Financial Plan To Assure AFPAAA's Future Adopted; Members' Help Sought





You are cordially invited to join us for the Secretary of the Air Force Office of Public Affairs Holiday Party

A Night in Old Mount Vernon

Sunday, December 14, 1997 6:30 P.M. Cocktails 7:30 P.M. Dinner

> The Mount Vernon Inn Alexandria, Virginia

Choice of Mesquite Grilled Salmon With Sambal Sauce Herb Crusted Beef Medallions In Bernaise Sauce

Air Force 'Strolling Strings' Performing Music & Dancing

Coat & Tie/Semi Formal

RSVP with Payment by December 8, 1997

Payment \$35 Per Person Checks Payable to the SAF/PA Fund Mail to: SAF/PAN 1690 Air Force Pentagon Washington, DC 20330-1690

Information: Captain Maria Carl (703) 697-2769

A long-term financial plan has been adopted to assure adequate funding in the future to sustain the programs of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association.

The plan was developed by Jim Hart, Dave Schillerstrom, and John Gulick of the Development and Strategic Planning Committees. It was presented at the November 3 meeting of the Association's Board of Directors and was adopted unanimously.

Future Shortfalls

While the Association's financial condition is healthy today, with about two years of operating expense covered by reserve funds, that should not give members a sense of security.

One reason Association enjoys its current financial condition is because Jim Hart, through his company, has donated printing, mailing, and other services worth \$16,000 per year. But, with his retirement, 1998 is the last that we will have this benefit.

No Dues Hike

Looking at revenue options, it was felt raising dues and registration fees for the Annual Meeting could not realistically be major revenue sources and a significant dues increase could choke off new memberships and renewals.

Dues, even if raised, don't cover operating expenses. Using our reserve funds to make up the difference would only forestall for a few years a situation that could lead to substantial reductions in quality products, services, and programs.

The Plan

The financial plan has three parts:

- Develop a long-term sponsorship program for both individuals and corporations.
- Solicit funds from corporations, as was done for the 1996 Annual Meeting.
- Solicit in-kind donations of goods and services such as graphics, printing, and mailing.

The plan is an outgrowth of the financial outlook presented at April's Annual Membership Meeting by Chairman Mike McRaney. Central to the plan is maintaining the high quality of products, services, and programs that are now SOP.

Endowment

An endowment fund is established members, other individuals, and corporations can make tax deductible contributions of cash or stock to provide the Association with longterm financial viability. Contributors will recognized.

1997 Tax Break

Members can gain a tax deduction this year in two ways: by transferring stock that has appreciated to the Association, thus avoiding capital gains taxes; or by donating cash. For details contact AFPAAA's Treasurer Pete Alexandrakos at (703) 352-4113 evenings and weekends.

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Chuck Lucas Selected To Air Force Retiree Council

Chuck Lucas has been selected for a four-year term on the Air Force Retiree Council former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Jim McCoy, who chairs the Council, announced recently.

Chuck, a Lifetime Founder Member of AFPAAA and a retired Chief Master Sergeant, joins the 18member board as the representative for Area 12.



Area 12 includes Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, and small portions of Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Chuck's appointment coincided with that of two other members. Retired Colonel David P. Lohmann of Honolulu became the Area XIV (Pacific) representative. Mrs. Jane Profitt, widow of Maj. General Glenn Profitt, became a Member-At-Large and the spokesperson for surviving spouses.

"The council gives the Air Force the feedback it needs to meet the needs of its retirees," Chuck said. "The ratio of retirees to active force is 2-1."

Council members are recalled to active duty to attend the Retiree Council's annual meeting and, if need arises, may be reactivated more frequently.

Chuck got his recall orders to go to Randolph AFB for the annual meeting in October.

"Health care dominated everything," he said. There was extended discussion after a presentation by Lt. General Charles H. Roadman, II, Air Force Surgeon General.

"The way we want to go is to adopt or mirror the Federal Employees Health Benefit Plan. It would do the most for everybody in the military. We're working on that, but it is not going to happen immediately. People tend to forget that it is Congress that makes the laws."

In the meantime, the Council is supporting the proper implementation of TRICARE and subvention.

Afterhealth care came BXs, commissaries, and the Survivors Benefit Plan. Officials briefed on efforts to make BXs and commissaries more competitive with their civilian counterparts, particularly in the area of consumer electronics.

"There is going to be more discounting through coupon promotions," Chuck said.

In the area of the Survivor Benefit Plan, many retirees feel that the reduction that comes when a widow or widower reaches Social Security eligibility is unfair.

Work is proceeding on getting legislation that would change the SBP in two ways, Chuck reported.

First, new enrollees would have one year from their time of enrollment to opt out.

Second, persons already enrolled would have a oneyear, onetime option of leaving the plan entirely that will start 180 days after the legislation is signed into law.

Neither change to the



Dwight R. Dinsmore

Dinny Dinsmore was a very special person. At AFPAAA's meeting in Las Vegas and during an interview for the Oral History



Program just two months before he died at age 83 on August 21, his lively sense of humor and

zest for life lit up the poolside reception at Blair House and his living room in San Antonio. It didn't matter that he had cancer, Dinny, with his wife Ginny were enjoying life to the fullest, just as they had throughout their 55-year marriage

Many would call Dinny a renaissance man. He was an accomplished musician, intercollegiate athlete, English teacher, coach, and aviator – all before World War II.

He took to the air when he won flying lessons from his employer. Shortly after, he and two friends bought an airplane and he taught them how to fly.

His flying skills led to a job as an Army contractor instructor pilot providing flight training prior to the outbreak of World War II. Ultimately, those flying skills earned Dinny a commission in the Army Air Corps and duty as and instructor pilot for the duration of the war.

Then came a brief stint as a TWA pilot. In 1947 when he was offered the opportunity to join the new Air Force, Dinny accepted. Much to his chagrin, he was not being returned to the cockpit, so he chose to be a Public Information Officer and attended class at Gunter AFB with Bill McGinty.

But his flying days weren't over. The Berlin Airlift put him in the cockpit of a C-54 for 80 missions.

He held a variety of Information assignments before retiring as SAF/OI media chief in 1966 as a Colonel.

Many will remember him



for his fine singing voice. He was a member of award winning choirs and had staring roles in Kismet and other musical shows at bases around the world.

Dinny was PR director for Ling-Temco-Vought in Washington for before he retired to Texas in 1979.

- John Terino

Survivor Benefit rules would allow withdrawal without the spouse's consent.

Chuck is looking forward to hearing from AFPAAA members as well as other Air Force Retirees in his area. His phone number is: (703) 451-5618.

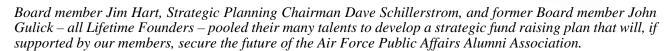
He also urges members to get involved in the retiree office in their area; there are 111 of them.

From The Chairman's Pen

Five Great Years, Now What?

Please read this carefully; it is important to our Association's well being and future.

At its most recent meeting, the AFPAAA Board of Directors approved, on behalf of all the members, a strategic development plan that will enable your Association to have a secure and effective future.



Most of the members understand that our Association has, from the very beginning, been blessed by very generous corporate support amounting to nearly \$16,000 per year from Duke Energy – formerly Pan Energy and Panhandle Eastern. Duke Energy makes possible the printing of our newsletter, directory, stationery; subsidizes our Annual Membership Meeting reception; covered the legal fees for trade marking our logo; pays for our mailouts; and supports other special needs. Our beautiful and unique four-color membership certificate also came from Duke Energy.

This important corporate level of support ends when Jim Hart retires from Duke Energy. Recognizing the impact that will have on AFPAAA, the Board of Directors established a committee to chart a dynamic and effective way to manage the loss of Duke Energy's generous support. Jim, Dave, and John have met that challenge, producing a well conceived and reasonable action plan that is being implemented now. The key features of that plan are in the story on page one.

Let's all realize that for more than five years our Association has held membership dues to the reasonable level they were when we started. Our dues structure is well below the national average for similar organizations. We will continue to hold the line on increasing dues for as long as possible. To potential members we must offer value at a reasonable price. Similarly, we have kept our Annual Membership Meeting fees to the bare minimum while still having a meaningful and fun gathering.

The Board of Directors wants to keep dues and fees reasonable and the quality of our products and services – newsletter, directory, web site, support of Air Force Public Affairs, etc. – high so they will meet the expectations of current members and be attractive to potential members. Our goal is to maintain a strong, vibrant, financially healthy AFPAAA that we can all be proud of and enjoy.

Our certificate of deposit investment income – about \$2,500 this year – and income from our annual meetings, and the sale of our publications certainly help us deliver high quality services. The reality is that dues and meeting fees, interest income, and sales receipts can't sustain AFPAAA when Duke Energy's support ends. Many organizations fail because of financial problems; we don't want that to happen to AFPAAA.

What Do We Need?

Soon, each AFPAAA member will receive a letter explaining our development plan, the rationale behind it, ways you can support it, and, obviously a call to get involved. Each of us needs to examine how we can help, either with in-kind assistance or corporate sponsorships from our company's, tax deductible stock or monetary donations, bequests, and recruitment of new members.

I ask each of us to step up. Let's work together and give the support needed to make this plan work and ensure the future of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association for ourselves and those who will follow us in the years to come.

Mike McRaney

Widnall Acquired 'Second Family'

As Secretary Of The Air Force

(Excerpts from Sheila Widnall's farewell message to the men and women of the Air Force) "Now that my tour of duty is up . . . I want to tell each one of you what a fantastic tour I have had as your secretary.

". . . the Air Force's enlisted and officer corps and the civilian workforce have made the last four years the most rewarding of my professional life.

"As a youngster, I dreamed of being a part of the aviation world... However, as a child I had no idea as I watched B-29s fly over my house in Washington state that I would someday be the secretary of the mighty force those B-29 crews belonged to - - the

United States Air Force!

"Millions of men and women have served in 'Air Force Blue' since that time. Through it all, the one human quality that stands out both yesterday and today in all of you is that quality we call commitment: commitment to Air Force team. commitment to our core values, commitment to the mission. Commitment of people in its many forms has allowed the Air Force to exist and flourish as the world's preeminent air and space

"In my travels I have witnessed this commitment. Whether in the desert, at Aviano, Kunsan, or Minot -- I have seen it. It is at the Air Force Academy and Basic Military Training. It is on the flightline at Travis and the Space Warfare Center at Falcon . . .

"Many reasons for this commitmentexist—patriotism, pride, belonging, personal integrity, knowing that what you are doing makes a difference – these are just a few. Whatever the reasons, I thank heaven they exist - - for the sake of the Air Force and our nation . . .

"I am also well aware that the contemporary military missions that we are carrying out in the national interest have been very stressing... I firmly believe that while we are putting up with many frustrations and irritants in dealing with these missions, we are writing new chapters in the conduct of the Air Force and joint military operations.

"While we do not know what the future will bring, we will learn lessons in Southwest Asia, in Bosnia, in Africa and all those other places where we many become involved, that will one day provide the foundation we depend upon to pull the nation out of the fire of war.

"I have had the time of my life flying in formation with all of you. I thank you and your families for your unwavering support. I also thank your families for their commitment and support of you and the Air Force. When I came in as secretary and traveled to bases I heard comments like, 'We're glad you came to the Air Force.' Now as I leave, I want to tell you that I'm very glad I came to the Air Force and I'm very

proud to have been on your team. Continue your climb higher, farther, and faster!

STATES OF

"Some of my feelings about you, the men and women of our Air Force, are typified by this letter sent by a parent . . . to the Air Force Recruiting Service.

"Our son gave us nothing but trouble starting at age 13 ... When he announced that he was enlisting in the Air Force, I said to myself, 'If they take him, he'll be home in a month... Then, one day, we did get a phone call from Lackland. He had graduated from boot camp... and was coming home for a few days.

"I was stunned when our handsome young airman got off the plane – neatly barbered, perfectly groomed, grinning from ear to ear. We still can't get used to all the 'Yes, sirs' and 'No, sirs' around the house. His table manners are flawless.

"His mother and I wanted to let you know that, if this is our son, thank you . . . for what you have done to him. If there has been a mistake, and this is not really our son, can we keep him anyway?

"This is the way I feel about you. I still can't get used to the 'Yes, ma'ams' and the occasional 'Yes, sir.' But, if there has been a mistake, and you are not really my brothers and sisters, my sons and daughters, can I keep you anyway? . . . God bless you all.





Alice Price - The Lady Who Helped Capture The Air Force On Canvas

by Chuck Lucas

Long before Alice Price's family background in art led to her selection first as assistant chief, and ultimately as chief from 1980 until 1993 of SAF/PA's Arts and Museum Branch, she was Sergeant Alice Price.

That was during World War II when, as a member of the U. S. Army Air Forces, she provided administrative support for President Franklin D. Roosevelt's favorite airplane, the 'Sacred Cow.' But, that's another story.

Alice's dedication to art and the Air Force did wonders. She was responsible for doubling the Air Force art collection to 7,800 pieces and had more than 300 artists actively involved in the program.

In 1995 the art program

Get The Rest Of The Story

Alice Prices's unique career in her own words is one of 39 Oral Histories completed to date by the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association. Members will receive a transcript of this history for a tax deductible donation of \$25 to AFPAAA (nonmember \$35). To order, or for a list of all the histories available, write to:

AFPAAA - Histories P.O. Box 540 Fairfax, VA 22030-0540 became an early victim of down-sizing and was transferred to the Office of Air Force History at Bolling AFB. The museum program followed shortly afterward.

On October 1 of this year the art program returned to the Secretary's Office, this time under the Administrative Assistant.

Alice was retired, but those actions were real disappointments. "Historians are writers. They are not collectors of artifacts and they do not have the wherewithal to take these artists on tours and escort them to places." Public Affairs with its three field offices was marvelous, she observed.

In a sense, Alice is the historian of Air Force art. She recalls how General Hoyt S. Vandenberg as Chief of Staff formulated a fine arts program in 1950. The Air Force was but three years old and there was no control of the historical artifacts that had been accumulated when it was part of the Army.

Vandenberg's initiative set out to locate, evaluate, and catalogue official portraits, paintings, trophies, and objects of art.

Initially, 275 paintings related to its Army roots were transferred to the Air Force. Soon, 570 more were identified.

The concept was to establish an Air Force

museum at the Air Force Academy when it was completed. But that museum was never built, and the art collection is still at the Pentagon.

During the Korean War, Captain George C. Bales administered the program. He initiated the relationship between the Air Force and the New York Society of Illustrators. An artist himself, Bales accompanied artists on missions in Korea.

In 1962, the art program transferred from the Air Staff to the Community Relations Division of SAF/OI. Captain Russ Turner succeeded Bales who moved to SAF/ OI's Los Angeles office and quickly recruited the Society of Illustrators of Los Angeles, Soon San

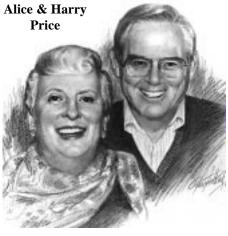
Francisco was on board, and in the mid-1970s Lt. Colonel John Gura heading SAF/OIs Chicago office brought that city's chapter into the program.

The relationships with the Society of Illustrator chapters has allowed the collection to grow as artists from across the nation have donated their work. The donations are displayed and recognized at an annual formal reception at Bolling AFB. Each year since her retirement Alice has continued to assist in the presentation and reception as a volunteer.

Lt. Colonels George Hockett and Tom Haffner ran the Art and Museum Branch immediately before the position was civilianized and Alice was put in charge. She believes continuity was one reason for the switch to a civilian, plus, it was easier for her to say no to some of the top brass.

"Those colonels used to shake in their boots every time a four-star would come in and ask for a painting he had seen in someone's office. They would say 'How can you say no to a four-star?' I said, real easy, they really should understand. But a lot of them don't."

Alice's recollections are sprinkled with anecdotes about donated art and



nicknames on aircraft involving nudes that Pentagon officials ruled offlimits for public display, as well as a quilt depicting an Armed Forces Day parade in New York City that includes a dog expressing itself on a fire hydrant.

Just before Alice's retirement, a rare act of vandalism marred a piece of the Air Force Art Collection displayed in the Pentagon's E-Ring.

A portrait of then Chief of Staff General Merrill A. McPeak in a flight suit was adorned with the addition of a painted mustache.

"We were able to remove the mustache without damage. But you can't keep something like that quiet," Alice recalled.

"The general called and asked that the portrait be stored until his retirement. It's now on display at the Academy."

Oral History Transcripts Make Great Gifts While Offering Tax Deduction

It's not often that you can give a gift and get money back. But that's exactly what you can do if you give an AFPAAA Oral History transcript to one or more people on your gift list.

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Here is your chance to give some pretty

exciting and interesting reading to a spouse, son or daughter, or even grandkids



 or even give some to vourself. For example, you can join Bill Helmantoler as he relates his World War II combat experiences as an air-sea rescue pilot in the Pacific and his involvement in key Public Affairs events from the Vietnam War to lost H-bombs.

Join Barney Oldfield as he faces down the Russians in Berlin at the end of World War II. Or learn and laugh your way through the history of the Air Force Art Program with Alice Price.

Gain insight into the enlisted and NCOs roles in Public Affairs with Reed Switzer. Or follow Bill McGinty – a Spitfire and Mustang pilot – and George Weiss from World War II as they engineer major PR coups from R&D to round-the-world B-52 flights through getting the Air Force story out in Vietnam.

Best of all, the way you get printed copies of the Oral History transcripts is by making a tax-deductible donation to the Association.

To order fill out the form below and mail it with your check it to:

AFPAAA - Transcripts P. O. Box 540 Fairfax, VA 22030-0540

Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association Oral History Program Donation Form

Please send me the oral histories indicated below - donation may be by check or money order payable to AFPAAA ____ Brig. General Richard 'Dick' Abel ___ Brig. General Mike McRaney Colonel Albert Hatcher ___ Lt. Colonel Gil Billings ___ Colonel Willis 'Bill' Helmantoler ___ Colonel Barnery Oldfield ___ Lt. Colonel Terrry Hemeye ___ Mrs. Alice Price Lt. General Maurice Casey ___ Colonel William T. Coleman ___ Colonel Robert Hermann ___ Brig. General Ed Robertson ___ Colonel Aurbrey Cookman ___ Colonel Gerry Hickman ___ Colonel Jack Rose ___ Brig. General Jerry Dalton ___ Maj. General Henry L. Hogan ___ Lt. Colonel Ben Scarpero ___ Lt. Colonel John Dillin ___ Chief MSgt. Reed Switzer ___ Lt. Colonel Maston Jacks Colonel C. V. Glines Colonel William F. McGinty ___ Lt. Colonel George Weiss ___ Lt. Colonel William I. Greener ☐ I am an Association member; enclosed is my tax-deductible Name: _____ donation for transcripts at \$25 each; total \$ ☐ I am an Association member and have selected 5 transcripts; enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of \$100 ☐ I am not an Association member; enclosed is my tax-deductible donation for ___ transcripts at \$35 each; total \$____ State: ZIP: I understand that I will be informed of the portion of my donation that is tax decuctible when I receive my order. ☐ Don't send me any transcripts. I just want to support the Oral Mail to: AFPAAA - Transcripts History Program; my donation is \$ P. O. Box 540 Fairfax, VA 22030-0540

Time For Your Membership Check-Up; Be Sure Your Directory Listing Is Right

With the year drawing to a close we're all checking what we have done in the past twelve months. So, while you are reviewing your investments, checking the addresses on your holiday greeting card list, and gathering the information you need to do your income taxes, don't forget AFPAAA.

Here are some questions you need to ask yourself to ensure the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association can continue to serve your needs in 1998.

First, are your dues due?

If you have a one-year membership, they are. If you have a three-year membership, they may be due. Check this mailing to see if you have been sent a renewal invoice. If you dues are not current you will not be listed in the directory.

Second, have you moved, changed jobs, got a new phone number at home or work, or added or changed an e-mail address?

If your answer is yes to the second question, then you need to use the form below or the form that is on the AFPAAA website – http://www.afpaaa.org – to get the changes to us ASAP.

The information we have on file when the AFPAAA Membership Directory goes to press early in 1998 is what will be included. If you want a correct listing give us your changes. If your information and dues are current, great! Then you can use the form for a gift membership to a friend.

'Tips For Transition' Timely, Useful Gift

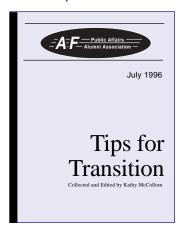
Have a friend who is about to separate, are your kids or grandkids finishing school and entering the job market, or is someone you know considering changing jobs? Then AFPAAA's 'Tips for Transition' book would be an ideal gift.

At just \$8, it packs a lot of wisdom from people who have been through the mill. Learn how they translated their skills into successful careers in the business world. To order one or more copies, on a slip of paper write:

- 1. Tips for Transition
- 2. The number of copies you want.

3. Your name and address. Send that information with a check (\$8 per book) payable to AFPAAA to:

AFPAAA - Tips P.O. Box 540 Fairfax, VA 22030-0540



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IABC, PRSA Active Duty Grants Continued In '98

Your Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association will continue to 'invest' in Air Force Public Affairs' future by assisting active force members in gaining professional accreditation.

In an unanimous vote, the Board of Directors agreed, as it had for 1997, to provide \$1,000 in 1998.

That will be available for ten \$100 grants to Air Force Public Affairs people who are Association members and are seeking accreditation in either PRSA or IABC.

The Board acted in response to a request from SAF/PA Director, Brig. General Ron Sconyers.

In a letter, General Sconyers said "I realize the alumni association receives more requests than it can support. I believe that these scholarships, however, are essential to continuing to improve our professional competence. Your support will likely pay dividends for years to come."

The grants are available to four junior enlisteds – up to E-6, three junior civilians – up to GS-9, and three officers – up to O-4. Recipients will be selected by SAF/PA.

Two things are done by the grants: they help improve the professional competence of future Public Affairs leaders; and they show the tangible benefits of membership in the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association.

Annual Meeting Sites Set Through Turn Of Century

After we do Wright-Patterson AFB, June 25-27, 1998, it will be the Sunshine State in 1999 and La La Land in 2000 for AFPAAA's Annual Membership Meeting.

AFPAAA Association Vice President and Annual Membership Meeting Chairman Dave Shea said, "We will be going to Cocoa Beach in 1999, Based on a study of meeting sites by Roy Williamson, the area is ideal for us."

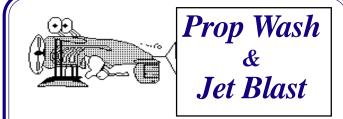
In addition to the NASA operations at Cape Canaveral and Patrick AFB,

Disneyland and Universal Studios, plus cruise ships to the Caribbean are nearby.

"In 2000 we will be in the Los Angeles area. were there are many Air Force related activities that can be the centerpiece of the meeting. By choosing these sites well in advance we can get better deals for hotels. Additionally, we have large concentrations of members in both Florida and California and this will make it easier for them to be part of an annual meeting if they haven't been able to in the past."

AF Musem PA Exhibit

AFPAAA, SAF/PA, and the Air Force Museum are in the early stages of developing a Public Affairs exhibit. The project started with an exchange of correspondence and phone calls between Barney Oldfield, Mike McRaney, and retired Maj. General Charles M. Metcalf, the director of the Air Force Museum. John Gura and John Terino will help to develop the exhibit's concept.





Welcome Aboard To . . .

Brett Ashworth Kim Bergman Nancy Bernstrom Harry Gleeson Jim Katzaman Johanna Kelly Dian Lawhon Christina Marks Robert Pease Tom Pfeiffer Jake Schuffert J. B. Woodside

AFPAAA. ORG . . .

Congrats to TSgt. Bob Pease of the 305th AMW Public Affairs shop who becomes the first person to join AFPAAA via our web site . . . The web site passed its test and has become a permanent part of AFPAAA . . . log on and see what it's all about

Movin' On & Movin' Up . . .

Brig. General Ron Sconyers retires from the SAF/PA Director's seat in January ... Deputy Director Colonel Ron Rand moves up ... Shirley Cavanaugh, now Office of the President of the Hawaii State Senate communications director and accredited by PRSA ... Kris Vasilo named Director of the new Chicago Academy of Finance.

Congrats To ...

Barney Oldfield who joined 34 others, including William Jennings Bryan and Willa Cather, in the Nebraska Press Association Journalism Hall of Fame . . . Roy Williamson charming everyone enroute to being named Cypress Gardens Employee of the Month and on the Board of Directors of the Winterhaven, Florida, Kiwanis Club

Speaking Out . . .

Jack Olsen, a WW II POW, featured speaker at MacDill's POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony

Passing On . . .

Eddie McCrossan, the multiple-award winning AIRMAN photojournalist for many years, died October 8.