



Air Force selects “Best of the Best”



Lt. Col. Stephen D. Clutter from Headquarters PACAF Office of Public Affairs, shown while deployed to Afghanistan supporting Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, was presented the Best of the Best Award during the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association’s annual meeting and reunion earlier this year in Las Vegas.

PACAF officer earns top contributor honor

A public affairs officer assigned to Pacific Air Forces was presented the Best of the Best Award during the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association’s annual meeting and reunion earlier this year in Las Vegas.

This year’s top contributor to public affairs excellence is **Lt. Col. Stephen D. Clutter** from Headquarters PACAF Office of Public Affairs.

The award recognizes the the outstanding officer, civilian or enlisted person from all nominated bandsmen, broadcasters and public affairs professionals. The recipient is selected on the basis of professional excellence and significant contributions to the Air Force mission.

During the period of the award, **Clutter** was a major assigned to the 15th Air Base Wing Office of Public Affairs at Hickam AFB, Hawaii. For part of that period, he was deployed to Afghanistan supporting Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

As the Deputy Director of Public Affairs in Afghanistan, he supervised 29 coalition public affairs people from Kabul to Kandahar, conducted daily press briefings and personally prepared the coalition commander, **Lt. Gen. Daniel K. McNeil**, for media interviews.

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Secretary announces PA leadership change Jan. 1

The Secretary of the Air Force announced the upcoming retirement of the current Director of Public Affairs and named his replacement during the Worldwide Public Affairs Seminar Sept. 10.

Brig. Gen. **Ron Rand** will retire effective

Jan. 1. He will be replaced by Brig. Gen. **Frederick F. Roggero**, currently the director of integrated marketing, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force.

Rand has served as director of public affairs since Feb. 1998.

He heads a group of

2,400 bandsmen, broadcasters and public affairs professionals.

Rand graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1971. He began his career as a motion picture producer-director, then went on to command audiovisual detachments at Nakhon

Phanom and Korat Royal Thai air force bases.

He completed graduate studies at Boston University. **Rand** then served at the Pentagon as spokesman for Air Force space, intelligence and ad-

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Dalton accolades span half-century

by **Chuck Lucas**

Jerry Dalton earned many accolades in a public affairs career that spans a half-century. If asked of which he is most proud, his selection as the first career PA officer to be named Air Force Director of Information as a general officer would most likely top the list.

After completion of ROTC training at the University of Texas in Austin, his shiny gold bar made its first appearance at the 1950 ROTC summer encampment at Kelly AFB. The Korean War interrupted and his active-duty status expedited a transfer to the Information Office at March AFB, Calif.

It was the first rung of a public affairs ladder that he would confidently ascend over the next 25 years to the pinnacle at the Pentagon. Along the way he went out of his way to experience every aspect of his chosen profession. At each assignment, he would visit every nook and cranny on base. Nobody was a stranger. He talked to anyone who could answer "Why?" and "How?"

Base newspapers, club activities, aircraft accidents, base tours, community councils, commander's wives, sub-standard base housing were all part of the learning process.

"I tried every opportunity to take advantage of ways to learn more about what was going on in the Public Information business, things that I thought I ought to know."

SAC assignments brought him in contact with **Reade Tilley**, who would become an important mentor.

"He should have been (Air Force) director. He should have been a general officer. He really had vision, the way he thought and did things. The problem was that Tilley was so sold on Information, when he saw something that he thought was right, he did it. He didn't care what impact it might have."

During the **LeMay** era at Offutt AFB, Dalton was the Wing Information Officer.

"**Mrs. LeMay** was a real doer. She ran three committees on base, each



Retired Brig. Gen. Jerry Dalton and his wife Marion remain active in a variety of community and public affairs activities from their home in Dallas.

of which I was a member. She created Dependents' Assistance and it later became Family Services." Tilley was SAC's Information director. "He used me on a lot of different things. Primarily he told me he wanted me to meet people."

Guam was the next stop, working for **Maston Jacks**, another pretty good teacher. Politics scuttled plans for a base TV station, "But we did operate an unauthorized radio station, using our electric utility lines. The signal stayed on base."

In 1957, Andersen AFB supported Operation Power Flight, an around-the-world-flight by three B-52s. "I flew on a KC-97 tanker as a photographer." On a trip to Tokyo, he worked with **Mike Connolly** in arranging for 30 reporters to visit Guam and "expose them to SAC's rotational B-36s."

Tilley continued to guide **Dalton's** career and brought him into SAC as deputy chief of Internal.

"Internal Information, as we know it today, really got underway in SAC."

A few years later **Tilley** was in SAF/OI and **Dalton** joined him in Plans and Programs.

"The idea was that we would create a Strategic Branch, a Tactical Branch, Space and Defense Branch and a Management Branch."

"The greatest single day in the history of Air Force Public Affairs came in 1961."

After six months of research, **Tilley** and **Lt. Col. Lou Cruciana** carried an easel and briefing charts into **LeMay's** office. **Tilley** briefed, not about improving the career field, "but talked about improving our ability so we could better tell the Air Force story to the American people and to our own people."

LeMay was silent throughout. A phone call summoned everyone to **Tilley's** office. He was jubilant.

"We won everything! Here are the papers. It's all signed."

"We established a separate career field, an Air Force Hometown News Center, Command Services Unit, Communications Studies Group, Information Officer Special Assistants for for five DCSs, increased AFIT slots from 2 to 10, and increased authorizations for E-8s and E-9s. I was pleased to have been a small part of that achievement."

After serving as SAF/OI's deputy director under **Maj. Gen. Guy Hairston**, **Dalton** became director in 1975 when **Hairston** went to DoD. "It was a fantastic job."

Looking back over his career, **Dalton** said "the commander expects you to know just about everything there is to know about the Air Force. I think the PAO must never be satisfied with doing less than the best. He's got to continue to learn and to grow. I see the Air Force as a great fraternity; and even more so is this small group of PAs."

During his Pentagon days, **Dalton** worked closely with **Gen. Chappie James** on many issues.

At one social, a colleague suggested that **Dalton** (at 5-1) not stand too close to **James** (6-5). "I explained, I always stand close to General **James**; it makes him look a little taller. **Chappie** loved it and at one of the Corona Conferences, he beckoned: 'Come on over here, I want to look taller.'"

Dalton retired in 1980.

This column is a feature on stories from the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association's Oral History program. The author can be reached at: clucas5@juno.com



Walnut clocks were presented to members Mike Terrill and Terry Hemeyer by Karen McRaney in recognition of their cash contributions to the AFPAAA Endowment Fund. Engraved clocks are given each year at the annual meeting to those contributing from \$1000 to \$5000 dollars. Terrill received the Bronze Level Award and Hemeyer received the Silver Level Award. To date, the association has received contributions from 66 members totaling \$138,000. The Endowment Fund was established in 1998 to provide additional funding for member services. All contributions to the fund are deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Association elects new board members; candidates sought by group to run in '04

Recently elected board members and a new slate of Association officers began their terms of office on July 1.

Elected to two-year terms on the 11-person Board of Directors were incumbents **Linda Arnold, Al Eakle, Mike Gannon** and **Dave Smith**, plus new board member **C.B. Kelly**.

They join board members **Larry Greer, John Gulick, Jim Hart, Jim McGuire, Charley Powers** and **Joe Purka**.

Members of the AFPAAA's 11-person board serve staggered two year terms.

Six positions are up for election on even numbered years and five positions on odd-numbered years.

Each year the members of the board elect a new Secretary who becomes part of the Association's leadership succession program.

Each year the previous year's officers move up to the next position with the departing Chairman moving to Emeritus status as an ex-officio board member.

Leading the Association in the coming year will be **Smith**, Chairman of the Board; **Gannon**, President; **Powers**, Vice President and **Arnold**, Secretary.

Candidates to run for election to serve on the AFPAAA board of directors in 2004-2005 are being sought by

the nominating committee headed by **Linda Arnold**.

Any full member of the association who has a strong desire to serve and lead AFPAAA is asked to contact:

Linda Arnold (LArnold@afpaaa.org);

C.B. Kelly (CBKelly@afpaaa.org);

Mike Gannon (MGannon@afpaaa.org).

Nominations are due to **Arnold** by Jan. 1 to ensure there is time to assemble the slate and mail ballots to the membership.

Questions about the duties of board members can be directed to **David Smith** at (DSmith@afpaaa.org).

Secretary announces PA leadership change Jan. 1

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vanced technology programs, and as the public affairs adviser to the Undersecretary of the Air Force.

Since 1987, he has held numerous public affairs director jobs at the wing, numbered air force and major command levels.

In his current position **Roggero** is responsible for the strategic planning, integration, and synchronization of all Air Force national advertising

programs for recruiting, retention, and awareness.

A Distinguished Graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of Notre Dame, the general received his pilot wings in February 1978.

His career has spanned many aspects of air mobility operations, including an exchange tour with the Royal Air Force's 101 Air Refueling Squadron and command of the 905th Air Refueling Squadron, the 319th Operations

Group, and the 22nd Air Refueling Wing.

Roggero taught national security affairs at the Air Command and Staff College and served on staffs at the Department of State and the Joint Staff where he was part of a select group that drafted the National Strategic Military Plan for the War on Terrorism. He was also a Military Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, NY.

The general is a command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours.

AFPAAA Membership Survey Results

Members Responding: 132 Full Members 4 Associate Members

Question #1: What is your current status? (136 Responses)

Response	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses
Retired USAF	109	80.1%
Retired Reserve/National Guard	13	9.5%
Active USAF	2	1.5%
Active Reserve/National Guard	2	1.5%
Separated USAF	2	1.5%
Separated Civilian Employee	0	0%
Current Federal Gov't Civilian Employee	5	3.6%
Retired Federal Gov't Civilain Employee	3	2.2%

Question #2: What is/was your active duty status? (132 Responses)

Response	Number of Responses	Percent Of Responses
Enlisted	24	18.3%
Officer	105	79.5%
Civilian	3	2.2%

Question #3: How old are you? (135 Responses)

Response	Number Of Responses	Percent of Responses
18-25	0	-
26-40	2	1.4%
41-50	6	4.4%
51-60	56	41.4%
61-70	40	29.6%
70+	31	22.9%

Question #4: What is your gender? (136 Responses)

Response	Number Of Responses	Percent of Responses
Male	124	91.1%
Female	12	8.9%

Question #5: Where do you currently live? (135 Responses)

Response	Number Of Responses	PercentOf Responses
Alaska	1	.7%
Arizona	4	2.9%
California	11	8.1%
Colorado	8	5.9%
Florida	11	8.1%
Georgia	4	2.9%
Hawaii	2	1.4%

AFPAAA Membership Survey Results

Question #5: Where do you currently live? (135 Responses)

Response	Number Of Responses	Percent Of Responses
Illinois	5	3.7%
Indiana	1	.7%
Kansas	1	.7%
Kentucky	2	1.4%
Massachusetts	1	.7%
Maine	1	.7%
Michigan	1	.7%
Missouri	1	.7%
Montana	1	.7%
North Carolina	2	2.4%
New Hampshire	3	2.2%
New Jersey	1	.7%
New Mexico	1	.7%
Nevada	1	.7%
Ohio	7	5.1%
Oklahoma	3	2.2%
Pennsylvania	1	.7%
South Carolina	1	.7%
Tennessee	1	.7%
Texas	15	11.1%
DC/Virginia/Maryland	43	31.8%
Honduras	1	.7%

Question #6: During what conflict did you serve in-theater? (157 Responses)

Note: More than one response per person is possible

Response	Number Of Responses	Percent of Responses
World War II	12	7.6%
Korea	13	8.2%
Southeast Asia	81	51.5%
Lebanon	1	.6%
Grenada	1	.6%
Southwest Asia	16	10.1%
Panama	1	.6%
Bosnia	0	0
Afghanistan	0	0
None	31	19.7%
Other	1	.6%

AFPAAA Membership Survey Results

Question #7: How did you find out about AFPAAA? (134 Responses)

Response	NumberOfResponses	Percent of Responses
Friends/PA Associates	105	78.3%
AFPAAA Literature	17	12.6%
Info provided at Mtgs/Conf	3	2.2%
Other	9	6.7%

Question #8: Why did you join AFPAAA? (135 Responses)

Response	NumberOfResponses	Percent of Responses
Stay in touch with friends and associates	119	88.1%
Keep up with current PA issues	15	11.1%
Other	1	.7%

Question #9: Please rate the following AFPAAA programs/services in their order of importance to you. (1=Most Important, 10=Least Important)

Response	Average Rating
AFPAAA Newsletter	1
AFPAAA Membership Directory	2
AFPAAA Annual Meeting	3
AFPAAA Web Site	4
Best of the Best Award	5
Oral History Project	6
PA badges to DINFOS grads	7
AFPAAA Bookstore	8
Financial grants to attain PRSA and IABC Accreditation	9
Job Search Program	10

Question #10: Have you ever attended an AFPAAA Annual Meeting? (136 Responses)

Response	Number Of Responses	Percent of Responses
Yes	88	64.7%
No	48	35.3%

Question #11: If you HAVE attended an AFPAAA Annual Meeting, what is the primary reason for your participation? (86 Responses)

Response	Number Of Responses	Percent of Responses
See old friends	63	73.2%
Networking	6	6.9%
Tours & visits	5	5.8%
USAF Briefings & Updates	10	11.6%
Other	2	2.3%

AFPAAA Membership Survey Results

Question #12: If you HAVE NOT attended an AFPAAA Annual Meeting, what is the primary reason you did not attend? (47 Responses)

Response	NumberOfResponses	Percent of Responses
Cost of Travel	7	14.9%
Cost of Hotel	0	0
Cost of Registration	1	2.1%
Conflicts with employment	17	36.1%
Don't like tours/visits	3	6.4%
Don't like the USAF briefings	0	0
I have no interest in attending	10	21.2%
Other	9	19.1%

Question #13: In which region of the United States would you most prefer AFPAAA Annual Meetings be held? (132 Responses)

Response	NumberOfResponses	Percent of Responses
East Coast	17	12.8%
West Coast	7	5.3%
Midwest	8	6.0%
South	12	9.1%
Northwest	13	9.8%
Mountain West	17	12.8%
No Preference	54	41.0%
Other	4	3.0%

Question #14: Would you attend an AFPAAA Annual Meeting if it were held at an overseas location? (133 Responses)

Response	NumberOfResponses	Percent of Responses
Yes	38	28.6%
No	95	71.4%

Question #15: During the 2002 Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors was tasked with reopening the name change issue. Do you want the AFPAAA Board of Directors to reopen discussions about the organizations name? (136 Responses)

Response	NumberOfResponses	Percent of Responses
Yes	19	13.9%
No	104	76.5%
No Preference	13	9.5%

Question #16: During the 2002 Annual Meeting, there was discussion about the current AFPAAA logo. Do you want the current logo changed? (136 Responses)

Response	NumberOfResponses	Percent of Responses
Yes	8	5.9%
No	98	72%
No Preference	30	22%

Minutes of the annual membership meeting

President **Dave Smith** called the meeting to order at 11:35AM PDT and a quorum was declared to be present.

A short presentation was made by **Col. Doug McCoy**, SAF/PA Deputy Director regarding the "Your Guardians of Freedom Program."

Secretary **Charley Powers** read the names of the members of the Air Force Public Affairs Community who had died since the last annual meeting. A moment of silence was observed to remember our deceased colleagues.

The financial report was presented by Treasurer **Jim Hart**. The report as of March 31, 2003 is as follows:

Checking account:	
\$26,084.51	
Morgan Stanley Investment:	\$15,782.08
First Union Endowment Fund:	\$112,802.38
Total Assets:	\$154,668.97

Hart then reported on the status of the endowment fund including the fact that sixty-six members had made



Maj. Gen. Steve Wood, Air Warfare Center commander at Nellis, welcomes annual meeting attendees before giving a mission briefing to the assembled group

pledges to the fund. Awards would be presented at the dinner for the gold and silver contributors.

Powers presented the membership report on behalf of membership committee chairman **Neil Buttimer**.

Al Eakle reported on the newsletter status. The next issue is July 1, 2003 and the deadline is June 15th.

John Gura provided a status report on the AFPAAA oral history program. The most recent interview was with Read Tilley. Gura added that the program had slowed down at this point. However,

there is some thought to making the oral histories available on-line.

Gura presented a web site report to the meeting. He suggested that members receive the AFPAAA newsletter on line as a cost saving tool. **Gura** also talked about adding the by-laws and future ballots to the site for on-line voting.

Chairman **Joe Purka** announced that the 2004 AFPAAA Annual Meeting would be held Apr. 29 through May 2 at the Village at Baytowne Wharf in Sandestin, Florida near Ft.

Walton Beach.

Chairman **Purka** reported the following members were elected to the Board of Directors effective July 1, 2003:

Linda Arnold (I)
Al Eakle (I)
Mike Gannon (I)
Dave Smith (I)
C.B. Kelly

Chairman **Purka** reported that the State of the Association, now in its tenth year, remains healthy by all standards.

He stated that AF-

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Annual meeting moves to Florida in 2004

The 2004 AFPAAA Annual Meeting will be held Apr. 29 through May 2 at the Village at Baytowne Wharf in Sandestin, Florida near Ft. Walton Beach.

The Village at Baytowne Wharf includes the Grand Sandestin, a 168-unit Southern plantation-style estate featuring a sweeping two-story veranda offering picturesque views of the bay and lush formal gardens. The Village at Baytowne Wharf is conveniently located adjacent to the Baytowne Conference Center.

Conference facilities (including lunch and banquet) are located on the second floor of the conference center, just next to "The Grand Sandestin." Other "village" accommodations are no more than a 2-minute walk.

All rooms are non-smoking: smokers should request

a room with a balcony.

All rooms have coffee makers and a small refrigerator.

Make hotel reservations with Sandestin Group Reservations by faxing the **Housing Request Form** (available on Page 12) to: (850) 267-8221. Faxes are preferred, however you can also mail the form to:

Sandestin Group Reservations
 9300 Emerald Coast Parkway West
 Sandestin, FL 32550

The group rate is: \$130 plus tax. The cut-off date for reservations is **March 15, 2004**, after which rooms will be sold on a space-available basis.

Minutes of the annual membership meeting

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PAAA remaining fiscally healthy. He then commended **Hart** who picked up the Treasurer's responsibility two years ago and continues not only to produce detailed and accurate income and expense reports, but ensures that the board remains within budget.

Chairman **Purka** presented the results of a survey, which was not designed to be a statistically accurate sample, but to get a sense of the desires and preferences of membership who chose to respond. In reviewing the survey results, he made clear the name change issue be dropped as it is an extremely emotional issue among some members on both side and the existence of the organization should not be threatened by the number of "A's" after AFP.

Chairman **Purka** closed by complimenting the AFPAAA volunteers who help keep the association functioning including: **Neil Buttimer; Alice Price; John Gura; Al Eakle; Kathy McCollum; Dave Shea; Linda Arnold** and **John Gulick**. He also called on members to get more involved and offer to serve on the Board.

New Business

John Gulick explained a new system, developed by the board, for selecting future annual meeting sites beginning with the 2005 meeting. Applications or bids for the annual meeting will have to be presented to the board two years ahead of time. The information will be available on the web site.

Pete Alexandrakos presented a resolution on the tenth anniversary of AFPAA to the membership and asked that it be adopted by a vote. He made the motion, which was seconded, to adopt the resolution as presented.

This was followed by discussion and debate.

A motion to amend the resolution was made by **Jerry Dalton**, and seconded, that would delete the last paragraph of the resolution that di-

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Attendees gathered in the Thunderbird hangar for a group photo

President's Awards

Reed Switzer:

Whereas he established enlisted resource management in the USAF PA career field, and

Whereas from the invasion of Europe to Vietnam he worked tirelessly to tell the Air Force story, and

Whereas he distinguished himself as a recruiting and advertising innovator,

John Glines:

Whereas he started his career as a fighter and bomber pilot, and

Whereas his dynamic leadership established the Command Services Unit at Bolling AFB, and

Whereas he has distinguished himself as an author and aviation historian,

Keith Ferris:

Whereas his art has inspired airmen around the world, and

Whereas he has frequently donated his work to the Air Force and related organizations, and

Whereas he has distinguished himself as an air power historian and a master of aerial art,

Keith Ferris responded:

I was honored to receive the 2003 President's Award and am very sorry that I was unable to attend in Las Vegas to receive it. I understand that Rick Fuller and John Gulick stood in to accept for me and I hope they did not embarrass you or me too much. It seems I have had a lifetime of being at the mercy of first, PIOs and then PAs, and am happy to say that I have been long indebted to all of them. I now am even more indebted.

Minutes of the annual membership meeting

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rected the board to develop a long-term planning document.

The motion to amend was agreed to by voice vote.

A second amendment proposed by **Mark Foutch**, and seconded, said that this resolution should also demonstrate appreciation to the founding fathers, board members and other volunteers of this organization who have made it what it is today.

That amendment was passed by a voice vote. Following the acceptance of the two amendments, the tenth anniversary resolution was the adopted, as amended, by a voice vote.

Chairman **Purka** then urged members to go out and recruit new members for AFPAAA.

Betty Jane Williams suggested that each of the 678 AFPAAA members contribute \$10.00 each this year to the endowment fund. She



Members Larry McCracken (far left) and Dick Abel (far right) talk with Lt. Col. Perry Nouis from the Air Force Academy and Lt. Matt Fuller from Nellis before the start of the business meeting.

then made a motion to this effect; it was seconded and adopted by a voice vote.

There was a motion to adjourn. It was seconded and unanimously carried by voice vote at 3:25PM PDT.



Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association members listen to a presentation at Nellis' threat facility.

A Resolution

Whereas, the year 2003 is the Tenth Anniversary Year of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association,
AND

Whereas, the Association was founded by and for Air Force Public Affairs Alumni to pursue the aims and objectives specified in the Association's Bylaws,
AND

Whereas, the Association has enjoyed great success in pursuing it's aims and objectives, while also achieving membership growth and financial viability,
AND

Whereas, as part of its aims and objectives, the Association has provided continuous support to the United States Air Force Public Affairs Triad,
AND

Whereas, the previous boards of directors developed, proposed and fully executed a long- term strategic plan that was approved by the membership and has successfully guided the Association since 1995,
THEREFORE,

Be it resolved, that our appreciation be shown to the Association's founding fathers, board members and other volunteers who have made this organization what it is today.

(Adopted May 3, 2003)

State of the Association

by **Joe Purka**
Chairman of the Board

I am pleased to report that the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association, now in its 10th year, remains healthy by virtually all standards.

At the beginning of this year, we had 762 members – an all-time high. With non-renewals and late renewals excluded, we are down to 678, still a very healthy number.

Our full member renewal rate was 84 percent, above our standard of 80 percent. Our associate renewal rate was down to 45 percent, but many of those received free one-year memberships and did not choose to renew.

On the financial side, we continue to remain fiscally healthy. Our income generally meets or exceeds our expenses, allowing us to continue to provide all the services to members and SAF/PA that we have committed to.

It would be appropriate to recognize the work of our treasurer, Jim Hart, who has picked up the responsibility two years ago, and continues not only to produce detailed and accurate income and expense reports, but ensures that the board remains within budget.

While the value of our endowment fund has dropped as a result of the market, our decline today stands at less than 20 percent, which is no more significant than declines in many other endowment or investment program.

We are still well shy of our \$300,000 goal, and as

the market improves, we will likely increase our efforts to solicit additional gifts.

With new members joining the board over the past two years, the board elected to conduct a survey to get a general sense of the desires and preferences of the membership.

This was not designed to be a statistically accurate sample, nor was it designed to be a “vote” as some have alleged. Our purpose was to solicit views and opinions of those who wished to express them.

I’d like to summarize what I believe are the key indicators of this survey:

- The bulk of our membership is over the age of 50; we need to do a better job recruiting and focus on those in their late 30’s and early 40’s, those likely to retire from active service in the next few years.

- While we should continue to recruit our younger airmen and officers, the renewal rates among this group show that it is a poor investment and that we should put greater effort into recruiting those approaching retirement.

- The primary reason people join this association and attend annual meetings is to stay in contact with old friends. Although there are many other things this association does, we should not lose sight of the primary objective of our members.

- While more than half of the respondents indicated no preference for annual meeting locations, the remainder were so evenly divided that we should con-

tinue alternating the east or west locations of our annual meetings, with an occasional central location.

- Some volunteered comments that we should give the membership more of a say in the annual meeting locations. Instituting the new nomination process is one way that we can give members a greater say in the location.

- Three out of four survey respondents were opposed to changing the name. Combine that with the vote of the membership held two years ago, it appears clear that this issue should be dropped for the next few years. It is an extremely emotional issue among some members on both sides and the existence of the organization should not be threatened by the number of “A’s” after AFP in our association’s abbreviation.

If I could ask one favor of the membership, it would be that every single member go online and make sure that your e-mail address is current. There are many times, to include administration of this survey and the election of members to the board, when we would have communicated to the membership by E-mail, if we had correct addresses.

Finally, I want to point out that almost all the work that’s done by the association is the result of a select group of volunteers. Some who help keep this association functioning include:

- **Neil Buttimer**, who publishes the directory, and handles all membership issues;

- **Alice Price**, who issues the membership certificates, checks the post office box mail and routes all correspondence to the appropriate board member;

- **John Gura**, who manages and updates the website, as well as the oral history.

- **Al Eakle**, puts out the quarterly newsletter;

- **Kathy McCollum**, who has counted the election ballots for as long as I can remember;

- **Dave Shea**, who provides our board meeting conference facilities and arranges for the plaques we present,

- **Linda Arnold**, who developed and tabulated the survey

- **John Gulick**, who oversees the SAF/PA golf tournament...

Some of the survey responses asked why we didn’t do this or that in the newsletter. If you’re willing to write it, we’ll use it. Contact Al and tell him you’re willing to proofread, or write a social column, or write articles. I’m sure he’ll appreciate the help.

We need people to serve on the board, and people who are willing to take on the responsibilities of running this organization. It’s easy to say “Why don’t you.” What we need is more people to say “I’ll do it.”

I have been honored to serve as your president and then as your chairman over the past two years. Thank you for that opportunity. I look forward to remaining active in the association.

AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE
Thursday, April 29 - Sunday, May 2, 2004 **GROUP CODE: 425680**

HOUSING REQUEST FORM

Please print legibly and fax to: Sandestin Group Reservations Fax: (850) 267-8221 or Call (800) 320-8115. Faxes are preferred, however, you can mail form to: Sandestin Group Reservations, 9300 Emerald Coast Parkway West, Sandestin, FL 32550

Name _____

Number in Party: Adults _____ Children _____

Company Name _____

Business Phone _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ E-Mail _____

Sharing With _____

Arrival Day/Date _____

Departure Day/Date _____

Please select method of payment:

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

Check # _____

Your cut-off date for reservations is **March 15, 2004**, after which rooms will be sold on a space-available basis.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND RATES

A deposit of two night's room and tax is required to secure rooms. All rates are subject to 10% tax.

<u>ACCOMMODATIONS</u>	<u>DAILY RATE</u>
VILLAGE HOTEL ROOM	\$130.00

All rates quoted **DO NOT** include 7% sales tax and 3% bed tax.

Rates for accommodations will vary depending on occupancy and type of accommodations.

Any other type of accommodation besides what is in your block will vary in cost depending on location and occupancy. Deposits are refundable in the event of individual room cancellations, provided notice is received by Sandestin 14 days prior to scheduled arrival date.

Lord guide and protect.....

Barney Oldfield

Barney Oldfield, 93, a retired Air Force colonel who was a publicist and press agent for stars such as Errol Flynn, Ronald Reagan and Elizabeth Taylor, died Apr. 26 at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles.

Friends said Oldfield had been in failing health with cirrhosis of the liver brought on by diabetes.

Born in Tecumseh, Neb., Oldfield graduated from the University of Nebraska. He was a newspaper reporter and was a press aide to Allied commander Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower during World War II. After the war he went to Hollywood where he worked as a publicist for Warner Bros. and as a press agent.

He later spent three decades in corporate public relations, most notably for L.A.-based Litton Industries. Oldfield was also an active philanthropist, funding some 40 scholarship programs totaling about \$3 million.

Dr. Gilbert L. Whiteman

Dr. Gilbert L. Whiteman, 71, died on July 25 at St. Raphael's Hospital, New Haven, CT after a brief illness.

He served a full active duty military career in the United States Air Force, entering in 1949 and retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1974.

Whiteman served two tours on the staff of the Air Force Secretary in the Pentagon, and was the senior United States spokesman for all U.S. military activity in Vietnam during our nation's last year of involvement in that war.

He flew night combat missions with the Vietnamese Air Force on C-119 gunships, and earned the Air Medal, the Bronze Star, the Vietnam Honor Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the China Department of Defense Honor Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Meritorious Service Medal with several Oak Leaf Clusters, and many other military awards and citations.

Following his military career, Dr. Whiteman served on the faculty of the University of New Haven, first as Chairman of the Communication Department and then as Associate Dean of the Graduate School and Director of the Executive Master of Business Administration Program.

He retired from that position in 1981, and founded Interdependence Associates Inc., an international management development business, and conducted more than two thousand management seminars in forty of the

United States and seven foreign countries.

He authored four books on management, and developed and presented both audio and video programs on management and supervision.

He was listed in Who's Who in Connecticut, Who's Who in The East, Who's Who Among American Business Executives, and Who's Who Registry of Global Business Leaders.

Dr. Whiteman was the recipient of the American Biographical Society's Excellence in Supervisory Training and Development Award. In May 2002, he was honored with the Michigan State University Outstanding Alumni Award.

Dr. Whiteman is survived by his wife, Jean Thomas Whiteman of Guilford, Connecticut; a daughter, and four sons,

Memorial contributions may be made to the Memorial Gift Fund, Hospital of St. Raphael, 1450 Chapel Street, New Haven, CT 06511.

William C. Anderson

William Charles Anderson, a decorated command pilot who used his 23-year Air Force career in writing some 20 books, including the bestselling "Bat*21," has died. He was 83.

Anderson died May 16 in Fairfield, Calif., of a heart ailment.

The highly decorated lieutenant colonel began his writing career after his military retirement in 1964. His experience, from World War II into the Vietnam era, provided ready material for a variety of books in which he strove to "spin a good story, hopefully laced with a ribbon of humor."

Best known of his books, and probably the least humorous, was "Bat*21" in 1980, the true-life story of 53-year-old Air Force Lt. Col. Iceal Hambleton, who was shot down virtually into an active battlefield in the Vietnam War.

It was made into a 1988 movie starring Gene Hackman and Danny Glover. Hambleton, portrayed by Hackman, used his survival radio to direct air strikes against troops nearby, and although injured, followed instructions to crawl to freedom by night.

Anderson co-wrote the screenplay for the movie, which Leonard Maltin in his Movie and Video Guide describes as a "taut, compelling film with fine acting all around."

Another of Anderson's books, "Hurricane Hunters" in 1972, was made into a 1974 television movie called "Hurricane" starring Larry Hagman and Martin Milner.

But he also did whimsical tomes, some based on his life as father of three children from his two marriages. Among them were his 1969

"The Two-Ton Albatross: Across a Trans-continental Highway in a Travel Trailer with Two Kids, Two Guppies, a Miniature Orange Tree, a Lobster Named Hud, a Saint Bernard Dog, and a Claustrophobic Wife" and the 1970 "Roll Up the Wallpaper, We're Moving" about relocating to Lake Arrowhead.

Born in La Junta, Colo., and reared in Boise, Idaho, Anderson was educated at Boise Junior College, Fort Hays State College in Kansas and the University of Maryland.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Andy Anderson Stem Cell Program, care of the Bedford Research Foundation, 53 Concord Road, Bedford, MA 01730.

Stuart W. Shadbolt

Stuart W. Shadbolt, 73, died July 24 from injuries sustained in a bicycle accident in Melbourne, Fla. Bicycling with a team of friends known as the ROMEOS (Retired Old Men Eating Out), his bike flipped, causing him to hit his head on a tree. The impact broke his neck.

Shadbolt retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1976 with 24 years' service. Following two tours in Vietnam, he completed a tour with SAF/OI's Internal Information Division and was deputy editor-in-chief of the Pacific Stars and Stripes in Tokyo.

Following his military retirement he held public affairs positions with the North Carolina Medical Society, North Carolina Department of Corrections and Lockheed Space Operations in Florida.

Robert B. Sims

The U.S. Navy Public Affairs Alumni Association reports that retired Navy Capt. Robert B. Sims passed away Sept 10 at the hospital in Jackson, TN.

Bob is survived by his wife Patricia and four children. Funeral arrangements will include interment at Arlington National Cemetery.

Sims was the National Security Council Senior Director of Public Affairs, the White House Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Press Secretary for Foreign Affairs, all in the period 1981-85.

He was nominated as the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs in 1985 and served under Secretary Caspar Weinberger, leaving the office in late 1987.

He was a career Navy Public Affairs Specialist for approximately 30 years.

Following his tour as ASD(PA), he was a Vice President of the National Geographic Society until his retirement to Alamo TN.

From the Chairman of the Board

Dear Friends

I apologize for the delayed publication of our association newsletter. Exigencies of the service reduced the availability of our editor and we had no alternate plan.

We are working very hard to attain a viable alternative approach when circumstances of employment or national emergency may again make our editor unavailable.

To that end, I ask any of you who would be interested in participating in the production of the newsletter on a recurring basis to send me



Association
Chairman of
the Board
David Smith
can be reached
at: dsmith@afpaaa.org

a note. We truly appreciate the voices of concern raised regarding the delayed publication and are listening. This issue is larger than usual to accommodate the many events and issues of our association and I have asked the editor to make it the summer/fall issue.

Thank you for your patience and thank you for caring about our association.

Sincerely
David

David E. Smith

Public Affair Memorial honors people killed in the line of duty

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 is sponsored by the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association as a tribute to those men and women who have died on an official public affairs assignment whether by hostile fire or in a duty related accident/incident.

AFPAAA's PA Memorial project chair, **Ed Johnson**, advises that nominations, at a minimum, should include the nominee's name, rank and service number, a detailed description of the circumstances and explanation of why the individual is being nominated. The Selection Committee will also seek corroborating information from official records.

Nominations should be sent to AFPAAA, P.O. Box 540, 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.

Members of the PA Memorial selection committee are **Ed Johnson**, chair; **Reed Switzer**; **Carey Deckard**; **Hugh Burns**; and **William H. Campbell**.

Questions about the nomination process should be addressed to **Johnson** at (210) 653-2839 or e-mail evj321@prodigy.net.

The location of the memorial is not established at this time and final design will have to fit in the space available.

However, a PA Memorial page will be posted on the AFPAAA web site as names are confirmed by the Selection Committee and the AFPAAA Board of Directors.

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 22030-0540.**

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(* denotes Board Members)

Chairman of the Board: David Smith*

President: Mike Gannon*

Vice President: Charlie Powers*

Secretary: Linda Arnold*

Treasurer: Jim Hart*

Board Members: Al Eakle, Larry Greer, John Gulick, C.B. Kelly, Jim McGuire, **Joe Purka**

Ex Officio Board Members: Mike McRaney, Jim Hart, John Gura, Joe Purka

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Annual Meeting - John Gulick

Communications - Al Eakle

Newsletter Editor - Al Eakle

Development - tbd

Finance - Jim Hart

Membership - Mike Gannon

Nominating - Kathy McCollom

Oral History - John Gura

Special Events - Jim McGuire

Web Site - John Gura

The President's Pen.....

by **Mike Gannon**

Standing in front of an immaculate Thunderbird F-16 aircraft at Nellis AFB at this year's annual meeting with nearly 70 active duty and retired public affairs colleagues may have been that "magical moment" for me when I realized the real value in belonging to an organization like the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association.

As the most recent survey of our members pointed out, the majority of us belong to such an organization to stay in touch with the Air Force and the colleagues we were privileged to serve with. And for those of us who attended the 10th annual meeting in Las Vegas, it was a great time and place to do both!

For those who weren't as fortunate - you were missed. To **John Gura**, **Denny Weddle**, **George Sillia**, and the others who assisted - thanks for a great time!

As is normal in this organization, the annual meeting brought a time of transition as the new officers assumed their positions.

To **Dave Smith**, our new chairman; **Charlie Powers**, our new vice president; and **Linda Arnold**, our newly appointed secretary, congratulations and I look forward to serving with you.

I also would like to recognize **C.B. Kelly** on his election to the board of directors, and know he will bring a touch of true class to the board.

In some cases, transition means leaving positions

of leadership. This organization owes a debt of gratitude to our past chairman, **Joe Purka**, who moves on to his richly deserved position as president/chairman emeritus and to board member **Rick Fuller**, who had to step down from his position as president because of work commitments. I was honored to have served with both of these true gentlemen on active duty and am humbled to follow in their footsteps in AFPAAA. **Joe** and **Rick** - Godspeed and don't worry, we still know how to find you.

The annual meeting also let's us honor some of our own for their service to the organization.

This year the Michael P. McRaney Distinguished Service Award was presented to **Neil Buttimer** for his many contributions to AFPAAA, including his remarkable tenure as membership chairman for the entire lifetime of the organization.

Unfortunately, **Neil** wasn't able to attend the meeting and accept the award in person, but be assured the applause he received in honor of his service was genuine and heartfelt.

Congratulations to **Neil** - he truly exemplifies the spirit of service to AFPAAA.

And, as has become



Air Force Public Affairs Alumni President Mike Gannon can be reached via email at MGannon@afpaaa.org

our custom, we also take time at these annual meetings to recognize those who are no longer with us.

This year we remembered colleagues **Walter Ryland**, **Barney Oldfield**, **Thomas LaPolt**, **John E. Bradley**, **Miles C. Schaffer**, **Lew Allison**, and **Charles T. Van Vliet**.

Finally, this annual transition allows for a time of reflection on the accomplishments of the group, as well as a chance for all of us to look ahead and determine where we want to focus our time, talents, skills, and efforts.

I'd like to offer the following thoughts for your consideration.

- We should continue our efforts to provide a service to those who continue to serve in the Public Affairs, Broadcasting, and Bands career fields, whether active duty or Reserve or as civilians. Our ongoing badge presentations, recognition of the "Best of the Best" and scholarships should continue, but we need to continue to be creative in determining ways that we can best serve. I'd love to hear your ideas!

- We should also continue look for ways to recognize those who earn distinction, both those still serving and our own members who distinguish themselves professionally or in other fields. Start thinking now of who to nominate for the McRaney

Distinguished Service Award. Let us know if you learn of one of our colleagues being honored in their professional field or community, and we'll do what we can to recognize them.

- We need to work harder (and smarter) to get new members to join and persuade current members to become more active in the organization. The board has discussed some ideas, but everyone is invited to participate in the discussions. A good way to start is for each current member to call, write or personally contact someone they know who is eligible for membership but has not yet joined. Encourage one of your colleagues to run for office next spring. Be involved yourself, where you can. Everyone's skills and talents are needed.

- Finally, we need to make sure we don't overlook the number one reason our members say they join — to stay in touch with colleagues.

The annual meetings are certainly one great way to do that, and you can already be planning for next year's 11th annual meeting and reunion, which will be held April 29 - May 2, 2004, in the Village at Baytowne Wharf located the Fort Walton Beach-Destin-Sandestin area of Florida.

Thanks for the confidence and trust you have placed in me to be your president.

I look forward to the upcoming year and am proud to be associated with such a group of dedicated men and women.

Prop wash, jet blast

Several Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association members were recently selected for promotion. Congratulations to:

Michael L. Coleman, Kenneth L. Hoffman, Susan E. Idziak, Lisa J. Neidinger, Jill L. Whitesell, and Regina S. Winchester, who were selected for advancement to major;

Joseph M. Kubistek for advancement to senior master sergeant; **Ann Bennett and Julie Briggs** for advancement to master sergeant.

Welcome to new lifetime member **Capt. Tadd Sholtis**, and new member **SMSgt. Elaine Mayo**.

Jack Gregory has upgraded his to lifetime membership.



Then-Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association Chairman of the Board Joe Purka presents the "Best of the Best" Award to Lt. Col. Stephen Clutter.

Best of the Best Award

Continued from Page 1

For three weeks, he traveled with a special forces team on patrol in some of the more remote regions of the country, and at times, performed sentry duties during roadblock stops targeting suspected Taliban and Al-Qaeda forces.

While in Hawaii, he coordinated a meeting of Hawaiian elders and base staff to formalize an agreement providing care for an on-base burial site containing the remains of 92 Hawaiian ancestors and provide access to the site for local Hawaiians.

Working with the University of Hawaii, he coordinated a series of eight lectures for the wing leadership to learn more about the history, culture and issues in the region.

Clutter also developed a plan to increase Congressional staff awareness of critical infrastructure issues, resulting in both senators and representatives supporting those issue in the base's FY-04 budget.

The Best of the Best Award is sponsored by the AFPAAA.

Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association
P.O. Box 540
Fairfax, VA 22030-0540
(Address Correction Requested)

First Class Postage

Members invited to Christmas party

Join the Air Force PA family and get into the holiday spirit at the 2003 SAF/PA Holiday Ball, Friday, Dec. 12, at the Fort Belvoir Officers Club, VA.

Entertainment is provided by the USAF Band High Flight. Social hour begins at 6:30 p.m., with dinner at 7:30 p.m.

For more information and ticket prices, call MSgt Beth Alber, (703) 697-9835 or by email her at:

beth.alber@pentagon.af.mil.