

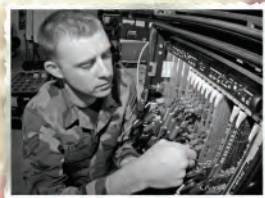
Official publication of the AF Comm & ATC Association

COMMUNICATOR

November 2018



Since 1938



VETERANS DAY



Thank you for your service.



2018 Convention
Our members met in
Montgomery, AL, this
year for fellowship and
fun.

Pages 22-29



IMPORTANT!



Please update your membership information

Is your address up to date? Have you sent us your email address? Have you paid your dues? Let us know so we can keep in touch. Pay attention to membership expiration dates and renew on time.

aacsmbrship@comcast.net



Recruit! Our future depends on you!

Declining membership continues to be a concern. If every member recruited one new person we would have close to 3,000 members. It's up to us to recruit new members or be the last person standing.

Don't forget to visit our web site regularly



www.afcommatc.org

Address Book

Lori Manske
665 N 11th St
Breese IL 62230
manske5@charter.net

Walt McLain
4514 Haverty Dr
Knoxville TN 37931
aacsmbrship@comcast.net

Editor

Membership



Find us on Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/Air Force Communi-
cators and Air Traffic Controllers Association](https://www.facebook.com/Air-Force-Communicators-and-Air-Traffic-Controllers-Association)

The AF Comm & ATC Association is a 501 (c) (19) tax-exempt organization. There are no paid employees. All work is done by volunteers.



Air Force Communicators and Air Traffic Controllers Association

The term Communicators includes ALL operational, maintenance, administrative and other skills in the U.S. Army Air Corps and the U.S. Air Force (including Air National Guard and Reserve, veterans, active duty, civilian and retired) communications, data automation, information/cyber, space operations, air traffic control, airfield, maintenance, engineering and installation, and related support units.

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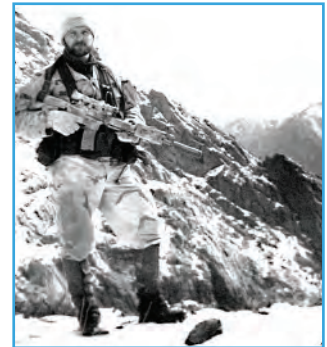


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The Communicator is the official publication of the **Air
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Association**.

Send photos and stories to Lori Manske, 665 N 11th St,
Breeze IL 62230, manske5@charter.net.

Communicator is published twice a year, June and
November. It is also available online at
www.afcommatc.org.

Report ... From the Executive Director Harry D. Raduege

Ken and Marilyn Heitkamp, our 2018 Convention hosts, worked relentlessly over the past year planning, arranging, and conducting everything it takes to make a successful convention. Ken and Marilyn, we can't thank you enough for your passion, dedicated efforts, and hard work in producing a magnificent event.

The trips to Gunter and the Enlisted Heritage Hall were very successful and our members really enjoyed the Hyundai plant tour. The robotics were amazing.

Ken also arranged for a special Data Automation Social—a great opportunity for renewing seasoned relationships and catching up with each other. Brig. Gen. (ret) Rick Dinkins attended as did former commanders of the Standard Systems Center: Col (ret) Al Lang, Brig Gen (ret) John Weber, SES (ret) Woody Hall, and SES (ret) Bob Frye. I'm sure their conversations were full of fascinating memories – some good, some perhaps not so good -- and great stories involving data evolution. With additional free time, many enjoyed strolling through Montgomery and witnessing some of the significant changes that have taken place in the city over the years.

The Prayer Breakfast was a big hit as Doug Donnell gave a wonderful talk about the intersection of Faith, Courage, and Wisdom as it relates to leadership.

During the Saturday morning General Business Meeting, our members enjoyed superb presentations on Cyber by Col. David Bosko and Air Traffic Control Training by CMSgt Larry Jackson. They both responded to questions with great knowledge, insights, and professionalism.

As always, we remembered members who missed roll-call this year with a touching video tribute that was assembled by Lori Manske and Walt McLain.

At the Saturday evening banquet, our POW/MIA Recognition ceremony -- this year conducted by two Gunter airmen -- caused great reflection on the fact that our Nation's freedom was and is not free.

We were honored to have Maj Gen Kimberly Crider as our banquet speaker. Last year, General Crider was named as the first Chief Data Officer in the Air Force's 70-year history, a testament to our growing dependence on "all things data". She served for 8 years on active duty before joining the Air Force Reserves where she has served for more than 20 years. General Crider is a master cyberspace operations officer and a senior acquisition officer. She holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, a master of business administration, and has been an assistant professor of aerospace studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She has served in senior positions in a variety of IT roles and this year was named one of the top women in technology by Fedscoop news.



Indeed, we were fortunate to have General Crider as our banquet speaker, especially since we were meeting in the "Data Automation City of the Air Force."

At the banquet, we also recognized our annual professionalism award winners, our Hall of Honor inductees, the U.S. Air Force Hall of Fame members who were attending, and CMSgt (ret) Walt McLain who received our

Hank Sauer Lifetime Achievement Award for his continuing leadership and support to our Association (page 28). In true Walt McLain style, he gave a shout-out to CMSgt (ret) Hank Sauer for training him properly on how and where to hold an eagle during an award ceremony.

I heard from several members who developed "chills" in seeing so many active duty members dressed in Class A blues – and really looking sharp!

During our Board meeting, Bob Akard presented results of the Association audit he conducted, and we passed.

The Board approved Bob Frye as our next Hall of Fame nominee. The Board approved Omaha, NE, as the location for our 2019 convention. Jim Weber and Ken Reiff will serve as our Omaha hosts. The Board discussed additional locations for our annual conventions starting in 2020. Finally, due to unfortunate illnesses, we are looking for volunteers to serve in two open positions: Recruiting Chairman and Information Officer.

Special thanks to Col (ret) Ray French who is stepping down as Sergeant-at-Arms, CMSgt (ret) Rich Griffis who served as our Recruiting Chairman, and CMSgt (ret) Tom Blackburn who served as our Information Officer.

Although many stepped up to make this an incredible convention, I want to give a big shout-out to Col (ret) Rafael Quezada who served as our banquet master of ceremonies; Janet Moreiko-Gagen and Susie Twedt for taking superb pictures which you will see throughout this issue of the *Communicator*; Joe Hall for posting pictures to Dropbox and stocking the Hospitality Suite; John Flaherty and Julie Braun for again serving at the Registration Desk; Barbara French, Barb Niezgoda, and Fran Weber for selling raffle tickets and everything they do to make our conventions successful; and Bill Hammett and Bill Bethea for manning the Hospitality Suite refreshment counter.

I personally owe a huge thank you to Ken Reiff, our Vice Director, for all the assistance and heavy lifting he continues to perform year-round for our Association and, additionally, for performing many of my duties throughout the Convention due to my ill-planning.

Finally, I am always open to your thoughts and ideas. Please email me at hraduege@gmail.com or send a letter to Lori Manske, our Editor.

Until I see you next year, take care and God bless.

Annual Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association

**Sept 27, 2018
Montgomery, AL**

The meeting was called to order by Ken Reiff, Vice Director, at 10 AM.

The following members were present: Ken Reiff, Ray French, Walt McLain, Jim Weber, Bill Cassatt, Tom Blackburn and Ed Broestl. Bob Akard was present as a presenting guest.

Walt McLain reported that all appropriate documents are kept in DropBox and available to all members of the Board of Directors. Board reports were accepted as written and filed.

Ken Reiff reviewed the positions to be elected at the General Membership meeting. He will continue as the Vice Director. Ray French is vacating the Sergeant-at-Arms position. Rafael Quezada will continue as the Protocol Officer. Mr Reiff noted that during the General Membership meeting a motion would be made to make the Protocol Officer an Exempt position, meaning the position will not be elected on a bi-annual basis.

Bob Akard presented the results of the Audit. He found the books in order and volunteered to develop a pro-

cess for future audits. He recommended the Board work to digitize all the Board records to the maximum extent possible.

The Vice Director thanked Bob for his efforts and the Board accepted the report as presented.

The previously approved 2018-19 budget was briefly discussed and should proceed as projected.

The Association's physical assets will be inventoried in the coming months by Jim Weber. He will keep a record of those items retained and what is not recommended for retention, informing the Board members of the latter.

The location for the 2019 Convention is Omaha, NE from 24 to 29 September with Jim Weber and Ken Reiff as our hosts.

There was discussion regarding future conventions and finding hosts in the local area of the convention site.

In the coming year, with Jim and Ken hosting without having a local presence, there will be many lessons learned. Present processes and check-



lists will be refined to facilitate future conventions. There may also be opportunities for "merged" conventions with other affiliated organizations. The nominees/recipients of the various awards were reviewed and unanimously accepted.

The Board meeting adjourned at 1100.

- Ed Broestl, Secretary

Missed Roll Call

**E.R. "Mac" McCullough, MSgt retired
(Nov 21, 2017)**

Forrest Phillip Meek, Lt Col (ret) (April 8, 2018)

Larry Hugh Heister, CMSgt (ret) (May 4, 2018)

Clarence W. "Bill" Owens (May 9, 2018)

Lynn S. Adams, CMSgt retired (July 22, 2018)

Voy Jerome (Mitch) Mitchell, MSgt retired (Aug 18, 2018)

Roland McNulty (Sept 30, 2018)





Membership director

Walt McLain

We have 10 new members since 1 Apr 2018. Our current active membership stands at 1,168. We have 1,019 life members. Since 1 April 2018 nine members have renewed. To see when your dues expire check the address label on your latest *Communicator* or the expiration date on your membership card. **Currently, 57 members' dues expire 31 Dec 2018 if not renewed.**

Please refer all membership questions to Walt McLain, 865-690-0479 or email aacsmbrship@comcast.net

New members and renewals: Make checks payable to AF Comm ATC Assn. Mail to: AF Comm ATC Assn, 4514 Haverty Drive, Knoxville, TN 37931-3657

Applications are available in each *Communicator* (page 32), on our web site, and from Walt McLain.

Dues are: \$15 per year, payable in 2-year increments or Life Membership varies by age: to 50 \$165; 51-60 \$145; 61-70 \$115; 70+ \$75.



Editor, Print/Online Media

Lori Manske

Cost of the November 2017 *Communicator* (36 pages):
 Printing: \$ 2,017.00
 Mail Prep: \$ 105.85 (1,234)
 Postage: \$ 512.63

Total \$ 2,635.48

Cost of the June 2018 *Communicator* (32 pages):
 Printing: \$ 1,609.00
 Mail Prep: \$ 103.38 (1,135)
 Postage: \$ 492.74

Total \$ 2,205.12

Send stories/photos to Lori Manske, 665 N 11th St, Breese IL 62230, or manske5@charter.net



The *web site* is one of our biggest recruiters of new members, along with efforts of current members.

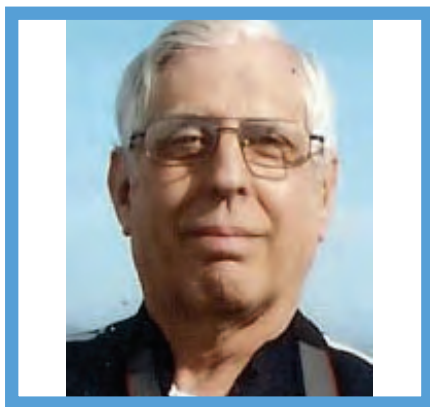
Please visit the web site guest book and send a reply to people who sign, thanking them for taking the time to visit. It might encourage people to join.

At a glance...

Donate! *There is still time to make a tax-deductible donation to our Association before tax season.*

To those who make periodic or regular donations, we appreciate your continued support.

You can be assured that your donations are critical to the continued operation of this great organization. Thank you for your support.



PX/BX Manager

Bill Cassatt

**PX/BX Sales Report
May 2018 - Oct 2018**

Items Sold

Hats	1
AACS Lapel Pins	3
Original Patches	3
Plaques	1
Challenge Coins	5
Golf Shirts	4
AACS Logo Patches	1
Jackets	2

Total Sales: \$389

Expenses

Plaque	\$30.00
Postage	\$54.00
Supplies (boxes)	\$15.21
Inventory	
Replenishment	\$1,339.14
(coins, patches, shirts, jackets)	

Total expenses: \$1,438.35

Convention Sales Report

Hats	8
Original AACS Patch	7
Golf Shirts	2
Ladies Golf Shirts	1
Challenge Coins	49
AACS lapel pins	1
Jackets	1
AFNIC 75 th coins	23

Total sales: \$981

Note: Included are the challenge coins gifted to first-timers and honorees.

Convention donations: \$75



Treasurer

Jim Weber

Cash in Banks:

AFCOMMATC	
Checking Acct	\$ 9,677.59
Cash Totals:	\$ 9,677.59

Certificates of Deposit:

50-12	\$5,152.63
50-24	\$10,366.58
50-36	\$20,923.67
53-12	\$5,129.12
54-12	\$5,040.97 (New)

CD Totals (5):	\$46,612.97
Grand Totals:	\$56,290.56

ENT Federal Credit Union continues to be an excellent choice for this organization. There are no account maintenance fees and transactions are unlimited.

We established a sub-account, separate from our main account, used by convention hosts. It eliminates the need for fee-charging accounts in their local bank.

Donations are a key source of income for the association and reunion support. I encourage you to support our association. Thanks to those who donated during the 2018 reunion in Montgomery. Included in the checking account is the \$1,219.33 in donations received this year, not counting the 2018 Convention donations (not yet reported). As your Treasurer, my goals are: (1) Stable growth and (2) Security of Funds.

Let us know if you want to opt out of receiving the Communicator by mail. All issues since June 2006 are available on the web site: www.afcommatc.org

Members wishing to nominate individuals or volunteer for Board of Director positions must submit their names to the Executive Director with justification based on experience no later than June 30 of each year. See Bylaws (on our web site) for more info.

From the Chaplain

Ed Broestl



Experience the richness of our community

Community is what continually draws me back...causes me to look forward to our next convention/reunion. What was it about my experiences oh so many years ago, the good and the not so good, that calls me back? Was it the people I knew way back when? Was it the common shared experiences: tech school, OJT, having a commander or supervisor encourage me to "stretch" myself... sometimes to what I thought was my "breaking point" - only to discover that I really was capable of doing whatever it was they knew I had the talents, gifts, abilities to be successful!

After Doug Donnell's remarks at our Prayer Breakfast to begin our recent annual convention, I mentioned that if someone had told me way back in January of 1975 that we would share a podium and make the remarks we both made, I would have told them they were crazy. However, we are shaped by our experiences...only occasionally are they individual experiences. Most often they're done in community.

I'm reminded of Moses at the burning bush. Moses had more excuses than any airman I ever knew. Moses said: "I can't do it because...." God responded: "Well there is Aaron, he can help!" Then as the Israelites' leader after the Exodus, Moses was working way too hard. Of all people, Jethro, his father-in-law, rebukes him: "You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone." (Exodus 18:18) He's told to appoint God-fearing, trustworthy men to help. Management 101 - delegate so as the leader

you have time to decide the difficult issues. Solomon wrote:

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work. If one falls down, his friend can help him up...Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." (Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10b & 12) Also recall Jesus sent out the disciples in pairs for similar reasons. I've only experienced the richness of life when I experienced life in community, when it wasn't me against what I perceived was the world.

I encourage all those reading this far in the article to consider joining us in Omaha, NE next September (24-29). Come and see - experience the community! It may not be exactly what you thought. It might be exactly what you thought...it might be more...it might be less; however, I suspect that if you feel it was less, you may not have been present for yourself. You might just have been there for someone else.

Until then, I trust each of us will spend our lives in community - caring for those in the close circle of loved ones and dear friends that make life the joy it truly can be and seeing those that are not in community, the young and the not so young, inviting them into the experience.

Blessings - Ed

PS: The preceding is a topic of concern for all our countrymen and countrywomen, not for just those who served our country as communicators and air traffic controllers.

Please pray for those who feel isolated.



TSgt John Chapman awarded MOH; began AF career in comm

TSgt John Chapman was awarded, posthumously, the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Donald Trump on Aug 22, 2018, at a White House ceremony attended by his family. His rank was then upgraded to Master Sergeant.

John was born on July 14, 1965 in Springfield, MA, and grew up in Windsor Locks, CT. He graduated from Windsor Locks High School in 1983 and enlisted in the US Air Force in September 1985.

His initial assignment, 1986-1989, was as an Information Systems Operator (AFSC 491X0) in Air Force Communications Command, 1987th Information Systems Squadron, Lowry AFB, CO.

Upon completion of his assignment, Sergeant Chapman volunteered to cross-train into the Combat Control Career field. Combat Control training is more than two years long and only one in 10 Airmen who start the program graduate. From months of rigorous physical fitness training to multiple joint schools—including military SCUBA, Army static-line and free-fall, **Air Traffic Control**, and combat control schools

Sergeant Chapman is remembered as someone who could do anything put in front of him.

Operation Enduring Freedom. On March 4, 2002, Sergeant Chapman along with members of Navy SEALs took part in Operation Anaconda. The MH-47 E Chinook came under enemy fire, causing a Navy Seal to fall out during insertion. The helicopter landed 4.5 miles away

from where the SEAL was killed. Once on the ground, Sergeant Chapman provided directions

to another helicopter to pick them up and the team volunteered to rescue their mission team member from the enemy stronghold. After their landing,

the SEAL team leader stumbled and fell. Sergeant Chapman charged forward, without regard for his own life, kept advancing toward a dug-in machine gun nest. The team came under fire from three directions. Sergeant Chapman exchanged fire from minimum personal cover and succumbed to multiple wounds. His engagement and destruction of the first enemy position and advancement to the second enabled his team to move to cover and break enemy contact. He is credited with saving the lives of the entire team.

We, as Air Force Communicators and Air Traffic Controllers, honor fellow Communicator MSgt John A. Chapman for his ultimate sacrifice in the service of our country.

Ken Reiff
AFCOMMATC Historian

Medal of Honor

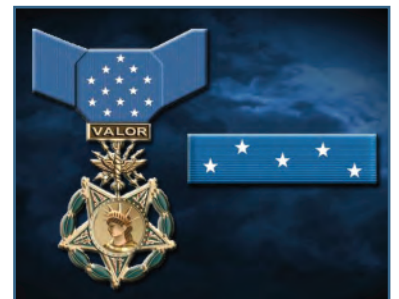
The Medal of Honor is the highest award for heroism in military action that the Nation can bestow on a member of its Armed Forces. The first Medal of Honor received by an airman was awarded to Captain Edward V. Rickenbacker for aerial combat in 1918.

The Air Force-designed Medal of Honor was created on April 14, 1965. President Lyndon B. Johnson first presented this medal on January 19, 1967, to Major Bernard F. Fisher for action in South Vietnam.

Members of the Air Force and its predecessor organizations have earned four Medals of Honor in World War I, 38 in World War II, 4 in the Korean

Conflict and 14 in the Vietnam War. Two more were presented by special acts of Congress.

The Medal of Honor is awarded for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty. (www.af.mil)



Hello,

I just found your site after seeking a 1993rd AACS site that would have a section for photographs.

I am 82 years old and served with the 1993rd CS at Kimpo AFB, Korea, in 1954 as a Ground Radio Repairman.

I spent time maintaining equipment in the control tower.

I have two photographs of the tower, one includes the shot-up operations building, an over-view of the camp taken from the tower, the 1993rd AACS sign in front of the operations quonset hut, tent quarters, and more.

It seems a shame to not get these photos where they can be viewed by others.

At 82, it's time to get moving!

Name: Michael A Winney
USAF 3/8/53 to 3/8/54

Training: Ground Radio Repairman, Scott AFB, October 1953 - July 1954; Ground Communications Equipment Repairman 30452A, SMAMA McClellan AFB, CA; Multi Channel UHF Comm Equip,

AN/GRC-27, a very beautifully designed and complicated piece of equipment).

Assigned to Kimpo AFB Sept 1954 through Aug 1955.

Subsequently served at Kingman AAF, AZ, and Norton AFB, CA.

While serving with the 1993rd at Kimpo I spent a fair amount of time in the tower trying to keep old equipment working. While in the tower one afternoon a "mayday" call came through from an F-86 pilot who had flamed out some distance from base.

Of course, he was given all attention and I never saw so much brass climbing the stairs. I guess they routinely monitored the communications. We were all holding our breath as the pilot elected to try to make it in. I believe he may have followed a flame-out procedure I had observed before. Anyway, with nothing to spare and dropping fast, he leveled the wings and made a perfect landing. There were sighs of relief in that tower. I saw other interesting events while in the tower, but nothing to equal that.

After my military service I served 30 years in law enforcement as a Crime Scene Investigator and Fingerprint Examiner. Upon discharge from the Air Force, I intended to continue in the electronics field, but was faced by a large cutback in the industry, so I followed my brother in law enforcement.

Regards,

Mike Winney



Airman Michael Winney



Views off base.



1993rd dayroom tent



View of base from tower



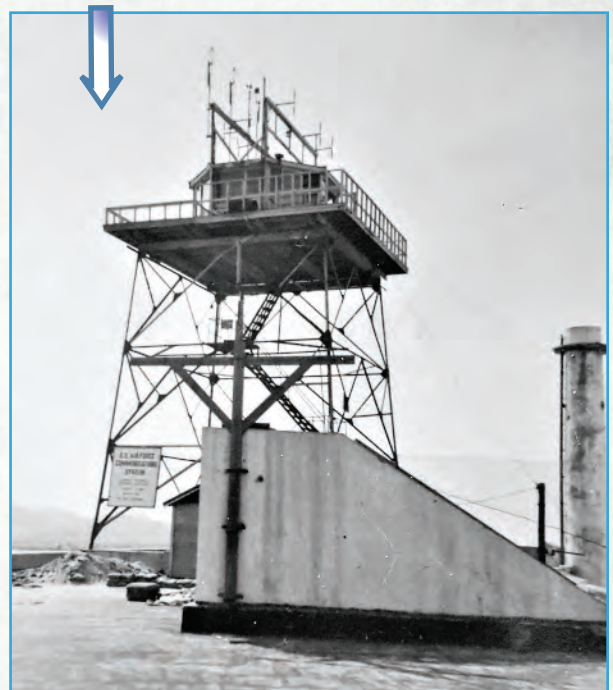
Tent quarters



1993rd Squadron headquarters



Control tower



Possibly theater



C-124 Globemaster Troop Carrier



Debbie Reynolds



HONOR FLIGHT

AFCOMMATC member enjoys 'unforgettable' trip

Stanley Schnell, USAF Korean War vet, 1952-1956, and an air traffic controller, was on Honor Flight EVV8, Evansville, IN, on May 5. "This was truly an unforgettable and memorable experience of my lifetime and was quite emotional," he said.

Schnell was accompanied by his daughter, Sheila Eckert. 82 veterans were on the flight with their escorts, doctors and "wonderful and compassionate volunteers, the likes of which I have never witnessed," according to Schnell.

"There were eight World War II veterans and the rest of us Korean War vets, along with a few Vietnam vets. The flight was beautiful and so was the weather," he said. "When we arrived in Washington Airport, we were greeted by at least 5,000 people, vets, etc., bands, and a reception."

"It was phenomenal and I'll never forget it. We were loaded on four buses, each with our captains and emcee who described everything as we

toured all the monuments, escorted by two squad cars and two motorcycle cars and as they blew their sirens the people would move over in traffic and let us go right through with great courtesy and understanding," said Schnell.

"I was extremely impressed with all the monuments, especially the Korean and, of course, WWII and others. Bob Dole was there and we met him. Changing of the Guard was very emotional and made me cry," said Schnell. His group was able to place a wreath on the tomb of the unknown soldier.

"This is an experience that all veterans should do and I'll take this with me for the rest of my life."

Schnell enlisted in the Air Force in 1952 at age 19 and attended basic training at Lackland AFB, TX. He spent 1953-56 at Chitose AFB on the

island of Hokkaido, 600 miles north of Tokyo.

As a young air traffic controller, it was his job to help guide Korean War pilots safely through the skies.

"There were times when the planes couldn't get back to the carriers or on the carriers and we lost planes. That was hard."

The hard times were peppered with heroic moments. While at the 1226th AACS, Schnell earned credit for the save of 2nd Lt Richard E. Wendell, who encountered an emergency in flight. Wendell's radio compass became inoperative and his cockpit heat was uncontrollable. While focused on these issues, he lost sight of the lead aircraft and notified the control he was lost and low on fuel. Schnell directed him to safety, helping him in landing the aircraft as the pilot's fuel reserves emptied.

Honor Flight Network is a non-profit organization created to honor America's veterans for all their sacrifices. They transport our heroes to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at the memorials. <https://www.honorflight.org/>

HONOR FLIGHT



James W. Robinson

Meet a
member

AACS Life Member and WW2/Korean War veteran, age 97.

James Robinson entered the service in June 1942. In early September he was sent to Augusta Army Base and got out Sept 8, 1945. The last 14 months he was with AACS stationed in Iceland.

He was a HAM radio operator FCC-licensed 1933 at age 12, call sign W4DDD, and was working for the Army Signal Corp in Atlanta as a radio operator before enlisting in the Army Air Corps. The Army Air Corps decided he did not need school. Finally, after 2 years the Comm Officer called him in to say he was being sent to communications officer training.

It was eight months, three months at Goldsboro, NC, to learn to be an officer (which he said was really a week at the motor pool), a week on KP, a week on guard duty in NC winter time, etc. Then he spent five months at Yale University. He said the Army had taken over most of those buildings and was teaching Weather, Photography and Electronics.

He graduated July 1944 as a 2nd Lt and was assigned to Orlando AFB, AACS. He continued schooling and went to Scott AFB, IL, and taught Direction Finding (new equipment). He supervised the installation in Iceland and then served as shift radio officer in the AACS comm center handling tons of mostly encoded traffic between UK and



DC. "We were safe but when the real eggs stopped and were replaced with powdered eggs we knew the Germans got our food shipment," he said.

The USAF found him again July 1948 and sent him to Japan where he was Base Communications Officer on Tachikawa AFB until he returned to the states November 1951 and was

reassigned to AACS at MacDill AFB. He was later transferred to Cocoa Beach, his "best assignment with an apartment right across the highway from the ocean." All of that was AACS.

Mr Robinson had hoped to attend the Montgomery convention this year, about 300 miles from his home. He said, "I figured this old warrior would make one more convention," but driving, airports, and hotels are getting to be too hard to handle.

Mr Robinson was on an Honor Flight to DC in May 2017. "They let this old warrior through with his shoes on. I guess they felt I could do no harm!"

"I have loved my life in communications," he said. At our annual conventions, he was likely the only attendee still showing a "HAM" call sign on his name tag (W4DDD). He can still send Morse Code and receive at about 30 WPM using an automatic keyer. He still has a Ham station in his apartment.

HAM radio

He got his first ticket in 1933, age 12, as W4DDD. He let it expire in 1956. He got back into Ham radio March 1991 (N5URE). Vanity call W4DDD received 1996. His brother, Wesley, and he were both Hams in 1933. Wesley became a bombardier in the 8th AF flying out of the UK and lost his life on his fifth bombing mission. James enlisted in Army Air Corps 1942 as a radio operator mechanic. He became a ground communications officer in 1944. He was a civilian Signal Corps radio operator before enlisting in 1942. He was on active duty with the Army Air Corps and later the USAF. He was in ground communications and served 8 plus years active duty and half of that assigned to AACS (Airways and Air Communications Service). The other half assigned to Base Communications Squadrons. He finished military service in the Florida Air National Guard as a communications officer, retired as a major.

His overseas assignments during WWII were in Greenland and Iceland. During the Korean War he was at Tachikawa AB, Japan, for 39 months.

He was a member of QCWA #24782, 75 year award, ARRL member, CWOPS #806, FIST 3820. Calls held W4DDD and N5URE.

Photos from 2013 convention in Knoxville, TN.



Air Force transfers cyber responsibility to ACC

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Air Force officials announced in June that the service's cyber responsibilities were being realigned to Air Combat Command from Air Force Space Command. "This move will drive faster decisions as we fight by realigning cyber operations and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions under the same command," Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson said.

The realignment, directed by the secretary and chief of staff of the Air Force, designates ACC as the lead Air Force command responsible for organizing, training and equipping Air Forces to conduct effective full-spectrum cyber missions and operations. AFSPC will focus on space superiority and full-spectrum space capabilities integrated into multi-domain operations.

Units realigning include 24th Air Force and subordinate units, as well as the Cyber Support Squadron, **Air Force Network Integration Center** and Air Force Spectrum Management Office, which had been direct reporting units to AFSPC.

100% Disabled Veterans Space-A Eligibility

RANDOLPH, TX (AFNS) -- The 2019 National Defense Authorization Act included a measure that will allow fully-disabled veterans the ability to use Space-Available travel.

Under the Disabled Veterans Access to Space-A Travel Act, veterans with a service-connected, permanent disability rating of 100 percent will be able to travel in the Continental United States or directly between the CONUS and Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa (Guam and American Samoa travelers may transit Hawaii or Alaska); or traveling within Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or the U.S.

Virgin Islands on flights operated by Air Mobility Command.

Prior to this authorization, only military retirees, those with a blue DD Form 2, and current service members were entitled to this benefit.

This proposal will allow travel on Space-A at no additional cost to the Department of Defense and without aircraft modifications. Data from the Government Accountability Office noted that roughly 77 percent of space-A seats in 2011 were occupied by only 2.3 percent of the 8.4 million eligible individuals.

Travelers should contact their local Passenger Terminal for further details and review travel information found on the AMC Travel Page for specific details on the Space A travel program.

[https://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC Travel-Site/](https://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC_Travel-Site/)

Editor's note: Passengers seeking Space-Available or Space-A travel must keep in mind that there is no guarantee you will be selected for a seat. Space-A travelers must be prepared to cover commercial travel expenses if flight schedules are changed or become unavailable to allow Space-A travel.

Watch for scams that target vets

The AARP Fraud Watch Network and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service have partnered to launch Operation Protect Veterans — a national campaign to warn about scams and fraud schemes.

Within the span of a single year, scams aimed at veterans were exposed across North America. Authorities uncovered Veteran-centered schemes from California to Indiana and to the East Coast. These scams even spilled over international lines, reaching victims like Elmer Lloyd — a 30-year-old Canadian Veteran — who was approached by a self-proclaimed representative of a Boston law firm with the news he had inherited \$100,000. Fortunately for Mr. Lloyd (and his savings account), by the time he decided to pursue this inheritance, the "lawyer" had left town.

This tactic of targeting veterans is far from new. Everything mentioned in the paragraph above did not occur in 2018, or even 2008. The year was 1946. The target of the scammers was the savings and discharge pay of thousands of WWII Veter-

ans returning home from Europe and the Pacific.

Veteran scams today

While preying on Veterans is not new, the frequency is perhaps unprecedented.

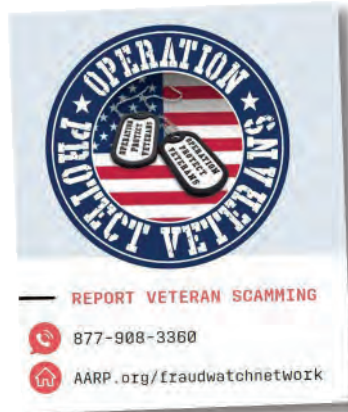
"Unfortunately, the men and women who bravely served our country have become a prime target of telephone and on-line thieves," said AARP chief executive officer Jo Ann Jenkins.

Advancements in communication have added countless opportunities to the scammer's malicious motives. Consumer awareness and prevention is the best weapon to combat these schemes.

Look out for the following scams:

Benefits buyout offer. Scammers take advantage of veterans in need by offering a quick upfront buyout, usually at a fraction of the value, of future disability or pension payments.

Fake charitable giving request. Scammers make fraudulent claims about charitable giving that benefits veterans or wounded service members.



Fraudulent records offer. Scammers try to charge veterans a fee to access military records or government forms, information that is available free through the National Archives (for military records) and VA.gov or local VA offices (for forms).

VA phishing scam. Scammers posing as VA employees call veterans to "phish" for Social Security numbers and personal financial information, which they use to access bank accounts and/or open fake credit card accounts.

Bogus employment scam. Scammers post fake job descriptions to collect personal information from a veteran's job application, or charge an employment fee.

Veterans, and all Americans, should be suspicious of any phone call or email requesting you send or transfer money or asking for personal information of any

kind (e.g., Social Security number, address, etc.). Don't give it to them. Research and verify all offers and claims.

If you or a loved one has encountered a financial scam in the last 12 months, please help us fight for our veterans by calling 877-908-3360.

El, ATC, combat comm among AF's top 12

- SMSgt Melissa Beam, Air Combat Command
- SSgt. Elizabeth Caulfield, Air Force District of Washington, Signals Analysis Squadron, National Air and Space Intelligence Center.
- **SSgt. Wilson Gardner, Air National Guard, airfield systems craftsman, 202nd Engineering Installation Squadron at Robins AFB, GA.**
- SMSgt Ruth Griffin, Air Force Global Strike Command
- TSgt Brett Laswell, Air Force Special Operations Command
- MSgt Kit Lui, Air Force Reserve Command
- **MSgt Joshua Matias, Air Education and Training Command. Matias is the air traffic control tower chief controller for the 14th Operations Support Squadron, Columbus AFB, MS.**
- TSgt David Miller, U.S. Air Forces in Europe
- SrA Patrick Schilling, Air Force Materiel Command
- TSgt April Spilde, Air Force Space Command
- SMSgt Lucero Stockett, Air Mobility Command
- **SrA Jon Taitano, Pacific Air Force, combat communicator and client systems technician assigned to the 644th Combat Communications Squadron, Andersen AFB, Guam.**

The Air Force We Need

NATIONAL HARBOR, MD (AFNS) -- Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson announced results of an in-depth analysis aimed at outlining what the Air Force needs to implement the National Defense Strategy while speaking at the AF Association's annual Air, Space and Cyber conference Sept. 17.

"The Air Force is too small for what the nation is asking us to do," she said. We

have 312 operational squadrons today. The Air Force We Need has 386 operational squadrons by 2030."

The National Defense Strategy, Air Force leaders said, marks the re-emergence of long-term, strategic competition with China and Russia. The Air Force's imperative is to compete, deter, and win this competition by fielding a force that is lethal, resilient, rapidly adapting and integrates seamlessly with the joint force, allies and partners.

Wilson said the analysis of the 386 squadrons needed to support this strategy is based on estimates of the expected threat by 2025 to 2030. At the end of the Cold War, the Air Force had 401 operational squadrons.

"Today, we are the best Air Force in the world," Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein said. "Our adversaries know it. They have been studying our way of war and investing in ways to take away those advantages. This is about how we stay in front."

Wilson said the Air Force chose to focus on operational squadrons—fighter and bomber squadrons, attack and special operations, space, cyber, tanker, airlift and other frontline units—because they're the core fighting units of the Air Force.

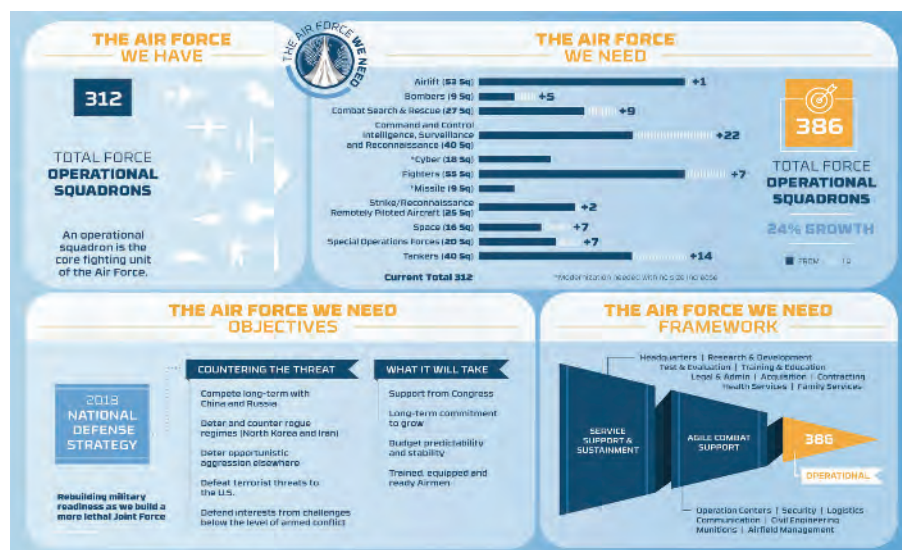
From the archives...

15 November 1938

Following directions from the War Department, Headquarters Army Air Corps established the Army Airways Communications System. The primary mission of AACS was to provide air-ground and ground-air communications between AACS aeronautical stations in the continental U.S. to promote safety and to facilitate flying operations. The secondary mission was to provide point-to-point communications between ground radio stations in the continental U.S. These stations transmitted aircraft movement reports, weather reports, and messages relating to Army airways traffic between ground stations. Air traffic control was added as an AACS mission in 1939. Major Wallace G. Smith became the first Control Officer of the newly activated AACS. Major Smith selected Capt Russell A. Wilson, Lt Dudley D. Hale, and Lt Lloyd Watnee as his Regional Communications Control Officers with an authorization for 300 enlisted men at 33 stations. The system was placed under the direction and control of the Headquarters Army Air Corps Directorate of Communications, within the Training and Operations Division.

"We usually have the dialogue about the Air Force we can afford," Goldfein said. "This is about the Air Force we need to present credible options to compete, deter, and if deterrence fails, win."

Wilson understands it will take time to build the support and budget required for the Air Force We Need. "We have an obligation to be honest with our countrymen and tell them, as those who came before us have done in their time, what should be done... What we must do."



AFNIC celebrates diverse mobile communications history



Truck-mounted emergency Military Affiliate (Auxiliary) Radio System station. (AFNIC History Office)

**By MSgt Justin Schoenthal
AF Network Integration Center
Scott AFB, IL**

The Air Force Network Integration Center has been celebrating 75 years in military communications. Looking back through its rich history, the 1950s showed exponential growth in the mobile communication sector.

When presented with the concept of “mobile communications,” the first thoughts usually match up with the popular web-based dictionary definitions describing scenarios around talking, texting or sending data and image files via a handheld device over a wireless network. Mobile technology like cellular communications, tablet and laptop systems also spawn in one’s mind, but when you look back in time to the

1950s, a very different concept of mobile communication was at the forefront of the Air Force and the military.

Mobile communications for AFNIC are focused around smart devices and how the center can provide enterprise mobility management allowing for worldwide communication over mobile technologies. During the 1950s, AFNIC’s predecessor, the Airways and Air Communications Service, was more focused on regional mobile communication support.

On May 1, 1951, the 1860th AACS Mobile Communications Squadron, the first mobile communications squadron in Europe, was activated at Munich-Riem Airport, Germany, with an authorized strength of 20 officers and 427 Airmen. AACS had been operating elsewhere as a system since 1938, providing air-ground and ground-air communications, but the use of mobile units and detachments had only been used since the mid-1940s.

The 1950s in Europe, when an AACS member was operating a mobile system, they would have been referring to something such as a Military Auxiliary Radio System mobile van which could provide mobile, or moving, communication during operations and emergencies. While nowhere near as portable, tiny or powerful as a cell phone fitting in one’s pocket today, these vans could travel across the country providing communication to remotely located military members. These rugged beefed-up combat styled trucks ensured mission essential information continually and securely flowed giving the military member the same sense of connectivity that all desire and are accustomed to today.

Nothing beats being able to receive a response in a “Can you hear me now?” type of situation when the status quo of the day would often be “No. I can’t hear you.”

In addition to voice transmissions, other mobile communication tools in use by AACS during the 1950s included the AN/MSQ-2 Close Support Control sets which were used for command and control over various missile and bombing systems. This helped the Air Force continue their “warheads on foreheads” in any environment with the most precise tools of the time.



B-17 "Flying Fortress" passing over an SCS-51 instrument landing system. (Courtesy AFNIC History Office)

Much like today, mobile communications in the 1950s were not always everyone's priority. In 1952, Headquarters Tactical Air Command requested that AACS create a mobile unit dedicated solely to the support of TAC operations. However, U.S. Air Force headquarters rejected the request as not being justified. Regardless, this did not slow down the spread of mobile communications nor the creation of new units within AACS dedicated to this effort.

This can be seen mirrored in today's environment with the different attempts to implement mobile technologies such as tablets across the Air Force with varying levels of success. As in the past, AFNIC leads the Air Force with the most widely used mobile technology solution that encompasses the best communication features available for the warfighter.

In 1952, it wasn't a tablet that the warfighter was interested in, but aircraft low approach guidance. What got these 1950s communicators excited was the completely revised Instrument Low Approach System program, which saw the installation of the older SCS-51 mobile and newer AN/MRN-7 and 8 systems to be installed. This change was prompted by requirements during the Korean War.

More commonly known as the Instrument Landing System (similar systems still in use today), this system was operated by AACS at several locations and consisted of a mobile, self-contained unit in a truck and trailer but could also be permanently deployed. This equipment consisted of three independently operated components: runway localizer transmitter, glidepath transmitter and three 75 MHz marker beacon transmitters. The system provided the pilot with a straight-line glidepath beam and a runway localizer beam. Any pilot reading this article could confirm the benefit of such a system for difficult landing situations.

September 1954, Headquarters AACS established Detachment 1, 3d AACS Squadron at Langley AFB, VA, and attached it to Headquarters Tactical Air Command for operational control. This detachment was the first AACS mobile combat unit to be dedicated solely to TAC use, something the community continued to feel was necessary since it was first rejected in 1952. The detachment supported TAC until September 1959.

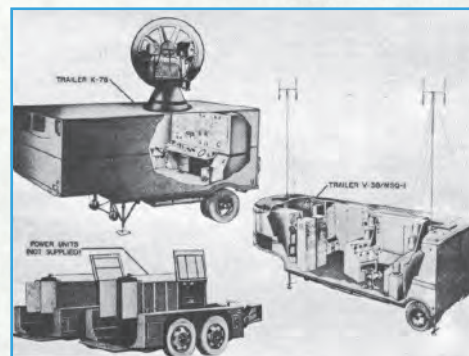
Another large AACS mobile achievement occurred in 1957 with the 1st AACS Squadron supporting Project DOVECOT, the atomic weapons testing effort by the British government at Christmas Island, today called Kiritimati. Located in the central Pacific Ocean, Kiritimati is hundreds of miles away from any form of civilization, a perfect location for AACS mobile abilities to shine.

Initially a classified project code-named Operation GRAPPLE by the British, AACS provided weather observation, communications and associated administrative support for the effort. Twenty-four hour radiotelegraph support was provided to all of the locations to include Hawaii, Palmyra and Penrhyn Atolls, as well as 24-hour air and ground radio service between Palmyra and Penrhyn. Without mobile communications, the tests may have never been as successful as they proved to be.

In the 1950s, AACS paved the way for mobile solutions to continue their valuable contribution to the military and solidified the need for communication anywhere and everywhere on the planet. Celebrating 75 years of dedicated service, the men and women of the Air Force Network Integration Center will continue their legacy of integrating mobile communications services and the cyberspace tools needed for today's warfighter.



AN/GRC-26 Radio vans provided communications and MB-5 power units provided power for the island, Penrhyn Atoll. (Courtesy 6th Weather Sq (Mobile) Alumni Association)



AN/MSQ-1 Close Support Control Set (Courtesy of AFNIC History Office)

In good hands:

ATCALs ensures safe takeoffs and landings

By A1C Elizabeth Baker
86th Airlift Wing/Public Affairs
RAMSTEIN AB RP, Germany

As A1C Connor Murph, 86th OSS ATCALs radar, airfield, and weather systems technician said, nothing flies without ATCALs. The team monitors, repairs, and maintains all air traffic landing, radio and weather systems on Ramstein. Those systems have been making sure aircraft take off and land safely for as long as Ramstein has existed.



A1C Connor Murph, 86th Operations Support Sq Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems radar, airfield, and weather systems technician, climbs the Digital Airport Surveillance Radar tower on Ramstein AB, Germany. (U.S. Air Force photos by SrA Elizabeth Baker)

Though the ATCALs team maintains equipment, calling them maintainers isn't exactly accurate. Electronics are a huge part of the job, yet calling them electricians isn't right either. They work with computers and communications systems, but aren't information technology or communications Airmen.

"This career field really doesn't fit into a box," Murph said. "Basically the air traffic control tower controls the aircraft, but all of their equipment is our responsibility; the radios they use to communicate with the airplanes, down to the monitors that they sit in front of."

Making sure critical landing systems operate correctly is no small task. Murph said the job takes attention to detail, a huge database of knowledge, and the ability to withstand heights.

ATCALs technicians climb some of the tallest structures on base, using their extensive knowledge of the systems to conduct repairs and

preventive maintenance inspections.

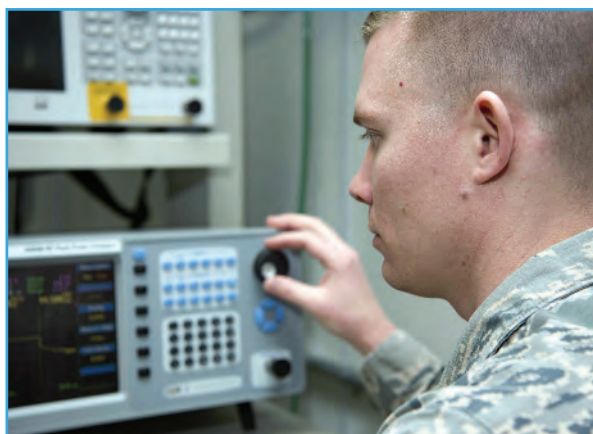
"You have to be very careful, especially working inside some of our systems," said TSgt Jerel Sledge, RAWS production control noncommissioned officer in charge. "You have to make sure you're not sticking the wrong tools in the wrong area because you could easily blow apart a circuit card or shock yourself. That means you also have to be knowledgeable about the systems as a whole."

Murph explained that one of the most important things ATCALs Airmen can do is learn the theories behind the systems they maintain. Only with that knowledge, can they figure out what's wrong.

"The most difficult part of the job is troubleshooting," Murph said. "For example, the instrument landing systems and the tactical air navigation systems have giant cabinets full of electronics. You're supposed to have a certain output at the end, but there are thousands of components that come in before that, and if there's an issue you have to find it."

Despite the challenges, Murph is at home with what he does.

"I love this job, honestly," he said. "I'm maintaining equipment worth millions of dollars. Every single flying operation that goes through this base uses our systems. It's pretty cool."



Airman Murph checks outputs from the digital airport surveillance radar tower during a maintenance inspection on Ramstein AB.

Hurricane recovery support



Airmen from the 53rd Air Traffic Control Squadron, Robins AFB, GA, observe an F-22 Raptor fighter jet taking off from Tyndall AFB, FL, Oct. 24, 2018.

Support personnel (including combat comm and joint communications support elements) from Tyndall and other bases have been working to repair base infrastructure and build bare-bones facilities after Hurricane Michael.

(U.S. Air Force photo by A1C Kelly Walker)

251st CEIG recognized for historic contributions

By A1C Amber Mullen
178th Wing

The 251st Cyberspace Engineering Installation Group, the 220th Engineering Installation Squadron, and the total force US Air Force engineering installation community were recognized for their hard work and accomplishments, Aug 6, at the U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, NE.

Over the past five years, the Air Force and Air National Guard engineering installation units worked on providing the infrastructure and cable installation for the new USSTRATCOM Command and Control facility. The Command and Control facility is a \$1.3 billion weapons system and is

the second largest building in the Department of Defense.

Airmen with the 251st CEIG were on the forefront of this infrastructure project, which was the largest one in engineering installation history. The 251st CEIG, the 220th EIS and their supporting units sent more than 200 Airmen to support the project. The engineering installation community had over 330 personnel deploy to Offutt AFB from 2013 to 2018 in support of this large construction task.

"We could not have done this without the support from all of our officers and enlisted folks," said Col. Wade Rupper, the commander of the 251st CEIG.

Service members completed up to six month tours which consisted of 12 to 20 hour days to progress the facility to an operable status. The average tour was over 90 days per person. Chief Timothy Day, the project manager assigned to the 220th EIS, was the lead ANG member and worked on the project the longest.

Many airmen returned for more than one tour over the course of the five years.

By using the resources of the Air National Guard, the 251st CEIG was able to save USSTRATCOM nearly \$250 million as compared to contracting out the project.

← Flash Back to the 1980s and TRACALS

A vital part of AFCC's air traffic control mission involved the management of traffic control and landing systems, commonly known by its acronym TRACALS.

The USAF TRACALS provided for the safe, orderly, and expeditious movement of air traffic in support of USAF air operations, and required modern, highly reliable equipment. These systems included fixed and mobile systems such as radars, tactical navigation systems, instrument landing systems and control towers and supported bases in the continental United States as well as Air Force-operated locations overseas.

One of the many challenges faced by the Air Force was the need to keep pace with new technology. Modernizing TRACALS included providing the support for new aircraft, developing radar facilities that provided a range of services to the operational Air Force including long-range radar as well as terminal radar inputs, and providing passive and accurate guidance information through the in-

corporation of space-based surveillance capabilities with military air traffic facilities. During the early 1980s, AFCC had several programs under way to upgrade its TRACALS. These included replacement of the long-range radars that provided air traffic services support along three access corridors into Berlin as well as within the Berlin control zone. Another program involved replacing older vacuum tube technology with solid state tactical air navigation systems that enabled a pilot to determine the aircraft's geographic position accurately.

In November 1988, the TRACALS acronym was changed to ATCALs which stands for Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems. This change not only standardized the acronym among the services, but also more accurately reflected the specific mission of the Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems as opposed to the more generic term TRACALS. (*Air Force Communications Command: 1938-1991, An Illustrated History*)



AFCOMMATC - Sponsored Annual Awards



Maj Gen Van C. Doubleday
ATC Enlisted
Manager of the Year, 2018

SMSgt Hubert D. Drake
Chief Controller, RAPCON
1st Operations Support
Squadron
Vance AFB, OK



SMSgt Hubert D. Drake is currently assigned to the Air Force Flight Standards Agency in Oklahoma City, but his award-winning performance was for duty while at Vance AFB and while deployed to Iraq. While at Vance AFB, Sergeant Blake led the USAF's 4th busiest ATC facility and oversaw 234,000 operations, 61 personnel, and was able to train and achieve 29 new qualifications, garnering

two Major Command level awards.

His ability to merge a \$41M runway project with continued ATC operations is impressive enough but he astoundingly added a 24% increase in operations with 1/3 of the runway closed. While deployed, Sergeant Blake led a 6-person team as the sole link with Iraq ATC, enabling 549 operations while outside-the-wire, and allowing coalition forces 4,000 sorties to strike the enemy. As a key member of Iraq's civilian/military airspace team he ensured the integration of civilian and military traffic. His work de-conflicted civilian traffic from military combat sorties, enabling 34,000 combat sorties and over 72,000 civilian flights.

(General Doubleday was the deputy director for Strategic Command, Control and Communications Systems, Command, Control and Communications Systems Directorate, Joint Staff, Washington, D.C., until he retired in 1980. He was a master navigator with more than 5,000 flying hours.)

Maj Gen Gerald L. Prather
Cyber Systems Senior NCO
of the Year, 2018

MSgt Bruce Woo
Operations and
Integration Team Lead
US Cyber Command
Fort George G. Meade, MD

MSgt Bruce Woo led the Operations and Integration Team for the U.S. Cyber Command at Fort George G. Meade, MD.

Sergeant Woo was also selected as the 2017 Information Dominance Outstanding Cyber Warfare Operations Senior NCO of the Year.

His team provided operational Command and Control and risk management of the \$34B Department of Defense Information Network, which supports all five uniformed services and nine combatant commands that deliver non-kinetic effects across the globe. Additionally, Sergeant Woo led a seven-member team, comprised of joint and total force members, to provide operational and strategic guidance training to 154 command personnel. This training assured the delivery of 75 strategic Department of Defense cyberspace directives.

Sergeant Woo was also key to development of U.S. Cyber Command's Joint Operations Center Continuity of Operations Plan. He and his team built local operations center partnerships to guarantee the mission continuity for two organizations, saving \$10M in project costs.

Finally, Sergeant Woo helmed the creation of the first ever Five Eyes Cyber Defense Concept of Operations. He coordinated with five services and three agencies from four separate countries. This effort deepened partnerships between the US Department of Defense cyber organizations as well as those of its allies.

His distinguished performance and dedication warrants his selection as this year's AFCOMMATC General Prather award winner.

He is now assigned at Lackland AFB, Texas.

(General Prather was assistant chief of staff, Information Systems, Air Force Headquarters, in June 1983 and became commander of AFCC in June 1984 until his retirement in 1986.)

Lt Gen Harry Raduege
Cyber Systems NCO of the Year,
2018

TSgt Randy Judy
Senior Operations Controller
624th Operations Center
Joint Base San Antonio-
Lackland, TX



TSgt Randy Judy was also selected as the 2017 Information Dominance Outstanding Cyber Warfare Operations NCO of the Year.

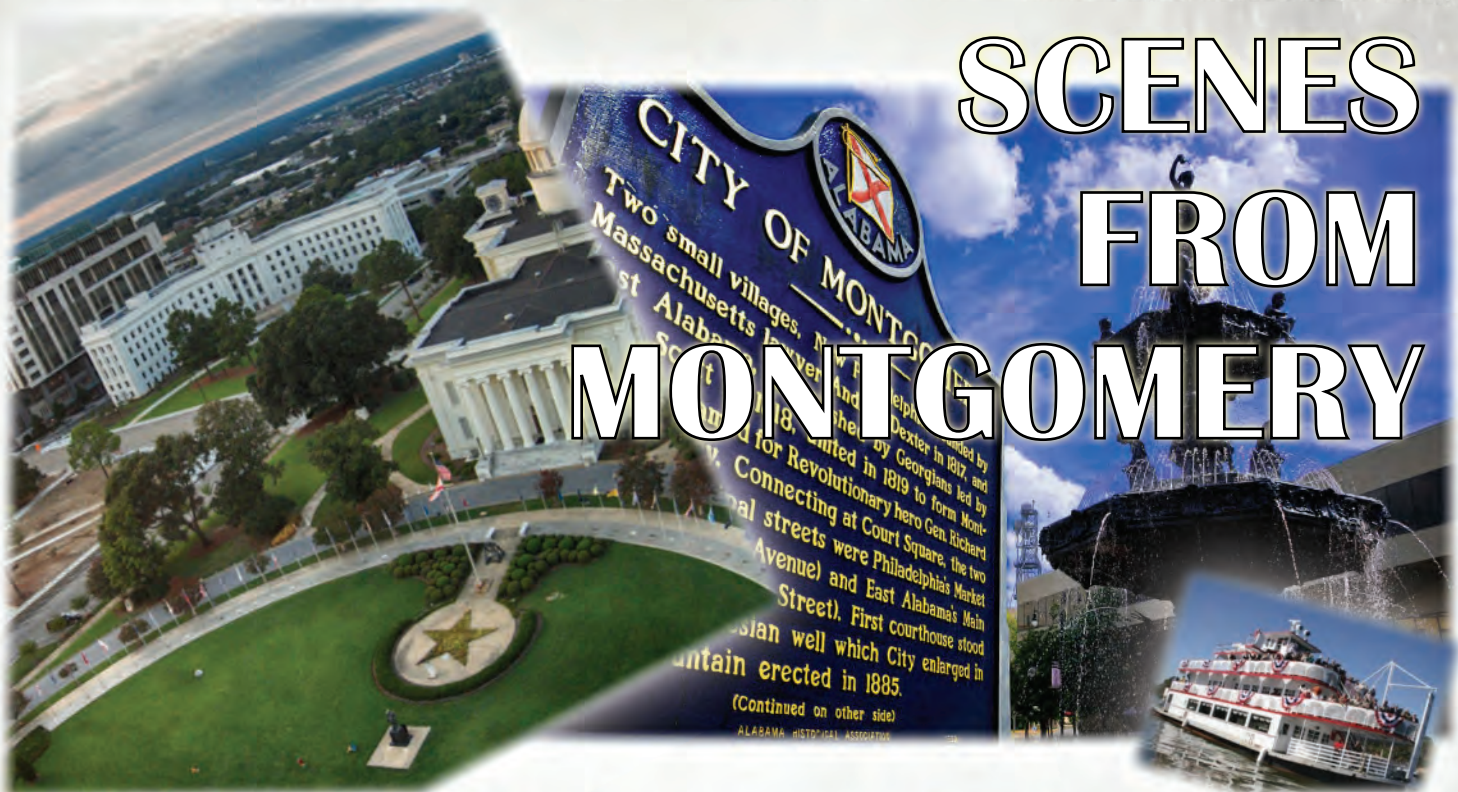
Sergeant Judy and his team provided operational Command and Control and risk management of an \$18M Network Attack System (NAS) supporting three combatant commands that delivered non-kinetic effects across 13 joint operations areas.

As a lead ops controller Sergeant Judy and his team actioned 38 Joint Task Force requests that enabled disruption of communications and limited enemy response actions, which aided Special Operation Forces successful accomplishment of their mission. Additionally, Sergeant Judy and his team facilitated 683 geolocation missions versus 216 insurgents; another successful operation.

Sergeant Judy led command and control of a POTUS directed strike that enabled delivery of 800 messages to enemy forces that enhanced kinetic ops; another successful operation.

Sergeant Judy also served as a combat mission ready operator executing geolocation and disruption missions that culminated in the tracking and capture of an IED proliferator, along with four high-value individuals, and supported a successful hostage rescue.

(General Raduege retired from the Air Force as director of the Defense Information Systems Agency and has been a cyber leader since his retirement and a strong supporter of our Association. He is also the Association's Executive Director.)



SCENES FROM MONTGOMERY



2018 AF Communicators & ATC Convention

*Hosts, Ken and
Marilyn Heitkamp*



**Sept 26-30, 2018
Embassy Suites by Hilton
Montgomery Hotel &
Conference Center**



Making forever friends



This is where great conversations take place, stories abound, and lasting friendships are made.



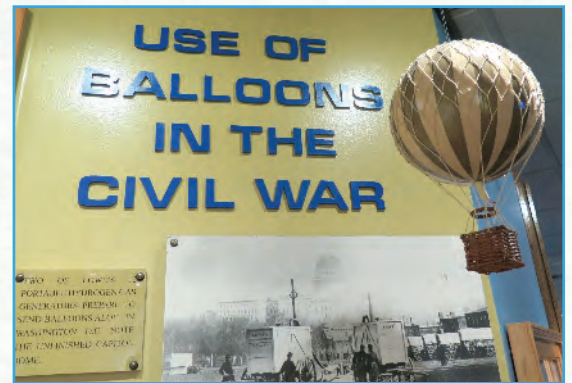
Photos by Janet Moreiko-Gagen, Susie Twedt, and Joe Hall

Tours and events



2018 tours/events:

- Maxwell-Gunter AFB Tour:
26th Network Operations Squadron, PEO Business & Enterprise Systems, DISA Operations, and Enlisted Heritage Hall Briefing
- Social in Recognition of Data Automation
- 42nd Annual Gen Farman Golf Tournament
- Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama (HMMA) Tour
- Harriott II Riverboat dinner cruise
- Breakfast Buffet and Annual General Business Meeting
- Saturday Night Banquet





Saturday Business Meeting



Sept 29, 2018, Embassy Suites by Hilton
Montgomery, AL

Called to order by Vice Director, Ken Reiff

The Air Force Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association Business Meeting was held 29 Sep 18 in Montgomery, AL

The Board of Directors Reports were published in previous editions of the Communicator.

The minutes of the 2017 Business meeting were unanimously approved.

Nominations for and election of Vice Director, Sergeant-at-Arms and Protocol Officer:

- Ken Reiff, the current Vice Director, will serve an additional two-year term
- Ray French, the current Sergeant-at-Arms, declined serving an additional term and Ken Reiff asked for nominations from the floor. Seeing none, he requested interested members contact him and a Sergeant-at-Arms will be selected by the Board.
- Rafael Quezada, the current Protocol Officer, will serve an additional two-year term

A motion to modify the Constitution and By-Laws to add the Protocol Officer as a permanent Board of Directors position (meaning the position is not regularly elected to serve) was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

The 2019 Air Force Communicators and Air Traffic Controllers Association Meeting will be held 24-29 Sept 2019 in Omaha, NE, with Ken Reiff and Jim Weber as the hosts.

There was discussion regarding the 2020 Association meeting in Biloxi, MS. This venue will not be able to support a single Hospitality Suite due to the Mississippi liquor license/regulations. The membership was asked for comment and there was no objection to having the Association meeting in Biloxi.

The Business Meeting adjourned at 0910 followed by the **Missed Roll Call** ceremony, a presentation regarding the status of **Air Traffic Control Training in the Air Force by CMSgt Larry Jackson of AETC, Keesler AFB, MS** and a **Cyber presentation by Col David Bosko of Air University.**

Ed Broestl, Executive Secretary



Annual Banquet



Master of Ceremonies: Rafael Quezada
Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation by Chaplain Ed Broestl

Vice Director Ken Reiff introduced special guests, Hall of Fame members, and first-time attendees

POW/MIA ceremony by retired Maj Gen Gerald Prather and retired CMSgt Bill Bethea and two Gunter AFB airmen

Guest speaker: Maj Gen Kimberly Crider



Guest speaker Maj Gen Kimberly A. Crider is the Mobilization Assistant to the Under Secretary of the Air Force. Last year she was named as the first chief data officer in the Air Force's 70 year history, a testament to the branch's growing dependence on all things data. The major general has served in a variety of IT roles in her 20 years as an Air Force reservist.



HONOREES

Maj Gen Van Doubleday
ATC Enlisted Manager
of the Year, 2018



CMSgt (ret) Bobby Stewart presents award to **SMSgt Hubert Drake**, on behalf of Gen Doubleday.

Lt Gen Harry Raduege Jr.
Cyber Systems NCO
of the Year, 2018



Maj Gen (ret) Gerald Prather, left, presents award to **TSgt Randy Judy**, on behalf of General Raduege.

Maj Gen Gerald Prather
Cyber Systems Senior
NCO of the Year, 2018

MSgt Bruce Woo was unable to attend. No photo available. See award narrative on page 21.



Hall of Honor Class of 2018



Marjory Stevens, daughter of Hall of Honor recipient **CMSgt Walter Chapman**, accepts the award from **Ken Reiff**.



Robert Frye accepts the Hall of Honor award from **Ken Reiff**.

CMSgt Chapman was inducted into the Cyberspace and Support Hall of Fame for his contributions to the engineering and installation mission starting in World War II in AACS and continued to his retirement after 50 years of service in AACS, GEEIA, AFCS, and AFCC. A key accomplishment was writing the first Team Chief handbook, still used today, and update of Standard Installation Practices Technical Orders.

CMSgt Hank Sauer Life
Achievement Award



CMSgt Walter McLain accepts the Life Achievement Award for his continued dedication and support to the Association.

Thomas F. Buckley
Service Award



Barb Niezgoda, **Barbara French**, and **Fran Weber** received the Buckley Service Award for their outstanding support.

Robert Frye elevated the performance of many organizations, most significantly being Standard Systems Group. Two of many accomplishments were the Level III certification under the Carnegie Mellon Software Engineering Institute's Capability Maturity Model. Second, the SSG was an established national leader in Y2K preparation. No AF Y2K failures.

Attendee List

Invited guests

Burgess, John
Crider, Kim
Drake, Hubert
Gregory, Denise
Jackson, Larry
Judy, Randy
O'Malley-Judy, Kelly
Kahney, Joshua
Kinney III, George
Stevens, Margory

Members and guests

Akard, Bob and Whited, Jennie
Anderson, Gene
Atkinson, Del and Prasertsi
Baggiano, Tony and Faye
Bartlebaugh, Jess
Bartoszewicz, Ronald and Patricia
Bateman, Lloyd
Besselman, Joe
Bethea, Bill and Pauline
Billy, Phyllis
Blackburn, Tom Blackburn and Nikki
Briggs, Ed and Toni
Broestl, Ed
Brown, Grover and Sandra
Carlson, Kenneth and Mary Ann
Cassatt, William C.
Chadburn, James and Elena
Daniels, Robert and Druclilla
Davenport, Joseph
Davis, Mary
Dendis, Jim
Dillon, Jesse
Dinkins, Rick
Donnell, Douglass and Francie
Dorsey, Clark and Cheryl
Doyle, Claude and Flossie and
Wheeler, Evelyn
Feingold, Robert
Flaherty, John and Braun, Julie

French, Ray and Barbara and
Crocker, Don and Joan
Frye, Bob and Joyce
Galloway, Bill and Norma
Gilligan, John
Gilly, Andy
Griffis, Richard and Carolyn
Gwaltney, Tom and Helen
Hall, Joe
Hall, Woody and Becky
Hamm, Lester
Hammett, Bill
Heitkamp, Kenneth and Marilyn and
Gereke, Helene
Herndon, Roger
Hoyt, George
Johnson, Johnny
Jordan, Charles (Bud)
Kirkpatrick, Craig and Elaine
Knott, Brian
Ladd, Arthur
Lang, Allen and Barbara
Lauducci, Jim
Lawrence, Bill and Esther
Leatherwood, Dennis
Lee, Janet
Lucas, Sharon
Maluda, John
McCall, Kyna
McCormick, Leslie and Lupis, Jim
McLain, Walt
Menschel, Michael
Metzger, Raymond and Kim
Gagen, Janet and Tom
Morrow, Kenneth and Bonnie
Mosemann, Lloyd K
Naddra, George
Nelson, William and Eloise
Niezgoda, Barbara
Ogwynn, William
Patrick, Laurence and Chris and
Klucking, Tony and Gail
Petty, Larry and Mary
Phillips, Stan and Jo-Ann and
Phillips, Debbie

Prather, Gerald and Helen
Quezada, Rafael
Raduege, Chad
Raney, John
Raphael, Dave
Raphael, Mary
Reiff, Ken and Linda
Rhodes, Marcie and Michael
Robinson, James W.
Robinson, Toy
Rogers, Scott
Ruth, Douglas
Saden, Harold and Mary
Sheridan, Gene and Irene
Spivey, Emerson and Olive
Stevenson, Bill
Stewart, Bobbie
Stewart, Stephen
Stokes, Charisse
Strand, Douglas and Vivian
Taylor, Jimmy
Terrell, Lee
Titrud, Jeff and Elisabeth
Tombacaris, George
Townsend, Terry and Marcella
Twedt, Susan and Stephanie
VanHunnik, Kim
Varnado, John and Wilson, Teneha
Vosse, Jack
Waldrop, Olan
Wallace, John "Bill" and Julie
Weber, Jim and Fran
Niezgoda, David
Niezgoda, Sandy
Weber, John and Jeanne
Whitehead, Keith and Lauren
Willis, Lee and Laird
Willis, Guy
Willis, Debra
Huff, Ken
Huff, Kathy
Witt, Randy and Peggy
Wright, Steve

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In 1999 the Air Force established the Communications and Information Hall of Fame to honor individuals who made significant contributions, both to the Air Force and our career field, while serving in the public and private sectors.

Each year new members are inducted into the Hall of Fame--visionaries who guided the Air Force toward a technological and information-enabled future. Their dedication, vision, patriotism, and honor established a proud legacy on which we continue to build today's information superiority.

Hall of Honor

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Maj Gen Van C. Doubleday

CMSgt William Mosley

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Class of 2017

John Flaherty

Julie Braun

Class of 2018

CMSgt Walt McLain





AF Communicators and Air Traffic Controllers Association
(Formerly the AACCS Alumni Association)

Membership Application

Print ,Complete and Mail TO: Mr. Walt McLain, 4514 Haverty Dr, Knoxville, TN 37931-3657
Or e-Mail as attachment to aacsmbrship@comcast.net

Regular and Associate Membership dues are \$15.00 per-year, payable in two-year increments.

Life Memberships are based on age: To – 50 years = \$165; 51 – 60 years = \$145;

61 – 70 years = \$115; 71 - ? Years = \$75

Make check payable to AF Comm ATC Assn

Types of Membership

Life & Regular Membership is based on service (men and women) as a commissioned officer, warrant officer, non-commissioned officer, enlisted or civilian, who served or is serving in any communications/information/cyber or air traffic control unit or holds or held a MOS, AFSC or other skill identifier as a communicator/information/cyber, air traffic controller or support skill in any Air Force Major Air Command (AACCS, ACS, AFCS, AFCC, AFC4A, AFCA, AFNIC, AFFSA, SAC, TAC, ADC, USAFSS, MAC, etc., or the Air Force current commands). Associate members are those who do not meet the above criteria. (Associate members have all privileges of membership but do not vote on association matters.)

Print form, complete, and mail with check

Note: Please Print Clearly (Type Application: enter Regular, Associate, Or Life)

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If you have any questions or problems contact Walt McLain, Home 865-690-9478 Cell 865-740-4127

Or e-mail aacsmbrship@comcast.net

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION

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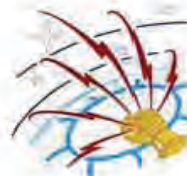
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75th AFNIC anniversary coins are available for purchase. Cost: \$9 each

AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association PX/BX Order Form



Name _____ Phone Nbr: () _____

Address: _____

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Quantity	Description	Cost
_____	* Limited time! AFNIC 75 th anniversary coin @ \$9 each	_____
_____	AACS Logo Patch with AFCS & AFCC embroidered @ \$5	_____
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_____	AFCOMMATC Embroidered Logo Golf Shirt BLUE.....	_____
_____	AFCOMMATC Embroidered Logo Golf Shirt WHITE.....	_____
_____	S___ M___ L___ XL___ \$36 2XL___ \$38	_____
_____	AFCOMMATC Jacket (zipper) S___ M___ L___ XL___ \$42	_____
_____	Jacket 2XL \$50	_____

AACS items are gone except for the patches and pins.

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MAKE CHECKS OUT TO 'AF COMM & ATC ASSOC' and MAIL TO:

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AACS, AFCS & AFCC Wood-Carved Wall Plaques



Cost (including shipping) is \$35 each

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These wood-carved plaques are special order and will take approximately 2-3 weeks for delivery.

Size 10 1/2 inches



Command: AACCS _____ AFCS _____ AFCC _____ (Number of plaques)

Total cost: \$ _____ (check attached)

Mail to: _____

HOW IT BEGAN



Many in this association saw air traffic control take a technological leap forward with the introduction of radar in the 1950s. Some saw air and ground radio stations transform from continuous wave Morse Code to radio telephone. Many witnessed the advent of the computer. They all helped the military increase the quantity and quality of communications, data automation, and air traffic controls systems.

Formerly called AACS Alumni Association (1977 to 2008), AACS stood for both the Army Airways Communications System and the Airways and Air Communications Service. Because missions were basically the same, the AACS Alumni Association expanded membership to include AFCS, AF Communications Command, AF Command, Control, Communications & Computer Agency, AF Communications Agency, AF Network Integration Center, AF Flight Standards Agency, and other major commands up to and including today's organizational structure.

TAX STATUS

The AF Communicators and Air Traffic Controllers Association is an **IRS Code 501(c)(19)** organization. Donations to the Association are tax deductible when filing IRS Form 1040.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HISTORY

The AACS Alumni Association was formed on Sept. 30, 1977. Larry and Doris Camp were visiting Dux and Pearl LeDoux in Eunice, LA in 1976 when the subject of old military friends came up. Larry and Dux were assigned to the 5th AACS Wing in Europe. What began as an invite to a poker weekend in Columbus, OH (Larry and Dux were part of a London, England, poker group for AACS detachment commanders) to be hosted by the Camps, turned out to be the first annual reunion.

The couples contacted old friends, who in turn contacted others, and so on. A large number of former AACS troops and spouses made their way to Columbus and the result was what is now one of the strongest AF Alumni Associations. AACS Alumni Association was adopted as the official title, derived from Army Airways

Communications System and Airways and Air Communications Service.

Individuals who were part of the first reunion had been assigned to AACS units before, during and after World War II, the Korean Conflict, and up to 1961 when AACS became a MAJCOM and was renamed the AF Communications Service (AFCS).

An annual convention is held in different cities each year. They usually begin on the last Thursday of September and end the following Sunday. The Association operates on membership dues and donations.

ABOUT AACS

In 1938 the Army Airways Communications System (AACS) was formed. During World War II, for a short time it was renamed the Army Airways Communications Wing and then the Air Communications Service, but that only lasted 9 months. When the clamor reached the halls of the Pentagon to retain the AACS designation, it was renamed the Airways and Air Communications Service (AACS) in 1946. This new designation was also a better fit due to the high volume of airplanes flying through U.S. and U.S.-controlled airspace and the need to control airways.

In 1961 AACS was elevated to Major Air Command status and it was renamed the Air Force Communications Service (AFCS). AFCS was redesignated the Air Force Communications Command Nov. 15, 1979. AFCC became a field operating agency on July 1, 1991, and, on May 28, 1993, was redesignated the Air Force Command, Control, Communications, and Computer Agency. The AFC4A was redesignated the Air Force Communications Agency June 13, 1996. On April 1, 1997, the Agency was reassigned as a subordinate unit of the Headquarters Air Force Communications and Information Center. The Agency was redesignated a field operating agency, reporting directly to the Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications and Information, Washington, D.C., Oct. 1, 2000. On July 15, 2009, the Air Force Communications Agency became a center under Air Force Space Command and was redesignated the Air Force Network Integration Center. In 2018 AFNIC became a field operating agency under Air Combat Command.

The old blue original AACS logo is our official Association logo.

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AIR FORCE COMMUNICATORS AND AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATION

Who we are

Our association is comprised of about 1,200 members (Communicators, Data Automation, Information/Cyber, Space Operations, Air Traffic Controllers, Air Field Managers, Maintenance, Engineering and Installation, and related support personnel) who have served or are serving in any communications or air traffic control unit.

The term Communicators includes ALL operational, maintenance, administrative skills and other skills in the U.S. Army Air Corps and the U.S. Air Force (including Air National Guard and Reserve, veterans, active duty, civilian and retired) in communications, data automation, cyber, engineering and installation, air traffic control and related support units.

We were formerly called the "AACS Alumni Association" from 1977 until Sept 27, 2008.

We changed our name because the Airways and Air Communications Service (AACS) was elevated to Major Air Command status and redesignated the Air Force Communications Service in 1961.

Mission

*** Foster continued awareness of the Air Force communications, data automation, and air traffic control missions previously accomplished by AACS, AFCS, AFCC, AFC4A, AFCA, AFFSA, other past and current major air commands.**

***Provide a forum for educational and humanitarian services, renew and make new friendships, and exchange ideas of common interest concerning communications and air traffic control.**

***Fully support goals and missions of the Air Force and honor the ATC Enlisted Manager, Cyber Systems Senior NCO and Cyber Systems NCO of the Year.**

***Make charitable contributions to worthy veteran organizations or related causes.**

***Manage our Association to be viable for those airmen/officers/civilians serving today.**