

Videmus Omnia

55th WING ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2013

FROM THE PRESIDENT



The prez with Rockies in the background.

Greetings again from the frigid heartland.

2012 was another good year for the **Association**. Lots happening. I will not go into the details and cover all the events of this past year as Max has done so well. I know you will read and enjoy his presentation. I like it.

Lots of pictures for the pilots.

We have set up new provisions via our superb website for those who want to receive the newsletter electronically and/or download same. There have been a number of members who have expressed a desire to do this. We can realize some small savings from the numbers who have made this known to us at this point. The process can be set up at the bottom of the home web page....the e-mail links to Mike Cook, Membership/Treasurer, and Jim Maloney, the Web Guy.

The **FIRST** step is to link to Mike Cook at Membership, informing him that you wish to no longer be mailed a newsletter. **Second** step is to link to Jim Maloney, Web Guy, and request the current password to the "Members Only" page, informing him that you desire to get the newsletter electronically. As soon as the newsletter is published, there will be a notice placed on the

Association home page alerting the membership. Don't forget the first step. We save nothing if you forget this step. It is hoped that this capability will serve the membership well, continue to facilitate communications, and save us costs in the long run.

Due to privacy/security/legal concerns, this capability will **not** extend to the Membership Directory. It will continue to be mailed hard copy.

A notice to the **Association** membership: **Bill Sargent**, long time 55th veteran and reconnaissance mission crewdog of Eielson, Greenville, Wright Pat, and Offutt, has volunteered to pick up the task of **Association** historian. Bill retired from the 45th Reconnaissance Squadron in 2008. He was the squadron historian there. He currently is a contractor with Crew Training International here at Offutt, training RC-135 navigators for the 55th Wing. Welcome aboard Bill.

Membership: It all comes around to that. As you can see from the numbers reported in this newsletter in both the reunion reports and the 2012 year-end figures reported, membership is a fast moving target. At the beginning of each year there is an effort to bring those whose dues have expired at year's end back into the **Association** before the dues expiration date 1 April (grace period ends).

An **Association** addressed envelope is included in this mailing of the newsletter to facilitate dues paying and membership address and contact data updates.

The magic member number at the end of calendar 2012 was 623, and 665 the prior end year. A net loss of 42 for the year does not seem bad. What is unseen in those numbers was the effort expended in reacquiring those who fell delinquent at the end of those years. We are again challenged this year-end with 170 who fell delinquent. We been there before. The dragnet is out again. Hope the fishing is as good this year as it was the last two

years. Every **55th Wing Association** member is a recruiter. Now, you all go out there and get 'em.

Discussions have already begun with the **55th Wing** on the possibility of a joint reunion in the spring of 2014 as was decided at the Colorado Springs reunion. We will continue to dog this planning process as one year out does not cut it as early enough planning any more.

Cheers. Good Health, and...

Videmus Omnia, Jim

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Yes, we know it has been a while since the last issue of the Videmus Omnia, May 2012 to be exact.

Too long, but circumstances of timing to promote the last reunion; plus, that the Association is budgeted for just two newsletters per financial year, put us in that box.

Thus, some of the articles herein may seem a bit dated, but had to be covered.

Another focus was putting together the updated Association Directory to go with the newsletter mailing, and there you are.

Resuming the schedule of having an issue about every six months should be realistic for the near-term.

Thanks for your understanding and indulgence. Hope you enjoy this one. Max.

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The 55th WING ASSOCIATION REUNION RECAP 5-9 SEPTEMBER 2012

The **55th Wing Association's** 29th reunion was one more rousing success. Dubbed the *Rocky Mountain High*, held in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, in south Colorado Springs, CO, attendees were able to enjoy the reunion events and a plethora of tours to just a few of the many attractions the area has to offer. Small in numbers, the alumni were large in fun, camaraderie and in enjoying renewing long and enduring friendships. (An attendance list is posted in the back of this newsletter. Please note that those who were **not** there are now marked as 'absent' in the *Great Record Book*.)

Reunion chair **Sandy Feldkamp**, and her worthy assistant **Alan**, worked diligently to plan another in the continuing series of memorable conclaves. They made sure no detail was missed, nice extras were added, and they were omnipresent to assure it all ran like clockwork. Kudos all around to that dynamic duo.

Early revelers rolled in for registration on Wednesday, 5 September, and the Board of Directors had a



Feldkamps check-in Sam Goeden, the Beauvais' and Ron Knecht

a productive meeting in the late afternoon. There were generous hours for the hospitality suite all week.

THURSDAY

Many more arrived the next day, and after a breakfast buffet for all hands, **Hank Dubuy** organized the golf outing and shepherded 20 hackers to the USAF Academy Eisenhower Course.

A special side event on the 6th was coordinated by Al Feldkamp and **Robb Hoover** for a trip to the USAF Academy for the purpose of visiting



L-R: Maj Shannon, Thomas, Hoover, Dubuy. Pegasus in background. Moore took picture.

Cadet

Squadron 11, which is aligned with the **55th Wing**.

Pres Thomas, Class of 1968, Hoover, Moore, Dubuy and **Major Chris Shannon**, an active duty reserve navigator who instructs with the 338th Combat Crew Training Sqd at Offutt, were met by an escort of cadets, then treated to lunch among the 4000-strong cadet wing in Mitchell Hall (*named for Billy, not Larry*). Completed in 28 minutes, it was go-go chow and very little time for sparking chit-chat. Quite an experience.

They then went to the cadet squadron day-room in Arnold Hall where **Major Brandon Johnson**, Commander of Cadet Sqd 11, introduced the quintet for what was a mini-*Tales of the 55th*, precisely timed at 50 minutes. Serving as audio-visual aids for a Cold War history ‘class’, Thomas gave a brief resume’ of the **Association**; Hoover introduced Dubuy who related his story of the attack by North Koreans on a **55th** RB-47 in 1965; and Major Shannon to tell of a more recent encounter where NKorean fighters intercepted and harassed an RC-135 in 2010. Moore was introduced, but did not speak (*what?!*). As previously noted, there was just 50 minutes of the cadets’ time allotted. (*Nuff said.*)

It was a unique, rare, and satisfying opportunity for the **55th** Cold Warriors and the nearly 100 cadets to interact on a personal level.



A Thursday afternoon informal reception was held in the hotel patio garden. Welcoming our merry band was Colorado Springs City Council President **Scott Hente**. Scott is a **55th** alum having served as a navigator in EC/RC-135s and E-4s in the 2ACCS, 38th, 343rd, and 1 ACCS during the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Two Academy falcon handlers brought in one of the mascots to the delight of those on hand (*pun intended, cuz that is where the falcon roosted. It did not fly*).

That evening’s festivity was attending a dinner and a melodrama, “*The Code of the West*”, at the rustic Iron Springs Chateau in eclectic Manitou Springs.

On the bus ride to the theater, **Bob Reehorn** gave a running commentary on the colorful history and attractions of the area. (*One tidbit: there are no springs in Colorado Springs. Naming it so was a shrewd marketing ploy by William J. Palmer, the*

founder and major developer of Colorado Springs, to attract and lure Easterners to his enterprise.)

The group had a rowdy time vocally participating in the ‘mellerdrammer’s’ action. Then all hands bussed back to the hotel and repaired to the hospitality suite to round out the night.

FRIDAY’S DOINGS

After a breakfast buffet, groups loaded buses for the day’s tours. A large bunch headed for the Academy with Al Feldkamp providing narrative on the way. Stops included the static B-52, scenic overlooks, the Academy Visitor’s Center, and the Chapel. From the walls near the Chapel, the tour joined many other visitors to observe the entire Cadet Wing gather for the noon formation and parade to lunch. Quite an operation to see, and it couldn’t help but make one proud of the type of personnel who are selected to attend this great institution, which is molding the future leaders of the Air Force and society in general.

From there the folks proceeded to the Falcon Club for lunch, where five cadets were introduced and then sat at various tables to join the ‘seasoned’ citizens.

Col Joe Sanders, the Director of the Academy Character and Leadership Development Center, gave an enthusiastic briefing on the goals of the institution and the cadet training.



Thomas greets Col Sanders

Another group took a ride to Cripple Creek to partake in the casinos, shopping, and dining in the scenic town. Six were dropped off for an intimate and very interesting tour of the Mollie Kathleen Gold Mine.

A casual dinner at the hotel and more hospitality time wound up this day.

SATURDAY JAMMED

Another breakfast buffet began this fully-packed day. The membership meeting commenced and moved smartly. Detailed minutes of that meeting appear after this article.

Once again buses were loaded and one headed for Peterson AFB and Alan F. was again the bus narrator. There the group visited the National

Museum of WWII Aviation. They then had lunch at The Club where the guest speaker was NORTHCOM's **Colonel Jeff (Buffalo) Herd**, a former **55th** Ops Group Commander. One more tour stop was at the Peterson Air and Space Museum where Docent **Bruce Long** regaled the group with history of the vintage aircraft before they returned to the hotel.



Other buses took a load of intrepid adventurers to the Pike's Pike Cog Railway station for the hour and half chug up to the elevation of 14,110 feet. The operator's narration, watching the scenery change and seeing a few bighorn sheep and other fauna (including the two-legged kind hiking and biking) helped the time pass.

Upon arrival, there were long lines at the restrooms and the doughnut counter. After less than an hour on top to take in the literally breath taking vistas, those who were not felled from hypoxia or brain damaged (*with this group, who could tell?*), the troops boarded the train for a more rapid descent and return to the station.

The grand banquet Saturday evening provided a fitting windup to a superb reunion.

Among other comments, Pres Thomas recognized the **Feldkamps** for a job well done, and the assemblage gave them a well earned standing ovation.

He also read a letter from **Colonel John Rauch**, **55th Wing** commander, in which the colonel thanked all the members for their service, and



expressed that he and his wife **Diane** wished everyone there a great reunion and safe travels home.

Need it be mentioned that there was more hospitality time to top off the evening?

One more breakfast buffet, reminiscing, and the bidding of farewells, then most everyone departed for various destinations by any means necessary.

Until the next time at Omaha/Offutt, spring of 2014, stay healthy and safe. **Videmus Omnia.**

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Addendum: In addition to the Feldkamps being everywhere and everything, the reunion had the benefit of several volunteers who are herein recognized:

Registration: **Margi Hungerford, Kathleen Welo, Cindy Lloyd.** Bus docents/loaders: **Bob Reehorn, Val and Laura Dugie.** Barpersons: **Jerry Nolan, Reehorn, Val Dugie, Sam Schultz,** plus assorted do-it-yourselfers and touch-and-goes.

This **Association** reunion had more sponsors providing funding, supplies, and support than any in recent memory. Thanks to their generosity, the reunion paid for itself. Chief among them were: **Sierra Nevada Corp., ISR Division; L3 Communications Integrated Systems; Wells Fargo Bank; Nelson, Van Denburg, & Campbell Wealth Management Group; Sam's Club,** and the **Pepsi Beverage Co.** Others who provided freebies included **Security Services Federal Credit Union, Wal-Mart, Rocky Mountain Blue, Boeing Corp., Northrop /Grumman Corp.**

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55TH WING ASSOCIATION
BOARD of DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
5 SEPTEMBER 2012

*Please note that this document is available on the **Association web site**. It is not published here due to its length and space requirements. Fear not, as most of the information is either in the prezgram, the preceding reunion recap article, or in the membership meeting minutes following.*



*There really was a meeting. Honest. See?
Clockwise (sort of) from center front: Hoberman,
Ross, Sandy Feldkamp, Todd, Pres Thomas,
McMahon, Al Feldkamp, Hoover (partially hidden)
Ernst, Censullo, Maloney. Photo by Moore.*

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55TH WING ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES 8 SEPTEMBER 2012

0815 - Meeting called to order by President Jim Thomas. Convened per notice given in May 2012 **Association** newsletter. Quorum present.

Minutes from previous membership meeting at the reunion in Allen, TX: Max Moore moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes (*which were published in the post-Texas reunion newsletter of July 2011*). Seconded by **Jim Arbuckle**. Motion passed.

The president mentioned that it was still possible to purchase bricks for the Cold War Memorial patio and those who were interested in doing so should see **Bill Ernst**.

Membership report was provided by Michael Cook for presentation by the President. He announced there were 603 dues paying members (a snap shot of an ever changing day-to-day number) of which 43 were active duty troops. This is a slight decrease as members whose dues expired at the end of 2011 have been slow to renew in spite of various forms of reminders. However, extraordinary efforts by Cook and Moore did manage to retrieve approximately 70% of the members whose dues expired in January 2012.

Thomas reiterated the dues timing process of all dues expiring at 31 December of the year through which a member is paid. But, that there is a grace period until 1 April of the ensuing year until a person is declared delinquent and removed the mailing list.

Treasury report from Cook presented by the President: the current balance is \$34,400. In short “we are holding our own” with regard to members renewing and new members signing up to remain ‘solvent’ and meet the **Association’s** projected annual budgets now and into the near-term years.



The president then opened the floor to Bill Ernst, the Board of Directors nomination chairman. Ernst announced the slate for the BoD as all the current incumbents: Jim Thomas, **Ricky McMahon**, Michael Cook, **Kevin Todd**, **Sam Pizzo**, **Don Griffin**, Max Moore, Robb Hoover, Bill Ernst, **Errol Hoberman**, **Jim Maloney**, **Dennis Haun**, **Larry Utley**, **George Ross**, **Fox Censullo**, **Pete Glenboski**, and **Don Kelly**. He also announced that the active duty representatives previously nominated by the **55th Wing** Commander and approved by the BoD, were **LtCol Paul Rehome** and **TSgt Jennette Johnson**, the latter being approved at the most recent Board meeting, 5 September. She replaced **LtCol Mo Krishna** who left for a school assignment on short notice in August.

Ernst opened the floor for further nominations. There being none, Moore moved to close the nominations. Motion seconded by several. Motion carried.

Ernst then said he would entertain a motion to elect the nominees by acclamation. **Bill Simon** so moved. Motion seconded by many and carried.

Pres Thomas retook the podium and opened a discussion on how the **Association** could improve the recruiting of new and ‘younger’ members. A few members offered suggestions and opinions, but it was generally agreed that recruiting is a member-wide responsibility. Additional efforts will be made, and possible actions taken, by the Board before the next reunion to target new members from a ‘lost generation’ of **55th** veterans.

The next subject opened was for the 30th reunion in the spring of 2014. Thomas announced that BoD member Don Kelly had volunteered to chair a reunion in Omaha/Offutt area the exact date TBD. Discussion ensued on pros and cons, logistics, costs, attractions in the area, etc. But it was generally agreed that the main purpose for holding a reunion at Omaha/Offutt periodically, was to reconnect the membership with the active duty **55th Wing**, and vice versa, for the reciprocal exposure.

Thomas asked if there were any other volunteers to host a reunion at any other sites. There were none.

Ernst moved to hold the next reunion at Omaha/Offutt in 2014 in conjunction with the Birthday Ball week (*late March, early April*), **if feasible**. Motion seconded and carried.

It was noted that the past three reunions attendance was at about 150-160 per, which is below the previous average of 210. A short discussion ensued as to what may be the reasons such as locale, costs, health issues, advertising, et al; but of course, there was no definitive answer.



Elvio Palmeri, the appointed enlisted member liaison, addressed the need to attract more former and current enlisted people into the **Association** membership.

President Thomas gave his overall report on **Association** activities during the past year to include the several interactions with the **55th Wing**. He emphasized that the current **55th Wing** commander, Colonel John Rauch, had multiple past tours in the Wing and was knowledgeable about and supportive of the **Association**.

Thomas detailed how the Wing Hall of Fame and the **Association**'s Award for Excellence, Heritage Week, and the Birthday Ball are examples of how the **Association** continues to contribute to

the Wing. Ernst elaborated that the **Association** administers the Hall selection process, which ensures appropriate inductees are honored. Moore also commented on how the Award for Excellence is accepted as a prestigious recognition for the active duty personnel who receive it.

It was announced that the re-elected Board of Directors would meet immediately after this meeting in order to elect officers.

There being no further business, the President adjourned the meeting at 0903.

Respectfully submitted,
Max R. Moore, Acting Secretary

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55th WING ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
8 SEPTEMBER 2012

Members present for a quorum: President Jim Thomas, Vice President Ricky McMahon, Bill Ernst, Errol Hoberman, Robb Hoover, Jim Maloney, George Ross, Fox Censullo, and Max Moore (*acting secretary*). Absent: Secretary Kevin Todd, Treasurer Michael Cook, Denny Haun, Larry Utle, Don Kelly, Pete Glenboski, Don Griffin, Sam Pizzo; active duty representatives: LtCol Paul Rehome, TSgt Jennette Johnson.

Meeting convened and called to order at 0857.

Pres Thomas asked VP McMahon to 'study' improving the recruitment of his peer group and younger generations of **55th**ers in such 'target' areas as the DC/Virginia/Maryland area, Denver/Colorado Springs, Dallas/San Antonio as the centers of expanded areas.

Moore then moved that the incumbent **Association** officer holders be re-elected to said positions. Motion seconded by several. Motion carried.

Thomas then re-appointed members to positions and committee chairs currently serving.

(*See Board directory following*)

Meeting adjourned at 0903.
Respectfully submitted,
Max R. Moore, Acting Secretary

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Life is hard. It is even harder if you're stupid.
John Wayne

ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS DIRECTORY

Association Business/Policy/Awards:

President Jim Thomas

4418 Anchor Mill
Bellevue, NE 68123-1168
E-mail: JThomas927@aol.com

Vice President Ricky McMahon

14325 Orlando Road
Nokesville, VA 20181
E-mail: Rick_CaryMc@comcast.net

Membership/Dues/Changes of Address:

Treasurer Michael Cook

3204 Rahn Blvd
Bellevue, NE 68123
E-mail: Michael.Cook@cox.net

Secretary Kevin Todd

31651 E 167th Avenue
Hudson, CO 80642
E-mail: Guyn5gals@msn.com

Newsletter Editor Max Moore

201 Basswood Court
Bellevue, NE 68005-2001
E-mail: MaxMoore55@aol.com

Association Web Page Comments/Ideas:

Webmaster Jim Maloney

7908 Kona Circle
Papillion, NE 68046-5619
E-mail: jim@maloney.com

Other Members of the Board of Directors:

Sam Pizzo, Bill Ernst, Errol Hoberman, Don Griffin, Fox Censullo, George Ross, Dennis Haun, Pete Glenboski, Larry Utley, Don Kelly. *Active Duty:* LtCol Paul Rehome and TSgt Jeannette Johnson.

Appointed Enlisted Affairs Liaison:

Elvio Palmieri

1060 Highland Avenue
Lake Forest, IL 60045-3873
Elvio13@comcast.net



TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 31 December 2012, the treasury had an account balance (rounded) of \$43,000.



Although the **Association** is solvent, we have expenses, obligations and bills to pay, such as this newsletter and directory. **So, please pay your dues promptly, or early and often.** Thank you very much.



Occasionally, members include modest amounts of money over and above what is required for dues to add to the treasury, or in the memory of a comrade taking that final high flight. Those donations (NOT DUES) are tax deductible under an IRS ruling for the organization. Every amount, large or small, is much appreciated.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of 31 December 2012, there were 623 members in good standing, a decrease from 665 on that date in 2011.

Regrettably, members whose dues expired on 31 December **2011** were taken off the member-in-good-standing roll effective 1 April 2012.

But, as a matter of continuing **good faith** by the **Association**, the May 2012 issue of *Videmus Omnia* was mailed to those delinquent members in order to inform all hands about the upcoming reunion.

Many did renew after that newsletter. Unfortunately, those who did **not** renew received their last newsletter and were **not** mailed this one. Pity.

At the end of **2012**, 170 members' dues expired and we eagerly await their renewal.

About 190 widows receive the newsletter gratis, and are welcome to any and all **Association** functions. Fifty-one **55th Wing** units and offices are sent the newsletter for PR purposes, and to keep them connected with the **Association**.

Association dues are renewable in January of each calendar year, so now is the time to reup. You have until 1 April if you are delinquent before being dropped from the mailing rolls.



WHEN DO MY DUES EXPIRE?

The most asked question of the membership chairman is, "What is the expiration date of my dues?"

That date is on the address label to the **RIGHT** of your name in bold print: **20XX**

Membership comes due each January. It is hoped/expected that those of you who have yet to renew your dues for **2013**, will do so soon.

Some members have paid for out years as far as 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Please remit dues to 55th Wing Association as soon as practical for this and future years.

Mail to: 55th Wing Association

ATTN: Michael J. Cook

PO Box 13165

Offutt AFB, NE 68113

For whatever reason, if you do **not** know your dues expiration date, to inquire on same, please e-mail **Michael.Cook@cox.net**; or drop him a note at the above address to get an update on your membership status.

Please keep us informed of any changes in your address or other contact information.

Invariably we get returned mail because of outdated addresses. **Please help us stay current.**

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You will find a membership/information update form at page 30 of this newsletter, as well as on the Association web site.

We respectfully request that the form be used any time you pay dues, and/or to report any address or other changes in your contact information. That is the best way to ensure we have your latest information on file.

An envelope addressed to the Association is included for your convenience, as well.

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ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Ah yes, regarding the directory previously mentioned, and included in the mailing with this issue of the *Videmus Omnia*.

When it arrives, the first thing one does is turn to their name to check it out. *Right?* Right. Human nature.

Then, invariably, some first responses to the **Association** about the directory are from some members with some variation of this statement: "My (*whatever*) in the directory is **WRONG!!!!**"

However, the correct descriptive should be: the information is 'out of date'. Boys and girls, it is up to the individual member to keep the **Association** apprised when relocating, for example; or ditching a land line for a cell phone number; and the most common of unreported changes: e-mail addresses and/or servers. (*Losing or changing spouses is not common, but it happens.*)

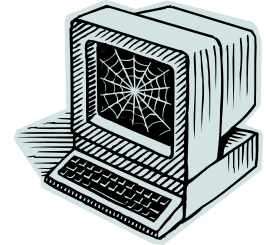
We cannot update and print what we don't know. Your cooperation in that endeavor is encouraged and appreciated. Thank you very much.

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YOUR 55TH WING ASSOCIATION WEB SITE

www.55wa.org

Under the technical expertise of Webmeister **Jim Maloney**, the home page continues to be an integral and vital part of the **Association's** line of communications. It is where one can keep informed between newsletters, and where news is reported and updated in a real-time manner.



Plus, it provides members a forum to keep in touch, learn about current and ongoing **Association** activities, and reference previous projects and/or events.

Another important function is that our internet link to the world provides former 55th warriors a means to reconnect. It is not uncommon for past 55thers, members, or friends and families, to find the web site after an internet search, and reengage friends and comrades from their days with the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth*.

You are urged to go there often for timely news, activities and information exchanges. The latest news on reunions, the Birthday Ball, and other significant events are there. "Mail Room", "Clothing Sales", "Memory Lane", a crew and aircraft picture gallery, and links to other associated and interesting sites are included.

A recent one month snapshot analysis of the web site's nearly 300 visits revealed that there are 60% return visitors vice 40% new ones. About 17% of the hits are from Offutt/Omaha area residents and the rest are nationwide.

The **TAPS** section has an alphabetical, as well as chronological, listing for easier research access to the names and dates of those in the 55th family who have passed.

There also is a link depicting history and heritage videos for your edification, should you be so interested.

Also, in keeping with the **Association's** philosophy of advancing, we have a presence on the social networking phenomenon, *Facebook*.

Check out the new page at <http://www.facebook.com/55thAssociation>. When you get there, be sure to "Like" us.

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Any member who wishes to read and/or download future **Association** newsletters from the web site, rather than receive them by snail-mail, can notify Michael Cook to **remove** his/her name from the newsletter mailing list.

This will save the **Association** mailing costs, while allowing you to read it as soon as it is published and provided to the web-guy, as well as read it wherever in the world you might be at anytime.

In order to do so, you will need to visit the "Members Only" page on the web site, and read the newsletter, or download, it from there. Simply request the username and password from the web-guy and you're all set.

Reminder to all: the web site address is 55wa.org. 55srwa.org is no longer available.

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***FIGHTIN' FIFTY-FIFTH* EARNS OMAHA TROPHY-AGAIN**

For the second time in three years, US Strategic Command awarded the Omaha Trophy to the **55th Wing** signifying the unit as the **best** strategic aircraft operations wing.

General C. Robert Kehler, Commander, US Strategic Command, made the announcement of the award in May 2012. The trophy goes to the organization demonstrating the highest performance standards within the Command's mission areas.

The Omaha Trophy is presented by the Strategic Command Consultation Committee, a civilian organization that supports USSTRATCOM and Team Offutt, and its lineage dates back to Strategic Air Command and **General Curtis E. LeMay**.

"Winning the Omaha Trophy is a great honor for the **55th Wing**," said **BrigGen Donald Bacon**, the **55th Commander**, "and I thank General Kehler, USSTRATCOM, and the Consultation Committee for recognizing our airmen."



BrigGen Bacon, and Chief Master Sgt. William Thomaston, Jr, Command Chief, 55th Wing, accept the Omaha Trophy from Gary Gates (far left), Strategic Command Consultation Committee, and General Kehler (far right), during the Strategic Air Command Memorial and Dedication 20th Anniversary Reunion Grand Banquet at the LaVista Embassy Suites on 2 June 2012.
(Photo by Steve Cunningham)

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ASSOCIATION MAKES PRESENTATION TO 55th COMMANDER'S QUARTERS

Members of the **55th Wing Association** met at Quarters 8 on Generals' Row, Offutt AFB, on 25 June 2012 for a presentation of an ink drawing. BrigGen Don Bacon (*outing going commander*) and Col John Rauch (*who assumed command on 28 June 2012*) accepted the drawing from **Association** Pres Jim Thomas.

Colonel (Retired) **Donald and Margaret White**, a former 38th SRS commander at Offutt, (*and an original member of the 55th Wing Hall of Fame in 1999*), donated the drawing entitled: "GENERALS' ROW" (1972), by **Sue Olson-Mandler**, to the **Association** to be gifted to the **55th Wing**. The **Association** had it properly framed and labeled.

The presentation was made on the front porch of the **55th Commander's quarters** where the drawing will be a permanent addition in the residence in honor of past wing commanders, and for the enjoyment of the present and future commanders and their families.



L to R: Pres Thomas, Reg Urschler (former 55th SRW commander), Ms. Olson-Mandler, BGen Bacon, Col Rauch.

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Gentlemen:

I want to thank everyone involved in the presentation of the "Generals' Row, Offutt Air Force Base" print to the **55th Wing** Commander's quarters. I am very pleased that one of the reproductions of my original ink drawing, done in 1972 for the Offutt Officers' Wives Club fund raising, has now been given a permanent home on Generals' Row!

Sincere thanks to Margaret and Don White for donating their print, and to Bill Ernst, friend and neighbor, for including me in the gathering of so many honorable men.

Sincerely,

Sue Olson-Mandler, artist, Bellevue, NE.
(E-mailed 7 July 2012)

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55th WING NEW COMMANDER

Colonel John Rauch took command of the **55th Wing**, the largest and most tasked wing in Air Combat Command, from BrigGen Don Bacon during a ceremony on 28 June 2012.

LtGen Robin Rand, 12th Air Force commander, was the presiding official, and he said both the outgoing and incoming commanders embody characteristics that make great leaders

Col Rauch returned to Offutt after serving as the commander of the 552d Air Control Wing at Tinker AFB, OK.



LtGen Rand and Col Rauch.

(Photo by Jeff Gates, 55th Public Affairs)

This is his fourth assignment with the Wing, including, the most recent as vice commander June 2009-July 2010, and the second straight time the incoming commander has had multiple assignments with the Wing.

BGen Bacon left the Wing for the Pentagon where he is the Director of Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance.

(Notes: the average tenure for a commander of the 55th is about 18 months, although it seems to come more often. The 55th Wing lost its billet for a one-star commander last January due to DoD cutbacks, unreasonable as that may seem.)

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ASSOCIATION MEMBERS HOST NEWEST 55TH COMMANDER

On Tuesday, 17 July 2012, nineteen members of the **55th Wing Association** hosted Col John Rauch, the newest **55th Wing** Commander, at Anthony's restaurant in Omaha for an evening of fine dining and conviviality. This is a tradition dating to 1997 started by then-**Association** president Bill Ernst, and Col Rauch is the tenth **55th** Commander to be so greeted.

Since this is Col Rauch's fourth tour with the Wing, it was more of a 'welcome back' function. He last served as the wing vice commander just two and a half years ago.

Traditional lodge photo:



*Standing back row (L to R): Moore, Kelly, **Ham Kennedy**, Thomas, Ernst, Hoover, **Frank Hicks**, John Tresmer, Steve Stevens, Dick Purdum, LtCol Mo Krishna, 55th Mission Support Group Deputy Commander; Haun, Dan Peterson.*

*Seated in front: (L to R): Maloney, **Dave Wolfe**, Urschler, Col Rauch, **John Johnson**, Fred Schapker, Larry Utley.*



*Col Rauch (second from right), with three former **Fightin' Fifty-Fifth** commanders: (L to R): Col (Ret) Peterson, BrigGen (Ret) Urschler, Col (Ret) Stevens.*

(Fronting the 55th Wing ceremonial bell).



THIRD GENERATION 55ther ASSIGNED TO WING

With the assignment and arrival of 1Lt **Joshua V. Eldridge** to the 55th Wing in August 2012, three generations of Eldridges have served with the **Fightin' Fifty-Fifth**, a noteworthy historic occasion. Lieutenant Eldridge is assigned to the 338th Combat Crew Training Squadron for upgrade into the RC-135 aircraft.

His father, LtCol (Retired) **Golda T. (Tom) Eldridge, Jr.**, served two tours in the 55th at Offutt, 1988-1994 and 2002-2006; while his grandfather, LtCol (Retired) **Golda, Sr.**, was assigned three times: at Forbes AFB, KS, 1966-67, and moved with the Wing to Offutt through 1969; returned to

Offutt 1970-74, and lastly, from 1985-87 when he retired.

All three are pilots graduating 24 years apart – Golda, Sr., in August 1964, Tom in May 1988 and Josh in May 2012.



L to R: Golda, Sr., Golda, Jr. (Tom), Lt Joshua in front of an RC-135 aircraft at Offutt.

*(Max note: I have been in and/or associated with the 55th since 1960, and while several sons of former 55th'ers have been assigned to the Wing, to my knowledge, this is a **historic first with a third generation** coming in. If anyone knows anything different, please inform us.)*



CSPRINGS GROUP SUMMER MINI-REUNION

Kerm Neal once again organized a gathering of 55th RC-era alumni in the Colorado Springs area for the third summer. On Saturday, 28 July last year, **Stuart** and **Terri Aldridge** hosted a barbeque at their home. Great weather, camaraderie and food graced the day.

Attending were **Doug** and **Wendy Kaupa**, **Eldon** and **Erinn Kocourek**, **Brian Schuett**, **John Farquhar**, **Al** and **Sandy Feldkamp**, **Willow Aldridge** and **Kaleb Neal**.



Pictured L to R: Aldridge, Farquhar, Neal, Schuett

There are numerous 55th alums in the Denver/CSprings area and Kerm would like to encourage many more to attend what is intended to be an annual event. **Those who are interested in being included in future notifications are urged to contact him at Kerm.Neal@northcom.mil, or call 719-481-1930.** The more the merrier.

Article info and photo contributed by Kerm Neal, Colorado Springs, CO.

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EAST COAST GANG GOES TO THE OL' BALL GAME

By Ricky McMahon

The 55th Wing Association's East Coast/Pentagon 'Chapter' (*unincorporated, of course*) held its third annual Bullpen Bar-B-Que and Night of America's Pastime at a Potomac Nationals versus the Winston-Salem Dash baseball game on 11 August 2012. The P-Nats are a minor league club of the Washington Nationals and play in the Carolina League. The P-Nats play their home games in the Woodbridge/Lake Ridge area of Prince William County in Northern VA.

This year's event had forty-one former *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth* troops and family members in attendance. The Saturday evening began with a BBQ in a picnic area adjacent to the right field bullpen of Pfitzner Stadium, hence the name Bullpen BBQ. This picnic area is available for groups and is popular and can be tough to schedule.

After the National Anthem, the 55th crowd headed for seats behind the third base dugout. This year the weather cooperated and the participants were able to comfortably enjoy the game and post-game fireworks without getting wet (*unlike last year's soggy event*). The P-Nats defeated the Dash 6-4. Hoo-rah.

There was a game to watch, conversation with friends across a gamut of issues was the order of the evening (along with enjoying adult beverages and snacks).

In addition, the P-Nats marketing manager presented me with a stadium cushion. My wife, **Cary**, used the cushion to elevate her leg that was in a walking cast from an ankle injury. That saved me from having her leg propped on my knee.



Attendees were: Seated front row L to R: **Sue Mundie, Wendy Linehan, Todd Phipps, LtCol Rich Linehan, Col Bill Gould, Col Bruce Mundie, and Charlie Mathews** (no hat, extreme edge).

Second row L to R: **Mike Griffin, Jeremy Smith, Buck Arvin, Mike Meermans, Ann and Bo Marlin.** Third row L to R: **Cary McMahon** (with shades), **BGen Don Bacon** and his son **Austin, Maj Steve Taylor, Val and Laura Dugie** and their daughter **Valerie.**

Fourth row L to R: daughter **Marquette Ungerman, LtCol Ben and Katina Ungerman, Holly and Maj Jake Panter, Jeff and Trish Seinwill, LtCol Steve** (partially hidden) and **Maj MarCinda Buttie.**

Not seen in fifth row are the **Panter** girls: **Lydia, Lenora, Samantha and Sophia.** Not pictured but definitely there somewhere: **John Rued, the McMahon sons Brenden and Garrett,** and daughter **Caitlin** with her husband **Kristopher Keyser** and their son **Donovan** and daughter **Carrigan. Ricky Mac** was the photographer.

One highlight of the evening was Val Dugie catching a free tee-shirt (*rumor has it he knocked his daughter, Valerie, down to get it as the tee was shot into the crowd. Wear it proudly, Val.*)

All in all, the evening was another successful event of reminiscing about the days and sorties of yesteryear by former members and spouses of the *Fighting Fifty-Fifth.*

The next gathering for this august group in the VA/MD/DC area (*and there are many*) will be a Cheese and Wine Tasting gathering after the holidays, probably late January or early February 2013.

For information on future 55th Association East events, or to get on the e-mail listing, drop me an e-mail with your contact information at

Rick_CaryMc@comcast.net, or find me on the Pentagon Global for those of you with access.

Article and photo contributed by Ricky McMahon, Assn Vice President, Nokesville, VA.

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HOGGIES REUNITE IN NAWLENS

Alumni of the 82SRS from the 1960s and 1970s at Kadena AB, Okinawa, and friends, gathered in the fascinating city of New Orleans, 2-3 November 2012. Don and Betty Guillot organized and hosted the mini-reunion.

Attending were: Stan and Shirley Sievers, John and Janice Matol, Ray and Susan Uribe, Loren and Susan Pancoast, Reg Urschler, Jo Hedge, Bill O'Hara, Ham and Pat Kennedy, Joey and Diane Welch, Cliff and Phyllis Carter, Sylvia and her daughter Layla Navarro, Jack Meyer, Ken and Fran Kwock, Jim and Pam Arbuckle.

Also: Henry and Joanne Reiden, Don and Marguerite Marburger, Phil and Margaretta Giambi, Tony and Lynne St. Amant, Tom and Betty Harris, and Bill White and his spouse.

Billeted at the Royal Orleans Hotel, the group enjoyed a two-day schedule of dinner at the hotel; a dinner river cruise on the *Riverboat Natchez*; a tour of the World War II Museum; tour of the French Quarter, with an obligatory beverage at Pat O'Brien's bistro; and a sayonara evening meal at Brennan's restaurant.



White and O'Hara commiserate; while various Hoggies and Hogettes are seen in the background at Brennan's.

One more great gathering for reminiscing and camaraderie, with the promise of more such reunions in the future.

Article composed with information from Don Guillot. Photo by Marburger.

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55th WING HERITAGE WEEK

In March 2010 Association President Thomas proposed to the then-55th Wing Commander, BGen John Shanahan, that some wing units hold a series of events during the week leading up to the 55th Wing Birthday Ball to commemorate the history and legacy of the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth*. The general readily embraced the idea, issued a wing-wide "Shanagram" and another tradition was born.

Continuing that commitment, 1-4 May 2013, Heritage Week will be celebrated and highlighted by such functions as the Ops Group Commander's Conference, the Wing Commander's Conference, gatherings at various squadrons, culminating with the Hall of Fame ceremony, the *Tales of the 55th*, and the main event, the 35th annual 55th Wing Birthday Ball.

Pres Thomas stated, "The Association, with nearly 700 members worldwide, former and current members of the Wing, is a partner of the Wing. Their role is to assist the Wing in numerous ways, one of which is to help keep the 55th storied history alive by supporting events such as Heritage Week."

The functions at the operational squadrons of today allow the seasoned crewdogs to return and mingle with the current generation of the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth* warriors.

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HALL OF FAME

The induction ceremony will be held the afternoon of Friday, 3 May 2013, and the inductee(s) are presented at the Birthday Day Ball the next night.

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TALES OF THE 55TH

The thirteenth edition will be on Friday, 3 May 2013, in the CMSAF James M. McCoy Airmen Leadership School with Association President Thomas as honcho and emcee.

Speakers from various eras in the history of the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth* relate personal experiences to an audience of active duty, retirees and guests.

Attendance grows every year as most of the Wing's senior staff, and an eclectic group of active duty troops, retirees, families, and assorted visitors in town for the Birthday Ball fill the venue.

It is a must-see event for out-of-towners, and is a mini-reunion of sorts.



ANNUAL 55th WING BIRTHDAY BALL



The 55th Wing will hold its 35th annual Birthday Ball, **Saturday, 4 May, 2013** at the Embassy Suites Convention Center in LaVista. The gala event is open to all active duty ranks and civilian members of the wing, retirees, and by invitation to local dignitaries. The event is hosted by Colonel John Rauch, 55th Wing Commander, and his wife, **Diane**.

The Ball will celebrate the 72th anniversary of the unit from its roots in the activation of the 55th Pursuit Group at Hamilton Field, CA, in January 1941, during World War II.

The Ball is the Wing's largest annual formal social function. **Last year 970 people attended, an all time high**, including many alumni and **Association** members.

This year's planning is headed by **Capt Jamie Hernandez** of the 55th Security Forces Squadron and his able committee. Ernst and Moore represent the **Association** as advisors to that committee.

(An original planned date of 30 March 2013 conflicted with Easter weekend, thus the date slippage.)



MEMORIAL BRICK ORDERS: STILL CAN DO

Fellow Members,

All bricks that were ordered and paid for in 2012 have been engraved and are in place in the memorial patio.

It is still possible to order new ones.

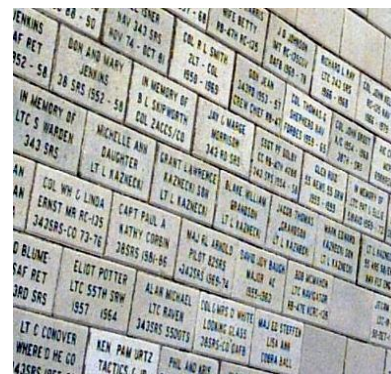
There may be some 55th veterans and/or family members, friends, associates, et al, who want to order bricks for the 55th SRW Cold War Memorial patio in the National Museum of the USAF

Memorial Gardens, near Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. That memorial was dedicated in September 2003. Over 600 bricks have been engraved-to-order and are in place thus far.

If you wish to buy a brick, or know of anyone who wants one, now is the time to place an order.

Any new bricks will be placed this summer.

New orders should be received anytime **before 1 August 2013** to ensure placement of the bricks during good weather.



Section of the memorial brick patio

The cost is **\$65 for per brick**, and the engraving is **limited** to three lines, 13 characters per line including spaces, dashes and slashes. **(No periods, commas, colons, semicolons or quotation marks.)**

You can e-mail **exactly how you want your brick to read (all caps, please)**. Make your checks payable to **55 Wing Association**, and mail to Bill Ernst, 410 Greenbriar Court, Bellevue, NE, 68005, or e-mail: BillErnst1@cox.net

Videmus Omnia, Bill



The latest bricks have been engraved and placed in the patio. An updated diagram of the memorial patio layout has been sent and posted on the **Association** web site.

I've done another count of the available-for-engraving bricks and it's fairly accurate this time.

There are 127 bricks available for engraving; there are about 56 on each side, back of the memorial, plus eight on each side of the front, against the two benches. I did not count blank bricks around the SAC emblem, around the memorial base, nor the ones left blank on the back side of the memorial, where people can stand to look at the other bricks.

Jack Kovacs, Fairfield, OH. (Composed from e-mails 15 October and 5 November 2012)



T A P S



BATEMAN, William R., 76, 7 October 2012, Papillion, NE; wife, **Marilyn**. Bill was one of the original In-flight Maintenance Technicians (IMT) in the RC-135 program in the **55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing** at Offutt AFB, NE, in the mid-1960s. He retired as a ChiefMSgt, and later worked a number of years for the Omaha Public Power District.

BENZIGER, Alfred S. (Jack), 82, 25 July 2012, Georgetown, ME; wife, **Thelma**. Jack was a long time RB-47 navigator in the 343rd at Forbes AFB, KS, in the 1960s. While on a jamming mission in Vietnam he was shot down, survived and was rescued. Last AF assignment was at Hanscom AFB, MA, from which he retired in 1978.

BLANK, Joan E., 78, 25 August 2012, Seattle, WA; wife of **Ed** (of Gig Harbor) for 57 years, who was a staff officer at RAF Upper Heyford and then RAF Mildenhall, UK, 1975-78.

BRAMMER, Paul L. (Bob), 83, 27 December 2012, Atwater, CA; wife of 59 years, **Darlene**. Bob enlisted in the Air Force early in 1949 and became a gunner. He served in the **55th** in RB-50s at Ramey AFB, PR, in the early 1950s. He later went to OTS, became a KC-135 pilot, flew RB-66s in Vietnam, and retired as a colonel in 1976.

CAREY, John J., 74, 16 August 2012, Rochester, MN, formerly of Cook, NE; wife of 51 years, **Barbara**. John had a long history with the **55th** as an RB-47 EWO at Forbes in the 1960s, then in the RC-135s at Offutt AFB, NE. He also commanded at various times in the 1970s AMS, FMS and OMS maintenance squadrons at Offutt. He retired to his farm 1986.

CHISHOLM, John, 64, 10 June 2012, Omaha, NE; wife, **Amy**. During his four years in the Air Force, he was an RC navigator in the 343rd at Offutt in the early 1970s. John then became a successful restaurateur in Omaha owning several franchises.

CLARY, James, C., 82, 7 December 2012, Omaha, NE; wife, **Ardith**. First recon assignment for Jim was an RC-135 pilot at Eielson AFB, AK. With the **55th SRW** at Offutt, he commanded the 343rd SRS, then had a tour as commander at Shemya AFB, AK, and returned to the Wing as Deputy Commander for Ops, all in the mid-to late 1970s. His last position in the AF was as Director of Personnel Management at SAC HQ.

CONKLIN, William G., II, 64, Angleton, TX, 9 July 2012; wife **Eva**. Bill, a Pennsylvania native, served at Offutt as an RC-135 EWO in the 343rd SRS from 1979-84. He retired in 1987.

CROWSON, Leona F., 88, 18 April 2012, Aurora, CO; wife of **Earl** a long-time RB-47 EWO in the **55th SRW** during the 1950s and 1960s at Forbes AFB, KS.

DARBY, Larry, 82, 11 December 2012, Las Vegas, NV. A long time member of the **55th** as an RB nav at Forbes in the 1960s, who later moved with the Wing to Offutt and crewed in RC-135s.

DAVIS, Bennie L., 84, 24 September 2012, Georgetown, TX. General Davis was a US Military Academy graduate in 1950. A bomber pilot, he served as Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Air Command at Offutt from August 1981 until his retirement in August 1985.

GMITTER, Robert J., 77, 29 August 2012, Canton, GA; wife, **Vera**. Bob was an RB-47 pilot in the 338th and 343rd at Forbes 1955-1967. He also served at Offutt and Eielson before retiring in 1970. He then earned a degree in accounting, and later was employed as a state auditor in Texas and Arkansas.

HOOVER, Robb L., 77, 29 October 2012, Bellevue, NE; wife of 50 years, **Shirley**. An absolute **55th** stalwart for decades. Robb was an RB-47 EWO in the 343rd at Forbes in the mid-1960s, and RC-135s at Yokota AB, Japan, and Kadena AB, Okinawa, in the original cast of the 82nd SRS. He also had tours at RAF Mildenhall, UK, and at SAC HQ Intel and with the Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff. (*See article to follow.*)

HOWE, Arlen M., 83, 9 September 2012, Papillion, NE; wife of 57 years, **Mary**. Affectionately known as "Ziggy", Arlen began his career as a navigator in RB-50s at Briggs AFB, TX, then had a long tenure with the **55th** at Forbes and

Offutt during the 1960s and '70s, plus a tour with the 82nd SRS at Kadena. After retiring from the AF in 1979, he had a successful career as a real estate agent.

Their daughter, **Melinda Kelly** (wife of **Association** BoD member Don), is currently secretary to the **55th Wing** commander.

KIEFER, Richard (Dick) J., 79, 26 August 2012, Tucson, AZ; wife of 57 years, **Carrie Lou**. A pilot in RB-47s in the **55th** at Forbes in the late 1950s, Dick was in the first cadre of RC-135D crews in the 6th SW at Eielson AFB, AK, in 1962. He was the base commander at Davis-Monthan, AZ, in 1974. Dick later commanded the 301st AREFW at Rickenbacker AFB, IN, then the 416th Bomb Wing at Griffiss AFB, NY, before retiring in 1980.

LOPEZ, Juan, 77, 30 August 2012, San Antonio, TX; wife, **Elaine**. Juan came to the **55th** at Offutt in the original roster of EWOs in the RC-135, circa 1967. He later served on the wing staff in INE, then in HQSAC Plans, and as commander of the USAF Security Service Wing at Misawa AB, Japan.

MEDEARIS, Wayne, 82, 3 November 2011, Hixson, TN; wife of 57 years, **Dolores**. An aircraft maintainer in the **55th** at Forbes, he also served in Korea and Vietnam, retiring as a Master Sergeant.

O'NEAL, Ray C. (Jumbo), 86, 4 September 2012, Joshua, TX; wife of 60 years, **Marian**. A WWII vet in the Army Air Corps, after a post-war break in service, Jumbo became a pilot in the Air Force and flew combat in Korea. He served with the **55th** at Offutt in the late 1960s. Ray was commander at Shemya AB, and later of the 82nd SRS at Kadena. He retired in 1974 as commander of the SAC wing at McConnell AFB, KS.

POPPERT, Richard E., 78, 16 March 2012, Lacey, WA. A co-pilot in the initial cadre of 343rd SRS crewmen in the RB-47s at Forbes in 1955. In later years he was a Union Pacific brakeman, and a patrol pilot for the Washington State Fisheries.

ROGERS, Robert M., Jr., 70, 29 May 2012, Bellevue, NE; wife, **Diane**. Bob graduated from Texas A&M and was a bomber navigator by trade. He served at Offutt as the 3902nd ABWing HQ Section Commander, and then as the **55th SRW** Executive Officer from 1987 until retiring in 1992.

The Rogers have three sons who serve/served as officers in the Air Force: **Ryan**, a former 38RS

commander in the **55th**, is now assigned to US Strategic Command at Offutt, as is the eldest son, **Robert. Christopher** recently retired and is now employed in a general service position.

SEELEY, Karl T., 92, 13 May 2011, Miami Shores, FL; wife of 64 years, **Peggy**. Born in Utah, Karl was a WWII bomber pilot whose time with the **55th** was as an EWO in RB-50s and RB-47s. He also was assigned to Tachikawa AB, Japan, and Elmendorf AFB, AK.

TRULOVE, Donald G., 84, 17 May 2012, Topeka, KS; wife, **Sharon**. A pilot who flew in the Berlin Airlift, Korea, Vietnam, and was a Cold Warrior in the **55th** where he flew RB-50s, then RB-47s at Forbes, retiring in 1970. He then worked for 20 years for Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Kansas retiring in 1990.

WESNER, John A., III, 80, 2 January 2011, Carlisle, PA; wife, **Ann**. A graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point, NY, he was a **55th** veteran of the Cold War and served in Vietnam.

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NON-TAPS

*The November issue of the MOAA magazine listed a **Col John E. Drost** of California in the memoriam section.*

*I got a call from the **55th Wing** Hall of Famer on 27 October assuring me **he** was decidedly **alive**. "Our" **Johnny** reported he is 91, hale and hearty and "feels like 60". A happier report. Max.*

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TAPS notification of **Association** members, spouses, friends and associates should be sent to Editor Max Moore, 201 Basswood Court, Bellevue NE, 68005; or e-mail MaxMoore55@aol.com

Please include next of kin and an address to whom the Association condolence card may be sent.

The date of demise, age, location; and if known, connection to the 55th - base, time and duty will be helpful.

Please note that the news in TAPS is determined and limited by how much and how accurate the given source information.

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Robb Hoover was an exceptional human being who left a remarkable legacy to the **55th Wing**

Association and the *Fighting' Fifty-Fifth*. His contributions to both organizations are indelible and enduring.

Born in Logansport, IN, he grew up in Green Bay, WI, as a life-long Packer fan. He enlisted in the US Army at an early age and hitch-hiked cross-country many times when one did not have to fear running into an ax wielding cannibal.

He decided the military was where he wanted to remain and applied for the AF Aviation Cadet Program. Eventually graduating from Electronic Warfare Training at Keesler AFB, MS, his first assignment was in the **55th SRW** at Forbes AFB, KS, as an RB-47 raven in 1963. He later moved into the RC-135 at Yokota AB, Japan, and at Kadena AB, Okinawa.

Having attended the University of Wisconsin, and Washburn in Topeka, from where he received his degree, he always referred to himself as 'a liberal arts crow'.

There are no 'wild and crazy' Robb stories. He did not do anything frivolous or stupid enough to have it come back and haunt him (*unlike many others we all know*). But, he did do interesting things. Example: while stationed on Okinawa, when most took their R&Rs to Bangkok, Hong Kong, Taiwan, et al, Robb decided to go to Katmandu, in the kingdom of Nepal, in the Himalayas. Initially informed 'you can't get there from here', he



persevered through diplomatic bureaucracy, got the required visas, and found creative ways to travel the less than direct route to the exotic city.

Robb thought on a higher intellectual plane than most people, but he was unassuming about his own thoughts and opinions as he constantly inquired and listened to others for their ideas and philosophies.

His fertile mind was full of innovative ideas. It was he who started the tradition of the *Tales of the 55th* event to precede the Birthday Ball.

He was the one who decided to procure the bell for the RAF Upper Heyford officer's club, and its eventual journey and evolution to become the **55th Wing** Ceremonial Bell.

It was he who initiated the use of *Videmus Omnia*, the Wing motto, as a toast and closing to e-mails and correspondence.

He organized numerous seminars and symposiums on the history of SAC reconnaissance and **55th** heritage. Flawless in his orchestrating and emceeding such events, his introductions were always informative and complementary to the speakers.

In addition to serving as the **Association's** first vice president, and then historian for many years, he was the Program Chair for the Strategic Roost of the Association of Old Crows at Offutt for 20 years. He never failed to have a variety of interesting speakers and subjects. He was active in the Omaha World Affairs Council, the Offutt Book Club; and belonged to MOAA and AFA chapters, Rotary International, among other organizations.

After retiring from the Air Force in 1981, he worked for twenty years as a senior analyst for Science Applications International Corp, but never slowed in his other activities.

Robb had many accolades and honors bestowed upon him, but he was always humble and usually deflected the spotlight away to others. He never led his own parade.

Among those recognitions: Induction into the **55th Wing** Hall of Fame in 2011; having the Officer Training School auditorium at Maxwell AFB, AL, named Hoover Hall; the 343rd RS crew lounge has his name on it, as well as the squadron crews using "HOOVR" (*as is, no typo*) as their stateside call sign. In 2006 he was the Grand Marshall of the official Nebraska Veterans Day parade in Bellevue.

Robb was one of a kind, a truly unique personality. We will not see the likes of him again. An irreplaceable **55th** icon, he will be forever missed and has left a colossal void.



MAIL 'N STUFF



Max:

Thanks for sending me the info on the CSprings reunion. I'll certainly try and hook up with some of you guys during the gathering.

Also, I really enjoyed going through the (*May 2012*) **Association** newsletter. You do a great job putting some really interesting items together. Your group is well organized.

Pat Halloran, Colorado Springs, CO

(*From an e-mail 11 June 2012*)

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Dear LtCol Moore:

Thank you for participating in the Strategic Air Command Dedication and Reunion luncheon at the Strategic Air & Space Museum. (*1 June 2012*)

I want to reiterate a couple of themes that emerged at those events. First and foremost, the Museum is **recommitting to preserving our SAC artifacts and telling the SAC story** so that future generations will understand and appreciate the contributions the men and women of **SAC in preserving the peace and ultimately winning the Cold War.**

Second, the Museum is committed to being a resource to those SAC veterans who are interested in being involved by sharing their experiences and wisdom, in the professional and personal development of future generations of Air Force officers and enlisted personnel.

Finally, I want each of you to know that this is your museum, and I hope that you will be proud of the Museum's stewardship of the Strategic Air Command's history.

(*Condensed and edited from a 15 June 2012 letter by Scott E. Tarry, Executive Director, Strategic Air & Space Museum, Ashland, NE. (Editor's bold emphasis.)*)

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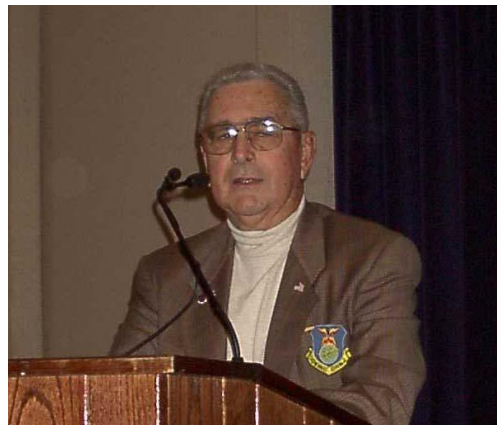
THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING! THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING! OOPS, THEY ARE HERE!

By Sam Pizzo

One day in early August of this year (*2012*), I received an e-mail from a gent whom I had never met nor had any conversation or e-mail contact. He stated he was a professor at a New England university who was coordinating a trip by Russian TV producers, and was calling on behalf of some

Russians who would be visiting the States intent on writing an article regarding Soviet **Premier Nikita Khrushchev's** visit to **President Dwight Eisenhower** back in 1959.

How he knew of my involvement as a navigator on those way-back Russian flights I do not know. But that he did, and he wanted my okay in order to advise them that they could get in touch with me as to the role I played back then. Those flights included nine TU-104 flights between Iceland, England and Washington. The final flight was into Moscow on a TU-114 returning the Premier back home.



Sam Pizzo, relating his story of flying with the Soviets at Tales event in 2003.

I stated my consent, sent him a copy of my book, *As Good As It Gets*. He in turn forwarded a book he had written regarding Russian fighter aircraft of WWII.

A short time later he advised me of the intended date of their visit with me. They showed precisely at the scheduled time of day, but, two days **earlier** than expected.

There were four of them, and just one spoke English. Mary and I were eating dinner, so to say we were a bit surprised is a big understatement.

However, they set up a camera, lights, etc, and the interview began. They had a copy of my book with them, so it is my opinion the interview went rather quickly as they already had most of the data they might need for their production of a DVD covering that visit by Khrushchev.

We spoke for about 20 minutes or so, and it went rather well I thought, until the gent in charge got a real serious look on his face and posed this question to me: "Who do you think started the Cold War?" I replied that I thought both sides were

responsible for that action. However, that evidently was not what he wished to hear as the interview ended rather abruptly.

I offered them some coffee, we chatted a bit, and they showed me a photo of two Russian pilots sitting in a cockpit and asked if I remembered them, to which I said that I did not. He seemed surprised and said they were the pilots on the aircraft that flew us from Washington to Moscow.

That was **only** about 60 years ago, and I'm right at 90 years young, and I should remember **that one day?!** Add to that, my back was to the pilots during the entire flight to Moscow, and I was escorted out of the cockpit once we hit Soviet air space.

If I remember correctly, navs didn't make a big deal out of remembering pilots too often back in those days!

I was informed that a DVD would be forthcoming sometime after the end of the year and I was promised a copy. When I asked if it would be in English, I received no reply. I can hardly wait to store that away.

I have often thought that even though I did not have a clue as to why I was selected to go along with **Augustine Puckrik** (a RB 47 Aircraft Commander), who spoke fluent Russian in addition to six other languages, that this trip was very instrumental to whatever successes I may have later enjoyed during my Air Force career.

Some guys just luck out now and then, and I was one of them.

Sam Pizzo, Mandeville, LA. 30 July 2012

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DEDICATIONS S'MORE

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JOHN KING BLVD REDUX

An overpass near Rockwall, TX, was dedicated in the name of former **55th** veteran **John King** in a ceremony 30 July 2012. That part of I-30 is an addition to a section of Texas highway 276 that was previously named in King's honor in May 2008. He was recognized for his many years of dedicated public service to the community as a city councilman and in other local organizations after his retirement from



the Air Force. John was an RC-135 pilot and former commander of the 38rd SRS at Offutt. He passed in December 2006.

Marilyn King, John's widow, was the guest of honor participating in the ribbon cutting, and Board member **Fox Censullo** represented the **Association**.

The event was tri-sponsored by the city and county of Rockwall and the Texas Department of Transportation.

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VETERAN'S HOME ROAD NAMED FOR HARRY TULL

A ceremony to dedicate the access road to the Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home in honor of **55th** legend, the late LtCol (Ret) **Harrison G. Tull** was held 13 September 2010. His daughter, **Dr. Janet Tull** and other family members were present for the occasion. The event was sponsored jointly by Sarpy County and the Bellevue Chamber of Commerce.

Harry was an original member of the **55th Wing** Hall of Fame and a Tuskegee Airman. He passed in October 2009. **Bob Love** of the Omaha chapter of the Tuskegee Airman was the driver behind getting the recognition accomplished. The home is located about a quarter mile west of Capehart housing at Offutt AFB and north just off Capehart Road.

Featured speakers were: **Dennis Wilson**, Sarpy County Engineer/Public Works, Bellevue Mayor **Rita Sanders**, Colonel **Hans Palaoro**, **55th Wing** Vice Commander, BGen (Ret) **Randolph Scott** of the Tuskegee chapter, and **Jim Ristow**, Pres/CEO, Bellevue Chamber of Commerce.



Dr Tull with her son, Christopher. Jeff Roberts, Bellevue engineer, and Wilson hold the sign. (Photo by Josh Pfluger of 55th Wing Public Affairs)

Also in attendance were several **55th Wing Association** members, members of the Tuskegee chapter, Veterans Home residents and staff, and members of the public.

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GREENVILLE SQUADRON HONORS THOMAS (LOOSE) LANE

A Wall of Honor has been inaugurated by the 645 Aeronautical Systems Squadron (AESS) at Greenville, TX. The purpose is to recognize worthy personnel who have made significant and lasting contributions to the unit's primary mission of RC-135 acquisition and operations programs. Many 55th alums have served in the 645th AESS and at Greenville's facilities for decades.

The first inductee is Major (USAF Retired) **Thomas (Loose) Lane**, also a member of the 55th Wing Hall of Fame. **LtCol Jason Eckberg**, commander of the 645th unveiled the wall and Lane's plaque in a ceremony on 16 November 2012.



Col Ed Topps, commander of the 645th Aeronautical Systems Group at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, stated, "Loose has been a part of the BIG SAFARI family almost as long as we have been a family. He is truly a living recon and Greenville legend. His impact on the RIVET JOINT (RC-135) and other programs is immeasurable."

Many former 55th'ers employed at L-3 Communications in Greenville and elsewhere attended the event.

(Information and photo contributed by Lynn Duncan, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. E-mail 18 November 2012)

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HARRIMAN-TABLER NEW TOY

The depicted airframe is the handiwork of **Dick Harriman** and **Mike Tabler**. The Waix SN172 was built with loving care over a ten month period, and flew its maiden sortie from the Plattsmouth (NE) Airport on 20 October 2012.



Men at work. Left: Tabler, Harriman.

Plane photo from Harriman. Lower photo by Vince Moncuso of Base 68113 newspaper

The 55th alumni pilots paid tribute to the Wing's WWII heritage with the livery of the 343rd Fighter Sqd. The **Association's** dual shield logo is the nose art. Both men's names are under the canopy, one on each side.

Dick (from Papillion, NE) has been building model airplanes since he was a youngster, and this is his fifth real plane built from scratch. Mike (from Plattsmouth) was in on his first construction. They co-own and fly another aircraft, a Rans S16 Shekari.

Although these intrepid aviators patrol the skies of the Midwest regularly, they have yet to report any bogie sightings. So, they are doing diligent duty in keeping the bad guys away.

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AIR FORCE WIFE A PERSPECTIVE

I am an Air Force wife; a member of that sisterhood, many of whom have had the courage to watch their man fly off into battle, and the strength to survive until their return. Our sorority knows no rank for we earn our membership with a marriage license, traveling over miles, or over nations to begin a new life with our husbands.

Within days we turn a barren, echoing building into a home, and though our quarters are inevitably white walled and unpapered, we decorate with the treasures of our travels for we shop the markets of the globe.

Using hammer and nails we tack our pictures to the wall and our roots to the floor as firmly as if we had lived there for a lifetime. We hold a family together by the bootstraps and raise the best of 'brats', instilling in them the motto, "Home is Togetherness" whether a motel or guesthouse or apartment.



As Air Force wives, we soon realize that the only good in "Good-bye" is the "Hello again!" As salesmen for freedom, our husbands travel far from home leaving us behind for a week, a month, or months-long TDY/deployment, or on a one year unaccompanied assignment. During those times of separation we guard the home front, existing until the homecoming.

Unlike our civilian counterparts, we measure time not by age but by tours, i.e. married at Lackland, baby born at Travis, a promotion in England. We plant trees and never see them grow tall; work on projects completed long after our departure; and enhance our community for the betterment of those who come after us. We leave a part of ourselves at every stop.



Through experience we have learned to pack a suitcase, a car, or hold baggage, and live indefinitely from their contents. Though our fingers are sore from the patches we have sewn and the silver we have shined, our hands are always ready to help those around us.

Women of peace, we pray for a world in harmony knowing that our flag for which our husbands fight will also blanket them in death. Yet, we are an optimistic group, thinking of the good and forgetting the bad, cherishing yesterday while anticipating tomorrow.

Never rich by monetary standards, our hearts are overflowing with a wealth of experiences common only to those united by the special tradition of military life. We pass on this legacy to every Air Force bride, welcoming her with outstretched arms, with love and friendship, from one sister to another,

sharing the bounty of our unique, fulfilling Air Force way of life.

Author Unknown, but is surely in the hearts and minds of any number of military wives.

(Contributed in an e-mail by Gerald and Brenda Walker, Homosassa, FL, 8 June 2010.)



Flags Flown over the Air Force Memorial Now Available

*From an Air Force Association Bulletin
August 2011*

In response to many requests from members, the Air Force Memorial staff now makes available for purchase, **US flags** that have flown over the memorial. These are great gifts for retirement, birthdays, Christmas, etc. All flags purchased through the Air Force Memorial are **made in the USA** and include a certificate of authenticity.

Pricing: 3 x 5 - \$24 Nylon, \$34 Cotton; 5 x 8 - \$42 Nylon, \$59 Cotton (plus \$4 shipping and 5% Virginia sales tax). Nylon is recommended if the flag will be flown outside. You may also choose which **specific significant date** you would like the flag flown over the Memorial.



For more and updated information, contact the Air Force Memorial staff at **afmf@airforcememorial.org** or Ph: 703-979-0674.



Here is how members can help diversify the coverage in Videmus Omnia: Editor's usual plea: If anyone wishes to contribute letters, stories, photos and articles, please do so, and send them to me at MaxMoore55@aol.com, or mail to the address in the directory.

*If events occur in your area (Florida, DC area, Denver/CSprings, Texas, California, wherever) that you think would be of interest to **the general readership**, mail or e-mail the pertinent details, and include the names of those who arrange and attend.*

Names are news. Pictures are good.

The **only way** to broaden our coverage is to get input from the near and far reaches of **Fifty-Fifth-land**.

Thanks, and **Videmus Omnia, Max**.

(Contributions may be,..... well, of course they will be, edited for content, readability, and spacing.)



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ASSOCIATION BX

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ASSOCIATION POLO SHIRTS/CAPS



These are 'must have' items for any reunion events; plus, they look good on the golf course, for casual Fridays at the office, and any leisure activity.

Give a big hint to the family and mayhap some generous loved one will give you one for whatever you have going: Father's Day, birthday, anniversary, Christmas, Hanukkah, Ramadan, Kwanzaa, Chinese New Year, whatever.

Great gifts! The shirts and caps are **unisex**, so get one for your spouse, significant other, or other family members, the family pet even.

There are currently two designs available. Both have the dual shield on the left breast, no pocket.

The former design is white with red collar and sleeve trim, navy blue front placket. They are 100% pre-shrunk combed cotton pique. **The cost is \$20 per shirt plus postage and handling. Just four mediums remain in this style. They will not be reordered.**

The **new** all white design is 100% polyester micro pique, moisture-wicking and anti-microbial control; available in sizes medium, large, XL, and XXL. Size 3XL can be ordered if the need arises, Big Fella. **The cost of this version is \$35 each.**

Be sure to state which design and size you want to order.

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The golf/baseball caps are royal blue with the dual shield logo on the front, and an adjustable back strap. **They go for just \$10 each.**

The items can be viewed in color on the **Association** web site at **www.55wa.org**, and click on the BX, Clothing Sales links.

There are charges for priority postage to be added to the individual item cost: \$5.95 for one shirt, or one cap; \$11.35 for both a shirt and cap order; \$11.35 for two shirts. Yep, the USPS keeps upping the ante.

More ways to identify with your **Association** and "show the logo" as appropriate for official, social and casual functions.

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THE ASSOCIATION TIE

The **Association's** 'regimental' tie is a distinguished blue and red striped design with the **Association's** dual shield logo prominently displayed in the tie's center. A fine gold line defines every fourth blue/red stripe. It can also be seen in color on the web site.

The price is \$25 per tie, including shipping and postage. Order now!

This item is another 'must have' for **Association** reunion banquets and other appropriate events.

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Shirts, caps and ties sold well at the last two reunions and more are ordered as needed.

Anyone desiring to purchase any of the advertised items can contact **Larry Utley** at his e-mail: **OFFWEGO@cox.net**; phone: 402-592-6627; or write 2409 Leigh Lane, Papillion, NE 68133.

Checks for the full amount of your order should be made to the 55th Wing Association.



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55TH FASHION PINS

The pins continue to be sold to **Association** members all over the country. They are particularly evident at official and social functions at Offutt, and at 55th reunions.

You will want to (Shown actual size) acquire one for that special lady in your life to wear on any occasion. Gents, it makes a great birthday or anniversary accessory gift, or holiday stocking stuffer. Classy, but inexpensive.



The **Association** does **not** sell these pins and receives **no** money from the sales. But, as a service for those who wish to possess same: **Erwin's Jewelers, Frank Kumor**, proprietor, and an **Association** member and supporter, offers them and **you can purchase directly from the store.**

Send order requests to 223 W. Mission Ave, Bellevue, NE; or call: (402) 291-2454, or fax to (402) 293-5873 to order the pins. **Costs are \$9 for the pin and \$4 for shipping.**

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REUNIONS

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THE BIG SAFARI ASSOCIATION 2013 REUNION Colorado Springs, CO, 19-23 June 2013

Crowne Plaza Hotel, in south Colorado Springs, has been contracted for the reunion.

The hosts for 2013 are Lockheed-Martin and Sierra Nevada Corporation.

The hotel is taking room reservations for the 2013 Reunion. You can book your room at 1-888-233-9527; or do it on-line



through the BSA web site. **Do so by 20 May to get the reunion special rate.**

Event planning is well along and members have been mailed registration information. Updated details on the reunion can be viewed on the BSA website at **bigsafariassociation.org**

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55TH WING ASSOCIATION REUNION SPRING 2014 OMAHA, NE



Don Kelly will be the chairman for this one. There are many details to be determined and those will be made available through the **Association** web site,

future newsletters, and e-mail.

Stay tuned and alert. Plan for it. This could be a big one tied with the 55th Wing at Offutt.

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WHO SHOT WHAT

Graphics and organization logos from various sources and web sites (*AF Memorial*). Pictures not previously attributed: Eldridge trio from 55th Wing Public Affairs; brick patio by Jack Kovacs; King photo from Marilyn; Hoover and Pizzo shots by Moore; **Association** shirt/cap by Utle; tie by Pizzo; 55th pin, Generals' Row, Commander's dinner by Moore; reunion pix by **Frank Rasmussen, Bert Holland** and Moore. 'Mad Max' at desk graphic by **Pat Gros.**



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Thursday reception panorama scene

COLORADO SPRINGS REUNION ATTENDEES LIST

AGRONIS, Gil and Ellen
 ARBUCKLE, Jim and Pam
 BACK, George and Gerrie
 BARRETT, Douglas
 BATES, B.J. and Lou
 BEAUVAIS, Mo and Cris
 BELCHER, Gary and Lois
 BOYDSTON, Ted and Marlene
 BROOKIE, Jim and Marilyn
 BURGOYNE, Jon and Joan
 CALDWELL, Jim and Nancy
 CENSULLO, Fox and Teresa
 COOK, Bill and Beverly
 DUBE, Buck and Mitzi
 DUBUY, Hank and Sandra
 DUER, Glen and Ann
 DUGIE, Val and Laura
 EDDINS, Douglas and Ann

EDDINS, Marilyn Scott
 ERNST, Bill and Linda
 EIVINS, Steve
 FELDKAMP, Alan and Sandy
 FELDKAMP, Andrew
 FORTIN, Paul and Jane
 GARRITY, Tom and Francine
 GERBER, Bill
 GOEDEN, Sam and Pat
 GURNEY, Don and Barbara
 HARPSTER, Terry and Phyllis
 HENTE, Scott and Lyn
 HERD, **Colonel** Jeff
 HOBERMAN, Errol and Susan
 HOLLAND, Bert and Carolyn
 HOOVER, Robb and Shirley
 HUNGERFORD, Margi
 JOHNSON, John and Toni
 KENNEDY, Ham and Pat
 KNECHT, Ron
 LAMBERT, Cliff and Kay
 LAWRENCE, Floyd and Doris



Group at USAFA Chapel



Bill Lewis x 2, Elder and Younger

LEWIS, Bill and Lou
 LEWIS, Bill and Carol
 LILLER, Charlie and Sara
 LLOYD, Cindy
 MACELHANEY, Mace and Gladys
 MALONEY, Jim and Peg
 MCCALL, Cash and Betty
 MCGOWAN, Mary and guest Susan
 MCMAHON, Ricky and Cary
 MICHAEL, Al and Peggie
 MITCHELL, Larry and Susan
 MOORE, Max and Carol
 NELSON, Jim and Sharon
 NOLAN, Jerry and Marcia
 OLIVO, John and Chris
 PALMIERI, Elvio and Darlene
 PAUL, Norman and Joyce
 PERRIZO, Jack and Michiko
 RASMUSSEN, Frank and Connie
 REED, Thomas and Celia
 REEHORN, Bob
 ROSS, George and Betty
 RUANE, Matt
 SAENZ, Roland and Kathy
 SAENZ, Ronald, Teresa, Angela
 SANDERS, **Colonel** Joe
 SCHAPKER, Fred
 SCHOONOVER, Frank and Hilde
 SCHUETT, Brian
 SCHULTZ, Usto (Sam)
 SEH, Bob and Dawn
 SIEVERS, Stan and Shirley
 SHANNON, **Major** Chris
 SIMON, Bill
 SJOLUND, Dave and Carol
 SMITH, Gary and Patty
 SMITH, Rick and Joy
 STEVENS, Steve and Suzanne
 SUL, Aristo and Virginia
 SUL, Mel
 TAYLOR, James and Marion
 TAYLOR, James and Susan



Two Jim Taylors - separated at birth?

THOMAS, Jim
 TICE, Merald, and Shirley
 TODD, Kevin
 WELO, Kathleen and Rob
 WILLIAMS, Herb and Barbara
 USAFA Cadets – 7 (guests)



The hospitality room was always abuzz.



View from Pike's Peak

MORE OF THE REUNION ALBUM



A group of shirts. Bottoms up, George!



*The first lunch, **not** the last supper.*

*Clockwise from the left: Mesdames **Garrity, Stevens, Michael, Hoover, Williams, Moore, R. Smith, Brookie, Reed, and McCall.***



*Friday dinner: Clockwise from the left: **Mary Scott Eddins, Doug and Ann Eddins, Sara Liller, Darlene Palmieri, Charlie Liller, Elvio Palmieri***



*Get on the bus. Get off the bus.
We are going on a road trip. Hoo-rah!*



*USAFA Sqd 11 Cadet Commander **Jessica Lauser** and Pres **Thomas** presenting.*



*Thursday reception: **Duers and Nelsons***



***Taylor, Caldwell, Goedens, Williams** at bar.*



Ladies of the Blouse.

***L to R: Mesdames Maloney, Olivo, Censullo, Sievers, Lambert.**
(They do that to be sure they get in the newsletter. It worked!)*



Yuking it up at the 'mellerdrammer'.



Some of the AF Academy lunch bunch



USFAFA Visitors Center tour



Group getting Chapel briefing.



USAF Academy Cadet Wing marching to lunch



*Falcon Club lunch: L to R: **Jim Brookie**, the **Hobermans**, **USAFA Cadet Olson***



*Friday dinner: clockwise, left front - **Ham and Pat Kennedy**, **Suzanne and Steve Stevens**, **Toni and John Johnson**, **Ron Knecht**, **Fred Schapker***



*Saturday banquet: clockwise from left - **Doug Barrett**, **Brian Schuett**, **Clark Hinkle**, **Betty and George Ross**, **Kay and Cliff Lambert**, **Steve Eivins** (back to camera).*



Videmus Omnia



55th Wing Association, Inc. (Formerly – 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing Association)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM (Address Update)

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

email: _____

Are you a Veteran? ____Yes ____No Branch of Service _____ (Dates of Service) _____

Are you a former member of the 55th Strat Recon Wing? _____

When were you a member of the 55th Strat Recon Wing? _____ (Dates of Service) _____



Are you a current or former member of the 55th Wing? _____

When were you a member of the 55th Wing? _____ (Dates of Service) _____



Which 55th Unit(s) were you a member? _____

Are you on active duty? ____ If so, with what unit? _____ Rank _____

What is your present occupation? _____

Return this form with dues, if applicable
(\$20 per year or \$55 for 3 years)*

to:

55TH WING ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 13165
OFFUTT AFB, NE 68113

* Note – Expiration date of **new** members joining after 1 Oct extended to 31 Dec of following year

**** Note – Dues expiration date – 31 December**

*****Note - Questions? Contact Michael J. Cook, Membership Chairman, at Michael.Cook@cox.net, or at the above mailing address, or call (402) 578-5848.**

20 May 2012

