

AF COMMUNICATORS & AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATION



Formerly the AACS Alumni Association
Comprised of members who have served or are serving in any
US Air Corps or Air Force Communications/Information,
Cyber, E&I, or Air Traffic Control unit.

Since 1938

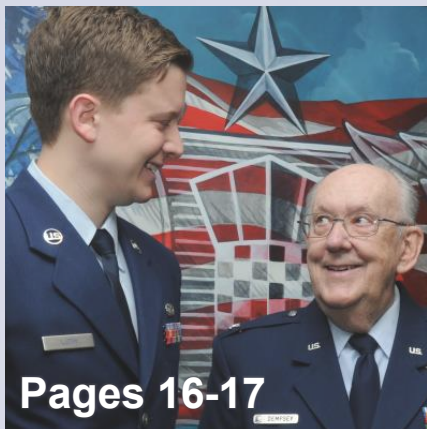


THE COMMUNICATOR

FELLOWSHIP IN THE COMPANY OF EQUALS

Official publication of the AF Comm & ATC Association Inc.

JUNE 2015



Pages 16-17

**Conference
room at Keesler
AFB dedicated
in honor of ATC
“living legend”
Col Dempsey**

**Hank Sauer
steps down as
editor of *The
Communicator*;
passes baton to
former *intercom*
editor, Lori
Manske**

Page 6



September 2015

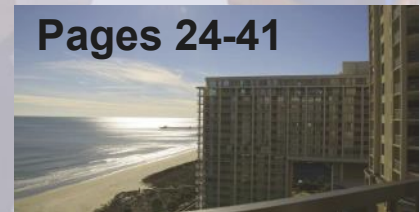
Plan now on coming
to the 39th Conven-
tion/Reunion

Myrtle Beach, SC
The Hilton Hotel
Sept 30 - Oct 4

2015 Hosts

Bill & Pauline
Bethea,
Susie Twedt, Doug
& Francie Donnell

Pages 24-41



Visit our web site: www.afcommatc.org

Call 865-740-4127 or 865-690-0479 for information about the Association.

Check your address for the month and/or year your dues expire. Make dues renewal checks
out to AF Comm ATC Assoc and mail to Walt McLain (address on pg 62).



Executive Committee

Executive Director

Doug Donnell



Day-to-day management, direction and oversight.

Vice Director

Ray French



Assists in management, development, and growth.

Executive Secretary

Bob Akard



Recorder of business; curator of documents

Treasurer

Cindy Hintz



Manages Association funds.

Board Advisory Officer

Hank Sauer



Information Officer

Gerald Prather



Membership

Walt McLain



Editor, Print/Online Media

Lori Manske



Protocol

Rafael Quezada



Sgt-at-Arms

Robert Read (acting)



Directors at Large

Executive Director Appointments

Historian
Ken Reiff

PX/BX Manager
Bill Cassatt

Chaplain
Jim Weber

Judge Advocate
John Milano

Executive Director Committees

BOD Nominating
“Em” Spivey (chair)
Bill Wallace

Financial Management Policy
Bob Akard (chair)
Ray French
Cindy Hintz
James Weber (elect)

Convention
Doug Donnell (chair)
Hank Sauer
Bob Akard
Jim Weber

Hall of Fame/Hall of Honor
Walt McLain (chair)
Hank Sauer
Chuck Teston

See page 62 for BOD contact information.

AF Comm & ATC Association Honors

Hall of Honor

Class of 2001

CMSgt Richard P. "Hank" Sauer

Class of 2002

Colonel Robert M. Brewer
MSgt Joseph J. Duffy
Mr. Thomas S. Snyder

Class of 2003

Larry Camp
Maj Gen Gerald L. Prather

Class of 2004

Garland B. Hilton

Class of 2005

Lt Gen Harry Raduege
Col David Kovach
Col P. C. Brown (past chaplain)
CMSgt Bill Bethea
Rocco Sansone

Class of 2006

Col Derrel L. Dempsey
CMSgt Walt McLain

Class of 2007

Col James Lauducci
CMSgt Charles E. Teston

Class of 2008

Maj Gen Van C. Doubleday
CMSgt William Mosley

Class of 2009

Lt Gen William J. Donahue
Lt Gen John L. Woodward
Maj Gen George P. Lampe
Maj Gen John T. Stihl
Brig Gen Duncan W. Campbell
Col William A. Malec
Col Gil Sentimore
CMSgt James Sutton

Class of 2010

CMSgt Robert "Duke" Snyder
Col Paul Patton
Mr. Lloyd Mosemann

Class of 2011

Gen William "Tom" Hobbins
Col David J. Martinson

Class of 2012

Maj Gen Dale Meyerrose
Brig Gen Bruce Bohn
Brig Gen Stancil Dilda

Class of 2013

Brig Gen Buford Witt
Col Jack Stratford
CMSgt Laurence "Pat" Patrick

Class of 2014

Lt Gen Charles E. Croom
Col David J. Kovach
Col Ken Reiff

Life Achievement Award

Class of 2001

Col Ted V. Carlson

Class of 2002

Col B. U. Glettler
CMSgt R. P. "Hank" Sauer

Class of 2003

Claire B. Lofchie
John A. Milano
Lt Gen Lee Paschall
Maj Gen Gerald L. Prather
CMSgt Jim VanDyne

Class of 2004

Maj C. B. Maginnis
Mrs Nancy Donnell

Class of 2005

Lt Col Richard W. Frye
George Villa

Class of 2006

Smitty McCellen
Shirley Beachum
Mary Lou Brewer

Class of 2007

CMSgt Bob "Duke" Snyder

Class of 2008

Dr. Larry Morrison

Class of 2009

Maj David Moore

Class of 2011

Stanley J. Phillips

Class of 2013

CMSgt Bill Bethea
Lori Manske
Robert "Bob" Akard

Class of 2014

CMSgt Bob Read

Thomas F. Buckley Service Award

Class of 2003

Monica Buckley

Class of 2004

James J. Duffy

Class of 2005

CMSgt Richard Gillis

Class of 2006

Robert Akard

Class of 2007

Maj Gen Gerald L. Prather

Class of 2008

MSgt Joseph J. Duffy

Class of 2009

TSgt Gene Sheridan

Class of 2010

SMSgt Ray Sharpless

Class of 2011

Erika VanDyne

Class of 2012

John Flaherty and
Julie Braun

Class of 2013

Mike Hunter

AF Cyberspace Operations and Support Hall of Fame

In 1999 the Air Force established the Communications and Information Hall of Fame to honor those 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.

Foundation Setters: Brig Gen Billy Mitchell, Gen Edwin W. Rawlings, Lt Gen Harold W. Grant, Lt Gen Lee Paschall, Maj Gen Harold M. McClelland, Maj Gen Robert Sadler

Class of 1999

*Lt Gen Lee M. Paschall

Class of 2000

Lt Gen Winston D. Powers
Maj Gen Robert Edge
*Brig Gen Ivan L. Farman
*Col Glenn Giddings

Class of 2001

*Lt Gen James S. Cassity
*Lt Gen Robert H. Ludwig
*CMSgt Richard P. "Hank" Sauer

Class of 2002

*Lt Gen Richard Klocko
Lt Gen Gordon Gould
Maj Gen Paul Stoney

Class of 2003

Gen Robert T. Herres
Lt Gen Gordon A. Blake
Maj Gen Daniel C. Doubleday
*Maj Gen Jack B. Robbins
Brig Gen Haskell E. "Hack" Neal

Class of 2004

*Lt Gen John S. Fairfield
Maj Gen John Paul Hyde

Class of 2005

*Lt Gen Albert Edmonds
*Lt Gen Carl O'Berry
*Mr. Tom Yium

Class of 2006

Maj Gen Francis L. Ankenbrandt
Maj Gen John Bestic
*Maj Gen Rupert H. Burris
*Col Derrel L. Dempsey
*CMSgt William Bethea

Class of 2007

Maj Gen John T. Randerson
*Col James R. Lauducci
*CMSgt Charles E. Teston

Class of 2008

*Maj Gen Van C. Doubleday
Maj Gen Alvin L. Pachynski
*CMSgt Walter D. McLain

Class of 2009

*Lt Gen William J. Donahue
*Maj Gen George P. Lampe
*Maj Gen John T. Stihl
Brig Gen Charles B. Jiggetts
*Lt Gen John L. Woodward
*Maj Gen Gerald L. Prather
*Brig Gen Duncan W. Campbell
*Col Gil Sentimore

Class of 2010

Col Jess Guthrie
*Col Paul Patton
Lt Col Michael Anderson
*Mr. Lloyd Mosemann
*MSgt Joseph Duffy

Class of 2011

*Lt Gen Harry D. Raduege
Col Lloyd Watnee
*CMSgt William M. Mosley
CMSgt Richard Etchberger
Mr. Cecil Harvey

Class of 2012

*Maj Gen Dale Meyerrose
*Brig Gen Bruce Bohn
Brig Gen Avon James
Lt Col Grace Barth
CMSAF Eric Benken
Mr. Timothy Long

Class of 2013

*Gen William "Tom" Hobbins
*Brig Gen Buford "Randy" Witt
*Col Jack Stratford
*CMSgt Laurence M. Patrick
*Robert L. Feik

Class of 2014

*Lt Gen Charles E. Croom
Brig Gen Wallace Smith
*Col David J. Kovach
CMSgt Larry Holifield

Class of 2015

*Maj Gen John Maluda
*Col Ken Reiff
*Col Gerald Gleckel

*Was or is a member of our Association.

Visit <http://www.afnic.af.mil/library/halloffame/index.asp>

The following individuals were inducted into
AF Cyberspace Operations and Support Hall of Fame
Class of 2015



***Maj Gen
John Maluda***



Col Ken Reiff



Col Gerald Gleckel

Congratulations to these outstanding individuals and their families. Their service and dedication to the Air Force and to our country is much appreciated.

Thanks for the memories

We will have a new Editor and Publisher of the *Communicator* after this June 2015 issue.

I think I have been doing the *Communicators* and before that the AACS Newsletters since at least 2000. It has been a great 15 or more years and I want to say thanks to all who have sent pictures and all the great stories that have been printed since I became the Editor.



You all are the ones (OUR MEMBERS) who make our *Communicators* a members' magazine. In spite of my poor proofreading skills, you have allowed me to continue for all these years. I think my biggest error was on one of the covers where I missed "Air Farce". I am sure I heard from most of our members on that boo-boo.

As I am getting long in the tooth as they say, it's time for a change and new ideas to make our *Communicators* even better than before.



Hank Sauer

In case you did not know, Lori Manske will be taking over the editor duties. She is retired from AFCA as the Chief of Public Affairs and before that as editor of the *intercom* newspaper/magazine, our AFCS/AFCC/AFCA worldwide paper. She is a pro who has re-tooled our web site to make it one of the best of its kind.

You have a lot to look forward to in the coming years and I know you will continue to support her and keep the great stories and pictures coming. I will continue to support our great Association in some manner and will see you at our reunions.

Thanks for all the great memories!

Meet our new editor



Lori Manske

After 37 years of federal service, Lori Manske retired in 2006 at Scott AFB, IL, where she was chief of public affairs for then AF Communications Agency (now AFNIC) and predecessor organizations.

She came to Scott AFB in 1973 after working three years at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in St Louis.

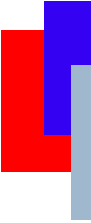
Her first job at Scott AFB was as a secretary for the 1918th Communications Squadron,

then as a typist at Military Airlift Command. In 1975 she moved into the MAC public affairs office and became an editorial assistant. In 1981, she became a staff writer for the AFCC *intercom* newspaper and became editor in 1983.

While editor, the *intercom* placed first in the AF Media Contest Newspaper Awards in 1984, '85, '86, '87, '88, '90 and '91.

In 1986 she also received the Public Affairs Officers Award, Aviation and Space Writers Association, Midwest Region.

In 1993, she was promoted to Chief of Public Affairs for AFC4A, later AFCA. Under her



Contd from previous page

leadership as chief of PA for the Agency, the *intercom* won the title of best magazine in the DOD in 2005, earning the prestigious Thomas Jefferson Award.

Other awards include three for Meritorious Civilian Service; AFCC Excellence Award for Outstanding Civilian Achievement; Air Force Association Citation of Honor; HQ AFCC Civilian of the Year, 1986; and Special Act or

Service Awards.

She is married to Steve, a regular golfer at our convention tournaments. They have three children and eight grandchildren.

SEND stories and photos to:

**Lori Manske
665 N. 11th St
Breese, IL 62230**

(Note: Lori did the layout and design of this edition, and will take over full editor duties with the November 2015 issue, including a new, digital format online.)

Replacing Hank Sauer as editor of the Communicator will be difficult. He has a tireless devotion and commitment to the Communicator and the AF Comm & ATC Association as a whole. — Lori Manske



To help the association save money, you can email Walt McLain at aacsmbrship@comcast.net and tell him, "YOU CAN STOP MAILING THE JUNE ISSUES OF THE COMMUNICATORS" and will read them on the web site (www.afcommatc.org).

Please include your full name and mailing address.

Or CUT out the form below and mail it to him.

To: Walt McLain

4514 Haverty Dr.

Knoxville, TN 37931-3657

I do not want to receive the June *Communicators* in the mail. Please remove my name from the mailing list. I will read and/or download the June *Communicators* at the web site.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Please let me know when the November issue is posted on the web site:

Email me at: _____

REPORTS

From the Board of Directors



Doug Donnell Executive Director

It doesn't seem possible that I'm reaching the end of my four-year term as your Executive Director – the time has truly flown by. We've had four great reunions, eight issues of *The Communicator*, and new members continue to join. Our connection to the active Air Force remains strong, and we continue to present the Air Force's Comm and ATC awards to outstanding young airmen at our annual banquets.

This year's reunion hosts, Bill and Pauline Bethea, my sister Susie Twedt, and Francie and I, continue to put finishing touches on a great program. Those who are able to make it to Myrtle Beach this September will find some superb stage shows, great food, and other surprises, along with the Association's well known camaraderie. **By all means, put this year's reunion on your calendars now!**

With our Myrtle Beach gathering about six months out, I'd like to remind members that this is a perfect time to reach out to friends and acquaintances and let them know about the reunion. How many of us over the years have

“...Myrtle Beach would be the perfect way to turn the good intentions into reality with an excellent beachfront hotel at a great price and activities for every taste.”

talked about getting together with friends and fellow airmen from our military days, but just never seemed to get around to it? Or, we've talked to friends who wanted to get together with *their* groups from previous assignments, but it just hadn't happened.

Suggest to them that Myrtle Beach would be the perfect way to turn the good intentions into reality with an excellent beachfront hotel at a great price and activities for every taste. While most of us are tied to the Comm and Air Traffic Control fields, our colorful director for membership (who allegedly bleeds Tennessee orange), defines, for the purposes of our reunions, a Communicator as one who has had a phone on his desk and an Air Traffic Controller as someone who can recognize a control tower. As we all know, our Association is about gathering for fun and fellowship, so please let your friends know that this would be the perfect time to join us!

In closing, I can't begin to say enough about the outstanding work done by your Board of Directors. Throughout the year the work of the Association goes on behind the scenes. Money flows in and out, new member applications are processed, the business end of the Association continues, and reunion planning goes on. We simply would not have the AFCATCA without the ongoing efforts of the Board.

And, of course, there's our Association newsletter, *The Communicator*, which Hank Sauer has so ably edited for many years. Few, if any, similar Associations can boast of such a great publication. Hank is transitioning those duties to Lori Manske and I would like to pass along thanks again, on behalf of the entire Association, for his efforts.

I hope to see you all in Myrtle Beach!

EDITOR-PUBLISHER REPORT

COST OF THE NOVEMBER 2014 AF COMM & ATC ASSOC COMMUNICATOR

Printing, labeling, shipping (1,900 copies).....	\$2,882.45
Layout/Draft/Conversion.....	700.00
P.O. Bulk Mail charges (approx 1,817 mailed).....	779.76
P.O. BULK MAIL PERMIT.....	220.00
Overseas Mail	24.24
	<hr/>
TOTAL:	\$4,606.45



Hank Sauer
Editor

The November *Communicator* cost about \$2.29 per copy to publish and mail.

Remaining balance in PO Account:	\$29.69
Remaining balance in Editor's Bank Account:	\$56.20

NOTE: Monthly reports for the Editor's Bank Account are submitted to the Treasurer and audited by the Chair of the Fiscal Management & Budget Committee.

The web site averages 125 – 150 hits per day. It is our biggest recruiter of new members. Since we created our new database and started keeping more accurate records, the web site has been responsible for recruiting 900+ new members. Visit the web site Guestbook and send an email to people who sign, thank them for taking the time to visit.

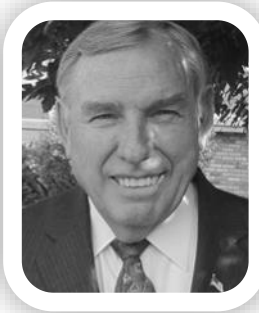
You can read current and past issues of the *Communicator* on our web site. www.afcommatc.org.
YOU MUST USE THE *PASSWORD* TO ACCESS THE *MEMBERSHIP ROSTER* AND *COMMUNICATORS*. THE *PASSWORD* IS "mpn1aacs"

Please keep stories and photos coming. They make the *Communicator* a members' publication. Send them early. If we can't get your stories/pictures in one issue, we will keep them for the next one. In fairness to all members, we use a "first in-first published" policy. After scanning (onto a hard drive) any pictures you send, we will return them if requested. All articles and pictures will be considered for web site potential. Send stories/pictures ***not later than 1 April and 15 Oct*** of each year. The earlier, the better—the page limit is reached early.

EMAIL OR MAIL STORIES TO:
Lori Manske
Editor/Publisher
Email: manske5@charter.net
Mail: 665 N. 11th St, Breese, IL 62230

**KEEP YOUR MAILING/EMAIL
ADDRESS CURRENT – CONTACT
WALT McLAIN AT
865-740-4127 or 865-690-0479, or
EMAIL: aacsmbrrship@comcast.net or
change it ONLINE ON OUR WEB SITE
www.afcommatc.org**

**Jim Weber
Chaplain**



I attended the funeral of our comrade-in-arms MSgt Joe Duffy. Joe passed away suddenly Feb 13, 2015. No warning, just gone. Joe's sudden passing is a reminder to us all, it could have been any one of us! Are you prepared for such a thing to happen? Would your surviving spouse or family members know what to do? Is your will complete and accurately reflecting

your last wishes? There is so much that has to be done in times like these and everything has to be in legal order. If it is not, there is pain involved for the person who has to make decisions to settle your estate. Please take time to put your affairs in order.

I think if Joe could have had some last words, they may have sounded something like this:

When tomorrow starts without me,
And I'm not there to see,
If the sun should rise and find your eyes
All filled with tears for me;
I wish so much you wouldn't cry
The way you did today,
While thinking of the many things,
We didn't get to say.
I know how much you love me,
As much as I love you,
And each time that you think of me,
I know you'll miss me too;
But when tomorrow starts without me,
Please try to understand,
That an angel came and called my name,
And took me by the hand,
And said my place was ready,
In heaven far above,
And that I'd have to leave behind
All those I dearly love.
But as I turned to walk away,
A tear fell from my eye

For all my life, I'd always thought,
I didn't want to die.
I had so much to live for,
So much left yet to do,
It seemed almost impossible,
That I was leaving you.
I thought of all the yesterdays,
The good ones and the bad,
I thought of all the love we shared,
And all the fun we had.
If I could relive yesterday,
Just even for a while,
I'd say good-bye and kiss you
And maybe see you smile.
But then I fully realized,
That this could never be,
For emptiness and memories,
Would take the place of me.
And when I thought of worldly things,
I might miss come tomorrow,
I thought of you, and when I did,
My heart was filled with sorrow.
But when I walked through
heaven's gates,
I felt so much at home.

When God looked down and
smiled at me,
From His great golden throne,
He said, "This is eternity,
And all I've promised you."
Today your life on earth is past,
But here life starts anew.
I promise no tomorrow,
But today will always last,
And since each day's the same way
There's no longing for the past.
You have been so faithful,
So trusting and so true.
Though there were times
You did some things
You knew you shouldn't do.
But you have been forgiven
And now at last you're free.
So won't you come and take my
hand
And share my life with me?
So when tomorrow starts without
me,
Don't think we're far apart,
For every time you think of me,
I'm right here, in your heart.

Check out the **History** tab on the www.afcommatc.org web site. We have added some new items.

History trivia. Did you know that by the end of WWII Scott Air Field was universally known as the Communications University of the Army Air Forces. 77,370 radio operators/mechanics had graduated from the schools there. Two would become well known.

*TSgt Forrest Lee Vosler,
a Boeing B-17 Flying
Fortress radio operator,
was the second enlist-
ed U.S. airman to ever
receive a Medal of Honor.*



**Ken Reiff
Historian**

The first Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Paul Airey and Technical Sergeant Forrest Lee Vosler, a Medal of Honor recipient, were graduates. (Source: O'Fallon Progress, Fall 2014, page 42).

Detailed information regarding Sergeant Vosler's heroism can be found by doing a search on his name at Wikipedia.

If you have stories or documents you believe we should consider for the web site send them to me at kenreiff6@charter.net; subject History.



**Lori Manske
Web site manager**

Please continue to check our web site for updates and stories/photos. Information about the September convention is now available on the site. It is your alternative starting point for information including: **How to Register/Hotel Links; Registration/Name Tag Forms; Tours and Events; Schedule of Events; FAQs about Conventions; and Golf tourney info.**

Our goal remains to keep information organized and make it easy for you to navigate.

Look for the November 2015 edition on the web site in a new digital, interactive format.

Your ideas for improvement are always welcome. Send comments to Lori Manske at manske5@charter.net.

www.afcommatc.org



Walt McLain
Membership
Director



We have gained 22 new members since Oct. 15, 2014. Our current active membership stands at 1,451. Since Oct. 15, 2014, 88 members have renewed.

As of April 1, 2015, we have 104 members with dues expiring in 2015. To see when your dues expire check the address label on your latest *Communicator* or the expiration date on your membership card. **71 members allowed their memberships to expire in 2014.**

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* (see page 55), on our web site, and from Walt McLain by calling 865-690-0479 or emailing requests to aacsmbrship@comcast.net.

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

For those who make periodic or regular donations we appreciate your continued support. Be assured that your donations are critical to the continued operation of this great organization.

*As of April 1, 2015, 58 members have chosen to opt out of receiving the *Communicator* by mail. Thank you for your support. Note: All *Communicators* since June 2006 are available in the Members Only area of the web site.*

www.afcommatc.org



Our future depends on you

If every member recruited one new member we would have close to 3,000 members. Many former communicators, air traffic controllers, data automation, radio operators, and other skills were in communications and air traffic control units from the 1930s up to the present. It's up to us to recruit new members or be the last person standing. If you want to send a *Communicator* or membership application to a potential new member, contact Walt McLain or Lori Manske (contact info on page 62).



Potential members can also register through our web site at www.afcommatc.org. Don't forget the active duty folks. They are our future.

Treasurer's Report (as of April 2, 2015)



Cindy Hintz
Treasurer



Cash in Banks:

AFCOMMATC Checking Acct Statement Balance as of 3/31/2015	\$23,804.11
Publisher's (TN Bank) Account Statement Balance as of 3/31/2015	\$ 56.20
*CDs cashed out and transferred to checking on 4/02/2015	<u>\$20,083.32</u>
Cash totals:	\$43,943.63
Remaining CD at Metcalf (formerly Belton) Bank: #6099 (maturity date 12/05/2015) CD Value:	<u>\$11,564.43</u>
Grand totals:	\$55,508.06

*Certificates of Deposit (CDs) held by the Bank of Georgia (#24129, #24130, #24131) have been cashed out and funds deposited into the organizational checking account. \$20,000 originally invested CDs cashed out on 4/02/2015 earned \$83.32 over the past year.

A special thank you for your generous donations since July 1, 2014 totaling \$11,155. These donations came from various sources: membership, BX sales, mail-in donations following Executive Director's appeal for funds, and through donations in memory of loved ones. Again, thank you all for your generosity!

During the 2014 AFComm & ATC Reunion/Convention, I announced to the Board of Directors that I would be resigning my position as treasurer effective June 30, 2015. In preparing for the transfer of funds I have liquidated organizational CDs held in the Bank of Georgia to make the transition easier.

While it has been an honor to serve for 4 years, it's time for me to pursue other opportunities. This organization will always hold a special place in my heart and while I may not make every reunion, I look forward to the reunions I'm able to make. Stay united and stay strong! Thank you for your wonderful support.

Donations since last reunion and November 2014 *Communicator*

Roger Bacchieri, Shirley Beachum, William Bryce, Charlie Caldwell, Duncan Campbell, Charles A. Carlson, Lawrence Chiarotti, David Clipper, Frank Delgado, Benjamin Doyle, Rex & Margaret Elwell, Louis Exstein, Homer Felknor, Leon Fleming, Arthur V. Hagen, Sharon Hosley, Lana Houck, Gerald Johnston, Richard Kinderman, Ronald Knight, Alfred Kohlberg Jr, George Lampe, Justin Libby, Leslie McCormick, Donald McDaniel, James McQuinn, C.T. Meighen, Raymond Metzger, Andrew (Drew) Milligan Jr, Andrew Milligan, Robert Parrish, Charles Pearsall Jr, Gerry Prather, Harry Raduege, David Reese, Duane Rueb, Kenneth Sanderson, Daniel Skinner, Martha Spence, Austin Stephano, Ralph Stiles Sr, Jack Stratford, James Thomas Jr, Richard Travis, Bill Valentine, Walter Wasielewski, James Weber, Robert S. Williams, Buford Witt, Matthew Wray, Gerald Zablocky

Bill Cassatt

PX / BX Sales Report (Oct 2014 – Mar 2015)

PX/BX Supply Officer

Items Sold

Hats	2	AACS Logo Patch (AACS, AFCS, AFCC)	5
Original Patches	6	Lapel Pins	8
Challenge Coins	2	Plaques	1
White Golf Shirts, L	1	Blue Golf Shirts, M	2

Sales: Approximately \$254

NOTICE – NOTICE – NOTICE – NOTICE – NOTICE

YOU NEED THE PASSWORD TO ACCESS THE WEB SITE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER AND *COMMUNICATOR* MAGAZINE

The AF Communicators and Air Traffic Controllers Association posts the “*Communicators*” and the Membership Roster on our web site. The *Communicators* and roster are in a PDF format only. To read or download the roster you need to know the following:

WWW.AFCOMMATC.ORG (go to the Members section)

Password: mpn1aacs (all lower case, with the number ONE after the “n”)

REMEMBER TO PROTECT THE PASSWORD AND DENY ACCESS TO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL

You need Adobe Reader to read or download to your computer. If you do not have Adobe Reader, there is a link on the web site to Adobe.com so you can download a free copy. We can allow more members to read or download the Membership Roster using the PDF format as it is the internet standard and the Adobe Reader program can be downloaded free. *Communicators* are archived on the web site since June 2006.

READ AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOWNLOADING.

(Remember to RIGHT Click after opening the file to get the “SAVE AS” menu)

We have removed email, mailing addresses and phone numbers from the Roster on the web site. This was done to protect privacy and deny attempts to steal members’ personal information.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAIL JUNE *COMMUNICATORS* TO ALL MEMBERS, UNLESS YOU NOTIFY WALT MCLAIN (aacsmbrrship@comcast.net) to remove your name from the mailing list. If you have any problems getting to the online files, contact LORI MANSKE manske5@charter.net.

Challenge coin dates back to World War I

Throughout the time we spend in the military, we collect things. Whether mementos, awards or habits, items are kept to remember special moments. Challenge coins are an example of these memories, as they are a form of recognition of hard work and excellence.

Their value is determined by each individual, but the true history of the challenge coin dates back to World War I, when an American pilot was shot down and captured in Germany.

While escaping from the grasp of the Germans, the pilot made his way to France, where they believed he was a spy and sentenced him to be executed. To prove his identity and save his life, he revealed a bronze medallion with his flying squadron's emblem, confirming that he was an American pilot. The French spared his life and celebrated by giving him a bottle of wine instead.

After this incident, it became a tradition that all members of the squadron carried their medallion, sparking challenge coins to become a trademark for military tradition and pride.

One of the more sought-after coins for Air Force enlisted is the Airman's coin. After the long weeks of basic military training, the Airman's coin ceremony officially marks the transition from a "trainee" to an Airman.

While most service members proudly display their coins for others to see, some seek to always carry their most important coin in their pocket in the event of a "coin check."

If you do not have one and someone else performs a coin check, you are responsible for buying everyone a round of beverages.

The tradition of coin checking also began in



You can order your own AF Comm & ATC Association coin on page 56.

Germany after World War I. American personnel who were stationed in Germany adopted the local ritual of "Pfenning" checks.

A Pfenning was the lowest denomination of German currency. If a service member did not have a Pfenning, they would have to buy the next round of drinks. This ritual carried over and is part of the challenge coin tradition.

Though the legacy of coin checking typically stayed within enlisted ranks, officers have their own traditions with challenge coins.

Known as a "first salute" coin or a "silver dollar" salute, a coin was presented to the first enlisted member who saluted the newly-commissioned officer. The 19th century phrase that encompassed this action was, "You have to buy your first salute and then earn every salute thereafter, through your performance and by gaining respect of your subordinates." This is to honor the enlisted personnel who help officers achieve their commission status.

The challenge coin tradition that began in World War I exhibits commendable service, a lively legacy and supports unit morale across the Air Force. Although all coins are different, they tell a story for each recipient and give a personal touch on recognition. (*AF News*)

Conference room dedicated in honor of Col Dempsey, a true ATC pioneer

By Bill Malec

Imagine Abraham Lincoln being on hand to attend the unveiling of the Washington D.C. monument commissioned in his honor. First there'd be lots of speeches with good words said about the guest of honor followed by the honoree's offering of thanks and reflections.

While not on as grand a scale, Colonel (ret) Derrel "DY" Dempsey, was recognized March 9 for his career achievements with the dedication of a conference room at the Air Force's air traffic control schoolhouse in his honor. Colonel Dempsey participated in the ribbon-cutting.

The 334th Training Squadron, at Keesler AFB, Miss., hosted the event. Situated in Cody Hall, the 334th trains in all aspects of ground-based aerospace command and control. This includes initial and advanced training for enlisted and officer air traffic controllers, the latter now known as airfield operations officers.

A previous 334th squadron commander, Lt Col Jeff McLemore knew first-hand of Colonel Demp-

sey and his accomplishments. During an assignment in U.S. Air Forces in Europe he was their nominee for the Col Derrel L. Dempsey Airfield Operations Officer of the Year award.

Colonel McLemore became aware that some of Colonel Dempsey's career memorabilia was available to a good home and a plan to recognize him began to take shape.

Colonel McLemore's tour ran its course before his vision could be executed. His replacement, Lt Col Kevin Bray, picked up the ball and moved it down the (air) field.

Colonel Dempsey's big day began with a ceremony attended by Keesler's senior leaders, 334th staffers, and airfield operations students. Many of Colonel Dempsey's old friends, peers and protégées also attended to pay homage. The colonel's grandson, Senior Airman Kiefer Luth, himself an air traffic controller assigned at Columbus AFB, Miss., was also present.

The speakers highlighted the colonel's impressive 30-year career. During his years of service he excelled in a variety of assignments as a student, flight inspection pilot, air traffic control officer, commander, and staff officer.

As an aviator he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for an aerial event in Southeast Asia in 1968. Colonel Dempsey was part of a 3-man aircrew that completed a flight inspection mission under hostile conditions.

Later as a senior staff officer assigned to Air Force Communications Command headquarters, he led the Air Force's quick reaction response to the Federal Aviation Administration's controller strike of 1981. He orchestrated initial deployment and logistical support for 640 Air Force controllers to 75 FAA facilities.

Colonel Dempsey portrayed himself as just a Midwest farm boy who graduated from high school and hoped to go to college. He joined the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at Bradley Uni-



Colonel Dempsey and Brig. Gen. Patrick Higby, 81st Training Wing commander, cut the ribbon.



SrA Kiefer Luth, 14th Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, Columbus AFB, Miss., visits with his grandfather, Colonel Dempsey, during the ceremony. U.S. Air Force photos by Kemberly Groue

versity and was later commissioned in the Air Force. He never dreamed he'd be a pilot or an ATC officer, have an Air Force career, or be responsible for the best military air traffic control system in the free world.

He emphasized what he believed were two keys to his success. "When given a task I always tried to do what was expected of me and a bit more. Empathy was also a rule that guided my performance daily...treat everyone in terms of leadership and support as if I was in their position of responsibility and work."

After the speeches Colonel Dempsey, with the assistance of 81st Training Wing commander, Brig Gen Patrick Higby, cut the ribbon on the "Dempsey Conference Room".

General Higby said, "It's very inspiring for us when we can incorporate our 'living history' into our heritage program."

Colonel Bray recalled words of Air Education and Training Command commander, Gen Robin Rand, "History makes you smarter, but heritage makes you prouder."

The conference room had recently undergone a complete and largely self-help facelift. Colonel Dempsey's memorabilia along with squadron and ATC artifacts give it a distinctly ATC ambiance.

Lt Col (ret) Jim Robilotta journeyed from Los Angeles to show his support. Col (ret) Roger Bacchieri traveled from Boston. "DY cared about our

air traffic business, and because he cared, you cared," added the colonel.

Colonel Dempsey summed up his feelings, "This was one of the best days of my life."

After he retired from the Air Force in 1984, Colonel Dempsey worked another 10 years as a civilian contractor for the modernization of air traffic control systems.

Colonel Dempsey has earned many prestigious awards. Among them are the Joseph P. Duckworth, Jr. Award for contributions to the art of instrument flying; the Traffic Control Association President's Citation of Merit for driving expansion of air traffic control wartime readiness; induction into the AF Cyberspace Operations and Support Hall of Fame; and the Air Traffic Control Association George W. Kriske Memorial Award. The Air Force Flight Standards Agency declared Colonel Dempsey a "living legend in the air traffic control realm" and renamed the Air Force's annual Air Traffic Control Manager (Officer) of the Year award in his honor in 1995.

Although he never actually took a course in Cody Hall, Colonel Dempsey developed the ATC enlisted and officer career development and training programs to increase quality and qualifications of the work force, parts of which are still used today across the Air Force.

(Cols Dempsey and Malec are both life members of our association).

All in the Family: Controlling airspace for 3 generations

*By A1C Dustin Mullen
325th Fighter Wing PA
Tyndall AFB FL*

Children often admire parents and grandparents for doing great things, which can compel them to follow in their families' footsteps. For one Airman, those footsteps were followed almost exactly, leading to three generations of air traffic controllers.

SMSGt. Michael Merritt, a 325th Operation Support Squadron radar approach control chief controller, is a third generation ATC, and the second generation to also serve in that field at Tyndall AFB. A Merritt with a mic in his hands has been talking to pilots since 1947.

"My grandfather retired as a (Federal Aviation Administration) controller," Michael said.

SMSGt Michael Merritt, 3rd generation

SMSGt Michael Merritt joined the Air Force in August 1998. While at the Military Entrance Processing Station he tried to join the ATC career field but was denied for not meeting minimum vision requirements. "I was given the opportunity to be an aircraft loadmaster," he said, "apparently the recruiters didn't know that the vision requirements were more strict and in-

"There is a coolness factor in talking about what has changed."

— SMSGt Michael Merritt

"My father was an Air Force controller, retired as a master sergeant, and went into FAA as a controller."

"When I was young, I remember a 'bring your kids to work day' when my father took me into the tower," Michael said. "As a youngster I didn't really know what I was looking at, I just thought it was cool to look out the windows and see the aircraft."

His father, William, served more than 20 years in the military. Tyndall AFB was William's first station, where he obtained his first ATC rating. Now his son has made his way to Tyndall AFB.

"My dad absolutely thinks it's cool," Michael said. "He tells me about how it was and about places I have to visit. There is a coolness factor in talking about what has changed."

stead of finding me another job I was sent to a vision specialist and approved to proceed with the job with corrective vision assistance."

Merritt asked the MEPS technician, "Since I have corrective lenses for my vision, could I have my original job request of ATC?" He was denied and thus started his AF career. After loadmaster tech school, he was assigned to AC-130H at Hurlburt Field, FL. He received a Distinguished Flying Cross for an operation in Afghanistan. "As a first term Airman I was eligible to cross-train from one critical career field to another," he said. "In 2002 I crossed trained into ATC

and was top graduate which afforded me the opportunity to choose a follow-on base.”

“Off to MacDill AFB I went (2003-2009) and spent about six years there and got picked up for a remote to Osan AB, Korea, as a senior watch supervisor.” His follow-on leaving Osan was to Moody AFB, GA (2010- 2014) where he was the RAPCON Assistant Chief Controller and Tower Chief Controller. He deployed for a year while stationed at Moody (2013-2014) to Pakistan. “While in Pakistan I received an advanced assignment notification to Tyndall where I’m the RAPCON Chief Controller.”



**SMSgt Michael E.
Merritt**

MSgt William Merritt, 2nd generation

MSgt William Merritt began his Air Force career as a personnel specialist at Lackland AFB, TX in 1966. By 1968, having spent two years in an un-air-conditioned office, he decided to find another line of work. “I was



MSgt William Merritt

about to sign paperwork to go into computer maintenance when I had an epiphany, **why not do what my dad does?**” he said. He wasn’t even sure what those folks were called, but explained to the specialist, “You know, the guys that work in the towers and talk to airplanes.” In July 1968, he entered ATC school at Keesler AFB, MS, and graduated with honors in November 1968 with an assignment to Tyndall AFB.

He was assigned to Tyndall Tower, and was told, “If you can work traffic here, you’ll be able to work traffic anywhere.” “I have heard those words repeated at other assignments,” he said, “but nowhere was it more true than Tyndall, circa late 60s early 70s. We were (I was told) the busiest installation, outside of Tan Son Nhut and DaNang, Vietnam.”

He was at Udorn Royal Thai AFB (RTAFB), Udorn, Thailand, in December 1970. “I was sure I would be working in the tower, but they assigned me to the RAPCON facility, and I started a whole new line of training,” he said. “During my 3-year tour, I worked

Contd from previous page

Linebacker I and II and several other operations in support of the Vietnam War (another Merritt in an Asian War).” In August 1971, with 38,500 aircraft operations, Udorn was proclaimed the busiest single runway operation in the world. William Merritt ended up extending and married Michael’s mom. They came stateside in 1973 and he was assigned to Richards-Gebaur AFB, MO.

“I was rated in both the tower and the Ground Control Approach. I contacted personnel in assignments and requested to go back to Thailand,” he said. In November 1974, he was assigned to Korat Radar (center), Korat RTAFB, Thailand. Korat Center controlled all the airspace, with long range (200-mile) radar, which for three years Merritt had controlled without radar.

“I was rated in two days and supervised ATC operations involving the evacuation of our Embassies in Phnom Penh and Saigon, along with the rescue operation of the SS Mayaguez off the coast of Cambodia,” he said. During this assignment Michael was born at St. Mary’s Hospital, Korat. “I always thought this coincidental, father and son born in a St. Mary’s hospital, half a world apart.”

In 1976 he was reassigned to Grand Forks RAPCON, ND, while his wife and Mike remained in Thailand to finish paperwork. “I left

“I was rated in two days and supervised ATC operations involving the evacuation of our Embassies in Phnom Penh and Saigon, along with the rescue operation of the SS Mayaguez off the coast of Cambodia.”

100-degree temperatures for -20 degrees, but that wasn’t the only thing. Peacetime and wartime ATC operations are as different as night and day,” he said. “One is practice, train, train and practice, while the other is real, battle-damaged, emergency, life or death. During a Linebacker recovery, I told a Phantom 4 (F-4) pilot who had declared an emergency that he was number seven ..., whereupon he stated, rather indignantly, ‘Perhaps you didn’t understand me, I am declaring an emergency!’ I replied with ‘perhaps you didn’t understand me, I said you were number seven in the emergency pattern, I have six emergencies in front of you.’ Wartime was not a time for training.”

In June 1976 he left the service at Grand Forks and returned home to Rome, NY and awaited his wife’s and Michael’s arrival from Thailand. “Four days after returning home there was a military incident involving the murder of a US military major by a North Korean, and I immediately wished I was back in uniform,” he said. “I reenlisted in February 1977 and was sent to Offutt AFB, NE. I was rated in the control tower and Precision Approach Radar. In April 1981, I requested a final Base of Preference to Griffiss AFB, in exchange for a 6-year, final enlistment, i.e., 20 years,” he said.

He arrived at Griffiss on Aug 3, 1981, the day the FAA air traffic controllers walked out on strike. “I received a call that night informing me I had been deployed to Pittsburgh Tower, PA, the next day. I spent 13 months in Pittsburgh, in charge of 30 military personnel: 15 Air Force, 15 Army. I was fully rated in the control tower.

At the end of 13 months, I returned to Griffiss Tower where I became fully rated within 3 hours, took on a crew as supervisor and went

on shift.” He retired from Griffiss Tower (military) and the Air Force in November 1986, 13 years after his father retired from Griffiss RAPCON (FAA).

In 1987 the FAA hired him as an ATCer and he spent 10 years in Williamsport, PA, then 11 years in New York City, Eastern Region Headquarters, and finally attached to FAA Washington Headquarters. “It was during my New York City time that Michael became an Air Traffic Controller.

Estus William Merritt, 1st generation

The Merritt who started the ATC tradition, **Estus William Merritt**, was born in Manlius, NY, and because of his red hair was always called “Red” by family and friends. At work he was “Bill”, although he used EW as his operating initials. “He was a radio operator on C-46s and flew the Hump (China, Burma, India) during World War II (first Merritt in an Asian war),” said William Merritt.

In 1945 he was hired as a dispatcher for the railroad in Rochester, NY. His son, William, was born in 1946 in St. Mary’s Hospital there.

In 1947 or ‘48, he was hired as an air traffic controller in Rochester, and was subsequently transferred to Syracuse Tower, Hancock Field, NY in 1951 or ‘52.

“I remember as a little tyke, going on an evening shift

“Michael started his military career aboard C-130 gunships and received the Distinguished Flying Cross for an operation near the Afghanistan/Pakistan border (third generation in an Asian war). I retired from the FAA in November 2007 and in February 2008 began teaching Advanced Air Traffic Control Procedures for Oklahoma University, OK, until February 2010, leaving the mantle to Michael.

with my dad, going up into the tower and waiting until dark, then seeing all the white, blue, green and red lights, plus all the lights on the tower console and equipment,” said William Merritt. “Around 1955 my dad was transferred to Washington National Airport in DC and at that time, I believe it was one of, if not the busiest, airports in the nation.”

In 1958 the Civil Aeronautics Authority became the FAA under the FAA Act of 1958. About 1960 he transferred to Griffiss Approach Control (RAPCON), Griffiss AFB. At that time, Griffiss was an up and down facility, meaning four shifts worked in the radar in Rome, and one shift over at Utica Tower, Oneida County Airport, Utica, NY.

“I made numerous visits to the Griffiss RAPCON, in conjunction with dropping my dad off at work, so I could have the car,” William said. “All I knew about ATC at this point was that tower personnel worked outdoors, without being in the elements and radar folks worked in a dark room and that it was shift work.”

“As far as a 4th generation of controllers, we’ll just have to wait and see,” he said. “I see a couple of younger Merritts that would probably make a good ATCer.”



**Estus William
Merritt**

AS I SEE IT...

Do you have an opinion about something our readers might find interesting? Share it with our editor and we might use it here.

Look past 1947 for Air Force roots

*By Chief Master Sgt. Matt Proietti
Air Force Public Affairs Agency*

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AFNS) -- The Air Force officially turned 67, but my uncle Gino thinks it's older.

He's 90, and the lone surviving brother of my father. Both of them served in World War II, as did two of their siblings. My father was in the Navy, as was his eldest brother, Europeo (his real name, I swear). Gino and my late uncle Dario were both aircraft mechanics in the Army Air Forces.

Of all of the times I talked to them about their GI years, though, neither one ever said he'd been in the Army. They were "in the Air Force."

Maybe it's a genetic thing I share with them,

but I agree that Air Force history predates Sept. 18, 1947, and think we should do a better job of recognizing that. The problem is, of course, what to use as a starting date for such remembrances? Since we formed from the Army, my gut feeling is that we should lay claim to its heritage dating back to 1775.

That's just me, though. How about we look back to the founding of the Union Army Balloon Corps during the Civil War? It was a military force in the air, after all. Still not likely to gain much support? OK, let's fast forward.

What about 1907? That's when the Army Signal Corps established its Aeronautical Division responsible for "air machines." Perhaps 1908, when Orville Wright made a series of flights for federal officials near Washington, D.C. These demonstrations confirmed that the latest airplane built by Wright and his brother, Wilbur, met strict government specifications, and the resulting \$25,000 contract included training of the first two military pilots. Still not convinced? Then let's aim for the March 5, 1913, founding of the 1st Reconnaissance Squadron, which still exists today at Beale AFB, CA.

Some curmudgeons will say military flight prior to World War I is just too far back to include in any kind of U.S. Air Force history. Well then, let's begin at the Great War, which allows us to acknowledge



Radio station of the 2nd Army Airways Communications Service Wing, Tehran, Iran, 1943.



Radio Operator, Cpl. John Robbins of Louisville, NE, 41st Signal, 41st Inf. Div., operating his SCR 188 in a sand-bagged hut at Station NYU, Dobodura, New Guinea. (1943)

Signal Corps Photo T/4 Harold Newman

the flying exploits of men such as Maj. Carl Spaatz and Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker. Spaatz, a West Point graduate, gets extra credit for being the first Air Force chief of staff three decades later and for his remains being interred at the Air Force Academy.

If that is still Army history, though, surely we can trace our roots to the pioneering air campaigners of the 1920s and 1930s like Billy Mitchell and Hap Arnold, whose early, deliberate steps eventually led to a separate flying service. Mitchell died in 1936, well before that realization, but Congress awarded him a special Medal of Honor a decade later for "outstanding pioneer service and foresight in the field of American military aviation."

Arnold, who served on the Joint Chiefs of Staff in World War II as head of the Army Air Forces, was retired from the military when the Air Force branched off from the Army. He was made a five-star "general of the Air Force" in 1949 even though he technically never served a day in that service.

Somewhere in here is the right starting point for recognizing Air Force history. Maybe I'm a bit too sensitive to criticism about the Air Force

being the youngest of the military branches. Disparagement of its youthfulness was first directed at me before I even put on its uniform for the first time. I enlisted as a high school senior and continued to work at a pizza shop as I waited to leave for boot camp. An old Marine who was a regular customer was delighted to hear that I was joining "the service" - until I told him which one.

"The Air Force!" he spat. "Those Johnny-come-latelies? Where were they when..." and he proceeded to recite a list of proud leather-neck campaigns back to the First Barbary War. It was clear he expected an answer from 17-year-old me. I cleared my throat and asked him how it would have been possible to have an Air Force before man invented flight. A disgusted look crossed his face. He grabbed his pizza and stormed off into the night.

I've been in the Air Force for 30 years and the longer I'm around, the more I think like my uncles. The Air Force may have officially separated from the Army Sept. 18, 1947, but it existed - in spirit, innovation and tradition - well before that. Once it started, there has been no stopping it. (www.af.mil)

CONVENTION PAGES

THE 39th ANNUAL AF COMM & ATC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

The Myrtle Beach Hilton Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC

September 30 – October 4, 2015

(Wednesday Early Check-In – Sunday Get-away Breakfast)

Hosts:

**Bill & Pauline Bethea, Susie Twedt,
Doug & Francie Donnell**



Make Hotel Reservations NLT August 30, 2015

1-800-876-0010 – Reservation Code is: **ACA**

Hotel Direct Phone number for reservations is: 843-449-0006

**BOOK EARLY TO MAKE SURE YOU GET A ROOM AT GROUP RATES OF
\$109.00 per night, plus taxes.**

Send your Registration and other forms to
Susie Twedt, 13106 Peach Leaf Pl, Fairfax, VA 22030

No Later Than ----- **September 15, 2015**

The AF Comm & ATC Hospitality Room is located in:

Atlantic II

Will be officially opened at Noon on Wednesday, September 30, 2015.

All Banquet Seating will be assigned by Table (max of 10). If you want to sit with someone (or couple), make sure they are coming to the reunion. Include your request with your registration form and email Susie (susie@twedt.org) with your request. We will do our best to accommodate your seating request.

**PLEASE NOTE: Checks for the Convention should be made payable to the
“AF Comm & ATC Assoc - 2015.”**

INFORMATION AND FORMS FOLLOW

The 39th AF COMM & ATC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

September 30 – October 4, 2015

Hilton Myrtle Beach Resort

10000 Beach Club Drive

Myrtle Beach, SC 29572

Local Telephone Number: (843)-449-5000

RESERVATIONS NUMBER: **1-(800)-876-0010**

Group Reservation Code: **ACA**

The group room rate is **\$109.00 plus tax for a standard Ocean View room.**

(Rate good for 3 days prior and 3 days after)

Book early

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS AT THE GROUP RATE IS: August 30, 2015

After that date, the Hotel will quote and book reservation requests based upon availability at their current rates.

ALL ROOMS SHOULD BE BOOKED AS LATE ARRIVAL.

MEMBERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THEIR OWN HOTEL RESERVATIONS.

Cancellations must be made **72 hours** before booked arrived time.

CHECK IN TIME: 4:00pm – CHECK OUT TIME: 11 AM

If paying by check and mailing a reservation form to the hotel, this is the information they need:

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____ MI: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

DATES OF STAY: Check in _____ Check out _____ Nbr of nights _____

Phone Number: _____ Number of Persons staying in room: _____

Room type: One Bed _____ Two Beds _____ King _____

Smoking _____ Non-Smoking _____ Handicap _____

ANY SPECIAL ITEMS: _____

If guaranteeing the reservation by credit card or when mailing this form, please provide the following:

Name of Credit Card _____ Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

(Print Name on the Card)

(Signature)

DIRECTIONS TO MYRTLE BEACH HILTON RESORT

**10000 Beach Club Drive, Myrtle Beach,
South Carolina, 29572-5304, USA
Telephone: 1-843-449-5000**

From Highway 17-North:

Stay on Hwy 17 N. until you reach Lake Arrowhead Road. Turn right onto Lake Arrowhead. At the stop light, turn left onto Kings Rd. Just past entrance to Kingston Plantation, turn right onto Kingston Road. At bend in the road, turn right. Hilton entrance on the right.

Directions from Myrtle Beach Airport:

Leaving airport, turn right at first light onto Robert M. Grissom Parkway. Continue to Hwy 17-North. Stay on Hwy 17 N. until you reach Lake Arrowhead Road. Turn right onto Lake Arrowhead. At the stop light, turn left onto Kings Rd. Just past entrance to Kingston Plantation, turn Right onto Kingston Road. At bend in the road, turn right. Hilton entrance on the right.

Directions from Highway 501 via Highway 22 East:

Follow Hwy 501 past Aynor to Hwy 22 East. Follow Hwy 22 East for 28 miles. Take Kings Road exit and turn right at bottom of ramp. Kingston Road entrance is 1.2 miles on left. At bend in the road, turn right. Hilton entrance on the right.

Directions from Highway 501:

Follow Hwy 501, picking up Hwy 31 North just after the Myrtle Beach Factory Stores. Follow Hwy 31 N. for about 11 miles to Hwy 22 East (toward North Myrtle Beach). From Hwy 22 East, follow the Kings Road exit, turning right at the bottom of the ramp. Follow Kings Road for 1.2 miles to Kingston Road, where you will turn left. At bend in the road, turn right. Hilton entrance on the right.

Directions from I-95 North:

Follow I-95 North to Highway 327, Exit 170. Follow Highway 327 to the end, turning left onto 76/301 which will lead to Highway 501 South. Follow Highway 501 S. to the exit for Highway 22 East, continuing on Highway 22 East for about 26 miles. Take the Kings Road exit, turning right at the bottom of the exit ramp. Kingston Road will be about 1.2 miles on the left.

Directions from I-95 South & Hwy 9:

Travel I-95 South to Dillon, SC. Take Hwy 9 East to North Myrtle Beach, picking up Hwy 31 south, toward Myrtle Beach/Georgetown. Follow Hwy 31 S. for 7 miles to Hwy 22 East exit marked Myrtle Beach (left lane). Follow Hwy 22 East, taking Kings Road exit. Turn right at bottom of ramp onto Kings Road and follow for about 1.2 miles. Hilton entrance is on the left.

Directions from Highway 9:

Take Hwy 9 East to North Myrtle Beach, picking up Hwy 31 south, toward Myrtle Beach/Georgetown. Follow Hwy 31 South for 7 miles to Hwy 22 East exit marked Myrtle Beach (left lane). Follow Hwy 22 East, taking Kings Road exit. Turn right at bottom of ramp onto Kings Road and follow for about 1.2 miles. Turn left at Kingston Road. At the Bend in the street turn right. Hilton entrance is on your right.

Myrtle Beach, SC



SCHEDULED TOURS

**(Use the convention/reunion registration form
to sign up for any of these tours)**

THURSDAY TOURS/EVENTS

October 1, 2015

< Carolina Opry >

**Time: Meet in Hotel Lobby at 5:45 PM for bus departure promptly at 6 PM
(dinner on your own prior to departure)**

Return to Hotel: Approximately 10 PM

Cost: \$45 Per Person





The Carolina Opry has for nearly 30 years been thrilling the hundreds of thousands of visitors who pass through its doors each year. The award-winning show blends two hours of high-energy music, comedy and dance in a luxurious theater complete with state-of-the-art lighting, sound and special effects! Highly acclaimed by *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *NBC Nightly News*, and *CNN*, The Carolina Opry is the only show to be named “Top Attraction in Myrtle Beach” by CNBC. Featuring All That, stars of NBC’s *America’s Got Talent*, Nashville recording artist Brad Long, and a cast of over 35 of the nation’s most talented performers – this show has everything from rock to country to Broadway to pop!

“A Big Hit” – USA Today “A Hit With Visitors” – The New York Times

“If you get anywhere near Myrtle Beach, SC, you must visit this show. My friends and I have just enjoyed 2 hours of the most dynamic entertainment I have seen in a long time. This is a high talent variety show that the entire family can enjoy.”

“This was one of the best shows I have seen in recent years.”

< Annual Prayer Dinner with the Music Ministry of Sue Brinkley >

Thursday, October 1, 2015

Chaplain: James Weber

“How to Live in These Times”



Menu: Buffet Dinner

Time: 6 PM – 9 PM

Cost: \$35 per person

Location: Hilton Center Ballroom



Sue Brinkley

We are pleased to include, as part of this year's Prayer Dinner, the beautiful songs of Sue Brinkley. She combines a wonderful God-given gift for music with a simple, sincere Christian testimony. Her presentations are refreshingly unpretentious and spring from a heart deeply devoted to Christ. Her songs are a testimony to the transforming power and tender compassion of the Christ she knows personally.

Hospitality Room OPEN until Midnight

FRIDAY TOURS/EVENTS

< Annual Brig Gen Farman Golf Tournament >

Arcadian Shores Golf Club Friday, October 2, 2015

Arcadian Shores Golf Club in Myrtle Beach combines the best of Mother Nature with the best elements of a modern golf layout. Arcadian offers enticing lakes, deviously placed bunkers, tree-lined Bermuda fairways and the distinctive contouring presents the ultimate golf challenges of man and nature. Lush Tifton Bermuda greens with 64 creatively-placed sand bunkers and natural lakes woven in and out of the fairways, make this a challenge you will long remember.

Designed by world renowned golf architect Rees Jones and opened in 1974 as Jones' first course as a solo designer, the golf club accommodates any level of golfer with a selection of five tee boxes. Arcadian Shores measure 6,857 yards from the Championship tees, with a course rating of 73.2 and a slope of 137.

In a ranking by The Sun News, golf experts voted two holes, #2 and #13, as part of the "Dream 18," a compilation of the best 18 holes on the beach.

Experience championship golf on a truly exceptional course at Arcadian Shores Golf Club.



Arcadian Shores Golf Club



Rules of Play:

- ♦ **The format will be medal play (each golfer plays their ball from the tee to the cup on each hole).**
- ♦ **The Callaway System will be used for scoring.**
- ♦ **To speed up play, no score over double par for a hole will be counted so if you reach double par, pick up and start play again at the next hole.**
- ♦ **One, no-cost mulligan may be used for the front nine and one for the back nine.**
- ♦ **Prizes for closest to the pin on par 3 holes 2, 8, 15 and 17 and longest drive on hole 16. Mulligans may not be used for prizes.**
- ♦ **Once you have finished play, give your score card to Bill Bethea.**



If you are playing golf, complete the Name Tag and Golf registration form and include the \$55 GOLF FEE ON YOUR REUNION REGISTRATION

The cost per player is \$55 (includes green fee and cart – lunch is on your own)

Golf Club Rental available for \$40

Car pools will leave the Hotel lobby at 7:30 AM. First tee is 8:10 AM.

If you are willing to provide a car pool vehicle, indicate on golf registration form.

Bill Bethea is golf director.

Driving time is 5 minutes from the hotel.

< Dinner and a Show >

Friday, October 2, 2015

Time: Meet in Hotel Lobby at 4:30 PM for bus departure at 4:45 PM.

Return approximately 9:30 PM.

Cost: \$65 per person

DINNER AT Original Benjamin's Calabash Seafood Buffet

"Top Seafood Buffet in Myrtle Beach"

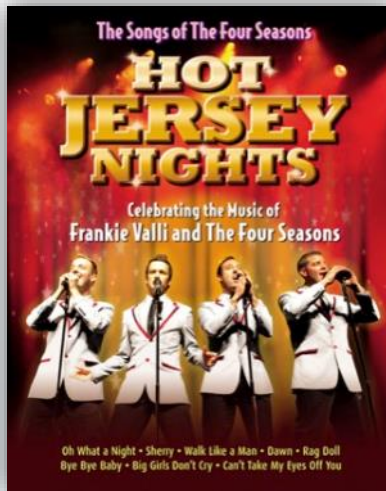


Welcome aboard! Join us for a true culinary delight as our 170-item buffet features tasty low-country treats as well as a made-to-order pasta station, carving station, crab station, and an in-house bakery that creates fresh breads and desserts from scratch. Come have a taste of the tidelands and the low-country, and try our "Calabash style" of cooking. You will see why the world-famous Original Benjamin's has been featured in USA Today and Southern Living and Gourmet magazines, and why locals award it as the "Best of the Beach" winner year after year in The Sun News and Myrtle Beach Herald.



Show at The Palace Theatre

“Back by Popular Demand!”



HOT JERSEY NIGHTS

Join us for a nostalgic trip down memory lane to celebrate the hit songs of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. The show delivers first class musical arrangements, perfect harmonies, authentic costumes, and all of the Four Seasons greatest hits with a special tribute to the music of the Beach Boys. Audiences everywhere simply love the music, and sing along to the hits they know so well: Sherry, Rag Doll, My Eyes Adored You, Can't Take My Eyes Off You, Opus 17, Big Girls Don't Cry, Let's Hang On, Walk Like a Man, Dawn, Silence is Golden, Beggin, Bye Bye Baby, Oh What a Night, and many more!

“The tribute to Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons is fast paced. The four young men are excellent vocalists and performers. We enjoyed the dancers and every aspect of the show. Highly recommend it.”

“This high energy performance in the Palace Theater is a must to see.”

SATURDAY EVENTS

October 3, 2015

On your own.

Complimentary local shuttle service is available from the resort from **7 AM – 10:30 PM.**

Hospitality Room will be **OPEN** from noon – 4 PM and will reopen after the Annual Association Banquet until Midnight.



Beaches. 60 miles of them. Sparkling waters, white sands, endless possibilities.

Fore! Over 100 quality courses, many designed by some of the legends of the game.

Entertainment a plenty. Wander through the upside-down house known as WonderWorks. Or, journey under the sea at Ripley's Aquarium. There are also fantastic shows at the Carolina Opry, Alabama Theatre, Legends in Concert and The Palace Theatre.

Let's Eat! If you wander over to the Murrells Inlet Marsh Walk, you'll find yourself in the "seafood capital of South Carolina." Seafood not your thing? How about a juicy, mouth-watering steak from such local favorites as Ruth's Chris Steakhouse or Kansas City Prime Steakhouse?

Sky High. The Myrtle Beach Sky-Wheel is a breathtaking attraction at the 1.2-mile Boardwalk.

Shop Til' You Drop. Sometimes you just need a little retail therapy. There's plenty of it along the Grand Strand. Broadway at the Beach, Barefoot Landing, Coastal Grand Mall and The Market Common are just a few options.

Nature's majesty. Take a stroll through the wonder that is Brookgreen Gardens, or enjoy the peaceful tranquility of the Conway Riverwalk. And when you need to walk off all those shrimp and crab legs, the Murrells Inlet Marsh Walk can't be beat for scenic beauty.

(<http://www.visitmyrtlebeach.com/>)

MEMBER REGISTRATION FORM - 2015

YOUR REGISTRATION SHOULD BE MAILED NO LATER THAN **September 15, 2015.**
(COMPLETE THIS FORM EVEN IF YOU ARE ONLY GOING TO THE BANQUET)
 Make hotel reservations for the Hilton Hotel at: 1-800-876-0010
 Say 'Air Force Comm & ATC Assoc Reunion' or Code ACA

Member Last Name: _____	Member First Name: _____	Banquet Only _____
Spouse Last Name: _____	Spouse First Name: _____	Banquet Only _____
1st Guest Last Name: _____	1st Guest First Name: _____	Banquet Only _____
2 nd Guest Last Name _____	2 nd Guest First Name _____	Banquet Only _____

If additional space needed for guests, add separate page. **Who would you like to sit with at The BANQUET:** _____

(Make sure they are attending.) If you list names who don't attend you may lose preferred seating (10 chairs per table). Register early; seating plan can't be changed at last minute.

Member Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ ZIP _____
 E-Mail: _____ Phone Number: _____

First Convention? YES ____ Mode of Travel: Air ____ Auto ____ RV ____ Other ____
 # of hotel rooms booked (including guests) ____ Date of arrival: 9/30/15 ____ 10/1/15 ____ 10/2/15 ____ 10/3/15 ____ Other ____

Below find registration fee info and all dinner, golf and tour costs. Enter the number of people who will be participating in each event and total that amount. Enter the grand total due for all events, including donations and the registration fee.

Registration Fee Number of people ____ @ \$95 per person = \$ _____

Banquet Only Fee** Number of people ____ @ \$45 per person = \$ _____
***For Members or Guests attending only the Banquet and who did not pay a registration fee.*

Thursday, Oct 1, 2015 6:00 – 9:30 PM Number _____ @ \$45 per person = \$ _____

- ◆ Show at Carolina Opry (Dinner on your own) - This award-winning show blends two hours of high-energy music, comedy and dance in a luxurious theater complete with state-of-the-art lighting, sound and special effects!

Thursday, Oct 1, 2015 6:00 to 9:00 PM Number _____ @ \$35 per person = \$ _____

- ◆ Prayer Dinner Buffet and music ministry by Sue Brinkley – Center Ballroom

Friday, Oct 2, 2015 7:30 AM – 1:30 PM Number _____ @ \$55 per person = \$ _____

- ◆ General Farman Golf Tournament at Arcadian Shores Golf Club (includes cart and green fees – lunch on your own)

Friday, Oct 2, 2015

◆ Dinner, show, and transportation 4:30 PM – 9:30 PM Number _____ @ \$65 per person = \$ _____

Dinner at Original Benjamin's Calabash Seafood Buffet – Features a 170-item buffet with crab legs, pasta and carving stations, soup, salad and dessert bars.

Hot Jersey Nights at the Palace Theatre. Take a nostalgic trip down memory lane to celebrate the hit songs of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. The show delivers first class musical arrangements, perfect harmonies, authentic costumes, and all of the Four Seasons greatest hits with a special tribute to the music of the Beach Boys.

Saturday, Oct 3, 2015 11:30 AM – 3 PM No cost

- ◆ On your own. Complimentary local shuttle service available from the hotel.

● **DONATIONS TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST OF THE CONVENTION:** \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL = \$ _____

Saturday Oct 3, 2015 Seated by 6:30 PM sharp Hilton Ballroom

◆ **ANNUAL BANQUET** **MENU SELECTIONS** (Indicate quantity for all attending banquet):

_____ Roast Beef with Peppercorn Sauce _____ Chicken with Sundried Tomato Cream Sauce _____ Vegetarian Pasta

Make check payable to: AF Comm & ATC Assoc - 2015. Mail with all forms to: Susan Twedt, 13106 Peach Leaf Pl, Fairfax, VA 22030, Phone: 703-201-3322, Email: Susie@twedt.org

Name & phone number of emergency contact while you're at convention: _____

Name Tag Form

How do you want your name(s) to appear?

Member's name: _____

Spouse or Guest name(s): _____

State of residence: _____ Is this your first convention? Yes ___ No ___

Specialty: _____

(Commander, Tower, GCA, Crypto, Comm/Maint/Staff, Radar/Radio Maintenance, Personnel, etc. or OTHER)

Ham Call sign: _____ Comm unit: _____ Command: _____

Favorite Location _____



2015 GOLF REGISTRATION INFORMATION FORM

Your name: _____ Handicap: _____ Male or Female _____

Name of Player(s) you would like to play with:

Name of player: _____ Handicap: _____ Male or Female _____

Name of player: _____ Handicap: _____ Male or Female _____

Name of player: _____ Handicap: _____ Male or Female _____

Arcadian Shores Golf Club

Club rentals are available at the course for \$40.

Cost per player: \$55 (Includes green fee and cart. Lunch is on your own.)

Total amount of golfing dollars included on your convention registration form \$ _____

Car pools will leave hotel lobby at 7:30 AM. First tee time: 8:10 AM

Will you be willing to drive a car pool vehicle? Yes ___ No ___ Drive time is about 5 minutes from hotel.

**39th Annual Air Force Communicators
& Air Traffic Controllers Association
Convention Menus**

Saturday Buffet Breakfast

(7 AM – 10 AM)

(Hilton Ballroom)

Orange and Apple Juice
House Baked Granola with Fruit Yogurt
Vine Ripened Whole Fruits
Farm Fresh Scrambled Eggs
Stone Ground Grits and Shredded Cheese
Smoked Bacon
Buttermilk Biscuits with Sausage Gravy
House Baked Muffins and Pastries served
with Butter and Preserves
Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee
Assorted Specialty Teas

Prayer Dinner – Buffet

(Thursday – 6 PM – 9 PM)

(Hilton Center Ballroom) (\$35)

Fresh Greens Served with Tomatoes,
Cucumbers, Red Onions, Julienne Carrots,
Croutons and Assorted Dressings
Boneless Breast of Chicken with Sun Dried
Tomato Pesto Cream Sauce
Grilled Salmon
Roasted Portobello Mushrooms
Wild Rice Pilaf
Steamed Fresh Seasonal Vegetables
Assorted Pies and Cakes
Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee
Iced Tea

Saturday Night Banquet

(6:30 PM)

(Hilton Ballroom)

All meals include:
Traditional Garden Salad with Tomato,
Cucumber, Carrots, Shredded Cheddar
Cheese and Choice of Two Dressings
Chef's Selection of Fresh Vegetable
and Starch
Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee
Iced Tea
Caramel Apple Pie
Choose one from the following:
> Grilled Breast of Chicken with
Sundried Tomato Cream Sauce
> Sliced Roast Beef with Peppercorn
Sauce
> Vegetarian Pasta

**Sunday Get-Away
Continental Breakfast**

(8 AM – 10 AM)

(Hilton Ballroom)

Assorted Cereal with Milk
Vine Ripened Whole Fruits
Buttermilk Biscuits with Butter
and Fruit Preserves
Chef's Selection of Assorted Pastries
and Muffins
Fresh Orange Juice
Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee
Hot Specialty Teas

THE 39th ANNUAL AF COMM & ATC CONVENTION
Myrtle Beach Hilton Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

EVENT	FEE	TIMES	LOCATION
EARLY CHECK-IN	\$95 per person if not previously paid	Noon to 8 PM	Group check-in desk in hotel lobby
HOSPITALITY ROOM	INCLUDED WITH FULL REGISTRATION	12:00 PM - Midnight	Atlantic View II

THURSDAY, October 1, 2015

EVENT	FEE	TIMES	WHERE OR ROOM
REGISTRATION CHECK-IN	\$95 per person if not previously paid	10 AM – 7 PM	Group check-in desk in hotel lobby
HOSPITALITY ROOM	INCLUDED WITH FULL REGISTRATION	Noon to Midnight	Atlantic View II
ANNUAL BOD MEETING		12:00 – 4 PM	Arcadian I and II – Mezzanine
Carolina Opry	\$45 per person (includes transportation and show)	5:45 PM TO 10 PM	Bus will leave the Hilton at 6 PM sharp. Meet in lobby at 5:45 PM. (Dinner on your own before leaving hotel.) Please provide need for special assistance if required (wheelchair, etc.).
ANNUAL PRAYER DINNER	\$35 per person	6 PM – 9 PM	Hilton Center Ballroom

FRIDAY, October 2, 2015

EVENT	FEE	TIMES	WHERE OR ROOM
REGISTRATION CHECK-IN	\$95 per person if not previously paid	Noon to 8 PM	Group check-in desk in hotel lobby
HOSPITALITY ROOM	INCLUDED WITH FULL REGISTRATION	Noon to Midnight	Atlantic View II
General Farman Golf Tournament	\$55 per person Includes Green Fees and Cart (lunch on your own)	7:30 AM Car Pool 1st tee time 8:10 AM RETURN 4 PM	Arcadian Shores Golf Course Bill Bethea, Golf Director

Original Benjamin's Calabash Seafood Buffet and Hot Jersey Nights	\$65 per person (includes transportation, dinner and show)	4:30 PM to 9:30 PM	Bus will leave the Hilton at 4:45 PM sharp. Meet in the lobby at 4:30 PM. Please provide need for special assistance if required (wheelchair, etc.).
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SATURDAY, October 3, 2015

EVENT	FEE	TIMES	WHERE OR ROOM
BREAKFAST BUFFET/ ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MTG	INCLUDED WITH FULL REGISTRATION	7 AM - 10 AM	Hilton Ballroom (Breakfast buffet open from 7 - 10 AM)
On-Your-Own	NO COST	10 AM - 3 PM	Complimentary Resort Shuttle available to local shops, restaurants, golf, and shopping.
CASH BAR AT ANNUAL BANQUET	PAY-AS-YOU-GO BAR	5 PM (Cash bar open until 8 PM)	Outside of Hilton Ballroom
ANNUAL ASSOCIATION BANQUET	INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION or \$45 for Banquet Only	Be seated at 6:30 PM SHARP	Hilton Ballroom ** Remember to bring your Entrée Meal Choice Ticket to the Ballroom and place on your plate
HOSPITALITY ROOM	INCLUDED WITH FULL REGISTRATION	REOPENS AFTER BANQUET	Atlantic View II

SUNDAY, October 4, 2015

EVENT	FEE	TIMES	WHERE OR ROOM
FAREWELL CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST	INCLUDED WITH FULL REGISTRATION	7 AM - 10 AM	Hilton Ballroom

HOTEL CHECK-OUT TIME IS 11 AM

Fellowship in the Company of Equals



GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, October 3, 2015

Hilton Ballroom

7:30 AM – Breakfast (line closes at 8:30 AM)

EVENTS AND TIMES ARE ESTIMATES

7:30 AM - Breakfast (STARTING 30 MIN LATER THAN USUAL)

**8:00 AM - Executive Director Calls Meeting to Order
(Logistics, Emergency exits, Announcements, Welcome guests & VIPs)**

- Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

**8:10 AM - ELECTION OF OFFICERS and Approve Constitution Change
NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR OR MEMBER OF COMMITTEE
(Executive Director, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Managing Editor
Print/Online Media, BOD Advisory Officer, and Sgt-at-Arms)**

8:20 AM - INTRODUCTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**8:25 AM - BOD Reports (not more than 5 minutes for each report)
Executive Secretary (vote on 2014 minutes)
Membership, Treasurer, Director for Information, Editor/Publisher,
Protocol Officer, Web Site Manager, PX/BX Officer.
Any Committee Reports
Executive Director's Comments
(Any major BOD decisions from Board meeting)**

**8:50 AM - Presentation of the Annual Recruiting Award, the Thomas Buckley
Award for Service and Golf Event Winners**

9:00 AM - Recognize 1st time Convention Attendees

9:20 AM - AF Comm & ATC Association Memorial Service

9:35 AM - Overview of 2016 Convention/Reunion

9:45 AM - State of Air Force Air Traffic Control Presentation

10:15 AM - Announcements, reserved seating and BANQUET REMINDERS

10:30 AM - Call the 2015 General Meeting to a CLOSE.

2015 BOD Meeting
ARCADIAN 5 Room
Annual Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, OCTOBER 1, 2015
Noon—4 PM
Tentative Agenda



- * **Old Business**
- * **New Business**
- * **Board Member Reports**
- * **2015 Budget Review and Approval**
- * **Income/Expense—12-Month Review**
- * **Review and Approve Cost Reductions/Increases as appropriate.**
- * **Donations Review**
- * **2016 Convention Location/Host(s), if applicable.**
- * **Award Nominations:**
 - **AF Hall of Fame**
 - **AACS Hall of Honor**
 - **Life Achievement**
 - **Thomas F. Buckley**
 - **Recruiting Award**
- * **Subjects presented by the BOD and/or Association Members**
- * **A light meal is included for the Board of Directors, Noon - 1 PM**
- * **Association members who are in the Hotel on Thursday are welcome to attend the meeting after 1 PM. Please remember that when formal votes are being held, non-board members are asked to leave.**
- * **Board members are asked to be prepared on the subjects to be addressed as discussions will be limited prior to actual votes.**

Invited Attendees

Executive Director	Vice Director
Treasurer	Executive secretary
BOD Advisory Officer	Dir for Membership
Dir for Information	Editor, Print/Online Media
Protocol Officer	PX/BX Officer

The Legend continues: more Froggy stories

I am still shaking with laughter at your Froggy article – his given name was John T. LeSeuer and he was originally from Louisiana. His father was one of infamous Huey Long’s personal physicians. With that kind of patronage, he would often brag that he was the major with the most time on active duty in the USAF!



added, as I beat a hasty retreat, “Lootenant, if you screw up like the other Lootenants and get a speeding ticket on Highway 90, yo’r ass belongs to me!”

That was the start of a 3-month experience I will never forget. I helped him up and down from the infamous rock

How do I know all this and much more? On 1 Sept 1965 I reported to the 3412 Student Squadron for C-E school after failing my flight physical due to color blindness. The clerks didn’t have any paperwork on me and there was not a class opening until January.

They told me to report to the Sq Commander for disposition. That was the day I met Major John T. LeSeuer in all his glory. The first sergeant, named the “Seeing Eye Dog” by the troops, a noted snake killer, who prowled the back lots of Annex 3 looking for coral and moccasin snakes to kill and skin, escorted me into his office.

I saluted and held it until he casually looked up and half returned my greeting. First words out of his mouth were: “Lootenant, do you have any administration experience?” I replied, “Not really, Sir, but I was Cadet Commander of my ROTC Group in College.” He replied, “That will do. You are now my Executive Officer. See the First Sergeant and he will fill you in on your dooties!” Then he

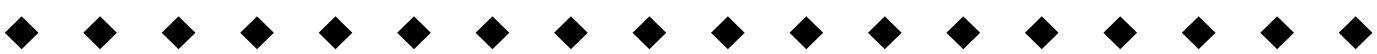
under Graduation Oak. I drove him to and from work and did have several experiences eating lunch at his home, which are stories unto themselves. He did take me fishing once to Chandelleur Island in his beautiful Chris Craft mahogany boat – and yes, he did ground the boat and we had to be rescued by the Coast Guard as a big storm approached.

I can confirm that he often mixed up the young officers who reported to him. The worst one was when he confused a couple of captains reporting back to back. One had a DUI and the other was supposed to come to Commanders Call to receive an award for gallantry in SEA. You can guess the result!

Of course, when I started class, he no longer knew me and that was a good thing, except I was the captain of the SQ basketball team and I talked him into procuring new team uniforms.

I could regale you with many more stories, and yes, someone could write a book on him. He was probably the most colorful character that I encountered on active duty.

Jim Amodeo, Colonel, Ret



It was Saturday and the weather at Keesler was a beautiful spring day in 1962. I and my good buddies, Gary Plate and Terry Arenz, were in the Keesler club sitting at the bar with only a pitcher of beer and munching on the peanuts and pretzels.

That's all we could afford. We were watching the "Game of the Week" on black and white TV with Dizzy Dean and Pee Wee Reese calling the play by play. The cashier was not open so if a member wanted to cash a check they had to do it at the bar. Froggy came in cashed his check, looked at us and asked if we were in his squadron. Terry fessed up for us.

"What the _____ are you boys doing here on a day like this with so much to do in Biloxi, ranted Froggy?" Never bashful, Terry said: "Yeah, there's a lot to do if you have some money to do it with."

"You boys stay right here until I get back and that's an order—you understand me?" "Yes, Sir."

About an hour and a half later Froggy pulls up outside the club dragging a boat. It had fishing poles, cooler, and picnic basket. We got in the car scared to death because he could barely see through those thick, tinted glasses.

Gone fishin' with Froggy

What a swell time we had. The cooler had iced beer and iced tea and the picnic basket was full of Cajun fried chicken and potato salad.

We launched the boat and fished for the rest of the day. Can't remember if we caught anything, but we had a swell time and Froggy was a gracious host.

Robbie and Froggy

If ever a person had a reason to be bitter about washing out of pilot training and being sent to Keesler to be a Communications Officer it was Robbie Robbins. He busted his final flight check before getting his wings.

He spent more time on Froggy's carpet than the rest of us put together trying to get out of the Air Force. He would pull so many stunts that we thought eventually he would run out of ideas or

Froggy would kick him out. That never happened.

One day, he showed up in class after a bout with Froggy. "That old _____ told me that I had to do something to get jail time before he would let me get out. So, I guess I had better straighten up my act and graduate with the rest of you idiots."

Ken Reiff, Colonel, Ret



Then and Now...

Maj Gen Gerald Prather



MSgt Joe Duffy, General Prather and CMSgt Bill Bethea (top) stand under the street sign in December 2014. Sadly, Joe and Bill were in Del Rio to attend the funeral of Carolyn Prather, who passed away on Christmas Eve. Joe suddenly passed away on Feb 13, 2015.

General Prather enlisted in the Air Force in 1954, and subsequently received his pilot wings and commission in 1954. After completing 500 Vietnam combat missions, he began his communications career in 1968.

His accomplishments include playing a key role in the relocation of the Air Force Communications Service to Scott AFB, Ill., securing Congressional funding for the Grant building, the new home for Air Force Communications Command, and obtaining Air Staff support for new C-140 flight check aircraft.

He commanded AFCC from June 1, 1984 to Aug 28, 1986. He retired in '86 and returned to Del Rio, Texas, where he continues to serve the community.

Prather has served as Justice of the Peace, County Planner for Val Verde County, President and lifetime director of the Del Rio Chamber of Commerce, Chairman and President of the

United Way and District President of the Boy Scouts of America.

Laughlin AFB, Texas, paid tribute to General Prather by renaming a street in his honor during a retreat ceremony held at Laughlin's Heritage Park Sept. 7, 2012 (photo above left). The street, formally known as Freedom Way, was changed to Prather Street in reference to General Prather for his dedication to Laughlin and the Del Rio community. He is one of only 77 people to have a street or building named in their honor on an Air Force base.

He has been active in the Air Force Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association for many years, earning our Life Achievement Award and Thomas F Buckley Service Award.

He can be found at most of our annual conventions tending bar in the hospitality room.

Please send us your "Then and Now" stories/photos.

Spotlight on Scott AFB



In 1938, the wing headquarters building (P-3) at Scott AFB, IL (top photos) was built after the base was chosen to become the new home to the General Headquarters Air Force. With the outbreak of World War II, the headquarters move was cancelled and Scott reverted back to a training installation.

Its communications training era began in September 1940 with the opening of the Radio School. To accommodate the new training mission, Scott Field went through another period of expansion and construction. During World War II, Scott's Radio School produced, as its slogan professed, "The best damned radio operators in the world!"

Often referred to as the eyes and ears of the

Army Air Forces, Scott's 77,370 graduates flew in aircraft and operated command and control communications in every theater of the War. One of the school graduates was the first Air Force Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Paul Airey. Airey was also a prisoner of war during WWII. He was held at Stalag Luft 4 near the Baltic Sea, and then force-marched hundreds of miles to Stalag 11B in Fallingbomel, Prussia. After 299 days in captivity, he was released in May 1945.

In 1994 renovations on the wing headquarters building began and were completed in 1997. Today it still serves as the primary location for wing leadership.

The Fox, the Hounds, and the Lone Rider

RAF Bruntingthorpe circa 1961

By MSgt (ret) Jack Williams

RAF Bruntingthorpe was a small single-runway Air Force base used by the U.S. Air Force for a few years ending in 1962. In late '62 the base reverted to the RAF and was eventually sold for commercial use.

I was assigned to RAF Bruntingthorpe from late 1959 through its closing. My office was in the Radio/NavAids/GCA maintenance quonset hut near the GCA unit on the northwest side of the runway.

One day while in my office, I heard the excited barking of hounds outside my window. When I looked out, I saw 20 or 30 hounds with their noses to the ground. After a minute or so, the hounds apparently picked up the scent and headed away from our hut and disappeared through a hedgerow.

A short time later, I heard two jet aircraft passing low over the runway at high speed. Perhaps another five minutes passed and a small group of horsemen appeared behind our hut and exited the base over the hedgerow on the hounds' trail. Perhaps five minutes later a lone rider appeared. His back was covered with mud and as he attempted to jump the hedgerow in pursuit of his fellow huntsmen, his horse galloped to the hedgerow but refused to jump.

The rider backed his horse a reasonable distance and had another go at it. Again his mount refused to jump. At this juncture the rider dismounted and walked his horse along the hedgerow until they came to a gate. They passed through the gate and I never saw them again.

I contacted the Control Tower chief operator and asked what was going on. He laughed and re-

lated the following:

With a clear view of the runway, the duty operator observed a group of hounds crossing near the western end of the runway. A short time later, eight to 10 horsemen entered the runway and galloped down the centerline toward my build-

ing. At the same time two RB-66 jet aircraft were on final approach. The tower operator contacted the pilots and told them they would have to "go around due to horsemen on the runway".

Of course, the pilots thought the tower operator was pulling their legs and asked him to repeat his message. After the operator repeated it, the pilots asked if they could make this a "gear check" pass. The operator approved and the jets lowered their landing gear and made a low altitude and noisy pass over the runway.

Needless to say, the horses were frightened and scattered in all directions. The fox hunters managed to bring their mounts back under control and proceeded after the hounds. A short time later a lone mud-covered horseman crossed the runway and disappeared behind my building.



Jack Williams



Two RAF Bruntingthorpe RB-66 Destroyers doing a normal "gear check" pass.

The irony of this whole shenanigan is: one of the riders was a US Air Force officer stationed at RAF Bruntingthorpe. He was more than aware of the dangers involved. I often wonder, "Who was that lone mud-covered rider and what was his story?"

Triple Nickles earned their place in history

By Carl J. Asszony

Hidden among the pages of dusty history books are little remembered events in which African-Americans have played a vital part in America's survival. The Triple Nickles didn't go overseas as a unit to fight in battles, yet their courage and dedication to duty under difficult conditions played an important role in the security of this country.

The Triple Nickles (old English spelling), better known as the 555th Parachute Infantry Company, was the first all black Parachute Infantry Battalion. They weren't assigned to overseas duty primarily because of segregation and prejudice of many white military commanders in Europe. But the men of the 555th thought they might be sent to combat in the Pacific. Instead, they were assigned to participate in a highly classified mission known as "Operation Firefly."

Firefly was the code name given to a Japanese military operation in which hydrogen filled balloons were sent aloft from Japan to the U.S. via air currents. About 10,000 silk paper balloons, 35 feet in diameter would rise to 35,000 feet, pick up prevailing winds and be carried by the jet stream to the west coast of the U.S. These balloons contained pre-set switches that would release incendiary bombs over U.S. territory with the intent to cause forest fires or worse. The objective was to kill Americans and destroy American cities.

Several thousand balloons actually reached American shores. The operation was kept secret in fear that the Japanese would know that their unmanned intercontinental missiles were penetrating American air space and they might increase such activities. In addition, there was the fear that the Japanese might equip these balloons for biological or chemical warfare.

In late April 1945 the 555th arrived in Oregon and California. Their mission was not only to fight forest fires (they did engage in 1200 firefighting missions and became known as 'smoke jumpers'), they



also played an indispensable role in 'Operation Firefly'. While fighting forest fires, the Triple Nickles moved into areas suspected of containing unexploded bombs dropped from the Japanese balloons. Their job was to seal off the area, then diffuse and destroy the bombs.

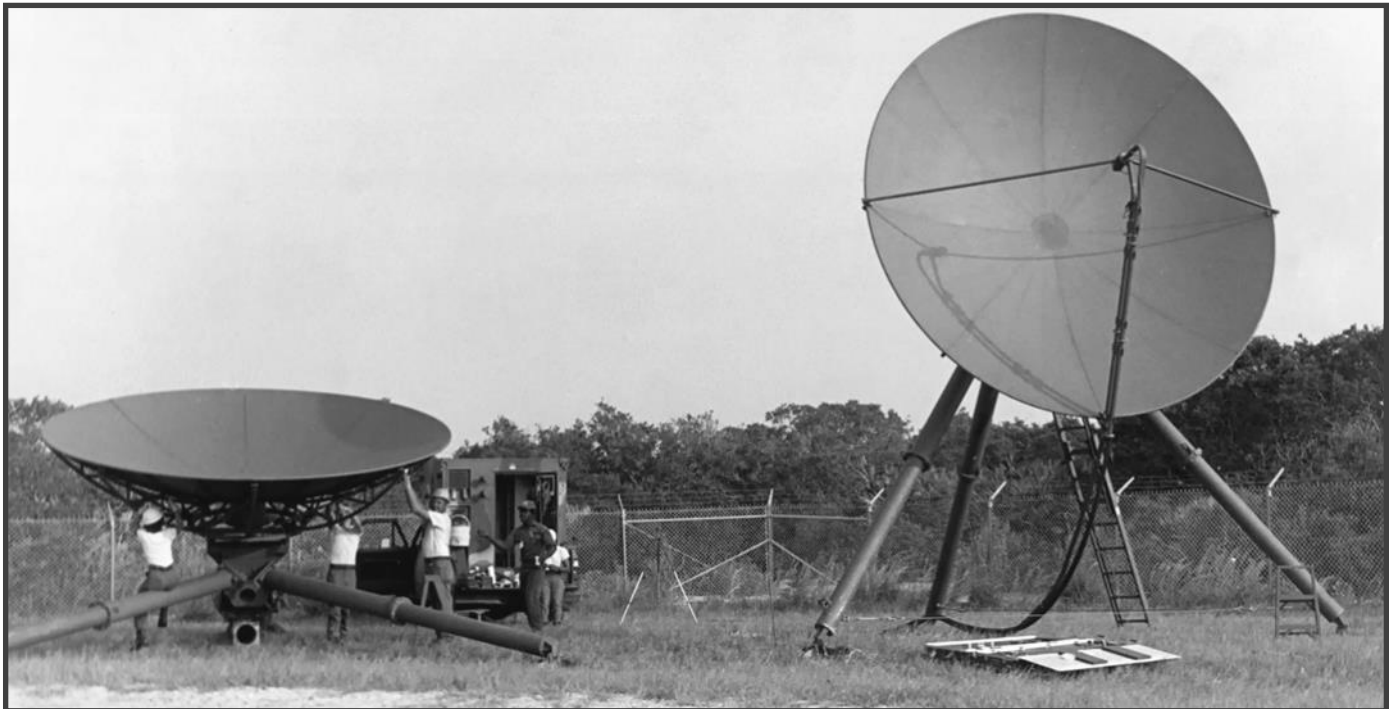
Like other black military units who risked their lives for the safety of all Americans, the 555th was part of the paradox that existed during WWII. Black men and women who fought and died for America were segregated in the military. Discrimination and prejudice also existed among the civilian population. It took a special kind of courage to put your life in jeopardy for a country that considered you a second-class citizen.

Not only were the Triple Nickles the nation's first all African-American parachute battalion they were also the first airborne fire fighters in American military history. Among members of this courageous group were Warren C. "Cal" Cornelious and Bradley Biggs, the first black officer accepted for parachute duty in the U.S. Army. Both were from New Jersey and served together in the NJ National Guard in the 1940s when the Guard was federalized. They trained at Camp Seagirt.

In early 1946 the 555th Airborne was attached to the 82nd Airborne Division and then disbanded in December 1947. Many members of the former 555th went on to fight in Korea.

njveteran30@gmail.com

PHOTO ALBUM



MRT-2 Tropo-scatter Antenna set and associated AN/TRC-9. Posted by Ed Velez to *AF Communications* Facebook page. 2nd MOB (CCG). Ed Britt commented: "When I was in 1st Comm at Lindsey, we were on a Healthy Star and our Facs

Chief laid out the site on an azimuth 180 degrees off. So, we had to tear down the MRTs, turn them around and set them up again. Oh, the fun we had!"

Bruce McKenney said he remembers these from his time at Hellenikon AB in Greece, '83-'84. "There were two KW -26s at Araxos and I think they were nicknamed Bonny and Clyde because they were so troublesome," he said. *AF Communications* Facebook page. Posted by Louis and Jean Spath.



Members of the 254th Combat Communications Group, Texas ANG, operate a mobile radio-teletype position. (Courtesy AFCA History Office) Posted by Gary Swanson to *AF Communications* Facebook page.



Outside plant, Osan AB, Korea, '67-'68. Do you recognize anyone in this photo? 2146th Comm Group (AFCS). Posted to *AF Communications* Facebook page by John Garcia.



Col Palmer Rowe, right, presents an award to A1C Steven McCue, 1st CCG, Lindsey AS, Germany, 1988. Posted by Steven McCue to *1st CCG* Facebook page.



A mobile airfield control vehicle and B-24 at RAF Old Buckenham, England. Posted by Mark Cato to *USAF air traffic control past and present* Facebook page.

Friday, February 18, 1955

2048th AACS Airman Helps Troubled Plane

On the 3rd of February, 3 a.m., A/IC Robert T. Pleasant Jr., Ground Radio operator of 2048th AACS, was maintaining watch on his assigned frequency. He heard an aircraft calling Great Falls AFB with emergency traffic. On the alert, and listening to several calls and hearing no answer, airman Pleasant, made immediate contact with the troubled aircraft, and asked if he could be of assistance.

The aircraft advised his VHF, OMF, but his radio compass and radio were inoperative, and the plane had run into foul weather. Airman Pleasant immediately advised the aircraft to stand by, while he would try to contact Great Falls AFB.

Soon establishing contact with Great Falls, airman Pleasant advised the pilot that Great Falls runway lights had been switched on for him, and that he was to circle the field, and another aircraft would be aloft looking for him.

The pilot announced that he was at 1200 ft. looking for a break in the cloud coverage, but could not see Great Falls AFB, and that he had just enough fuel to last four hours.

Great Falls advised Carswell airways that the aircraft was over Madison Hatch and was to continue circling, and to keep a look out for an F-94 to intercept and lead him to the base. Airman Pleasant promptly relayed this message to the troubled aircraft.

The first F-94 ran low on fuel, so another F-94 took its place, making contact. Through the entire maneuver, neither the F-94s nor the KB-29 were in communication with each other. All the instructions given by Base operations, tower and the intercept aircraft were relayed by Carswell airways.

Lanty Wylie, Hideaway, TX, wrote a monthly AACS column for the *Carswell AFB, TX, newspaper* in 1955 and was a shift chief at Carswell Airways. All aircraft landed safely.



Senior Airman David Vogt ensures proper connection for the 435th Air Ground Operations Wing March 16, 2015, at Campia Turzii, Romania. The 435th AGOW participated in Dacian Warhawk, which featured U.S. and Romanian Airmen working side by side to establish a

base and conduct both ground and air operations with NATO partners. Vogt is a radio frequency transmission technician with the 1st Combat Communications Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/SSgt. Armando A. Schwier-Morales)

Tracking the flight progress of an aircraft are 1918th Communications Squadron air traffic control operators A1C Sandra J. Lewis and SSgt Reginald Nichols in the Scott AFB, IL radar approach control facility. They are at IP-749 radar scopes fed by an AN/FPN-47 airport surveillance radar. Also seen in the photo is a 102A key system and a 4 channel ultra-high frequency/very high frequency equipment. 1970s. Courtesy AFNIC History Office.





SSgt Frank J. Riely types a message to be sent over the MARS network. A typical USAF Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) setup operated by Air Force Communications Service could handle voice and telecommunications. Posted to *AF Communications* Facebook page by Gary Swanson.



Jim Appleyard said, "We did these lithos for the 50th Anniversary while I was Commander from 2000-2002. They were used several years after by Lt Col Niezgoda." Posted by Alex Riseborough to 1st CCG Facebook page.

New members since Oct 15, 2014

DATE JOINED	LAST NAME / FIRST NAME	CITY / STATE
12/15/2014	BARTLEBAUGH, JESSE	TEMPLE GA
10/15/2014	BROESTL, DIANE (LM)	BERTHOUD CO
03/03/2015	CARTWRIGHT, BRUCE	OCEAN SPRINGS MS
01/20/2015	DIXON, RICHARD	NEWNAN GA
02/17/2015	FLEMING, LEON (PAUL)	BAKER FL
12/08/2014	FORISTER, LARRY (LM)	BELLA PLAINE KS
03/17/2015	GETCHELL, DARRELL	MIDWEST CITY OK
12/23/2014	HERBST, BOB	MIDDLETON WI
01/20/2015	LYALL, DANNY	HOUSTON TX
01/31/2015	MCANDREWS, GEORGE (LM)	BAY SHORE NY
03/17/2015	PITCOVICH, PAUL	OKLAHOMA CITY OK
02/17/2015	PLATT, ED (LM)	LEBANON IL
03/17/2015	ROBERTS, JAMES	OKLAHOMA CITY OK
03/17/2015	SAYLES, WAYNE (LM)	GAINESVILLE MO
03/17/2015	SICKELS, DALE	OKLAHOMA CITY OK
12/08/2014	SIMONS, KENT	SARASOTA FL
11/25/2014	SKINNER JR, DANIEL (LM)	KANSAS CITY MO
12/22/2014	SPATZ, CARL	MCCHORD AFB WA
02/23/2015	SPENCER, WAYNE	INDEPENDENCE MO
10/21/2014	SULLIVAN, MAURICE	BELLEVILLE IL
12/15/2014	TOPOLSKI, JACKIE (LM)	MONCLAIR VA
10/15/2014	WEST, DAVID (LM)	RIVIERA BEACH MD



Member renewals since Oct 15, 2014

FIRST NAME / LAST NAME	CITY	STATE
LM-RICHARD ANDERSON	NORTH RICHLAND HILLS TX	LARRY HAMMER INDIANAPOLIS IN
COL ROGER BACCHIERI	EAST WAREHAM MA	LM-THOMAS HANEY ADRIAN MI
RICHARD BLOODWORTH	MORGANTON GA	JACK HAWKINS SILVER LAKE KS
LM-RICHARD BURSON	SALEM OR	MARTIN HILL CLARKSON KY
LM-BGEN DUNCAN CAMPBELL	KESWICK VA	LM-LEIGH HOSLEY LIVINGSTON TX
LAWRENCE CHIAROTTI	APO AE	LM-KEN HULTQUIST FAIRFIELD CA
LM-CARMEN CHRISTIANA	CLIFTON HEIGHTS PA	GERALD JOHNSTON KIRKLAND WA
LM-DAVID CLIPNER	CAMBRIDGE OH	FRED JONES FAIRBORN OH
LM-MARVIN CRAWFORD	ELKHORN NE	JAMES ELLIS JOYNER HAMPTON VA
ARCHIE CUMBEE	HOLLY SPRINGS NC	JAMES KELLER GAMBRILLS MD
JOSEPH DAVENPORT	VILLA RICA GA	CRAIG KIRKPATRICK ETOWAH NC
VINCENT DEL GIUDICE	DENVER CO	LM-ALFRED KOHLBERG JR NEW CARROLLTON MD
LM-FRANK DELGADO	DECATUR IL	LM-THOMAS KOLTERMAN SAN ANTONIO TX
LM-JOHN DUFFY	GERMANSVILLE PA	LM-ART LADD SPRING HILL FL
KENNETH DUNN	SARATOGA SPRINGS NY	JAMES LAUDUCCI ALEXANDRIA VA
WALTER FOX	SAN JOSE CA	ROBERT LILLY NEWCOMB NY
CHARLES GARBARINO	PUNTA GORDA FL	SPURGEON LILLY WALDORF MD
LM-EDWARD GOLDBERG	SURPRISE AZ	CHARLES LUKOWSKI WILLIAMSVILLE NY
LM-MERVIN GOURGUES	PLAQUEMINE LA	LM-WILLIAM MALEC O'FALLON IL
LM-TOM GWALTNEY	MONTGOMERY AL	DANIEL MANSBERGER MORGANTOWN WV
		ALBERT MASTELLO JR FT WORTH TX

Member renewals (contd)

CHARLES	MC CARN	BELMONT	NC
LM-LESLIE	MCCORMICK	KISSEE MILLS	MO
LM-ROBERT	MEAD	AUSTIN	TX
LM-TIM	MEIGHEN	ST CLAIRSVILLE	OH
JOEL	MELCHER	INDIANAPOLIS	IN
MICHAEL	MENSCHEL	ROCKAWAY BEACH	NY
LM-DARRELL	MERKEL	ALPHARETTA	GA
LM-RAYMOND	METZGER	COLORADO SPRINGS	CO
LM-RALPH "Larry"	MIHULKA	LINCOLN	NE
ANDREW	MILLIGAN JR	TOMS RIVER	NJ
LM-GEORGE	MOHR	FT WORTH	TX
LM-DR LARRY	MORRISON	O'FALLON	IL
LM-DONALD	MORROW	RANCHO MIRAGE	CA
LM-STEPHEN	NICOLINO	FREEMPORT	NY
LM-JOSEPH	PACHECO	MIDDLE RIVER	MD
CHARLES	PAPALIA	WALTHAM	MA
LM-RALPH (ED)	PLANT	FORT WORTH	TX
ROBERT	POPP	LAS VEGAS	NV
REV JOSEPH	RAND	JENSEN BEACH	FL
ROYCE	RANKIN JR	LONDONDERRY	NH
DONALD	REESE	CLINTON	OH
DAVID	REESE	MARICOPA	AZ
LM-STEPHEN	REIFF	SAN ANTONIO	TX
LM-DAVID	RIDENOUR	PHOENIX	AZ

MICHAEL	ROSSMAN	GLADWIN	MI
HARRY	SANDIFER	LOS ALAMITOS	CA
CASTENZO	SCATURO	MANAHAWKIN	NJ
GEORGE	SCHNEIDER	FRAMINGHAM	MA
LM-HERMAN	SCHOENER	BELLEVILLE	IL
DONALD	SEIB	PITTSBORO	IN
LM-JACK	SELLS	MARINA DEL REY	CA
LM-KENNETH	SOUTHARD	NEW BOSTON	NH
LM- MRS ROBERT	SPENCE	RICHARDSON	TX
AUSTIN	STEPHANOFF	PARMA	OH
LM-MGEN RAYMOND	STEWART	HENDERSON	NV
RALPH	STILES	TELL CITY	IN
RONALD	STROBEL	NORTH EAST	PA
LARRY	TAYLOR	LAKEWOOD	OH
BILL	VALENTINE	CARSON CITY	NV
LM-COURT	VAN SICKLER	NEW BRAUNFELS	TX
LM-CHARLES	WASHINGTON	CROWLEY	TX
WILLIAM (BILL)	WELSCH	O'FALLON	IL
ALAN	WHITTAKER	WEATHERFORD	TX
ROBERT	WILKIE	BETHANY	OK
RICHARD	WILSON	OUNGSTOWN	OH
KEITH	WILSON	SAN JOSE	CA
BGEN B.(RANDY) WITT		MEMPHIS	TN
LANTY	WYLIE JR	HIDEAWAY	TX

MISSED ROLL CALL

(Members who passed away since

November 2014 *Communicator*)

Binnicker, James C. (CMSAF)*

Bligh, Louis R

Bush, Robert E.

Christy, Donald

Duffy, Joseph

Kampa, J.W.

Kinahan, James J.

Missette, Bill

Prather, Carolyn

* Not a member, but was a great friend of AFCC and supported our programs.



The AF Comm & ATC Association is a 501 (c) (19) Tax Exempt Organization.

**Years of Election
For Board of Directors**

<u>Position</u>	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	X*				X*
VICE DIRECTOR		X		X	
EXECUTIVE SEC	X		X		X
DIRECTOR FOR INFO		X		X	
SERGEANT AT ARMS	X		X		X
PROTOCOL OFFICER		X		X	

Note: Three new individuals and/or positions, Treasurer, Managing Editor, Print/Online Media, and Board of Directors Advisory Officer, will be elected Oct 3, 2015, for indefinite terms.

INDEFINITE TERMS OF OFFICE

TREASURER	“
DIRECTOR FOR MEMBERSHIP	“
MANAGING EDITOR, Print/Online Media	“
BOD ADVISORY OFFICER	“

*** The Executive Director can only serve four consecutive years. He/she can run again after a break of service.**

The indefinite terms for the Treasurer, Dir For Membership, Managing Editor, Print/Online Media, and the Board of Directors Advisory Officer are indefinite terms once formally elected. Other directors must be reelected on a two-year basis.

Members wishing to serve on the board or members wishing to nominate another member for a board position must advise the Executive Director and review the position descriptions for each position and the qualifications required. All nominations must be submitted to the Executive Director No Later Than June 30 of each year. There are no nominations allowed from the floor at the annual General Meeting in order to ensure that all nominees are aware of the commitment and the requirements of the position.

Members must be present at the Annual General Meeting to vote. Proxy votes are not authorized by the Constitution and By Laws.

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

Membership Application

MAIL TO: Walt McLain, 4514 Haverty Dr, Knoxville, TN 37931-3657

Types of Membership

Life and 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, data automation, E&I/IM, cyber, or air traffic control unit, or holds or held a MOS, AFSC or other skill identifier as a communicator/information, 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). Spouses of a surviving member are also eligible for Regular membership. The Life Membership of a deceased member will transfer to the surviving spouse unless he/she requests otherwise. Associate Membership is subject to the approval of the Association's Executive Board for individuals who actively supported any communications/information or air traffic control activity, but otherwise does not meet the criteria for Life or Regular Membership. Associate Members are not eligible to vote or to hold office in the Association, but are treated like all other members.

Regular and Associate Membership dues are \$15 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

New Membership _____ Life Membership _____ Regular _____ Associate _____ Profile update _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ (make check out to AF Communicators and Air Traffic Controllers Association)

PRINT CLEARLY

Date: ___/___/___ First Name _____ MI ___ Last Name _____ Spouse Name _____

Street Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip code _____ - _____

Country _____ e-Mail Address _____

Units and Commands _____

Dates Served _____ (eg. '44-46 ,99- .) Eras Served _____ (WWII, Korea, RVN, Gulf, etc.)

Phone Number _____ Year of Birth _____ Service Status: Officer _____ Warrant _____

Enlisted _____ Civilian _____ Tech Rep _____ Other _____ Combat Area or Base _____

_____ Additional Comm/ATC/Data/Cyber units _____

What did you do in the AF: _____ (Career field, MOS, Specialty, etc.)

How were you recruited: _____ (Member's name, magazine, web site, etc)

If you have any questions contact Walt McLain at 865-690-0479 or Cell 865-740-4127

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION

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



Name _____ Phone Nbr: () _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Quantity	Description	Cost
_____	AACS Logo Patch with AFCS & AFCC embroidered @ \$4	_____
_____	Old blue original AACS patch @ \$6	_____
_____	Deluxe Embroidered AFCOMMATC Logo Hat (blue) @ \$12	_____
_____	AFCOMMATC Challenge Coin @ \$7	_____
_____	Old E9 Pin @ \$5	_____
_____	Original AACS Lapel Pin @ \$5	_____
_____	White T shirts with AACS Original Logo @ \$9	
	Ladies sizes only L _____	_____
_____	AFCOMMATC Embroidered Ladies Golf Shirt (white)	
	S___ M___ L___ @ \$26	_____
_____	AFCOMMATC Embroidered Logo Golf Shirt BLUE.....	_____
_____	AFCOMMATC Embroidered Logo Golf Shirt WHITE.....	_____
	S___ M___ L___ XL___ \$30 2X___ \$32	
_____	AFCOMMATC embroidered Wind Shirt (blue with gold trim)	
	S___ XXL___ \$20	_____
_____	AFCOMMATC Jacket (zipper) S___ M___ L___ XL___ \$42	_____
_____	Jacket 2XL \$45	_____

AACS items are gone except for the patch. The T-shirts and wind shirts will not be restocked.

DONATIONS: (Tax deductible within limits of the law): Receipt: Yes___ No___ _____

TOTAL _____ \$ _____

POSTAGE AND HANDLING ARE INCLUDED IN ALL PRICES.

SOME PRICES HAVE INCREASED DUE TO POSTAL RATE INCREASES.

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

Bill Cassatt, 612 W Hardy St, St James MO 65559, 573-265-5788, wcassatt71@gmail.com

PX/BX items

See order form on page 58 for prices, sizes and colors.



AACS Logo Patch



Old Blue Original Patch



AFCOMMATC Logo Hat



AFCOMMATC Challenge Coin



Old E9 Pin



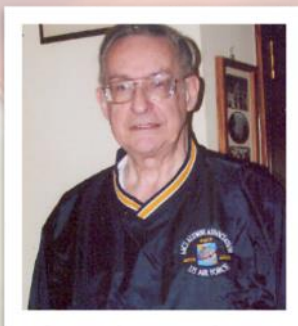
AACS Lapel Pin



AACS Logo T Shirt



**Embroidered Golf Shirt
White**



**AFCOMMATC
Embroidered Wind
Shirt**



**AFCOMMATC
Jacket**



**Embroidered Golf Shirt
Blue**

AFCS, AFCS & AFCC Wood-Carved Wall Plaques



Cost (including shipping) is \$35 each

Make checks out to "AF Comm & ATC Assoc" and mail to Bill Cassatt, 612 W Hardy St., St James MO 65559.

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

Size 10 1/2 inches



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

Total cost: \$ _____ (check attached)

Mail to: _____

NEWS BRIEFS

17th Biennial GEEIA- MDA-EI Reunion, 1-4 Oct 2015

Where: Hotel Biltmore, Oklahoma City, OK

Contact: Bill Riley, 304te-anchief@geeia.net, 406 W. Curtis Dr, Midwest City, OK 73110-3006, to have your name put on the mailing list.

If you attended one of the last two reunions, you are still on the mailing list.

Raduege honored for cyber security contributions

Lt Gen (ret) Harry Raduege (member of our Association) was honored by America's Future Series with the 5 Star Lifetime Achievement Award for Contributions to the Field of Cyber Security.

The annual State of Technology Cyber Security Summit, hosted by Dallas Regional Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with America's Future Series, honored Raduege Nov 11, 2014. Raduege is currently Chairman of the Deloitte Center for Cyber Innovation.

AF stands up Task Force Cyber Secure

Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen Mark A. Welsh III signed a memorandum March 20 establishing Task Force Cyber Secure to address challenges of the cyberspace domain in synchronization, operations and

governance within the Air Force and organizations it supports.

Lt. Gen. Bill Bender, chief of information dominance and chief information officer, said, "The task force will diagnose the extent of the cyber threat and the vulnerabilities that impact our core missions and will plan to develop a risk management plan that will allow the Air Force to fly, fight and win in a cyber-contested environment. Finally, the task force will recommend investment priorities to the SECAF and CSAF for how best to address the cyber security challenges." (AF News)

Please check out our Guestbook

Please don't forget to routinely check our web site's Guestbook. Its purpose is to get people connected and start a dialogue. You just might come across someone you know. To type a new post, click on "Post" (center blue rectangle). To reply to a current post, click on "post a reply" within the appropriate posting. To view replies to a specific post, click on "view replies" within a post. You can click on "email" next to the envelope at the bottom of a posting to respond directly to someone.



Senior Airman Erik Stauffer cleans snow off of a satellite during exercise Juniper Thunder in January at Ramstein AB, Germany. The exercise helps interoperability between Air Force and Army combat communications systems. Stauffer is a transmissions systems technician assigned to the 1st Combat Communications Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jonathan Stefanko)

Missing newsletter

Does anyone have a copy of the November 1984 AACS Newsletter? This is the only copy we are missing in our archives.

If you have one, we will make a copy and return yours. Please take a look at your old piles of magazines and see if you have a copy. We will be indebted to you. From the editor.

Association members who have been inducted into the AF Cyberspace Operations & Support Hall of Fame

Those marked with * are deceased.



Lt Gen Lee
Paschall*
Class of 1999



Col Glenn
Giddings*
Class of 2000



Brig Gen Ivan L.
Farman*
Class of 2000



CMSgt Richard
P. "Hank" Sauer
Class of 2001



Lt Gen Robert H.
Ludwig*
Class of 2001



Lt Gen James S.
Cassity Jr.*
Class of 2001



Lt Gen Richard
P. Klocko*
Class of 2002



Maj Gen Jack B.
Robbins*
Class of 2003



Brig Gen Haskell
E. Neal*
Class of 2003



Lt Gen John S.
Fairfield
Class of 2004



Mr. Thomas J.
Yium*
Class of 2005



Lt Gen Carl G.
O'Berry
Class of 2005



Lt Gen Albert J.
Edmonds
Class of 2005



CMSgt William
L. Bethea
Class of 2006



Col Derrel L.
Dempsey
Class of 2006



Maj Gen
Rupert H. Burris*
Class of 2006



CMSgt Charles
E. Teston
Class of 2007



Col James R.
Lauducci
Class of 2007



CMSgt Walter
D. McLain
Class of 2008



Maj Gen Van
C. Doubleday
Class of 2008



Col. Gilbert L. Sentimore
Class of 2009



Brig Gen Duncan W. Campbell
Class of 2009



Maj Gen John T. Stihl
Class of 2009



Maj Gen Gerald L. Prather
Class of 2009



Maj Gen George P. Lampe
Class of 2009



Lt Gen John L. "Jack" Woodward Jr.



Lt Gen William J. Donahue
Class of 2009



Mr Lloyd K. Mosemann II
Class of 2010



MSgt Joseph J. Duffy*
Class of 2010



Col Paul G. Patton
Class of 2010



Lt Gen Harry D. Raduege
Class of 2011



CMSgt William M. Mosley*
Class of 2011



The Honorable Dale W. Meyerrose
Class of 2012



Brig Gen Bruce J. Bohn
Class of 2012



Gen William "Tom" Hobbins
Class of 2013



Brig Gen Buford "Randy" Witt
Class of 2013



CMSgt Laurence "Pat" Patrick
Class of 2013



Lt Gen Charles E. "Charlie" Croom Jr.
Class of 2014



Col David J. Kovach
Class of 2014



Maj Gen John W. Maluda
Class of 2015



Col Kenneth Reiff
Class of 2015



Col Gerald Gleckel
Class of 2015



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PX/BX Supply Officer

(Non-Voting Member)
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573-265-5788
wcassatt71@gmail.com

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For Board of Directors

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1710 Noble Place
Greensboro, NC 27408
336-288-6107
greensborotwr2@gmail.com
Members: Bill Wallace

Air Force Hall of Fame and AFCOMMATC Hall of Honor

Walt McLain (Chair)
Members: Hank Sauer and Chuck Teston

Fiscal Management & Budget Policy Committee

Bob Akard (Chair)
Members: Ray French,
Cindy Hintz (less audits),
Jim Weber

Convention Committee

Doug Donnell (Chair)
Members: Hank Sauer,
Bob Akard, Jim Weber

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

AF COMMUNICATORS & AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATION

(Formerly the AACS Alumni Association)

Mission Statement

To foster continued awareness of the Air Force Communications and Air Traffic Control missions previously accomplished by AACS, AFCS, AFCC, AFC4A, AFCA, AFNIC, AFFSA, other past and current Major Air Commands; to provide a forum for educational and humanitarian services; to renew and make new friendships and to exchange ideas of common interest concerning people and activities associated with Communications, Cyberspace and Air Traffic Control; to fully support the goals and missions of the U.S. Air Force and to honor each year the ATC Enlisted Manager and Communications/Information Professionals of the year as selected by the Air Force. Make charitable contributions to worthy veteran organizations or related causes. Of significant importance is to manage our Association to be a viable Association for those Officers/Airmen/Civilians serving today.

The Beginning

The initial meeting of what turned out to be the first AACS Association meeting was held in Columbus, Ohio, in 1977. The meeting was hosted by “Emeritus” Larry Camp and his wife, Doris. This meeting came about as a result of a conversation with “Dux” and Pearl LeDoux and was planned as a poker weekend in Columbus. Some of the notables who attended, and to whom we owe so much were: Hack Neal, Ken Klise, Flash Gordon, Paul Haas, Glen Turner, Bob Dickerson, Max Mankofsky, Dux LeDoux, John Hoff, Ted Carlson, Don Donnell and George Yunker, just to name a few. This initial group established the high standards that continue to drive the AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association. We owe them and all who attended that first reunion a great big “Thank You”.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

**AF Communicators & Air Traffic
Controllers Association**

1977 - 1978	Hack Neal (BGen)
1979 - 1980	Bob Dickerson (Col)
1981 - 1982	Joe Beler (Col)
1983 - 1984	Don Donnell (Col)
1985 - 1986	Wally Bailey (Col)
1987 - 1991	Bob Brewer (Col)
1992 - 1993	Cal Venable (Col)

1994 - 1997	Jasper Vaughn (Col)
1998 - 2001	Hank Sauer (CMSgt)
2002 - 2005	Dick Frye (Lt Col)
2006 - 2007	Hank Sauer (CMSgt)
2008 - 2011	Stan Phillips (SSgt)
2012 -	Doug Donnell (Col)



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Air Force Communicators and Air Traffic Controllers Association

We were 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 Air Force Communications Service in 1961.

Our association is comprised of about 1,500 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 and other skills in the U.S. Army Air Corps and the U.S. Air Force (including Reserve and Air National Guard) communications, data automation, or air traffic control units.

Many in this association saw air traffic control take a technological leap with the introduction of radar in the 1950s. Some saw air/ground radio stations transform from continuous wave Morse Code to radio telephone. Many witnessed the advent of the computer. All helped the military improve communications, data automation, and air traffic controls systems to meet changing needs.

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, to renew and make new friendships, and to exchange ideas of common interest concerning communications and air traffic control.**
- ◆ **Fully support AF goals and missions and to honor the AF ATC Enlisted Manager and Communications/Information Professionals of the Year.**
- ◆ **Make charitable contributions to worthy veteran organizations or related causes.**
- ◆ **Manage our Association to be viable for airmen/officers/civilians serving today.**