First Donations And Pledges Put \$41K In **Endowment Fund**

With the announcement that more than \$41,900 had been donated or pledged, Endowment \$300,000, AFPAAA's drive to provide a firm financial base for the future of the Association, kicked-off at the Annual Membership Meeting dinner in the Air Force Museum, June 26. The next step in the drive is a general appeal to the membership that accompanies

Seven Donors Recognized - At the Annual Membership Meeting at Wright-

Patterson John Terino, Maston Jacks, Jim Hart, Chuck Lucas, Dave Schillerstrom, and Gil Whiteman, along with Sam Lessey who was not present, were

recognized for their donations and pledges of more than \$41,900 in stocks,

ActNow; SAF/PA-AFPAAA

cash, and mutual fund shares to AFPAAA's Endowment Fund.

this newsletter. Donations to Endowment \$300,000, in addition to cash, stocks, and mutual fund shares, can include property and services, such as printing and mailing. Contributions, in addition

to helping AFPAAA, are tax

deductible. Those donating assets

that have increased substantially in

The annual SAF/PA-Air Force

Public Affairs Alumni Association

luncheon at the Air Force Association

Convention will be Monday,

September 14, at the Marriott

Wardman Park, the former Sheraton

11:30 a.m., will be at 12:15 in the

Americus restaurantwhich is off the

Lunch, preceded by a reception at

The price for lunch is \$29.50.

Washington.

main lobby.



Winners! - Hank Hufnagel and Donna Stratford (with Dave Shea), two of more than 30 door prize winners at the Fifth Annual Membership Meeting. Who was there & what went on? See photo spread, pg 6-7, and Meeting Minutes, pg 8.

Purka, Sconyers New To Board; Gura, McRaney & Terino Reelected

Results of the annual election to AFPAAA's Board of Directors saw two newcomers, Joe Purka and Ron Sconyers, as well as incumbents John Gura, Mike McRaney, and John Terino selected for the five seats open this year. They, with Sally Davidson, Jim Hart, Kathy McCollom, and Dave Smith, are the Board that will guide the Association for the next year.

Purka and Sconyers will have an immediate impact on the Association.

Joe has taken on the responsibility for marketing/ recruiting to expand AFPAAA's membership. He will co-chair the membership committee with Neil Buttimer who will concentrate on maintaining the membership data base.

Alice Price, who did not run for reelection, will continue to assist

has served in that capacity since AFPAAA was founded. Terino

will continue as communications chairman.

The balloting in the election saw 239 votes for McRaney; 226 for Gura; 225 for Terino; 187 for Sconyers; 186 for Purka; and 154 for Al Eakle.

Mike McRaney was appointed

by the Board to continue to serve as chairman and president. Also continuing in their posts were Dave Shea, vice president and annual meeting chairman; Kathy



McCollom, elections; Don Brownlee, special events; and John Gura. history.

Pete Alexandrakos, a member of every Board until not choosing to run this year, remains as treasurer.

Development will be headed by Dave Schillerstrom, who replaces Jim Hart. Dave helped put the endowment fund together. Hart will continue help in the development effort.

Jim and Donna Stratford will work on an outreach effort to active and retired enlisted personnel.

Reservations may be made by mail with a check payable to: SAF/PA Morale Fund. A note with the name, rank, and address of those attending -

Luncheon September 14 including guests - should be sent with the check to: SAF/PAM, Attn: PA Alumni Luncheon Coordinator, 1690 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, DC 20630-1690. Reservations and payment must be received by September 7.

value can gain a considerable tax

advantage. Donations may be

spread over a period of five years.

There will be no refunds. Neither phone reservations nor payment at the door will be accepted. Call Makita Weaver (703) 693-9088 if you have questions.

The hotel is off of Connecticut Avenue with parking entrances on both Calvert Street and Woodley Road. It can be reached by Metrorail via the Red Line at the Woodley Park-Zoo station.



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the membership committee with certificate preparation and mailing.

Ron has taken over the secretary position from John Terino, who



Bill Coleman: Fighter Pilot, Space Spokesman, Hollywood Producer

by Chuck Lucas

Reading Bill Coleman's Oral History interview can leave you in a state of exhaustion.

The man seems to have done it all. To his credit, he seeks to share his experiences with the new generation. The 'young tigers' now in Public Affairs would be well served by putting Bill's interview on their must read list.

Some may claim that "those days are gone; you can't do those things

today." Bill heard those admonishments from the moment he was assigned to Air Force Public Affairs at Clark AB, Philippines in 1955. He took them for what they were worth and pressed on to get the job done.

Bill is probably best **P30** in New remembered for formulating public affairs policies during the Air Force's embryo years in the space program before moving on to handle delicate news coverage in Vietnam and Thailand. Eventually he was the Air Force's point man at the Pentagon for ticklish public affairs issues.

Bill (left) P-38 in N

A native of Bushnell, Florida, Coleman was an Aviation Cadet within weeks of the Pearl Harbor attack and his cockpit skills soon had him assigned as an instructor. He loved flying. This was reflected in each of his 155 combat missions, mostly in P-38s, that he accumulated in the Pacific." Bill flew 57 different aircraft, from Jennies to jets, but to this day he considers the P-38 "the pilot's airplane."

At the war's end he remained on active duty as an operations officer, which included cold weather testing in Alaska. This may have prompted his transfer to the Air Force Reserve. He returned to the University of Florida to complete the requirements for a bachelor's degree in journalism. "I always liked to write. I'd written a column for the college newspaper before the war." Korean hostilities saw Major Coleman's recall to active duty, as a maintenance officer at Greenville AFB, Mississippi. Then came an assignment to Taiwan where Brig. General Ben Davis was forming an air task force to defend the islands Quemoy and Matsu.

"I thought that would be a unique opportunity . . . to put together a fighter force," Coleman recalls. The dream was short-lived. His

journalism degree caught the eye of the top brass. He was assigned as base IO at Clark AB, a grooming assignment prelude to being 13th AF Director of Information.

He was chief of the Ops Branch at SAFOI in 1964 when the

director's slot opened at Patrick AFB, Florida, the center of the U.S. space program before there was a NASA. "There was concern about newsmen's complaints that they weren't allowed to cover launches at the cape . . . Washington was calling the shots. Keep it classified was the byword . . . We held a lot of briefings and I put together a plan:

Open it up. The plan was approved and the whole news operation changed."

"Our point was to explain to the world that we're pushing the state of the art . . . Things are going to heappen and you mi

happen and you might as well face it...Every time one (launch) blew up, we learned something...We were handling the largest groups of newspeople ever assembled...We built a press site on the cape, the first such facility in the military.

"We connected up the whole world . . . We had places for cameras and we had call boxes with telephones . . . The press conferences were so big we had to rent tents."



George Weiss Mystery Plane Donor - The mystery plane picture from the last issue of *News & Notes* is a Fairchild F-24. It belonged to AFPAAA member George Weiss who flew it for more than 20 years before donating it to the Air Force Museum. The larger view of the F-24 shows it in the Civil Air Patrol markings it had during WW II when its crew spotted a Nazi submarine off the Atlantic Coast. P.S. George is still flying - he now has an Ercoupe.

When President Johnson renamed Canaveral Air Force Station as Cape Kennedy (erasing the Air Force ID), "we found that the President didn't have the authority to do this."

Supported by the community, Coleman presented a paper to the

lawyers who carried the case to the White House General Counsel. President Johnson said: We made a boo-boo here. You guys should have caught that before. . . let's change it back to Cape

Canaveral.

After the Air Force, Bill (left) became a director of documentaries.

"I think public affairs people have to do things like this," Coleman said. "We say public affairs people should be heard and not seen. Here was a case where we didn't want to be heard or seen . . . all we wanted was the result."

Several years later he wasn't as successful when Johnson committed a second 'presidential boo-boo.' In announcing the development of a new airplane, the President called it the SR-71.

"It was supposed to be the RS -Reconnaissance Strike Vehicle -71. He changes it to Strike Reconnaissance Vehicle, SR, and all our paperwork is RS. I asked them to make the correction — it's RS, not SR. They wouldn't do it nobody would challenge the President. So we had to change all our friggin' paperwork."

Another memory of his final tour in SAFOI was the Cuban missile crisis. The Reserve and National Guard brass were in lengthy discussions over the call-up order.

"They asked me if I had a press release. I handed them a copy. One officer said, 'Why don't we just put that in our damn message?' So they did. I'm the guy that wrote the orders that literally called the Reserve and the National Guard to active duty for the Cuban missile crisis."

Since he retired as a colonel, in 1974 Bill has produced and directed more than 600 television news reports and documentaries and has produced 25 Hollywood movies.

He and his wife, Dottie, reside in Indian Harbour Beach, Florida.

From The Chairman's Pen

Once again Dave Shea's well organized efforts put together a successful Annual Membership Meeting; this time at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. On site coordinator Tom LaPolt did most of the dirty work, arranging those hundreds of little details that make the difference between a good meeting and a truly great one. And, of course, we had many corporate sponsors assisting with cash donations to offset meeting costs and great door prizes that helped make this a really first class affair.

Hats off to Don Brownlee & Aerojet Washington Operations; Hugh Burns & Lockheed Martin; Bob Carroll & Pratt & Whitney; Dave Cole, Earl Flick & The Aerospace Corporation; Tom Fitzpatrick & Principal Mutual Life; Jim Hart & Duke Energy Corp.; Larry McCracken, Ray Crockett & The Boeing Company; Fred Meurer & Chevron Corporation; Jim Reinhard & Northrop Grumman; Ed Sowa & Sowa Advertising; and Roy Williamson & Cypress Gardens for their generosity.

About 120 members, spouses, and guests attended; thoroughly enjoyed the activities; and even managed to be respectful during the POM briefing that 'thrilled' everyone. Oh well, 98% wonderful ain't all bad.

Surrounded by the grand aura of United States Air Force History, the most memorable event of the meeting was our Friday evening dinner at the Air Force Museum. To dine in the most outstanding collection of flying machines ever assembled and to be entertained by the wonderful Systems Go from the Air Force Band of Flight made the dinner a night to remember. When have we ever seen members get up and dance during a dinner show. Truly a great evening.

One of the more significant events of the evening was the recognition of those very generous members who have contributed thousands of dollars, either in stock or cash donations, toward our Endowment Fund, which is off to a great start. Our goal of \$300,000 in the next five years has already reached almost \$42,000, and we have hardly begun the official solicitation campaign. I encourage all members when contacted to respond with their hearts, their portfolios, and their bank accounts to ensure our financial future is secure. If half our members each pledged \$1,000 over five years – that's \$200 per year or about \$17 per month – we would make our goal easily with a little to spare. When you are officially contacted, I ask you to give serious consideration to our Endowment Fund as one of your primary tax deductible gifts.

This year's meeting also saw Alice Price and Pete Alexandrakos leave our Board and Joe Purka and Ron Sconyers take their places. We are very fortunate to have had Alice, with her wonderful wit, energy, and willingness to help with every project, and Pete who helped found AFPAAA and whose ideas and hard work helped us get to where we are today. Thanks to both for all you did. I am happy to say Alice and Pete have pledged to stay actively engaged to help out when called upon.

We are just as fortunate to have Joe and Ron sign on, bringing new ideas, new energy, and a new commitment to the work we are doing. Both have already show they are ready for the challenges ahead and we look forward to engaging their talents.

The entire membership owes the Annual Meeting Committee, led by Dave Shea, a hearty 'well done. At every event, on the buses, at every table there was much laughter, plenty of war stories, and new faces enjoying the program put on by Dave, Tom, and the rest of their crew. Thanks to all! Next year Florida, the Cape in the Spring.

- Mike McRaney

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We extend our sincere condolences to the family of Lt. Colonel Chet Lowe who died in May of complications following open heart surgery. He last served in AF/REL in the mid-1980s.

Mark R. Richards

Mark Richards who had a distinguished career as a pilot, a Public Affair Office, and with the Department of State died of lung cancer, July 30 at the Hospice of Northern Virginia. He was 68.

As a pilot Mark accumulated more than 6,000 hours. In Vietnam he flew 153 missions earning the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross and ten Air Medals.

Born in Newark, New Jersey, he grew up in Van Nuys, California. His academic credentials included a bachelor's degree from the University of Houston and a master's degree in public relations and the psychology of communications he earned from Boston University.

He had assignments with Air Force Systems Command, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

In the 1970s he served in security review and community relations in SAF/OI, and he was the Public Affairs Officer for the United States Southern Command at Quarry

Jim Tilton, described by former SAFPA Director of Public Affairs Jerry Dalton as a 'brilliant Public Affairs officer," has died of cancer in San Antonio, Texas. He was 64.

Jim served in a variety of assignments during his Air Force career. He wrote speeches for the four-stars while in the then SAFOI.

Among his other assignments, he served as Chief of Combat News at 7th Air Force in Vietnam.

He also headed the Joint Services Public Affairs Office at Eglin AFB that processed Vietnamese refugees into the United States.

Jim joined Ray Ellison Homes in San Antonio when he left the Air Force and was Vice President of Advertising and Marketing for eleven years.

He then established 'Words for Sale,' his own one-person freeHeights, Panama.

His last assignment before retiring in 1984 was with the Department of State. He was a senior advisor on loan to the office of public diplomacy for Latin America and the Caribbean, a post he continued in for more than two years after his retirement. In that role he specialized in intelligence analysis and media consulting.

Mark had a successful athletic career during his retirement. He was a member of the Potomac Valley Track Club and, in 1991, he was National Masters Pentathlon champion.

He is survived by his wife, Caroline Scrivner Richards of Alexandria, Virginia; two daughters, Julie Richards Apfel of Highland Village, Texas, and Leslye Richards LeBlanc of Houston; his mother, Ruth Charves Richards of Houston, and eight grandchildren. A son, Robert Mark Richards, died in 1977.

Mark was a colonel when he retired from the Air Force with 31 years of service.

James E. Tilton

lance writing and consulting firm. In 1989 he joined the University

of the Incarnate Word as Assistant to the President. He was promoted to Vice President in 1992 and was named Vice President for

International Initiatives in 1996. In that position he oversaw the opening of the Grossman International Center and the design and implementation of the many Center programs.

The Tilton Lounge has been named by the University in recognition of Jim's many and varied contributions to the growth and excellence of University of the Incarnate Word.

Jim, who completed his Air Force service in 1976 as a major, is survived by his wife Joann, six children, ten grandchildren, and his brother Robert.

Rand: PA Mirrors AF-Wide Retention Problems

The Air Force's well publicized retention problems are no longer limited to pilots and the technically skilled NCOs who support the flight-line. They are throughout the service, including Public Affairs.

That was the message delivered by SAFPA Director Colonel Ron Rand in luncheon remarks at AFPAAA's annual

meeting at Wright-Patterson, AFB, in June.

"We have very serious shortages in both the NCO and officer ranks; particularly in Techs, Masters, Seniors, Chiefs, Majors, Lt. Colonels, and Colonels," he said. The PA O-6

The PA O-6 problem is particularly vexing, with almost half of the billets in the career field open. And, with the shortages of officers immediately below that grade, the ability to 'grow' future Public Affairs leaders to fill those slots in the years ahead is curtailed.

Public Affairs people are not there to fill the NCO and officer slots for the same reasons there are not enough pilots and enlisted technicians.

"The optempo - a smaller force, deployments, family separations, and so on, while not as hard on Public Affairs as on the flying people, is taking its toll," Colonel Rand explained.

In 1987, there were 729 enlisted and 525 officer authorizations in Public Affairs; today the numbers are and 515 and 326.

With constant rotations and deployments to Bosnia, Haiti, and the Middle East, as well as exercises, it is not unusual for people to be deployed for lengthy periods quite frequently. Coupled with that is the highly lucrative world beyond the base perimeter.

"Looking at what is happening in the operational units, people are

1999 Annual Meeting Set For April 29 To May 2 Satellite Beach Ramada Inn Will Be AFPAAA Hq

AFPAAA's Sixth Annual Membership Meeting will be Thursday, April 29 to Sunday, May 2, 1999. On-site Meeting Chairman Roy Williamson has blocked those dates with the Ramada Oceanfront Resort at Satellite Beach, Florida, leaving. There are just a lot of good jobs in the civilian world and a lot of Air Force people, including those in Public Affairs, are taking them."

Rand reported that Chief of Staff of the Air Force, General Michael Ryan, is addressing the overall optempo/retention issue. He expects that there will be a major transformation of the Air Force, from a Cold War, garrison force to

> an Expeditionary Aerospace Force (announced at the Pentagon by the SECAF and CSAF on Aug. 4). The hallmark of the EAF will be ten Air Expeditionary Forces created through unit realignments to ease the overseas rotation burden

and provide better support to the warfighters.

"We are looking at tailored packages of units that will form 10 AEFs to do certain missions and to meet specific overseas commitments," the Colonel said.

Several of those Air Expeditionary Force packages would have a rotation schedule to meet a given commitment. In that way the people assigned to the units would know when they were to deploy and would have a more stable family life," he continued.

But there is no 'quick fix' to the Air Force's pilot or any other career field retention problems

The severity of the problem is seen in the back-to-the cockpit orders that put senior Lt. Colonels into IP slots at Randolph to meet a shortage that is expected to reach 1,800 pilots in 2002 according to a briefing by a senior Air Force official at the Pentagon. The Air Force is also contemplating bonus increases for EMs and officers to make staying in more attractive.

The problem for Colonel Rand is that there are few, if any PAs filling non-Public Affairs, jobs that he can issue 'back-to' orders to.



Pete & Judy Alexandrakos Nick & Joanne Apple Art & Cathy Barnes Ken Blackshaw Karen Boneske Peg & Rich Bowman Neil Buttimer Dave Cole Paul & Elizabeth Cole Paul & Helen Collins Wayne Corbett Allan Cummings Jerry & Marion Dalton Ted & Becky Daniel Sally Davidson Alan Defend June Forte Ricardo Garza Joe Gay Sam & Dawn Giammo Mark & Dorothy Gilman C. V. Glines Jerry & Kitsy Guess John Gulick John & Kathleen Gura Jim Hart Bob & Pat Hermann Carolyn Hodge Henry Hufnagel Jennifer Hufnagel Maston Jacks George Jeck Roaer Jeck Frank & Lita Jennings Stan Jensen Helen Jones John & Barbara Kirkwood Tom & Julie LaPolt George Larrieu Charles & Bonnie Linderman Chuck Lucas Chuck & Teri Manker Marc Martens Kathy McCollom Larry McCracken

5th Annual Membership Meeting

Mynda McGuire Mike & Karen McRaney Larry Means Karen Miller Pat Mullanev Neil & Lynne Norum Jack Olsen Donna Pastor Ron Peck John Peters Alice & Harry Price Joe & Dee Purka **Christine Queen** Jim Ragan Ron Rand Mark Rosenker **Bud & Cheryl Rothgeb** Jo Anne Rumple Ray Santangelo Ben Scarpero Dave & Carol Schillerstrom AI & Mary Scholin Ron Sconyers Dave & Mary Shea Dave & Carolyn Smith **Rich & Carolyn** Stevenson Rene Stockwell Donna & Jim Stratford Dennis & Hedda Sweatt John & Barbara Terino John Terino, Jr. **Rufus Thomas** Lou Torraca Gary Turner Kris Vasilo George Weiss Gil & Jeannie Whiteman Roy & Kay Whitton Roy & Nancy Williamson Herb Wurth

Minutes – Fifth Annual Membership Meeting Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association

General – The Fifth Annual Membership Meeting of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association was called to order at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 27, 1998, at the Hope Hotel, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio by the Association's President and Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mike McRaney.

Quorum – Secretary John Terino said the more than 70 full members attending the meeting met the quorum requirement.

Remembrance of Deceased – Mike McRaney asked all present to pause and remember members of the Public Affairs, Broadcasting, and Band communities who had passed away, including Dinny Dinsmore, Jim Haggerty, Chet Lowe, Dick Rapp, and Russ Tarven.

Board of Directors Election Results – Election Chair Kathy McCollom reported that the five open seats on the Board had been filled by the reelection of John Gura, 226 votes; Mike McRaney, 239 votes, and John Terino, 225 votes. Joining them on the Board were new members Joe Purka, 186 votes, and Ron Sconyers, 187 votes. Al Eakle received 154 votes.

Recognition of Departing Board Members – Pete Alexandrakos and Alice Price, both of whom choose not to run for reelection, were presented plaques in recognition of their service to AFPAAA by Board Chairman Mike McRaney. Pete will continue as the Association's treasurer and Alice will continue to assist the membership committee.

Treasurer's Report – Pete Alexandrakos reported that on June 21, the Association had a balance of \$59,739.25. He pointed out that 73% of the money spent since the last meeting was in direct support of benefits for the membership and only 27% went to administrative and other overhead costs. There were two reasons for this: 1. without the support of Jim Hart and Duke Energy our expenses would have been about \$13,000 higher; 2. the volunteer services provided by members for administrative and bookkeeping matters including maintaining the data base, as well as graphic design and writing involved in producing AFPAAA's publication and maintaining our web site avoid approximately \$20,000 in expenditures.

We have about \$10,000 more invested in CDs this year than we had last year and we anticipate adding to that in the next month or so.

Membership – Neil Buttimer reported that we have 589 members, including six who have joined during the meeting. Our renewal rate for last year was 74%. He and Sally Davidson will be going back to members who have not renewed. Membership applications are available via the web site. He requested that when changes of address are submitted that they be complete; including phone #s and e-mail addresses at home and work when applicable. McRaney asked those present to contact eligible people who they know are not members and solicit their joining. Jerry Dalton suggest that with the next meeting in Florida we make a special effort to contact members and non-members in that state, Georgia, Alabama, and the Carolinas to attend and join.

Publications – John Terino reported that Charlie Brown's job counselling book was available on floppy disk in both PC and Macintosh format. He also said that the look of our publications is likely to change over the next year as the support from Jim Hart and Duke Energy ends. They are likely to be more compact as we seek to keep costs under control.

Web Site – John Gura presented print-outs of each page of the AFPAAA web site (afpaaa.org). He pointed out that no password is needed to get into the site; the password is only needed for access to the newsletter, membership directory, and similar items. Following June Forte's suggestion we have an copies of all past newsletters on the site. We also offer the

Saturday, June 27, 1998 Hope Hotel Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

newsletter in both text and PDF formats. We also have Charlie Brown's job search book with a lot of information tailored to public affairs people on the site. We are working at establishing a PR Resource capability where people with problems can contact a mentor - Guy Brown, John Gulick, and Larry McCracken are among those who have volunteered to share their expertise.

Jobs will be listed as they are submitted. The web site also offers members the opportunity to purchase books from Amazon.com which will provide a rebate to AFPAAA for sales made through our site.

Oral History Program – John Gura said 38 interviews are done; 28 have been published, all are listed on the web site. The most recent people interviewed were Chuck Lucas and Frank Jennings

Development & Endowment Fund – Jim Hart, who chaired the development committee, emphasized the importance of financial strength for any business or organization. Underfunding is the prime reason that only one out of 1,000 businesses get past their first year. AFPAAA has been able to build a cash reserve, but that reserve will only last so long. If we depend on dues to cover expenses we will either have to raise dues substantially over time or provide reduced services to members.

With Dave Schillerstrom and John Gulick, a five year program, *Endowment* \$300,000 has been developed to provide a strong financial basis for AFPAAA. Its goal is \$300,000 in five years. That will provide an income

Actions On Members' 1997 Meeting Items

Item - Establish Internet Web Site for AFPAAA.

Action - Done. Site accessible at afpaaa.org. Has member only access to directory and newsletter, job listings, means of communication with Board of Directors, officers, and committee chairs, and latest information.

Item – Charlie Brown Job Hunting Book



stream that will fund AFPAAA in the years ahead. No pressure is being exerted and no gift is too small. With about 600 members, if each member gives \$500 over five years we will reach our goal. To date we have received more than \$21,000 that is already invested and working for the members, and another \$18,000 in pledges has been received. He went on to explain that donations are charitable deductions and do not have to be cash. They can be assets that have been held for a period of time that have appreciated in value substantially. Donations of such assets present opportunities for tax advantages to offset other gains that someone might have realized.

Mike McRaney said that AFPAAA has never had to raise dues and that the Board does not want to take that approach to funding the operations that have been supported by Jim Hart and Duke Energy as well as the operating costs that are sure to rise with inflation over time. He asked those present to get behind *Endowment \$300,000* and be as generous as they can.

After this meeting we will be starting to call members to solicit their support for this important fund raising effort.

Chairman's Report – Mike McRaney reported that AFPAAA is in good shape. Our membership has plateaued around the 600 mark. We continue to offer many things to the members – newsletters, booklets, job help, the web site, our Oral History Project, the Best of the Best Award for SAF/PA, coins for SAF/PA, recognition of honor grads at DINFOS. Our \$10 Associate Membership for those on active duty is a real bargain. The Annual Membership Meetings keep getting better and better.

We try to respond to what you, our members, want within the resources we have available. We still need more volunteers to help get things done.

Members Comments – Jerry Dalton asked how the awards at DINFOS were handled. Mike said the faculty presented the awards but we would be more than willing to let members who volunteer to present the awards do so for the Association. John Gulick added that we ought to get more of the rank and file involved. McRaney agreed and pointed out that we need people to work on continuing efforts as well as individual one-shot projects. John Terino pointed out that officers of the Association do not have to be Board members and invited anyone interested to the Board meeting.

Gil Whiteman complimented all involved for running an excellent meeting where everything went right.

Kathy McCollom said there was a good supply of *Tips For Transition* available and that they would make a good gift for anyone who is leaving the service or retiring.

Chuck Lucas said he had been asked by several spouses to consider a spouse program for future meetings. Mike responded that we would take that up at the Board meeting.

Neil Norum asked if we would consider a health care briefing for the future. Mike responded that we had done that in the past and it had interest to only a few. John Terino observed that many of those who attend are past the TRICARE program and into Medicare.

Roy Whitton suggested that PAs who had been in Bosnia recently be asked to brief us. Ron Rand said that could be done and added that we ought to have someone from Southwest Asia too.

Ron Rand said that one way the Association could have an early impact on the members of the active force is by funding the first awarding of the PA badge to students as they complete DINFOS. He pointed out that the JAG Association does that and with the badge provides information about itself. The badges cost about \$3 at the BX and are probably cheaper when bought in bulk. The proposal was well received and will be taken up by the Board. John Terino pointed out that a benefit to active duty PAs from AFPAAA was providing a means outside of the business environment to interact with defense industry PR people who are members.

Donna Stratford volunteered to work enlisted matters to help knock down the perception that AFPAAA is an officer organization.

Jim Stratford asked about the Air Force Museum Public Affairs exhibit. Mike said that it had not been fully defined by the museum and that AFPAAA's role was to offer advice.

Adjournment – With no other business to be conducted the meeting was adjourned.

John G. Terino Secretary

Distinctive AFPAAA Golf Shirts Available

You'll look great on the links, when you have neighbors over for a BBQ, or if you are out for casual dinning when you wear a distinctive Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association golf shirt.

Offered for the first time to those attending the Annual Membership Meeting at Wright-

Patterson AFB in June, the shirts were a hot-selling item.

Now, a limited number of the heavy-weight, 100% cotton, preshrunk Fruit of the Loom shirts with AFPAAA's distinctive oval logo in blue and white are available by mail for a \$20 donation plus \$3 postage. approximately \$5 of the donation is tax deductible.

The shirts are available in three colors: white, yellow, and turquoise. Sizes currently available



include white – medium, XL, & XXL; yellow – XL & XXL; turquoise – medium & XXL.

To get a shirt, send a note with the size and color you want and your check for \$23 payable to AFPAAA to: AFPAAA–Shirts, P.O. Box 540, Fairfax, VA 22030-0540. Allow three weeks for delivery.

If we are out of stock, your order will be filled from the next reorder from our supplier.

Picnic At Bolling, Golf At Andrews! We're Invited

All AFPAAA members have been invited by SAF/PA Director Colonel Ron Rand to join in two annual event - the picnic and the golf tournament.

The picnic is being held Saturday afternoon, September 26, at Bolling AFB. Contact Captain Anne Winkler, SAF/PAI, at (703) 696-9148 for the all the details.

Pasture pool devotees mark your calendars of Friday, October 2, for the golf tournament. It will be held on the Andrews AFB's East Course with a shotgun start. "We're counting on a full field of 72 golfers, and hope to draw a good segment from our alums," Colonel Rand said. Guests of PA alumni are welcome too.

Cost for the tournament – which includes greens fees, shared golf cart, and a chicken and rib BBQ at 6:30 pm – will depend on whether you are an Andrews' Club member, retired military, or a civilian guest.

Call Major Eric Schnaible, SAF/ PAN, at (703) 693-2558 or e-mail at SchnaibE@pentagon.af.mil for details or to sign-up.

Welcome Aboard To ...

Martie Cenkci Charles Chandler Milan Christi Dave Diehl Ron Fry Chris Geisel Carolyn Hodge Helen Jones Marc Martens Doug McCoy Ed McGraw Larry Means Jim O'Brien Roger Overturf Jo Anne Rumple Bruce Sprecher Rene Stockwell Rufus Thomas Gary Turner Michael Ward

Jim West

On The Mend . . .

Matt Lipartiti and Fred Morgan. Matt is recovering successfully from surgery that prevented him from attending the Annual Membership Meeting at Wright-Patt. Matt savs thanks for the get well cards and writes that he is "on a full recovery program and I'll be with you all at our 6th Annual Meeting at Cocoa Beach, Florida, next year."... Fred, who retired recently from Jacobs Engineering Group, is on the comeback trail from heart bypass surgery in his home in Albuquerque while his retirement chateau is being erected in Colorado Springs. He expects to move in October and, like Matt, be fit and ready to ioin us in Florida.

Mea Culpa, Mea Culpa . . .

Our master list was incorrect, and so the Lifetime Founders page in AFPAAA's latest directory was short the name of Gene Sands; we have gotten out the chisel and mallet and corrected that tablet . . . The phone number listed in the last issue for ordering Frank Jennings book, "San Antonio: The Story of an Enchanted City" from Eakin Press was incorrect. The right number is (800) 880-8642.

Kudos To . . .

Stan Jensen, who at 64 proves you can get smarter as you grow older. With a 3.97 average, Stan received his Associate Degree in Automotive Technology summa cum laude from Northern Virginia Community College; won the Provost's Award as Outstanding Student in the Automotive and Welding programs; and became a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for twoyear colleges.



Has Anybody Here Seen . . .

MSgt James Gilmore, A1C Daniel F. Hassett III, SSgt Byron Koening, A1Cs Glen Medearis and Gay or Guy Trueblood, Major William 'Bill' Waller. All were with Charles R. Timms at Chambley AB, France, in the mid-1950s. If you know any of the guys, drop him a line at 620 Lowry Lane, Seneca, SC 29678 or call (864) 888-4133.

The Captain Really Means To Say ...

Tom Fitzpatrick is looking for either the text or a copy of the Vietnam era parody "What the Captain Means to Say." Phone, write, e-mail him – he's in the directory – or contact via AFPAAA's web site forum.

Movin' On . . .

Bob Carroll bowed out of Pratt & Whitney, but more active than ever in many Palm Beach, Florida, area charities, including spots on the boards of directors of United Way and the Education Partnership. He can be reached by e-mail at: rghc3@worldnet.att.net ... Jim Hart, after a very successful career at Duke Energy, out of Houston and into the life of a 'gentleman farmer' on the family peanut patch in Bascom, Florida.

Present & Accounted For . . .

At the Reserve Officers Association of the United States Annual Convention in Boston in July was Sam Lessey. Sam was a delegate from New Hampshire and assisted in making decisions on national issues including income protection for mobilized Reservists.

Ooops, We Blew A Sour Note #2...

Please add H. Bruce Gilkes, commander of the USAF Band of the Rockies, to the list of band officers – Lowell Graham, Benny Knudsen and Ron Carl – to wear eagles since Arnold Gabriel.