

SMSgt Cook 2012 "Best Of The Best"

Senior Master Sergeant Timothy W. Cook and his wife Andrea, display the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association's Best of the Best Award.

The award, sponsored by Lockheed Martin, was presented by president Mike Cox at AFPAAA's 20th Annual Membership Meeting, April 27th.

It recognizes the top officer, civilian, or enlisted person in Air Force Public Affairs who best demonstrates professional excellence and contributes significantly to the effectiveness of the Air Force mission.

In addition to the trophy, SMSgt Cook received a check for \$1,000 and a life membership in AFPAAA.

Sergeant Cook is the Public Affairs Assistant Enlisted Career Field Manager



in the Secretary of the Air Force Office of Public Affairs.

He was born in Beckley, West Virginia, and entered the Air Force

in 1992. Sergeant Cook has an extensive background in still photography and has deployed to support Operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom. He has received numerous awards for excellence in performance and management.

He was selected by the Air Force for the Best of the Best Award for numerous accomplishments, including his performance while deployed with the Joint Task Force in Afghanistan from August through February.

There, his intelligence monitoring led to vital information that revealed four high value hostile individuals. In addition, his efforts disrupted or neutralized Al-Qaeda, Haqqani Network, and Taliban propaganda with 99% positive results.

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**Public Affairs
Alumni
Association™**

**News
&
Notes**

July 2013

Smarkola Gets McRaney Award

Hal Smarkola has been named recipient of The Brigadier General Mike McRaney Distinguished Service Award. His recovery from hip replacement surgery prevented him from attending the presentation at the Annual Membership meeting in Las Vegas.

The McRaney Award recognizes service to AFPAAA

beyond what would normally be expected of a member.



AFPAAA's JC Corcoran's Relatives Among Boston Marathon Terrorist Bombing Victims

At the Boston Marathon, AFPAAA's JC Corcoran's nephew's wife, Celeste, and her daughter, Sydney, were ready to cheer Celeste's sister as she crossed the finish line. They never got that chance as the terrorist bomb inflicted life-threatening wounds to both of the Corcoran women.

Celeste lost both legs, which were amputated below the knee. Sydney's femoral artery was torn and she had other shrapnel wounds.

Life saving surgery was performed that day at Boston Medical Center.

Later, after additional surgery, they were transferred to a rehabilitation center. Both are continuing their recovery at home.

At AFPAAA's Las Vegas meeting, members pitched in to help with the



Sydney and Celeste with family.

medical and other expenses associated with Celeste and Sydney's recovery, donating \$1,675 to a fund established for that purpose.

"Our family really appreciates the help from AFPAAA. It's going to be a long road back for Celeste and Sydney, but with the help and prayers of so many

people they'll make it," JC said.

Donations can be made by check to: **The Celeste and Sydney Fund**
c/o Enterprise Bank
1120 Main Street
Tewksbury, MA 01876

57th Wing's Curt Bottesch And Security Service Credit Union's John Worthington Honored With President's Awards

President's Awards were given to Curtis Bottesch, the 57th Wing's Director of Staff, Nellis AFB, Nevada, and John Worthington, executive vice president/chief communications officer for Security Service Federal Credit Union (SSFCU) in San Antonio, Texas, at the Annual Membership Meeting in Las Vegas.

The award, a plaque with a small, red piece of the Cape Canaveral gantry used for the January 31, 1958, launch of Explorer One, America's first satellite, is presented to leaders in their field who have had a significant impact on U.S. Air Force Public Affairs.

From wing to major command to the Pentagon, a key to an effective and responsive Public Affairs program is cooperation from the rest of the organization. Curtis Bottesch has been the link that has provided that cooperation at Nellis AFB, where the Red Flag, Weapons School, the Thunderbirds, and other operations make it a focal point of media interest.

By quickly providing information



Nellis AFB's Curt Bottesch and Security Service Federal Credit Union's John Worthington received AFPAAA President's Awards, about flying operations, including the new F-35, and arranging orientation flights for local and national media and civic leaders, he has enabled Public Affairs to respond quickly and effectively in the trying situations.

John Worthington, an AFPAAA Life member, has been with SSFCU since he completed his 26-year Air Force career during which as Commander,

Air Force Broadcasting Service he championed quality programming on a global scale.

Active in the San Antonio community and legislative affairs for almost 20 years, he has served as a board member of the Bexar County Arts and Cultural Fund and as a member of the Texas Credit Union League Governmental Affairs Committee.

He is a member of the North San Antonio Chamber of Commerce's Lead SA, a 501(c)(3) non-profit that supports and sponsors a variety of programs and initiatives to promote educational, leadership, career, and professional development in San Antonio.

Founders Recognized

Thirteen people who contributed to the founding of AFPAAA were recognized with trophies in Las Vegas. They were: Pete Alexandrakos, Neil Buttimer, John Gulick, Jim Hart, Alice Price, Jim Reinhard, Marv Braman, Ted Daniel, John T. 'Tom' Halbert, Mike McRaney, Ron Rand, Gene Sands, and Dave Shea.

Dolney Joins AFPAAA Board, Cox Takes Chairmanship, Ratliff Becomes President



Mike Cox



Phil Ratliff



Clem Gaines



Tom Dolney



Jay DeFrank



Art Forster

The AFPAAA Board of Directors election has placed Mike Cox, Jay DeFrank, Tom Dolney, Art Forster, Clem Gaines, and Phil Ratliff on the board.

Their two-year terms began on July 1. Cox, DeFrank, Forster, Gaines, and Ratliff were incumbents.

Mark Foutch's term as Chairman of the Board ended and he did not seek reelection to the board.

In accordance with AFPAAA's leadership succession plan, effective July 1, Cox became board chairman; Ratliff, president, and Clem Gaines, vice president. Board member Larry

Clavette moves into the succession as secretary. Jim Hart continues as AFPAAA's treasurer.

The six newly elected board members join Dick Abel, Judy Bivens, Clavette, John Gura, Hart, John Terino, and Johnny Whitaker on the board.

From The President's Pen ———



We're all familiar with the saying "What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas!" For AFPAAA's 20th Annual Membership Meeting, this couldn't be further from the truth. What happened in Vegas in 2013 was the largest attended meeting in the history of our Association. New members and first time attendees came from far and wide – many to see what this AFPAAA thing is all about.

As I begin my year as President of this great Association, I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the incredible job Linda Arnold, John Gura, and Jim Hart did in putting the whole program together. I believe were it not for their innovative thinking and fiscal perseverance our reunion and meeting would not have been nearly as successful as it was.

Speaking of Linda, for longer than any of us can imagine, she has been the chief organizer and leader of AFPAAA's annual meeting team. Unfortunately for us, her final year of involvement will be San Antonio in 2014. We have a critical need for someone to quickly step forward to replace Linda so they can shadow her work for next year to gain the insight necessary to do the job beyond then.

In his final President's Pen, Mike Cox pointed out how our membership has grown and how many new faces we have in our midst. He also challenged everyone to get involved. What better way to influence and have a significant input on how our annual reunions and meetings are organized than to work with the Annual Meeting Committee as we start the third decade of AFPAAA.

Our founders did an outstanding job of creating this Association and guiding it over the past 20 years. Our roots are strong and solid, but maybe it's time for us to take a look at our branches. Just like a strong oak tree, our Association may be in need of some pruning and reshaping to keep it growing strong.

During the coming year, I intend to lead a complete review of not only our guiding By-Laws, but a total look at how we are organized and how we conduct the business of the Association. Jim Hart and his Investment Committee has ensured this organization will be financially strong for years to come, now we must ensure an equal degree of organizational strength. I believe we owe it to the Les Kodlick's, Darrick Lee's, and Tim Cook's of the Public Affairs community that we have the best Association possible for them when they are ready to take over its leadership roles.

If you're interested in joining me in this effort or are interested in the Annual Meeting Committee, drop me a note at PhilRatliff@AFPAAA.org or pmratliff@thevilleges.net

– Phil Ratliff





**Air Force Public Affairs
Alumni Association
20th Annual
Membership Meeting
April 25-28, 2013
Las Vegas, Nevada**



Photo Credits
*Pete Alexandrakos
Don Brownlee
Neil Buttimer
Liz Lieberman
Neil Norum
John Terino
Roy Whitton*



The Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association gratefully acknowledges the following corporations whose generous support enabled the success of our 20th Annual Membership Meeting.

Lockheed Martin
Ron Rand & Johnny Whitaker

Northrop Grumman Corporation
Jim & Donna Stratford

Pratt & Whitney
Jay DeFrank & Woody Woodyard

Raytheon Company
Dave Shea

Rockwell Collins
Tom Hobson

Security Service Federal Credit Union
John Worthington

The Boeing Company
Ms. Maureen P. Cragin

The Everett Group
Steve Everett

Wells Fargo Bank
Linda Arnold



Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association 20th Annual Membership Meeting, April 25-28, 2013



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Larry Reid Jr.

Attendees

Dick & Ann Abel
 Pete & Judy Alexandrakos
 Linda & Jack Arnold
 Judy & Jerry Bivens
 Don & Jeanne Brownlee
 Neil & Connie Buttmer
 Larry Clavette
 Paul & Elizabeth Cole
 Tim & Andrea Cook
 JC & Ginny Corcoran
 Mike & Sam Cox
 Jerry & Carolyn Dalton

Chuck Davis
 Alan Deffend
 Tom & Lori Dolney
 Steve & Lori Everett
 Laura Feldman
 Mark & Janet Foutch
 Art & Janet Forster
 Bill & Marti Frensiey
 Rick & Ann Fuller
 Clem Gaines
 Sam & Dawn Giammo
 Michael Georgeson
 Robert & Norma Gibson
 Robert Glymph

Alan Gregory
 Jack Gregory
 John & Kathleen Gura
 Tom Halbert
 Bill Hansen
 Steve & Fran Harden
 Frank Hardy
 Jim Hart
 Dick & Linda Heil
 Rick Helmer
 Estefanie Hernandez
 Robin Holloway
 Hank Hufnagel
 Ichael Hutcheson

Larry & Karen Johnson
 Mike Kinchen
 Bill Knowlton
 Chuck Lucas
 Pat & Cathy Maloney
 Gail Maxey
 Larry & Karen McCracken
 Mike McRaney
 Frank McNally
 Cal Miller
 Debra & Roger Millett
 Anita Mueller
 Evan Neuschwander
 Rick & Nancee Nollenberger

Neil & Lynne Norum
 Perry & Jean Nouis
 Pat & Suzanne Paulson
 Ron & Anne Peck
 Pete Peterson
 Virginia Pribyia
 Linda Pueller
 Christine Queen
 Jim Ragan
 Phil & Linda Ratliff
 Catherine & Elizabeth Reardon
 Ken & Gisela Rogge
 Bud & Hilda Ross
 Tom & Pat Shurmaker

David & Carolyn Smith
 Ernie Stepp
 Donna & Jim Stratford
 Becky Teasdale
 John Terino
 Mike and Carolyn Terrill
 Lou Torraca
 Johnny & Nancy Whitaker
 Ray & Kay Whitton
 Janice Witt
 Richard Wood
 John & Jackie Worthington

Raymond A. Crockett

Ray Crockett, who had a distinguished Public Affairs career in both the Air Force and the corporate world, died of cancer at his home in Smyrna, Georgia, on March 17. He was 68.

He was commissioned in 1967 through the ROTC program at the University of Florida, with his first assignment as an information officer with Air Weather Service, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.



Subsequent assignments took him to Air Weather Service and Pacific Air Forces Headquarters, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

After completing a Master's degree at the University of Florida, he became the Public Affairs Officer for Chanute AFB, Illinois.

Assignments to Air Force Recruiting Service followed; first to the Midwest Recruiting Group and then to Headquarters in San Antonio, where he supervised the Air Force's national advertising campaign.

After serving in Germany, he headed the Aeronautical Systems Division Public Affairs Office, Wright-Patterson, AFB, Ohio; from there he concluded his 26-year Air Force career in 1993 as Director of Public Affairs, Pacific Air Forces.

After retiring, Ray joined ITT's Aerospace Division and then moved to Lockheed Martin. He then joined the Coca-Cola subsidiary, Minute Maid and subsequently moved to Coca-Cola Corporation in Atlanta, Georgia, retiring in 2010 as Director of Communications for North America.

Most recently, he was a senior consultant for Hartman Public Relations in Atlanta.

Ray was a well known and respected member of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA); a PRSA Fellow, and a Trustee of PRSA's Foundation Board. As co-chair of PRSA's MBA Initiative to introduce strategic communications coursework to MBA curricula, he played a lead

role in the development and launch of the program that has gained considerable momentum to become one of our Society's key strategic efforts.

Ray was awarded the PRSA Georgia Chapter's Order of the Phoenix, given in recognition for lifetime service to the profession and to PRSA, and was named to the Georgia Public Relations Hall of Fame.

In addition, he was a lecturer in Public Relations at the University of Georgia, and was a private pilot.

Ray is survived by his wife Carolyn and sons Kris, Josh, and Ben.

Ray was an outstanding public affairs officer, but he was much more than that. He was a very good man. He knew when to work hard, have fun, laugh, and he knew when to stay focused and lead the way.

His superb work with PRSA after his AF and industry careers surprised no one.

We will all miss Ray. God Bless him and his family.

– Mike McRaney

Lord Guard & Guide

Don Eaton

Don Eaton, who retired from the Air Force Reserve in 1992, died of pancreatic cancer, May 12, in Issaquah, Washington. He was 70.

He was born in Abilene, Texas, and graduated from the University of Washington with degrees in business and communications.

Don worked in TV as a photographer, producer, and announcer for local ABC, NBC, and CBS affiliates in a number of cities.

He had an on-air news magazine at a St. Louis station, and owned an exotic animal ranch 65 miles east of the city. He and his ex-wife raised grand champion

Old English Sheepdogs, and were featured in the sheep-dog manual.

Don had a pilot's license, was involved in local emergency preparedness activities, and was an avid sailor and a life member of the Seattle Yacht Club.

In the Air Force Reserve, he served in the Gulf War and Somalia.

Late in his career he moved to Kalispell, Montana, where he reported for a local TV station.

He is survived by his sister, Dorothy Ferguson of Freeland, Washington, and his brother, David Eaton of McCall, Idaho.

John E. Klemack

John E. Klemack, 88th Air Base Wing Director of Public Affairs, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, died April 9 of lung cancer at the Hospice of Dayton after a battle with lung cancer. He was 66.

John was born in San Antonio, Texas. He entered the Air Force Academy Preparatory School in 1965 and later attended the academy for two years. He transferred to Ohio State University in where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in communication in 1969.

He served in the Air Force Reserve, retiring in 2004. His career spanned both civilian and military Public Affairs.

From 1969 to 1989 he worked in private sector public relations and multimedia jobs. His civil service career began in 1989 at Da-

vis-Monahan Air Force Base, Arizona.

In 1998, he was hired to work in Public Affairs at Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) at Wright-Patterson. Klemack was director of public affairs at the 88th Air Base Wing since 2009.

Ron Fry, AFMC Director of Public Affairs, said Klemack had "a great sense of humor and one of his best communication traits was he never took his job so seriously he let it get in the way of effective communication. He was good at communicating in a way that people enjoyed listening to him."

John is survived by his wife, Mikah. Remembrances may be made by donations to The Hospice of Dayton; the Air Force Assistance Fund, or a charity of choice in his memory.

Minutes of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association 20th Annual Membership Meeting Saturday, April 27, 2013 Monte Carlo Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Cox at 2:05 pm. A quorum was declared by Secretary Clem Gaines.

Board of Directors Members Present:

Mark Foutch, Chairman of the Board	Judy Bivens
Mike Cox, President	Larry Clavette
Phil Ratliff, Vice President	Art Forster
Clem Gaines, Secretary	John Gura
Jim Hart, Treasurer	John Terino
Dick Abel	Johnny Whitaker

Absent: Jay DeFrank - Proxy to Jim Hart

Remembrance Of Deceased Members Of The Public Affairs Community – The names of members of the Public Affairs community who died since the last Annual Membership Meeting were read by the secretary and recognized by the membership with a moment of silence:

Dominick A. Cardonita	John Marion Lewis, Jr.
Ray A. Crockett	Edmond R. McCarthy
John M. "Mike" Connolly	Lionel V. Patenaude
William I. Greener	William C. Robinson
Adelpha A. "Del" Hernandez	John Toner
Willis I Ketterson, Jr.	Mario P. Vozza
John E. Klemack	

19th Annual Membership Meeting Minutes – President Mike Cox presented the minutes of the 19th Annual Membership Meeting for approval. Dave Smith moved for approval, Steve Harden seconded and they were approved unanimously.

Association Finances – Treasurer Jim Hart presented the financial status of the Association. The Association had received \$1,675 from the members to support AFPAAA member JC Corcoran's relatives who were injured in the Boston Marathon bombing. A check will be sent from AFPAAA to the fund established for their benefit.

Overall, the Association is in good financial condition. The AFPAAA fiscal year ends on Sept. 30. At that time, the Association had \$20,000 in the checking account and the Endowment Fund was \$299,889. The total net worth was \$320,120.

The initial goal for the Endowment Fund was \$300,000 with the expectation that it would generate \$15,000 per year to sustain the programs of the Association over and above the membership dues. Through contributions and growth, the value of the funds today is \$315,193. He also praised the work of the Investment Committee members Hank Hufnagel and Jim McGuire.

Last year, the Investment Committee recommended to the Board to review options to the management company, NWQ, and investments by Morgan Stanley. NWQ had performed well in the first few years but not as well recently. The committee was given authority by the Board to review and select a new management company and investment firm and it did that.

Treasurer Hart reported that the Board had approved moving the funds to Newbridge Securities and to American Funds. As of December 31, 2012, the total balance of the fund was more than \$315,000. In addition, the checking account had just under \$24,000, including fees and corporate donations for the annual meeting.

Treasurer Hart made a motion to approve the report as presented; it was seconded by Phil Ratliff and approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

Membership – Committee Chairman Neil Buttimer reported current membership is 592. He also noted that Major Darrick B. Lee, Thunderbirds PAO, was becoming a Lifetime member. As a result of the outreach effort that offered them complimentary memberships, 45 broadcasters have joined; the hope is that they will become paying members when the time to renew comes.

Our annual renewal rate is at 53 percent (the goal is 75 percent) and it is always a challenge to keep the associate members.

Members were asked to keep their information current on the web site.

Facebook Site – Sam Giammo said we started two pages for the Association a year ago. One is our official page, the other is the AFPAAA Group page where people can post things. There are 219 people linked to the Facebook page and 577 on the group page. He has been posting during the meeting and 45 people have responded with 323 comments.

Web Site/Oral History – Committee Chairman John Gura noted he did not have the time to keep up with ideas for the oral history area. He is willing to show someone how to correctly prepare a report.

For the web site he said to update your information, you use your e-mail address as the password. He noted that most of the Board of Directors election votes came online, and most of the annual meeting registrations also came online; we will continue to offer those options.

more 

... 20th Annual Membership Meeting Minutes continued.

Communications – Committee Chairman John Terino said our printer is putting out a good product for the printed newsletter. He thanked those who provide tributes to those who have passed away because the families appreciate the obituaries/tributes in the newsletter; he read a letter from Bill Greener’s wife with warm comments on her husband’s obituaries/tribute.

Board of Directors

Election Results – Chairman Foutch announced the results of the Board of Directors election. Elected for two-year terms were:

Mike Cox	Tom Dolney	Clem Gaines
Jay DeFrank	Art Forster	Phil Ratliff

He thanked John Gura and Kathy McCollom who chaired the Nominating and Elections Committees, and those who assisted them.

Chairman Foutch announced the new officers beginning July 1, will be:

Mike Cox, Chairman of the Board
Phil Ratliff, President
Clem Gaines, Vice President
Larry Clavette, Secretary
Jim Hart, Treasurer

2014 Annual Membership Meeting – Phil Ratliff said it will be April 9-12 at the La Quinta Inn (where we stayed in 2008) at \$106 per night. The San Antonio theme is Back to Basics and we will be updated on the changes in Basic Training and associated areas.

2015 Annual Membership Meeting – Will be in the DC area May 7-10. Friday will be at the Pentagon’s new Air Force Conference Center. We will visit the 9/11 Memorial at the Pentagon, the Air Force Memorial, and the Air and Space Museum’s Udvar-Hazy Center.

Annual Meeting Chairman Needed – Phil Ratliff said AFPAAA needs someone to take over for Linda Arnold who has been handling the key tasks of the Annual Membership Meeting for more than a decade and will step down after San Antonio in 2014. The need is even more critical because Hal Smarkola, who has been a frequent assistant to Linda, is also stepping aside.

Someone to take Linda’s place is needed immediately so they can understudy the San Antonio meetings preparations

and take over for 2015 and the years that follow. The person willing to fulfill that role should contact Phil immediately.

New Business

Centurion Fund – Treasurer Hart said that a record 44 people had made contributions and all will go to the Endowment Fund (tax deductible letter can be provided). In the drawing of names from those who donated to the Centurion Fund, Roy Whitton and Rick Helmer were selected to receive three nights of lodging at the Monte Carlo.

A suggestion was made and accepted to add a line to the registration form for contributions to the Centurion Fund

State of the Association – Chairman Foutch noted that AFPAAA was a much better organization than three years ago due to the initiatives of current and former Board members, committee chairs, and other officers. Those initiatives include the Facebook page, change in investment managers and strategy, and a strong succession plan. He noted that his best accomplishment was recruiting Mike Cox. At the Board of Directors meeting, Mark said he presented Mike with a vintage handbook of Roberts Rules of Order “to keep the crowd in line.”

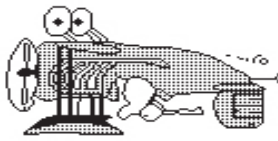
President Cox reported the state of AFPAAA was good, with signs of growth and excellent financial health, including changes to enhance the growth of the Endowment Fund.

He noted we are celebrating our 20th year in style by holding the largest annual meeting ever, with 130 registrations – the previous high was 111, with an average 85-95. The attendance this year is due, in part, to the broadcasters who joined after an outreach program. Forty-five broadcasters have become members and we hope more will join in the future. Overall, we’ve seen a membership growth of 72 over the year (521 to 593) and it needs to improve even more.

Through the efforts of Art Forster, we’ve established closer ties to SAF/PA that will help both organizations. The key to our improvement is consistent planning. We have a strong leadership group in place with more interest in succession planning. The goals and objectives of our founders, 20 years ago, have been met, perhaps more so than they could have imagined. “It has been a great ride and I am looking forward to the next 20,” Cox said.

Adjournment – With no other business, Tom Halbert moved for adjournment, it was seconded by Ken Rogge, and the meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

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. **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. **Board of Directors and Officers:** Chairman, Mike Cox; President, Phil Ratliff; Vice President, Clem Gaines; Secretary, Larry Clavette; Treasurer, Jim Hart; Dick Abel, Judy Bivens, Jay DeFrank, Tom Dolney, Art Forster, John Gura, John Terino, Johnny Whitaker. **Committee Chairmen:** Annual Meeting, Clem Gaines; Communications, John Terino; Development, Joe Purka; Elections, Kathy McCollom; Finance, Jim Hart; Membership, Neil Buttimer; Oral History & Website John Gura.



Prop Wash & Jet Blast



Welcome Aboard To . . . *Belinda Bazinet, Sarah Beavers, Alan Black, Bernard E. DeLisle, Robert Dyster, Gary C. Gerard, Lynette Gonzales, Sam C. Grizzle, Mike Hartman, Thomas 'Tom' Hawkins, Johanna Janukatys, Mark Kinkade, Scott Knuteson, Gary J. Kunich, Ron Manning, Joseph C. McHale, Mark Moss, Ron Mullan, Orye Evan Neuschwander, Perry Nouis, Eugene 'Gene' Pickett, Richard L. Ray, Joyce M. Richardson, Donald Ross, Harry T. 'Tom' Serres, Erich B. Smith, Robert H. Smith, Becky Teasdale, Ray Toler, Bill Turner, Todd Vician, Joe Wallace, Toni Whaley, and Richard Wood.*

New Lifers . . . *who have either joined or upgraded to AFPAAA Life membership; Julie A. Briggs, Timothy Cook, James H. Dilda, Steve Everett, Arthur C. 'Art' Forster, Jr., Frederick Helmer, Darrick Lee, Linda L. Leong, James H. Ragan, David L. 'Dave' Thurston, Dan Woolley.*

Another Couple Of Flying Hours . . . *in the logbook for former SAF/PA Director (November 2007-February 2009) and now commander of 18th Air Force Lt. General Darren McDew when he delivered the last C-17 Globemaster III to Joint Base Lewis-McChord in March. The general, who has more than 3,000 hours in the cockpit, thanked the airmen at the arrival ceremony for their work and the American people for footing the bill for a "highly capable and extremely versatile aircraft." "It allows us to keep promises," he said. "Those are the promises we make at home and everywhere around the world."*

Back To Alma Mater . . . *for former SAF/PA Director (November 2005-November 2007) Michelle Johnson who has been serving as NATO's deputy chief of staff for operations and intelligence. The major general has been nominated for a third star and named to replace Lt. General Michael Gould as Superintendent of the Air Force Academy. She is a 1981 AFA graduate.*

No Thunder For Thunderbirds . . . *and more because of the budget sequester. The effect extends well beyond standing down the Thunderbirds to preserve flying hours. All Air Force aviation support by active duty, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve units for public events for the remainder of Fiscal 2013 has been cancelled. That includes aviation support at air shows, trade shows, and open houses, unless the event includes only local static assets; flyovers have also been stopped, including at funerals and military graduations, as have orientation flights, heritage flights, and F-22 demonstration flights.*

Similar curtailments have been put in place by the Army and Navy for demonstration teams and event support.

"Engaging with the public is a core Air Force mission and communicating and connecting with the public is more important today than ever before. However, faced with deep budget cuts, we have no choice but to stop public aviation support," explained Brig. General Les Kodlick, Air Force Director of Public Affairs.

The Focus Is On China . . . *in Air University's summer issue of Strategic Studies Quarterly. With China conducting naval exercises near Hawaii and its development of a 'Blue Water' navy that includes an aircraft carrier, this issue provides great background information and analysis to keep up with the recent pivot toward Asia in United States Foreign policy.*

Among the articles are:

Asia, the Pacific, and the US Air Force's Contribution to the Future of US National Security
General John A. Shaud, USAF, Retired
Kevin C. Holzhammer

Assessing the US "Pivot" to Asia
David Shamburgh

US Grand Strategy, the Rise of China, and US National Security
Robert S. Ross

Upping the Ante: Chinese Encroachment, US Entrenchment
Dina Badie

The Rise of China and Varying Sentiments in Southeast Asia Toward Great Powers
Il Hyun Cho

Shaping Air and Sea Power for the 'Asia' Pivot: Military Planning to Support Limited Geopolitical Objectives
Michael Kraig
Lt. Colonel Leon Perkowski

The full text of these and all other articles can be found at:
<http://www.au.af.mil/au/ssq/index.asp>



44 CENTURION DONATIONS BOOST ENDOWMENT FUND BY \$4,400

"Centurion donations this year totalling \$4,400 were the most ever and help solidify our Endowment Fund," AFPAAA Treasurer Jim Hart observed. "Our goal for the fund, which was

set in 1997, was \$300,000 to provide for future operations of the association; we've hit that, but with the fluctuations in the stock market, it is good to have a bit of a cushion. At the end of December we had \$315,000"

This past year, 44 Centurion \$100 donations were made, almost all from individuals at the April Annual Membership Meeting. Since it began in 2003, the Centurion program has increased the fund by more than \$26,000.

A major change in management of the Endowment Fund took place since the last annual meeting.

"After several years of substandard performance, the finance committee determined, and the board agreed, we should look for another company to manage AFPAAA's funds," Hart explained.

The funds were transferred to Newbridge Securities which placed them in a balanced portfolio of American Funds. "We've already seen positive results with an overall increase in the value of our portfolio from the variety of funds Newbridge invested it in," he observed.

Endowment Fund donations – money, stocks, real estate, collectibles, and other valuables – are tax deductible, reducing tax liability while helping provide for the future of AFPAAA.

2012-13 AFPAAA CENTURION DONORS

DICK ABEL
PETE ALEXANDRAKOS
LINDA ARNOLD
JUDY BEVINS
DON BROWNLEE
PAUL COLE
MICHAEL H. COX
JERRY DALTON, JR.
ALAN DEFEND
LAURA FELDMAN
ART FORSTER

WILLIAM FRENSELY
RICK FULLER
MICHAEL GEORGESON
SAM J. GIAMMO
ROBERT P. GLYMPH
JACK GREGORY, JR.
JOHN GURA
JIM HART
RICK HELMER*
HENRY B. HUFNAGEL
LARRY JOHNSON

DOUG KENNETT
MIKE KINCHEN
WILLIAM KNOWLTON
CHUCK LUCAS
LARRY MCCRACKEN
FRANK MCNALLY
MIKE MCRANEY
CAL MILLER
JIM RAGAN
PHIL RATLIFF
RONALD T. RAND

CECIL F. ROSS
TOM SHUMAKER
DAVID SMITH
JIM STRATFORD
DONNA STRATFORD
JOHN TERINO
LEO TERRILL
LOU TORRACA
ROY WHITTON*
JANIS WITT
RICHARD WOOD

* Indicates winner of the free rooms drawing. All Centurion donors since the previous Annual Membership Meeting present at this year's meeting, were eligible for the drawing. The room prizes this year were valued at \$400.00 each.



P. O. Box 447
Locust Grove, VA 22508-0447
(Address Correction Requested)

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE