

Freitag's Stipend Boosts Endowment Fund Again

Once again we owe a "thank you" to member Alan Freitag who has enhanced AFPAAA's Endowment Fund by another \$500. A full professor in the University of North Carolina's Department of Communication Studies, he serves on the board of trustees for the Interactivity Foundation. The Foundation is a nonprofit organization headquartered in West Virginia that is dedicated to improving civic engagement in public policy discourse.

Freitag receives a small stipend for his service on the board. Each year he has the Foundation send the stipend to a nonprofit organization he supports, for the last two years that has been AFPAAA.

He retired from the Air Force in 1995 and completed a Ph.D in mass communication, specializing in public relations from Ohio University's E.W. Scripps School of Journalism.

Earlier this year he completed a Fulbright Fellowship which he used to conduct research into the effectiveness of employee communication in Polish companies and the correlation between effective employee communication and factors such as trust, identity, commitment, and productivity.



you won't miss the great program and venue we have for our Annual Membership Meeting. From the ice breaker reception on Thursday evening, our visit to Nellis AFB on Friday, through the gala banquet Saturday evening, it will be a wonderful opportunity to reunite with old friends and get updated on many aspects of today's Air Force.

Our meeting headquarters is the AAA Four Diamond Award, top-notch Monte Carlo Hotel & Casino on the Las Vegas strip. We've a great group room rate of \$99 a night + resort fee (\$15 a day) and tax that will be available until March 26 or until our block of rooms is booked.

Call the Monte Carlo at (800) 311-8999 using our code of XAFPAAA2013. If you want an extended stay in Las Vegas, our special rate is good for three days before and three days after the meeting, based on availability. Reservations must be made by March 26 for the group rate.

Check our website - <http://www/afpaaa.org/annualmeet.html> - for full program, registration, and hotel information. Registration can be made on-line through the website.

Individual event registration will be available, but the most cost effective way to go is the all events registration package for \$175 per member/\$160 per guest/\$250 per non member, which includes the Thursday ice breaker, breakfasts Friday through Sunday, the Presidents Luncheon, the SAF/PA Director's Luncheon, and the reception and banquet Saturday evening.

Our meeting registration can be made via the website or the form that will be published in January's News & Notes, reservations for rooms at the Monte Carlo must be made directly with the hotel.



Army Guard Captain Wins Bob Brus Award



USAF photo by Staff Sgt. Heather R. Redman

The Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association sponsored Bob Brus Award was presented to Ohio Army National Guard Captain, Matthew Molinski on July 20 at the Defense Information School, Fort Meade, Maryland. DINFOS Provost and past president and chairman of the board of AFPAAA, Michael Gannon, presented the award.

It is given to the student in each class of the Public Affairs Qualification Course – Advanced Distributed Learning best demonstrating the qualities of unrivaled positive attitude, steadfast motivation, team building, and unwavering professionalism that were exemplified by retired Air Force Public Affairs officer and former DINFOS instructor Bob Brus. Brus spearheaded the development of the course. He was a Lifetime Member of AFPAAA who died in 2009.

The course is 26 weeks of online training and two weeks in residence. It provides entry-level public affairs training for mid- to senior-level commissioned and senior non-commissioned officers, as well as civilians from all U.S. military services and government agencies selected for public affairs assignments at all levels of command.

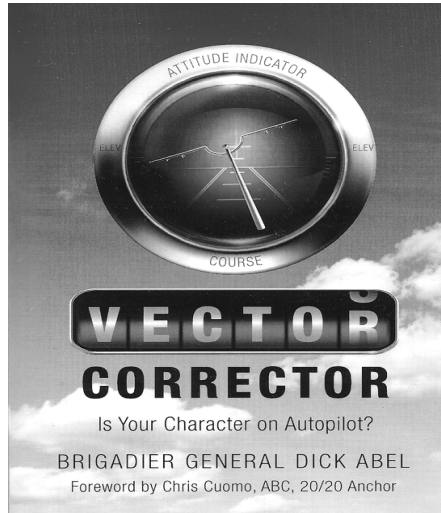
Abel's "Little Book" Guides Introspection

If you think a book is good because it is hefty with a lot of pages crammed with text, AFPAAA Board Member Dick Abel's latest work, *Vector Corrector* will be a disappointment; but, if you are looking for substance and food for thought, this is the book for you.

Dick's focus is on leadership and the importance to you as a leader of the relationship between you and those you are leading.

The objective is to put the myriad distractions that tend to occupy our lives – cell phone, the internet, the pace of everyday life, etc. – in their proper place vis-a-vis our relations to each other.

Those distractions affect everyone we come in contact with, family, friends, and our superiors, subordinates, and the coworkers



"Fifty-two tight principles with application to thousands of life situations, challenge, and occupations – that is the gift Brigadier General Dick Abel has given all of us who are searching for better ways to be our best . . ."

– Chris Cuomo, ABC News

we deal with every day.

This book shouldn't be a quick read. Each page has a principle,

either developed by the author or from a well known leader such as former GE CEO Jack Welch or President John F. Kennedy.

The principles are succinct but thought provoking, and they provide a path for introspection.

You could consider this book a road map to get your mind and spirit on course – a vector correction – to improve your interactions with people.

Oh, yes – be sure to have a pen or pencil handy as you go through it page-by-page, there is ample space for you to analyze what you have read on the other side of the page and put down how it applies to your interactions with people.

Vector Corrector is available in bookstores and can be ordered through the PA Store link on our website: afpaaa.org



Welcome Aboard . . . to new members Othor 'AL' Aldridge, Herbert A. Babb, Dorlinda Barker, William A. Barksdale, Harry Carr, Sarah Clagett, William 'Bill' Conner, Norm Corley, John C. Davis, Norm Deragon, Joseph E. Downey, David Eatwell, Larry Eder, Robert 'Bob' Garcia, Rachael Garneau, Kyle Hammitt, Steven W. Harden, Frank Hardy, Mike Hartman, Jenn Hartzell, Rob Hawthorne, Lee Heft, Michelle Helms-Raper, Mary Jo (Grzybowski) Higginbotham, Ken 'KD' Higginbotham, Kenneth Hissong, Michelle M. Hood, Virgil Hopper, Andrew Janitschek, Jonathan E. Jones, Harland Kemplin, William Kenny, Lynn Kirby, Gary J. Kunich, Thomas Malaglowicz, Belina Marquez, David E. McAlary, Robert H. 'Scott' Mckenzie, Mark C. Miller, Cal Miller, Debra Millett, Pat Miner, Timothy R. Moore, Jorj Niemi, Andrea Pitruzzella, Jerry E. Reed, Regina Revels, Donald Ross, Mike Shulz, Robert H. Smith, Robert Stambaugh, Paul H. Stevens,

Thomas Taylor, Cari Jodoin Thompson, Thomas J. Tighe, Bill Turner, Joe Wallace, Gary W. Weasel, and Tyrone 'Woody' Woodyard.

Congratulations To . . . new Lifetime Member Steven W. Harden.

We Donated \$500 . . . to the Scott Field Heritage Air Park, site of the group picture during our Annual Membership Meeting in May. The Air Park portrays the history of Scott Air Force Base, the Air Mobility Command, and the Airlift, Air Refueling and Aeromedical Evacuation missions. It has C-141, KC-135, C-9, and C-140 aircraft on display.

Yearn For A Rocky Mountain High? . . . or just a stay in beautiful Colorado, check out the Air Force Academy Colorado R and R Travel Office for discounted lodging, activities, and attractions at www.ColoradoRandR.com

We Mourn . . . the passing at age 95 of General William W. Momyer, an 8-kill ace in WW II, commander of 7th Air Force, Vietnam, from July 1966-August 1968, and later Tactical Air Command . . . and, at 91, Howard Silber, long time (1955-1988) square shooting Omaha World Herald military affairs writer and editor; he was the first reporter to fly in a B-52.

From The President's Pen ———



Much has happened since the July column. A new member initiative has yielded great results with over 40 new members of AFPAAA. It resulted from a concerted effort to reach out to all of today's Air Force Public Affairs community, consisting of Public Affairs, Air Force bands, and Visual Information (including broadcasters, photographers, and combat camera activities). Using our new Facebook page and an e-mail campaign we contacted these folks and have received a tremendous response.

There are a couple of very serious issues we all need to be keenly aware of and concerned about. They are: The Air Force's future budget burden and sequestration. Two quotes from recent articles sums up the scope and size of each problem.

"The Air Force has arrived at a make-or-break moment. The past 10 years have seen the service's share of the defense budget decline to record lows—hovering around 20 percent of the total—while 90 percent of the Fiscal 2013 defense budget cuts were levied on the Air Force. In fact, the 2013 budget marks the fewest number of Air Force aircraft purchased in a given year since 1916, when the aviation section of the Army Signal Corps was buying Curtiss JN4 Jenny biplanes. The country actually managed to buy more aircraft in the midst of the Great Depression than it will next year." — Former Secretaries of the Air Force F. Whitten Peters and Michael W. Wynne, Washington Times, June 1.

"Sequestration would be messy and clumsy and nonstrategic, and was not even intended to be a good policy . . . under the 2011 Budget Control Act, there can be no base closures, no layoffs of active National Guard or Reserve members, no pay cuts for military personnel and no immediate program terminations. The exception is the \$32.5 billion military health care program, which is in the operations and maintenance category and is slated for a \$3 billion cut in retiree services" – Todd Harrison, senior fellow in defense budget studies at the nonpartisan Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments said in a story carried in Government Executive Magazine August 12, 2012.

These are huge issues that will impact our Air Force as well as potentially each of us personally. Let's face it, any time military retiree health services are cut we all feel it in some way. What should we do? That's an individual decision each of us has to make. I just wanted to point it out so, as a former CinC I once worked for said, "I just want to know you're thinking about it."

By the way there are many sources for this type of info and John Gura has a great listing of links you can use on the AFPAAA website. There are also many other sources like the AFA, military.com and any news organization site will work.

Finally, as usual, the committee for the 20th Annual Membership Meeting in Las Vegas, April 25-28, has come up with a terrific agenda, a great deal at the Monte Carlo hotel, and many other items you'll have to attend to see. More details can be found on our AFPAAA website. Mark your calendars now and start making your plans, it's going to be a lot of fun!

– Mike Cox

Lord Guard & Guide

Dominick A. Cardonita

Dom Cardonita of Abilene, Texas, died of cardiac arrest July 28, at Christus Santa Rosa Hospital. He was 72.

Born in New Haven, Connecticut, after graduating from Wilbur Cross High School he joined the Air Force. He achieved the rank of Chief Master Sergeant and was one of the most respected senior NCO's in Public Affairs throughout his career.

Dom served almost 25 years. His assignments included Randolph AFB, Dyess AFB and Lackland AFB, Texas; Phu Cat Air Base, Republic of Vietnam, Nakhom Phanom Royal Thai Air Base, Thailand, Shaw AFB, South Carolina, and Ramstein and Wiesbaden Air Bases, Germany.

After he retired at Lackland AFB in 1985, he worked for more than ten years as a civilian supervisor in the Public Affairs office of Air Force Security Service Headquarters, Kelly AFB, Texas. Dom was active in American Legion Audie L. Murphy Post 336, San Antonio, TX, where he served as First Vice Commander, Membership Chairman, and Public Relations Chairman.

He was interred with full military honors at Elmwood Memorial Park. Memorial donations may be made in Dom's name to, American Legion Audie L. Murphy Post #336, 6553 Bandera Road, San Antonio, TX 78238

The world is a lesser place now that one of its shinier stars who was personality plus has left us. When it came to seeing the fun in solving a problem, he was the one who could find it. We extend our sympathies to his family and all who worked with him over the years.

– Geoffrey Baker

I met Dom Cardonita in the mid sixties. Then a young airman, he immediately added additional talent to an already superb Hq USAFE Information Office. Quickly he demonstrated a forte for research and writing. Our boss at the time was Lt. Colonel Jerry Dalton. From Colonel Dalton down through the ranks of our officers and NCOs, admiration for Dom's work, his unfailing military courtesy, honesty, loyalty, and personality was unanimous.

Later on, when I returned to head the Hq USAFE staff, Dom joined us. He went on to retire as a Chief Master Sergeant. During our second assignment to Hq USAFE, Dom contributed enormously to what could only be called a super staff. He and his beloved late wife, Belen, were popular members of the Information Office family. After retirement he was an activist with the American Legion in San Antonio.

Dom served his nation, the Air Force, and his family well. NCOs like Dom Cardonita make the Air Force tick. I know that his countless friends and admirers join Ann and me in grieving his passage.

– Gerry Hickman

During my Air Force Public Affairs career, there were many very fine NCO's I was privileged to work with, Dom was the absolute standout. For nearly three years, he was absolutely outstanding in every way and in every challenge we faced together at USAFE/PA. I will remember him fondly always.

– Ron Sherman

Dom was part of a group of some of the best public affairs professionals I've ever worked with at HQ USAFE/PA in the late 1970s. He was so knowledgeable, so hard-working and so dedicated, yet so much fun to be around.

I'll never forget the warm relationship we shared and the stressful times Dom made so much easier to tackle. He was an expert at work, but not only that, he was a wonderful person. He helped all of us laugh, learn, and excel. And he had such a great sense of humor that I can't think of him without picturing his smile. He is with his beloved Belen now, and I'm sure he is still smiling. I salute you, Dom.

– Valerie (Elbow) Johnston

TSgt Dom Cardonita worked with me in the Public Communications Division at Hq USAFE/OI in 1967-68. He was one of the brightest, totally dependable, and hard working NCOs with whom I was ever associated.

I knew he was destined for bigger things in his AF career. It came as absolutely no surprise when I saw his name on the E-9 list a few years later.

Dom was one of the very best military, and later civilian, members of the AF Info/PA family. He will be missed by all who ever knew him!

– Jerry Dalton

Edmond R. McCarthy

Edmond McCarthy passed away at his home due to pulmonary fibrosis July 19 in San Antonio, Texas. He was 82.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Ed graduated from Fordham University. He worked at WFUV, the university's radio station and was a page at Radio City Music Hall, a fitting prelude to his assignment to Armed Forces Radio and Television Service when he began his Air Force career.



While he had a variety of assignments that ranged from Waco AFB, Texas to Saudi Arabia and Alaska, Ed always pursued knowledge, earning multiple advanced degrees, including a Ph.D from Texas A&M.

He considered helping establish the first television station in Saudi Arabia and coordinating a Bob Hope visit to Alaska among the high points of Air Force career. He retired in 1982 as a colonel.

After settling in San Antonio, Ed volunteered at Brook Army Medical Center and Warrior House. He also served as President of the San Antonio and the state chapters of the Military Officers Association of America. He was interested in helping others advance their own potential, teaching classes in English and computer literacy to Vietnamese immigrants seeking citizenship and employment opportunities. He mentored Polish Military assigned to the Defense Language Institute at San Antonio's Lackland Air Force Base for more than a decade.

Ed is survived by his wife of 57 years, Sue; sons Edmond, Jr. and Denis; daughters Rita Benefield and Catherine Bormann, and six grandchildren. He was buried with full military honors at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Remembrances in his name can be made to: The Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows in Texas, The Seraphic Sisters, OLS, 138 Beethoven St., San Antonio, TX 78210, <http://seraphicsisters.org>; or St. Mary's Catholic Center at Texas A&M, College Station, Texas, 603 Church Avenue, College Station, TX 77840, <http://www.aggiecatholic.org> or the charity of your choice.

John Toner

John Toner of Valparaiso, Florida, died August 30, after a two-year battle with brain cancer. He was 74.

He was born in Queens, New York City, and grew up on Long Island. John graduated in 1960 from the United States Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, Long Island.

His Air Force career began in 1961. He went through navigator/bombardier training at James Connolly AFB, Texas, and flew B-52 missions from Thailand during the Vietnam War.

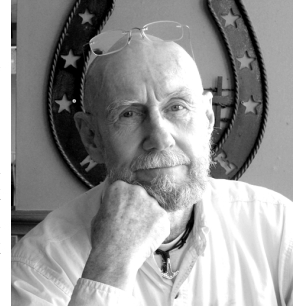
John became an Information Officer and in the mid-1960s was at Columbus AFB. There, he visited a local school to talk about

the Air Force. After his talk, the kids peppered him with questions – mostly about his accent. They wanted to know if he was “from England.” Realizing just how strong his New York accent was, he set out to, and succeeded in mastering a neutral American accent. Other assignments included Langley AFB, Virginia; Hickam, AFB, Hawaii, Tempelhoff AB, Germany, and his final assignment, Kadena AB, Japan. He retired in 1987 as a Lieutenant Colonel.

John did a variety of things after the Air Force. An accomplished photographer and writer, he taught photography at Okaloosa Walton Junior College, now Northwest Florida State College.

For many years he was a chief instructor for the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, crisscrossing the country by motorcycle, teaching, making lasting friendships, and generally having a great time. He also taught motorcycling in Puerto Rico, and in Europe. He had a life-long love of sailing and spent many winters on his schooner in Key West, Florida

John is survived by his wife, Kathleen; son, Sean; daughters Bridget Hunke and Meagan Geci, and six grandchildren.



Welsh Replaces Schwartz As Air Force Chief; Ex-PA Director McDew Promoted To Lt. General

General Mark A. Welsh III is the new Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force. He replaces General Norton A. Schwartz who retired October 1.

General Welsh was commander of United States Air Forces in Europe before coming to the Pentagon. He was born in San Antonio, Texas, is a 1976 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, and has a Master of Science degree in computer resource management.

He has served in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, the Central Intelligence Agency, and in U.S. Strategic Command. General Welsh is a command pilot and has flown F-16, A-10, T-37, and TG-7A aircraft.

The former director of Air Force Public Affairs, Lieutenant General Darren W. McDew, is now the

commander of 18th Air Force, Scott AFB, Illinois. He was awarded a third star August 6. 18th Air Force is Air Mobility Command's only warfighting numbered air force.

The general was Director of Public Affairs from November 2007 until February 2009. In response to congratulations from

AFPAAA by Board Chairman Mark Foutch, the general wrote “Evelyn and I appreciate that you would take time to acknowledge this promotion. We still consider ourselves part of the AFPAAA family.”

A 1982 graduate of Virginia Military Institute, General McDew was Vice Director for Strategic Plans and Policy, on the Joint Staff and then Commander, Air Force District of Washington, before assuming his current command.



LISTEN UP!

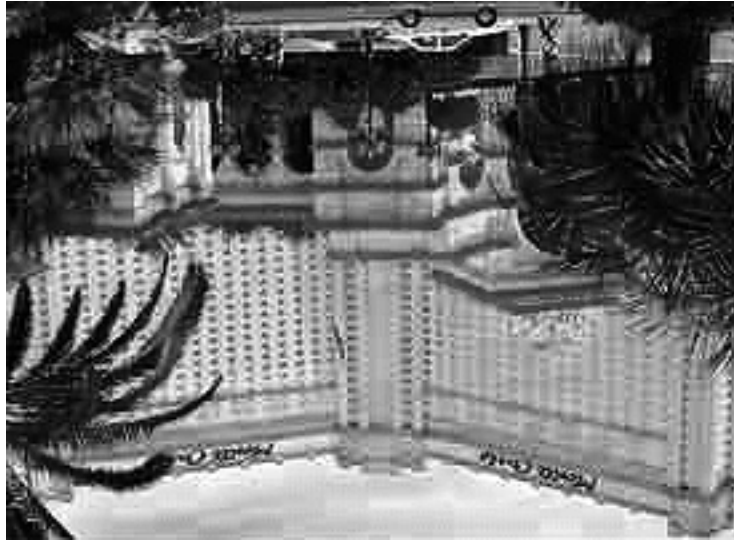
That's AFPAAA's Mark Foutch at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, the Army's ROTC summer training site. He is a member of the Military Officers Association of America's Olympia Area Chapter which gets to address those receiving commissions. The MOAA speakers discuss its purpose, offer free four year national memberships, and present gold bar commissioning sets to the six outstanding cadets in



each class. More than a dozen classes cycle through the base each summer.

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

APRIL 25-28



THINK LAS VEGAS

A-F — Public Affairs —
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