

# Multi-Media Scores Again; Captain Joseph Coslett Tops In AF Public Affairs

## Ron Rand's Quiet Work Earns Mike McRaney Service Award

Ron Rand, who has been a force behind the scene in ensuring the financial success of AFPAAA for years, was presented the association's highest honor,



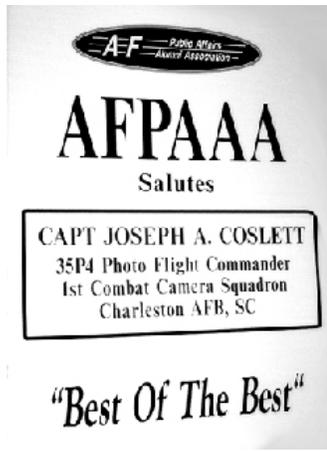
the Mike McRaney Distinguished Service Award by president Christine Queen at the 17th Annual Membership Meeting dinner April 24.

His association with AFPAAA goes back to before its founding, when, while still on active duty with Mike Gallagher, he laid

the groundwork for it at Langley AFB in a meeting with retired members of the Public Affairs career field. As SAF/PA director he was a strong advocate of AFPAAA, encouraging enlisted, officer, and civilians on active duty to become members.

Ron has served as a member of our board of directors. More importantly, beginning in 2005, he has helped AFPAAA solicit support from firms in the aerospace business, especially contributions to help fund our annual meetings. His knowledge of the business, as well as his position with a major company had an immediate impact with an increase of \$4,000 in 2006 over the previous year, a trend that continues and has raised more than \$60,000.

Besides helping our Annual Membership meetings succeed, those efforts have added to AFPAAA's endowment fund, as portions of contributions not used for the meetings are put into the fund.



For the second consecutive year, SAF/PA's top individual award, the AFPAAA sponsored 'Best of the Best,' has gone to a combat photographer. The winner this year was Captain Joseph A. Coslett, Commander of the 35P4 Flight, 1st Combat Camera Squadron, Charleston AFB, South Carolina. A Best of the Best trophy, \$1000 check, and a lifetime membership in the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association were presented to Captain Coslett by board chairman Sam Giammo at the association's 17th Annual Membership Meeting dinner in Orlando April 24.

Captain Coslett was chosen for his outstanding leadership and management in planning and executing efforts that leveraged all communication functions in his unit to achieve measurable effects.

He directed more than 2,500 combat and humanitarian assistance missions and led the Department of Defense's largest deployed Combat Camera unit at 54 forward sites in covering Operation Iraqi Freedom. While they were raising

battlefield imagery transmission 16%, he assisted the 52 members of his unit through 41 fire fights and IED, RPG, and mortar attacks so they could continue current and subsequent missions. Among his other accomplishments was the development of a new mobile imagery transmission plan and the recycling of legacy systems that saved DoD \$3.7 million.

In 1995 AFPAAA joined SAF/PA to establish the Best of the Best Award. The first award was presented in March of that year to Senior Airman, now Major, James H. Cunningham III by Air Force Secretary Sheila E. Widnall and AFPAAA board chairman Mike McRaney at the World Wide Public Affairs Conference. The permanent trophy with the names of all the winners is in SAF/PA at the Pentagon.

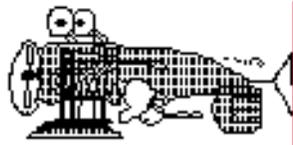
## Buttimer, Giammo Get President's Awards

AFPAAA President's Awards were made to Neil Buttimer and Sam Giammo by President Christine Queen at the 17th Annual Membership Meeting in April.

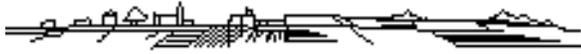
Neil was cited for his leadership in extensive volunteer work with various organizations and his community, as well as his contributions to AFPAAA. Sam was recognized for being a role model

and mentor to young Public Affairs practitioners and his work for AFPAAA.

Each received a certificate with a fragment of aerospace history - a piece of the original Pad A, Complex 26 gantry at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station from which Explorer 1, America's first space launch, was made on January 31, 1956.



**Prop Wash  
&  
Jet Blast**



**Welcome Aboard To . . .** *Stuart Camp, Steven Grever, Linda Haseloff, Fred Helmer, Mark Hess, Charles Miller, Randy Redman, Jay Steuck, Charles Ware, Patricia York and Vanessa Young.*

**New Lifers . . .** *either by joining or upgrading their membership status, we recognize Joseph Coslett, Doran Hopkins, Les Kodlick, and Mike Perini.*

**Ethically Speaking . . .** *Gary J. Turner, CEO of Kenai Peninsula College, has been confirmed by the Alaska state legislature for a second 3-year term on the State of Alaska Select Committee on Legislative Ethics; he was committee chair in 2009, and is the current vice chair, as well as chairing the senate ethics subcommittee.*

**AFBlue Tube . . .** *for the latest on the active force just go to the web at <http://www.youtube.com/user/AFBlueTube> for videos, articles, and stories.*

**Movin' Up & Movin' On . . .** *new SAF/PA director Les Kodlick has been selected for brigadier general . . . colonel selectee Phil Waite, Jr. to USAF Band commander . . . former SAF/PA director Fred Roggero retiring as a major general from chief of Air Force Safety.*

**Represent AFPAAA At DINFOS . . .** *want to present Public Affairs Badges when a class graduates at DINFOS? Just give DINFOS Provost and former AFPAAA Chairman Mike Gannon a call (301) 677-4281 or send him an e-mail ([michael.gannon@dinfos.dma.mil](mailto:michael.gannon@dinfos.dma.mil)) to coordinate a graduation and with your schedule.*

## Foutch Named To Board; Queen, Ross, Caldwell Move Up In Leadership

At its meeting on April 22, AFPAAA's Board of Directors named Mark Foutch to fulfill the unexpired term of C. B. Kelly. Foutch was also appointed to be secretary as part of the new leadership team of San Jose State University and an AFROTC commission in 1963.

Christine Queen, chairman of the board; Bud Ross, president, and Mike Caldwell, vice president that heads the association beginning this month.

Jim Hart was reappointed as treasurer and John Terino as communications chairman and board member.



**Mark Foutch**

Kelly, a member of the board since 2003, offered his resignation so that a new board member, who was willing to accept the secretary position could be brought on board. Chairman Sam Giammo expressed the Boards deep appreciation to CB for his many years of service of AFPAAA.

Foutch replacing Kelly was the only change to the board as Dick Abel, John Gura, Jim Hart, Hank Hufnagel, and Bud Ross were all reelected by the membership this year. Their two year terms begin this month as they join Neil Buttimer, Caldwell, Foutch, Sam Giammo, Queen, Hal Smarkola, and Terino on the board.

In putting AFPAAA Lifetime Founder Foutch on the board, the association gains a person who fits perfectly into the leadership progression plan.

His career as a Public Affairs officer began when he graduated with a journalism degree from

His offices and programs at Nakhon Phanom, Thailand; McChord AFB, and RAF Lakenheath won numerous awards. Mark was the SAF/PA duty officer the night the Iran hostage rescue mission failed.

He then moved to OASD/PA's Operations News Branch and then headed the Air Force Press Desk before directing OASD/PA's News Division.

He retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1985, and move to Olympia, Washington to renovate a 100 year old Victorian home.

But, community service and politics soon beckoned.

Mark became president of his neighborhood association and the local MOAA chapter. Then, in 1991, he was elected to the Olympia city council. By 1994 he was mayor pro tem and was elected mayor in 2004, an office he held until the end of 2007.

While on the city council, he chaired the regional planning council and the six-county clean air agency board, and was elected president of the Association of Washington Cities.

He was the council liaison to the major Army, Air Force, and Navy bases in the Olympia-Seattle area. Mark was one of the first community leaders inducted into Fort Lewis' Civilian Hall of Fame.

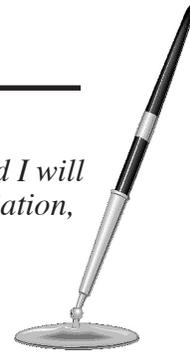
**Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association News & Notes**, John Terino, editor, is published quarterly for members by the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association, P. O. Box 447, Locust Grove, VA 22508-0447. On-line subscriptions are available at [www.afpaaa.org](http://www.afpaaa.org). **Membership Information:** Those who have served in Air Force Public Affairs, an Air Force Band, as an Air Force Broadcaster, or in the multimedia career fields as either military or civilian are eligible for **Full Membership**. Current or former members of those career fields, still on active duty, or in the Guard or Reserve are eligible for **Associate Membership**. **Membership Rates:** Lifetime \$300 (payable in four quarterly \$75 installments); Full Membership, one-year \$25 or three years \$50. Associate Membership, one-year \$10 or three years \$20. Membership applications are available at [www.afpaaa.org](http://www.afpaaa.org) **Board of Directors and Officers:** Chairman, Christine Queen; President, Bud Ross; Vice President, Mike Caldwell; Secretary, Mark Foutch; Treasurer, Jim Hart; Dick Abel, Neil Buttimer, Sam Giammo, John Gura, Hank Hufnagel, Hal Smarkola, John Terino. **Committee Chairmen:** Annual Meeting, Mike Caldwell; Communications, John Terino; Development, Joe Purka; Elections, Kathy McCollom; Finance, Jim Hart; Membership, Neil Buttimer; Oral History & Web Site John Gura.

# From The President's Pen

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*I am honored to serve as your president in this pivotal time in our history and I will work diligently to uphold the trust you have granted me. As I view our association, there are four priority challenges that are apparent:*

- *Membership development*
- *Mentoring those now serving in our career field*
- *Preserving our heritage*
- *Financial Health*



*Membership: This has been the focus of every president and board before me. With both the loss of veteran members and the decline of those now serving through staffing cuts, the task becomes increasingly daunting. At our Orlando annual general membership meeting a motion was passed tasking our board to address various aspects of membership development to include looking at changing the name of the organization.*

*Your board will take on this task with full diligence. It will carefully examine demographic projections, what will likely increase our numbers based on surveys of potential members, the impact of a diverse career field that now includes bandsmen, broadcast and multi-media specialties, and the impacts of change on our operations and charter. While some of this work has been done, much remains. Only after all the assessments are complete will your board make recommendations. The general membership will be kept fully informed and included in this process.*

*Mentoring: At the Orlando meeting, Brigadier General select Les Kodlick, SAF/PA Director, challenged former public affairs members to help mentor a new generation of PAs. He noted the career field is just beginning to rebuild itself following the dramatic cuts and subsequent reinstatement of billets. On top of that, he reported one third of our career field is deployed at any given time. I challenge you to make contact with a public affairs office close to you. Have lunch or coffee with the staff and get to know them. Your knowledge of the local area and your experience are a ready resource. Please offer it!*

*Heritage: We are losing World War II veterans at the rate of a thousand each day! We are losing Korean and Viet Nam era folks as well. John Gura can use some help interviewing our pioneers through the oral history program, but we will never capture all of it unless each of you begins to chronicle your own stories. Take an experience worthy of recording and write just one chapter at a time. Each of you have dozens to tell. I would like to start a compendium of lessons learned and great public affairs stories captured.*

*Financial Health: Closely tied to these priorities must be our ability to carry out our functions in a time of declining market conditions and a shrinking defense sector. We need to attain a position wherein AFPAAA can sustain its operations regardless of available donations.*

*You will hear more on these topics in my next message. We look forward to our next annual meeting which will be in the northern California wine country and Travis AFB.*

*– Bud Ross*

# U.S. Air Force Awarded PRSA's Top Silver Anvil Honor For Balancing Honor, Compassion, And Transparency In Making "Dignified Transfers" of War Dead At Dover

In a press release, the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) announced that "military transparency — an oxymoron to some — has earned the U.S. Air Force Office of Public Affairs the public relations industry's highest award for excellence."

Chairman and CEO of the Public Relations Society of America, Gary McCormick, presented its "Best of Silver Anvil Award" to the Air Force, June 4, at the Equitable Tower in New York City.

The award recognized the Air Force's program to handle media coverage of flag-draped coffins bearing the remains of U.S. service personnel arriving at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware.

Under Secretary of the Air Force Erin C. Conaton, and more than 20 members of the Air Force Public Affairs community were at the award presentation.

"A Solemn View: Public Affairs Provides a Window to American Service Members' Ultimate Sacrifice" was selected as the best among 134 public relations programs nominated for a Silver Anvil Award,

the public relations industry's most distinguished award for excellence. There were more than 800 entries total.

"This year, we recognize the U.S. Air Force and its public affairs professionals, whose approach to the 'dignified transfer' of service personnel remains neither sought nor discouraged media reports, but facilitated coverage consistent with each family's wishes," said PRSA's McCormick.

"I salute their efforts, which carefully balanced dignity, honor and respect for the fallen; compassion, service and support for the family members; and the need for greater transparency, as an important reminder of war's human cost."

In the press release PRSA stated that for more than 18 years, a U.S. policy hid from public view the arrival of America's war dead at Dover Air Force Base, the sole U.S. port of entry for the remains of America's service personnel. In 2009, Defense Secretary Robert Gates reversed this media ban, which critics had decried as hiding the true cost of war, the release continued.

Air Force Public Affairs

***"The Air Force public affairs team brought a terrific sense of empathy for the families of fallen soldiers and combined it with a comprehensive and highly professional public relations effort."***

professionals developed a fail-safe and repeatable media relations program that neither sought nor discouraged media reports, but that facilitated coverage consistent with each family's wishes. In the first year of the new policy, 471 war dead returned to Dover for the "dignified transfer of remains." More than half (55 percent) of these ceremonies were covered by media.

"I want to thank the



**PRSA Chairman and CEO Gary McCormick awarded the Best of Silver Anvil to the U.S Air Force Office of Public Affairs, June 4, in New York City. From left to right: Lt. Colonel Jara Lang, Major Paul Villagran, Colonel Bob Edmondson, McCormick, Colonel Les Kodlick, Under Secretary of the Air Force Erin Conaton, Major Mike Andrews, Lt. Colonel Kimberly Tebrugge, Staff Sergeant Jamie George.**

Public Relations Society of America for recognizing the Air Force Office of Public Affairs and its tremendous record of success in this no-fail mission," Under Secretary Conaton said.

"It is a solemn process that ensures dignity, honor and respect for the fallen, and also provides care, service and support to family members, while allowing the media to give the public considerate insight into the human cost of war. The work that Air Force Mortuary Affairs and Public Affairs do with dignified transfers, and the media's coverage of them, is important to the Air Force, the Department of Defense and the nation," she said.

The Silver Anvil judges noted in particular the Air Force's evaluation of media

operations following each dignified transfer which was key to making ongoing improvements and ensuring a unique and intimate experience for the families.

"The Air Force public affairs team brought a terrific sense of empathy for the families of fallen soldiers and combined it with a comprehensive and highly professional public relations effort," said James J. Roop, Silver Anvil Committee chair and president of Roop & Co., Cleveland, Ohio.

"The team's ability to meet the desires of affected families while pulling back the curtain on the dignified transfers earned it the Best of Silver Anvil Award over many outstanding public relations programs in this year's competition," Roop stated.

See highlights of the presentation at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/AFBlueTube#p/u/3/5bFWAktWIUQ>

# Lord Guard & Guide

## Chester E. Gardner

Chet Gardner, who had a 22-year career in Air Force Public Affairs, died at home in Colonial Beach, Virginia, May 14, two days before his 80th birthday.

Born in Rochester, New York, he was commissioned when he graduated from Syracuse University. His career included tours in the Pentagon, at Wiesbaden Air Base, Germany, and with the United Nations Command in Seoul, Korea. He retired in 1974 as a lieutenant colonel.

During his post Air Force career, Chet was vice president of communications for one of the oldest trade associations in America, the U.S. Brewers Association.

His subsequent retirement to Colonial Beach was a very active one. Chet was on the planning commission and served a term on the town council. He was a founding member of the historical society and served as the second vice president of the Potomac Chapter, Military Officers Association of America. Chet was also a freelance photographer for the Westmoreland News and was Commodore of the Colonial Yacht Club.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Mary; seven children, Ellen Smyth, David Gardner, Ann Matalavage, Lynn McGee, Diane Sutphin, Debora Herrmann, and Cathleen Kirby; and 13 grandchildren. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Expressions of remembrance of Chet can be made by to the Colonial Beach Historical Society, P.O. Box 215 Colonial Beach, VA 22443.

*Chet Gardner was one of my first bosses in SAF/OI's Support Forces Branch in the late 1960s-early 1970s – a branch that included Gladys Wise and Jim Newton. His gentle demeanor tended to hide his strong leadership qualities.*

*Chet was above all a family man. He and his wife Mary and seven children were very close.*

*Our Air Force public affairs family has lost another giant in the profession.*



– Dave Shea

## Elizabeth Anne Myers

Elizabeth Anne 'BA' Myers passed away in Lexington, Massachusetts, on March 8. She was 85.

BA worked for many years at the Pentagon in administration, protocol, and public affairs. A widow raising three children, in the early '80s she was a secretary in OASD-PA community relations and then in the newsroom.

Pete Hefler and I remember her as always cheerful no matter the challenges facing her – a real trouper – who was dedicated to the mission and the people she supported. In 1985 she was hand-picked for the protocol office of the

U.S. Ambassador to NATO in Brussels. During World War II she was a translator for the United States government in Panama. She retired to Mexico in the early '90s. By the slimmest coincidence she heard about and soon made contact with Clark Byse,

whom she'd known in Panama and who by then was a very distinguished professor emeritus of law at Harvard. Their marriage made the NY Times, a lovely late-in-life storybook romance. Clark died last year.

BA leaves a brother, her children, and six grandchildren, and lots of friends from her days in DoD public affairs.

– Mark Foutch

## Robert J. O'Brien, Jr.

Robert J. 'Obie' O'Brien Jr., who had a 29-year Air Force career, died March 20, at his Williamsburg, Virginia, home, of complications of lung cancer. He was 74.

Obie graduated from the Linsley Military Institute in Wheeling, West Virginia, in 1953. He attended Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, on an academic scholarship, graduating with honors in 1957 with a BA in Journalism and a commission in the United States Air Force. During his Air Force career, he served two tours of duty in Vietnam; was Chief of Public Affairs for North American Air Defense Command and Air Force Systems Command; and had three tours in the Office of the Secretary of Defense – the last as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs. He retired in 1986 as a colonel.

After leaving the Air Force, Obie was Director of Public Affairs for the McDonnell-Douglas Corporation in Washington, D.C. and Public Relations Vice President in Boeing Corporation's Washington, D.C. office.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Margaret Schultz O'Brien. Remembrances in his name may be made to the St. Olaf Catholic Church Building Fund, 104 Norge Lane, Williamsburg, VA 23188.



I was at Brooks when Bob recruited me to come to Systems Command headquarters. He truly made his mark there before going over to OASD/PA. My favorite story about him was the day that he picked up the phone and a radio reporter announced, "Colonel, you are live on the air..." Bob said "No I'm not," and hung up.

– Sam Giammo

*Once we got to know each other, I really enjoyed working in media relations for Colonel Bob O'Brien at OASD/PA in the early '80s. He was just the gutsy and energetic street-smart media strategist and tactician we needed during a very challenging time.*

*Obie brought an audacious joy to what had become a wearing daily slog as the media and the Reagan Administration jostled over policy and personalities. Four stories from those days:*

*• CBS' 60 Minutes with Mike Wallace was repeatedly blindsiding DoD interviewees with angles they had not been invited to discuss. After failing to convince the producers*

otherwise, Obie declared a Pentagon-wide moratorium on on-camera interviews for 60 Minutes. His rationale? "We're obliged to give you information but we're NOT obliged to provide you with talent." He made that stick long enough to get 60 Minutes to commit to fairer practices.

• In a post-Grenada meeting over whether the media should have free run in a combat zone or accept some controls in exchange for logistic support etc., news organizations repeatedly asserted that they needed no support from the military and could take care of themselves. One network rep was particularly insistent. Obie countered "Just this morning your New York office phoned, asking me to get the Navy to fly some footage out of Beirut."

• One afternoon, we learned that a "watchdog" group was about to release "their study" of wasteful military procurement practices that was based on a Pentagon report of problems found and solved. With the full support and participation of ASD/PA Mike Burch (retired AF Lt. Colonel PAO), Obie put the graphics staff on an overnight shift and called in DoD and military service staffers. The next morning Mike led a well-attended press conference detailing all those issues with the theme, "We Found It, We Fixed It." The "watchdog" group complained that we had stolen their thunder, which we all took as a high compliment.

From what I heard over the years, working for Obie could be rough. But after he and I first butted heads (his tongue-in-cheek response "Well, I'm always right so clearly you're mistaken!"), we developed a relationship of mutual confidence that, I think, served our mission well. I helped him share his disappointment when he was passed over for BG and the SAF/PA director's job. (A colonel as DASD/PA, one of Obie's predecessors had been a two-star Army general.)

Obie was truly one of a kind. I'll miss him.

– Mark Foutch

Bob was a real 'pro' with uncanny public relations instincts that he successfully employed in the Air Force, at DoD and in his post-service jobs in the aerospace industry.

He was one of the key people who in the 70's-90's help create a professional corps in Air Force Public Affairs. And he passed along his experience and knowledge to countless other up and coming PA officers, NCOs and airmen and civilians. He will definitely be missed by his many friends and associates.

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

– Jerry Dalton

A lovable curmudgeon is one way to describe Bob O'Brien. "Obie" was certainly that but much, much more: a civil war buff; a model train enthusiast; a voracious reader; a fancier of Scottish Terriers; an avid golfer; and one of a small number of legendary public affairs officers to come our way.

We first met in 1959 when Obie, as a first lieutenant, was the wing information officer at Bolling AFB. A few years later (1964), I was assigned to Bolling, and he was at the Pentagon, having just returned from Vietnam. That's right, I said Vietnam where he served as an advisor. Hard to picture that.

My most vivid recollection of the many I have of Obie was in October 1967 during the "March on the Pentagon." He was in OASD/PA at the time, and I in SAF/OI. There was Obie in a hard hat charging the protesters at the Mall entrance. I guess that came under "other duties as directed."

Bob, I'll miss you.

– Dave Shea

## Robert E. Rayfield

Bob Rayfield, who had an Air Force career as a navigator and Public Affairs officer that spanned four decades, died in Schertz, Texas, September 10. He was 80.

He was born in Fayetteville, North Carolina, grew up in Miami, Florida, and earned bachelor and masters degrees from the University of Florida, Gainesville, and a Ph.D. in journalism from the University of Texas, Austin.

He enlisted in 1951 and served in Special Services at James Connally AFB, Texas, and Forbes AFB, Kansas. In 1952 he entered the Aviation Cadets program, went through navigator training and was commissioned. He spent 13 years in the United States, Japan, and Korea as a navigator-bombardier in a variety of aircraft, including B-25s, B-26s, B-47s, B-52s, and KC and EC-135s.

Bob was assigned to Strategic Air Command Headquarters in 1966 as a staff officer, eventually serving as special assistant and speech writer to three SAC commanders, before becoming director of Public Affairs. His final assignment was director of Public Affairs for U.S. Forces Japan and 5th Air Force from 1978-1983, when he retired as a colonel.

He then became a professor at California State University Fullerton, pursuing a career he began by teaching in his off duty time for the University of Maryland and Cal State. At Cal State he taught undergraduate and graduate courses in mass communications, public relations, writing. In addition to extensive academic papers and other writings, Bob authored two communication text books, two church histories, and a military history.

Retiring from Cal State Fullerton in 1993, he and his wife Ann moved to Texas to be near their children and grandchildren, and bought a Piper Cherokee 180 – Bob never lost his love of flying, which he pursued well into his 70s.

Bob is survived by his wife; children; Ellen, Lorrie Ellstrom, Robin Richter, Thomas, Peggy, Beth and Pamela, and five grandchildren. He was buried at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Remembrances in his name may be made to a veteran's organization or to St Matthew's Episcopal 810 Kitty Hawk Road, Universal City, TX 78148.



## Clay E. Thompson, Jr.

Clay Thompson, who spent three decades as a pilot and Public Affairs officer, died May 11, at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital in Fairfax, Virginia. He was 94.

He was born in McLean, Texas, and grew up in Lubbock. He graduated in 1936 with a degree in speech and drama from what is now Texas Tech University. He went to California and pursued a career as a radio announcer and theater actor until entering the Army Air Corps.

He was a pilot, commanded an airfield near Tokyo during the postwar occupation of Japan, participated in hydrogen bomb testing in the Marshall Islands in the early 1950s, and commanded a Strategic Air Command Unit. He is last assignment was in Public Affairs in the Pentagon in 1972, when he retired as a colonel.

He worked as a civilian in security review until he retired from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs in 1985.

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He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Pauline Huff "Polly" Thompson of Falls Church; two sons, retired Army Col. Gayden Thompson of Oakton, a former deputy undersecretary of the Army for international affairs, and Clay A. Thompson of Fairfax County; and a grandson.

When I went to work for General Electric's Space Systems Division, Art Dederick introduced me to Clay Thompson as the man I should work with in DoD security review when I had brochures, news releases, and videos to be cleared.

Clay was great, easy to work with even when he had to turn you down on a clearance. He was more than reasonable. More often than not he would champion your cause if it made sense. In addition to being a professional, he was a true gentleman.

– John Terino

### Emil Wengel

Emil Wengel, who had a 31-year career as a pilot and Public Affairs Officer from 1943-1974, died March 27. He was 88.

He was born in Oshkosh, Nebraska, and received a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin in 1941. He joined the Army Air Corps and became a pilot. After transitioning to Public Affairs his assignments included SAF/OI Plans and Programs, director of Public Affairs for USAFE, and as the DoD on scene Public Affairs Officer in Hanoi during military assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs. In that capacity, during Operation Homecoming, the return of the prisoners of war from North Vietnam, he made six trips to Hanoi one of which can be seen at: [http://www.thoughtquity.com/video/clip/5110087AA4658\\_002.do](http://www.thoughtquity.com/video/clip/5110087AA4658_002.do) Emil retired in March 1974, as a colonel.

Emil founded Wengel Electronics, Inc., which provided telephone answering machines and later expanded

into security systems. He served on Electronic Security Association (ESA) board of directors and as chairman of the government relations committee for many years and was involved with the committee until his death.

He was awarded ESA's Sarah E. Jackson Memorial award in 1994 and the Morris F. Weinstock Person of the Year award in 1995. He served as president of the Virginia Burglar and Fire Alarm Association (now ESA-VA) for several terms and on the Virginia Private Security Services Advisory Board. He was a leader in the successful effort to bring alarm industry regulation to Virginia.

Emil was predeceased by his first wife in 2003, and is survived by his current wife, Olive C. Wengel, and his children Carolyn J. Mikeska, Leslie E. Wengel, Robert E. Wengel, and Stephanie K. Watson. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

He was straight from central casting. But underneath that Steve Canyon-like visage was a savvy public affairs professional whose judgment and opinions were valued by all those he served.

My best recollection of Emil was during Operation Homecoming in 1973 – the return of former POWs from North Vietnam. As a major, I had the privilege of running the hospital Joint Information Bureau, and Emil at the time was the military advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs. He became DoD's on-scene public affairs representative at Clark AB and made a number of trips to Hanoi to escort the returning former POWs. It was a tense time where mistakes could cause international incidents, but Emil handled it all with aplomb.

Emil Wengel was a gentleman in every sense of the word. He was indeed one of the best.

– Dave Shea

## Directory Updates



## Directory Updates

### Additions

#### **Camp, Stuart**

SMSGt (Associate) 9068 Blarney Stone Drive, Springfield VA 22152, (703) 854-1572; Business: SAF/PA, 1690 Air Force Pentagon, Washington DC 20330, (703) 697-6701, E-Mail: [stuart.camp@pentagon.af.mil](mailto:stuart.camp@pentagon.af.mil)

#### **Coslett, Joseph A.**

Captain (Lifetime Member) Business: 35P4/Photo Flight Commander, 1st Combat Camera Squadron, Charleston AFB SC 29404-5000

#### **Grever, Steven**

SSgt (Associate) 5121 Columbia Dr., Cibola TX 78108, (210) 343-0114; Business: AFPC/PA, 550 C St. West, Randolph AFB TX 78150, (210) 565-2334, E-Mail: [sgrever@gmail.com](mailto:sgrever@gmail.com)

#### **Haseloff, Linda K.**

Lt Col (Associate) 1516 Catron Ave SE, Albuquerque NM 87123, (505) 205-7406; Business: HQ Air University Public Affairs, 130 W. Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell AFB AL 36112, (334) 953-2014, E-Mail: [lkhaseloff@yahoo.com](mailto:lkhaseloff@yahoo.com)

#### **Helmer, Frederick**

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#### **Hess, Mark I.**

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PHOTO ALBUM



17th Annual Membership Meeting  
April 22-24, 2010

Caribe Royale Resort, Orlando, Florida

Attendees

- Dick & Ann Abel*
- Pete & Judy Alexandrakos*
- Linda & Jack Arnold*
- Don & Jeanne Brownlee*
- Neil & Connie Buttimer*
- Paul & Elizabeth Cole*
- Dutch Collins*
- Joseph Coslett*
- Michael & "Sam" Cox*
- Jerry Dalton*
- Chuck Davis*
- Alan & Marcia DeFend*
- Mark & Janet Foutch*
- Rick & Ann Fuller*
- Sam & Dawn Giammo*
- Robert Glymph*
- Jack Gregory*
- Tom Halbert*
- Jim & Patty Hart*
- R.J. & Sandra Hayes*
- Robin Holloway*
- Lisa Jeffery*
- Pat & Cathy Maloney*
- Gayle Maxey*
- Kathy Morgan*
- Steve Murray*
- Toivo Nei*
- Neil & Lynne Norum*
- Jack & Shirley Olsen*
- Max Overstreet*





*Ron & Anne Peck  
 John Peters  
 Pete Peterson  
 Alice & Harry Price  
 Joe & Dee Purka  
 Christine Queen  
 Ron & Berni Rand  
 Phil & Linda Ratliff  
 Jim Reinhard  
 Ed & Karen Robertson  
 Ken Rogge  
 Bud & Hilda Ross  
 Bud & Cheryl Rothgeb  
 David & Carol  
 Schillerstrom  
 Dick Sheffield  
 Hal Smarkola  
 David & Carolyn Smith  
 Ernie & Myra Stepp  
 Lydia Tan  
 Lou Torraca  
 Roy & Kay Whitton  
 Miles Wiley  
 Woody Woodyard*

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 acknowledges the following  
 corporations whose support  
 enabled the success of our  
 17th Annual Membership Meeting.*

*Wells Fargo Bank*

*Security Service Federal  
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*Lockheed Martin*

*Northrop Grumman Corp*

*Pratt & Whitney*

*Raytheon Company*

*Rockwell Collins*

*Mike & Susan McRaney*



more 



# Minutes of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association 17th Annual Membership Meeting Saturday, April 24, 2010 Caribe Royale Resort, Orlando

The meeting was called to order by President Sam Giammo at 2:02 p.m. EDT. A quorum was declared by interim Secretary Linda Arnold.

## Board of Directors Members Present:

Sam Giammo, Chairman	Alan DeFend
Christine Queen, President	Mark Foutch
Bud Ross Vice President	Hank Hufnagel
Dick Abel	Hal Smarkola
Neil Buttimer	

Absent: Mike Caldwell, John Gura, Jim Hart, John Terino

The following members of the Public Affairs community who died since the last Annual Membership Meeting were recognized by the membership with a moment of silence:

William B. Allison	Frank W. Jennings	Lauren Lagudi
Roger G. Maynard	Elizabeth Anne Myers	Robert J. O'Brien
Charles H. Powers	Anne M. Proctor	Bob Rayfield
Ronald S. Scharven	Emil Wengel	

and our friends Marion Dalton and Beryl Torraca

## 2009 AFPAAA Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

Sam Giammo presented the minutes of 16th Annual Membership Meeting for approval. Tom Halbert moved for approval; Mark Foutch seconded, and they were approved unanimously.

## Treasurer's Report

Due to a personal emergency, Jim Hart was unable to present the financial report. Interim secretary Linda Arnold presented for him.

AFPAAA's finances improved during the past fiscal year. The total assets at fiscal year end, September 30, 2009, showed a value of \$266,199.04. This compares to total assets of \$239,292.10 for the same time in 2008. Total endowment funds at FY year end 2009 were \$240,573.32 versus \$206,518.63 in FY 2008.

Twenty-five members made Centurion contributors of \$100 or more each since the last annual meeting for a total of \$2,650.

Grateful recognition of the sponsors of the 2010 Annual Meeting was tended to:

- Lockheed Martin – Ron Rand & Joe Wagovich
- Northrop Grumman Corporation – Jim & Donna Stratford
- Pratt & Whitney – Jay DeFrank & Woody Woodyard
- Raytheon Company – Dave Shea
- Rockwell Collins – Woody Hogle & Tom Hobson
- Security Service Federal Credit Union – John Worthington
- Wells Fargo Bank – Linda Arnold
- Mike and Susan McRaney

Jerry Dalton moved the report be accepted, Hal Smarkola seconded the motion. The report was approved unanimously.

## Committee Reports

### Membership

Neil Buttimer said AFPAAA maintains a core group of about 450 Full Members (Annual, Lifetime Founder and Lifetime). For the past six years, Association has remained stable for full (retired) membership. Essentially, the number of full members that fail to renew just about matches the number of new full members that sign up or transition from Associate to Full Membership. In terms of Associate Membership, we continue to offer two-year complimentary Associate memberships to the professional active duty, reserve, and civilian people in the Public Affairs field. The number of Associate Memberships increased sharply in 2008 when we started to offer free memberships. He motioned for the printing and delivery of the

membership directory be moved from January to July. The motion passed unanimously.

## Web Site/Oral History

This report was presented by Bud Ross for John Gura. We need interviewers to do oral history reports. We will ask for volunteers at the annual meeting; John challenges board members to write at least one page on significant events they have participated in during their careers.

The AFPAAA web site was visited almost 136,526 times last year; Please use the web site to update your listing.

## Boar of Directors

### Election Results

Dick Abel, John Gura, Jim Hart, Hank Hufnagel, Bud Ross, and Hal Smarkola were reelected to the board of directors. Chairman Sam Giammo explained the situation with our secretary position on the board and the decision by CB Kelly to step down so that a new board member, willing to take the secretary position, could be appointed. Mark Foutch was approved by the board as a new board member and secretary. He announced the officers beginning July 1, 2010: Christine Queen, chairman of the board; Bud Ross, president; Mike Caldwell, vice president; Jim Hart, treasurer, and Mark Foutch, secretary.

## 2011 Annual Membership Meeting

On Site Coordinator Bud Ross explained the meeting will be held May 12-14, 2011 in Fairfield, CA, close to Travis AFB. The closest airports are Oakland and Sacramento.

## New Business

Jerry Dalton began a discussion of the possibility of changing the organizations name to the "Air Force Public Affairs Association" in an effort to attract new and younger members. The item was discussed among the board and the membership and specific questions were raised:

- Would a name change impact our membership by attracting younger members?
- What impact does a name change have on our tax free status?
- What are the procedures in the by laws for changing the name of the Association?

Mark Foutch made a motion to have the Board of Directors take this item for discussion and deliberation and report back to the general membership the results of their efforts. The motion was seconded by Roy Whitton and approved unanimously by the members present.

## State of the Association

President Christine Queen reported on the current state of the association. She thanked past and present board members for their service. She pointed out that few of the members present were under 60 years of age and urged members to contact those they had served with and urge them to join AFPAAA.

## Centurion Drawings

Two names from those who have contributed \$100 or more to the endowment fund since the last annual meeting were drawn to receive their rooms free of charge for this meeting. The winners were Robert Glymph and Pete Peterson.

## Adjournment

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m. EDT.

# 25 CENTURIONS ADD \$2,650 TO AFPAAA ENDOWMENT FUND

The AFPAAA Endowment Fund, which is designed to sustain the association in the future by providing a stream of income from investments, gained \$2,650 as 25 members made donations since the 2009 meeting at Wright- Patterson. The goal for the fund is \$300,000; at the end of the last fiscal year its value was \$240,573.

The Centurion program was the creation of former board of directors member C. B. Kelly at the Destin, Florida, meeting in 2004. Persons making a tax-deductible donation of \$100 or more in the period between Annual Membership Meetings are Centurions. All donors during that period are, if present, eligible for a drawing for a free room at the meeting that closes out the period, Bob Glymph and Pete Peterson were the winners at Orlando.

## CURRENT CENTURIONS

DICK ABEL  
LINDA ARNOLD  
DON BROWNLEE  
NEIL BUTTIMER  
PAUL COLE  
MICHAEL COX  
JERRY DALTON  
ALAN DEFEND

MARK FOUTCH  
SAM GIAMMO  
BOB GLYMPH  
JOHN GURA  
JIM HART  
HANK HUFNAGEL  
STEVE MURRAY  
PETE PETERSON  
RON RAND

JIM REINHARD  
ED ROBERTSON  
BUD ROSS  
DAVE SCHILLERSTROM  
HAL SMARKOLA  
DAVE SMITH  
LOU TORRACA  
ROY WHITTON

## Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association 17th Annual Membership Meeting Caribe Royale Resort, Orlando, Florida April 22 - 24, 2010

