



Winter/Spring 2005

Some of the Tacoma 2005 local planning team gather in the lobby of the Sheraton Tacoma. From left to right, they are co-chairmen Mark Foutch and Sam Cagle; Ingram Dreuding, Hotel Sales, Chuck Fowler; McChord PAO Maj. Sam Highley, Geoff Baker, and Bill Hubbard. Others not shown include Don Macaluso, Gary Emmons, E.K. Loving, Ken St. John, John Litten, Doran Hopkins, Kim Tebrugge, Western Air Defense Sector PAO Vivian Wilson, and 446th Airlift Wing PAO Maj. Anna Sullivan, and Washington National Guard PAO Rick Patterson.



12th annual meet set for June 16-18 in Tacoma

The 2005 AFPAAA Annual meeting will be held at the Sheraton Tacoma Hotel in Tacoma, Washington, June 16 through 18, with visits to McChord AFB and the Museum of Flight near Seattle on June 17.

The meeting theme, “Power Projection and Homeland Protection”, will highlight the dual missions of Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard units in the Puget Sound area.

The Sheraton Tacoma is located in the heart of a newly revitalized downtown, within walking distance to a free trolley ride of state of the art museums, specialty shopping and restaurants.

Washington State is the home of a number of military facilities and organizations.

McChord AFB is the home of the Air Mobility Command’s 62nd Airlift Wing, which recently made the conversion to C-17s and has been an active participant in support of operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as tsunami recovery missions.

Their partner unit, the Air Force Reserve’s 446th Airlift Wing, blends Reserve aircrews and support personnel into the C-17 airlift activities.

The Air National Guard’s Western Air Defense Sector at McChord is responsible for aerial security and defense from

the Mississippi River through the West Coast.

Immediately next door to McChord is Fort Lewis, home of the Army’s I Corps and three of the Brigade Combat Teams that use the new Stryker vehicle.

Fairchild AFB, near Spokane in Eastern Washington hosts AMC’s 92nd Air Refueling Wing and the Air National Guard’s 141st Air Refueling Wing

Members and guests will also be able to take advantage of other significant events scheduled for the weekend, including the Olympic Flight Museum “Gathering of Warbirds” in Olympia, a short

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Committee recommends making hotel reservations early

McChord AFB will be hosting a major event, the Air Mobility Command Airlift Rodeo, at the same time as the Annual Meeting and hotel space in the area will be very much in demand. The cut-off date for reservations is May 26, 2005, after which rooms will be sold on

a space-available basis.

The group rate for the hotel is \$99 plus tax, or approximately \$113.00 per day. Reservations can be made online through the AFPAAA web site, or by phone at 253-572-3200. The Group

Code is 51FC8 (Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Assn).

Reservation correspondence can be faxed to (253) 591-4105, or addressed to Sheraton Tacoma Hotel, 1320 Broadway Plaza, Tacoma, WA 98402.

PA Snoopings.....

Several members of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association Board of Directors will step down June 30 when their term of office ends.

Dave Smith, Mike Gannon and Al Eakle have served on the board for several years.

Dave and Mike will continue to serve as ex-officio board members having served as chairman.

Al will also be stepping down as newsletter editor, this being his last issue. A call is going out for a volunteer to take over editorship of the newsletter. Anyone interested should contact Charley Powers at CPowers@afpaaa.org.

Remember when the weasel word "recently" might be slipped into a news release to try to disguise "news" that wasn't exactly, er, new?

Well, Mark Foutch tells us that "recently" (i.e., January '04) he was inducted into Fort Lewis' brand new Civilian Hall of Fame, for community leaders who've supported that major military installation. Mark, who's Mayor of nearby Olympia, Washington, was one of six initial inductees.

Others included two retired Army officers who are also mayors of towns near the Fort, plus U.S. Representatives Norm Dicks and Doc Hastings.

Doing the honors was Mark's fellow San Jose State graduate Lt. Gen. Ed Soriano. Photos and short biogs of Hall of Fame inductees are on display in the front hall of I Corps headquarters. (Even Mark agrees that this announcement stretches the term "recently" well past its breaking point...)

Several senior PA leaders have, or will be completing their military careers this year, or are moving on to new challenges within the Air Force.

Col. Jay DeFrank, the SAF/PA deputy, retires June 1.

Col. Tony Epifano, AFNEWS commander, retires June 30.

Col. Jack Ivy, AFMC/PA director, retires and will be succeeded by **Col. Ed Worley**, currently USAFE/PA director, in mid-March.

Col. Bob Williams, ACC/PA di-



Lt. Col. Robyn Chumley plays with someone's pet puppy found tied up among the living area behind the Republic Palace in the Green Zone. She is one of a number of Air Force public affairs officers deployed to Baghdad supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. Photo by Maj. Stephanie Holcombe.

rector, retired and was succeeded by **Col. Chuck Wynne**, currently ACC/PA deputy, in February.

Col. Susan Strednansky, AFNEWS vice commander, will succeed Ed as USAFE/PA director.

Air Force bands now deploy as part of the service's 10 Air and Space Expeditionary Forces (AEFs), following a request from Gen. John P. Jumper, Chief of Staff.

Previously, Air Force bands would operate on temporary duty when they traveled to overseas theaters. Now they will be on the AEF schedule, deploying to a theater where they'll perform at various locations during the rotation cycle.

The Band of Liberty, Hanscom AFB, Mass., which was the first to deploy for an AEF rotation, found itself at Balad AB, Iraq, when the base came under attack. According to a Air Force news release, the band donned protective gear and kept on playing.

Seven public affairs officers have been selected to attend the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) Civilian and Education With Industry (EWI) programs.

Those attending AFIT will do so either through a 12-month Mass Communications master's program at San Diego State University or an 18-month program at another civilian institution.

Those selected include:

Capt. Shane Balken, 100 ARW/PA, RAF Mildenhall UK (AFIT);

1Lt. Matthew Hasson, 92 ARW/PA, Fairchild AFB WA (AFIT);

Capt. Paula Kurtz, 47 FTW/PA, Laughlin AFB TX (AFIT);

Capt David Malakoff, SAF/PAR, Pentagon (AFIT);

Capt John Haynes, 35 FW/PA, Misawa AB Japan (EWI);

Capt April Cunningham, 375 AW/PA, Scott AFB IL (EWI);

Capt Morshe Araujo, 81 TRW/PA, Keesler AFB MS (EWI);

The following people upgraded to lifetime memberships:

Sabra J.B. Bryant, Clemens W. Gaines, William B. Knowlton and Lyle L. "Pat" Paulson.

Twelve PA officers will compete to become commanders of Mission Support, Training, Services, and Recruiting Squadrons. They include:

Lt. Col. Manning Brown, 82nd TRW/PA;

Lt. Col. Robyn Chumley, SAF/PA;

Lt. Col. Stephen Clutter, PACAF/PA;

Lt. Col. William Nichols, HAF/CX;

Lt. Col. Andrew White, AFSOC/PA;

Maj. John Dorrian, 305th AMW/PA;

Maj. Michel Escudie, USCENTCOM/CCE;

Maj. William Manley, 2d BW/PA;

Maj. Patrick Ryder, USAFE/PA;

Maj. Edward Sholtis, 16th AF/PA;

Maj John Thomas, ACSC Student; **Maj. Ron Watrous**, ACC/PA

Annual Golf tourney moves to May 17

Spring may not come early this year, but the annual SAF/PA Golf Tournament will. The 28th Annual SAF/PA Golf Tournament is set for May 17 at the Andrews AFB, Maryland, with a 2 p.m. start and a best ball format.

Traditionally, the event is held in September; the earlier date is an attempt to decouple it from many other activities in the fall that prevent SAF/PA members and alumni from participating.

Each year the Air Force Public Af-

109th Congress statistics

Party Breakdown

House

Republicans: 232

Democrats: 201

Independents: 1

Vacancy: 1

Senate

Republicans: 55

Democrats: 44

Independents: 1

Longest Serving Member:

House

Rep. John Dingell (D-MI), 49 years

Senate

Sen. Robert Byrd (D-WV), 46 years

Military Service:

House: 110

Senate: 31

Education Levels-All Members:

Law Degree - 228

Medical Degree - 17

Doctoral Degree - 141

Bachelor's Degree - 494

Former Occupations-All Members:

Doctors - 12

Former State Legislators - 274

Congressional Staffers - 107

Law - 217

Public Service - 195

Business - 193

Broadcast - 7

Accountants - 5

Pilots - 4

2005 BRAC dates to watch

- March 15, 2005: President's deadline for naming members of the Commission
- May 16, 2005: SECDEF provides BRAC and Congress recommendations for closure and realignment.
- Sept. 8, 2005: Deadline for BRAC to make its recommendations
- Sept. 23, 2005: Final date for a final Presidential decision on whether to accept or reject the BRAC recommendations in their entirety, his only options. If he accepts plan, it becomes final within 45 legislative days unless Congress passes a joint resolution to block entire package.

fairs Alumni Association members play key roles in making the outing a success — from soliciting prizes and giveaways, to assisting in organizing the event, and, of course, joining current SAF/PA members on the course.

All SAF/PA members, alumni, family and friends are invited to participate. For more details or to reserve your spot, contact Capt. David Small at (703) 697-3409 or email to david.small@pentagon.af.mil.

New Centurion Fund Aids endowment

A year ago the AFPAAA Board of Directors challenged a committee made up of **Charley Powers, CB Kelly** and the late **John Gulick** to develop a way to promote more awareness of and add to the coffers of AFPAAA's Endowment Fund.

Thus, the **Centurions** were born.

To become a **Centurion** members simply donate \$100 to the AFPAAA Endowment Fund. In return, at the next annual meeting, one Centurion donor's name will be drawn and he or she will receive a full refund of their annual meeting registration fee. (The refund can be applied to the current or next annual meeting.)

It is hoped that the public drawing and attendant publicity will attract further contributions.

If even half of each meeting's attendees join the Centurions, the program would earn about \$5000 per annual meeting, a substantial addition to the foundation.

Medicare B necessary for Tricare of Life

Recently, DOD identified about 68,000 TRICARE For Life (TFL) eligible beneficiaries who do not have Medicare Part B, which is necessary for them to receive TRICARE benefits.

TMA sent these individuals a letter advising them of this requirement and that Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) would be sending them a second letter.

Apparently, CMS did not send the promised follow-up letters to about 30,000 of these beneficiaries.

Many of these beneficiaries have enrolled or declined enrollment in Medicare Part B. However, some may have been waiting for the letter from CMS prior to taking any action.

These beneficiaries will lose their TRICARE eligibility beginning Jan. 1, 2005. TMA has been working closely with CMS and the Social Security Administration (SSA) on a joint resolution on this issue.

Both SSA and the TMA are posting information on home pages to inform beneficiaries of the impact this will have on their health care and some actions they can take if they expect to have TRICARE benefits, but do not.

Please check this link to read more and contact TRICARE if need be to ensure that your coverage is continued.: <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/medicare/medicarepartbupdate.cfm>

**AFPAAA 2005 ANNUAL MEETING
JUNE 16-18, 2005
TACOMA, WASHINGTON**

Advance registration fee for members is \$150 and guests \$140 (includes two lunches, banquet, continental breakfast, transportation, memento). Advance registration must be received prior to June 1, 2005. On-site registration fees for members is \$175 and for guests \$165. Non-member registration fee is the normal registration fee plus \$25 (includes one-year full membership or three-years associate membership, as appropriate)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Name(s) of guest(s): _____

How do you want your name(s) to appear on your name badge(s): _____

Do you or your guests have any special needs? If yes, please specify: _____

How many in your party will take the tour of McChord AFB and the Museum of Flight on Friday, June 17: _____

What would you like to eat at the banquet? Please specify number of each:

_____ Beef _____ Chicken _____ Salmon

	<u>Cost Per Person</u>	<u>Number Attending</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Member Meeting Registration Fee	\$150	_____	_____
Guest Meeting Registration Fee	\$140	_____	_____
Banquet Only	\$ 50	_____	_____
Presidents Luncheon Only	\$ 15	_____	_____
SAF/PA Director's Luncheon Only	\$ 15	_____	_____
Total Cost (Enclosed)			_____

Please mail completed registration form and payment (make check or money order payable to: AFPAAA) no later than June 1, 2005, to: Linda Arnold, Attn: AFPAAA, 1831 Parhaven Drive, San Antonio, TX 78232

Hotel Reservations: Our meeting will be held at the Sheraton Tacoma Hotel, 1320 Broadway Plaza, Tacoma, WA, 98402. We have been guaranteed a rate of \$99 per night. For reservations call (253) 572-3200. Ask for Group Code 51FC8. Or go to the AFPAAA website and click on the hotel link to make reservations on line.

Annual meeting schedule of events

Thursday, June 16

Noon - 6pm: Registration in Hotel Lobby
 3pm: AFPAAA Board Meeting
 5pm - 7pm: No Host Icebreaker
 Evening Free – Tacoma Arts & Museum Walk available 5-8pm.

Friday, June 17

8:30am: Depart hotel for McChord AFB
 9:00am: Arrive McChord AFB
 9-11:30am: 62 Airlift Wing (C-17 Unit) and 446th Airlift Wing (AF Reserve)
 USAF Rodeo Event
 11:30-1pm: President's Luncheon
 1 – 2 pm: Enroute to MOF
 2pm-4pm: Boeing Museum of Flight
 4:00pm: Depart for hotel
 Evening Free

Saturday, June 18

7:30-8:30am: Continental Breakfast
 8:30 -9:30am: Maj Gen Lowenberg, Washington State Adjutant General
 (Subj: Homeland Security)
 9:45-10:45am: Col Cromwell, Head of Western Air Defense Sector (Post 9/11
 Air Defense)
 11:00-12:00: Col Schatz, Commander of 62 Air Logistics Wing
 (Subj: Airlift in Iraq & Afghanistan; AF Ops in SEA for
 tsunami relief)
 12:00-1:15: President's luncheon
 1:30-3:30: AFPAAA General Session
 6:00-7:00: No host reception
 7:00-10pm: Banquet

Sunday, June 19

Members depart

Optional Cruise set for after meeting

AFPAAA member **John Gura** has arranged for an optional cruise to Alaska aboard the *Serenade of the Seas* following the annual meeting.

Arrangements are being made for the cruise group to depart the Tacoma hotel June 19 for the Port of Vancouver and return to the SeaTac Airport on June 26.

Per person rates (in U.S. dollars) based on double occupancy, including port charges,

are:
 Inside cabins from \$1049;

Oceanview window cabins from \$1274;

Oceanview balcony cabins from \$1559;

Oceanview balcony premium/larger cabins from \$1649;

Taxes & fees, add \$27.55.

"This is a popular cruise

and space is filling up fast," said John. "The important thing is to reserve your stateroom early."

A refundable deposit of \$500.00 will hold space. Arrangements are being handled by AlaskaCruiseExperts.com.

Contact John for any Group-related questions. For all questions about the cruise, contact Matthew Vaughan, toll-free 800-565-2784 (ext 11)



Meeting

Continued from Page 1

distance to the south, or use the visit as a reason to visit the numerous other attractions in the Pacific Northwest. On-line links to many of these are available on the www.afpaaa.org web site.

Advance registration fee for members is \$150 and guests \$140 (includes two lunches, banquet, continental breakfast, transportation, memento). Advance registration must be received prior to June 1, 2005.

On-site registration fees for members is \$175 and for guests \$165. Non-member registration fee is the normal registration fee plus \$25 (includes one-year full membership or three-years associate membership, as appropriate)

Local hosts for the meeting include:

Mark Foutch and **Sam Cagle**, co-chairs;

Gary Emmons;

Chuck Fowler;

Ken St. John;

Don Macaluso;

Geoff Baker;

Doran Hopkins;

Bill Hubbard;

E.K. Loving;

John Litton;

Capt. Sam Highley,

62nd Airlift Wing PA;

Maj. Anna Sullivan,

446th AW PAO;

Vivian Wilson, WADS

PAO.

Personnel records to stay at AFPC

End of 49-year-old practice saves money; gives better access

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Airmen who retire or separate don't have to wait several months to receive requested copies of certain records because of a recent change in how the Air Force maintains personnel records.

The 49-year-old practice of sending nearly 5,500 personnel records each month to the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis ended in February as part of an effort to save money and give Airmen better access to their records, officials said.

"People usually have a lengthy wait before receiving copies of their records from the NPRC, and it costs the Air Force around \$8 million a year to maintain records there," said **Jo Hogue**, chief of master personnel records at the Air Force Personnel Center here. "That price tag would keep increasing if we sent more records to the NPRC, and our customers wouldn't have the accessibility we'll be able to provide."

"(AFPC Airmen are) committed to providing state of the art, convenient, leading-edge service, and this is another step in the effort to make Air Force personnel records available online anytime," said **Maj. Gen. Anthony F. Przybyslawski**, AFPC commander. "We hope to be able to offer that capability to our active-duty customers sometime in the next few of years."

In the meantime, former active-duty Airmen who retired or separated on or after Oct. 1, 2004, can request copies of records by writing to AFPC/DPFFCAMP, 550 C St. W., Suite 19, Randolph AFB,

TX 78150 or faxing (210) 565-4021 or DSN 665-4021.

People requesting their own records need to send a signed note that includes their name, Social Security number, contact information and specific record requested.

Those requesting a relative's record also need to provide their relationship to the former Airman. Former Guard and Reserve Airmen who retired or separated on or after Oct. 1, 2004, can write to HQ ARPC/PSDC, 6760 E. Irvington Place, Suite 4000, Denver, CO 80280 or fax (303) 676-7071 or DSN 926-7071.

Those who retired or separated before Oct. 1, 2004 can visit the NPRC Web site for record request instructions.

This change does not affect the disposition of medical and dental records, Mrs. Hogue said. They still will be stored permanently at the NPRC.

"From now on, all Air Force personnel records will be scanned for permanent electronic storage here in the Automated Records Management System, and the records that are already at the NPRC will stay there," Mrs. Hogue said. "Converting the records from paper to electronic also provides an additional backup version of each record."

Before this change, the paper copy that went to the NPRC was the only copy of a person's record; now there are two electronic versions in separate locations, Mrs. Hogue said.

The new system's backups are approved by the National Archivist, the head of the National Archives and Records Administration, the federal agency responsible for



RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — **Sam Ballard** and **Robert Weston** load file boxes of records onto a pallet here in February. The boxes were part of the final 1,800 records in paper form to be delivered to the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis. The automated records management systems branch here will soon process all records in an electronically scanned format. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. James Brabene)

preserving our nation's history. The new backup systems allow the Air Force to again eliminate paper versions of records.

From 1971 to 1994, AFPC destroyed the original copies of individual master personnel records because a microfilm copy was attached to the Unit Personnel Record Group that was forwarded to the NPRC, Mrs. Hogue said.

When the first electronic record storage system started in 1995, AFPC began storing

paper copies of master personnel records again because the new system did not provide a backup like the microfilm did.

Those who served or are currently serving on active duty can call the Air Force Personnel Contact Center more information at (800) 616-3775, commercial (210) 565-5000 or DSN 665-5000. Those who served or are serving in the Air National Guard or Reserve can call the Air Reserve Personnel Center at (800)525-0102.

Candidates seek seats with the board of directors

Linda Arnold has been a member of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association Board of Directors since 2002.

She is a retired chief master sergeant who served more than 25 years as a broadcaster.

Her military assignments included Thailand, Turkey, Berlin, Italy, Japan and the Defense Information School. Her last assignment was at AFNEWS where she was the chief of broadcasting for the Air Force Broadcasting Service.

Since retiring in Aug. 1997, Linda does public relations consulting work in the San Antonio area.

Sam Giammo is the director of Public Affairs for the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, a position he has held since August 1997. He has more than 38 years experience in public relations and public affairs.

Sam served for 27 years as a U.S. Air Force public affairs officer with assignments at Travis AFB, Calif.; Ramey AFB, P.R.; USAF Recruiting in Cleveland; U-Tapao, Thailand; Randolph AFB, Texas; Brooks AFB, Texas; Andrews AFB, Md.; Eglin AFB, Fl; Hq 3rd AF at RAF Mildenhall, England; and the Pentagon. He retired from the Air Force in 1994 as a colonel following an assignment in SAF/PA, first as director of Resources, and then deputy director.

He is accredited in public relations by the Public Relations Society of America, and in 2001 was elected to the PRSA College of Fellows. In addition, he is currently chair-elect of the New Mexico Ronald McDonald House Charities Board of Directors.

Hank Hufnagle is a financial advisor with H&R Block, specializing in retirement and education investment planning.

He began his Air Force career as a staff auditor and later resident auditor at Dow AFB, Maine.

While on active duty completed graduate study at the University of Colorado and assignments in Vietnam and Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

He left active duty and joined the Air Force Reserve with leadership responsibility for public affairs.

His final Air Force Reserve assignment was at U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Neb. Hank retired in 1994.

Active in the community he currently serves on the Finance Committee of the AFPAA (past 4 years) and he is Treasurer of the Wilmette Harbor Rotary Club. He is, also, President of his town home association. Previously, he has been Illinois Air Force Association President, Past President, and Chicago O'Hare Chapter of the Air Force Association, Past President

CB Kelly has served on the AFPAAA Board of Directors since 2003.

He is a retired lieutenant colonel who served more than 25 years as a navigator and public affairs officer.

His military assignments included The Azores, Air Force ROTC duty at Georgetown University, Vietnam and the Pentagon. His last assignment was as chief of the SAF/OI Los Angeles office.

He retired in 1978 to join the Atlantic Richfield Company where he headed their Design, Audiovisual, Graphics, Television, Motion Picture and Photographic departments for 15 years.

Christine Queen is seeking her first term on the Board of Directors. She is a Lifetime Founding Member of the Air Force Public Affairs Association.

Working under a contract managed by Northrop Grumman, she is the senior marketing strategist for the Headquarters, Army Continuing Education System (HQ, ACES). Since retiring from the Air Force on 28 February 1998, she has worked for Litton, PRC and with the company's absorption now Northrop Grumman IT.

During her 20 years on active duty, Christine was a public affairs officer and an airman for 10 months in the missile maintenance fields of Montana. Some of her PAO positions include assignments as Chief, Plans and Programs, Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO), Pentagon; Director of Public Affairs, 2nd Air Force, Beale AFB, Calif.; and Chief of

Public Affairs, 28th Air Division, Tinker AFB, Okla.

Her deployments include being one of the first PAOs in country for Desert Shield ('90) and the first PAO for the President's Counternarcotics Operation in Puerto Rico.

Christine stays involved in the community. While living in Virginia she served as President of the Capital Area Illinois State University Alumni Chapter for two years revitalizing the chapter into its present active status. She joined the board of the Peoria chapter for two years upon her return to Illinois in 2002.

Her military organization affiliation include life time membership with the Air Force Association and the Military Officers Association of America and is on the local MOAA board.

As a telecommuter to Virginia, Christine stays in contact with the business community through her membership with the Public Relations Association of Central Illinois (PRA).

Miles Wiley is currently the Director, Information and Decision Management, Office of the Executive Secretary, Department of Homeland Security.

Prior to this position, he was a Senior Communications Specialist for the Air Line Pilots Association, International.

Miles retired as a colonel in June 2002.

His assignments included Director, Joint Civilian Orientation Conference and Director for Plans, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs; and public affairs advisor for the Chief of Staff of the Air Force. He also served as an Executive Officer for the Plans and Programs Directorate, EUCOM, Patch Barrack; 3rd Air Force, RAF Mildenhall; Air War College; and Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB. His other PA jobs included SAF/PA, AFNEWS, and EWI.

He is a graduate of University of North Dakota, St. Mary's University, Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, Academic Instructor School, Armed Forces Staff College, Phase II, and Air War College.

OFFICIAL BALLOT

The Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association Board of Directors have 11 members who serve overlapping two-year terms. Five positions are open this year for a term of office beginning July 1, 2005 and ending June 30, 2007. Only Full Members in good standing may vote.

Full members may save both time and postage by voting online instead of mailing in a ballot. To vote online go to the Association's website at: www.afpaaa.org

Candidate biographies are printed on Page 7 of the newsletter. Please vote for five of the six candidates, or write-in the name of a candidate. Candidates are:

_____ Linda Arnold

_____ Sam Giammo

_____ Hank Hufnagle

_____ CB Kelly

_____ Christine Queen

_____ Miles Wiley

Write In (Please Print)

NOTE: Ballot envelopes are opened only by office ballot counters. Please mark Ballot on the outside of your envelope and DO NOT enclose checks or other Association correspondence in the ballot envelope.

Only Full Members in good standing may vote. To help the counters verify your ballot please print and sign your name and date your ballot below.

Name (print): _____

Signature: _____

Please mail your completed ballot to:

AFPAAA Elections

PO Box 540

Fairfax VA 22038

To be counted ballots must reach the above address by May 16.

Lord guide and protect.....

EDITOR'S NOTE: Obituaries are published in the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association newsletter when they are received. Members who know of the death of an Air Force public affairs, broadcaster or bandman are asked to forward obituaries to the editor at: AFPAAA, PO Box 540, Fairfax VA 22030-0540.

Belen Cardonita

Belen Cardonita, wife of retired CMSgt. Dom Cardonita, succumbed to heart disease after a valiant 10 year battle Mar. 19. She was buried next to her parents and sister in Abilene.

Retired Lt. Gen Maurice F. Casey

Retired Lt. Gen. Maurice F. Casey, 84, died Nov. 11, 2004.

He entered the Army Air Corps in 1942 as an aviation cadet and in Jan. 1943 completed his pilot training and was commissioned as a second lieutenant.

He flew combat missions in the European Theater of Operations as a bomber pilot during World War II.

General Casey commanded the 435th Troop Carrier Wing in the Far East during the Korean War.

He became the deputy director of Air Force Information Services in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force in July 1955. In June 1962, he was reassigned to the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force as deputy director of information.

His last assignment was as director for logistics, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He retired in 1977.

He is survived by his wife Dora Bell Neubert, three daughters, two sons, 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Retired Maj. Joe Durso

Retired Maj. Joe Durso, 80, died Jan. 3.

He enlisted in the Army Air Force during World War II and served as a pilot

and flight instructor. He was a member of the New York Public Affairs Reserve Squadron during the 1950s and 60s.

In civilian life he was a former sportswriter and editor at the New York Times and the author of many books on sports history.

He is survived by his wife Margaret, three sons, a step-son, stepdaughter and nine grandchildren.

Retired Col. Albert (Al) D. Hatcher

Retired Col. Al Hatcher died Jan. 29.

He served as special assistant and speechwriter to three Air Force Chiefs of Staff, including Gen. Curtis E. LeMay. He retired in 1971 after 30 years of service.

He is survived by his wife Mary, two daughters, two sons, three step-sons, 14 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Patricia Ann Hermann

Patricia Ann Hermann, 75, wife of retired Col. Bob Hermann died Jan. 24. They had been married 25 years.

Bob wrote: "I want to thank all of you who sent messages of condolence and concern during the short and unexpected illness and death of my wife, Pat.

"She loved working with all of you and socializing at our reunions. She was always ready to help anyone who asked, and she was the most upbeat person I knew.

"Thank you all for the kind expressions of remembrance."

Retired Col. Boone Rose Jr. and Dorothy (Dot) Davis Rose

Boone Rose Jr., 83, and Dorothy (Dot) Davis Dot Rose, 82, died Dec. 23, 2004. They both died of unrelated causes approximately 22 hours apart.

The two turned a chance meeting at a high school basketball game into a life of adventure and travel as a United States Air Force family.

Boone began his military career when he enlisted as an aviation cadet in 1942.

During World War II, Boone flew 45 combat missions as pilot of a B-17, and six combat missions in the B-26, accumulating a total of 315 combat hours in the European Theater of Operations (ETO).

After his military recall in 1950, Boone served two years as flight instructor for the B-29 bomber before transitioning to aircraft commander of a KC-97. in the 310th Air Refueling Squadron at Smokey Hill Air Force Base, Kan.

In 1968 was appointed executive officer to the Commander of the Seventh Air Force at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Vietnam.

Boone rescued a fellow serviceman from a burning building during the Tet Offensive in 1968 and received the Airman's Medal for heroism.

His final USAF assignment was as Base Commander at Myrtle Beach AFB, SC. He retired in 1975 as command pilot with over 7,000 flying hours.

Survivors include four daughters, 11 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

A private burial with full military honors was held Dec. 29, 2004.

Retired Lt. Col. Wayne A. Tongue

Retired Lt. Col. Wayne A. Tongue, 66, died July 8, 2004.

He began his military career when he joined the Marine Corps in 1956.

He enlisted in the Air Force in 1961. He was commissioned a second lieutenant after completing an Air Force Institute of Technology assignment at Michigan State University where he earned a bachelor's degree.

His assignments include Vietnam, Hill and Knowlton Public Relations in New York, Air Force Recruiting, and Iran. He retired in 1988.

He is survived by his wife Marilyn, and a son.

DFAS website moves to new home

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFPN) — The Defense Finance and Accounting Service public Web site moved to a new location on the Internet, officials announced March 2.

The old site, www.dfas.mil, will remain available through March 31. Then, users will be redirected to the new site, www.dod.mil/dfas, and links to pages on the previous site will generate an error message notifying users of the move, officials said.

Webmasters who link to the site or pages within the site should review their links and update them accordingly, officials said.

The move will enhance the performance of the site by providing redundancy to prevent down time and by providing an opportunity for enhanced features in the future, officials said.

“Our goal is to provide the best service and products possible to the men

and women who defend America,” said Claudia Bogard, the service’s corporate communications director. “With this move, our customers can rely on DFAS for faster access to information whenever they need it from anywhere around the globe at any hour of the day or night.”

Officials said the move also will provide the following benefits:

— Increase the speed of the site by more than 12 times.

— Improve search capability to allow DFAS content to be found on any of dod-dot-mil sites.

— Allow DFAS content to be found at www.dod.mil/dfas, www.defense.mil/dfas, www.pentagon.gov/dfas, www.defense.gov/dfas, www.defenselink.mil/dfas or www.defense.gov/dfas.

— Create stronger alignment between DFAS and DOD public Web sites.

— Reduce the burden of public Web traffic to DFAS networks.

Online subscription ensures speedy newsletter delivery

Members of the AFPAAA can “subscribe” to on-line delivery of the Association’s quarterly newsletter, saving the organization costs in printing and postage in the process.

“When it comes time for the next newsletter to be published, subscribers are sent a publication alert at the email address they provide, said John Gura, webmaster for the AFPAAA site. “You can then choose to read the newsletter online in a text-only version or download a PDF

file and read it on your computer. You can even print it out- photos, graphics and all”

Gura reminded subscribers that if they subscribe now, they will no longer receive the newsletter via “snail mail.”

“Subscribers will have the satisfaction of helping us save money and you’ll get the newsletter weeks sooner too!”

People who change their mind after trying the on-line subscription can easily re-establish “snail mail” delivery.

Names sought for PA memorial

The Public Affairs Memorial Selection Committee is now accepting nominations for recognizing Public Affairs, Broadcast and Band personnel who were killed in the line of duty.

The USAF Public Affairs Memorial, sponsored by the AFPAAA, is a tribute to those men and women who have died on an official PA assignment whether by hostile fire or in a duty related accident/incident.

Nominations, at a minimum, should include the nominee’s name, rank and ser-

vice number, a detailed description of the circumstances and explanation of why the individual is being nominated.

Nominations should be sent to AFPAAA, P.O. Box 550, Fairfax, VA 22030-0540 and marked “PA Memorial” on the envelope. A full text of the PA Memorial document will be posted on the AFPAAA web site.

Questions should be directed to Ed Johnson, project chair, at (210) 653-2839 or e-mail pamemorial@afpaaa.org.

The Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association newsletter is published quarterly for members of the Association. Online subscriptions are available at www.afpaaa.org

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Individuals who have ever served, or are currently serving, in Air Force Public Affairs, an Air Force Band, or as an Air Force Broadcaster, military or civilian, on active duty, or in the Guard or Reserve.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES: Full members- former Air Force Public Affairs, Broadcasters, or Bandsmen, military or civilian, retired or separated. Associate members- current or former Air Force Public Affairs, Broadcasters, or Bandsmen, military or civilian, still in service. Adjunct members- spouses, widows or widowers of those eligible to be Full or Associate members. Affiliate members- a limited number of persons not eligible for membership under any of the above categories may become a member upon favorable recommendation by the Membership Committee and approval by the Board of Directors (U.S. Citizens only).

CHANGING CATEGORIES: Members may change categories at any time as circumstances permit. They must notify the Membership Committee of their new status.

MEMBERSHIP RATES:

\$300 for life membership (payable in four monthly \$75 installments). \$25 for one-year membership (full, adjunct and affiliate). \$50 for three-year membership (full, adjunct and affiliate). \$10 for one-year membership (associate). \$20 for three-year membership (associate).

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:

Available at www.afpaaa.org
Completed forms and check or money order should be sent to: **Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association, P.O. Box 540, Fairfax, VA 22038-0540.**

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(* denotes Board Members)

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From the Chairman of the Board

by Mike Gannon

Since its inception, a primary Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association focus has been to help the active duty force.

We can do that in a number of ways and we all need to review our efforts and see if there is something we can, and should, be doing to support our Air Force.

By just casually reading the newspaper each day we are constantly being told of upcoming budget cuts in DoD and the possible impact on a number of Air Force programs, including the F-22 and C-130J acquisition programs.

We can also read of increasing pressures on the Guard and reserve forces and the continuing fallout over recent “bad news” stories concerning the Air Force’s acquisition programs, senior leadership ethical issues, and the



Air Force Academy.

All the more reason to be proactive in helping ensure the positive news about the great things our Air Force is doing is getting out to the public.

Writing letters to the editor, calling local talk shows, and speaking at local schools, civic and fraternal meetings are just a few of the ways we can help.

We need to stay current in what’s happening – read the Air Force Policy

Letter, Airman magazine, and other publications to stay tuned into current Air Force policies.

Stay informed and help ensure that our friends, neighbors, and fellow citizens are made aware of the many positive things our Air Force is doing to support the Global War on Terrorism, sustain it’s warfighting readiness and expeditionary focus, and expand its contributions to the joint fight.

There are a lot of good things happening and we need to do what we can to help ensure that message is getting out. No effort is too small and I encourage your continued efforts to help tell the Air Force story.

Sincerely

Mike

The President’s Pen.....

by Charley Powers

As I face my blank computer screen, I realize I have few remaining opportunities to write the “President’s Pen.” Dave Barry might say that’s great news for the readership—and even Dave’s taking a break from his weekly column.

However, it calls attention to the fact that Board members move up and eventually out. We are always looking for fresh blood and ideas for the AFPAAA Board of Directors. I would urge those interested in getting on the track to writing this column to come forward and be an active part of our wonderful association.

In my previous column I urged tax-deductible contributions to the AFPAAA Endowment Fund so we can eventually have the economic security longed for by many non-profit associations. Please feel free to support the endowment financially with any amount you can afford. It would be great to develop the annual giving habit and if possible become a Centurion. Just check the AFPAAA web site for Centurion



information.

The other issue of some concern to me and other members is AFPAAA, by its very nature is, demographically challenged. Neil Buttimer, who voluntarily spends hours of his time on membership reports, renewals and related business, reports that our membership has been trending down since 2003.

We’ve lost some very dear friends and former colleagues in 2004. In addition our overall renewal rate for 2004 was 86% for full members and a disappointing 44% for Associate members. We had assumed an 80% Associates renewal rate.

I ask you to reach out to former

colleagues who do not already belong to AFPAAA and urge them to join. We also need to do a more effective marketing and liaison job with the active and reserve forces PAs. You can help if there is a base in your community. We can work it through SAF/PA as well.

AFPAAA enhances the entire Public Affairs career field by raising the image of professionalism and creating camaraderie. The active and reserve PAs can play a key role in this, while we can provide a depth of knowledge and experience that is hard to find.

One final point is to personally thank Al Eakle for his fine work producing an excellent AFPAAA newsletter. I look forward to seeing all of you at our annual meeting in Tacoma on June 16th and want to hear your views about the direction and future of AFPAAA.

Sincerely

Charley

Thunderbirds release 2005 show schedule



The 2005 Thunderbird Show Line bursts into action while recovering six jets moments after the Delta formation was formed for the first time by the 2005 demonstration team. The Delta formation is the most prestigious milestone the demonstration pilots reach during the training season. The Thunderbirds are scheduled to perform at 45 different show sites in the U.S., Canada and Central America. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Master Sgt. George F. Jozens)

The Thunderbirds have announced their 2005 air show schedule. They are scheduled to perform more than 70 public shows in 29 states, Canada and Central America. The 2005 schedule is as follows:

April

2 and 3 — Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.
9 and 10 — MacDill AFB, Fla.
16 — Laughlin AFB, Texas
17 — Holloman AFB, N.M.
23 — Shaw AFB, S.C.
24 — Patrick AFB, Fla.
30 — Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

May

1 — Ft Lauderdale, Fla.
7 and 8 — Rochester, N.Y.
14 and 15 — Langley AFB, Va.
20 and 22 — Andrews AFB, Md.
28 and 29 — Wantagh, N.Y.

June

1 — U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo.
4 — Peterson AFB, Colo.
5 — Malmstrom AFB, Mont.
11 and 12 — Smyrna, Tenn.
18 and 19 — Lacrosse, Wis.
25 and 26 — Davenport, Iowa

July

2 — Tinker AFB, Okla.
3 and 4 — Battle Creek, Mich.
9 and 10 — Pittsburgh

16 and 17 — Dayton, Ohio
23 and 24 — Terre Haute, Ind.
27 — Cheyenne, Wyo.
30 and 31 — McChord AFB, Wash.

August

13 and 14 — Abbotsford, British Columbia
20 and 21 — Chicago
27 and 28 — Westfield, Mass.
30 and 31 — Atlantic City, N.J.

September

3 and 5 — Cleveland
10 and 11 — Portland, Ore.
16 and 17 — Reno, Nev.
18 — Mountain Home AFB, Idaho
24 and 25 — Forth Worth, Texas

October

1 and 2 — Salinas, Calif.
8 and 9 — Little Rock AFB, Ark.
15 and 16 — Travis AFB, Calif.
22 and 23 — Naval Air Station-Joint Reserve Base New Orleans
26 — La Aurora, Guatemala
29 and 30 — Ilopango Air Base, San Salvador

November

2 — Acapulco, Mexico
5 and 6 — Randolph AFB, Texas
12 and 13 — Nellis AFB, Nev.

For more information on the Thunderbirds, visit:
[www.airforce.com/thunderbirds/.](http://www.airforce.com/thunderbirds/)

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