 1975 after serving as a linguist. Ken is survived

by three sons. //Obit with input from **Karl Hammerle//**



Major Burdette Raymond Smith, 91, was born on a farm in Otho Township a few miles south of Fort Dodge Iowa on 13 December 1920, died on 1 October 2011. He joined the Army Air Corps in 1941 and was assigned to the 397th Aerial Bombardment Group in Kimbolten, England, where he flew 25 missions over Germany and Northern Europe. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross and several Air Medals for his courageous service as a gunner and radio operator. Recalled to active duty in 1948, he served in Korea as a cryptologist for the initial US invasion. In the early 50's



Burdette worked at Security Service and retired from the USAF in 1963 after 23 years as a Major and then worked as a civil servant for Security Service for another 20 years. Survived by his wife LaVaughn. //Obit//



Jeannette "Jeanie" Stefan passed away 17 July 2011. John "Ox" Stefan has asked me to pass on the very sad news of his wife's death this morning. Jeanie passed at 0638, following a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. If you'd like to get in

touch with Ox, please let me know and I can give you his contact points. I know he'd appreciate hearing from you. Finally, Ox asked me to spread the word, but given the breadth and depth of the network of people he and Jeanie have touched, I'd ask for your help in getting this message out to all concerned.

//Andrew Bigelow (W) 202-404-4148;(C) 703-328-4548;(H) 703-441-2867 //



A1C Bobby Storey, 73, of Brackney, PA died 11 Sept 2011. He was born 19 Feb 1938 in Tennessee. After his AF career Bobby and his wife Faye owned a bar in NY. He served with 6910th RGM, Sembach, Germany and moved to Darmstadt in 1961. Bobby loved music and with his band entertained at service clubs

all over Germany. Bobby was also involved in sports and helped his teams win several titles and tournaments. //Info submitted by **Joe Haines//**



Thurman Thomas passed away during the early morning hours of July 19. Tom and I worked together during the late '50s at Bremerhaven (6913th and remained friends over all the years that have elapsed since. Tom and Pat lived on Whidbey Island, in the Puget Sound area, for many years. Part of Pat's message is as follows: Tom was an airborne radio operator in the real Air Force before he was assigned to the USAFSS where he eventually worked as a 202. //JD Joyce –

Roll Call Web Site//



Eileen B. Thompson, 76, passed away on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 in San Antonio. She was born January 18, 1935 in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. In 1953, she moved to Chicago, Illinois, where she met Allan Thompson, her husband of fifty-five years. As an Air Force spouse, she lived in Japan (twice), Germany, Maryland, Texas, and Greece. During those years, she worked for the Department of the Air Force as a Civil Servant and retired with over 20 years of service. Eileen was preceded in death by her husband, USAFSS member CMSgt Allan H. Thompson, USAF-Ret in 2010.

//Obit//



SMSgt Raymond "Ray" Frank Tudino 46, of Fort Meade, MD, passed away August 25, 2011 at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD.. Ray was born on December 14, 1964 in Providence, Rhode Island. Ray had a distinguished 27-year career with the USAF. He served from 1984 through 2011 as an airborne Vietnamese linguist with the 6990th in the 80's and 90's, an NCOA instructor at Goodfellow, and as a First Sergeant for the 94TH IS, 70th FSS and 32nd IS. Survived by his loving wife, Shelley. //Obit//

Ray was a great mentor and friend. In his short time on this earth, he made such a deep impact on the lives of so many. He was a leader who truly cared about the people and devoted his life to helping others. He will never be forgotten...may our memories of him live long. //Deborah Avila//

SMSgt Tudino was always everyone's support when they needed it, even if they didn't realize it. He always pushed us to what we could do, not what we thought we could do. He was an exceptional first sergeant, airman, father and husband not to mention friend, to those of us who got to know him. I know he is the reason a lot of us decided to continue to serve when we thought we couldn't do it anymore. I will miss you tremendously. //Heather McWilliams//

Col "Mac" ~ Director Emeritus ~



Col. Grover Staton McMakin (Ret), 81, died September 2, 2011. Burial was at Ft Sam Houston National Cemetery with full military honors provided by the AFISR Agency Honor Guard. "Mac" was born July 1, 1930 in Roswell, New Mexico and after completing High School at the New Mexico Military Institute in 1948, he received his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from Oklahoma State University in 1952. That same year, he enlisted in the USAF where he received his Navigator/Bombardier wings as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1953 and his Pilot wings in 1957. Col Mac was Gen Stapleton's USAFSS Command pilot, the 6994th SS CC in Saigon, 6916 SS CC at Rhein-Main and moved the SQ to Athens, and 6944 Scty Wing CC at Offutt. He was a 1990 Hall of Honor Member and co-founder of the USAFSS Alumni Association (now FTVA) and long-time FTVA Board Member and the first Director Emeritus. He excelled at all these! Most of all, his troops always came first. Upon retirement in 1980, he returned to San Antonio, Texas where he received his Bachelors in Business Accounting in 1984. He worked at USAA as a Certified Public Accountant, retiring in 1992. Among Mac's many military honors and medals were the Legion of Merit with One Oak Leaf Cluster (OLC), the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal with Two OLC, the AF Commendation Medal, the AF Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device, the Army of Occupation Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with Five Bronze Service Stars, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. A 1990 FTVA HOH Inductee who served as the treasurer of the FTVA, and also the USAA Golden Eagle Club. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Betty Jean.



"Col Mac was one of the best commanders I ever had. I have never known a commander that believed in his troops more than Mac. I visited him the last two times I was in San Antonio....., he recognized me and we talked about our days together.... repeated a few stories. I remember one night coming back to Offutt from a party south of there. A Highway patrolman had stopped one of the troops.....Mac stopped and convinced the cop to let him take the guy home. Today that would get both of you free lodging. A great pilot and you could take anything he said to the bank. Another USAFSS icon is gone. Rest in peace my friend." // **Col Strotman**//



Col Strotman delivered Col Mac's eulogy at Ft Sam. (Photo above)

I certainly agree with all the comments about Col Mac. He was one of a kind and a real pleasure to work for. May he rest in peace. // **Greg Mahoney**//



Gonna miss seeing him at the FTVA reunions every year. The picture (Left) was taken in 2007 at Goodfellow when we dedicated the EC-47 static display. I believe this photo might be one of the last images of Col Mac in his flight suit. Also he was definitely no stranger to Goodfellow since he trained there in B-25's at the start of his flying career. RIP . // **Charlie Milsap**//

On a personal note, despite many valued objections to the FTVA name change, as President at that time, Grover supported me in the name change, despite opposition to the change by many of us, "Col Mac" supported the change and that was that! We are a growing organization, thanks to my close friend. Please pray for Col Mac's smooth transition to his next assignment. // **Doug Holden**//

Amen to what has been said. One of the finest officers with whom I worked. Sad to see him gone. // **Bill Strickland**//

"Col Mac" was my all-time favorite officer. He was always the consummate gentleman and an inspirational leader. Next on the short list was Dave Eddy. Losing both in three months is tough. RIP Col McMakin, Sir! // **Steve Mobry**//

"Col Mac was undoubtedly the best officer I have ever known."// **Rudy Zoebel**//



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

Hello, We took a trip to Russia earlier this year and I got an opportunity to get up close and personal with the military during parade practice for Victory Day (over the Germans in 1945), and then at the Air Force Museum at Monino. Here a some photos you might consider putting in a future FTVA "Remain in Touch" issue. Several pictures for you to choose from.

Thanks for all you folks do.

Joe Koester



Joe meets Badger! Medium Bomber



M50 BOUNDER Experimental Heavy Bomber

From: Gary Knighton

Here is a copy of an e-mail I received from Tom Penn, former Flight Commander, Trick 3, at the 6987th while I was stationed there:

"USAF Security Service, more so than any other Air Force organization, was run by non-comms, the best an brightest the Armed Forces had to offer. We officers, regardless of rank, sorry General, stood around with our thumbs up our asses. Marty Bannon was my Mission Sup back then. Without him, I'd have fallen flat on my face. He was my teacher, my mentor, and my surrogate father - God bless him and his family.

Thomas W. Penn Major, USAF (Ret)"

Kind of sez it all doesn't it? Not only about Marty, but also, about the top 10% of AF men and women. Yogi

DAFFYNITION

SECRET: Something you can tell to only one person at a time.

C-130BII 91537 “Strawbridge”

Posted by Charles J McRaaney



(Left) This is a very nice photo of C-130BII aircraft #91537 taken at Yokota AB in 1964. Known as the "Strawbridge" aircraft, it was one of two especially configured recon aircraft and its maiden deployment, during June of 1962, was for intell gathering vs the Soviets leading up to the Cuban Missile Crisis.

The flight crew (pilot, copilot, navigators, flight engineer, and crew chief) were from the 6091st Recon Sq at Yokota. The AMTs were myself and SSgt John Polsgrove from Det 1 6988th RSM at Yokota. Delivery of the factory-fresh aircraft was at LTV Electrosystems in Greenville TX and operations were initially out of McDill AFB in Tampa FL. Operators for this effort were Spanish speakers from Headquarters USAFSS Kelly AFB. Some of the operators were not experienced flight crew when all this commenced, but they quickly developed the skills necessary for getting the job done. (*See Fallen Eagle note on page 58.)

Close Friends in Short Order:

Royal Air Force RC-135 Rivet Joint aircrews recently surpassed 1,000 hours of operational flight time and 100 operational sorties with USAF Rivet Joints from the 55th Wing at Offutt AFB, Neb. A RAF crew from 51 Squadron reached the milestone on Sept. 24. RAF members have been fly in electronic eavesdropping missions over Afghanistan and Libya with the USAF RC-135s since earlier this year. Because the British government retired the RAF's Nimrod R.1 fleet years ahead of the RAF receiving the first of its three Rivet Joints—slated for 2013—RAF flight crews and intelligence specialists now fly aboard USAF aircraft to maintain proficiency. British aircrew began arriving at Offutt to train on the RC-135 in January. "The tempo on the squadron remains as high paced as ever, we continue to support operations every day," explained RAF Wing Commander Garry Crosby, 51 Squadron commander. (RAF release)//**RAF Release//**



**Santa's little helpers are called “elves” ...
and might be considered “subordinate Clauses”.**

THEN

&

NOW

JIM KAUS



1964 Bremerhaven, Germany

2011 Laurel, MD

Jim is well-known throughout the FTVA community – as the prime mover behind USAFSS ROLL CALL group and as president of our recently established FTVA SUNSHINE CHAPTER in Florida, Jim continues to exemplify our motto “Remain In Touch”.

HELEN (Johns) HENDERSON



1973 Misawa

2011 Atlanta, GA

Helen joined the AF in 1972, completed Russian language training at DLI (Monterey, CA) then to Misawa’s T-3 Charlie Ft. After raising two children, she founded the My Family USAFSS in Misawa Website in 2001, has located over 300-plus USAFSS Fallen Eagles comrades and helped develop the Misawa Project extended membership to over 3000 contacts..

THEN

&

NOW

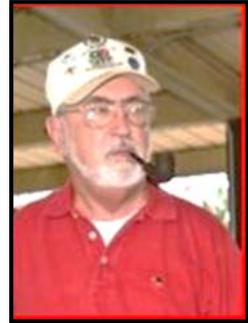
BILL DOOLITTLE



Basic Training



1961 Misawa AB



2011 Misawa Project

Bill spent a 28-year career in USAFSS/ESC with multiple assignments to Misawa, Japan (three times), Goodfellow, TX, Tan Son Nhut Vietnam and Medina, TX.

JANE (Wiesen) DOOLITTLE



974 –Marching Road Guard



2011 – Miawa Project Volunteer

Jane spent her tour at Misawa as an “X1” on Charlie Flight. She met and married her husband Bill there and today serves as one of the more dynamic reunion volunteers for the Misawa Project.



What is a "free" gift?

Aren't all gifts free?

FTVA CAPS



We have two styles of caps available. One has the stiff front the other has the soft front. Both hats are khaki color and have all five of the shields used by the commands/services/agencies



which were first known as USAFSS. In addition, the American Flag is traced along the front edge of the bill and appears as a tag on the adjustment tab. A donation of \$20 is requested for each (includes S & H). Send requests for caps to:

Douglas Holden
9227 Fallworth St.
San Antonio TX 78254

(Donation may be made by check or Money Order/Cashier's Check made out to Freedom Through Vigilance Association.)

Doug Holden



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One-year membership dues are \$20.00. Make your check payable to the FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION, 1301 E. Freeway, Suite 100, P.O. Box 831678, San Antonio, TX 78283-1678.

LAST NAME		FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	HOME PHONE
ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
<small>Last Organization (USAF/USMC/USN/USMC/USN/USAF/USN)</small> ADDRESS		<small>OLD ADDRESS (for change of address)</small> ADDRESS		
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PRIVACY STATEMENT: The authority to request this information is contained in Public Law 93-502 and Executive Order 12958. 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.

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FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION

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