



## **Freedom Through Vigilance Association**

# **2025 Annual History**

**October 2024 – September 2025**

### **Objective**

The overall objectives of the Freedom Through Vigilance Association (FTVA) are to foster continued awareness of the mission and accomplishments of the United States Air Force, in general, and specifically those of the 16 Air Force and its predecessor commands and agencies – and to provide Association members a forum for desirable social, educational and humanitarian services.

### **Period of History**

This history covers October 2024 – September 2025 and spans the social year of the FTVA.

### **Organization**

The Kelly AFB Commander, Col. John Webb, organized the Freedom Through Vigilance Association, formerly known as the USAFSS/ESC Association and the USAFSS/ESC Alumni Association, on October 26, 1981, in accordance with the Association's Constitution and Bylaws. The heritage charter was granted on December 2, 1981. William T. Ballard was the chartering president.

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# ASSOCIATION OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

## Executive Board

William (Bill) Brockmiller	President
Joe "Pepito" Figueroa	Vice President
Andy Smith	Treasurer
Roy Burnett	Secretary

## Functional Directors

Roy Burnett	Membership Chairman/Web Support
Karen "Bam" Rolirad	Vigilant Partners Coordinator
Lee Anthony	Hall of Honor and Special Activities Coordinator
Ted Colquhoun	Social Activities Chairman
Dennis Buxton	Newsletter Editor
Joe 'Pepito' Figueroa	Remembrance Ceremony Coordinator, Fallen Eagles Editor
Ken Maynard	16 AF News and Associate Newsletter Editor
Dan Martin	FTVA Historian and Associate Newsletter Editor
Bob Benitez	Golf Tournament Coordinator
Jacque Lerma	Picnic Coordinator

## FTVA Chapters

Jerry Gething	President, Mid-Atlantic Region Chapter (MARC)
Ronald "JJ" Graham	President, Heritage Chapter
John Toillion	President, Aloha Chapter
John Aurelius	President, Gold Country Chapter
Greg Roman and Stan Cook	Co-Presidents, Rocky Mountain Chapter
Ken Williams	President, Alamo Chapter
Jacob Scheid/Scott Lawson	President, Wasatch Chapter

## Directors Emeriti

Bob Sherwood	Director Emeritus
Joe Hurst	Director Emeritus
Jim McLendon	Director Emeritus
Bob Cope	Director Emeritus
A. J. Harrison	Director Emeritus
Bill Apodaca	<b>SLO, 16 AF Advisory Member</b>
Ted Colquhoun	<b>Past President</b>

# FTVA PRIOR YEAR ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 691616

San Antonio, TX 78269-1616

## 19 Oct 2024 FTVA Annual General Membership Meeting Minutes

1. After determining there was a quorum present, President Bill Brockmiller called the meeting to order at 11:02 AM and provided opening remarks beginning with a recap and general discussion of the golf tournament, Hall of Honor, Remembrance Ceremony and picnic:

**a. Golf:** This year from the roster there were 42 golfers, ~10 teams which was a significant reduction from past years. The cost was \$1173.11. Bill posed the question to the membership whether or not we care about that cost, or if we should consider another cost increase next year. Additional discussion about a possible venue change ensued. Lee Anthony provided some historical context noting that there had never been an intent for the tournament to make money and that previous NAF leadership had pressed for holding the tournament at the Lackland AFB course. It was noted that the low turnout this year could be attributed to a lack of advertising by the NAF. Considerations for next year include more robust advertising with early notification and request for support to the HQ, a potential venue change, and a possible price increase. Additionally, Jerry Gething recommended including the Chapters in early event planning and noted the possibility of getting businesses and Vigilant Partners to sponsor holes. Greg Radabaugh noted that turnout might have also been impacted by the shift of events from September to October. Next year's events are already planned for October as this aligns well with Security Service and 16 AF anniversary dates.

**b. Hall of Honor:** Bill lauded Lee and the Selection Committee for once again knocking it out of the park with great selections and write-ups. He expressed thanks to all who helped put the events together and especially to Mr. Tim Duncan in 16 AF Protocol and his staff. He additionally noted the late but robust support by the 16 AF Executive Director, Mr. Dom Pohl, had a huge impact on energizing the NAF level of support. Ron Haygood recommended that we need to work with the NAF leadership to get Wing-level interest and support and that they should perhaps appoint Wing HoH reps, as they generally have no clue about FTVA. Greg Radabaugh advised that if we formally included Wing reps on the Selection Committee that it would require a change to the HoH charter. AJ Harrison asked who the current NAF POC was, and the consensus was that it is Mr. Tim Hill, the Deputy Chief of Staff. Lastly, Andy Smith noted that he'd spoken with several family members of the honorees and there were several requests for copies of the full write-ups. Lee confirmed that there would be no issue for the sponsor of the honoree to provide the full write-up to family.

**c. Remembrance Ceremony:** Bill thanked Pepito for diligently maintaining the list of the fallen. He noted that Mr. Pohl's direction to make the ceremony a NAF event with FTVA in a support role and to move the event outside to the EC-47, while coming at the last minute, made the ceremony a much more impactful event.

While the late venue change did not afford the opportunity to coordinate a fly-over or honor guard participation as in years past, the heavy lift by 16 AF/PA and FTVA members working

the logistics that included securing medical support from the Fire Department and 59 Medical Group, working with 16 AF Facilities for chairs, and the Gillum Fitness Center to borrow bleachers, finding someone to sing the national anthem, and getting the bagpiper to play Amazing Grace, all contributed to a fitting ceremony. Thanks to Ted Colquhoun for reading the list this year; it's not an easy task as each year the list contains more and more familiar names. As with the HoH, copies of Mr. Pohl's speech were requested by several guests, and Brock will request a copy from him for distribution/publishing to the website. He will also scrub the old checklist and supporting documentation in preparation for planning for next year.

**d. Picnic:** Bill recapped the great success of this year's picnic. Many thanks to the Phoenix Booster Club (formerly 16 AF Booster Club) for volunteering to provide all of the food preparation and serving manpower and logistics, with the FTVA's only part being to pay for the cost of the food and supplies. This arrangement worked incredibly well, and the Booster Club's proactive announcement to the Security Hill First Sergeant's network of a "16 AF Burger Burn" resulted in the greatest participation of uniformed members in many years. Also, Bill noted that the Stillman Park venue offered many advantages, including the grilling and serving area and the size of the covered area that accommodated the attendees. He recommended that it be the primary location for next year's planning. Lt Gen Hensley even highlighted the picnic's great success in his opening comments at the banquet. Members discussed the opportunity to have an FTVA sign-up table at the picnic as was done in the past, and Bill advised of his intent to clean out the storage room to inventory the contents for signage, tables etc. that were used in the past, for possible use in next year's picnic.

**e. Future Plans:** Bill asked all members who had a role in planning this year's events submit to him names of those to whom thank you letters should be sent. He led a brainstorming session on better ways to advertise next year and will reach out to the Heritage Chapter as they have had great success in the San Angelo area. Bill asked the Board and membership to provide him with their thoughts on an annual Spring Social for 2025. Lee inquired as to the needed annual review of the State of Texas documents that require a Registered Agent provide a bi-annual report. He explained that this report states who the officers of the non-profit are, and that this was historically accomplished when the taxes were filed. Andy Smith advised that he will confer with Ken Maynard, the previous Treasurer, to ascertain the status. Lee noted that he has access to the needed sites and details if needed.

- 2. Oldest Participant:** After a poll of meeting participants, it was determined that John "Aloha Tilly" from the Aloha Chapter was indeed the most senior participant at the young age of 79.
- 3. Farthest Away:** In past years the farthest participant had been awarded to the member who had travelled the farthest to attend the in-person meeting. With the switch to a Zoom only meeting, the farthest this year was awarded to the participant who was zooming in from the most distant location, and the winner was Pepito Figueroa who was participating virtually in the meeting from Panama.
- 4. Reading of Last Year's Minutes:** Lee made a motion to approve last year's minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded and carried.
- 5. Treasurer's Report:** Andy provided a finance recap noting that we are running a year-over-year deficit of ~\$6000K. He noted that he'd be establishing a budget for the current year that he'll present to the Board at the next Board Meeting. Currently there is \$137,868K in FTVA accounts with some outstanding debts to settle related to this year's anniversary events. He additionally asked that Chapters provide him good addresses for him to send annual rebate checks.

- 6. History:** Dan Martin advised that the annual history report should be out for review by the end of the week following the meeting.
- 7. Website and Membership:** Roy advised that since moving the RIT from behind the website firewall into the public area that web traffic was significantly up and that he is working with Pepito on updating the membership list. There was a subsequent discussion about the ability/need to receive donations and membership signup and dues via the website. Roy advised the Constitution and Bylaws are available at the website. There was a general discussion about membership engagement and how to gauge sentiment among website viewers. RIT viewership is one way and the Chapters were encouraged to provide ideas. Pepito noted that he has no issues in finding the deceased members to track for the Memorial Ceremony, but help is needed in finding live people for membership and participation. Pep offered his e-mail address (joseph.figueroa361@gmail.com) to send ideas and potential contacts. Dan Martin offered the idea of printing up business cards to pass out.
- 8. Hall of Honor:** Lee noted that this year there were sixteen submissions, and that by comparison the most ever received was twenty-one or twenty-two. He commented that Zoom is viable for the Selection Committee allowing opening up the membership outside of the local area. He advised that the Selection Committee charter will need to be updated to reflect any organizational change that the Air Force's Great Power Competition changes might bring to 16 AF. Lastly, he commented that he had received requests for feedback on certain packages and that the Selection Committee was open to providing feedback to submitters.
- 9. Social Activities:** Ted reported that at the banquet there were sixteen tables, 128 plates, with 119 attendees. Feedback from the banquet has been excellent and Lt Gen Hensley's update was well received. Ted will reserve the club for next year for Saturday, 18 Oct 2025.
- 10.** It was noted that Dennis Buxton was very active with his camera during the allowable events and that he is requesting everyone send him pictures for the next RIT edition. The suspense for the next RIT inputs is 1 December.

#### **11. Chapter Reports:**

- a. Alamo Chapter:** Ken Williams reported that they had met on 10 August and had 25 people attend. They had an interesting guest speaker, Dr. (Colonel, USA retired) Bob Ryan, who showed up in a full Soviet uniform acquired during his interesting career. Ken advised that the Chapter voted to return their \$500 rebate check, as attempts to spend it locally were for naught. Lastly, he noted that the Chapter had purchased several wreaths to place on graves at Ft Sam Houston National Cemetery.
- b. Mid-Atlantic Chapter:** Jerry Gething expressed his sincere gratitude for this week's events. He informed the membership that the Mid-Atlantic Chapter was the true "phoenix" chapter having risen from the ashes on numerous occasions, and that they are trying again with many props to Bob Bastian. He advised that they had held a Spring Social at which Tom Renderly from Langley participated and commented on the number of former command members in the Langley area. There might be an opportunity to form a chapter there. Jerry also reported that they'd held a 50/50 raffle that Al Dowling attended and that they're planning a fall social to be held in northern Virginia. He suggested the Board consider changing the day and time of the monthly Board Meeting to better accommodate working members at various geographic locations. Lastly, he advised that they're struggling with membership and that there seems to be a need to define and better publicize the purpose of FTVA. A related discussion ensued with a suggestion to perhaps we should open membership to family members, a recommendation to create and post a video about the organization to the website, and the need to get more Wing involvement with a needed push from NAF leadership.

**c. Aloha Chapter:** Tilly thanked the Board for Hoppy's selection to the HoH and all of the related support. He expressed gratitude to Tom Nury and JJ Graham for helping Dickie Hite's family secure an EC-47 paver. He noted that their membership is down mainly due to advancing age and health and the setback of losing their regular meeting place. They will keep it afloat as long as they can and reiterated the need for advertising, connections to other organizations.

**d. Heritage Chapter:** JJ Graham provided an update and began by thanking the Board for this year's events. He advised that the Heritage Chapter had supported a Vietnam Veterans Ceremony; the EC-47 paver project has been a great success with over 600 in place and another 200 or so left. JJ informed the board that 2025 is the final year of the Congressional Vietnam Recognition program and the Heritage Chapter will continue with the program locally. He thanked the 6994th and advised that they had coordinated the Leftwich Scholarship with San Angelo State. They have a request in for the *Wall that Heals* to return to San Angelo.

They've had interest from other organization with regards to the 37th annual Tet reunion. He expressed gratitude for the help with Ed Bendinelli's HoH write up from Sue Douglas and Dennis Rasmussen. He advised that the Heritage Chapter is now an official private organization on base at GAFB and that it should provide them with more support opportunities. JJ sits on the Tom Greene County Veterans' Council and participates with the Veteran Homelessness Committee in San Angelo. He noted that membership is a challenge, particularly among permanent party as students are all transient. The Chapter briefs students on the history of the EC-47. JJ proposed that, while Zoom is great, that there should still be an in-person venue in San Antonio for the annual membership meeting to allow for a face-to-face meeting opportunity for those who travel in for the events.

**12.** The board voted to continue the terms of President Bill Brockmiller, Vice President Pepito Figueroa, and Treasurer Andy Smith. The Secretary position will transition to Roy Burnett.

**13.** Brock stated that we will start planning for future FTVA annual events as we have done in the past now that we have a more supportive 16 AF. He suggested improvements to FTVA marketing at our events such as poster boards, swag and brochures (once re-optimization is determined) with membership information. Brock requested that the board and chapters consider changes to the Spring Social (location, necessity) and closed the meeting by thanking the board and member's support over the last year and looks to build on this year's successes to make a great 2025 for the FTVA. Next monthly meeting will be 22 November 2024.

**14.** Meeting was adjourned at 1357.

//Signed//

Roy Burnett

Secretary

[Secretary@FTVA.US](mailto:Secretary@FTVA.US)



# FTVA ANNUAL FINANCE REPORT

## USAFSS/ESC General Account Balance

Category Net Worth				
		<b>30 Sep 2024</b>	<b>30 Sep 2025</b>	
<b>Assets</b>	Cash			
	- FTVA CD - 3 Month	n/a	\$18,036.23	
	- FTVA CD - 7 Month	n/a	\$30,104.98	
	- FTVA CD total	\$57,524.72	n/a	
	- FTVA Checking	\$3,492.58	\$7,752.13	
	- FTVA Savings	\$71.56	\$71.56	
	- Partners Money Market	\$9,789.37	\$6,281.78	
	- Partners Savings	\$5.39	\$5.39	
	Total Cash	\$70,883.62	\$62,252.07	
<b>Liabilities</b>		0.00	0.00	
<b>NET WORTH</b>		<b>\$70,883.62</b>	<b>\$62,252.07</b>	<b>- \$8,631.55</b>

## USAFSS/ESC Memorial Fund Account Balance

Category Net Worth				
		<b>30 Sep 2024</b>	<b>30 Sep 2025</b>	
<b>Assets</b>	Checking			
	- Grant Money Market	\$12,616.70	\$10,622.49	
	- USAFSS Money Market	\$54,358.61	\$56,076.64	
	- USAFSS Savings	\$9.95	\$9.95	
	Total Checking	\$66,985.26	\$66,709.08	
<b>Liabilities</b>		0.00	0.00	
<b>NET WORTH</b>		<b>\$66,985.26</b>	<b>\$66,709.08</b>	<b>- \$276.18</b>

## FTVA All Accounts Balance

FTVA Category Net Worth				
		<b>30 Sep 2024</b>	<b>30 Sep 2025</b>	
<b>Assets</b>	USAFSS/ESC General Account	\$70,883.62	\$62,252.07	
	- USAFSS/ESC Memorial Fund	\$66,985.26	\$66,709.08	
<b>Liabilities</b>		0.00	0.00	
<b>NET WORTH</b>		<b>\$137,868.88</b>	<b>\$128,961.15</b>	<b>- \$8,907.73</b>

**FTVA 3-Month Cash Flow Summary**  
**All Accounts as of 30 Sep 25**

Category	7/1/25 - 9/30/25
<b>Inflows</b>	
Donations - <i>Vigilant Partners</i>	\$4,000.00
Interest Income	\$688.18
Membership Dues	\$850.00
<b>Total Inflows</b>	<b>\$5,538.18</b>
<b>Outflows</b>	
Administrative Support <i>Website &amp; Social Media</i>	-\$450.00
Bank Charge	-\$60.00
Business Expenses <i>Office Expenses (Business)</i>	-\$107.38
Cash	-\$200.00
Membership <i>Contract Labor</i>	-\$2,100.00
PayPal fee	-\$30.64
<b>Total Outflows</b>	<b>-\$2,948.02</b>
<b>Total Cash Flow</b>	<b>\$2,590.16</b>



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTIVITIES

The FTVA Board met 11 times this Social Year (October 2024 through September 2025); 10 times at the Lackland Gateway Club, and once via Zoom. The one Zoom meeting was the 2024 Annual Meeting in October. The only month the board did not meet was in December, due to the holidays.

### FTVA Monthly/Annual Board Meetings

Meeting	Location	Comments
19 Oct 2024, 1000	Zoom Meeting Only	Annual FTVA Membership Meeting, held via Zoom; a quorum was noted. Bill Brockmiller concluded his first year as our President. See the full meeting minutes included in this history.
22 Nov 2024, 1300	Lackland Gateway Club & Zoom	Eight attendees, including President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, three other Board Directors, and the Alamo Chapter President Ken Williams.
24 Jan 2025, 1300	Lackland Gateway Club & Zoom	Nine attendees, including Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, three other Board Directors, Alamo Chapter President Ken Williams, Heritage Chapter President John “JJ” Graham, and Lee Anthony.
28 Feb 2025, 1300	Lackland Gateway Club & Zoom	Seven attendees, including President, Secretary, three other Board Directors, Aloha Chapter President John Toillion (Zoom), and 16 AF SLO Mr. Steve Staycoff. Also attending were MSgts Miller, Gardner, and Charles from the 16AF Pheonix Booster club.
21 Mar 2025, 1300	Lackland Gateway Club & Zoom	Eleven attendees, five in person and six via Zoom (Z). Participants included President, Treasurer (Z), Secretary, three other Board Directors, Aloha Chapter President John Toillion (Z), Heritage Chapter President John “JJ” Graham, Mid-Atlantic Region Chapter (MARC) President Jerry Gething (Z). Also on Zoom from MARC were Communications Director Sharon Frizzell and Treasurer Bob Bastion.
25 Apr 2025, 1300	Lackland Gateway Club & Zoom	Eleven attendees, six in person and five via Zoom (Z). Participants included President, Vice President, Treasurer (Z), Secretary (Z), three other Board Directors, Alamo Chapter President Ken Williams, Aloha Chapter President John Toillion (Z), Heritage Chapter President John “JJ” Graham, and from MARC was Treasurer Bob Bastion.
30 May 2025, 1300	Lackland Gateway Club & Zoom	Twelve attendees, eight in person and four via Zoom. Participants included President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, five other Board Directors, 16 AF SLO Mr. Steve Staycoff (Z), MARC President Jerry Gething (Z), and Wasatch Chapter President Scott Lawson (Z).
20 Jun 2025, 1300	Lackland Gateway Club & Zoom	Eleven attendees, eight in person and four via Zoom. Participants included President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, four other Board Directors, Aloha Chapter President John Toillion (Z), and MARC President Jerry Gething (Z).
18 Jul 2025, 1300	Lackland Gateway Club & Zoom	Eleven attendees, eight in person and four via Zoom. Participants included President, Vice President (Z), Treasurer, Secretary, three other Board Directors, Lee Anthony (Z), Aloha Chapter President John Toillion (Z), Heritage Chapter President John “JJ” Graham, and MARC President Jerry Gething (Z).
22 Aug 2025, 1300	Lackland Gateway Club & Zoom	Ten attendees, nine in person and one via Zoom. Participants included President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, three other Board Directors, 16 AF SLO Mr. Steve Staycoff, Evan Smith, and Aloha Chapter President John Toillion (Z).

19 Sep 2025 1300	Lackland Gateway Club & Zoom	Eleven attendees, six in person and five via Zoom. Participants included President (Z), Vice President (Z), Treasurer, Secretary, two other Board Directors, 16 AF SLO Mr. Steve Staycoff (Z), Lee Anthony, Aloha Chapter President John Toillion (Z), Heritage Chapter President John “JJ” Graham, and MARC President Jerry Gething (Z).
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In March the board established an Organization Focus Committee. Our President, Bill Brockmiller, led the committee with the assistance of the Vice President, ‘Pepito’ Figueroa, and included Chapter representation and input. The goals of this Committee are to develop and recommend long-term strategic plans and policies to the board of directors, focusing on the organizations. To date their several meetings and numerous coordination have resulted in both a Business Plan and Implementation Plan for the FTVA. After coordination and review of the plans a vote for approval is expected in October.

In January the FTVA supported the 16AF NCO Induction Ceremony, both financially and in person. Our organization was represented by Vice President Joe ‘Pepito’ Figueroa and Social Chair/Past President Ted Colquhoun. The event was presided over by the 16AF/CV, Maj Gen Broadwell.

There was one Board member change during the past 12 months. Ms. Karen Rolirad was appointed as our new Vigilant Partners (VP) director this past spring. Ms. Rolirad created a new Vigilant Partners brochure which was approved and posted to our FTVA website.

Earlier this spring, the Board determined that as organizational roles, titles, and capabilities of the USAFSS and its successor organizations evolve, the FTVA must also adapt to support the objectives of our core mission. As part of that adaptation the Board determined that a new FTVA emblem should be adopted to reflect those objectives. With the guidance of our President and the crucial support of Mr. Steve Staycoff’s time and creativity, an updated emblem was produced and presented to the membership in the June 2025 RIT edition for comment. There was only positive feedback on the FTVA webpage, and in the July Board meeting the new emblem was officially accepted, and its use was directed. Our Social Chair, Ted Colquhoun, worked with a vendor that did a mock up for two different hat designs. They were approved by the board and were available in September in time to offer them to the membership at the upcoming reunion events. You can see the new emblem below.



**Proposed FTVA Emblem Symbolism:**

- 1948: Establishment of USAFSS
- Sword: Strength
- Shield: Protection
- Key: Intelligence
- Knight: Ability to strike from unknown places
- Bolts: Non-kinetic effects (e.g., offensive cyber, information operations, electromagnetic support)
- Globe: Worldwide mission
- Stars: Seven FTVA chapters
- Circuit Board: Defensive cyber operations

Finally, as always, the majority of the summer months were spent planning and organizing for the Annual FTVA Reunion, scheduled for October 16-18 2025.

## FTVA HALL OF HONOR



### Gregory Radabaugh Hall of Honor Program Chair



This is Lt Col/DISL (Ret) Greg Radabaugh's first year as the Hall of Honor (HoH) Chairman, after taking over from Lee Anthony, who served 2 years as the HoH Chair.

#### **2025 Selection Committee**

The 2025 HoH Selection Committee was comprised of the following individuals:

Lt Col/DISL (Ret) Kenneth Williams  
CMSgt (Ret) A.J. Harrison  
CMSgt (Ret) Kenneth Maynard  
CMSgt (Ret) Marco Aldaz  
CMSgt (Ret) Ted Colquhoun  
CMSgt (Ret) Susan Douglas  
SMSgt (Ret) Lee Anthony

#### **2025 Hall of Honor Induction**

The Hall of Honor Selection Committee convened on July 31, 2025. On August 23<sup>rd</sup> the HoH Chair announced by e-mail to all concerned the names of this year's inductees. They are:

Colonel Richard A. "Rick" Lipsey  
Colonel Patricia M. "Pat" Murphy (Deceased)  
Mr. James. M. "Jim" Courtois  
Chief Master Sergeant John S. Oles  
Chief Master Sergeant Steven S. "Steve" Staycoff

These individuals and their families will be formally recognized and inducted into the Hall of Honor during the upcoming October reunion.

Many thanks to the HoH Selection Committee for their time and efforts in ranking and voting on this year's outstanding nominees to arrive at these selectees.

We will be looking forward to viewing the photographs of this event in the upcoming [December 2025](#) *Remain In Touch* issue.

They will be joining the other 219 Silent Warriors placed there over the previous 40-plus years.



## 16 AIR FORCE NEWS

Compiled by Ken Maynard  
Associate Editor Extraordinaire

The following list of 16 AF News Articles highlights the published activities of 16 AF, and were extracted and republished throughout the past year in various issues of the *Remain In Touch (RIT)* Newsletter. For the full articles and selected photos, see the FTVA website for the appropriate [RIT issue](#).

- **SECAF Kendall Visits HQ of IW Warriors, Addresses Importance of ‘Getting It Right’**

*(Adapted from an article by Matthew McGovern)*

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, TX** -- Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber), the Air Force’s premier Information Warfare Numbered Air Force, welcomed Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall Oct. 30 - 31.

During the two-day visit, Kendall received mission briefings on 16th AF, 616th Operations Center, the 67th and 688th Cyberspace Wings, and saw how each organization integrates capabilities to counter adversaries in the Information Environment. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [December 2024](#).)*

- **Growing Cyber Threats Prompt Philippine Army’s 1st 16th AF Visit**

*(Adapted from an article by Matthew McGovern)*

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, TX** -- Colonel Edward Rivera, 616th Operations Center (OC), director of operations, welcomed Philippine Army Col. Windell Rebong, Command and Control Communications and Cyber Systems (C4S), deputy assistant chief, and five associates, here, July 18, for a subject-matter-expert exchange amid rising cyberattacks.

The exchange centered around maturing information warfare by strengthening interdependencies between several domains: electronic warfare, information operations and warfare, and cyber operations. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [December 2024](#).)*

- **Defense Attaché Group Visits 16th Air Force - Prepares for Integrated Deterrence**

*(Adapted from an article by Matthew McGovern)*

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, TX** -- The security of our Nation, and protection of our partners and allies relies on strengthening deterrence, a cornerstone of the National Defense Strategy.

Twenty-nine defense attachés with the Defense Attaché Orientation Program, representing 21 various countries, convened at 16th Air Force (16 AF) Sept. 11, to discuss integrated deterrence and understand cyber capabilities for future coordination. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [December 2024](#).)*

- **526th Intelligence Squadron Creates MIDNITE APEX, Increasing Combat Readiness for Peer Conflict**

*(Adapted from an article by TSgt AJ Hyatt, Published 13 Jan 25)*

**JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, VA** -- Hundreds of intelligence analysts, from 27 units across the globe, recently participated in the MIDNITE (Multi-Intelligence Discipline Network Integration Training Exercise) APEX 24-1 exercise in November 2024, which allowed intel professionals to overcome foreseen and unforeseen complications in their targeting cycle, lay out the groundwork for the specificity of each unit's role within the targeting cycle, and more importantly shorten timelines with repetition and practice.

MIDNITE APEX is a training exercise designed and delivered by the 526th Intelligence Squadron, at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, with the support of ACC/A23. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [March 2025](#).)*

- **363RD ISR Wing Receives Meritorious Unit Award**

*(Adapted from an article by TSgt AJ Hyatt 363rd ISRW, Published 23 Dec 24)*

**JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, VA** -- The 363rd Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Wing (ISRW) recently earned the Air Force Meritorious Unit Award (AFMUA) to recognize the organization for outstanding achievement in direct support of combat operations during the period 1 June 2023 – 31 May 2024.

The AFMUA is given to Air Force active duty, Reserve, and Guard units for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding achievement or service in direct support of combat operations for at least 90 continuous days during the period of military operations against an armed enemy of the United States on or after 11 September 2001. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [March 2025](#).)*

- **16TH Air Force Continues Poland Cyber Command Partnership with First-Ever Malware Attack Exercise**

*(Adapted from an article by Matthew McGovern, Published 4 Dec 24)*

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - LACKLAND, TX** -- Poland, a logistical hub for military and humanitarian aid to Ukraine, is a major target of evolving Russian cyberattacks.

Poland Cyber Command (POLCYBERCOM) and 16th Air Force (16AF) reinforced their commitment to defeating malicious cyber actors in the information environment during a recent Poland Cyber Command delegation visit, here, Oct. 29 -31. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [March 2025](#).)*

- **363d ISR Wing Executes No-Notice Combat Readiness Exercise, ACC Combat Readiness Inspection**

*(Adapted from an article by TSgt AJ Hyatt, published 16 April, 2025)*

**JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, VA** -- The 363d Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Wing (ISRW) recently concluded its first no-notice Combat Readiness Exercise (CRE) across various locations throughout the United States in the first quarter of 2025.

This exercise tested the 363d ISRW's ability to rapidly deploy personnel and equipment while continuing to seamlessly execute the mission on the go. It also tested military members' skills and evaluated their ability to sustain operations in the face of challenging conditions. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [June 2025](#).)*

- **Air Forces Cyber Commander, Command Chief, Visit Nuke Surveillance Center**

*(Adapted from an article by Susan A. Romano, AFTAC/PA, published 5 May 2025)*

**PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, FL** --The Commander, 16th Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) (16AF), accompanied by the 16th AF Command Chief, traveled from San Antonio to Florida's Space Coast to visit the Department of Defense's sole nuclear surveillance center 17-18 April.

Lt Gen Thomas K. Hensley and CMSgt Robert L. Hopkins made the trip to the Air Force Technical Applications Center (AFTAC) here to learn more about the center's dynamic and evolving role in detecting, verifying, and analyzing global nuclear activity in real time. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [June 2025](#).)*

- **Sweden Cyber Command and Air Forces Cyber Align Cyber Compatibility**

*(Adapted from an article by Capt. Dorothy Sherwood, 16AF, published 7 March 2025)*

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - LACKLAND, TX** -- All military operations rely on cyberspace -- a complex domain connecting global computer systems, internet and other networks.

It is a contested environment with cyber actors looking for vulnerabilities to disrupt U.S., partners or Allies' operations around the world.

Together, 16th Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) and the Sweden Cyber Command are sharpening their competitive edge by teaming up to counter these malicious cyber activities. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [June 2025](#).)*

- **16th AF and Romanian Cyber Command Share Insights During Inaugural Bilateral Engagement**

*(Adapted from an article by Manuel Garcia, published 12 August 2025)*

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, TX** -- Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) hosted the Romanian Cyber Command for their first bilateral engagement at its headquarters July 28-29.

United States and Romania—NATO allies both facing critical cyber threats—shared strategies on security operations center processes, cyber protection teams, and cyber operations planning. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [September 2025](#).)*

- **Historic Activation Ceremony Takes Place at Nuke Surveillance Center**

*(Adapted from an article by Susan A. Romano, AFTAC/PA, published 7 August 2025)*

**PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, FL** -- For the first time in its storied history, the Air Force Technical Applications Center (AFTAC) activated an Air Force Reserve squadron during a ceremony held at the center's headquarters here Aug. 1, 2025.

The 71st Surveillance Squadron, now commanded by Col. Jared Broddrick, will be responsible for augmenting the 22nd Surveillance Squadron by providing strategic surge capacity and steady-state mission requirements in support of AFTAC's global nuclear surveillance mission. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [September 2025](#).)*

- **Allied Cyber Skill Share Strengthens International Partnerships at Scott**  
*(Adapted from an article by SrA Tyler Moody, 375 AMW/PA, published 5 August 2025)*

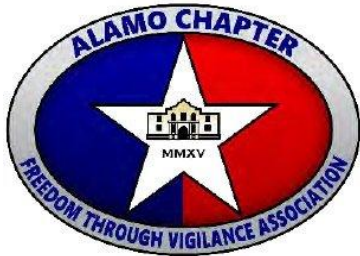
**SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, IL** -- The 835th Cyberspace Operations Squadron hosted cyber professionals from the United Kingdom and Canada, 14–17 July, to exchange expertise and strengthen cooperation across allied networks during a multinational Cyber Skill Share event.

Held at the Cyberspace Capabilities Center Headquarters here at Scott, the event brought together participants from the U.S. Air Force’s 75th Intelligence Squadron, the Royal Canadian Air Force, and the U.K. Royal Air Force to discuss potential cybersecurity challenges and share cutting-edge approaches to emerging threats in the digital domain. *(See full article in the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [September 2025](#).)*



## FTVA CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

(Note: These FTVA Chapter News articles are condensed with minimal pictures. For the full articles and more photos, see the [Remain in Touch Newsletters](#) for the past twelve months.)



### Alamo Chapter San Antonio, TX

**Ken Williams, President**  
**Dennis “Rass” Rasmussen, Vice President**  
**Ken Maynard, Secretary/Treasurer**

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024

##### October thru December 2024 Meetings & Activities

**November 21, 2024 Meeting.** The San Antonio Chapter of the FTVA held their monthly meeting at the Alamo Café Restaurant on 21 November 2024. There was no meeting in October because of the annual reunion and there will not be a meeting in December in light of the Christmas holidays. The meeting feature lunch and fellowship with 21 attendees.

In chapter business, Ken read a Thank You Card from Grace Blancett thanking the chapter for a monetary donation to the San Antonio Food Bank on behalf of Colonel, (retired/deceased) Patricia Murphy. The recent funeral service for Lt Col (retired/deceased) Kermit Wegner was mentioned. Also, 10 wreaths were purchased for next month’s Wreaths Across America event at Ft Sam Houton National Cemetery.

*(For a complete list of attendees and photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletter [December 2024](#) issue.)*

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2025

##### January thru March 2025 Meetings & Activities

**February 20, 2025 Meeting.** The Alamo Chapter’s first meeting in the new year was held at the Alamo Café. There were 21 attendees. Discussions included the FTVA Spring Social on 16 May. It will be a picnic sponsored by the parent FTVA organization Stapleton Park on Security Hill.

**March 20, 2025 Meeting.** The San Antonio Chapter of the FTVA held their March meeting at the Alamo Café Restaurant on IH10. Fifteen members enjoyed fellowship and lunch. Members discussed the ongoing Air Force reorganization and what this might mean for 16 AF in the future. Jennifer and Lee Anthony and their company, Engrave Tech, graciously donated a new Alamo Chapter poster.

*(For additional 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter meeting details, including attendees and photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [March 2025](#) issue for the February meeting, and the [June 2025](#) issue for the March meeting.)*

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2025

##### April thru June 2025 Meetings & Activities

**April 17, 2025 Meeting.** The Alamo Chapter held their April meeting at the Alamo Café Restaurant. Fourteen members enjoyed fellowship and lunch. Ken Maynard, Treasurer, briefed we have \$240.00 in our account. Andy Smith provided feedback about meeting with members of the 93rd Intelligence Squadron to discuss the FTVA and how we might partner in the future with the local unit. Given the

proximity of our Alamo Chapter meeting next month, members decided to cancel our May get together and attend the Spring Social picnic on 16 May at Stapleton Park, instead.

*(For additional 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter meeting details, including attendees and photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [June 2025](#) issue.)*

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2025

#### July thru September 2025 Meetings & Activities

**19 June, 2025 Meeting.** The Alamo Chapter held their June meeting at the Alamo Café Restaurant on IH10, near the USAA headquarters. Seventeen members enjoyed fellowship and lunch. We were happily surprised to welcome Dottie France and Ed Barnes to the luncheon. Not much to report as most people are either on or soon to begin their summer vacations. The lack of participation in the Spring Social/Picnic was discussed, and our next meeting was set.



**Photo: FTVA Chapter Vice President Dennis “Rass” Rassmussen in front of the Alamo Chapter poster board logo accompanied by the description of FTVA and its mission.**

**17 July, 2025 Meeting.** The San Antonio Alamo Chapter held their monthly meeting at the Alamo Café Restaurant on IH10. Sixteen members and one guest enjoyed fellowship and lunch. The recent flood disaster in Kerrville and the Hill Country was discussed, as were the pending funeral arrangements for Col (ret) Kirk Mardis, who recently passed away. The upcoming FTVA October Reunion events were mentioned, and the next meeting date in August was set.

**21 August, 2025 Meeting.** The San Antonio Chapter of the FTVA held their monthly meeting at the Alamo Café Restaurant on IH10. Ted Colquhoun introduced the new hats with the new FTVA logo which should be ready for donation/purchase next month. The suggested donation amount will be \$25

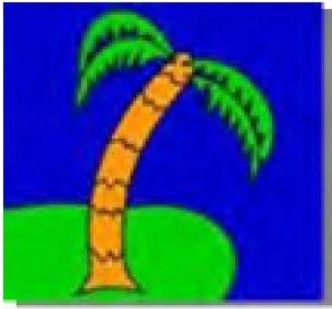
per hat. Chris Cook provided information about supporting upcoming events to raise awareness about the disease ALS (commonly called Lou Gehrig disease) and how it is affecting one of our members.



**PHOTO: Left side and going around the table: Richard Yanagimoto (peeking in), John Lopes, Alan Daugherty, Greg Mahoney, Pete Siegel, Dottie France, Darby Stacey (end of the table), Ted Colquhoun (standing), Ed Barnes, Chris Cook, Dan Martin, and Andy Smith (modeling the new hat).**

*(For additional 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter meeting details, including attendees and photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [September 2025](#) issue.)*





## **Aloha Chapter Honolulu, HI**

**John “Tilly” Toillion, President**

(Note: These FTVA Chapter News articles are condensed with minimal pictures. For the full articles and more photos, see the [Remain in Touch Newsletters](#) for the past twelve months.)

### **4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024**

#### **October thru December 2024 Meetings & Activities**

There were no Chapter meetings held this quarter.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2025**

#### **January thru March 2025 Meetings & Activities**

Date of meeting unspecified. The Chapter President, ‘Tilly’ Toillion, reported the following.

While our Chapter currently exists with just two Amigos (Ken Een and yours truly) Ken and I met for lunch at our local Zippy’s. We discussed how we can “grow” our “hui” (group), and we decided we’d try to track down other FTVA brothers and sisters residing on the beach, out to sea, or mountains throughout the islands.

One highlight of our “Talking Story” time Ken shared how he and his wife Hiroko are members of a “Japanese Ground Golf” group which usually meets every Monday morning at a local park. It’s a great way to meet others, great exercise and to just have fun.

Of particular note, Tilly did attend the FTVA monthly board meetings (via Zoom) on 28 Feb and 21 Mar, 2025. An admirable feat considering the four-hour time difference and all those beaches!

*(As noted above, for a complete list of attendees, photos, and other details, see the [Remain in Touch Newsletter March 2025](#) issue.)*

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2025**

#### **April thru June 2025 Meetings & Activities**

There were no Chapter meetings held this quarter. However, Tilly once again forewent hitting the surf in favor of attending the FTVA monthly board meetings (via Zoom) on 25 Apr and 20 Jun, 2025.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2025**

#### **July thru September 2025 Meetings & Activities**

Date of meeting unspecified. The Chapter President, ‘Tilly’ Toillion, reported the following.

After a brief hiatus Ken Een and I met for breakfast at our local Zippy’s with Fred Romero who just signed up as our newest FTVA-Aloha Chapter member. Fred lives here on Oahu and is a former Russian linguist. Fred was assigned as an MA to the 6990th Security Group at Kadena from August 1983 through December 1986. Fred left active duty and transitioned into the AF Reserves as an Individual Augmentee (IMA). He currently works for Hawaiian Tel here on Oahu.

Discussion topics at our breakfast included identifying those we know in common as well as those who reside here in Hawaii. We agreed to make contact the ones who live here in Hawaii and to invite them to our next get-together.



**Aloha Chapter Members (l-r) Ken Een, Tilly Toillion, and new chapter and FTVA Member Fred Romero**

Once again, Tilly attended the FTVA monthly board meetings on Zoom, this time for all three months of July, August and September 2025.

*(For additional 3rd Quarter meeting details, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [September 2025](#) issue.)*





## Gold Country Chapter Yuba City, CA



**John Aurelius, President**  
[jaurelius@mikodi.com](mailto:jaurelius@mikodi.com)

(Note: These FTVA Chapter News articles are condensed with minimal pictures. For the full articles and more photos, see the [Remain in Touch Newsletters](#) for the past twelve months).

### **4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024**

#### **October thru December 2024 Meetings & Activities**

Nothing to report.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2025**

#### **January thru March 2025 Meetings & Activities**

Nothing to report.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2025**

#### **April thru June 2025 Meetings & Activities**

Nothing to report.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2025**

#### **July thru September 2025 Meetings & Activities**

Nothing to report.





## Heritage Chapter San Angelo, TX

**Ronald 'JJ' Graham, Chapter President**  
**Larry Ross, Secretary/Treasurer**  
All inputs submitted by Wayne Bascom, Secretary

(Note: These FTVA Chapter News articles are condensed with minimal pictures. For the full articles and more photos, see the [Remain in Touch Newsletters](#) for the past twelve months.)

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024

#### October thru December 2024 Meetings & Activities

**Heritage Chapter Completes 2024 Elections.** The biennial elections for the Heritage Chapter were completed at our Fall social. Once again Ron "JJ" Graham was voted in as our illustrious president. JJ has provided the Heritage Chapter with over 20 years of continuous service as our president. Wayne Bascom and Rick Premo were re-elected as secretary and treasurer, respectively. A new face in the leadership is Scott Dickson, who replaces the outgoing Larry Miller as Vice-President.



*Above (l-r): JJ Graham, Rick Premo, Scott Dickson (and son), and Wayne Bascom (Photo by Heritage Chapter)*

**Heritage Chapter Fall Social.** The Heritage Chapter continues to hold one social every quarter to bring both members and their families together for food, fun, and to catch up on the latest chapter activities. Our Fall Social was attended by 18 individuals, of which 9 were chapter members (date not given).



*Left (l-r): Chae Bascom, Mary Frentz, Frentz's Granddaughter Krissy, and Carl Frentz*

*Right (l-r): Ann Burmeister, David Garza, Marietta Garza, Diane Ross*



(For more photos and other details, see the [Remain in Touch Newsletter December 2024](#) issue.)

**Heritage Chapter Supports National Oratory Contest.** The Heritage Chapter assisted the local American Legion Post 572 Commander, Kristie Young, with their annual oratory contest. Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation’s laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.

Larry Miller, in his triple-hatted responsibilities as outgoing Heritage Chapter Vice-President, American Legion Member, and San Angelo City Council member, bridged his responsibilities by getting a city venue and enough volunteers to complete the program without a hitch. JJ Graham was one of four judges while Wayne Bascom performed timekeeping and point tabulation duties. Three high school students competed.

*(For more photos and other details, see the Remain in Touch Newsletter [December 2024](#) issue.)*

**Chapter President JJ Graham Judges San Angelo Veterans Day Parade.** This year the San Angelo Veterans Day Parade theme was “Saluting the Military Family.” Our own JJ Graham was selected by the city as one of the judges. This was JJ's sixth straight year of being asked to be a judge for this event, which is sponsored by the All-Vets Council of Tom Green County (TGC). There were over 100 entries in total and over 3,500 people lined the streets to watch the parade. This is reportedly the largest parade of its kind in Texas.

*(As noted above, for a complete description of events, photos, and other details, see the Remain in Touch Newsletter [December 2024](#) issue.)*

## 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2025

### January thru March 2025 Meetings & Activities

**Vietnam Veteran Visits Goodfellow AFB.** This past December Barry Marshall came to San Angelo to witness the retirement of his friend Darrel Drost, the Goodfellow AFB Assistant Fire Chief. He contacted Tom Nurre just before his arrival and asked if he could have some help to find his paver in the Weyandt-Eddy Memorial Plaza at the base. JJ Graham and Wayne Bascom mobilized to meet Barry at the base. In no time at all he was able to find his paver recognizing his service.

*(For more photos and other details, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [March 2025](#) issue.)*



**Heritage Chapter “Christmas Hangover” Social.** Despite the bad weather and last-minute rescheduling, the Heritage Chapter continued the tradition of the Christmas Hangover Social in January. About a dozen members and guests enjoyed a BBQ dinner from the locally well-regarded Packsaddle BBQ Restaurant. JJ Graham once again dazzled everyone with his humor and astute business meeting acumen. After the meeting everyone settled down to a fine meal and storytelling.

*(For several 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter meeting photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [March 2025](#) issue.)*



*Above: Oratory Contest Winner, Akash Vukoti, receives his champion trophy from American Legion Post Commander Kristie Young. (Photo by Wayne Bascom)*

**Heritage Chapter Assists Grunts in Welcoming Vietnam Veterans.** The Abilene Grunts Association held their 38th annual Tet Offensive Reunion on February 1st. The Heritage Chapter not only attended the event but also assisted the organizers in recognizing Vietnam Veterans.

Hundreds of veterans and their families attended the event. Among these were dozens of exhibitors, vendors, and service organization representatives, including JJ Graham and Wayne Bascom from the Heritage Chapter who used the proceedings to showcase veterans' events in San Angelo.

We displayed several of our large tri-folds keying on specific events and ceremonies our chapter had sponsored at Goodfellow and in the San Angelo area. We also provided information and handouts on the Vietnam Commemoration Committee's Vietnam veterans pinning program and the popular EC-47 Paver Program. Finally, we advertised the upcoming 28 March Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration ceremony at Goodfellow AFB.



*Wayne Bascom exhibiting a couple of the Heritage Chapter tri-folds and the glass-encased Hanoi Brick.*

*(For additional photos of the reunion, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [March 2025](#) issue.)*

**Heritage Chapter Assists Texas DAR.** The Daniel McMahon Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a Vietnam War Commemoration Commemorative Partner just like with the EC-47 History Site which the Heritage Chapter partners with.

This past January this DAR chapter planned a large recognition and pinning ceremony at a local church here in San Angelo. One individual from the DAR chapter, Dr. Diana Mason, coordinated the entire event, with the Heritage Chapter providing an assist. The Chapter mobilized a half dozen members to assist Dr. Mason, a Professor Emeritus in the University of North Texas Chemistry Department, and a commissioned Admiral in the Texas Navy, in pulling this off. Approximately 80 veterans and surviving spouses were recognized in a moving tribute to all those who served. The photos below tell the story.



*Heritage Chapter Members Scott Dickson (back to camera) and JJ Graham present Vietnam Recognition pins and certificates to surviving spouses.*



*The sanctuary was packed with veterans and their families.*

*(For additional photos of the ceremony, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [March 2025](#) issue.)*

**Heritage Chapters Supports Legion Oratory Contest - *Part Deux*.** In the last issue of the *Remain in Touch* we reported on the Heritage Chapter assisting the local American Legion Post 572 with their national oratory contest. The next level was district 21, which was also held in San Angelo. Once again members of the Heritage Chapter were asked to support this effort. As judges, timekeepers, and score tabulators, we helped ensure the program ran smoothly and fairly. Larry Miller of the Heritage Chapter also served as American Legion District 21 Oratorical Contest Coordinator.

Not surprisingly, local favorite Akash Vukoti once again took honors. He subsequently competed at the division level at Odessa, TX in February (unfortunately for many of us it was the same day as the Tet Reunion in Abilene). Reports are that he lost a very close contest with one of last year's National contest participants. Akash is only a sophomore and therefore has two more years of eligibility.

*(For photos of the contest, see the *Remain in Touch* Newsletters, [March 2025](#) issue.)*

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2025**

### **April thru June 2025 Meetings & Activities**

**EC-47 History Site and Heritage Chapter Commemorate 50th Anniversary of Vietnam War's End.** San Angelo was the site on 27-28 March of a huge commemoration marking the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War; part of the DoD effort to 'Welcome Home' Vietnam veterans. The chapter assisted Tom Nurre's EC-47 History Site in pulling this off under beautiful weather where an estimated 220 attendees observed the ceremonies held at Goodfellow AFB and the Clarion Hotel in San Angelo, Texas.



An after-action report (AAR) was submitted to The United State of America Vietnam War Commemoration in Arlington, Virginia. It was submitted on a DD Form 2957 and emailed to [WHS.VNWar50th\\_CPP\\_AAR@mail.mil](mailto:WHS.VNWar50th_CPP_AAR@mail.mil).

Below is the first portion of the AAR:

*BEGIN AAR: This two-day event began with a "Welcome Home" reception on Thursday evening at the San Angelo Clarion Hotel. The EC-47 History Site and Heritage Chapter-Freedom Through Vigilance Association (FTVA) members welcomed attendees from nine states and various Texas cities with free snacks and refreshments. The hosts displayed posters throughout the reception area featuring Vietnam War articles from the 1970s. These included the signing of the Paris Peace Accords, the withdrawal of American and Allied troops from Vietnam, and the last-minute evacuations as Saigon fell, 50 years ago.*

*Friday morning, the Goodfellow Air Force Base Heritage Committee, led by senior member JJ Graham, hosted the fourth annual Vietnam War Commemoration Ceremony at the EC-47 Weyandt-Eddy Memorial Plaza.*

*The estimated 220 attendees included three Gold Star Family members, 30 Vietnam veterans and 15 deceased Vietnam veteran surviving spouses and their families. ...*

*(For the remainder of the AAR, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [June 2025](#) issue.)*



*Master of Ceremonies JJ Graham, right, presents a thank you gift to guest speaker LtCol Ray Kuderka, 344th Military Intelligence Battalion Commander.*



*Congressman Pfluger, left, presents the Outstanding Partner letter congratulating Tom Nurre for his and the EC-47 History Site's Commemorative Partner Program accomplishments.*

*(For additional information and photos of the ceremony, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [June 2025](#) issue.)*

**PMFR: Doggers Host FOSP 2025.** This year's Fall of Saigon Party (FOSP), held from April 28 through May 3, 2025 was marked by the 50th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon and the official end of the Vietnam War. This year's FOSP was in Washington D.C. with a great turnout of almost 100 Dogger veterans and spouses, a good number of ChiLings, including Heritage Chapter secretary Wayne Bascom, and one MiMi, Jim Sickich. The co-conspirators tasked with making this special FOSP absolutely successful were Randy Seitter, J. P. Hill, Joe Turney, and Heritage Chapter member Larry Miller.

The hotel and focal point for our 50th anniversary was the Holiday Inn Suites in College Park Maryland, which was perfectly situated for our planned activities in Washington and the National Security Agency. Although Day One was not officially a sight-seeing day, several members of Randy's Viet language class took the opportunity to tour historic Annapolis and the Naval Academy, the rest of the group enjoyed spending time in the hospitality room to reacquaint ourselves with old friends and crew members. This involved enjoying adult beverages and retelling often repeated war stories that began "No, s\*\*\*, this really happened!"

Our banquet was held at American Legion Post #136 in Greenbelt, MD, about eight minutes from the hotel. JP put on a great video presentation of photos of many of our departed Doggers that played during dinner. Dinner was followed first by presentation of 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War lapel pins to several in attendance that had yet to receive one. We were certainly honored to have Major General Ricky Mills attend our banquet along with his Mom and Dad, Chief Master Sergeant Larry Mills.

*(For much more information on the Fall of Saigon Party, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [June 2025](#) issue.)*

**Heritage Chapter Memorial Day Activities.** A tradition in San Angelo is to honor our fallen veterans each Memorial Day at various events. Members of the Heritage Chapter fan out and try to attend as many as possible. Larry Miller attended the first ceremony of Memorial Day at 9:30 AM at Fort Concho in San Angelo. Fort Concho is regarded as the best preserved of all the old Western forts. The ceremony

was also attended by the “newly-minted” San Angelo Mayor Tom Thompson; Tom Green County Judge Lane Carter; and long-time county judge, Steve Floyd as well as representation from other San Angelo veterans groups.

Two Chapter members, JJ Graham and Rick Primo, attended the Memorial Day Ceremony at Johnson's Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens. The Goodfellow AFB Honor Guard did an amazing job raising and folding the flag in winds gusting over 30 MPH! The guest speaker, Major Christina Behrens, the Director of Operations of the 312th Training Squadron, gave a fitting presentation on what Memorial Day means to active-duty military personnel and to her personally, citing her family's generations of military service.

The final event took place at 5:30 PM. Chapter President “J.J.” Graham, Wayne Bascom and Larry Miller attended the 58th annual Veterans Affairs ceremony at the Tom Green County Courthouse. Along with almost all of the veteran organizations in the San Angelo community, J.J. presented a memorial wreath honoring San Angelo’s fallen in front of the courthouse building.

*(For additional information and photos of the ceremonies, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [June 2025](#) issue.)*

**Chapter Honors Veterans.** During a recent trip with lunch deliveries for San Angelo’s “Meals For the Elderly”, one of our members visited with an elderly gentleman in his home. Our guy was astonished by what he called the “finest beer stein collection” that he’d ever seen.

It was readily apparent that this elderly gentleman had spent a significant time serving in the US military in Germany. When asked if he had ever been awarded the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War lapel pin, he was completely unaware of the program. Fortunately, our guy had one of the pins on his hat and proceeded to pin this veteran on the spot.

Later discussions with the “Meals For The Elderly” program managers revealed that there were 21 elderly veterans that they served meals to that had never been presented with pins honoring their service. We immediately set about to correct this oversight.

*(For additional information and photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [June 2025](#) issue.)*

**Heritage Chapter Honors City Mayor.** On 18 March, during a San Angelo City Council meeting, the Heritage Chapter surprised outgoing Mayor Brenda Gunter by honoring her for her past service and support to the chapter’s activities. The honors were bestowed in front of the entire San Angelo City Council and the many community members in attendance.



*Those in attendance were (L-R) City Councilman Larry Miller, Heritage Chapter President JJ Graham, Mayor Brenda Gunter, American Legion Post 572 Commander Kristie Young, City Councilman Harry Thomas, American Legion Post 572 Adjutant Carl Frentz (rear), Mary Frentz, and City Manager Daniel Valenzuela.*

One highlight of the surprise presentation was Mayor Gunter’s public reading of a City Proclamation marking the 50th anniversary of the end of America's involvement in the Vietnam War. This

proclamation was drafted by Heritage Chapter members, including Tom Nurre and San Angelo Councilmember Larry Miller.

*(For additional information and photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [June 2025](#) issue.)*

**Heritage Chapter & City Visitor's Center Sign Agreement.** The Heritage Chapter signed an agreement with the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce Visitor's Center. This agreement allows the Visitor's Center to sell the Goodfellow Air Force Base pictorial history book that was co-authored by former Goodfellow Base Historian Dr. John "Doc" Garrett and our own CMSgt (ret) Tom Nurre. These two gentlemen scoured many sources for images that tell the story of Goodfellow over time. The book normally retails for about \$24 online but the authors are giving the visitor's Center a small discount. Thousands of students attend classes here each year in the many disciplines. In a lot of these cases families come to San Angelo for these graduations and spend time in the city, including the Visitor's Center. Recently, the center added a small Goodfellow Exhibit. Now next to that exhibit is a display of these books ready for purchase. As a bonus each book in the Visitor's Center is signed by both authors.



*Heritage Chapter Secretary Wayne Bascom poses with Linda Burdell, San Angelo Visitor's Center Manager.*

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2025

#### July thru September 2025 Meetings & Activities

**Honoring Veterans of the Vietnam EC-47 Mission.** Earlier this year, a couple of Heritage Chapter members participated in the annual Fall of Saigon Party (FOSP) held in Washington, D.C. During that event we discovered that the group leadership had the names of many Doggers read into the congressional record, honoring their service. Upon return to San Angelo the Heritage Chapter thought it would be a great idea, while the U.S. Government Vietnam War veteran recognition program is still ongoing, to have a statement about the EC-47 mission written into the Congressional Record. Larry Miller provided Tom Nurre with a sample from the FOSP. Tom took that information and asked some stalwart EC-47 ARDF guys about putting something together for our Congressman Pfluger to read into the record in tribute to them...and to have it for the 6994th Security Squadron reunion in Ohio from August 15th to 17th of this year. The following named 6994th veterans helped with the finished narrative: Joe Martin, Bill Francis, and Rick Yeh. Mrs. Kathy Keane, daughter of Vietnam Veteran Gary Taylor, is the San Angelo Regional Director of Congressman August Pfluger's office. She was instrumental in transmitting our request and the final tribute narrative to the Washington D.C. Staff. The tribute was read into the congressional record on August 12, 2025. Kudos to the ARDF veterans and all those involved in applying the outstanding FOSP effort to our local programs. The beginning of the text is as follows:



*Congressman August Pfluger  
(Official photo courtesy  
Congressman August Pfluger)*

**“HONORING THE 6994TH SECURITY SQUADRON OF THE UNITED STATES  
AIR FORCE SECURITY SERVICE, ALONG WITH THE 360TH, 361ST, AND 362ND  
TACTICAL ELECTRONIC WARFARE SQUADRONS**

**HON. AUGUST PFLUGER**

**of Texas**

**in the House of Representatives**

**Tuesday, August 12, 2025**

*Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to rise today to recognize and commend the distinguished service of the 6994th Security Squadron of the United States Air Force Security Service, along with the 360th, 361st, and 362nd Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadrons. These squadrons executed highly classified and dangerous missions aboard the venerable EC-47 aircraft to meet the intelligence requirements of the Military Assistance Command and the Central Intelligence Agency in the operating areas of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia.*

*These integrated aircrews flew out of Tan Son Nhut, Nha Trang, Pleiku, Phu Cat, and Da Nang Air Bases in the Republic of Vietnam, as well as Nakhon Phanom and Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Bases in Thailand, from 1966 to 1974.*

*The 6994th Security Squadron was primarily composed of enlisted logistical and maintenance personnel, intelligence analysts, Morse intercept operators, and cryptologic linguist mission specialists. These professionals maintained and operated state-of-the-art airborne radio direction finding (ARDF) equipment aboard the EC-47 aircraft, used to detect, identify, and geolocate low-powered enemy transmitters on the battlefield. They also collected critical signals and communications intelligence about enemy plans and movements. ...”*

*(For the remainder of Representative Pfluger’s tribute, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [September 2025](#) issue.)*

**Heritage Chapter Continues Recognition of Homebound Vietnam Veterans.** The Heritage Chapter has now completed its mission to honor 23 homebound veterans served by the Meals For the Elderly here in San Angelo as well as a few neighboring communities. The heroes we awarded 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War certificates and lapel pins served in many various roles in Uncle Sam's Armed Forces. All served with distinction in all the duties they performed during this turbulent time in our nation's history. We met with veterans that had served in all four military branches that participated in the Vietnam War.

*(For additional information on the Honorees and their photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [September 2025](#) issue.)*

**Goodfellow AFB Change of Command.** According to Goodfellow AFB Public Affairs, Matthew A. “NIMO” Norton took command of the 17th Training Wing at Goodfellow Air Force Base, succeeding Col. Angelina Maguinness during a formal change of command ceremony at the Parade Field. Maguinness, who is departing for a new assignment at the Pentagon, expressed gratitude for her team, family and the San Angelo community.

Prior to the Change of Command Col Maguinness had a casual farewell party for all her supporters and friends during her tenure as the 17th Training Wing Commander. She was a good friend of the Heritage Chapter and accordingly we presented her with a token of our appreciation. Tom Nurre put together a presentation containing replicas of the bronze plates installed in her honor at the Memorial Plaza outside Wing Hqs. Col Maguinness was previously the Training Group Commander on Goodfellow, so she has

a singular distinction of having two plates in the plaza, one for each command position. JJ presented the gift to her and reported that she was deeply moved.

*(For a photo of the ceremony, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [September 2025](#) issue. And yes, “NIMo” is not a typo.)*

**Heritage Chapter June Social.** The Heritage Chapter convened their Spring social at the historic Miss Hattie's Restaurant in Downtown San Angelo. Eighteen members and guests attended and enjoyed a fine meal with war story appetizers. JJ managed to insert a quick business meeting into the affair before dinner was served. We deeply appreciate the opportunity to share with our families and especially our surviving spouses.



*Right: (L-R) Wayne Bascom, JJ, Rick Premo, Tom Nurre, Larry Mills, Micky Mills, and Sherry Kirner*

*(For additional photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [September 2025](#) issue.)*



## **Heritage Chapter Oct 2024 – Sep 2025 Annual Report** **By Ronald ‘JJ’ Graham, Chapter President**

2025 was yet another productive year for our “small but robust” chapter! Staying involved on base and in the community, we continued to do what we can to further our objective of working with Goodfellow AFB to promote our heritage and educate our military personnel on the importance of the intelligence mission throughout the history the U.S. Air Force. The support by Goodfellow leadership continues to be steady and strong. as always, we sincerely thank the FTVA for their continued support! Here is a recap of the year’s events to date:

### **1. Weyandt-Eddy Memorial Plaza**

- We held our annual Vietnam Veterans Memorial Day ceremony in the Plaza on 28 March. Approximately 230 people were in attendance. Col Angelina Maguinness, then 17 TRW Commander, shared comments on how much the nation owes our veterans and the need for the public to recognize their sacrifices. She saluted the efforts of the base and the San Angelo community to keep the needs of our veterans and their families in the forefront, keying on the needs of our Vietnam veterans. Lt Col Ray Kuderka, Commander of the 344th Military Intelligence Battalion, received a special memorial presentation in honor of an Army intelligence collection mission over Vietnam that resulted in the loss of the crew. He expressed his thanks for remembering these soldiers and their families. As always, we appreciate Goodfellow’s support and participation in this event. We continue to host a number of visitors throughout the year who come to visit the Plaza and enjoy the displays. We are already planning the 2026 ceremonies - hope to see you there!

### **2. EC-47 Paver Project**

- During the 29 March Vietnam Veteran Recognition ceremony, we dedicated another 50+ pavers. There were 220+ veterans and family members in attendance to mark the occasion. The popular temporary pavers were handed out as keepsakes for those who recently had their bronze plates installed. We've now installed over 750 bronze pavers at the Weyandt-Eddy Memorial Plaza and they look great! The bronze pavers and the keepsake pavers continue to be available on the EC-47 History site.
- With only 150 or so paver spots still available, Tom Nurre continues to work with FTVA personnel in San Antonio to identify Hall of Honor members who do not have a paver so one can be designed for them.
- We will be reinstalling the vast majority of the bronze pavers by the end of 2025. We discovered the sealant we used does not hold up well in the Texas heat. we have found an off-base company that will provide a sealant that will tolerate the Texas weather and install the pavers.
- Tom once again organized a pre-ceremony reception and a post-ceremony dinner. Once again this proved to be a huge success with over 100 people attending. There was an auction, a great meal, and a lot of socializing!
- Something to think about...before her retirement, 17 TRW/CC Col Maguinness remarked that “it looks like there is room to add more pavers.” This is something we’ll consider and consult with Wing leadership about should we decide to move forward with this idea.

### **3. EC-47 History Exhibit**

- The EC-47 exhibit remains a highlight on any visit to Goodfellow, with visitors coming in from all over the country. A recent visitor to the exhibit was the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. We get many requests for briefings at the EC-47, and Heritage Chapter members are always glad to comply. The pavers continue to highlight any visit to the base. We continue to encourage our military instructors to bring their classes thru the displays, helping to provide some historic significance to their training.

### **4. Wing Leadership**

- Col Angelina Maguinness PCS'd in July. We honored her with a special bronze paver display presentation for her steadfast support of veterans in the San Angelo community and for her support of chapter activities on base. Our new 17 TRW commander is Col. Matthew “Nimo” Norton, well known to FTVA membership. Our new Command Chief is CMSgt Derek Neill, who happens to be a 1N4X2! We look forward to working with Col Norton and Chief Neill!

### **5. Base Historian**

- We welcome Dr. Daniel Leclair, the new base historian, now learning about the history of our base and the role our organization plays in celebrating it. We are now assisting Dr. Leclair and Congressman August Pfluger’s office with identifying personnel from Goodfellow AFB and Tom Green County who served during World War II. The city of San Angelo has designed a monument to WWII veterans and would like to put the names of all those veterans on display.

### **6. VIETNAM WAR 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE**

- 2025 is the official end of the congressionally-sponsored 50th Anniversary program; It officially concludes on Veterans Day. Until that time, we continue to honor Vietnam veterans and their families. Working with the EC-47 History site and other local VSO’s, we honor those who served during the Vietnam War, as well as their family members. The pinning ceremony at the March dedication once again showed our support for these heroes and their families. Our most recent endeavor has us working with the San Angelo Meals for the Elderly, who identified many Vietnam

veterans and surviving spouses that had not yet been recognized. We will continue to honor these veterans annually as we have in the past. We're closing out the official program in grand style in 2025!

- The local registered recognition program and support team put together by Tom Nurre was recognized as being in the top 1% of the more than 13,000 registered organizations supporting the Vietnam Recognition Program!
- 2026 and beyond: We are exploring ways to recognize all veterans and family members as we move forward. Tom Nurre is hard at work designing new pins and certificates that recognize veterans from a wide variety of military operations – from Vietnam thru current military operations. More to come...

## **7. Heath Hall**

- Heath Hall remains the cornerstone for International Officer Training at Goodfellow. We continue to work with the base historian to ensure the artifacts within the building are properly displayed and cared for.

## **8. Traveling Missing Man Table Kit**

- We continue to honor the late SSgt Don Goff's memory with our traveling Missing Man table. Ours has become the "go to" table for veterans' functions in the San Angelo area. We set the table up at many VSO sponsored events, to include golf tournaments, car shows, and social gatherings.

## **9. Leftwich Scholarship**

- Our chapter continues to support the Ray Leftwich Scholarship Foundation, founded by Ray Jr. and his late wife, Kitty. This fully vested fund, with oversight provided by Angelo State University (ASU), supports high school JROTC students who will attend the ROTC program at ASU with two \$500 scholarships per year. We continue to work with the folks at ASU and their ROTC staff to select and recognize award recipients. As always, we are thankful for the generous support from those who helped establish the fund, with special thanks to the generous donations from the good people of the 6994th Association.

## **10. Chapter Events & Issues**

- The Wall That Heals: Our chapter hosted a visit by The Wall That Heals in 2007 and 2017 – each time displayed at Fort Concho - and we had applied to do so again in 2025 or 2026! Sadly, we didn't make the cut for either year, but we're looking forward to putting together another package with hope of hosting The Wall in 2027!
- Larry Miller, a dedicated chapter member and former San Angelo city councilman, continues to work with the local American Legion post and the office of Congressman August Pfluger to come up with a way to recognize post-Vietnam Era veterans - Gulf War/Iraqi Freedom /Afghanistan/etc. - without waiting 50 years (as was done with the Vietnam veterans). They continue to vet proposals at the congressman's office as we speak.
- Larry also led the chapter's support to the American Legion-sponsored high school oratorical contest, with three chapter members serving as judges and timekeepers.
- In February, our chapter once again set up an information booth at the 38th annual "Tet" reunion in Abilene, put on by the Abilene "Grunts" Association, which honors Vietnam veterans. Rick Primo, Wayne Bascom, Scott Dickenson and I manned the tables. We also held a pinning ceremony recognizing more than 50 Vietnam veterans. there were many Vietnam-era-themed displays, numerous VSO's present, vendors selling military-related goods, and a large number of veterans and family members! There was a lot of interest in what our chapter was engaged in,

and many veterans from the Abilene area spoke with us about conducting similar events in Abilene. Looking forward to next year!

- Chapter President JJ Graham was honored to represent the Bendinelli family at the 2025 FTVA Hall of Honor induction. Ed Bendinelli was a founding member of our chapter, held many leadership positions, and was a dedicated volunteer in the community. our friend will be deeply missed.
- A few years ago, chapter member Tom Nurre and former Goodfellow historian John “Doc” Garrett authored a book titled “Goodfellow Air Force Base” for the Images of America series. The book is available locally and on Amazon. The Chamber of Commerce has agreed to sell the book at the San Angelo Visitor Center with a percentage of the sales coming back to the chapter.
- Chapter members Tom Nurre And Larry Miller penned a Vietnam Veterans Day proclamation which was read at the March city council meeting by then-mayor Brenda Gunter. Several chapter members and representatives from local VSO’s were in attendance. Mayor Gunter was also honored with a special bronze paver display for her continued support of all veterans in San Angelo.
- This dynamic duo also penned a statement recognizing the many contributions of EC-47 mission members which was read into the official congressional record by Congressman Pfluger on 12 August.
- Before her PCS, Col Maguinness appointed me the Director of the Goodfellow Retiree Activities office, a position that has been vacant for a few years. I am actively putting together an office and a program that will assist retirees (or any veteran) on issues they may have with benefits, access to resources, etc. I’m partnering with a number of base and off-base agencies to put together an effective, efficient network to provide this support. Goodfellow has been most generous, providing an office in the Wing HQ building and access to the base NIPRNET. Sadly, the planned 24 Oct “Goodfellow Retiree Appreciation Day” has been indefinitely postponed due to the current government shut down.
- Our chapter takes pride in our inputs to the newsletter. Wayne Bascom has taken the lead on this and continues to do a great job of supplying the RIT with all the news that’s fit to print – and pictures, too!
- Our chapter continues to play an active role on the Tom Green County All Veterans Council. This is an excellent forum to get the word out on any activities for veterans, and also provides us an avenue to participate in numerous veterans and community events: Memorial Day ceremony at the county courthouse, annual Veterans Day parade (with had Tom Nurre as an honored guest!), and annual Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners (500+ and 400+ fed, respectively) for veterans, their families and first responders. Due to the after effects of the July flood and the amount of work the city and private/corporate donors have done to help residents in need, this year’s meals will be combined into one holiday meal on 30 November.
- We are hard at work putting together a chapter information pamphlet and a new chapter coin. The pamphlet will help us explain our mission to folks we meet during our many activities – and may even open the door to new members. The coin may be a new source of income as the paver program may possibly be coming to an end in the new future...more to follow!
- As with most Veterans organizations, we continue to struggle to find ways to increase membership. The fact that most of our “targets of opportunity” are non-prior service students creates significant challenges: limited access, short time on station, and trying to show them how

an organization like ours can be both educational and beneficial to them. We'll continue to interact with the staff and student population in hopes of getting them involved in the FTVA, if not here, at their next duty station. This is a major reason we became a private organization on base again – this gives us even better access to base events and functions. We'll keep pushing forward!

*QUESTIONS...COMMENTS...CONCERNS? PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME AT  
RGGRAHA@HOTMAIL.COM...THANK YOU!*

*AGAIN, THE HERITAGE CHAPTER THANKS EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!*





## Mid-Atlantic Region Chapter Ft Meade, MD

**Bob Bastian, Acting President, Treasurer**

(Note: These FTVA Chapter News articles are condensed with minimal pictures. For the full articles and more photos, see the [Remain in Touch Newsletters](#) for the past twelve months.)

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024

#### October thru December 2024 Meetings & Activities

While there was no MARC meeting reported for this period, the Chapter President, Jerry Gething, as well as Sharon Frizzell, MARC Communications, were spotted in San Antonio participating in our Annual Reunion festivities in October.

### 1st Quarter 2025

#### January thru March 2025 Meetings & Activities

**February 19, 2025 Meeting.** Participation included the MARC Executive Board and a few members-at-large who were able to make the meetings - via ZOOM - given our disparate locations. We hosted our FTVA National President Bill “Brock” Brockmiller and Roy Burnett, FTVA National Member Support. It was good to have Brock on with the rest of the members to discuss membership, financial assistance and direction, senior leader and local leader engagement and several other topics we felt were important to be addressed at the FTVA National level.

(Note: The MARC announced that their next meeting was scheduled for 19 March, but no activity was reported.)

(Note: For more information, see the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [March 2025](#).)

### 2nd Quarter 2025

#### April thru June 2025 Meetings & Activities

The Mid-Atlantic Region Chapter of the FTVA held its “somewhat” annual Spring Social on the afternoon of 17 May, bringing together 17 FTVA members and family members at Mission BBQ in Beltsville, MD. Mission BBQ, known for its patriotic theme and respect for the military community, provided a fitting backdrop for the MARC. Being Armed Forces Day, Mission BBQ offered free sandwiches to veterans and we took full advantage of that!



*Left and around the table: TJ Morse, Jim Griffie, Jenny Russell, Rick Yeh, Dan Scott, Mark Graham, Bob Bastian, Jerry Gething and Sharon Frizzell.*

*Not pictured here: Trish Gething, Stephanie Gething, Nick Gething, Mark Graham, Jim Griffie, Stu Labovitz, Frank Stross, John Nichols and Wil Nichols.*

(Note: For more information and photos, see the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [June 2025](#).)

## **3rd Quarter 2025**

### **July thru September 2025 Meetings & Activities**

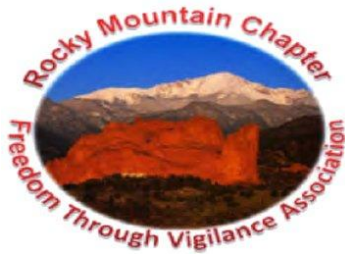
The MARC stayed busy over the last couple of months assisting with the development of the FTVA Business Plan and Implementation Plan. We're hopeful the Board of Directors and Chapters weigh in on the plans and continue to develop them into a good roadmap for the future of the FTVA!

We are now seeking nominations for the President and Treasurer positions within the Chapter, with elections to take place within the next couple of months.

The Mid-Atlantic Region Chapter (MARC) is planning a Fall Social Event – in person – on November 8th, 2025. The event will be held at the Mission BBQ, located at 5506 Cherrywood Ln, Greenbelt, MD.

*(Note: For more information and photos, see the Remain In Touch Newsletter, [September 2025](#).)*





## Rocky Mountain Chapter Colorado Springs, CO

Greg Roman and Stan Cook Co-Presidents

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/229888673742365/>

(Note: These FTVA Chapter News articles are condensed with minimal pictures. For the full articles and more photos, see the [Remain in Touch Newsletters](#) for the past twelve months.)

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024

#### October thru December 2024 Meetings & Activities

There were no Chapter meeting or activities reported this period.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2025

#### January thru March 2025 Meetings & Activities

There were no Chapter meeting or activities reported this period.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2025

#### April thru June 2025 Meetings & Activities

**May Activities.** The FTVA's Rocky Mountain Chapter met May 15<sup>th</sup> at Rhinos Sports and Spirits. Attending were five Chapter members, along with Andy Smith, the FTVA Treasurer, who was visiting the Colorado Springs area.



Depicted (L-R) are Stan Cook, Andy Smith, Dennis Daniels, Ike Eichelberger, Aaron Prupas and Thomas Disilverio.

**June Activities.** The FTVA's Rocky Mountain Chapter met May 15<sup>th</sup> at Rhinos Sports and Spirits. Attending were five Chapter members, along with Andy Smith, the FTVA Treasurer, who was visiting the Colorado Springs area.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2025

### July thru September 2025 Meetings

**August Activities.** The Rocky Mountain Chapter met August 20<sup>th</sup> at Rhinos. The Chapter budget was briefed, and Greg Roman offered that a portion of the Annual Rhinos Golf Classic proceeds would also be made available to support Chapter expenses. Dennis Daniels took for action the task of asking the local VFW Chapter if there are any Vets who still have not been recognized by the Vietnam Commemoration Committee.

*(For additional 3rd Quarter meeting details, including attendees and photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [September 2025](#) issue.)*





## Wasatch Chapter Salt Lake City, UT

**Jacob Scheid, President**  
**Shawn Heckman, Vice President**  
**Scott Lawson, Treasurer**

(Note: These FTVA Chapter News articles are condensed with minimal pictures. For the full articles and more photos, see the [Remain in Touch Newsletters](#) for the past twelve months.)

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024

#### October thru December 2024 Meetings & Activities

There were no Chapter meeting or activities reported this period.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2025

#### January thru March 2025 Meetings & Activities

There were no Chapter meeting or activities reported this period.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2025

#### April thru June 2025 Meetings & Activities

**Wasatch Chapter Update:** It's been a while since you've heard from us, but the Wasatch Chapter is still here—and we're excited to get things rolling again.

Shawn Heckman, Jake Schied, and Scott Lawson (left to right in photo) recently got together to do some planning and we're committing to more consistent and predictable meetups. Starting June 24, we'll hold monthly gatherings at 11:00 AM on the last Tuesday of each month at Santo Taco in Rose Park (910 N 900 W, Salt Lake City, UT).

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2025

#### July thru September 2025 Meetings & Activities

**Chapter Supports Family Palooza 2025.** Over August drill weekend, the 151st ISR Group, supported by the Wasatch Chapter of the FTVA, which generously donated to provide lunch for ISR Group families, kicked off Family Palooza 2025, a vibrant celebration that brought together Airmen, families, and the community to showcase the 151st Wing's strength and unity.

**Part of chapter member Shawn Heckman's Clan strapping in and ready for takeoff at the 151st ISR Group's Family Palooza 2025 held last August**



**Upcoming 169 IS Anniversary.** Mark your calendars for 2027, when we'll celebrate the 40th anniversary of the 169th Intelligence Squadron with a special event honoring our legacy and future. More details to follow in the coming year.

*(For additional 3rd Quarter meeting details, including attendees and photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletters, [September 2025](#) issue.)*



## ASSOCIATION SOCIAL EVENTS

(Note: These FTVA social events are condensed with minimal pictures. For the full articles and many more photos, see the [Remain in Touch Newsletters](#) for the past twelve months.)

### 2024 FTVA Annual Reunion

The 2024 FTVA Annual Reunion along with mini-get-togethers was held 17-19 October at Lackland AFB, TX and surrounding venues to include Security Hill, Stillman Park, the Golf Club of Texas and the Lackland Club. The events this year included the traditional opening Golf Tournament at the Golf Club of Texas, the Hall of Honor Induction, Remembrance Ceremony for our Fallen Eagles, the Picnic, General Membership Meeting, and lastly, the semi-formal closing Banquet on Saturday night.

**The Golf Tournament - Thursday, October 17, 2024:** Reunion week activities again kicked off with the 2014 FTVA Golf Tournament starting at 1000, at the Golf Club of Texas. This was the seventh year (almost) in a row since we started there in 2016 (2020 & 2021 were cancelled by Covid). This followed an eleven-year run at the Alsatian Golf Course in Castroville (2005-15).

The field was comprised of 42 golfers in 10 teams, on this mild and cool October day. The players are pictured below.



*Left half of the field*



*Right half of the field*

(For a complete description of the event, including many photos and a complete list of players, see the [Remain in Touch Newsletter December 2024](#) issue.)

**The Hall of Honor Induction Ceremony - Friday, October 18, 2024:** This year the FTVA ushered in the six newest members, at the Bernard A. Langer Auditorium, in building 2007. Our guest speaker was Mr. Dominic Pohl, the Executive Director 16th Air Force (Air Forces Cyber).

This year's ceremony honored the following:

**Col-Ret Gordon D. Issler**  
**GS-15-Ret Steven C. Doucette**  
**Lt Col-Ret J. Darby Stacey**  
**CMSgt-Ret Edward A. Bendinelli (Deceased)**  
**CMSgt-Ret Kenneth J. Hopkins (Deceased)**  
**MSgt-Ret Neal B. Cooper (Deceased)**



*The Honorees (l-r): Col (Ret) Gordon D. Issler, GS-15 (Ret) Steven C. Doucette, Lt Col (Ret) J. Darby Stacey, CMSgt (Ret) JJ Graham (representing CMSgt (Ret) Edward A. Bendinelli (Deceased)), Mrs. Kenneth Hopkins (representing CMSgt (Ret) Kenneth J. Hopkins (Deceased)), and the son of MSgt (Ret) Neal B. Cooper (Deceased)*

*(For a complete description of the HoH ceremony, including many photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletter [December 2024](#) issue.)*

**The Remembrance Ceremony - Friday, October 18, 2024:** Immediately following the Hall of Honor ceremony held in the BALA, everyone adjourned to join many others already assemble in front of Building 2000. With the C-47 and Bldg. 2000 as backdrops, the FTVA conducted the annual Remembrance Ceremony.



Mr. Dominic F. Pohl, the 16 AF Executive Director, delivered a moving speech that resonated deeply with those gathered. CMSgt (ret) Ted Colquhoun did the honor of the reading of names of this year's 176 Fallen Eagles - FTVA members, family, and other prior command veterans, followed by the traditional wreath laying.

*(For more on the ceremony, including many photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletter [December 2024](#) issue.)*

### **The Reunion Picnic - Friday, October 18, 2024:**

The annual FTVA Picnic began around Noon, if not before, down at the bottom of Security Hill at Stillman Park just across from the Lackland Equestrian Center. This was a change from prior years at the traditional venue of Stapleton Park atop Security Hill. Food and refreshments were available from the 16 AF Booster Club. At the venue, old timers and active duty mixed in a relaxed and fun social setting. Below are a couple of photos of the gathering. For many more photos see the Remain in Touch Newsletter [December 2024](#) issue.



*Left and Right:  
Picnickers smiling  
and enjoying the  
food while taking a  
well-deserved break  
from the everyday  
OPS TEMPO in the  
workday to  
socialize.*



*(For more on the picnic, including many photos, see the Remain in Touch Newsletter [December 2024](#) issue.)*

### **The Banquet - Saturday, October 19, 2024:**

The formal banquet was held the evening of the final day at the Lackland Air Force Base Open Mess, aka the Gateway Club. This year's guest speaker was Lt Gen Thomas K. Hensley, Commander, Sixteenth Air Force, Air Forces Cyber. Lt Gen Hensley provided additional recognition of this year's Hall of Honor inductees, and highlighted the picnic's great success in his opening comments. At this year's banquet there were sixteen tables with 119 attendees.



*Left (l-r): Bill Brockmiller, FTVA President, Carmin Brockmiller, Denise Pohl, Dominic Pohl, Greg Radabaugh, Elizabeth Radabaugh, and Vikki Hensley*

*Right (l-r): John Lewis, Evan Smith, Michael Cooper, Patricia Bright, Donna Crabtree, Bob Crabtree, JJ Graham, and Bert Turner*



*LEFT (l-r): Petrina Murphy, Darby Stacy, Susan Douglas, Mary Lou Hymel, and Sharon Frizzell (Photo compliments of Sharon Frizzell)*

## **The Mini-Reunions**

### **MiMi and MK Call - Friday, October 19, 2024**

On Friday evening, October 19th, current and former members of every iteration of the command, from USAFSS to 16AF, got together at Bigz Burgers on Hwy 151 in SanAntonio for an informal evening of renewing old acquaintances, meeting new folks and just enjoying one another's company. Organized and hosted by Chris Norman, Red Oregon, Mike Brock and Lee Anthony, the evening celebrated the old and the new. Here are a couple of pictures capturing some of the festivities. For many more photos see *Remain in Touch Newsletter* [December 2024](#) issue.



*ABOVE: The Gathering*



*ABOVE (l-r): Event Co-Hosts Chris Norman and Mike Brock with Brian Gross (Photo by Jin Paik)*



*Down the left: Dave Hurlburt and Fred Gortler; then across the table to Jerry Gething, Trish Gething, and Dennis Buxton (Photo by Jim Paik)*

**FTVA Board of Directors Annual Get Together** - FTVA President Bill “Brock” Brockmiller hosted the Board’s (mostly) annual get-together at the Outback Steak House at 12511 Interstate-10 West on 18 January 2025. As the saying goes, “a good time was had by all”. Pictures are not available.

**San Vito Vets Swap Tall Tales - Monday, April 28, 2025**

Last April 28th found this motley group of San Vito (Italy) Vets swapping giant fables at their monthly get together at a local Applebees. No one questions the accuracy of their mutual memories of 1979-82.



*Above: (l-r): Bob Andress, Rick Sassaman, Jim Gonzalez, Dennis Rassmussen, Bill Etherton, Bert Pickell and Ed Klem. (Lanny Abee was missed due to sickness).*

### **The 2025 FTVA Spring Social/Picnic – May 16, 2025**

Last Fall at the FTVA Annual Meeting our President, Bill Brockmiller, asked the Board and membership to provide him with their thoughts on an annual Spring Social for 2025. That request to brainstorm ideas for the approaching organization's Spring Social resulted in a recommendation at our 20 Nov 2024 to consider the option of recreating the social as a 16 AF picnic that we would sponsor. Bill had meetings with the 16AF Phoenix Booster Club president to discuss the possibilities.

Although in the end the joint endeavor did not come to fruition for a number of reasons (see March 2025 [Board of Directors Meeting Minutes](#) on the FTVA website), the FTVA decided that a picnic format was worth trying. Originally planned for April 4<sup>th</sup>, it was postponed to May 16<sup>th</sup> at 1100. It was held at our usual haunt on Security Hill, Stapleton Park.

The Board of Director members setup, cooked and tore down the venue, manning the barbecue grills, cooking burgers and distributing hamburger and hotdog plates to all attendees. Members of the 93IS were invited to attend, and our Treasurer, Andy Smith, while at a meeting with the 93<sup>rd</sup> CC, invited the entire unit to the picnic.

Although the attendance didn't match the usual Annual Reunion's turnout, Ken Williams, Alamo Chapter President, counted a total 37 attendees. FTVA President Bill Brockmiller expressed his gratitude to everyone who helped in the effort, and offered a special thanks to our grill masters—Ken Williams, Ted Colquhoun, and Pepito Figueroa—for elevating the event with their culinary flair!





## FALLEN EAGLES

During the last 12 months the Association learned of the passing of 176 FTVA members, family, and other prior command veterans. We miss them all and remain indebted for their dedication, sacrifice and service.



(Note: for obituaries and photos see previous issues of the [Remain in Touch](#) newsletters.)

Name	RIT Issue:
Abee, Lanny Ross, CMSgt (ret), USAFSS ***FTVA Member	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Adamiak, Joseph B. "Joe", MSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Alexander, Sigmund, Col (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Anderson, Michael "Mick", USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Anderson, Robert P., "Murphy", USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Auber, Donald L., Electronic Security Command (ESC)	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Baney, Euel, Irvin, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Barb, Markus N., SMSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Barney, Garry L., MSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Barnhart, Glenn L., TSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Baroz, Mario, USAF	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Bedder, Siegfried "Sig", ESC	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Belcher, Gary D., Maj (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Bennett, Barney L., A1C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Bennett, Graham, "Ben", CMSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Bergseng, Christine, V., Amn, USAF	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Borgman, Marvin L., Lt Col (ret), USAFSS ***FTVA Lifetime Member	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Bowen, Jerry, SSgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Box, Floyd Allen, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Boyd, Richard Porter, USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Brager, Phyl Glenn, Sgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Bragg, Francis Eugene, A1C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Bridger, Clyde J., Maj (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Brotzman, Robert L., USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Brown, Terrence, L., MSgt (ret), ESC	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Buda, Anthony J., USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Buff, Roy Lynn, Sgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Burke, Edward Leroy, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Carlson, Ted, 1LT, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Carnes, Vince, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Childress, Ronald "Ron", Colonel (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Chriswell, Philip Gary, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Cole, Brenna, Maj, 16th Air Force ***Active Duty Death	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Crooks, Lydia J., USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Davidson, Norman, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
DeAngelis, Richard Clarke Sr., A1C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Delp, Richard B., USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>

DeMarco, Leonard, SSgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Dombrowsky, David Lynn, Sgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Domzalski, Joseph D., USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Duncan, Thomas John, A1C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Ehrhardt, Jody Mae, SSgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Fadal, William, Kenneth, Col (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Fast, Delbert Allan, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Fekety, Daniel Mafus, MSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Fineout, Barry B. "Huck", A1C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Fischer, Joseph Philip, A1C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Forbes, Alan Dale, USAFSS ***FTVA Member	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Fritze, Robert Carl, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Frye, Christopher A., SMSgt (ret), Air Force ISR Agency (AFISRA)	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Frye, William "Bill", USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Fulk, Waylon Ornin., Maj (ret), USAFSS.	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Gaugler, Richard Leroy "Rick", Sgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Gee, Gary Warren, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Gerard, Joseph Arthur, SMSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Godfrey, H. Lee, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Gottschall, George, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Grabda, John Francis, Col (ret), ESC ***FTVA Lifetime Member	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Greathouse, Robert Jackson, Sgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Grogan, James Sherrill, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Hammer, Robert Eugene, SMSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Harding, Thomas B., SSgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Harrington, Sean Patrick, Col (ret), 25th Air Force	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Hartman, James Howard, USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Healy, David L., USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Hefflefinger, John (Jack) W., A1C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Heintskill, James J., USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Henderson, Rory Ferguson, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Hensley, Jessie J., Major (Ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Higgins, Patricia "Patti", USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Hisey, Robert Stephen Jr., CMSgt (ret), USAF	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Hisle, Wally Gene, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
House, Tammy Venita, Major (ret), USAF	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Hoven, Riley, Cadet First Class (ret), Air Force	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Hoyt, Ronald Edward, Lt Col (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Hudzik, John Louis, Sgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Hull, Robert Edward, TSgt (ret), USAFSS ***FTVA Lifetime Member	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Husby, David Jon, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Jackett, Donald Charles, Sgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Jackson, Donald E., MSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Jankowski, David Paul, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Jones, Ronald A., USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Julian, Mark Anthony, Maj (ret), USAF	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Knecht, Ronald J, Colonel (ret), USAF	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Knight, James David, MSgt (ret), Electronic Security Command	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Kovach, Daniel Thomas, AF ISR Agency	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Kruzan, Delano "Dee", A1C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>

Lang, William Jame "Bill", USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Lansaw, Ronald William, MSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Lansing, Stephen G., A1C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Larsen, Erling David, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Leach, Dan G., Maj (ret), USAFSS ***FTVA Lifetime Member	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Leech, Ruchard L., USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Leino, Murray E., USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Lewis, Charles Crawford, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Lieffers, Justin Craig, SrA, USAF	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Lindsey, Cecil Ray, SSgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Luther, Brian Spencer, USAF	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Lyons, Jerry A., CMSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Madden, Jack Lester, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Madden, Jack Lester, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Mantell, Raymond L., Sgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Mardis, Howard Kirk, Colonel (ret), USAF	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Marposon, Eli, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Maynard, Robert "Bob" LaRoy, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
McClain, Terry F., USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
McClelland, John A., A2C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
McClelland, Robert Bruce, SSgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
McKinnon, William C. Jr., SMSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
McMinn, Sandra Gayle Veach, USAF	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Meyers, James Edwards, Electronic Security Command	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Milliner, Carl Alva, CMSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Millsap, Charles Douglas, USAFSS ***FTVA Member	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Mitchell, Kenneth Eugene, Sgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Moore, William A., USAFSS ***FTVA Lifetime Member	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Morris, Chester, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Mossman, Mitchell A. SSgt, 16th Air Force ***Active Duty Death	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Murphy, Patricia M., Col (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Muth, Delvin "Keith", Sgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Myers, Harold P., SMSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
O'Malley, Stephen F., CMSgt (ret) ***FTVA Member	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
O'Rourke, Michael J., USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Palmer, James A., MSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Pelikan, Jonathan N., Sgt (USAF)/Capt (ret/Army), ESC	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Pellegrini, Mary L., ESC	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Peterson, Don Lee, Colonel (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Pond, Michael Grier, A1C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Rigdon, Rusell H., USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Ringeisen, Michael Duane "Mike", SSgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Roberts, Trefor Duane, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Robinson, Richard Paul, Sgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Robinson, Tyrone Ramon, CMSgt (ret), USAF	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Rodrigues, Peter Wendell, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Ronning, Derek R., SMSgt (ret), USAF	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Rooney, John E., USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Ruocco, Richard J., USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Ryan, Stephen Collister "Steve", Capt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>

Sabatino, John Michael, SSgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Sbarbori, John Joseph, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Schmidt, David F., USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Schreiner, Ron, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Schwab, Delmar H., USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Schweighart, Larry J., USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Sega, Gregory A., USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Shackelford, Thomas Wilmer, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Sherwood, Robert Lee, CMSgt (ret), USAFSS <b>***FTVA Lifetime Member and Hall of Honor</b>	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Shuntich, Annabelle Lee, married to Peter J. Shuntich (USAFSS)	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Siegfried, Joe, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Simms, James Robert, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Smith, Donald Raymond, USAFSS <b>***FTVA Member</b>	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Smith, Harold Stephen, USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Stevens, Joseph W., ESC <b>***FTVA Lifetime Member</b>	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Sutherland, Nicholas Daniel, CMSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Taylor, William D., USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Thomas, William Dennis Jr., A1C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Thompson, Robert Charles Jr., USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Thornhill, Stephen Dwight, MSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Throckmorton, Robert Wayne, Colonel (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Tuschak, Daniel Joseph, SMSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Tweed, Robert, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Underwood, James Riley, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Vahlsing, James "Jim", SSgt, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Valencia, Frances J., 25th Air Force	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Vaughan, Robert M., USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Verti, James Peter, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Vogt, Frank Allen "Buck", MSgt (ret), USAFSS <b>***FTVA Lifetime Member</b>	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Webster, Randall Lee, CMSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Weekley, Donald Wiley Jr., USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Wegner, Kermit W., Lt Col (ret), USAFSS <b>***FTVA Lifetime Member</b>	<a href="#">Dec 2024</a>
Wempe, Stephen John, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
West, Sylvia Ann, USAFSS GS-14	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
White, Alfred R., A2C, USAFSS	<a href="#">Sep 2025</a>
Wilhelm, Robert B. "Bob", Sgt, USAFSS <b>***FTVA Lifetime Member</b>	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>
Williams, David A., USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Wilson, Jon V., TSgt (ret), USAFSS	<a href="#">Mar 2025</a>
Wittenberg, Gerald Lee, USAFSS	<a href="#">Jun 2025</a>



## **FTVA VIGILANT PARTNERS PROGRAM**

**POC: Karen “Bam!” Rolirad**  
**roliradlopez.karen@gmail.com**



The Freedom Through Vigilance Association realizes its objectives, in part, by providing funds for programs that reward the hardworking, dedicated 16 AF people who go “above and beyond” to achieve the command mission. Since 1985, our Vigilant Partners program has helped provide an expanded base of support. Modeled after the Industrial Associates of the Air Force Association, the Vigilant Partners program permits industry, corporations, businesses and even individuals interested in 16 AF’s mission to join us in helping fund 16 AF programs.

FTVA had a total 22 Partners this year, one more than last year. This year Ms. Karen Rolirad was appointed as our new Vigilant Partners (VP) director this past spring. Ms. Rolirad created a new Vigilant Partners brochure which was approved and posted to our FTVA website.

### **PLATINUM PARTNERS\***

**Mrs. Doyle E. Larson**  
**(IMO Maj Gen Doyle E. Larson)**  
**Prop Wash Gang**  
**(IMO CMSgt Tom Tennant)**

### **GOLD PARTNERS\***

**Security Services Federal Credit Union**  
**Engrave-Tech & Graphics**  
**Anonymous**  
**(IMO MSgt Robert “Bob” Fenstermacher)**  
**Regis F.A. Urschler**  
**(IMO Maj Gen Doyle Larson and Tom**  
**Tennant)**  
**Greg Radabaugh**

### **SILVER PARTNERS\***

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**Grover Jackson**  
**William F. Sheck**  
**Bob & Debbie Cope**  
**“Picnic Partners”**  
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### **BRONZE PARTNERS\***

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**(IHO Col Bob Cope)**  
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### **PATRON PARTNERS**

**CMSgt (ret) Roger Towberman**  
**James Mayer**  
**Charles Bishop**  
**Edward Sellmeyer**

### **\*Partner Levels**

- Platinum Partner ~\$2,500 and up
- Gold Partner~ \$ 1,000.00 – \$2,499.99
- Silver Partner~ \$ 500.00 – \$999.99
- Bronze Partner~ \$ 250.00 – \$499.99
- Patron Partner~ \$ 100.00 – \$249.99

### **Benefits:**

- Special invitation to association events.
- By name listing posted at FTVA events and in association newsletter.
- Invitation to command events sponsored by Vigilant Partners.
- Honorary membership in Freedom Through Vigilance Association.
- Receive Association newsletters and membership directory.



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**Past Present Future**



***THE FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION***

**THE FTVA IS A PRIVATE, NON-PROFIT CORPORATION ESTABLISHED IN 1981. WE ARE DEDICATED TO THE SUPPORT AND PERPETUATION OF SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND HUMANITARIAN SERVICES FOR THE USAF AND 16 AIR FORCE AND ITS PREDECESSOR COMMANDS AND AGENCIES.**

**ALL FORMER AND CURRENT MILITARY OR CIVILIAN MEMBERS OF THE 16 AF AND ITS PREDECESSOR COMMANDS OR AGENCIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP. SURVIVING SPOUSES OF DECEASED PERSONNEL ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBER STATUS.**

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