

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”

The Official Publication of the AF Comm & ATC Association, Inc.

NOVEMBER 2012

Advertising

The Executive Director has appointed a Committee to look at the possibility of adding a limited amount of appropriate advertising to be included in each issue of the Communicator.

Including paid advertising is one way to help reduce our growing costs of printing and mailing the Communicators.



LT. GEN BASLA
SAF/CIO A6

September 2013

Plan now on coming to the

37th
Convention/Reunion in

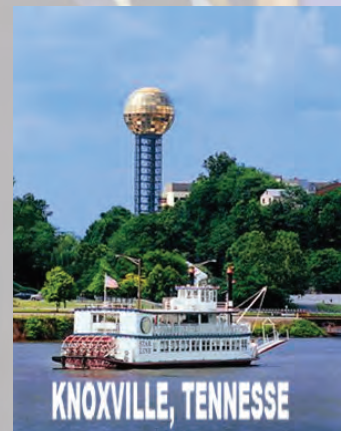
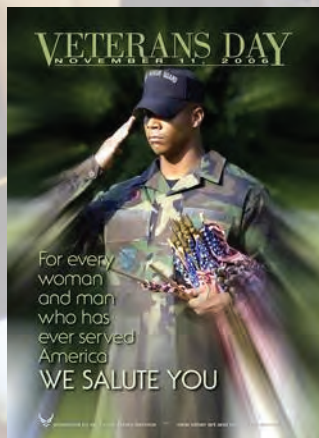
Knoxville, Tennessee
“The Holiday Inn
Downtown Hotel”

Sept 18 - Sept 22

(Early Ck-in) - (Get-away Blkft)

2013 Hosts

**Hank Sauer
& Bob Akard**



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”



AF COMMUNICATORS & AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATION



2012 Board of Directors & Other Officers / Committees

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Doug Donnell
11354 Links Drive
Reston, VA 20190
703-709-0455
dwdonnell@verizon.net

VICE DIRECTOR

Gerald Sonnenberg
2305 Cotswold Circle
Belleville, IL 62221
618-567-4685
gsonnenberg@hotmail.com

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Robert "Bob" Akard
937 Venice Road,
Knoxville, TN 37923-2044
865-693-0336
akardbob@knology.net

TREASURER

Cindy Allison
691 Lawshe Rd
Senoia, GA 30276
678-633-0588
afcommatctreasurer@gmail.com

EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Richard P. "Hank" Sauer
111 Carson Lane
Oak Ridge, TN 37830-7626
865-482-3013 or 865-705-0829
DirAACs@comcast.net

DIRECTOR FOR MEMBERSHIP

Walt McLain
4514 Haverty Dr
Knoxville, TN 37931-3657
865-740-4127 or 865-690-0479
aacsmbmrship@comcast.net

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Al Dumont
2401 Cordova Ln
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-3918
916-635-7813
alvindumont1@juno.com

INFORMATION OFFICER

Gerald Prather
585 Palomino Rd.
Del Rio, TX 78840-9533
830-774-4483
Cprather56@yahoo.com

JUDGE ADVOCATE

(Non-Voting Member)
John Milano
61-19 232nd Street
Bayside, NY 11364-2428
718-279-3542

CHAPLAIN

(Non-Voting Member)
Fr. Donald Seeks
1237 W. Eymann Ave
Reedley, CA 93654-2703
559-638-5765
frds@comcast.net

HISTORIAN

(Non-Voting Member)
Susan "Susie" Twedt
13106 Peachleaf Place
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-698-7455
Susie@twedt.org

PX/BX SUPPLY OFFICER

(Non-Voting Member)
Bill Cassatt
612 W. Hardy St.
St. James, MO 65559
576-265-5788
wcassatt@centurytel.net

WEB SITE MANAGER

(Non-Voting Member)
Lori Manske
665 N. 11th St.
Breese, IL 62230
618-210-9573
manske5@charter.net

NOMINATING COMMITTEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Watson (Chair)
1001 Dogwood Dr
Raymore, MO 64083-9492
816-318-4993
jdcfwat@comcast.net

Members:

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AIR FORCE HALL OF FAME & AFCOMM & ATC HALL OF HONOR

Walt McLain (Chair)
4514 Haverty Dr
Knoxville, TN 37931-3657
865-740-4127 or 865-690-0479

Members:

Hank Sauer
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SPECIAL COMMITTEE Fiscal Management & Budget Policy Committee

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Jerry Sonnenberg
Cindy Allison (less audits)
(See addresses listed on this page)

Convention Committee

Doug Donnell (Chair)
Hank Sauer
Bob Akard
(see addresses listed on this page)



*The AF COMM & ATC Association is a 501 (c) (19) Tax Exempt Organization
There are no "paid" employees. All work is done by volunteers.*

**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
CYBERSPACE HALL OF FAME**

Foundation Setters

*Was or is a member of the AACCS Alumni Association/AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association

Brig. General Billy Mitchell, General Edwin W. Rawlings, Lt. General Harold W. Grant,

*Lt. General Lee Paschall, Maj. General Harold M. McClelland, Maj. General 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

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

Class of 2009

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 2010

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

Class of 2011

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

AF COMM & ATC ASSOCIATION HALL OF HONOR

Class of 2001

*CMSgt R. P. "Hank" Sauer

Class of 2002

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

Class of 2003

*Larry Camp
*Maj. Gen Gerald L. Prather

Class of 2004

*Col Garland B. Hilton

Class of 2005

*Lt Gen Harry Raduege
*Col David Kovach
*Col P.C. Brown
*CMSgt William 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
*BGen Duncan W. Campbell - *Col William A. Mалеc
*Col Gil Sentimore - *CMSgt James Sutton

Class of 2010

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

Class of 2011

*General Wm. "Tom" Hobbins
*Col David J. Martinson

Class of 2012

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

AF COMM & ATC ASSOCIATION 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

* Major C.B. Maginnis
* Mrs. Nancy Donnell

Class of 2005

* Lt. Col Richard W. Frye
*George Villa

Class of 2006

*Smitty McCellan
*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

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

*MGEN 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 & Julie Braun

COMMUNICATIONS/INFORMATION PRO OF THE YEAR & AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Class of 2006

**Ssgt Jacob Flores
*SrA Joshua Matias

Class of 2007

*SSgt Jaclyn Rutan
*SrA Sarah O'Brien

Class of 2008

*SrA James Pettet
*SSgt Kevin Killoren

Class of 2009

*SrA Stephen T. Janson
*MSgt John Kirby

Class of 2010

SSgt J. Tacto
SMSgt James L. Mull

Class of 2011

SSgt Ira J. Begley III
MSgt Janice E. Planten

Class of 2012

SrA Johnny B. Laster, Jr.
MSgt Tracy Martinez



The Major General Van C. Doubleday
ATC Enlisted Manager of the Year (2012)

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

MASTER SERGEANT TRACY J. MARTINEZ

Master Sergeant Tracy J. Martinez is the Radar Approach Control Chief Controller, 48th Operations Support Squadron, RAF Lakenheath, England. She directs air traffic control service supporting 25,000 48th Fighter Wing, British, North Atlantic Treaty Organization and transient aircraft operations annually. Sergeant Martinez leads, supervises and mentors 35 personnel applying Federal Aviation Administration, United States Air Force and United Kingdom Air Traffic Control rules. She formulates and coordinates Air Traffic Control letters of agreement and operations letters with United Kingdom and United States Air Forces in Europe. Sergeant Martinez is entrusted with weather, communications, air traffic control simulators and automated systems valued in excess of \$9.2M.



Sergeant Martinez joined the Air Force in December 1992 and was assigned as an Inventory Management Apprentice. After four years, Sergeant Martinez cross trained into the Air Traffic Control career field. Her background includes experience as a Control Tower Watch Supervisor, Radar Approach Control Watch Supervisor, Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of Air Traffic Control Training, Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of Air Traffic Control Standardization and Evaluations and Tower Chief Controller and Radar Approach Control Chief Controller.

During her tenure in the Air Force, Sergeant Martinez has deployed in direct support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, IRAQI FREEDOM, ENDURING FREEDOM and NEW DAWN.

EDUCATION

- 1997, Airman Leadership School, Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota
- 2001, Non-Commissioned Officer Enhancement Seminar, Kadena AB, Okinawa, Japan
- 2002, Awarded Associate Degree, Instructor in Technical Military Science, Community College of the Air Force
- 2004, Awarded Associate Degree, Airway Science, Community College of the Air Force
- 2004, Non-Commissioned Officer Academy, Keesler AFB, Mississippi
- 2008, Awarded Associate Degree, Business Administration/Logistics Management, Community College of the Air Force
- 2011, Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education, Joint Forces Staff College, National Defense University
- 2011, Awarded Technical/Occupational Certificate, Administrative Management, Community College of the Air Force
- 2012, Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Academy, Gunter AFB, Alabama

ASSIGNMENTS

- December 1992 - February 1993, Student, Basic Military Training, Lackland AFB, Texas
- February 1993 - April 1995, Inventory Management Apprentice, Castle AFB, California
- April 1995 - November 1998, Inventory Management Journeyman, Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota
- November 1998 - December 1998, Student, Air Traffic Control Technical Training School, Keesler AFB, Mississippi
- December 1998 - April 2003, Radar Approach Control Watch Supervisor, Kadena AB, Okinawa, Japan
- April 2003 - July 2006, Air Traffic Control Technical Training School Instructor, Keesler AFB, Mississippi
- July 2006 - July 2007, Radar Approach Control Watch Supervisor, Osan AB, Republic of Korea
- July 2007 - August 2009, Tower Watch Supervisor, Dyess AFB, Texas
- August 2009 - Present, Radar Approach Control Chief Controller, RAF Lakenheath, England

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

- Meritorious Service Medal
- Air Force Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters
- Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2012 Air Force ATC Enlisted Manager of the Year



The Major General Gerald L. Prather
Communications/Information Professional of the Year (2012)

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

SENIOR AIRMAN JOHNNY B. LASTER JR.

Senior Airman Johnny B. Laster is a Tactical Network Operations Technician, 1st Combat Communications Squadron, Ramstein Air Base, Germany. He is responsible for the maintenance and deployment readiness of eight mobilized tactical communication network infrastructure and computer system suites worth \$3.7 million which are utilized to support 1,200 users and deployed commanders. The 1st Combat Communications Squadron provides combat-ready forces and equipment for Joint Task Force, Combined/Joint Air and Space Operations Center, Theater Air Base and tactical operations worldwide. Furthermore, the 1st Combat Communications squadron mobilizes and deploys communications and air traffic control systems for peacetime and wartime contingencies throughout Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East in support of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, U.S. European Command, U.S. Africa Command, U.S. Central Command and North Atlantic Treaty Organization.



Senior Airman Laster entered the Air Force in February 2007 and immediately joined the Fire Fighter career field. Shortly after his tenure as a Fire Fighter Apprentice, Senior Airman Laster cross trained into the Voice Network Systems career field. His background includes Cisco switching and routing configurations, data cabling, telephone switching and network administration.

During his current assignment, Senior Airman Laster was deployed 102 days in support of Operations ODYSSEY DAWN and UNIFIED PROTECTOR during which he provided support to 1,400 North Atlantic Treaty Organization personnel allowing for 26,000 sorties which employed 291 weapons enabling the enforcement of a no-fly zone over Libya within 24 hours in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973. While deployed in support of Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR, Senior Airman Laster and his team forward deployed command, control, communications, computers, and intelligence equipment supporting the relocation of \$33 million in intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft which was key in the destruction of 16 surface-to-air missile sites and 94 enemy command centers. Additionally, Senior Airman Laster mobilized tactical equipment enabling Combined Endeavor 2009 in Bosnia and Combined Endeavor 2010 in Romania.

EDUCATION

- 2009 Airman Professional Development Seminar, Ramstein AB, Germany
- 2010 Security+ Boot Camp, Ramstein AB, Germany

ASSIGNMENTS

- February 2007 - March 2007, Student, Basic Military Training, Lackland AFB, Texas
- March 2007 - November 2007, Firefighter Apprentice, Goodfellow AFB, Texas
- November 2007 - April 2008, Student, Voice Network Systems Training, Sheppard AFB, Texas
- April 2008 - Present, Tactical Network Operations Technician, 1st Combat Communications Squadron, Ramstein AB, Germany

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Air Force Achievement Medal

Two New Members

Pictured is Col (then Lt. Col) Doug Donnell reenlisting SrA Jena Avallone. Colonel (Ret) Doug Donnell is now Executive Director of the AF Comm & ATC Association and MSgt (Ret) Jena Sweeney is now the Human Resource (HR) Director, Air Force Enlisted Village, Shalimar, FL. Jena's husband is MSgt Michael Sweeney, an Active Duty Air Force Air Traffic Controller. Both Jena and Michael are new members of the AF Comm & ATC Association.



New Air Force Space Command, Vice Commander

Lt. General John E. Hyten has been appointed as the Vice Commander, AF Space Command, Peterson AFB Colorado. General Hyten replaces Lt. General Michael Basla, who has been assigned as the SAF/CIO A6 in the Pentagon. General Hyten brings a Space Command background to his new position. His last position was, Director, Space Programs, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, for Acquisitions, Washington, DC.

We wish him much success in his new job.



2012 Air Force Hall of Fame



Air Force Cyberspace Hall of Fame - 2012
Incumbents Present - June 27, 2012



Hall of Fame 2012
Hank Sauer Gen Hobbins Bill Bethea



New AACCS, AFCS & AFCC Wood Carved Wall Plaques



Cost (including shipping): \$35.00 each.

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

**These Wood Carved plaques are special order and will take approx 2-3
weeks for delivery.**

Size: 10½ Inches



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

Total Cost: \$ _____ (check attached)

Mail to: _____

From The Desk of the Executive Director



What a great reunion in San Antonio. Our hosts, Dave and Cheryl Kovach treated us to a fabulous program. There was certainly something for everyone - from the Hill/Wine county tour and the visit to the National WWII Pacific War Museum, to the "usual" San Antonio highlights such as a tour of the Alamo and a river walk barge cruise. Many of our association members had the opportunity to take a walk down memory lane as we watched the Basic Military Training graduation ceremony, followed by a flightline and control tower tour. Of course, we enjoyed the usual camaraderie and just plain fun of meeting up with friends and sharing special times together. A hearty thanks, once again, to Dave and Cheryl for their efforts in hosting a first class reunion.

Highlighting our banquet, we were honored to have Major General Suzanne M. Vautrinot, 24th Air Force Commander as the guest speaker. As the 24th Air Force Commander, General Vautrinot is responsible for forces which plan and conduct cyberspace operations. Her presentation at the reunion banquet framed the importance of cyber operations to today's warfighter. Computer communications and information processing has brought revolutionary changes to military operations - commanders on the ground really can know "what's over the next hill" and aircrews can target with pinpoint precision or avoid threats with instantaneous updates delivered right to the cockpit. But connecting it all is a vast network that can be disrupted or spoofed. Today's cyber airmen are carrying on the legacy of communicators of old - the medium may be a bit different, but the story is one that we've heard before. Remember the attempts by the Soviets to disrupt the Berlin Airlift by spoofing our navigational aids? Or how many HF radio operators remember picking signals out of the noise (or jamming) to get the message through? Or remember the bad guys in Southeast Asia trying to spoof our radio nets? The more things change, the more they remain the same. Today's cyber warrior is carrying out the same mission with the same dedication to duty as always - it's about making sure that the warfighter has the right information at the right time to put bombs on target. It's a mission that bonds all of us in the Comm, ATC, and Cyber worlds. Our Association truly melds the past, present, and future.

Mark your calendars now for 18-22 September, 2013 for the 37th convention/reunion in Knoxville, TN. Hank Sauer and Bob Akard are well on the road to planning a great program for us.

See you in Knoxville!

**Doug Donnell
Executive Director**



AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association 36th Annual Business Meeting - San Antonio, Texas

September 22, 2012

The following outline summarizes the Business Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by Executive Director (ED) Douglass Donnell, who then called for our Chaplain, Don Seeks, to give the invocation. Then followed the presentation of the colors followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Secretary, Bob Akard asked the members to confirm the contents of the Business Meeting held in St. Louis in Sept, 2011 as they appeared in the Nov. 2011 Communicator. The minutes were confirmed.

Our Membership director, Walt McLain, explained the alarming decline in membership. Our primary source of new members continues to originate from our web-site. Walt appealed to all of us for recruitment, as a part of our obligation as concerned members.

Before introducing our Treasurer, ED Doug Donnell explained the basic soundness of the association's financial status. He explained the Board commitment the day before to come to next year's Board Meeting with financial plans to avoid further assets decline. Ideas being considered are recognizing Life Members who volunteer to become Contributing Life Members, the possible selling of limited advertisements in our two annual Communicators and to putting the November Communicator on the Web site, and not printing or mailing. Treasurer, Cindy Allison Explained our Assets Report for F/Y ending 06-30-12. This was followed by a review of the Income/Expenses Report for year 2012.

Editor Publisher, Hank Sauer, reported on the costs of publishing and distributing our semi-annual Communicators. Many of us could be reading the November issues of the Communicator on the Web site, if we fail to reduce our expenses. He asked that all members update their email address by using the Change feature on the web site or advising the Director for Membership of the changes direct. Conventions for 2013 and 2014 were confirmed. Next year will be in Knoxville, TN on Sept 18-22, 2013. Some details for Knoxville were given and Hank Sauer and Bob Akard were introduced as hosts. Doug reported on the pending contract to be signed for Colorado Springs, CO for Sept 24-28, 2014 to be hosted by Jim Weber. The nominating committee presented for membership voting the nominations of Gerry Sonnenburg for Vice Director and Al Dumont for Sgt-at-Arms. Both were elected.

The annual memorial service, Missed Roll Call, for known departed members was conducted by General Gerry Prather and Bill Bethea. Then the golf tournament winners were introduced. Our special guest speaker was Maj. Gen. Suzanne Vautrinot who commands the 24th Air Force, the Air Forces Cyber, and the Air Force Network Operations. She was one of the most dynamic speakers we ever had. Nothing was scripted. General Vautrinot interacted with the attendees and held their attention. She began recruiting some non-members present and got commitments to our association before she gave up. She is encouraged to return to our future conventions, and most certainly to Knoxville.

**With special appreciation to all members, present or not,
Bob Akard, Executive Secretary.**

AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association 36th Annual Board of Directors Meeting - San Antonio, Texas

September 22, 2012

Executive Director (ED) Doug Donnell opened the 36th annual Board Meeting with a statement of appreciation to the Board for its active participation during the past year conducting the needed business of the Association. Executive Secretary Bob Akard asked for approval of the minutes of last year's Board meeting in St. Louis as they appeared in the November issue of the Communicator. Board approved. There was no further old business brought forward. He then requested and received formal approval for a convention to be held on Sept. 18-22, 2013 in Knoxville, TN to be hosted by Hank Sauer and Bob Akard. This will be followed by a contract to be executed next week with the Marriott in Colorado Springs, CO on Sept. 24-28, 2014. Also, he requested approval of Ret. BGen Larry Dilda as nominee for the AFC&ATC Assoc Hall of Honor. Doug began a roll call of the Board to give their reports.

First was Vice Director Gerry Sonnenberg who explained his roll the past year toward learning and participating in the weekly electronically generated activities of the Board. He had no formal report to present.

Treasurer Cindy Allison presented copies of her annual Financial Statement and Assets Statement. She gave an elaboration on the pertinent figures, and expressed continued overall financial soundness of our situation. She updated the Board on the progress with the Knoxville CPA firm toward standardization and simplification of our annual IRS non-profit filings. Cindy gave concern about any further reduction of cash assets by weaknesses in expense control. Executive Secretary Bob Akard had no business but to continue in depth discussions of assets erosions, his abhorrence to deficit spending, and Board responsibility for budget planning as the planners and spenders. After many exchanges ED Donnell asked it be tabled until budget is called as a topic. BX Officer Bill Cassatt gave his progress of implementing computerizing inventory control, and explanation of new purchases and successes in convention and mail sales. His remarkable work was applauded by the Board.

Director of Membership Walt McLain reported the statistical facts on declining and present membership. He gave the numbers on expiring memberships for Jan. 2013, average expected new members, drop outs each year, and expected dues. Sgt-at-Arm Al Dumont was elected but was not present due to family crises. Susie Twedt was appointed as the Association Historian, replacing Gene Sheridan. Director of Information Gen. Gerry Prather had no formal report. At this point ED Doug Donnell resumed his agenda with the continuance of budget discussions. Following a member by member discussion, he then concluded that was no appreciable reduction of spending availing today for the current need for the membership. He proposed and gained approval for the ABOSLUTE development of hard numbers in Knoxville that will budget spending within income. We then had a brain storming session on methods to obtain and retain membership. Among those were special recognition of Continuing Contributors as Life Members and selling of limited selective advertisements in our semi-annual Communicators. The Board meeting was then declared closed until Sept. 19, 2013 in Knoxville.



Missed Roll Call

(Since the June 2012 Communicator)

Basla, Barbara, Mrs. Michael

Beers, Rex H.

Bobroff, Allen

Carpenter, John C.

Dempsey, "Gracie", Mrs. Derrel

Duncan, William B.

Dunn, Gordon E.

Franklin, William A.

Giddings, Glenn

Gillis, Richard T. "Dick"

Gilstrap, Marcus

Hendricks, Richard

Hooper, Norbert R. "Bob"

Lynch, Robert W.

Jackson, Donald W.

Gray, Walter D. Major - KIA

Richardson, Harry W.

Rutkowski, Edward

Sanders, Hugh

Schofield, Paul

Schweers, Albin H. Brig. Gen



The Chaplain's Corner

Refuse to fall down.

**If you cannot refuse to fall down,
refuse to stay down.**

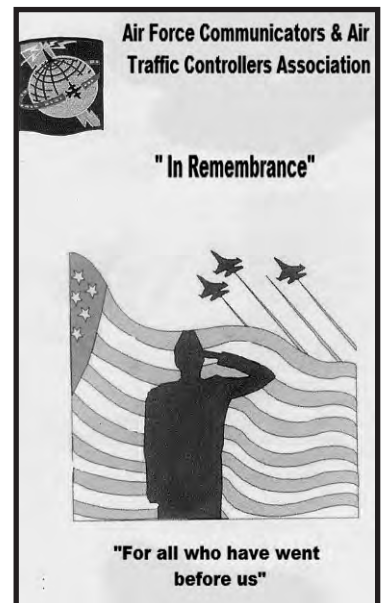
**If you cannot refuse to stay down
lift your heart toward heaven
and like a hungry beggar,
ask that it be filled,
and it will be filled.**

**You may be pushed down.
You may be kept from rising.
But no one can keep you
from lifting your heart
toward heaven -
only you.**

**It is in the midst of misery
that so much becomes clear.
The one who says nothing good
came of this,
is not yet listening.**



refuse to fall down - clarissa pinkola estés



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR REPORT (November 2012)



We have gained 21 new members since 1 April 2012. Our current active membership stands at 1654. 52 members have renewed since 1 April 2012. As of 9 October 2012 we have 177 whose dues will expire in 2012. Since Jan 2011 our membership has decreased from 1880 to 1654. This decrease of 226 members was caused primarily by dues expirations.

Please check the address label on your latest Communicator to see when your dues expire. (i.e. 12-(first name) indicates dues expire 31 Dec 12. Some will show e.g. 1012 - (first name) which indicates 31 October 2012 expiration.) In order to receive your June 2013 Communicator you must renew by 1 April 2013. 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**

RECRUIT - RECRUIT - RECRUIT

Applications are available in each Communicator, on our web site and from Walt McLain by calling 865-690-0479 or emailing requests to aacsmbrship@comcast.net

RENEW - RENEW - RENEW

**Walt McLain
Director for Membership**

TREASURERS REPORT (as of June 30, 2012)



Cash in Banks:

AFCOMMATC Checking Acct	\$36,516.53
Publisher's Account (TN Bank)	\$ 171.46

Cash Totals: \$36,687.99

Equipment Book Value:

\$ 514.98

Equipment Totals: \$ 514.98

Certificates of Deposit:

6099 \$11,483.75 Maturity Date 12/05/2012

CD Totals (1): \$11,483.75

Grand Totals: \$48,686.72

The Bank of Georgia continues to be an excellent choice for the organization, because there are no account maintenance fees and the transactions are unlimited. My goal for the immediate future is to invest in CDs to continue to grow the membership funds. I would like to also thank those members that submitted donations directly to the organization during the reunion! I received a total of \$450 in cash donations, not including the 50/50 earnings/donations nor the quilt raffle earnings. The organization appreciates all that you do!!! Keep it Up!

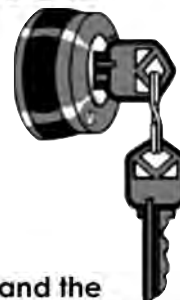
Cindy Allison, Treasurer

NOTICE – NOTICE – NOTICE –NOTICE - NOTICE

The Password was **CHANGED** !!!!!

on 14 JANUARY 2011

“ YOU NEED THE PASSWORD TO ACCESS THE
WEB SITE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER & COMMUNICATORS”



The AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association's posts the “Communicators” and the Membership Roster on our WEB SITE. The Communicators & Roster formats 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 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 “de-facto” internet standard and that the Adobe Reader program can be downloaded free. We have Communicators archived on the web site starting in June 2006. The November 2006 issue is **not** available.

READ AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOWNLOADING.
(Remember to RIGHT Click to get the “SAVE TO Menu”)

SUGGEST before you start, you may want to FIRST create a folder on your hard drive and name it “Membership Roster” and/or “Communicators”. When you are inputting the downloading instructions, name the file “Membership Roster” and/or “Communicator” and then download to the folder you have created...this way, each time you download the roster or communicator, it will ask you if you want to replace the existing file....the answer is YES. This will save disk space and only store the current roster/communicator on your computer (unless you want to save multiple copies).

WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAIL COMMUNICATORS TO ALL MEMBERS, UNLESS YOU NOTIFY WALT MCLAIN (aacsmbrship@comcast.net) or HANK SAUER (diraacs@comcast.net) to remove your name from the mailing list. It takes up to 30 days for Communicators to be delivered after the initial mailing. We announce putting up new issues of the Communicator on our web site GUEST BOOK before they are mailed in May and November.

If you have any problems getting to these files, contact Hank Sauer at DirAACS@comcast.net



I asked my wife if old men wear boxers or briefs?
She said Depends.

www.pmcaregivers.com/Humor.htm

Robert (Bob) Mead's 1st 30 days Overseas ?

I departed New York by Troop Ship at the end of August 1946 for Germany. We landed in Bremerhaven, Germany the beginning of September. We got on a troop train that had a broken window and we boarded it up. It was a 3rd class car so we had fun !! It took us 2 days to get to Furstenfelldbruck AB, just outside of Munich. We stayed there 3 days and boarded a train for Paris. We spent the night in Paris and the next morning we left for Rome, Italy. We arrived in Rome just in time to go to bed. The next morning we left for Naples that had an AACCS replacement depot. We stayed in Naples for two weeks before we got on a C-47 to Casablanca, Morocco which was the AACCS Hq for the area. We stayed there for a couple of days and flew to Algeria. The Air Base was near a village called Maison Blanche (it is now the International Airport, about 25 miles from downtown, Algiers).



Bob and Lidya - 1946

A 6X6 went into town each night and brought girls back to out base club. Our AACCS outfit consisted of about 33 troops, our CO was a Lt Alpine and we had a Staff Sgt, but the rest of us were "P-ONS". The Casbah was in Algiers, which I visited often (You must have heard the old saying, "Take me back to the Casbah). This was a pretty nice tour of duty that lasted about 6 months until they closed the air base in early April 1947. We said good bye to the "Girls" and got on an AACCS B-17 and flew to Germany (Faulbeuren) which was another AACCS replacement depot. We just sat around and waited for an assignment. I was assigned to Munich Riem Airport about the time the Berlin Airlift started. I was assigned to the 1972nd AACCS Squadron and in April 1949 they formed the 1812th AACCS Group there to support the airlift bases. I rotated in November 1951 and was assigned to the 1917th AACCS Sq, Westover AFB, MA.



Bob Mead - 1946

**THIS IS MY STORY AND
CAN YOU TOP THE 1ST 30
DAYS OVERSEAS ?**



Roommate & Bob



Ham Report for November 2011

It has been decided that due to the lack of interest in Ham activities and low attendance, the "Ham Room" has been discontinued. If attendance is up, a table will be set aside for the hams in the Hospitality Room.

The Board of Directors voted to delete the requirement for a Ham Room at conventions/reunions. We will continue to publish the radio frequencies until we know that there is no activity on the net.

There is currently no "Ham Coordinator" to coordinate activities. If you want to volunteer, contact Dough Donnell, Executive Director.

73'S FROM ALL THE HAMS AACS ALUMNI RADIO NET SCHEDULES

BAND	FREQ	UTC TIME*	LOCAL TIME	DAY
National SSB				
20 M	14.287 mhz	1930/2030 hrs	1430 CST/ST	Wed/Fri
National CW				
20 M	14.061 mhz	1700/1800 hrs	1200 CDT/ST	Sat
East Cost SSB				
40 M	7.230 mhz	1330/1430 hrs	0930 EDT/ST	Tues/Thur
West Coast SSB				
40 M	7.235 mhz	1700/1800 hrs	1000/PDT/St	M/W/F

Notes:

- Local times remain but UTC time changes

There is no Ham coordinator available at the present time. Volunteer's should contact the Executive Director.

An unusual GCA Save

Hank,

I see a couple of letters in the Communicator from pilots thanking GCA for an approach in bad weather. I thought that you might be interested in an approach where the pilot never knew that he was helped by GCA.

In 1956 I was a radar repairman stationed with the 1274th AACS Squadron at Dreux AFB in France. We were operational from 0800 hours to 2400 hours except if there was an emergency request where we would contact the radar officer and wake up an operator. Normally we used the time from Midnight to 0800 for routine maintenance. We would often have time to just sit and talk. We usually had the tower frequencies on the radio. One night at around 0300 there was a call from a pilot who had lost his navigational equipment. He was requesting an ADF (Auto-Radio Direction Finding) approach. I looked at the screen and could see the plane flying the emergency triangular pattern. I could see that the plane was well beyond the ADF range. Windy, the control tower operator tried a couple of times to locate the plane but was unsuccessful. I quickly called the tower and told Windy that I had the plane on the scope and gave him the location. He gave the pilot commands as if it were an ADF approach and between us brought the plane into the base. Later, the pilot told the tower that this was the Best ADF approach he had ever made.

Chris Miller

(Host 2007 Convention/Reunion, Las Vegas, NV)

EDITOR-PUBLISHER REPORT

THE COST OF THE JUNE 2012 AF COMM & ATC ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATOR

Printing, labeling, shipping (2,075 copies).....	\$2,989.40
Layout/Draft/Conversion.....	700.00
P.O. Bulk Mail charges (approx 2004 mailed).....	810.59
Overseas Mail & New or Renewals	23.00

TOTAL: \$4,522.99

It cost the Association approximately \$2.18 per-copy to publish and mail the JUNE 2012 Communicator.

Remaining balance in PO Account: **\$ 56.21**
Remaining balance in Editors Bank Account: **\$187.96**

NOTE: Monthly reports for the Editors Bank Account are submitted to the Treasurer & audited by the Chair of the Fiscal Management & Budget Committee,

The Web Site averages approximately **125 - 150** hits per-day. Since the web site was posted, there have been over **309,000** hits. The web Site 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.

REMEMBER YOU CAN NOW READ THE CURRENT "COMMUNICATORS" ON OUR WEB SITE (WWW.AFCOMMATC.ORG) AND SOME PAST ISSUES. YOU MUST USE THE PASSWORD TO ACCESS THE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER AND THE COMMUNICATORS. THE PASSWORD IS "mpn1aacs"

PLEASE KEEP YOUR STORIES AND PHOTOS COMING. THEY ARE WHAT MAKE THE COMMUNICATOR A "MEMBERS" PUBLICATION. SEND YOUR STORIES AND PICTURES EARLY. If we can't get your stories/pictures in one issue, we will keep them for the next issue. In fairness to all members, we use a "first in-first published" policy. After scanning (into a hard drive) any pictures you send, we will return them if requested. You do not have to have copies made. I will forward to Lori Manske all articles and pictures sent to me that may have WEB SITE requirements.

Send stories and pictures to me Not Later Than: 1 April and 15 October of each year. But the earlier, the better, as the page limit is reached early.

Hank Sauer
Editor/Publisher
Email: DirAACS@comcast.net
Snail Mail: 111 Carson Lane, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

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)

Still have not heard from the person who sent me the following pictures.

However Rene' Fredette, rjfredette@verizon.net has provided some of the names in the Class Picture: He remembers the 3 on the far left, standing; The one on the far left is Herman Jurgensen, the one with the pipe; Alexander Mc Ewan and the 3rd man may be Joseph GrafMuller.

**Top Row L to R
Garner-Cunningham-Davis-Langston**



**We now 2
versions of
the names ?
Who is right ?**



**Moser-VanDyke-Kern-Pommier
Front Row - Same**

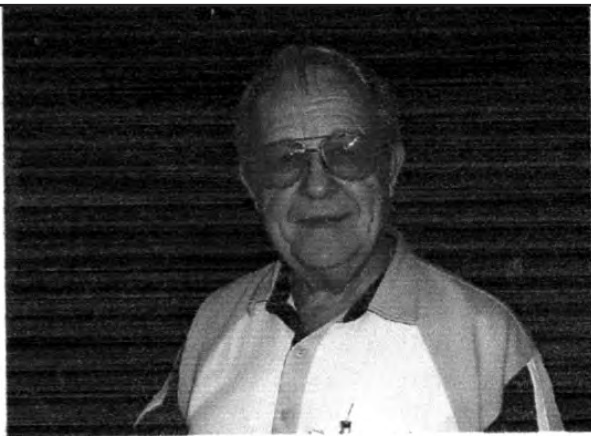
Class Picture:

**1st Row, 4th from left (seated) Rene' Fredette
2nd Row, 4th from left; Jurgensen; Keenen Not in original picture is in the 3rd
Row, 2nd from the left; 3rd Row, 4th from left Joseph GrafMuller & Mc Ewan
(who had the pipe in the original picture) is in the 3rd Row, on the far right.**

Rene' Fredette at Keesler - 1956

Fredette with some of the troops in the pictures on page 18





Edward Rutkowski 81

AACS



**A Young Bobby Garcia at RAF Station
Wethersfield, England. (1966 ?)**

AACS—AFCS—AFCC Pennsylvania Group

Members of the Pennsylvania AACS mini reunion group
Will mourn the passing of our good friend and leader
Edward Rutkowski of DuBois Pa. .

Every year we held our own little reunion in Dubois Pa.

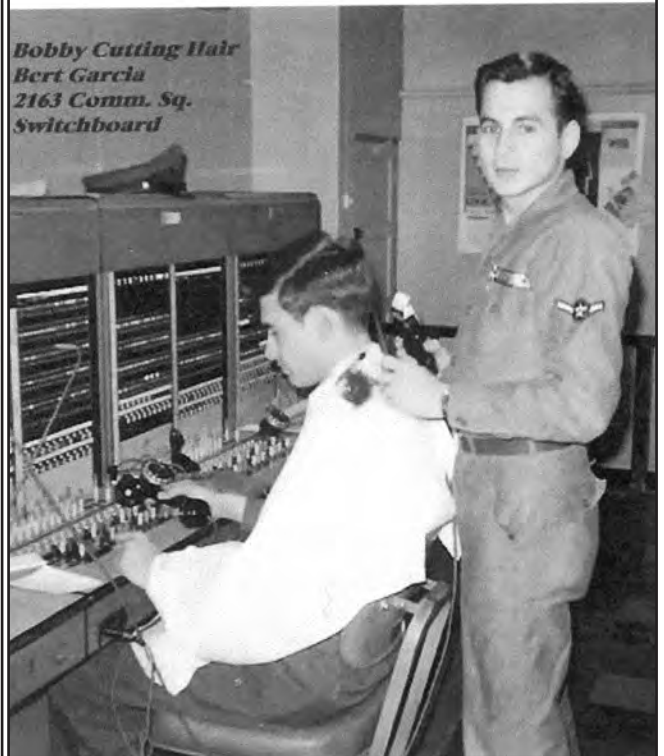
This Reunion was in no way competition to the
National Organization .

Many who could not travel to some of the National's
Choices for "their reunion" enjoyed this three day event
in Dubois . If some one in Pennsylvania wants to assume
his position and, pickup where he left off

The position is open" with all reference information
available to continue on .

Presently we have no leader and the position is open.

So Long Good Friend
R. Wilson



NEW ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

At the Annual 2012 General Business Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, we re-elected, elected and/or appointed the following individuals to the positions indicated:

- Jerry Sonnenberg** - **Vice Director**
- Gerald Prather** - **Director for Information**
- Al Dumont** - **Sergeant-at-Arms**
- Susan "Susie" Twedt** - **Historian**

The Board of Directors and our membership thank Bill Bethea and Gene Sheridan for all the years they served as the Sgt-at-Arms and our Historian. They did a great job and we owe them a big "Well Done".

**Years of Election
For Board of Directors**

<u>Position</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR				X*	
VICE DIRECTOR	X		X		X
EXECUTIVE SEC		X		X	
DIRECTOR FOR INFO	X		X		X
SERGEANT AT ARMS	X		X		X
TREASURER	INDEFINITE TERM OF OFFICE				
DIRECTOR FOR MEMBERSHIP	"				
EDITOR/PUBLISHER	"				

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

The indefinite terms for the Treasurer, Dir For Membership and the Editor/Publisher are indefinite once formally elected. The 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 view the Policy of the Board of Directors Nominating Committee (Copy is posted on the www.afcommatc.org web site) or obtain a copy from the Executive Secretary. Also on the web site are the Position Descriptions for each position and the qualifications required. All nominations must go through the Chair of the Nominating committee and be submitted **Not Later Than June 30th 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.

Donations Since June Communicator:

**Rotolo, Feingold, Sells, John & Helen Jean, John & Mildred Hunt,
Hank Sauer, Forrester, Richard Anderson, Jim Weber, Bill Hammond,
Gen Prather , Unknown Donor**

**The Life Blood of the Air Force Communicators
and Air Traffic Control Association
Maintaining Membership Numbers:
New Members Important Renewals are Critical**

If we are to maintain this association members must pay attention to membership expiration dates and renew their memberships in a timely manner.

Since our soul source of income is membership dues and donations by members, renewals and new members' dues are critical to the continued operation of the organization. The web site and the Communicator are solely supported by this income.

Please pay close attention to your membership expiration dates and renew in a timely manner. Your expiration date is indicated on your membership card and on the address label of your Communicator. On the membership card the expiration date is shown in the lower right hand corner as month/year (i.e. 11/2012) on the address label it will be shown in the following formats:

**Year 12-First Name, Last Name
 Address
 City, State, Zip Code**

Or:

**Month/Year 1112-First Name, Last Name
 Address
 City, State, Zip Code**

Or:

**Life Member LM-First Name, Last Name
 Address
 City, State, Zip Code**

If you are due to renew in 2012 please do so by 1 April 2013 to insure that you receive your June 2013 Communicator which will contain the 2013 Convention Information.

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

**Walt McLain, Director for Membership, Air Force Communicators
and Air Traffic Control Association**

"America- Paradise Lost"

How many times have we heard people say, "This is not the America in which I grew up." David Gergen, an advisor to both Democrat and Republican Presidents agrees, "Those of us who are older - born close to midcentury - grew up in an America where there was a general consensus that the United States was a great nation, that you could be a success if you worked hard and played by the rules, that government had a positive role to play when trouble hit, and that politics must stop at the water's edge as we united against dangerous enemies" But, the tumultuous events of the 1960's and 1970's played a role in the collapse of that common purpose and America became a fractured nation. There are now those who would divide the nation politically, divide it through class warfare, divide it racially; and even attempt to divide it by making comparisons about women who work and those who are stay-at-home-moms. Home grown terrorists kill for the sake of killing, drug traffic rises, political correctness prevails over common sense, young people drive the streets at night looking for someone to beat up just for the thrill, those whom we entrust our children too often abuse these children, moral values seem not to matter, those in Washington spend millions of dollars of tax payers money for fun and games as if it were their own, American history is being lost, and many of those in the nation's capitol and around the country wish to change America and make it more like many of the socialist countries of Europe, and the list goes on. This not the America many of us grew up in.

The Founding Fathers never expected the United States of America to be a utopia. They framed the Constitution "in order to form a more perfect union, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote general welfare and receive the Blessings of Liberty." No doubt, that in 1789 there were disputes as to how this could come about, but, today the divisiveness has grown to such proportions that the nation is on the path to disaster and an American way of life that so many fought and died to preserve is in the balance.

Few nations fear the might of America despite its' superior military power. Our military is being continually being downsized to where it could become a paper tiger. The claim of Defense Secretary, Leon Panetta, that we can adequately handle world crisis and defend this nation with a smaller military is suspect. America is \$16 Trillion dollars in debt which threatens our national security, entitlement programs are on the way to bankruptcy, and there are those in Washington from the President on down who want to spend more, borrow more and tax more. Many of those in the seats of power think more about reelection than they do the welfare of the country. David Gergen suggests that our fractured government is a reflection of our society, "Perhaps we give too little attention to the basic notion that our politicians are also a reflection of the public they represent. As the old saying goes, we get the president we deserve - and usually the Congress, too."

Bill Bradley, former U.S. Senator from New Jersey, goes much further with a strong indictment of those running the government, "People are tired of being taken for granted. They yearn for leaders who will level with them, not pander to them. There is a difference between a leader and a celebrity. People are tired of seeing money interests raiding the U.S. Treasury in collusion with members of Congress (and their staff), who when they leave office are employed as lobbyists by the very industries whose interests they promoted in Congress. Only the people can free our government from the clutches of those interests, or the future will be hijacked by a combination of greed, self indulgence and excuse making. The government will no longer belong to the people, and the people will suffer."

Remember the words of Abraham Lincoln, America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedom it will be because we destroyed ourselves.

Carl J. Asszony NJVETERAN30@Gmail.com

AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2013



Executive Director
Doug Donnell



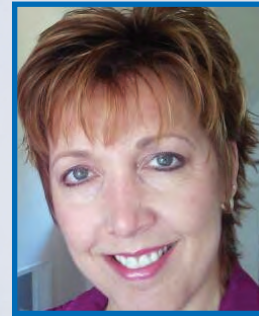
Vice Director
Jerry Sonnenberg



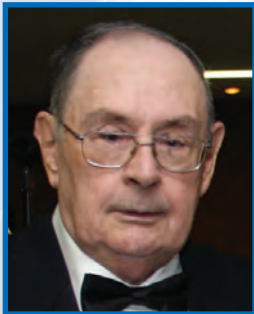
Director for Information
Gerry Prather



Executive Secretary
Bob Akard



Treasurer
Cindy Allison



Editor/Publisher
Hank Sauer



Director for Membership
Walt McLain



Sgt-at-Arms
Al Dumont

LAUGHLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Texas

Laughlin AFB pays tribute to a former Team XL member by renaming a street in his honor during a retreat ceremony held at Laughlin's Heritage Park Sept. 7, 2012

The street, formally known as Street" in reference to retired dedication to Laughlin and the Del his career accomplishments, when when we look at what he does done," said Col. Tom Murphy, 47th makes a difference in the life of everyone he meets."



Freedom Way, was changed to "Prather Maj. Gen. Gerald Prather for his Rio community. "As we look back over we talk with those who know him best, every day, it is what he has always Flying Training Wing commander. "He makes a difference in the life of everyone he meets."

Prather, who was commissioned and earned his wings at Laughlin in 1956, served 32 years in the Air Force beginning as a pilot. He flew more than 500 combat support missions and ended his career as the assistant chief of staff, information systems, Headquarters U.S. Air Force before retiring and returning to Del Rio where he continues to serve the community.

Since returning, Prather has served as Justice of the Peace, County Planner for Val Verde County, President and life time director of the Del Rio Chamber of Commerce, Chairman and President of the United Way and District President of the Boy Scouts of America.

"I've enjoyed helping protect the people of Laughlin and the city of Del Rio," Prather said.

"These are my people, my town and my base. That'll never change."

In attendance were his 13 children and grandchildren amongst many Laughlin and Del Rio leaders and friends. "I'm so glad you are honoring this man because he has done so much for the community, and I'm honored to even be invited to the event," said Jeanne Roe, avid Military Affairs Association member and owner of Robert's Jeweler.

Prather is now one of 77 people to have a street or building named after them while still alive in the Air Force's 64 year history. The street named for him, which has had more than 15,000 pilots walk down it, will remain a lasting legacy, said Murphy.

"Prather Street may only be 747 feet long, but I assure you," said Murphy, "General Prather's legacy will go on forever here at Laughlin Air Force Base."



F-84



F-100



B-52



C-130

**WHAT YOU MISSED AT SAN ANTONIO.
36TH ANNUAL CONVENTION/REUNION**

**St. Anthony's Riverwalk Hotel
September 19-23, 2012**

All had a great time...

2012 Inductees to the "Hall of Honor"

Maj General Dale Meyerrose

Brig General Bruce Bohn

Brig General Larry Dilda

General Farman Golf Champion - Bill Bethea

Ladies Champion - Mary Aagesen

The Thomas F. Buckley Service Award

John Flaherty & Julie Braun

The "Landosky" Quilt - Charles Doering

See what you missed in the photos to follow...

Plan on coming to the 2013 Annual Convention/Reunion

"The HOLIDAY INN Downtown Hotel"

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE (Sept 18 - 22, 2013)

Hosts: Hank Sauer & Bob Akard

Come & meet old friends and make new ones...

See the Web Site WWW.AFCOMMATC.ORG for a preview of KNOXVILLE attractions and for REGISTRATION FORMS in April 2013 and full details in the June 2013 Communicator.

"Fellowship in the Company of Equals"



**Maj General
Susanne Vautrinot
Commander 24th AF**



**2012 "Thomas F. Buckley" Award
For SERVICE**



**The Laster family accepting the
"Comm/Info Pro of the Year - 2012" for
SrA Laster**



**Brig Gen (R) Dilda
Hall of Honor - 2012**









The Croughton Cheer Leaders ??









'Anytime, Anywhere!' 3rd Herd leaves its mark on Air Force history

by Lt. Col. John Smail
3rd Combat Communications Group deputy commander

5/30/2012 - TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. -- The unit shield is unmistakable, a sword intersected with four lightning bolts and the words "Live by the Sword" emblazoned underneath.

When the mantra "Anytime, Anywhere" is exclaimed by 721 combat communicators, it motivates every occupant in any auditorium, parade field or convention hall. The 3rd Combat Communications Group (CCG), affectionately known as the "3rd Herd," has lived by, and lived up to, these slogans for almost six decades as the one of the premier combat communications units in the Air Force.

Now, a new chapter in Air Force combat communications is being written as the service aligns and transforms its deployable communications capability with Air Force core competencies and capabilities required by a new defense strategy and constrained by a new fiscal environment. By prioritizing readiness over force structure, the Air Force announced in March 2012 that it will inactivate one of its two active duty combat communications groups, the 3rd CCG effective June 2013.

The Air Force will transform its ability to employ combat communications by posturing to seamlessly extend cyberspace, provide robust network operations and deliver resilient defense-in-depth to counter adversaries. Ultimately, the changes will result in a lighter, leaner, and more capable combat communications force to support homeland defense operations, humanitarian support missions and overseas contingency operations.

While a bitter sweet event to the many warriors who have passed through this storied unit, the Air Force will continue to provide excellent combat communications through its other active duty combat comm units, the 5th combat Communications Group, or the "5th Mob" located at Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, the 1st Combat Communications Squadron in Germany, and the 644th Combat Communications Squadron in Guam.

Since its inception, the 3rd Herd has continually supported theater and combatant commanders with deployable communications and systems. During the early part of its existence, air traffic control services were a significant portion of the group's mission/capability. As the expansion and importance of modern communications and networks progressed, the emphasis of the group moved toward providing core communications services and connectivity to the Global Information Grid in a deployed environment. Irrespective of the technology employed, personnel and equipment from the 3rd CCG have been on standby for immediate deployment for more than five decades. They have stood ready to deploy experts in networks, telephony, radio, satellite communications, radar, navigation systems, air traffic control, vehicle maintenance/operations, logistics, power production, and heating, ventilation, and cooling.

The men and women of the 3rd Herd have distinguished themselves in every major military conflict and humanitarian operation the United States has been involved in since the 1950s ... from operations in Vietnam to closing the final bases in Iraq during OPERATION NEW DAWN. While inactivating and leaving the responsibility of providing world-class combat communications and deployable air traffic control and landing systems services to the remaining combat communications units, it is appropriate to recognize some of the historic achievements of the 3rd Herd during the past 55 years of service to our nation.

ORIGINS:

Varying opinions abound on the true origins of the 3rd Herd--some say that the unit can trace its roots back to the 3rd Airways and Air Communications Mobile Squadron that was established at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. on Dec. 1, 1952. The official record shows the true lineage is tied to the 3rd Communications Group, established on May 16, 1957 and activated on July 8, 1957 at South Ruislip, England, with the mission to provide communications services to 3rd Air Force. The 1960s saw

continuous fluctuations in the U.S. Air Force presence in the United Kingdom which eventually resulted in the inactivation of the unit on July 1, 1962. The 3rd was then reactivated and redesignated the 3rd Mobile Communications Group on May 20, 1964 and assigned to Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. on July 1, 1964. The disagreement on the 3rd's true origins stems from the July 1, 1964 inactivation of the 3rd Mobile Communications Squadron; some of the personnel transferred to the 3rd Mobile Communications Group while the actual unit lineage did not transfer. After several other designations, the group became the 3rd Combat Communications Group on Oct 1, 1986.

HISTORY:

Herdsmen have deployed across the world to provide communications support to numerous military contingencies including Operation URGENT FURY (Grenada), Operation EAGLE LOOK (Southwest Asia), Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM (Southwest Asia), Operation SOUTHERN WATCH (Southwest Asia), Operation DESERT CALM (Southwest Asia), Operation DESERT FOCUS/STRIKE (Southwest Asia), Operation PROVIDE COMFORT/NORTHERN WATCH (Turkey), Operation RESTORE HOPE (Somalia), Operation UPHOLD DEMOCRACY (Haiti), Operation PROVIDE PROMISE/DENY FLIGHT (Italy, Croatia) and Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR/GUARD (Bosnia, Italy, Croatia), Operation NEW HORIZONS (Peru), Operation ENDURING FREEDOM (Afghanistan), and Operation IRAQI FREEDOM (Iraq), and Operation NEW DAWN (Iraq).

Initial operations were critical to the cold war strategy of containment and supporting 3rd Air Force in Europe as the backstop against the Soviet Union. As the unit transitioned to Tinker Air Force Base, the mission evolved to deploy in the U.S. or abroad to support combat and humanitarian operations or provide emergency restoration of services.

By 1967, military use of satellites became a reality. In November 1968, under a project entitled the Initial Defense Communications Satellite Program, the then 3rd Mobile Communications Group proved the feasibility of the first mobile ground satellite communications terminal a capability which combat communications units cannot operate without today. Located at Clark Air Base, Philippine Islands, the terminal (AN/TSC-54) had a broad reception and transmission range and was symbiotic with the global nature of the group. In the years to follow, the 3rd would become experts on deployable satellite terminals and employ various types and sizes to provide command and control, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities that have become integral to the way the Air Force conducts operations.

During Vietnam, the 3rd assisted the Republic of Vietnam Air Force in developing a command and control system at Tan Son Nhat Air Base and fielded the required communications networks to support it. Called the Tactical Air Control System, the system handled the flow of aircraft from take-off to target area, and return to the base it was launched from, assuring positive control of all areas where significant combat operations were performed. In fact, the TACS facilities were located in close proximity to both the VNAF and USAF forces in South Vietnam, enabling commanders of both to utilize its capabilities. Without this system, it would not have been possible to deploy forces effectively where needed.

After Vietnam, combat communications, and the rest of the Air Force, went through a period of reduced operations and deployments. However, the cold war was still ongoing and the U.S. would once again call upon the 3rd CCG. In 1983, the government of Grenada, with assistance from Cuba and the Soviet Union, established another communist stronghold in the western hemisphere. Following the execution of Grenada's self-proclaimed prime minister, President Ronald Reagan feared that the 1,000 U.S. citizens on the island were in danger and ordered OPERATION URGENT FURY in October 1983. The 3rd Herd rapidly responded and deployed to Grenada, providing satellite and intra-base radio communications to the Airlift Control Center at Point Salines Airport during the rescue operation. Although there were many successes and the support the 3rd CCG provided was stellar, inter-service communications suffered and were highlighted to the U.S. Congress that more attention was needed to improve joint operations in future engagements.

In 1990, the 3rd Herd deployed to the sands of Saudi Arabia and Oman during OPERATIONS DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. The group provided the full range of ATCALS and communications across the theater as the U.S. quickly deployed more than 500,000 Airmen to Southwest Asia. Establishing one of the two major satellite communications hubs in Thumrait, Oman, the 31st Combat Communications Squadron proved critical to ensuring one of the most complex contingency network architectures ever built succeeded in connecting the flying wings to the air operations center and delivering the air tasking order, critical to synchronizing complex air combat operations.

The 3rd CCG's motto is "Anytime, Anywhere" and over the years the group provided support to

numerous humanitarian operations--delivering critical communications and civil engineering when and where its country needed it. Deployments have included support for tornado recovery, hurricane cleanup, the 1980 Mt. Saint Helens volcano eruption, and even avalanche recovery operations in Alaska. Closer to home, the 3rd Herd supported Oklahoma City after the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building when one of their own, Airmen 1st Class Cartney McRaven of the 32nd Combat Comm Squadron, lost her life during the tragic terrorist attack. As always, the unit quickly responded and provided critical power, radio, and life support to rescue operations.

One of the most far-reaching humanitarian operations occurred in August 2005, when the 31st Combat Communications Squadron responded for Hurricane Katrina disaster relief operations. In the period immediately following one of the most devastating hurricanes, the 3rd Herd embarked on a grueling 36-hour convoy to New Orleans' Louis Armstrong International Airport. There, the 3rd CCG provided the 4th Air Expeditionary Group with vital command and control communications that enabled the rapid restoration of law and order in New Orleans as well as the rescue and evacuation of hurricane victims.

In 2003, the 3rd Herd comprised some of the first forces into Iraq at the beginning of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. Hundreds of 3rd Herders provided the initial communications and air traffic control radars immediately following the invasion in 2003, including bases that would become hubs to the long-term operations such as Baghdad International Airport (Camp Sather). Eventually, the 3rd CCG provided a continuous presence through Ali and Kirkuk Airbases to provide predictability, stability and better service during the long-term commitment.

As the 3rd Herd were there at the beginning of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, it was only fitting that they would be there at the end of OPERATION NEW DAWN. The 3rd CCG, as well as its sister group the 5th CCG, provided "last out" communications to the last remaining air bases in Iraq, providing an orderly transition to the Iraqi government.

Finally, any discussion of the 3rd Herd would be incomplete without mentioning its ever-present mascot. In 1986, Colonel Buford "Randy" Witt was sent to reinvigorate combat communications and move it forward. Among the many improvements he made, one of the most enduring was the new pride and purpose in this very important mission. The 3rd CCG's mascot at the time was an owl and, although proud and wise, it did not reflect the tenacity and toughness required of a combat communicator. In order to shape the culture and improve esprit de corps the mascot was changed to a bull to coincide with the Oklahoma community that the 3rd CCG was part of. In recognition of the leadership that general Witt provided, the bull was named "Buford" and sits prominently in front of the headquarters building. Most importantly, the 3rd CCG took on the nickname of the "Herd" and this is how most people refer to the group today.

This proud group's accomplishments are reflected on its guidon, bending under the weight of 18 combat and unit awards earned over a distinguished history. In addition, the unit produced several general officers from its ranks, such as retired **Maj. Gen. Dale Meyerrose, retired Brig. Gen. Buford Witt, retired Brig. Gen. Daniel Dinkins, retired Brig. Gen. David Cotton, Brig. Gen. Gregory Brundidge, the current USEUCOM/J6, and Brig. Gen. David Uhrich, the current Air Combat Command Director of Communications.**

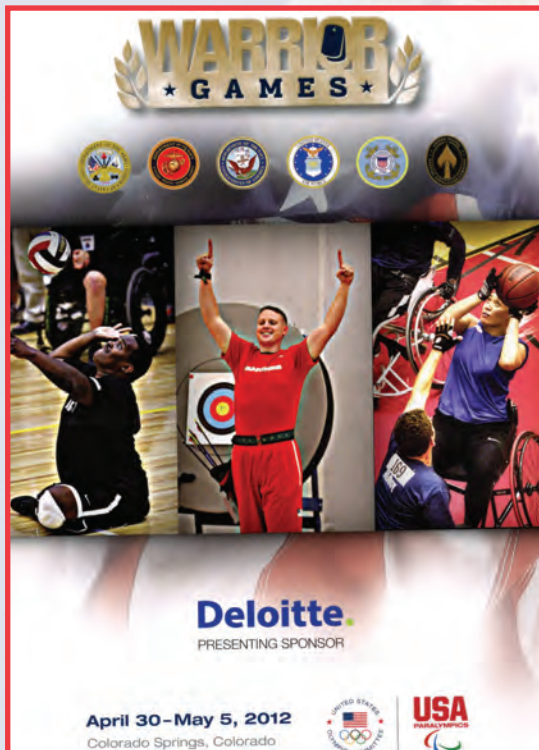
From 1957 to 2012, the 3rd Herd has provided excellent communications and air traffic control services in defense of our nation. The group has enabled the Air Force to provide global reach and global strike through its expeditionary forces. Although the Herd is inactivating, the spirit, camaraderie, and excellence will live on through its former members' past, and those yet to serve. From the activation of communications sites in a hostile combat zone to local humanitarian support, the Herd has performed its missions flawlessly. Everyday Airmen performing tasks, ready to go anytime, anywhere - that is the Herd legacy.



2012 Wounded Warriors Olympics

Joe Duffy, Bill Bethea & Hank Sauer were privileged to attend the games at the Air Force Academy April 30 - May 5, 2012. Joe & Bill were volunteers and your editor was a spectator (I filled out the volunteer form wrong).

Lt. General Harry Raduege's firm "Deloitte" was the "Presenting Sponsor" It proved to be an event all of us will remember for a long time. There were no "Warriors" who gave up, they made us all proud to have been part of our Military Community.



Air Force Academy
Golf Course - May 2012

Bill Bethea Jim Duffy Hank Sauer Joe Duffy



Lt. General Basla & Friend



Lt. General Mike Basla
Cheering the AF Team

2012 Wounded Warriors Continued...



Surprise Presentation in the PENTAGON

On May 4, 2012, Marine, Robert Cox (who is Don's grandson) surprised ex-Air Force 29150 and Clerk for the Base Comm Complex, 1876th Comm Sq, Tan Son Nhut, AB, RVN, 1968/1969 with the presentation of a Shadow Box by Major General Earl Matthews (an Association Life Member), in the Pentagon. Paul Blood, was the organizer of this surprise event. This was a complete surprise and Don's first visit ever to the Pentagon and the DC area. During Don's assignment in the 1876th he worked for Hank Sauer and the OICs Colonels (then Captains) Bob Gibson and Jack Higgins.



Maj. General Matthews
Presenting "Don Chrisy"
a Shadow Box



Camel Back Hotel, Scottsdale, Arizona
Mini reunion 1876 Comm Sq - 2004

Earl Place Jack Higgins Bob Gibson
LTC Carson
Don - Hank Sauer

Attendees at the 2012 Annual Convention/Reunion

Aagesen, Ed
Aagesen, Mary
Agan, Andres
Akard, Bob
Allison, Cindy
Anderson, Gene
Anderson, Richard
Asbill Jr., Morris W
Asbill, Jackie
Bernier, Sheila
Babyak, Dave
Bacchieri, Roger
Bacchieri, Edie
Bennett, William
Benson, Sherman
Best, Willie
Bernier, Sheila
Betha, Bill
Betha, Pauline
Billy, Phyllis
Blackburn, Tom
Blackburn, Nikki
Bordeaux, Debbie
Bottoms, Jean
Brace, Richard
Brace, Jean
Braun, Julie
Cassatt, William
Collie, George
Collie, Eleanor
Dabrow, Kenneth
Dalton, Kathy
Dennehy, Timothy
Dilda, Larry
Dilda, Mike
Dillon, Jesse
Doering, Charles
Donnell, Douglass
Donnell, Francie
Domenico, Ann
Doyle, Claude
Doyle, Flossie
Duffy, Joseph
Casias, Isabel
Earl, Gerald
Earl, Elizabeth
Eldridge, Jack
Eldridge, Marilyn
Eledge, Arlene
Elwell, Rex
Elwell, Margaret
Farmer, James
Feibelman, Jay
Feibelman, Nancy
Finleon, Michael
Flaherty, John
Forrester, Richard
French, Raymond
French, Barbara
Garcia, Robert
Garcia, Barbara
Giles, James
Giles, Larry
Giles, Julie
Giles, Jacob
Giles, Lauren Rose

Goldberg, Edward
Gran, Greg
Gran, Sandy
Groce, Chet
Groce, Rhoda
Guignard, Bob
Guignard, Barb
Gunn, David
Gunn, Elizabeth
Hamm, Lester
Hammett, Bill
Heister, Larry
Heister, Zoe
Honor guard
Hoyt, George
Hoyt, Gloria
Hunt, John J.
Hunt, Mildred
Hunter, Michael
Hyche, Chris
Jean, John
Jean, Helen
Johnston, Gerald
Kania, Gilbert
Kania, Eileen
Kirkpatrick, Craig
Kirkpatrick, Elaine
Kolterman, Thomas
Kolterman, Nell
Korynta, James A
Korynta, Mai-Lin
Kovach, David
Kovach, Cheryl
Lampe, George
Lampe, Pam
Landosky, Norma
Landosky, Virginia
Laster, Johnny Sr.
Laster, Terrell
Laster, Mikal
Mace, Karl
Mace, Clara
Maluda, John
Maluda, Kitty
Marchant, Gerald
Marchant, Regina
McAlum, Gary
McCracken, Mac
McCracken, Germaine
McLain, Walt
McLain, Carolyn
Mead, Robert
Miller, Larry
Moreiko-Gagen, Janet
Gagen, Tom
Morey, Alton A
Niezgoda, Joe
Niezgoda, Barbara
Nobrega, Americo
Parcenu, Byron
Parcenu, Janet
Petty, Larry
Petty, Mary
Phillips, Stan
Phillips, Jo-Ann
Phillips, Debbie

Pickering, Robert
Pickering, Irene
Plant, Ralph (Ed)
Poirier, Bill
Poirier, Leslie
Prather, Gerald
Pristash, John
Quezada, Rafael
Raduege, Harry
Raduege, Julee
Rainey, Ephrain
Rainey, Rita
Rattell, Glenn
Rausch, Emily
Rowden-Rattell, April
Reid, Rick
Reid, Maggie
Rausch, Emily
Reiff, Ken
Reiff, Linda
Robinson, Bill
Robinson, Sandy
Robinson, James W
Rossman, Michael
Rossman, Barbara
Sauer, Hank
Schaab, John
Schaab, Janice
Seeks, Donald
Seel, Bud
Seel, Mary Ann
Snyder, Robert
Snyder, PA
Sonnenberg, Gerald
Sonnenberg, Denise
Southwest Winds,
Spivey, Emerson
Spivey, Olive
Stevens, Steve
Stevens, Dorie
Stewart, William
Strand, Doug
Strand, Vivian
Sutton, James
Sutton, Yoko
Sweeney, Steven
Sweeney, Meg
Travis, Richard
Twedt, Susan
Vautrinot, Suzanne
Keller, Bill
Weber, James
Weber, Frances
Welch, Paul
Welch, Rebecca
Whited, Jennie
Wilson, David
Wilson, Petra
Witt, Buford (Randy)
Witt, Margaret (Peggy)
Wray, Matthew J
Wray, Mary Kay

Emerson P. Whaley

Emerson P. "Pete" Whaley called last night ... Pete used to be a control tower operator at King One Eight. He arrived there in mid 1952 and I hadn't talked to him face-to-face or on the phone since 1953.

Pete's last email to me was on April 21, 2008. He went "off the air" about the time his wife died. Hadn't heard from him since and then right after Ray Buday called last night ... here comes Pete's call ... a bolt from the blue ... what a pleasant surprise!

Our acquaintance at K-18 ... 59 years ago ... was brief but long enough for him to teach me a few things about my new job. For now let me say that I owe him a lot ... he says I don't ... I think I do. The last time I talked to him over the telephone was also 59 years ago. His advice to me in that phone call, from his tent during my first shift in the tower at K-18, probably saved the lives what was left of an Invader crew ... a midwatch (00001 to 06001) ... very low ceiling with one engine feathered. The pilot was hit ... as I remember he was dead ... this is bad since the B-26 only carried one pilot ... the navigator in his right seat was driving. Pete advised me to turn on the ceiling light ... a searchlight ... and tell the pilot to spiral down. This advice came after "nav" had missed two approaches. I think the application of power woke up the whole base including Pete since I vaguely remember one phrase from the conversation ... 'we're trying to sleep down here' or something similar.

The wreckage remained relatively intact ... and all but the pilot walked away. The AC&W guys, up on the hill, probably led the plane through the dark to K-18, as they did for many. I wonder if any of the pilots ever tipped their hats to those guys ... they were good ... I kinda suspect they were just taken for granted ... Pete and I talked for a long time ... he told of his 26 years of service ... mostly in the USAF ... two tours in Vietnam ... his life in the country near Nacona, TX ... his dog with which he walks a lot and how he used to fish a lot. He retired in 1975 ... enlisted in 1951 ... had some earlier time in the Guard after he fibbed about his age ... his Guard unit discharged him (under age) when they were ordered to Korea at the start of the war.

He also said at K-18 he spent a lot of time with the USN guys at FASRON-11 ... they had a TBM Avenger ... they called it "The Turkey" and it was flown by a CPO. Pete was invited by the chief to fly up to Wonsan harbor ... an island emergency strip behind enemy lines to pick up a downed pilot. The chief said it was just a milk run. Pete couldn't find Lt. Roy Lane our detachment commander (DETCO) to obtain permission. Not being able to find Lt. Lane Pete went on the "milk run" to the island anyway.

Unknown to Pete ... the enemy had a huge railroad gun pointed at the strip on the island ... a beach ... when any plane landed they rolled out the gun and fired one round then rolled it back into the tunnel. Our cruisers laid for this gun but as far as I know they never got it.

The Seabees had constructed revetments near the strip and all aircraft were placed in one ... the enemy couldn't tell which one ... a shell game ... everyone took cover until the round was fired and work resumed. Bill Leisher, FASRON-11, filled me in on this. Pete's welcoming "round" hit near the Avenger and peppered it good. Pete told the chief he'd be court-martialed if he missed his upcoming shift in the tower and off they went in a wounded "Turkey". Pete remembers they had gear problems approaching K-18 but got down OK. Bill says he remembered seeing the "battle damage" holes in the airplane.

Pete says he still remembers Lt. Lane's "words" when he learned about this "milk run".

Needless to say we talked a lot ... about K-18 ... our youth and subsequent life. All-in-all July 17, 2012 was a great day for me ... Pete and Ray called ... Ray's gonna be OK after losing his home to the Colorado Springs forest fire; and Emerson P. Whaley is back in the fold ... The "Nats" won with a homerun in the bottom of the 11th and my daughter-in-law celebrated her birthday in Ocean City, MD and I remembered it in time to get her a card before she gets back. After I made my plans to attend AirVenture 2012 (Oshkosh) ... got an invitation from DoD 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee. They are having a ceremony at Arlington on July 27th. The purpose is to remember the 59th Anniversary of the signing of the Korean War Armistice ... and our "heroes". I'm flying back home early from Oshkosh and plan to be there. I'll take some pictures and share what I can with you. I'll be thinking of those that have gone on ... before us ...

Jim Davis, USAF 1952 - 1956 - CAA/FAA 1956 - 1990



K-18 Kangnung

Our crew believes that we made the first 'Blue Tail Fly' in spite of what one of the CAGs claims!



Me on Yodo Island, Wonsan Harbour, to work on a downed AD-4. It had to be taken off by ship--big bullet hole through one of the engine cases.



The teachers and children from a Kangnung orphanage that we supported by donations and scrap aircraft parts that could be melted down as scrap aluminum



Some "stats" from our History

The Growth of AACCS to AFCC (52 years)

The growth of AACCS to AFCC from 1938 to 1990 was significant in the evolution of modern communications and air traffic control systems in addition to the US response to the "Cold War".

1938 AACCS - 199 assigned personnel, which was 0.9% of the AF.
1990 AFCC - 55,659 assigned personnel, which was 6.9% of the AF

"NOTICE"

Help support the "AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association"

"Donations" to help support the Association, will be gratefully accepted. Because of the aging membership of our WWII, Berlin Airlift and Korean Veterans, coupled with the loss of Air Force Communications & Air Traffic Control Command/Unit integrity, our membership will continue to dwindle. We want to pass on to our younger and new members an "Association" that will be a viable organization when it's their time, and one that will provide them with the same fellowship and comradely that we have enjoyed since 1977. If you care to give, only give what you can afford. Other than the names of those who donate, no dollar amounts will be published and all donations are IRS Tax-deductible as authorized by the IRS.

*****cut out and mail*****

Full NAME: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Amount Donated:

\$25_____, \$50_____, \$75_____, \$100_____ Other \$_____

Do you want a Tax Donation Receipt: yes_____no_____

Please make checks out to: **AF COMM & ATC ASSOC.** and mail to:

Cindy Allison
691 Lawshe Road
Senoia, GA 30276

Thank you in advance for any donations.

CHRISTMAS 1969 - PLEIKU RVN

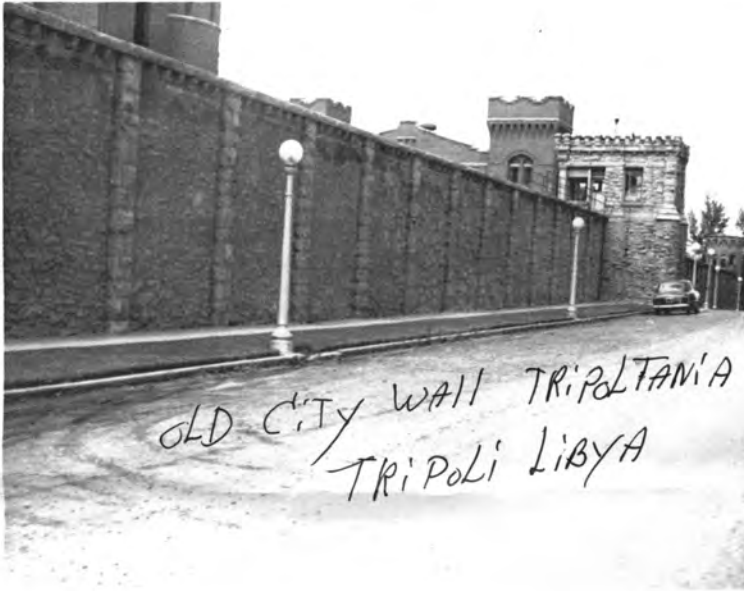
Seated: left to right: S/Sgt Snyder, Sgt Bob Petersen and S/Sgt Patterson; Standing Sgt Szakel (sp) S/Sgt Barry Hall and an unnamed guest. Photographed by S/Sgt Ansley Stevens



**Can you identify anyone ? if so, contact:
Robert Petersen at robertpetersen09@gmail.com**



Don Sherlock's early days at Tripoli (49/50)



OLD CITY WALL TRIPOLI
TRIPOLI LIBYA



TRIPOLI



CHAPEL AT Wheelus



RENO RUSSELL 1950th AAS
DOES ANY ONE KNOW OF HIS WHERE ABOUTS



TOM POWERS
1950th AAS



AL MCKAY
← TTY Mech.
1950th AAS



BROWN
1950th AAS

**Articles in the "Communicators" do reach lots of people !!
Edwin L. Mallard had Itr published in 2000 & got results!!**

He Won The Toss?

T. V. Carlson, Publisher:

As time goes by, and it sure does, we would all love to renew some of our old acquaintances. However, time is against us — especially us of World War II. To my wife's dismay, but to my benefit, I happen to be a collector and I saved our AACCS Newsletters. So one cold lonely winter's night I started to go over them, and lo and behold, there were a few of my Canton Island buddies. (June 1994 issue). How I missed them I'll never know. They were sent in by Bill Hoffer with no names — I remembered few as indicated.

I arrived on Canton (known as the One Tree Island) in 1943 and spent 14 months listening to Goonie Birds and crabs crawling over the coral. Thank God we had a great bunch of guys there. We had a landing strip, a Direction Finder Station, a point-to-point radio station, Radio Range, etc. I was a radio mechanic. I remember the liner, the President Taylor, went aground there after being chased by submarines. We borrowed the ice reefer off it and built a "Day" room around it. We hooked up copper tubing and a compressor and turned it on and froze every can of beer solid. When I returned to Hickam (we were in the 145th) I was put in charge of the radio shack and had to service our 10 to 12 planes. In one or more of the issues someone discussed an AACCS plane crashing. I recall one of ours crashed off of Guam. I cannot forget it because I had to assign the radio operators and two guys wanted the trip because on the way back they were stopping at Suva (a well known R & R). Well, as you realize, the ones who won the toss went down with the plane.

I'd like to hear from some of the 145th, even though our ranks are thinning; there are a few left.

Edwin Mallard
58 Cleveland St.
Arlington, MA 02474
E-Mail: Cleve3434@AOL.com



AACS B-25 Down Near Rota

A friend of mine, Joe Welch, loaned me his June 1999 AACCS Alumni Newsletter. On page 22 an article by Edwin Mallard titled "He Won The Toss" caught my eye.

I was in the 145th AACCS Sq as a pilot. Flying a B-25H (a one pilot plane), I took off from Guam bound for Okinawa on 6 April 1945 and went down at sea by the Jap held island of Rota. Lost my navigator, Lt. Miller and radio operator Cpl. Svedik (sp).

Does this have anything to do with Mr. Mallard's article about a 145th Sq plane going down or did another 145th Sq plane, other than mine, go down near Guam?

Robert W. Jeffrey
247 176th Terrace Dr
Redington Shores, FL 33706

Ed. Note: Anyone care to comment on this or write to Mr. Jeffrey?

July 20, 2000

Dear Edwin Mallard:

Your article in the June 1999 AACCS Newsletter was brought to my attention by Robert Jeffrey's note in the June 2000 newsletter: "AACCS B25 Down Near Rota."

I responded to Mr. Jeffrey's article. My military history includes being the administrative inspector for the 40th Group and 7th AACCS Wing. I took many trips with Lt Jeffrey in a B25.

You mentioned several points of interest in your "He Won the Toss" article. I too was assigned to the 145th. In early 1944 or late 1943 I was the first sergeant for a brief period. Among my other duties I would meet all the AACCS personnel when they first came to Hickam Field. It was sort of an orientation meeting.

If my memory isn't playing tricks on me, we, the inspection team were on Canton sometime late in 1944. It was 1944 when AACCS moved into the Air Inspector business. We hit every island checking Direction Finders, and other AACCS functions. All trips were by B25.

I was on Guam when the B25 went down. We lost the radio operator and the navigator. I can't recall their names.

Although the 145th was a unit of over 1,000 men, I feel that somewhere along the AACCS trail you and I met. It may have been at Hickam or Canton.

You fellows on those lonely islands have never received the recognition you rightly deserve.

Wishing you good health and happiness, I am,

Fondly yours,

Harry Robert Kerr

"THE ACTIVE DUTY AIR FORCE PAGE"

"Background"



In 2004, the AACS Alumni Association voted to change our Constitution to authorize Air Force Communications, Information, Cyber, Air Traffic Controllers, Maintenance and Support personnel (Officers, Airman and Civilians) who *have served or are now serving* in any Air Force Major Command (including Joint/Specified Commands, to become members of the AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association (Formerly the AACS Alumni Association).

The changes in eligibility were predicated on ensuring the perpetuity of the Association as the growing age of the current 2,000 plus members average age is now over 74, with a significant number of them being WWII veterans. The age factor was a major concern in maintaining a viable Association for the long-term and to provide an Association such as ours, to those individuals now serving in the Air Force. The AACS Alumni Association was formed in 1977 to provide a forum for those who served, to meet on an annual basis to renew friendships and make new ones and to stay abreast of the changes in the Air Force. That goal continues with the AF Comm & ATC Association.

We have coordinated with the senior Air Force leadership and have added local base Comm and ATC units to "The Communicator" distribution list for the June and November issues we publish. We are going to devote up to four (4) pages of each issue to stories and photos of active duty activities (based on input) and we solicit your stories and photos of interest.

In simple terms we "is" communicators (in the broadest terms) & air traffic controllers. The term "Communications" or "Communicators" includes all operational, maintenance and administrative skills.

Each year at our annual convention, we present the Maj. General Doubleday Enlisted ATC Manager of the year and the Maj. General Prather Communications/Information Professional of the Year awards. Active duty Communications and Air Traffic Control functions select the Airman to be honored each year. In 2011, SSgt Ira Begley of Kapaun AS, Germany was selected as the Communications/Information Professional of the Year. SMSgt Janice Planten of RAF Station Mildenhall was selected as the Enlisted ATC Manager of the Year.

The AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association (formerly the "AACS Alumni Association") **WELCOMES** all our new Air Force active duty "readers" and hopes that you will enjoy our official publication and take part in this great Association, who continues to maintain a close relationship with our active duty brethren. It has been our custom for many years that if our annual convention/reunion is being held in a city close to an Air Force Base, we invite as our guests for the Banquet, members of the local communications and air traffic control units. It is our custom to have an Active Duty Air Traffic Controller provide a "State of Air Force Air Traffic Control" presentation and the Senior Air Staff Communications/Information Leadership to provide a "State of Air Force Communications/Information" presentation. Stories and photos for "The Communicator" should be forwarded to: Hank Sauer, 111 Carson Lane, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 or email DirAACS@Comcast.net (phone: 865-482-3013), NOT LATER THAN APRIL 1st AND OCTOBER 15th of each year.

Visit the AACS Web Site: www.afcommatc.org

*******WE WANT COMM & ATC PHOTOS FROM THOSE SERVING TODAY*******
Email Photos and captions to Hank Sauer DirAACS@comcast.net today

"Fellowship in the Company of Equals"

Rome 1945

#3

Jim McClellan's early Days ! Rome, Italy (1945 ?)



O. O. Form No. 7360
(Approved Dec. 7, 1942)
(Old Q. M. C. Form No. 228)

23 March, 1945.
(Date of issue)

132nd
AACS
(Operator's signature)

I CERTIFY THAT S/Sgt. James S. McClellan,
(Name and rank)

has demonstrated proficiency in driving (par. 16, A/R 850-15)
the types of vehicles listed below as per signed authentication.

TYPE VEHICLE	AUTHENTICATION (Signed by a commissioned officer)
Car, halftrack	
Car, passenger	X DP
Motorcycle	
Tank, heavy	
Tank, light	
Tank, medium	
Tractor	
Truck-tractor (semitrailer)	
Trucks, cargo, 1/4-3/4-ton	X DP
Trucks, cargo, 1 1/2-2 1/2-ton	
Trucks, cargo, 4-ton and larger	Daniel Peikin
Trucks, amphibian (all)	DANIEL PEIKIN,
Vehicle, wheeled, combat	1st Lt., Air Corps, Det. Transp. Officer.
Special	

ENLISTED PASS
1419 AAF BASE UNIT
No. 1080
EURDATC 117th AACS SQDN DET 702

This is to certify that S/Sgt
(Rank)
JAMES S. McCLELLAN 19098852
(Name) (ASN)

Is a member of this Command and is authorized to circulate
in the ROME Area at any time off duty hours.
BY ORDER OF LT. COL. JOHNSTON

(Valid Until)
J. McClellan Capt Charles H. Marley
(Signature of Holder) (Unit Commander)



REPRODUCTION PLATOON, 901st ENGINEER CP HQ CO

ARMY EXCHANGE SERVICE RATION CARD G No. 30775

EVERY WEER	GOOD IN MTOUSA	EVERY TWO WEEKS
Bee	8	Candy, packages 4
Smoking Ration	8	Soap, toilet 4
Candy Bar 5	8	Blades, razor 4
Candy Rolls 5c	8	Soap, laundry 4
Chewing Gum	8	Fruit, juice 4
Cookies, Crackers	8	Paste, pwd., tooth 4
Matches	8 7	Nuts 4
Soft Drinks	8 7	

EVERY FOUR WEEKS

No. From 23/5 To 10/7 Cream or soap shaving 2

Name JAMES S. McCLELLAN Tablet, writing 2

Organization 117th AACS SQ. DET Envelopes 2

Signature Capt Charles H. Marley Cleaners, pipe 2

Holder's Sign EVERY EIGHT WEEKS

Brush, tooth

Comb, pocket

Flints, wicks

Polish, shoe

May 14 ,2012

Mr. Hank Sauer
Editor/Publisher
111 Carson Ln.
Oak Ridge, Tn.37830

Dear Hank:

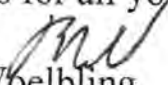
Always looking forward to your Mag.. I am now 91 as of March 30th this year, and this is the first time I have submitted any info.

The first Group Picture is from the Army Air Force Technical School at Truax Field, Madison Wisconsin. Picture taken April 13, 1943 of the Radio Operators/Mechanics School. We graduated May 16, 1943.

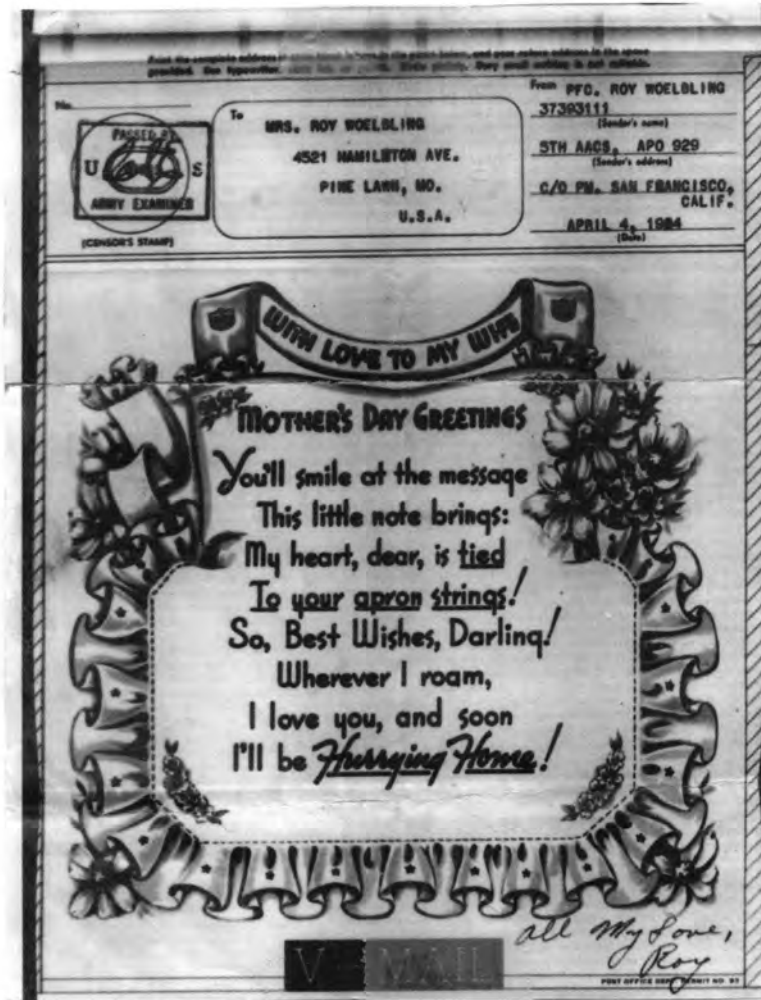
I was then shipped to ? Field, Boca Raton Florida for Radar Mechanics School Picture of Me Tim Fenical and Bob Boyer

I was then shipped overseas to Port Morsby New Guinea as Radio Mechanic with 5th AACS and later sent to Merauke Dutch New Guinea. Picture of V-Mail sent to my wife April 4, 1944 and a picture of my Java House Boy Lee and myself in Merauke.

Thanks for all you do.


Roy Wobelbling
62 Huntgate Dr.
St. Peters, Mo.63376
Rwebcol@charter.net

Roy Woelbling's Early Army AF Days 1943 - 1944



Roy - FENICAL - FSOYER



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS SINCE THE JUNE 2012 COMMUNICATOR

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
0414-JOHN	BACHMAN	419 LAKEVIEW DR	CROSSVILLE	TN	38558-7130
LM-LEROY	BARNETT	804 E. 11TH AVE	NEW SMYRNA BEACH	FL	32169
LM-GROVER	BROWN	17848 LOVERLY WAY	MONUMENT	CO	80132-2230
0614-ALBERT	CAMPEAS	1106 N MATTERHORN RD	PAYSON	AZ	85541-3836
LM-WILLIAM	CASSATT	612 W. HARDY ST	ST. JAMES	MO	65559
LM-DONALD	CHRISTY	7041 HORSEFLY LANE	NOBLE	OK	73068
0414-JAMES	DAVIES	364 ROLLING HILL RD	ELKINS PARK	PA	19027-1840
0714-CLAUDE	DOYLE JR	4845 MILL CREEK RD	HOT SPRINGS	AR	71901-3760
0815-JAMES	DUFFY	2850 N. ACADEMY BLVD ROOM 46	COLORADO SPRINGS	CO	80920
0614-RAYMOND	EHRLE	852 WOODMONT RD	ANNAPOLIS	MD	21401-6909
0614-BENJAMIN	ELMORE	THREE HYDE PARK RD	PENSACOLA	FL	32503
0514-WILLIAM	FERN	1315 MINNESOTA AVE	DETROIT LAKES	MN	56501-3913
LM-MICHAEL	FERRANTO	2200 15TH ST	DOUGLAS	AZ	85607-2504
0714-RICHARD	FISHER	501 REBECCA DR	O'FALLON	IL	62269-2840
0614-CHARLES	GARBARINO	68 TROPICANA DR	PUNTA GORDA	FL	33950-5070
0414-EDWARD	GOLDBERG	15140 W DAYBREAK	SURPRISE	AZ	85374-2046
0614-MERVIN	GOURGUES	58370 ISLAND DRIVE	PLAQUEMINE	LA	70764-7427
LM-GREGORY	GRAN	PO BOX 83	ANGELS CAMP	CA	95222-0083
LM-ROBERT	GRAVATT	180 PRESCOTT UNIT I	DEERFIELD BEACH	FL	33442-2048
LM-WALTER	GREENBERG	42035 VILLAGE 42	CAMARILLO	CA	93012
0414-ROGER	GUILBEAULT	7912 RUM CAY AVE	ORLANDO	FL	32822
0515-ALBERT	HAGGART	337 N. BENITO DRIVE	PUEBLO WEST	CO	81007-1181
0815-LESTER	HAMM	618 NETHERLANDS DRIVE	HERMITAGE	TN	37076-2315
LM-JOHN	JEAN	10360 E CALLE DESCANSO	TUCSON	AZ	857499198
0115-JAN	JOHNSON	1913 AUGUSTA BLVD	FAIRFIELD	OH	45014
1014-SIDNEY	KAUFMAN	8 GREENLEA DR	CLIFTON PARK	NY	12065-5706
0814-JAMES	LAUDIUCCI	2002 VOLLEY CT	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22308-1650
0614-SPURGEON	LILLY	8672 VALLEY DRIVE	WALDORF	MD	20603
0414-EDWIN	MALLARD	58 CLEVELAND ST	ARLINGTON	MA	02474-6916

LM-RAYMOND	MALONE	3754 WOODBROOK WAY	BEAVERCREEK	OH	45430-1628
0614-STANLEY	MC CONNELL	PO BOX 162	MAGAZINE	AR	72943
0514-JOVIAN (BART)	MC KINLEY	19049 SE KOKOMO LANE	JUPITER	FL	33458
1014-ROGER	MITCHELL	627 WHITEFIELD LANE	BOSSIER CITY	LA	71112-4277
0714-MICHAEL	NIEZGODA	4912 SYLVAN OAKS DRIVE	VALRICO	FL	33596-9213
0516-ROBERT	PAUL	5 HIGH MOWING RD	RINGOES	NJ	08551
LM-JOHN	PRISTASH JR	PO BX 303	CANYON	TX	79015-0303
0614-CHARLES	RANKE	1656 20TH AVE CT NE	HICKORY	NC	28601-2181
LM-GERALD	RICHARD	6685 SUFFIELD LANE	WARRENTON	VA	20187-7267
0414-TED	RONCZKOWSKI	7335 S THOMAS AVE	BRIDGEVIEW	IL	60455-1155
0914-MICHAEL	ROSSMAN	240 WEBER RD	GLADWIN	MI	48624-8541
0815-JOHN	SCHAAB	560 WOODINGTON DRIVE	LANCASTER	CA	93535-3808
0614-BERTRAM	SCHEID	4560 SHERWOOD FOREST DR.	DELRAY BEACH	FL	33445-3876
0913-DAVID	SHAFFER	3534 VIA VENTADA	ESCONDIDO	CA	92029-7716
0514-DON	SHERLOCK	1550 SOUTH 2ND ST, WEST #309	MISSOULA	MT	59801-8207
0614-ROLAND	SMITH SR	4415 SHAWHAN RD	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411
LM-GERALD	SONNENBERG	2305 COTSWOLD CIRCLE	BELLEVILLE	IL	62221
LM-FRANK	STAGNER	2694 FAIRFIELD COMMONS	CHICO	CA	95928-8410
0514-ROBERT	THACKERY	2601 E CRAWFORD ST APT 203	SALINA	KS	67401-3791
0714-NEAL	VANVALKENBURG	155 SHRINEWOOD DR	COLUMBUS	MS	39705-2788
0315-NORBERT	VASIL	1037 MYRTLE PLACE	SHARON	PA	16146
0514-ANDREW	VIRGILIO	26327 STILLWATER CIRCLE	PUNTA GORDA	FL	33955-4734
0614-JOHN	WATSON	1001 DOGWOOD DR	RAYMORE	MO	64083-9492

AACS



NEW MEMBERS SINCE THE JUNE 2012 COMMUNICATOR

DATE JOINED	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MI	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
08/07/2012	ASBILL JR	LM-MORRIS	W	PO BOX 71	LA GRANGE	TX	78945-0071
04/03/2012	BALL	LM-MICHAEL	J	1812 JOHNSON RD	PLYMOUTH MTNG	PA	19462-2540
06/26/2012	DANIELS	0614-ROBERT	E	2805 ROSCOMMON DR	TALLAHASSEE	FL	32309-3205
07/24/2012	KIRKPATRICK	0714-CRAIG	M	71 W. FAIRWAY DRIVE	ETOWAH	NC	28729-9769
06/22/2012	LIBBY	LM-JUSTIN		577 FAIRWAY DRIVE	INDIANAPOLIS	IN	46260
08/10/2012	LILLY	0814-ROBERT	C	19 PINE TREE RD	NEWCOMB	NY	12852
05/24/2012	LOPER	0514-ALBERT	R	3935 LISAS DR NW	MARIETTA	GA	30064
06/19/2012	MATNEY	0613-JOHN	R	P O BOX 432	GERONIMO	TX	78115-0432
07/05/2012	MENSCHER	0714-MICHAEL		8600 SHORE FRONT PKWY APT 3K	ROCKAWAY BEACH	NY	11693-2202
05/14/2012	MILLER	0514-MAJOR	A	2367 BENT TREE RD APT 2318	PALM HARBOR	FL	34683
08/20/2012	NALL	0814-ROY	E	225 CIMMARON CIRCLE	FOLSOM	CA	95630-2729
06/09/2012	PLANT	0614-RALPH (ED)	E	317 PALOVERDE LANE	FORT WORTH	TX	76112-1122
10/08/2102	RADUEGE	LM-CHAD	D	15541 PAMPLIN PIPE COURT	MANASSAS	VA	20112
10/11/2012	REIFF	1014-STEPHEN	P	9535 CLIFF CREEK	SAN ANTONIO	TX	78251
08/28/2012	ROBINSON	0814-BILL		9108 PERDERNALES RIO	HELOTES	TX	78023-4566
08/24/2012	ROGERS	0814-LABAN	A	210 LIBERTY DRIVE	EASLEY	SC	29640-3226
10/08/2012	SILVA	1014-RUDY		202 E HOUSTON ST #305	SAN ANTONIO	TX	78205
06/03/2012	SWEENEY	0614-MICHAEL		2937 CHANCEL AVE	CRESTVIEW	FL	32539
06/03/2012	SWEENEY	0614-JENA		2937 CHANCEL AVE	CRESTVIEW	FL	32539
10/08/2012	VAUTRINOT	LM-MG SUZANNE	M	1844 YOUNT CIRCLE	SAN ANTONIO	TX	78236
08/21/2012	VERRILL	0814-MICHAEL		120 CHAPARRAL CREEK DR	BOERNE	TX	78006
04/05/2012	WILSON	0414-KEITH		2718-2 CANTERBURY BLVD	FT WAYNE	IN	46835

AF COMMUNICATORS & AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

SEPTEMBER 23, 2012

TAX EXEMPT STATEMENT

This is to certify that _____ of the AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association, Inc., is a member in good standing and was an official delegate to a series of business meetings and communications and/or air traffic control seminars at the 2012 Annual Convention, from September 20 through September 23, 2012 at San Antonio, Texas.

The meetings and seminars were conducted by and for the AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association members for educational, social and humanitarian purposes and included the review and approval of charitable donations as authorized for charitable organizations under Section 501 (c) (19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1994. In addition, the delegates voted for individual members to fill Board of Director positions that were scheduled for mandatory elections and the Delegates also voted on Associations Constitution and By Law changes, and other administrative changes as required by the Constitution and By Laws. No goods or services were provided to the delegates.

S/T

Cindy Allison, Treasurer

AF COMM & ATC Association, Inc.

ID 501 (C) (19), Employee Nbr: 38-3053651

State of Michigan, ID 814649

Certified by: Executive Director

**IF REQUIRED, SIGNED COPIES OF THIS FORM SHOULD BE REQUESTED FROM
Cindy Allison, 691 Lawshe Rd, Senoia, GA 30276, afcommatctreasured@gmail.com**

NOTE: CORE DATES FOR THE CONVENTION WERE THURSDAY (9/20)-SUNDAY(9/23)

NOTE: Widows or Widowers of Life Members are Official Association Members.

Spouses of deceased members, who continue to pay annual dues are Official Association Members. All Members are responsible for complying with all IRS rules when submitting US TAX FORM 1040.

For use with itemized U.S Tax Form 1040 submissions IAW Current IRS PUBLICATIONS. Use the most current IRS rules for authorized deductions for:

Automobile Mileage plus road and bridge tolls, Meals, Motel/Hotel costs, Airfare, Rental car, parking, Convention registration and hotel gratuities. YOU MUST KEEP RECEIPTS FOR ALL EXPENTURES CLAIMED. You must be a member in good standing to claim any expenses.

.....

AF COMMUNICATORS & AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATION
(Formerly the AACCS Alumni Association)
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MAIL TO: Mr. Walt McLain, 4514 Haverty Dr., Knoxville, TN 37931-3657
Email: aacsmbship@comcast.net

Types of Membership

Life & Regular Membership is based on service (men and women) as a commissioned officer, warrant officer, non-commissioned officer, enlisted or civilian, who has served or is serving in any Air Force/ANG communications/information or air traffic control unit or holds or held a MOS, AFSC or other skill identifier as a communicator/information/cyber, space operations, air traffic controller, EI, or support skill in any Air Force Major Air Command (AACCS, ACS, AFCS, AFCC, AFC4A, AFCA, AFFSA, SAC, TAC, ADC, USAFSS MAC, etc., or the 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 Alumni Associations 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 **\$15.00** per-year, payable in **two-year (\$30.00)** increments.

Life Memberships are based on age:

To – 50 years of age = \$165
51 – 60 years of age = \$145
61 – 70 years of age = \$115
71 – ? Years if age = \$ 75

I AM A NEW MEMBER _____ A MEMBER MAKING A CHANGE IN MY PROFILE ONLY _____

(check one category of membership and make check out to "AF COMM & ATC ASSOC." if necessary.)

Life Membership ___ Regular ___ Associate ___ Total money enclosed: \$ _____ (pay regular & associate dues in 2 yr increments)

Date: _____ FIRST NAME: _____ MI _____ LAST NAME _____
SPOUSES FIRST NAME _____ HAM SIGN _____ EMAIL: _____

St. Address; _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ - _____ (9 digits)

Country: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Phone Number: _____ Date or year of Birth: _____ **(Important)**

UNIT(s) AND COMMAND(s) (For the Membership Roster – limited to approximately 3 units and 3 abbreviated Commands)

****DATES SERVED IN AF or Armed Forces:** _____ (44-46, 48-75, 50-54, 95-99 etc) **(IMPORTANT)**

ERA's Served: _____ (WWII, Korea, RVN, Gulf, Iraq, etc)

Service Status: Officer ___ Warrant ___ Enlisted ___ Civilian ___ Tech Rep ___ Other _____

How were you recruited: Members Name _____, Web Site _____.

Magazine _____ (provide name) or other _____

Combat area or Base: _____ Additional Comm/ATC units _____

What did you do or do in the AF: _____ e.g. Tower, GCA, Crypto, Information, Cyber, Space Operations, Radio/Radar/Crypto/Teletype Maintenance, Personnel, Commander, etc.)

NOTE: AACCS covers 1938-1961, AFCS covers 1961-1979, AFCC covers 1979-1993, AFC4A 1993-1996 AFCA 1996-2009, AFFSA covers 1993 to present. AFNIC 2009- Present. List other commands, agencies and/or numbered AF's as appropriate.

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

2013 REUNION – KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

WHEN

**September 18 – September 22, 2013
(Early check-in) - (Get-a-way breakfast)**

WHERE

**Holiday Inn Downtown
(At the 1982 Worlds Fair Site)**



**2013 Annual Convention/Reunion
Holiday Inn Downtown Knoxville, TN.
September 18-22, 2013**

**We were in Knoxville in 2001 (ten days after 9/11) and
had over 400 members and guests at the Banquet.**

**We had a great time in 2001 and will have an even
better time in 2013.**

*******PLAN NOW ON COMING*******

Hosts: Hank Sauer & Bob Akard

**Tour of sights in Knoxville - Riverboat Cruise -
Cherokee Casino – Smoky Mountain Tour & More
being planned now !!!**



**2014 Colorado Springs, CO Marriott Hotel
Hosts: Jim & Fran Weber**

**A sneak preview of the 2013 Convention/Reunion
In KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE.**

**Wednesday (early check-in) Sept 18th to
Sunday (get-away-breakfast) Sept 22rd**

The Holiday Inn Downtown Hotel (At the 1982 World Fair Site)

Hosts: HANK SAUER & BOB AKARD

KNOXVILLE TENNESSEE



WHY DO WE GO TO REUNION'S?

**"From all across the land we come, with just one thought in mind:
To share again the memories of the days we left behind.
Tis ten, or sixty years ago since we stood together at different places,
And said goodbye to friends we'd known in service, sweat and toll.
We are people, friends, and brothers of many different kinds;
But just for now we're veterans of this place and of another time.
Our friendships forged in danger and sometimes under fire,
The bond will last forever, explanation not required.
We will bow our heads in tribute to those not here today;
Those men whom we once knew as friends, who fell along the way.
Our ranks are growing thinner now, the passing years will tell;
We're brothers and we're veterans, who served our country well.
And so we meet, embrace and talk, and remember days of yore;
For there is just this deep desire to see our friends once more.
This may well be our last reunion, for some our last goodbye,
Till we meet again in heaven at the Knoxville Reunion in the SKY"
(Original author unknown)**



Proposal to Host a Convention/Reunion

For potential convention/reunion hosts, the following are some of the minimum things that must be considered in order to Host one the Associations annual conventions/reunions:

- 1 A location that has a number of attractions to offer the majority of our members.**
- 2 A major airport, easy Interstate access, golf courses, etc.**
- 3 A hotel that can book 125-175 rooms, can seat up to 300-350 for breakfast and banquet and the Annual General Meeting.**
- 4 Are there other association members locally that can assist the host.**
- 5 Potential hosts must be computer literate (you need minimum skills to enter and retrieve convention information)**

If a potential host feels that he/she can nominate a city that meets the above minimum requirements, he/she should contact the Executive Director (who is also the Chair of the Convention/Reunion Committee).

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

Name _____ Phone Nbr: () _____

Address _____

Email: _____

Quantity	Description	Total Cost
----------	-------------	------------

	AACS Logo Patch @ \$4.00	\$ _____
--	--------------------------	----------

(note: this patch has AACS, AFCS & AFCC EMBROIDED)

	Original AACS Pin @ \$5.00	_____
--	----------------------------	-------

	New: Old Blue Original AACS Patch @ \$6.00	_____
--	--	-------

	Deluxe AACS Embroidered Pin-on Patch @ \$8.00	_____
--	---	-------

NEW AFCOMMATC CHALLENGE COIN @ \$7.00 each

	Deluxe AFCOMMATC Embroidered Logo Hat @ \$12.00 (Blue Only)	_____
--	---	-------

	New White "T" Shirts with AACS Original Logo @ \$9.00	
	Lady sizes only: M _____ L _____ XL _____	

	AFCOMMATC Embroided Logo Golf Shirt BLUE @ \$28.00	_____
--	--	-------

	AFCOMMATC Embroided Logo Golf Shirt WHITE @ \$28.00	_____
--	---	-------

	AFCOMMATC Shirt Sizes: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____	_____
--	---	-------

	AFCOMMATC embroidered Wind Shirt (blue with gold trim) S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ @ \$20.00 ea	_____
--	---	-------

	AFCOMMATC Jacket (zipper) Sizes S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL @ \$30.00	_____
--	--	-------

**AACS ITEMS ARE GONE EXCEPT FOR THE PIN & PATCH
CLOTHING ITEMS WILL NOT BE RESTOCKED**

DONATIONS (Tax deductible within the limits of the law): Receipt Yes _____ No _____ \$ _____

DO YOU WANT A RECEIPT YES _____ NO _____

GRAND 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, wcassatt@centurytel.net

PX/BX ITEMS

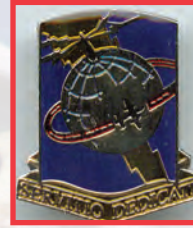
See PX/BX ORDER form on page 60 for prices, sizes and colors.

The AF Comm & ATC Wind Shirt is not shown, but it's the same as the AACS WS with a new patch.

New Challenge Coin



AACS PIN



AFComm/ATC HAT



AFCommATC SHIRT



AF CommATC SHIRT



Deluxe Patch



Original Patch



Command Patch



T-SHIRT



Blue Shirt



White Shirt



AF Comm & ATC Items Windshirts



NEW JACKET (W/Zipper)



A walk off by a "Pinch Hitter"

Maj. General Susanne "Zan" Vautrinot, Commander of 24th Air Force, Lackland AFB, Texas, filled in for our advertized guest speaker, Lt. General Mike Basla who had to cancel due to the loss of his wife. General Basla told us that General Vautrinot was an "AF Super Star" and would be a great speaker.



You had to be sitting there in the Ballroom of St. Anthony's Riverwalk Hotel in downtown San Antonio to appreciate her talk. The female guests in the audience were as tuned in as the military members to her talk about the transition from "when we served" to the present as "Cyberspace" was now an Air Force Mission element. General Vautrinot did not use any buzz words, no power point presentations, just some video (short shots) and talked with no notes. "She done Good" and showed why those that know her well, talk so highly of her. We were happy to meet her and to hear her talk. Many of our members asked "Can we get her back" (We will try, but she is a real busy General).

AA Tall ATC Tale !!



I was only at K-55 for about 60 days (March and April 1953) and its been a long time since 1953. Fox Roger may remember more about this subject. It seems that some of the tower operators were already thinking about girls. (surely the GCA guys wouldn't send for a pinup ... they expected pinups to write to them). I remember an 8 x 10 black and white photo similar to the one attached. Some poor soul had written to Dawn Addams and she'd sent him an autographed photo.

It was posted on the orderly room bulletin board near Captain Ivy's office. I barely noticed such things ... I was too busy trying to light a cigarettes off a

light gun bulb ... I wanted to learn how to smoke.

Jim Holtsclaw and Larry Fortier were too mission dedicated to think about girls too.

Jim Davis, Retired Government Clerk

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, AFFSA, other past & current Major Air Commands. To provide a forum for educational and humanitarian services, to renew & make new friendships and to exchange ideas of common interest concerning people and activities associated with Communications & 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/Airman/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 were in attendance, 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 & George Yunker, just to name a few.

This initial group established the high standards that continues to drive the AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association and we owe them and all the individuals who attended that first meeting/reunion, a great big "Thank You".

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association **(Formerly the AACS Alumni Association - 1977 - 2008)**

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)



"FELLOWSHIP IN THE COMPANY OF EQUALS"

AF COMM & ATC ASSOCIATION, INC.

R.P. Sauer - Editor/Publisher

111 Carson Lane

Oak Ridge, TN 37830

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Permit No. 189

Oak Ridge, TN 37830



QUESTION: Who or what are we? The AF Communicators & Air Traffic Controllers Association.

ANSWER: An Association that is comprised of approximately 2,000 members who began their service in the Army Air Corps and/or the Signal Corps before WWII and who served in the first dedicated communications element to provide communications and air traffic control as its primary mission and members who have served since then in any communications or air traffic control unit, including those serving today. This new Army Air Corps organization was formed in 1938 and was named the "Army Airways Communications System" (AACS). During WWII, it was renamed the "Air Communications Service" (ACS) and placed under the then "Air Transport Command" and within months was renamed once again as the "Airways and Air Communications Service" (AACS). In 1961, AACS was elevated to a Major Air Command and renamed "Air Force Communications Service" (AFCS). In 1979, the name was changed to Air Force Communications Command" (AFCC). In the early 1990's the Air Force was undergoing major reorganizations and realignment of functions and AFCC was downsized and renamed the "Air Force Command, Control, Communications & Computers Agency" (AFC4A) and shortly thereafter, was renamed the "Air Force Communications Agency" (AFCA). Also in the early 1990's, the Air Force created the "Air Force Flight Standards Agency" (AFFSA), and reassigned air traffic control responsibilities to this new Agency and to the Major Air Commands. In 2009, AFCA was renamed the "Air Force Network Integration Center" (AFNIC) and placed under the AF Space Command along with the newly created 24th Air Force (for Cyber functions). Over the years since the AACS Alumni Association was formed (1977) the membership criteria changed from individuals who only served in AACS units, to include all communicators/information/cyber/air traffic control, maintenance and support skills regardless of what Major or Joint Command an individual served in, including today's active duty personnel. All Honors & awards still reside with AFNIC.

The motto of "Fellowship in the Company of Equals" is more than just words, but the glue that holds us all together through the different decades. The Association is comprised of about 85% enlisted personnel and 15% officers, which includes many General Officers, both active and retired.



The Communicator
November 2012

"CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL TO SEE THE DATE and/or YEAR YOUR DUES EXPIRE"

It's the number before your first name. The Year "12" depicts an expiration date of December 31, 2012. You must renew by 1 April 2013 to receive the JUNE 2013 Communicator. Send dues to Walt McLain 4514 Haverty Drive, Knoxville, TN 37931 • Make check to AF Comm ATC Assn

