

# Generations Unite As Association Steps Off Smartly At 1st Annual Meeting In San Antonio

It was like the movie 'Field of Dreams,' only this was for real and nobody was a ghost. We formed an association, held a meeting, and they came.

There was Ben Scarpero, who began his military public affairs career in 1940; World War II guys like John Dillin from Florida and Reed Switzer; and those from the Korea and Vietnam eras and all the years in between, like Maston Jacks,

Dinny Dinsmore, Frank Barbara Holcum, and Mike Jennings, Ed Johnson, Jerry Gallagher – more than 80 Dalton, Gil Billings, C h u c k Saucier, George Jeck; Gil Whiteman; and Paul Heye; and those in the active force, like Linda Arnold, Joe Purka, and war stories swapped.

## **And Now A Word About Ted . . .**

You chose not to run for the board, but your work on the first board in establishing the Association will not be forgotten. Thank you Ted Daniel; you did a great job.

– Mike McRaney

Friday we crammed a week's activities into a day. The first stop was at the headquarters of Air Education and Training Command for a briefing by General Henry 'Butch' Viccellio, Jr. It was a real eye-opener—and the eyes opened wider the longer you were retired. The retiree issues and medical care briefings were

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**A-F** — Public Affairs —  
— Alumni Association —  
**News & Notes** Summer - Fall '94

## **History Project Under Way: Planning And Funding Oral History First Step**

The multi-phase History of Air Force Public Affairs project, one of the motions made and approved at the annual meeting, is under way.

John Gura, who is chairing the effort, is gathering information on what resources, techniques, and funding would be needed to initiate the first phase of the project. The first phase would be the compilation of an oral history.

Gura said that oral history is "a lot more than a bunch of people running around with tape recorders."

He pointed out that interviews must be well planned and executed and they must be transcribed accurately.

"What we want from the

oral history phase of the project is raw material that is a source for a variety of history applications.

"I've been in touch with the Air Force's history people at Maxwell, the Oral History Association, and the Southwest Oral History Association," Gura said. "They've provided tips and guidelines for establishing and operating an oral history project. If we're going to do this, we might as well start out right."

With proper organization and a comprehensive plan, Gura said it may be possible to get corporate sponsorship or government grants for the project.

Who will be interviewed is still to be determined,

and Gura is open to suggestions from members of the Association.

"We want to gather as much significant historical information and anecdotes as we can from the people who lived through the public affairs and broadcast milestones from decades ago right up to the present. We'll talk to the NCOs, the civilians, and the officers who were there before the opportunity slips away," Gura observed.

He expects to have a decision package that addresses what it will cost to initiate the oral history phase ready for the Association's board of directors meeting in September.

## **Reserve For SAF/PA-AFA Luncheon Now**

The annual SAF/PA-Air Force Association luncheon at the Sheraton Washington Hotel on Connecticut Avenue in the District of Columbia will be on September 12.

Following lunch, Colonel Ron Sconyers, the SAF/PA director, will provide an update on public affairs activities.

Special Events Chairman Larry Greer will ensure that all reservations that he receives by September 6 will be hand carried to SAF/PA to meet the hotel's deadline.

Payment by check of \$24 for each person attending must accompany the reservation. Phone reservations or payment at the door will not be accepted. Reservations, including the member's name and phone number, the names of guests, and a check made out to 'PA Alumni Fund' should be sent to:

**Larry Greer**

**3313 Mill Cross Court  
Oakton, VA 22124-1931**

The AFA-hosted reception in the Maryland suite will begin at 11:30 AM, lunch will follow at noon.

# We're Still Growing; 438 Members In The Association

## *Rallin Aars*

Dick Abel  
*Pete Alexandrakos*  
 Bill Anderson  
 Wayne Amann  
 Nick Apple  
 Jack Arnold  
 Linda Arnold  
 Terry Arnold  
 Don Atwater  
 Al Audick  
 Bill Austin  
 Don Aune  
 Geoff Baker  
 Larry Baker  
 Mick Baker  
 Bob Ballew  
 Art Barnes  
***Gil Billings***  
 Ken Blackshaw  
 Monty Bodington  
 Fred Bolinger  
 Ed Borden  
***Garry Bowers***  
 John Bradley  
***Len Brady***  
***Marv Braman***  
***Troy Brand***  
 Irv Breslauer  
 Jim Brickel  
 Charlie Brown  
 Guy Brown  
 William M. Brown  
 Don Brownlee  
 Judith Bruns  
 Bob Brus  
 Mike Burch  
 Don Burggrave  
 Hugh Burns  
 Neil Buttimer  
 Napoleon Byars  
 Queenie Byars  
 Jim Caldwell  
 Sterling Campbell  
 Bill Campbell  
 Joe Caraway  
 Ernie Carlton  
 Dick Cassin  
 Orley Caudill  
 Shirley Cavanaugh  
 Harry Cepura  
 Harry Childress  
 Arthur Clinchy  
 Kim Clow  
 Jane Coats  
 Al Cochrane  
 Dave Cole  
 Dick Cole  
 Bill Coleman  
 Tom Coleman  
 Dutch Collins  
 Lou Combs  
 John Conklin

Mike Conley

J. M. 'Mike' Connally  
 Chuck Cooper  
 Kris (Baker) Corbett  
 Wayne Corbett  
 John Corcoran  
 Kay Couch-Lopez  
 Tammy Cournoyer  
 Ray Crockett  
 Wayne Crumley  
 Mel Cummings  
 Katie Cutler  
 Jan Dalby  
***Jerry Dalton***  
 Ted Daniel  
 Chuck Davis  
 Carey Deckard  
***Art Dederick***  
 Al Defend  
 Bill Dempsey  
 Dennis Deutschl  
 John W. Dillin  
 Dinny Dinsmore  
 John Mark Donlon  
 A. L. Douthitt  
 Joe Draper  
 Wess duBrisk  
 John Duemmel  
 Janet 'Jan' Duchnowski  
 Scott Duncan  
 Allen Eakle  
 Bob Eberle  
 Bob Eby  
 Val Elbow  
 Rob Elsass  
 Ralph Evans  
***Ronald Everett***  
 Larry Farlow  
 Kirk Faryniasz  
 Jack Felch  
 John Felsher  
 Olive Felty  
 Bill Fendall  
 Jim Fillmore  
 Jack Fitzpatrick  
 Tom Fitzpatrick  
 Dottie Flanagan  
 Earl Flick  
 Bill Flower  
 Jack Forbes  
 Art Forster  
 June Forte  
 Don Foster  
 Mark Foutch  
 Chuck Fowler  
 J. R. Fowler  
 Bill Frensley  
 Ron Fuchs  
 Darlene Fuller  
 Richard 'Rick' Fuller  
 William 'Rick' Fuller  
 C. Gordon Furbish  
***Mike Gallagher***

## ***Eighth Air Force Center Seeks Memorabilia; Funds***

With veterans, civic leaders, and government officials looking on ground was broken July 1st on the outskirts of Savannah, Georgia, for 'The Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Center.' Savannah was where the Eighth Air Force was activated in January 1942. The 8th earned its niche in aviation history when it moved to England, where it grew into the largest air armada in history.

Retired Major General Lewis E. Lyle, commander of the 303rd and 379th Bombardment Groups, was one of many 8th veterans present. Construction officially began using a bulldozer to level dirt at the Heritage Center's 13-acre site. It is scheduled to open in April 1996.

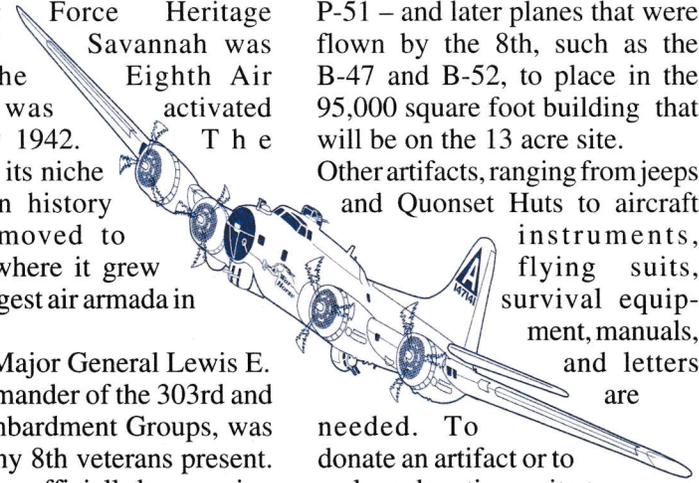
Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association member Wayne Corbett, who is head of public relations for the Center, said

"We need members, airplanes, memorabilia, and funds." The Center is looking for six World War II aircraft—B-17, B-24, B-26 Martin Marauder, P-47, P-38, P-51 – and later planes that were flown by the 8th, such as the B-47 and B-52, to place in the 95,000 square foot building that will be on the 13 acre site.

Other artifacts, ranging from jeeps and Quonset Huts to aircraft instruments, flying suits, survival equipment, manuals, and letters are

needed. To donate an artifact or to make a donation write to:

**Mighty Eighth  
 Air Force Heritage Center  
 P. O. Box 1992  
 Savannah, GA 31402  
 or call  
 1-800 421-9428**



Mike Gannon  
 Vince Gannon  
 Chet Gardner  
***Dave Garner***  
 John "Jan" Garvin  
***Fred Gebler***  
 Judith Gentile  
***Richard George***  
 Sam Giammo  
 Jack Giannini  
 Bob Gibson  
 Debbie Gill  
 Andrew Gilroy  
 C. V. Glines  
 Paul Goldberg  
 Al Goldsmith  
 Gary Gosdin  
 John O. Gray  
 Barry Greenberg  
***Bill Greener***  
 Larry Greer  
 Jack Gregory  
 Tammie Grevin  
***Ken Grine***

Bob Groom  
 Barry Grossman  
 Ron Gruchy  
***John Gulick***  
***John Gura***  
***Tom Halbert***  
 Gilbert Vinton Hallock  
 John Hancock  
 Susan 'Fred' Hankey  
 Bill Hansen  
 Lee Harris  
 Marv Harris  
 Fred Harrop  
 John Hartig  
***Jim Hart***  
 Al Hatcher  
 Jim Hathaway  
 Marty Hauser  
 Darrell Hayes  
 R. J. Hayes  
 Pete Hefler  
 Dick Heil  
 Mike Heininger  
 Bill Helmantoler

Terry Hemeyer  
 Jerry Hendrix  
 Bob Hermann  
 Paul Heye  
 Gerry Hickman  
 Don Hilkemeier  
 Kathy Hitt  
 Woody Hogle  
 Barbara Holcum  
 Doran Hopkins  
 George Howard  
 Steve Howell  
 Bill Hubbard  
 Will Humiston  
 Keri Humphrey-Clinard  
***Bob Hunter***  
***Harvey Inouye***  
 Maston Jacks  
 Lew Jackson  
***Doug Jacobsen***  
 Jim Jannette  
 George Jeck  
***Frank Jennings***  
 Stan Jensen

Ed Johnson  
 Chet Justice  
 Art Jungwirth  
 Dave Karten  
 Bruce Kates  
 C. B. Kelly  
 Julie Kelly  
 Dave Kendziora  
 John Kennedy  
 Bob Kenny  
**Doug Kennett**  
 Will Ketterson  
 Jamie Key  
 Hal Klee  
**Gaylord Knapp**  
 Glenn Knight  
 Dick Koch  
 Bill Kowalski  
 Steve Krant  
 Dave Kraus  
 Kevin Krejcarek  
 John Kuminecz  
 J. B. Kump  
 Phil Lacombe  
 Ben Langer  
 Ed Lansdale  
**Tom LaPolt**  
 Y. J. LaPorte  
 Sue Laramee-Wentzell  
 George Larriue  
 R. Monroe League  
 Eddie Lee  
 Rick Lehner  
 Theresa Lengenfelder  
**Samuel K. Lessey**  
 Paul Leveen  
 Bruce Lewis  
 Clay Leyser  
 Lynn Ligon  
 Ron Lindeke  
**Charles Linderman**  
 Matt Lipartiti  
 John Litten  
 Errol Loving  
 Chuck Lucas  
 Lynn Lucchetti  
 Don Macaluso  
 William Mack  
**Larry Macauley**  
**Lee MacDonald**  
 Dave MacNamee  
 Bill Madsen  
 Larry Malinowski  
 Pat Maloney  
 Nick Manocchio  
 Sam Martin  
 Art Mathison  
 Frank Maxwell  
 Dennis McClendon  
 Kathy McCollom  
 Bob McCullough  
 Art McConnell  
**Larry McCracken**  
 Kim McDonald

Philip McGeoghan  
 Mynda McGuire  
**Mike McRaney**  
 Sherry Medders  
 Ed Memi  
 Fred Meurer  
 John Meyer  
 Herb Meyer  
 Ross Miller  
 Wally Miller  
 John Milton  
 Herb Minikus  
 Keith Mirrer  
 Milton E. Mitler  
 Peg Moffett  
 Doug Moore  
 Jim Moore  
**Fred Morgan**  
 Anne Morris  
 John Moscatelli  
 Bill Myers  
 Bob Nelson  
 Charles Neison  
 Ed Neunherz  
 Karen Newman  
 Bob Nicholson  
 Neil Norum

Mike Perini  
 Bob Perry  
 John Peters  
 Ed Petersen  
 Shirley Pigott  
 Don Planalp  
 Michele Plaudis  
 Charles Powers  
**Virginia Pribyla**  
 Alice Price  
 Joe Purka  
 Christine J. Queen  
 Cordelia Rackley  
 Jim Ragan  
 Ron Rand  
**Dick Rapp**  
**Phil Ratliff**  
 Bob Rayfield  
 Cecil Reavis  
 Jim Reid  
 Jim Reinhard  
 John Renneker  
 Don Rhoads  
 Steve Richards  
 Dave Rigby  
 Buzz Rizer  
**Joe Rinella**

Chuck Saucier  
 Ben Scarpero  
 Don Schaefer  
 Miles Schaeffer  
 Dick Schaller  
 George Schenkein  
 Dave Schillerstrom  
 Al Scholin  
 Al Schreihofer  
 Ginger Schreitmueller  
**Denny Schulstad**  
 Bob Schultz  
 Ron Sconyers  
 Dave Shea  
 Ron Shealy  
**Brian Sheehan**  
 Ron Sherman  
 Jim Sherman  
 Tom Sherman  
**Al Shoemaker**  
 Joe Shosid  
 Tom Shumaker  
 Nomi Siegel  
 George Sillia  
 Beverly H. Simmons  
**Pete Sloan**  
**Dave Small**

**Al 'Ace' Stromwall**  
 Bob Sule  
 Virginia Sullivan  
 Harry Sunderland  
 Harold Susskind  
**Dennis Sweatt**  
 Lisa Sweeney  
 Reed Switzer  
 'Tex' Taylor  
**John Terino**  
**Mike Terrill**  
 Kelly Thibodeau  
 Jerry Thomas  
 Kelly Ann Thompson  
 Ted Tilma  
 George Titus  
**Lou Torraca**  
 Vince Tocci  
 Gene Townsend  
 Derrill Trenholm  
 Ron Trithart  
 Sandra Troeber  
 Charles Van Vliet  
 Kris Vasilo  
 Smitty von Fosson  
 Joe Wagovich  
 Mike Wallace  
 John Walton  
 Lee Wayman  
 Denny Weddle  
 George Weiss  
 Jay Welsh  
 Emil Wengel  
 Walt Werner  
 Bill Whipple  
 Bernell Whitaker  
 Johnny Whitaker  
**Gil Whiteman**  
 Jeff Whitted  
**Roy Whitton**  
 Betty Jane Williams  
 John H. Williams  
**Wil Williams**  
 Roy Williamson  
**Joe Wilson**  
 Valerie Wilson  
 Dick Wood  
 Dan Woolley  
 John Worthington  
 Herb Wurth  
 Alice Young  
 Bob Zehring  
 Harry Zubkoff

## Honor Comrades Through Service Women's Memorial

"This is an opportunity to honor the women who served with us and those who are serving now," said Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association Board Chairman Mike McRaney in response to member Bonnie O'Leary's request to bring to the association members' attention the Women In Military Service For America Memorial.

The Women's Memorial will

be at the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery and will have exhibits and multimedia presentations. Requests for information and contributions can be addressed to:

**Women In Military Service For  
 America Memorial Foundation  
 Dept. 500  
 Washington, DC 20042-0560  
 or call  
 1-800-222-22294**

George Ogles  
 John Ohlsen  
**Barney Oldfield**  
**Bonnie O'Leary**  
 Jack Olsen  
 Jack Oswald  
 Richard Painter  
 Mike Paoli  
 Jim Pasierb  
 Anne Peck  
 George Peck  
 Ron Peck

**Ken Rogge**  
**Boone Rose**  
 John Rose  
 Mark Rosenker  
 Bud Ross  
 Bud Rothgeb  
 Barbara Sacra  
 Al Sabsevitz  
 Paul Sanchez  
**Gene Sands**  
 Lash Sanford  
 Ray Santangelo

Hal Smarkola  
**Dave Smith**  
 David Snyder  
 Henry Somerville  
 John Spaulding  
 Gifford Stack  
 Joe Stephenson  
 Ernie Stepp  
 Rich Stevenson  
 Bill Stewart  
**Cam Stewart**  
 Rex Stone

~  
**As of July 23, 1994,  
 Lifetime Founder  
 Members in  
 Bold/Italics**

# From The Chairman's Pen



Someone said, "It is over . . . And we won!"

They were right. The First Annual Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association Membership Meeting in June was a winner in every respect because 88 of our members attended, had fun, and supported the meeting. Others worked hard to make it happen. All participated with genuine interest and enthusiasm. To make things even better, the active duty folks really pitched in to make good things happen for us. Even the people at the hotel went out of their way to cooperate.

Thanking everyone who contributed is a huge task and I hope I don't overlook anyone. Doran Hopkins and his crew in San Antonio took care of hundreds of tiny details that really make a meeting successful. An old sage I worked for many years ago said "It's the puddles you drown in." Doran's crew didn't let any puddles form.

And the board members played a very important part too. Peter Alexandrakos, Marv Braman, Ted Daniel, John Gulick, and Gene Sands, with special help from Neil Buttimer, Dave Schillerstrom, and Dave Shea, provided financial and organization planning assistance, membership directory help, and election assistance that paved the way for our successful first meeting. Many others manned the registration desk, offered hospitality, and assisted in keeping the events and all of us on schedule. It was a great team effort.

Johnny Whitaker, Bob Brus, and the AETC staff and Bob Gibson and the men and women of AF News put on terrific shows for us at Randolph and East Kelly that updated us on today's Air Force and tomorrow's challenges. General Butch Viccellio, AETC Commander, provided a warm and personal welcome along with insights into what has and what will happen in our Air Force.

We all came away with respect for the challenges they face, as well as some frustrations with the way the new Air Force is structured and run. Many alumni expressed dismay that SAC, TAC, and MAC, as they knew them, are now gone and public affairs assignments are handled in a far different manner than in the past. While retiree issues and benefits were addressed, many more questions were generated, especially about the future form and availability of medical benefits for retirees, than there were answers provided.

Perhaps the best things about the meeting were reuniting with and seeing the faces of old friends and hearing the animated conversations that constantly buzzed from every corner. It was a sea of smiles in an ocean of laughter and fellowship. Many wives attended and enjoyed the activities. Karen McCracken got hog tied and damn near bull whipped at the Diamond-W Ranch wild west show. Even Sundance, the long-horned steer, got into the act and fortunately didn't leave any evidence of his (?) appearance on stage.

Despite the meeting's success, there is still a challenge for each of us. We need every member to personally find, recruit, and enlist three new members before next year's meeting in Colorado Springs. The future of our Association depends on a steady increase in membership in every category. It can be done – Jerry Dalton has sent 30 letter to nonmembers and already has three signed up; thanks Jerry !!!

We will keep you informed—as you can see in this newsletter— of the progress we make on the programs and activities you asked us to undertake. Some may be overly ambitious, some are doable, and some will require modification and a lot of your assistance; so stand by for calls for help.

For those who came from all corners of America to participate, have a good time, and get a little AF Blue rubbed on you – a very big thanks! For those who missed it, we hope you join the fun and fellowship in Colorado Springs next year with Joe Purka at the Air Force Academy as our host.

I am honored to be re-selected as your chairman and president. Our new board is enthusiastic about the future and, although it has slowed a bit, membership continues to grow. We are especially pleased to have Alice Price, recently retired from SAF/PA, and Chuck Davis, retired CMSgt now in the LA office, on the board. They are strong additions and add new, important, and different viewpoints. All of us – and Dave Shea, who will be a strong right arm as vice president – pledge to work very hard to make the association fun, productive, and useful to you, its members.

Thanks to every member for getting the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association off to a great start.

– Mike McRaney

# **Minutes - First Annual Meeting**

## **Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association**

**Saturday, June 11, 1994**  
**Airport Ramada Inn**  
**San Antonio, Texas**

**General** - The First Annual Meeting of The Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association was called to order shortly after 8:30 AM on Saturday, June 11, 1994, in the Antigua Room of the Airport Ramada Inn in San Antonio, Texas, by the Chairman of the Association's Board of Directors, Mike McRaney. An interim directory of Association members and a commemorative coffee mug were distributed to all in attendance.

Colonel Ron Sconyers, the new Director of Public Affairs, was introduced. He expressed his pleasure with the formation of the Association and hoped it would provide a source of talent and resources available to SAF/PA. He said that now and the future will be tough times and that he would like to be able to seek advice and counsel from the Association and its members when it was appropriate because neither the PAs nor the Air Force 'can do it alone.'

McRaney extended the Association's appreciation for the success of the meeting to Bob Gibson, Johnny Whitaker, Bob Brus, Art Jungwirth, John Williams, Frank Maxwell, Doran Hopkins and all the other active duty people at Randolph and Kelly and Association members for their contributions.

He briefly recapped the history of the Association, from Mike Gallagher's meeting at Langley in June of '93, through John Terino and Jim Reinhard's work in pulling together the organizing committee and the initial board of directors of themselves, McRaney, Marv Braman, Gene Sands, Pete Alexandrakos, John Gulick, and Ted Daniel. He cited the major contributions of Neil Buttimer as the membership and directory chairman and Jim Hart in generously providing the means for publishing and mailing the Association's newsletter and other correspondence.

McRaney noted the original expectation of 150-200 members and how it had been greatly exceeded. He pointed out that sustaining the current membership and obtaining new members was the lifeblood of the Association and the key to its continued success. He issued a challenge for each current member to bring in three new members. He encouraged those who had taken one-year or three-year memberships to consider upgrading to Lifetime Founder status by the end of the year. Dues paid would be credited toward the \$250 Lifetime Founder membership.

Mike stressed that this was not a rank-conscious association. "We don't have ranks on our name tags here and they only appear in the directory as an information item. We want and need everyone. The civilians and the enlisted people are very vital to the success of the Association, as are those in the Guard and Reserve." He also pointed out the interrelationship of the Public Affairs and Air Force Broadcasting career fields and emphasized that broadcasters are welcome in the Association.

He said for the Association to be productive, it needed to hear the ideas of the members, their criticism, and their support - not just with words, but with action. He promised the Association would keep members informed on what was happening.

Gill Billings asked if Association membership was open to former Army and Navy public affairs personnel, especially those who had close ties to the Air Force from joint assignments. The answer was 'no.' McRaney said the former public affairs members of those services were looking at forming their own organizations. Jerry Dalton raised the question of band members. While they have their own organization it was pointed out that one member has joined and that band members are welcome in the Association because of their close ties with Air Force Public Affairs.

**Quorum** - Secretary John Terino reported that the more than 50 full members present exceeded the 10% full members required by the bylaws and the meeting could proceed.

**Treasurer's Report** - Pete Alexandrakos said that as of May 31, 1994, the Association had received \$20,605 in dues and had \$2,345.80 in expenses, leaving a positive balance of \$18,259.20, exclusive of fees collected for the Annual Meeting. Those monies were being held separately on the books to cover the expenses of the Annual Meeting. After the bills for the Annual Meeting had been paid, any excess funds would be used for the next Annual Meeting.

**Membership** - Membership Chairman Neil Buttimer reported that as of June 7 there were 378 members - 48 Lifetime Founder; 167 three-year; and 162 one-year (302 Full and 76 Associate). Ben Scarpero suggested that each member submit a short biography covering where they have been and what they have done since leaving the Air Force. Gil Whiteman suggested that a standard format be developed. The membership chairman and the board will consider these suggestions.

**Elections** - John Gulick, who chaired the elections committee, and Dave Schillerstrom who counted the ballots reported that the first elected board of the Association was composed of Pete Alexandrakos, Marv Braman, Chuck Davis, John Gulick, Mike McRaney, Alice Price, Gene Sands, John Terino, and Jim Reinhard.

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# Minutes - First Annual Meeting Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association

Continued

**New Business** - The role of the Association in the SAF/PA-AFA Luncheon was discussed. Some favored the Association supplanting SAF/PA in the sponsorship of the affair because it was for SAF/PA alumni. Colonel Sconyers pointed out that plans for this year were well along and major changes would not be good for any of the parties involved at this time.

## Motion made and passed

*Through its Special Events Chairman, the Association will enter into discussions with SAF/PA to determine how it can assist this year and the advisability of it becoming a co-sponsor of future luncheons.*

The establishment of a project to produce a History of Air Force Public Affairs was placed on the floor by John Terino and John Gura. Several members suggested that much material already existed at Boston University and Air University, as well as in the past OI and PA newsletters. C. B. Kelly suggested a sync-slide show might be appropriate. The need to record the experiences and views of older, key retired PA personnel as quickly as possible was stressed. What form the history would be - oral, video, or written was discussed.

## Motion made and passed

*That the Association investigate producing a PA history; identify sources of existing information; the resources needed for an oral history as the first phase of the history; and that the Board of Directors decide on the viability, approach, and funding for the project.*

Sponsorship of awards was placed on the floor by Ben Scarpero. Much discussion followed, including who the awards would go to and what the objectives would be. Colonel Sconyers suggested looking at existing awards and consider naming them for key past PA people. Pete Alexandrakos asked whether the members were considering taking over the administrative and judging aspects of the awards; the reaction of the members was that this was not a desirable aspect.

## Motion made and passed

*That the Association discuss with SAF/PA sponsorship of awards to enlisted, civilian, and officer members of the Air Force Public Affairs community.*

John Dillin proposed establishing state chapters; pros and cons were discussed. The sense of the membership was that the Association needed to get better established before that step, but a less formal regional structure should be looked into.

## Motion made and passed

*That the Board of Directors consider appointment of regional coordinators who would be points of contact for Major Command PAs in the regions and would bring together members in the regions for professional and social activities.*

A number of items were raised about the Association's advising SECAF, CSAF, SAF/PA and PAOs; lobbying; charitable efforts; and its philosophy and purpose. It was pointed out that the Association was chartered at the state and federal levels as a veteran's organization with requirements that had to be met and restrictions on lobbying activities. Several members cautioned that attempts to 'advise' the Air Force leadership at any level could have disastrous effects on the Air Force Public Affairs community both individually and as a whole. Dave Schillerstrom proposed that the newly elected board of directors be allowed to work those matters out.

## Motion made and passed

*That the Board of Directors prepare and present to the membership a statement of purpose and proposed projects for the Association.*

No other new business was brought to the floor. Mike McRaney announced that the 1995 Annual Membership Meeting would be in Colorado Springs during June with the exact dates and location to be determined. He thanked all who attended for their support and enthusiastic participation.

## Motion made and passed

*That the First Annual Meeting of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association be adjourned.*

John G. Terino  
Secretary

## Once Upon A Time In Air Force Public Affairs

# News Item For American Magazine Of Aeronautics

On August 1st the Chief Signal Officer of the Army established a new division in the Signal Corps, know as the Aeronautical Division. This Division will have charge of all matters pertaining to military ballooning, air machines and all kindred subjects.

All data on hand will be carefully classified and plans perfected for future tests and experiments. The operations of this Division are strictly confidential and no information will be given out to any party except by the Chief Signal Office or his authorized

representative. Captain Charles Def. Chandler is detailed to this division, and Corporal Edward Ward and First Class Private Joseph E. Barrett will report to Captain Chandler for duty under his immediate direction.

On August 15th the Quartermaster Department will open proposals for the construction of a large steel balloon shed and a building for generating and compressing hydrogen, which will be erected at the Signal Corps aerostatic part at Fort Omaha, Neb.

**- First Air Force News Release, August 1907**

*Excerpted from A History Of Air Force Public Relations prepared by Staff Reports Division, Office of Public Relations, Director Of Information, Hq AAF, 1948*

## Eras Joined As Association Steps Off Smartly At 1st Annual Meeting In San Antonio

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two of the most interesting issues, and in some ways the most disconcerting. The retirement items addressed were efforts to thwart the erosion of commissary, BX and other benefits, and the need for active individual retiree involvement.

The medical care briefing presented a troubling picture. The bottom line was that military medical care is grappling with rising costs, increased retiree needs, and diminished resources while trying to anticipate what will come out of the current health reform legislative effort.

Major Kathy Hitt was thorough and dramatic in portraying the personnel challenges facing the Public Affairs career field and how

assignments are handled.

Some things never seem to change. As Kathy, who is a member of the association, discussed the shortages in the middle management ranks, caused by the downsizing of the military and changes in how the Air Force is being run, the heads of members spanning four decades nodded knowingly as they recalled similar problems they had faced.

The afternoon visit to AF News at Kelly was icing on the cake. We walked through a super new building that had equipment that most of us could barely imagine when we were in uniform.

Not a Royal or Underwood in sight, but lots of

computers to write on, computers to enhance images, and computers to edit radio and television shows.

Most impressive was the go-to-war kit that was set up in a tent. It was fully capable of putting out a newspaper, complete with photos. The kit also had video and audio production capability. While the technology was impressive, the fact that it was there, ready to be used, with people eager, ready, and able to use it, struck many of us as a far cry from the way we used to scramble when the bell rang.

Friday evening found us eating bar-b-que with a 'horny steer called Sundance who was part of the show at the Diamond-W Ranch.

The actual membership meeting on Saturday morning went well; even taking on a momentary ethereal look when one member, who shall remain nameless, elicited a 'hymn' from the others present. A number of important motions were made and passed. (For details see the minutes on opposite page.)

Jerry Dalton's panel that followed the meeting provided lots of useful information on 'Employment After the Air Force .' It also clearly pointed out the importance of networking and how groups, such as the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association, can provide opportunities for networking.

# Colorado Springs Site For '95 Annual Membership Meeting

Mark your calendars! The dates are June 15-18. The place is Colorado Springs. That's when and where the Second Annual Meeting of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association will be held in 1995.

"We wanted to avoid conflicts with the graduation ceremonies at the Air Force Academy and the rate increases that go with the summer tourist season," said the '95 Annual Meeting Chairman Dave Shea.

Dave and Air Force Academy Director of Public Affairs Colonel Joe Purka have chosen the Colorado Springs Marriott Hotel to serve as meeting headquarters to three.

"Our hotel this year was fine, but we expect more participation in '95 so we needed a larger, more capable place that had a comparable price range," Shea said.

Information on the hotel, rates and how to make reservations will be in our next issue.

## **Tax-Exempt Status Given; Donations Tax Deductible**

The IRS has granted the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association tax exempt status under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The determination was made because at least 75% of us are or were members of the United States armed forces and because of the number of us who served in WW II, Korea, and Vietnam hostilities. The IRS also determined a deduction can be claimed for contributions made to or for the use of the Association.

Keeping these favorable determinations is contingent on our Association continuing to meet these 'membership tests' and not changing significantly its purposes, character, or method of operation. Dues are not a charitable donation but, depending on employment status, they may be tax deductible as a business expense. Check with a tax preparer.

## **Fifteenth Air Force Memorial To Stay At March Despite Headquarters Shift**

Dick Heil reports from Riverside that work on the Fifteenth Air Force Memorial at the March Field Museum is on track.

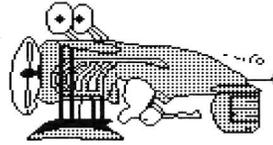
"Even with the 15th's move to Travis AFB and the transfer to Air Mobility Command, both the leadership in the active duty Air Force and 15th veterans agreed that March, where it was headquartered for more than 40 years, is the right place for the memorial," Dick said.



"We already have two major parts of the memorial - a large bronze relief of the 15th's emblem and a three-times-life sized bust of General Jimmy Doolittle, who commanded the 15th when it was formed in North Africa in 1943.

For information on the memorial or to donate, write to:

**Fifteenth Air Force Memorial Committee**  
P. O. Box 6325  
March AFB, CA 92518-0325



## **Prop Wash & Jet Blast**



### **Movin' Right Along . . .**

*Colonel Ron Sconyers in SAF/PA chair as Brig. General Woody Hogel becomes CO of Air Mobility Command's 437 Air Wing . . . AFA's Dottie Flanagan calls it a career . . . Colonel Doug Kennett, OSD's Director of Defense Information . . . PA Director's secretary, Shirley Payne, retires . . . good luck to all.*

### **Sorry, Wrong Number . . .**

*"Leave the 'alphabet soup' to official Air Force Units," writes Don Hilkemeier on the subject of an acronym for the Association. He suggests we call ourselves Air Force Seven-Niners - sorry Don, the AFSC is no longer 79 but 3 something.*

### **Are You A AFCPAJTVSMPCSWAA? . . .**

*The same light bulb must have come on for Glenn Knight and Dave Small who suggest we emulate the MCCA (Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Association) . . . Dave, we hope with tongue-in cheek, suggests AFCCA (Air Force Combat Correspondent's Association), or AFPAACT (Air Force Public Affairs Combat Team Alumni), or AFCPAJETVSMPCSWAA (Air Force Combat Public Affairs Journalists, Voice Broadcasters, TV Broadcasters, Still Photographers, Motion Picture/Camcorder, Speech Writers Alumni Association) . . . our apologies to the for ever bringing the subject up !*

### **Come On-A My House . . .**

*That man from 'Glitter Gulch,' Ben Scarpero, now fully recovered from plumbing work on the Old Pump, says anyone heading Vegas-way should give him a ring.*

### **And The Starting Lineup Is . . .**

*The new Board of Directors did some electing and appointing at its first meeting . . . Mike McRaney - Chairman of the Board & President of the Association . . . Dave Shea - Vice President of the Association & Annual Meeting Chairman . . . John Terino - Secretary & Communications Chairman . . . Pete Alexandrakos - Treasurer . . . Neil Buttimer and Alice Price - Membership & Directory Committee . . . Jim Hart - Publications Chairman . . . Marv Braman - Nominating and Elections Chairman . . . Larry Greer - Special Events Chairman.*

### **Come On-A My House II . . .**

*Larry Malinowski says if ex-AFRTS types want work at the Central Pacific Network send resumes to him at: Box 283, APO AP 96555*