

Abel, Jennings, Kinchen Selected For Air Force Public Affairs Hall Of Fame; 2022 Nominations Due By December 1



Dick Abel, Frank Jennings, and Mike Kinchen are the 2021 selectees to be members of the Air Force Public Affairs Hall Of Fame. They join the initial group of 15 pioneers announced earlier this year from the Bands, Broadcasting, Information/Public Affairs and Visual Information/Combat Camera specialties that comprise the Public Affairs field.

Dick Abel's mentorship, advocacy, and leadership were his career hallmarks. They were prominently displayed in 1973 when he went to Hanoi to escort the American POWs released from North Vietnam. He was CINCPAC Public Affairs and special assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff prior to his promotion to brigadier general and becoming Air Force Director of Public Affairs.

His post Air Force career included U.S. Olympic Committee public affairs executive, Fellowship of Christian Athletes president, and director of the Campus Crusade's Military Ministry. He wrote four books and conducted his seminar "Leadership is ALL About People" for multiple corporate, service, and educational groups.

Frank Jennings had more than 40 years as a WW II Army Information Officer, a civilian in the Army and the Office of Secretary of

Defense, and for 31 of those years the Air Force, where he was a GM-15. He helped establish the Air Force Internal Information program and for 26 years wrote and edited the twice monthly Policy Letter for Commanders.

The now common term 'aerospace' – the sky as a limitless military operational medium – was created by Frank in 1957. It evolved from a major theme in his writings that he condensed into aerospace to identify that medium.

After his retirement in 1985 he was active in the San Antonio Historical Association and as a writer. He planned and organized San Antonio's first annual Founders Day in 2004 to celebrate the many cultures that shaped the city's history and unique character. He wrote *SAN ANTONIO: The Story of an Enchanted City*. He authored historical articles for San Antonio's newspapers and on military doctrine for Aerospace Power Journal and the Air Force Times, Frank passed away in 2009. He was 92.

Fifty years of stellar performance in Air Force Broadcasting and Information/Public Affairs were Mike Kinchen's forte. He won Air Force and DoD awards in print and broadcasting in 23-plus years in uniform until retiring as a chief master sergeant. He added

more laurels as a civilian until he retired as the Air Force News Agency's GM-15 Director of Operations in 2011.

He was the first Chief of Operations, Air Force American Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS) Directorate, at the Air Force Service Information and News Center – a unique position created as part of a DoD directed consolidation of all Air Force AFRTS management functions. He was instrumental in establishing the Air Force Broadcasting Service, was its first Chief of Broadcasting, and authored the first AFBS regulation and guidance for daily broadcast operations by its units.

Mike was key in building and evolving the Air Force AFRTS' organizational structure, its manpower, equipment, configuration, and product standards, contingency management guidelines, and transition to new technology and delivery systems. His extensive work in shaping AFRTS resulted in his receiving the AFRTS Colonel Tom Lewis Lifetime Achievement Award.

Nominations of candidates for Hall of Fame induction in 2022 must be received by December 1st of this year – 2021. The nomination form is on the next page or use the one on the AFPAAA website at: www.afpaaa.org

New Virus Strains Stall Annual Meeting Plans

"The current surge of Covid cases linked to the Delta and MU strains has temporarily halted planning for next year's Annual Membership Meeting," meeting coordinator Perry Nouis reports.

"We're still a go for September 29-October 1 of next year," he said, "but with increased precautions and restrictions all over the country, including Ohio and Wright-Patt, things are on hold for now."

The base, reacting to Ohio's infection rate with virtually all of its counties labeled high-risk, has increased its health protection measures. Those steps include reducing the occupancy of buildings to 40 percent and working from home.

"When we have a better idea about the protocols that will be in place next year we will be able to resume planning a compelling agenda for the meeting," Perry said. "Check our website at www.afpaaa.org and News & Notes for the latest meeting updates."



News
&
Notes

Public Affairs
Alumni
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October '21

Nomination

Air Force Public Affairs Hall of Fame

Name of Nominee: _____
first name last name

Rank/GS Rating: _____
military rank or/and civil service grade

Specialty (Check One): Information/Public Affairs Combat Camera
 Band Visual Information
 Broadcasting

Approximate Dates of Service: _____
19XX - XXXX

Justification for Selection: (continue on back or additional page if needed)

Nominator Name and Contact Info: _____
name

phone #

Date of Submission (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

From The President's Pen ———



My last column mentioned Covid-19 abating and things were returning to normal. Unfortunately, I was a bit premature in those words. I hope everyone is doing well and taking care of yourselves and your families.

I write this column on the eve of September 11. It is hard to believe the attacks on our nation were 20 years ago. We all should remember and thank those who responded in the days and weeks after the attacks, as well as those serving today. And this year remembering 9/11 reinforces the importance of the recent events in Afghanistan. So many of our members served there and are worried about those who became our trusted partners during these deployments. Again, thank you for your service, as well as the service and sacrifices of your families.

There are a lot of great things going on in your AFPAAA. All of them can be found on our amazing website thanks to Jim McGuire who is a Webmaster extraordinaire! If you haven't recently done so, take a few minutes to look at www.afpaaa.org There is a lot of great information there.

It is exciting to see that thanks in large part to the efforts of Art Forster our AFPAAA Hall of Fame program has had a strong take off. We announced our 15 pioneer members in July and now have our 2021 inductees – Dick Abel, Frank Jennings and Mike Kinchen. There are certainly others we have served with or know of who deserve this prestigious honor. Please take the time to nominate a person from Bands, Broadcasting, Visual Information/Combat Camera or traditional Information/Public Affairs who you feel should be considered for the Hall.

Now is also the time of the year to consider nominating a member for the Michael P. McRaney Distinguished Service Award which recognizes one of us who has gone above and beyond in supporting AFPAAA and its members. It's a pretty easy process, see the story on page 5.

Once again, I'll end my column to urge you to use your membership resources. It is a great way to reconnect or stay connected with colleagues you served with and to support those serving today. Whether it's a scholarship award, a networking opportunity, or simply keeping up with your career field, there are many ways to connect through AFPAAA's website, directory, and newsletter. And don't hesitate to let me – brettashworth@afpaaa.org – or anyone else on the board know if there is anything we can do to make your membership better.

— *Brett*

Four AFPAAA Members Receive Diverse Honors & Awards

It was not a coincidence that July 29th was his 80th birthday and Mark Foutch Day in Olympia, Washington.

The Olympia City Council picked that date to honor Mark, an AFPAAA Lifetime Founder, for 35 years of service to the area as a community activist, neighborhood association president, member of the City Council, and the mayor of Olympia, as well as other civic activities.



Mark fell in love with Olympia while assigned to McChord AFB's 25th Air Division in 1971-72. When he retired from the Air Force in 1985 he settled there. He joined his neighborhood association and had the opportunity to observe and interact with the City Council.

In 1991 he ran for the council and began his 16 year council membership, which included ten years as the council appointed Mayor Pro Tem and a four-year term as elected mayor.

Mark said that everything he was involved with during the 35 years was important but being Board President for the Association of Washington Cities while he was mayor was particularly significant.

"It added the opportunity for even more interaction and influence with state officials than being the capital city's mayor and carried into my work with the National League of Cities, especially at the annual meetings in Washington, D.C., where we met with our senators and representatives to lobby on city issues," Mark said.

As mayor he made 'sister city' trips to Japan and a Washington state trade mission to China and Hong Kong. His military career made him a logical choice to be Olympia's liaison with Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

"My wife, Janet Charles, thoroughly enjoyed being Olympia's First Lady," Mark recalled. "She went with me to as many as five events in a day in town, at JBLM, and meetings around the state and nation, as well as on overseas trips—none at taxpayer expense."

Reflecting on a lengthy civic career that far exceeded his time in the Air Force, Mark observed. "The pay was nothing much but the 'psychic income' was terrific, and the IRS hasn't figured out how to tax that yet."

Bob McCullough

AFPAAA Life Member Bob McCullough has been elected to the Public Relations Society of America's prestigious College of Fellows.

The College of Fellows is an honorary organization of PRSA. Bob and the twelve others elected for 2021 are among 350 Fellows

within the 30,000 member PRSA. Selection as a Fellow recognizes an individual's contribution in extraordinary ways to the advancement of the communications profession through proven accomplishment, leadership, and mentoring expertise.

An accredited member, Bob joined PRSA in 1983 and is a past president of PRSA's San Antonio Chapter and the Texas Public Relations Association. His honors include three awards in the PRSA Silver Anvil competition and the Tex Taylor Lifetime Achievement Award.

Bob had a 30 year active duty and reserve career in Public Affairs. His assignments included AIRMAN magazine and mobilization assistant to the Air Force News Agency's commander. He retired in 2002 as a colonel.



In 2010, he joined the unique Morgan's Wonderland theme park in San Antonio, Texas. He is now communications director for Morgan's Inspiration Initiative, a non-profit that coordinates planning, fundraising and

communications for Morgan's Wonderland and related ventures designed for the special-needs community and built for everyone's enjoyment.

Before that Bob headed public relations for SeaWorld San Antonio and corporate communications for CPS Energy, greater San Antonio's electricity and natural gas provider.

Ron Rand.

"I'm humbled by this amazing hometown recognition and honored to be included with such distinguished generals. Hopefully, this bridge and park will inspire young Quincy men and women—today and tomorrow—to choose paths in life that include military service," said AFPAAA Life Member Ron Rand.

He was among 18 general officers raised in the City of Quincy Massachusetts enshrined in its new Generals Bridge and Park September 11.

The park in downtown Quincy has statues of its three highest ranking generals—Army Chief of Staff General James C. McConville, retired Marine Corps General Joseph Dunford, a Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and retired General Gordon Sullivan, an Army chief of staff.

Ron has one of four busts in the park's plaza. The other busts are of Massachusetts National Guard Major General Francis McGinn (Army) and Stephen Keefe (Air Force), and Air Force Major General Charles Sweeney, who piloted the B-29 in WW II that dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaki.

McConville, Dunford, McGinn, Sullivan, and Ron delivered remarks at the ceremony.

The names of the eleven other generals, dating back to the 1700s, including John Hancock, are engraved in



the park's commemorative stonework. The seven-foot bronze statues and the busts are by world-renowned sculptor Sergey Elanbekov.

Ron had a 32 year career in uniform, retiring as Director of Public Affairs. He became Pratt & Whitney's vice president for communications and then senior vice president for communications of Lockheed Martin. He was the president and chief executive officer of The Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation from 2014-2018 when he retired.

John Terino.

John Terino has been selected by the Intercollegiate Sailing Association of America (ICSA) for its 2021 Outstanding Service by a Volunteer Award.

The ICSA is the governing authority for all sailing competition by 200 colleges and universities throughout the United States and in some parts of Canada.

The Outstanding Service by a Volunteer Award honors an individual who has volunteered their time, talent and resources to advance the interests of college sailing at the club, team, conference or national level.

He received the award for his work in behalf of his alma mater Fordham University's sailing team. Shortly after the Fordham University Sailing Association was formed 20 years ago John, an AFPAAA Lifetime Founder, became secretary of its board of governors, a post he still holds.

He is responsible for the Association's directory—keeping track of its more than 300 Fordham sailing alumni and benefactors that support the team. The directory is a vital tool in recruiting high school sailors and fund raising to help maintain the boats and equipment, and for travel and other team expenses.

As an undergraduate, he was commodore of the team in 1959-61 and a two-time letter recipient.

John's name, as well as those of the 2021 College Sailors of the Year and this year's other ICSA award recipients, will be added to those already in sailing's hall of fame.

The ICSA College Sailing Hall of Fame was established in 1969 and is in the Robert Crown Sailing Center at the United States Naval Academy.



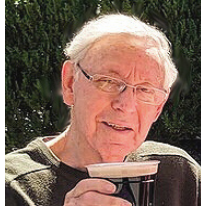
Ronald L. Sherman

Ron Sherman, who had a 23-year career in Public Affairs, passed away at his home surrounded by family members on August 15. He was 88.

A native of Portland, Oregon, he graduated from the University of Oregon in 1954 with an AFROTC commission. Assignments during his career included Vietnam and United States Air Forces in Europe.

After the Air Force, Ron was an aviation writer and public relations consultant for firms including Saab Aircraft, and a director and administrator for the American Cancer Society.

Ron was a bass and loved singing. As a member of the Mosaic Harmony Community Choir, he helped organize its relations with the Fairfax Arts Council, managed



grant programs, and served on its board of directors.

His wife, Sharon, died in 2008. Ron is survived by his brother Alan; sons Michael and Steven, daughter Cathrine, seven grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service and celebration of his life is planned for 2022 near the anniversary of Ron's death. For information on the service contact Katt4Dad2022@gmail.com

Ron Sherman was simply one of the best Public Affairs officers I have ever known. He established many international programs while he was in USAFE. His success was due to imagination,

Lord Guard & Guide

can-do attitude, and a sense of humor. We became lifelong friends from our time together in USAFE. I can personally attest that he never lost his zeal of life, sense of adventure, and wanting to travel, see, and do. There's many a trail in the Pacific Northwest Mountains that was an opening to adventure (not to mention finishing with a beer, Guinness or his specific Northwest favorite, Irish Death). And, of course, there was his commitment to his beloved Washington Nationals – including the reward of watching them become World Series champs. He truly loved life and was that way until the very end. Rest in Peace, my friend.

– Geoff Baker

It's Time To Nominate A Member For The McRaney Distinguished Service Award

AFPAAA's top award, the Brigadier General Mike McRaney Distinguished Service Award, is presented to a member for their exceptional contributions to the Association.

If you know a member who you believe is worthy of the honor now is when you should let us know.

The McRaney Award recognizes service far beyond the norm to AFPAAA. It is presented at the Annual Membership Meeting but does not have to be given every year.

A nominee needs a unanimous vote by the

Board of Directors to be a recipient. AFPAAA members can submit nominations at any time.

Serving on the Board of Directors, chairing a committee, or holding an office – such as president, chairman of the board of directors, etc. – is not a requirement but does not exclude a member from consideration.

Rank, accomplishments and positions on active duty, for federal, state, local government, non-profit entities, religious groups, or private corporations will not be considered in determining a recipient.

Donations to AFPAAA of money or stocks, jewelry, etc. will not be the sole or a major reason for making the award. Service to the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association is the prime criterion.

A list of past recipients is in our membership directory and on AFPAAA's website at www.afpaaa.org/awards.html

Presentation will be at the 2022 Annual Membership Meeting. Submit nominations to AFPAAA's secretary John Dorrian at johndorrian@afpaaa.org by March 1, 2022.

Don't Miss "Memphis Belle" On AFPAAA's Website

The Emmy® winning documentary of the B-17 Flying Fortress "Memphis Belle" can be seen on AFPAAA's website at afpaaa.org/events.html#mb

It tells two stories: that of the first crew and bomber to complete 25 missions in WW II Europe, and that of the B-17's restoration by the National Museum of the United States Air Force.

No actors, no Hollywood adds or gimmicks; it's not the hit 1990 movie that had in its cast Matthew Modine, Billy Zane, Harry Connick, Jr., and John Lithgow.

With WW II combat footage and commentary by the Belle's crew, shot by academy award winning director William



Wyler, and that of the museum and the restoration crew, the *Memphis Belle: Her Final Mission*, which has been on public television, is well worth viewing.

It moves back and forth from the war in 1943, the parades when the Belle and crew returned home, and how the plane was rescued from becoming scrap metal, to the 13 year restoration at the museum. And the Belle's crew members' stress as the missions mount and the emotional linkage felt by the restorers more than 60 years later is clear.

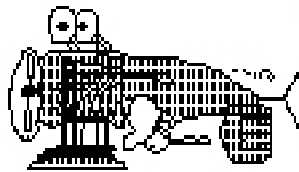
If you have seen or will see the restored Memphis Belle at the museum this 58 minute, 17 second documentary can only enhance your appreciation of what the 8th Air Force bomber crews endured and the care of the restorers in preserving a piece of that history.

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 2446, East Peoria, IL 61611-2446. On-line subscriptions are available at www.AFPAAA.org **Membership Information:** Those who have served in Air Force Bands, Broadcasting, Multimedia, and Public Affairs 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 **Officers and Board of Directors Members:** Chairman, Perry Nouis; President, Brett Ashworth; Vice President, Greg Smith; Secretary, John Dorrian; Treasurer, Phil Ratliff; Julie Briggs, John Gura, Doug Kennett, Jim McGuire, Chuck Merlo, David Phillips, Jerry Renne, Carla Sylvester, and John Terino. **Committee Chairmen:** Annual Membership Meeting Coordinator, Perry Nouis; Communications, John Terino; Development, Joe Purka; Elections, Kathy McCollom; Finance, Phil Ratliff; Membership, Christine Queen; Oral History, John Gura; Website, Jim McGuire; SAF/PA Liaison, Lou Timmons.



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Welcome Aboard . . . to new members **Judith Bates and Elizabeth VanHook.**

And Congrats To . . . Life Member **Herb Babb.**

SSQ Has An International Look . . . with articles from Norway and Finland on "Arctic Space Strategy: The US and Norwegian Common Interest and Strategic Effort" and "Comprehensive Security Approach in Response to Russian Hybrid Warfare" and the seldom discussed "The Technologies and International Politics of Genetic Warfare." All articles are available at www.airuniversity.af.edu/SSQ

We Mourn The Passing Of . . . *Leslie B. Hill* on July 27. He held a tenured position in the Department of Communication at the University of Oklahoma. Known as a scholar, author, and by his students as an exceptional teacher, many AFPAAA members will remember him as the Academic Coordinator of the USAF Communication Short Course at the University of Oklahoma. His research and publications were extensive, including "Air Force Utilization of Social Actions Personnel" and "Commander Utilization of the Information Officer".



A Memorial Service For Jerry Dalton . . . will be on Saturday, October 30th, at the Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church, Richardson, Texas, where the former SAF/PA director was an active member for 40 years. The Celebration of Life will be at 10 am Central Time. Check www.canyoncreekpres.org/ for changes and if the service will be streamed.

