

Elections: Three Seek Reelection; Nominating Committee Names Two For Vacant Seats

Five seats on the Board of Directors are open in this year's AFPAAA elections and there will be at least two new faces in those leadership positions. With current board chair Linda Arnold and Miles Wiley declining to seek reelection, the nominating committee has proposed Neil Buttimer, AFPAAA's membership chairman since its founding, and Larry McCracken, retired Boeing PR chief, to fill those vacancies. Both nominees are Lifetime Founding Members of the association.

Three current members of the board, its secretary, Sam Giammo; C. B. Kelly, and Christine Queen are seeking to retain their board seats for two more years.

In addition to the candidates already named by the nominating committee, Full Members of AFPAAA can run for one of the five seats by making their intentions known to the Chairman of the Board, Linda Arnold, who heads the nominating committee.

When submitting their requests to be on the ballot, a short, three or four paragraph resume/biography that promotes their candidacy and would encourage members to vote for them should be included. It should outline their qualifications, what they have done to support AFPAAA, and why they want to serve on the Board of Directors.

Election ballots will be included in the April issue of AFPAAA News & Notes with full instructions on who is eligible to vote and how ballots should be cast.

The outcome of the election will be announced at the business session of the 14th Annual Membership Meeting in Colorado Springs on Saturday, May 5.

The newly elected board members will begin their two-year terms on July 1.



Great Views of the mountains in the Colorado Springs area await all who attend the 14th Annual Membership Meeting, May 3-5, at the Antlers Hilton Hotel, which provides comfy accommodations and a convivial spot to sip an appropriate libation while catching up on things with old friends.

AF
Public Affairs
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**News
&
Notes**

January 2007

Annual Meeting Program Almost Ready; Air Travel Bargains Available Now

"We are still working on a few things, but for the most part we have the program pretty well finished," said Fred Morgan, chairman of AFPAAA's 14th Annual Membership Meeting, May 3-5, in Colorado Springs.

The meeting will start with registration beginning at noon, Thursday, May 3, and the traditional no-host ice breaker at the Antlers Hotel.

Fred and his committee of Sally Davidson Creely, Jim Jannette, Mike Perini, and Johnny Whitaker, have arranged for a number of activities at the Air Force Academy, on the morning of Friday, May 4.

Following lunch at the Academy's Officers Club,

it will be off to Peterson AFB for a tour of NORAD/NORTHCOM.

"Saturday, all activities will be at the Antlers," Fred said.

"We will have some re-builing presentations on a variety of topics; then the Director's Luncheon; our business meeting; and the gala reception and dinner that evening."

Full details of all activities will be in the April issue of News & Notes.

Meeting registration fees and hotel reservation information are on the form at page 7 or at www.afpaaa.org Members are encouraged to register and to make their hotel reservations early.

Depending on your plans,

there are plenty of airline options for getting to and from Colorado Springs or Denver, which is a easy 2 hour drive.

As this is being written good fares, varying by length of stay, were found on Orbitz – BWI to DEN \$225/\$153; BWI to COS \$264; IAH to DEN \$180; IAH to COS \$198; LAX to DEN \$260/\$240; LAX to COS \$289. As it gets closer to your date of departure and seats are filled, the low fares tend to vanish.

Similarly, rental car rates are pretty good now – in the \$20 per day range on Priceline; but they will soar when you rent close to your arrival date in either Colorado Springs or Denver.

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Memorial Dedication: A First Class Event

by Pete Alexandrakos

On October 14th, Judy and I had the honor of attending the dedication ceremony at the Air Force Memorial.

We had been out of town for a week before the ceremony and didn't know for sure if we would attend until we arrived home the afternoon before and found two tickets in the mail for seating at the Memorial site.

It was a beautiful fall day, without a cloud in the sky, and once we were seated the enormity of the event finally hit us.

There we were, watching members of the Tuskegee Airmen and a group of Women Airforce Service Pilots of WWII greeting each other and mingling with young active duty troops who were enjoying the opportunity to meet such legendary figures. Of course, there were many other giants of Air Force history in the audience, but seating was very tight and it wasn't possible to walk around and see everyone.

Before the program began, the United States Air Force Band did its usual superb job

also were transmitted to video screens in the Pentagon's South Parking area where thousands of people attending a mini Air Force open house also could see what was happening at the Memorial site a short distance away.

Once the official ceremony began, there were many highlights. In addition to remarks by current Air Force leaders, a commercially produced video presentation entitled, "Spirit of the Air Force," wowed the crowd. This was followed by, "A Tribute to Airmen of Yesterday and Today." It was written

"... There wasn't a dry eye in the audience..."

by Colonel Walter J. Boyne, USAF (Ret), and

narrated by a former member of the USAF Thunderbirds. His narration was accompanied by appropriate background music by the Air Force Band and a spectacular aerial review.

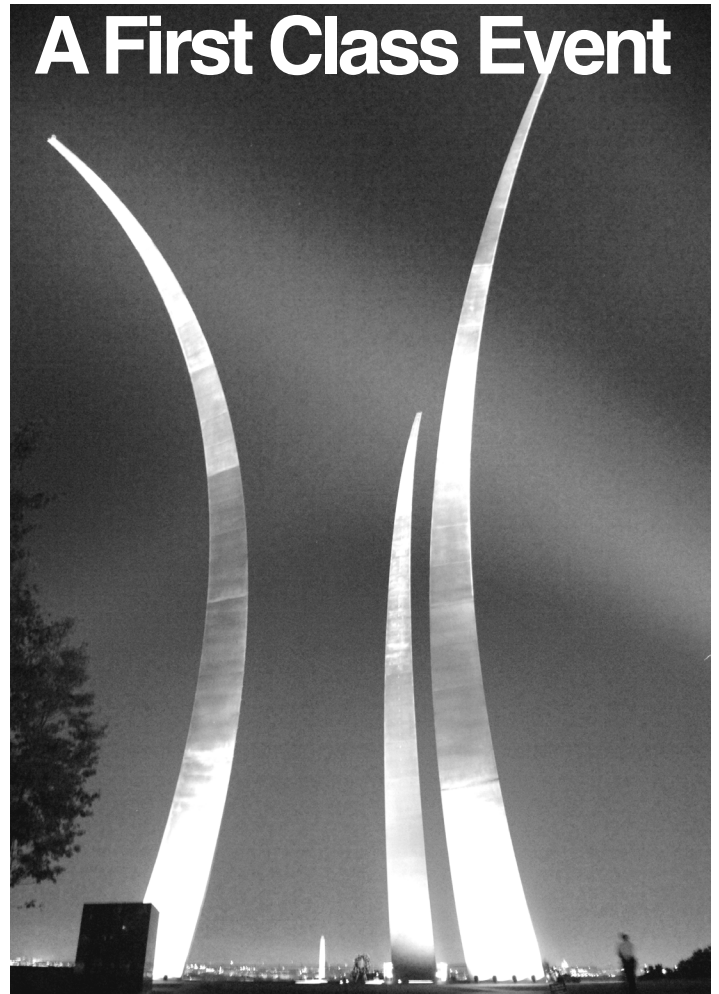
The review began with a yellow Stearman PT-17 biplane that flew slowly above the Memorial, followed periodically by various vintage Air Force aircraft and culminating in flyovers by a C-17 and a B-2.



of entertaining the crowd. The band also performed throughout the program. Although it wasn't possible to see the band members from our seats, several large video screens near the speakers' platform, and numerous cameras catching the action from different angles, provided great coverage of all aspects of the ceremony. Images

Just when we thought there wasn't anything else that could top what had already taken place, the First Lady of the United States was escorted to her seat, soon followed by President George W. Bush joining the official party on the platform as the Air Force Band played Hail to the Chief.

Immediately after the



president's remarks, the crowd was wowed again by a flyby performed by the USAF Thunderbirds. But that was nothing, compared to what was yet to come – the Thunderbirds perfectly executing the "bomb-burst maneuver" directly above the spires of the Memorial. At the same time, the Air Force Band was concluding its rousing rendition of The Air Force Song.

AFPA's \$1,000 donation assisted in the creation of the Air Force Memorial

What a finale! There wasn't a dry eye in the audience.

Being a resident of the Washington suburbs, I had driven by the Memorial site several times during the construction phase. But it wasn't until I sat near the base of the spires that I appreciated the full magnificence of the structure. It's hard to describe in words – you must be there, and look up and experience the wonder of it all.

The best description I've

read was in an op-ed by a "retired military officer" and former president of International Defense Consultants, named, John E. Carey. In the Washington Times he wrote: "The U.S. Air Force Memorial takes its place proudly and rightly atop a hill – overlooking and protecting the entire city with air power; just as the skies cover our land. We in Washington now have a fitting, daily reminder that the U.S. Air Force protects us from the skies, from sea to shining sea and beyond."

The next time you're in Washington, I think you would greatly enjoy taking time to visit the Air Force Memorial.

DVD Available Soon

Retired Major General Edward F. Grillo Jr., Air Force Memorial Foundation president, told *News & Notes* a DVD of the dedication will be available by early spring.

From The President's Pen ———

At the beginning of a new year, our Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association continues in good health with planning for our annual meeting and reunion at the Antlers Hilton in Colorado Springs well in hand. Fred Morgan and his team are putting together a great package in a great Air Force location that is uniquely reachable to those on both the east and west coasts and all regions in between.



Make sure you mark your calendars for the 14th Annual AFPAAA Meeting and Reunion in Colorado Springs May 3-5, 2007 for renewing friendships, having fun and to get updated on the Air Force and our alumni organization.

The registration form is on page 7 or you will find it on our web site, www.afpaaa.org You can make reservations for the Antlers Hilton today. Start checking for low airfares to Colorado Springs or Denver (only a 2-hour drive away). Most important, call your public affairs friends and get a group together.

Consider becoming a Centurion. You can do this by simply donating \$100 to the AFPAAA Endowment Fund as you check in at our registration desk in the Antlers. In return, one Centurion donor's name will be drawn at the Colorado Springs reunion and he or she will receive a full refund of their annual meeting registration fee.

Membership, particularly by those who have recently retired, has been a continuing concern over the years. It is that way today. With the wonderful reunion site of Colorado Springs we should have a top drawing card for exciting new memberships. All of us know many public affairs family friends (including broadcasters and band members) who should be joining AFPAAA for the camaraderie and fun of the annual reunion. The reunion is the "sizzle" we can highlight.

But we have steak, too. John Terino is producing a high quality quarterly newsletter that is our showcase product. The annual directory and up-to-date web version give us a very useful tool to maintain contact with all our members, and is a foundation of our networking capability. John Gura's efforts have resulted in a top-notch, extremely useful web site that has a record of being sought out for information; and he continues to shepherd our oral history program which provides a permanent record of our Air Force heritage. You can now get multiple oral histories in .pdf format on CDs.

All and all, AFPAAA has expanded on efforts of our leadership and members since our inception in 1993 to become a solid organization with a solid future. As we move forward in 2007 – look forward to Colorado Springs in May.

Tom Halbert



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If You Were Ever At Clark AB, Read Tom Utts Intimate History

In "GI Joe Doesn't Live Here Anymore," AFPAAA member Tom Utts has put together a very unique look at Clark Air Base in the Philippines. He presents the Clark that so many of us knew from the 1950s until the Air Force formally closed it on November 26, 1991, in the aftermath of the Mt. Pinatubo eruption, via the experiences of people who served there.

That is both the strength and weakness of the book. For readers looking for a comprehensive history of the U.S. military, or even the Air Force in the Philippines, you'll have to go elsewhere.

From the time of the Spanish-American War until Vietnam takes up less than a sixth of the book.

But that's OK., there are plenty of texts that cover the formal details of how the United States acquired the Philippines, the battles with the Moros, its loss and recapture in WWII, and the granting of its independence.

What Tom has done is put together a series of vignettes from the 50s on, interwoven with a historical time line. That gives us a very human, micro view of life at the base within a macro view of the events being played out on the world stage in Asia and the Philippines.

There aren't very many easily recognizable big names, either military or civilian, featured.

Almost half the book covers from the mid-70s to the departure of the Air Force from the Philippines – and that is what gives the book its greatest value.

Through the stories of ordinary people and day-to-day events, the challenges

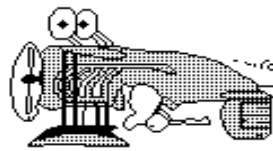
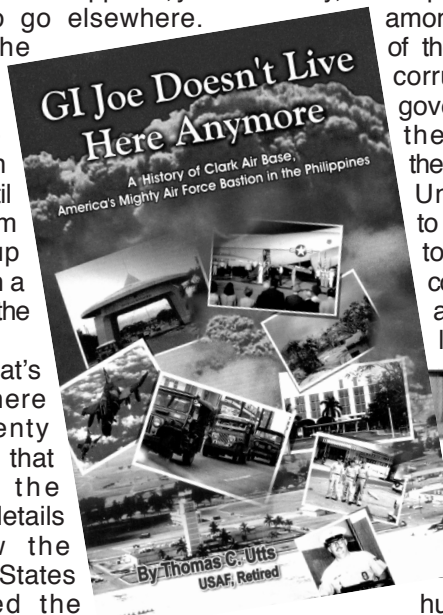
faced by a succession of Philippine leaders, both good and bad, and the United States are seen.

The emergence of the communist New People's Army, the disparity of wealth among the people of the country, the corruption in the government, and the impact of the failure of the United States to pay attention to their effects come through on a very personal level. The final

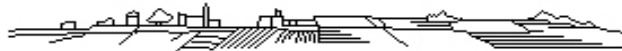
hundred pages are where this book really shines. We see the incredulity of people in grasping the enormity of the disaster Mt. Pinatubo has put upon them typified by a master sergeant who after the evacuation order was given, stayed home to watch the NBA finals on AFRTS because he "... didn't believe we were really leaving."

Tom doesn't hide the ugliness of the Air Force's departure – the confusion, crime, looting – but he also shows the dedication of the "Ash Warriors," as those who were charged with shutting down Clark were named.

"GI Joe Doesn't Live Here Anymore" is an interesting, informative, and best of all entertaining read. You can get it via AFPAAA's website at www.afpaaa.org, click "PA Store" and scroll down to the bookstore.



Prop Wash & Jet Blast



Welcome Aboard To . . . Brenda L. Campbell, Dewey A. Mitchell, and Anne M. Procter.

Congratulations To New Lifetime Members . . . Ray Shepard, Vicki Stein, and Scott Vadnais.

Steppin' Down . . . into retirement, Major General Mark V. Rosenker, the mobilization assistant to the commander, Air Force Reserve Command, after a 37-plus-year active and reservist career.

Steppin' Up . . . to Brigadier General on January 2, SAF/PA Director Michelle Johnson.

Steppin' In . . . Colonel Arthur C. Haubold, who was commissioned from Officer Training School in 1984, as the Mobilization Assistant to the Air Force Director of Communication, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. His extensive background in public affairs and communications includes wing, major command, headquarters, and unified command levels. He also holds a Defense Intelligence Senior Level position as the Deputy Director, Office of Corporate Relations, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) where he advises the agency's director, deputy director and senior leaders. From 1998-2005, he served with the CIA as the Deputy Director of Corporate Communications for the National Reconnaissance Office.

DINFOS Wants You . . . if you have expertise in Expeditionary public affairs; Joint Task Force public affairs at the O-4 and O-5 operational level; or Combatant Command public affairs and/or planning and operations; are a graduate of Command and General Staff College; and have experience and study in one or more of the following: Advanced Media Theory and Analysis; Communication Theory and Research; Marketing Research and Analysis; Public Communication Campaigning; Broadcast; Print and/or Multimedia Management. Immediate instructor openings in senior-level public affairs courses to prepare students for Joint Task Force and expeditionary public affairs duty. Instructors are also needed with experience working on a Joint Task Force at the O-4 and O-5 operational level, in the J-2, J-3 or J-4 Staff sections; or working with Combatant Commanders in public affairs and/or planning and operations. Also wanted is experience and advanced studies in International Affairs or Public Diplomacy. Contact: MPRI at 703-838-5491 or rick.kiernan@1-3com.com

From The Pentagon

**Brigadier General Michelle Johnson
Director
Secretary of the Air Force Office of Public Affairs**



First and foremost, I hope you had a relaxed holiday season and were able to spend time with family and friends. As I settle in from the holiday festivities and look at the path ahead of us, I realize we have so much to look forward to during the coming year. I'm truly excited about the coming year's prospects for public affairs.

However, before we forge ahead in 2007, I would like to point out what a banner year 2006 was for Public Affairs and Strategic Communication. It's amazing to look back and see how far we've come in the last 12 months. Our team efforts, support, and initiative have enabled us to break through on many fronts... the very same qualities that will take us even further in 2007. From my vantage point, I see Air Force leaders supporting our communications efforts more than ever. It's our challenge to capitalize on this support as we take the next steps.

We've begun leveraging technology to offset the impending 30% reduction in Public Affairs manpower. Based on the recommendations of the Air Force Smart Operations 21 newspaper working group, the course of action we adopted is to transition from hard-copy newspapers to web-based multimedia information delivery using Public Web. This course of action also synchronizes with current Air Force requirement to standardize all public Web sites by October 2007. If you would like to see an example of one of the base Web sites, please go to Peterson Air Force Base's at: <http://www.peterson.af.mil>.

We've already pushed guidance about the transition to the major commands, and they in turn to the wings. The feedback from wing commanders has been largely positive --especially from Air Force Space Command, where the transition is already progressing. In fact, Peterson's wing commander offered to share lessons learned from his wing's transition. Of course, I understand that there is reluctance in some wings, which we anticipated -- change is tough. The bottom line is that our entire Air Force must continue to look for ways to consolidate resources and find more efficiencies as we become leaner.

Speaking of finding ways to enhance communication operations, the Air Force Roadshow program officially kicked off in November. The intended effect is to inform our Airmen, civic leaders, and media (especially non-choir) audiences about our Air Force. We want Airmen telling the no kidding Air Force story: Airmen are in the fight. Each of our Airmen paint a picture of the Air Force's importance to national security in current and future conflicts and we want to showcase this fact. So look for a Roadshow coming your way soon!

As we geared up for 2007, we held the first-ever Strategic Communication Summit with the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Air Force in late December. The result was an ambitious blueprint for Airmen to tell the nation about the service's contributions to the war on terror. Both the Secretary and Chief of Staff said they want to move decisively over the course of the next year to empower airmen at all levels to explain what the Air Force brings to the fight and how airmen are serving heroically alongside their Army, Navy and Marine partners.

With this level of support and direction, we anticipate great things in the new year and will look to involve you in this process of telling the Air Force Story.

Finally, we would like to let everyone know Brigadier General Erwin Lessel, our Director of Communication, has been recently selected to be the Director for Plans, Requirements and Programs at HQAETC at Randolph AFB. We're grateful for his leadership as we stood-up a formal organization that is yielding a strategic communication capability for the Air Force. We wish him all the best at AETC. We also welcome Brigadier General William Chambers who was selected as the new Director of Communication. He'll report in April (Spring) after his tour concludes in Afghanistan.

As we look forward to the New Year In the summits aftermath, public affairs professionals will all get together in March for the worldwide PA conference. The conference will be a watershed event as we study a full year of strategic communication analysis and assessments and parlay those lessons into opportunities and successes for 2007!

Go Public Affairs!

Registration Form



14th Annual Membership Meeting

A-F — Public Affairs —
— Alumni Association™ —

May 3-5, 2007 – Colorado Springs



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Name(s) of guest(s): _____

Are you a new member of AFPAAA?: _____ Is this the first annual meeting you have attended?: _____

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

Do you or your guests have special needs? Please specify: _____

How many in your party will take the tour on Friday, May 4th? _____

Full Registration

Includes all events on Friday and Saturday, May 4 & 5; must be registered by 4/20/07.

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Members Attending | _____ X \$150 = | _____ |
| Guests Attending | _____ X \$140 = | _____ |
| Non-Members Attending | _____ X \$200 = | _____ |

Partial Registrations

Trip to USAF Academy & NORAD/NORTHCOM on Friday, including President's Lunch and transportation.

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Members Attending | _____ X \$ 45 = | _____ |
| Guests Attending | _____ X \$ 45 = | _____ |
| Non-Members Attending | _____ X \$ 60 = | _____ |

President's Lunch Only – Friday

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Members Attending | _____ X \$ 30 = | _____ |
| Guests Attending | _____ X \$ 30 = | _____ |
| Non-Members Attending | _____ X \$ 40 = | _____ |

Saturday Breakfast, Briefings, & Membership Meeting (Membership Meeting is free to all Members)

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Members Attending | _____ X \$ 25 = | _____ |
| Guests Attending | _____ X \$ 25 = | _____ |
| Non-Members Attending | _____ X \$ 30 = | _____ |

SAF/PA Director's Luncheon – Saturday

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Members Attending | _____ X \$ 40 = | _____ |
| Guests Attending | _____ X \$ 40 = | _____ |
| Non-Members Attending | _____ X \$ 50 = | _____ |

Reception & Banquet – Saturday Evening

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Members Attending | _____ X \$ 60 = | _____ |
| Guests Attending | _____ X \$ 60 = | _____ |
| Non-Members Attending | _____ X \$ 75 = | _____ |

Full & Partial Registrants: Please specify your banquet dinner choice: # of Beef _____ # of Chicken _____

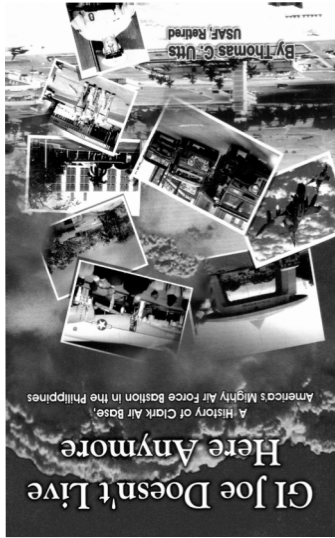
Total Remitted = \$ _____

Please make your check or money order payable to AFPAAA and mail it with your completed registration form to:

Linda Arnold, Attn: AFPAAA, 1831 Parhaven Drive, San Antonio, TX 78232.

Registrations received after April 20, 2007 will be charged a \$25 (per attendee) late registration fee.

Hotel: *The Antlers Hilton Colorado Springs, 4 S. Cascade Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. Reservations: Phone 719-955-5600.* Our group rate is \$119 per night plus tax. Reservations must be made by April 20, 2007 to get the group rate. Ask for Group Code: AFPAAA. Or, go to the AFPAAA website and click on the hotel link to make reservations on line, find driving directions, or get more information. The group rate is available for up to 3 days prior to and three days after the meeting.



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