

# Senior Airman Cunningham Tops In Public Affairs, Wins Association's First 'Best of the Best' Award

## Reserve Now For Annual SAF/PA-AFA Luncheon Sept. 18

The annual SAF/PA-Air Force Association luncheon at the Sheraton Washington Hotel on Connecticut Avenue in the District of Columbia will be on September 18.

Following lunch, Brigadier General Ron Sconyers, the SAF/PA director, will provide an update on public affairs activities.

Special Events Chairman Jim Reinhard will ensure that all reservations he receives by September 8 will be hand carried to SAF/PA to meet the hotel's deadline.

Payments by check of \$24 for each person attending must accompany the reservation. Neither phone reservations nor payment at the door will be accepted. Reservations, including the member's name and phone number, the names of guests, and a check made out to 'PA Alumni Fund' should be sent to:

**Jim Reinhard**  
9012 Honeybee Lane  
Bethesda, MD 20817

The pre-luncheon reception hosted by the Air Force Association will be in the Maryland Suite at 11:30 AM. Lunch will follow at noon.



**SRA James H. Cunningham, III, received the first 'Best of the Best' Award (right) from Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association President Mike McRaney at the World Wide Public Affairs Conference in March. Air Force Secretary Sheila E. Widnall conferred other honors on Cunningham. The Association has funded the award for ten years. The permanent trophy is displayed by SAF/PA in the Pentagon.**

The Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association has established an award program with SAF/PA. President Mike McRaney presented the first 'Best of the Best' Award and a 1-year Association membership in March to Senior Airman James H. Cunningham, III at SAF/PA's World Wide Public Affairs Conference.

The 'Best of the Best' Award, designed by John Terino and crafted by the Corning Glass Works, will be presented to the Air Force's outstanding Public Affairs professional selected by SAF/PA each year.

"Jim Cunningham was the clear winner," McRaney said.

Airman Cunningham's broadcasting work with the Air Force News Agency (AFNEWS) earned him the award. His story on the return of the remains of Vietnam War dead merited a Gold Plaque as the best video news release at the International Communication Film and Video Festival, and his work on the Air Force Television Network production team helped garner a Gold Screen Award from the National Association of Government Communicators.

Cunningham has been selected to attend Officer Training School.

## Air Force Association Grants \$1,000 To Oral History Program

The Air Force Association's Aerospace Education Foundation has made a \$1,000 grant to help further the Oral History Program. An additional \$50 tax-deductible donation from a member who wishes to be anonymous has also been received.

Phillip E. Lacombe, managing director of the Aerospace Education Foundation, said in his letter

transmitting the grant that the oral histories "should be of great use to Air Force students, scholars, and historians."

Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association Oral History Program Chairman John Gura said, "These are a real help. We want to make the program self-sustaining through grants and individual tax-deductible donations."

## Inside

Oral Histories available  
— pg 2

Meeting crowd global  
— pg 4

McConnell at the bat  
— pg 4

Meeting minutes; 1994 scorecard  
— pg 5

SAF/PA sends us the news  
— pg 8

# Oral Histories Available To Members & Public For Tax-Deductible Donations To Help Program

The words of Public Affairs professionals who were there and intimately involved in some of the most significant events in American history since 1940 are now available to members of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association and the general public.

The Association's Oral History Program has 19 interviews on tape. Eight of them have been fully transcribed. The remainder are in various stages of completion and will be ready shortly.

With the presentation of the first interviews to the Air Force Academy Library June 16, the project is well on its way to making these first-hand views of events available to scholars, authors, and future generations of Public Affairs professionals.

## *How did Barney Oldfield handle the Russians in Berlin?*

The transcripts are being placed at selected military institutions, professional societies, and civilian universities. The first transcripts were turned over to the Air Force Academy Library during the Annual Meeting in June.

## *How did Dick Abel work the 1st POW flight into Hanoi?*

But as word spread of the effort, members of our Association said they would like to be able to get copies

for their personal reading and libraries and for gifts to friends and family.

The matter was placed before the Association's Board of Directors. Initially,

## *What was Chief Reed Switzer's connection to Ernie Pyle?*

the thought was to sell the transcripts. But determining a single, universal price for the transcript that would cover the costs involved in acquiring, transcribing, laying out, printing, binding, and shipping was virtually impossible.

Taking a page from Public Broadcasting's book, the Board decided that rather than sell the transcripts they

would be offered as incentives for donations to the Association that would be used to help fund the Oral History Program.

Association members will be able to obtain transcripts for a tax-deductible donation of \$25 each or they can get five transcripts of their choice for a \$100 donation.

Non-members of the Association can order transcripts for tax-deductible donations of \$35 per transcript.

A full list of the persons who have been interviewed is on the order form below. Orders for transcripts that have not yet been completed, as well as orders for multiple transcripts that include not completed transcripts, will be filled at the time of completion.

## ***Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association Oral History Program Transcript Order***

Please send me the oral histories indicated below - payment may be by check or money order payable to AFPAAA

### Completed Transcripts

- \_\_\_ Brig. General Dick Abel  
\_\_\_ Colonel Aubrey Cookman  
\_\_\_ Colonel Bill Helmantoler  
\_\_\_ Lt. Colonel Maston Jacks  
\_\_\_ Colonel Bill McGinty  
\_\_\_ Brig. General Mike McRaney  
\_\_\_ Colonel Barney Oldfield  
\_\_\_ Lt. Colonel George Weiss

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

### Transcripts In-Work

- \_\_\_ Lt. Colonel Gil Billings  
\_\_\_ Lt. General Maurice Casey  
\_\_\_ Lt. Colonel John Dillon  
\_\_\_ Colonel Robert Hermann  
\_\_\_ Maj. General H. L. Hogan  
\_\_\_ Colonel Jack Rose  
\_\_\_ Brig. General Ed Robertson  
\_\_\_ Lt. Colonel Ben Scarpero  
\_\_\_ Brig. General Robert Scott  
\_\_\_ CMSgt. Reed Switzer  
\_\_\_ Lt. Colonel Denny Weddle

I am an Association member; enclosed is my tax-deductible donation for \_\_\_ transcripts at \$25 each; total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I am an Association member and have selected 5 transcripts; enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of \$100

I am not an Association member; enclosed is my tax-deductible donation for \_\_\_ transcripts at \$35 each; total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that if I am ordering a transcript that has not been completed, my order, including other transcripts, will not be shipped until the incomplete transcript is ready.

**Mail to: AFPAAA - Transcripts  
P. O. Box 540  
Fairfax, VA 22030-0540**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## From The Chairman's Pen

*Well, it happened again!*

*The Association hosted its second successful Annual Meeting in Colorado Springs with record attendance. Many thanks to Colonel Joe Purka, Director of Public Affairs at the Air Force Academy, and Jim Moore who served as on-site cochairmen for the event, and their respective staff and volunteer helpers. Comments from participants have been overwhelmingly positive and complimentary for the program, tours, briefings (with one exception), and the usual fun. From Seattle to Washington, D.C., from Florida to Minnesota, members came and enjoyed themselves, swapping Air Force stories of the past and present. Great food, drink, and special thanks to member Jim Hart for all his efforts.*

*Already, next year's meeting planning is well under way and to get a head start all members should mark their calendars for Hampton, Virginia, July 11-14, 1996. Dave Smith, our new board member and next year's on-site meeting chairman, has already surveyed and scheduled a beautiful site - The Radisson Hotel, right on the water. Make plans to attend!*

*One of the important elements of this year's meeting was the adoption of a strategic plan so carefully developed by Dave Schillerstrom, Bob Hunter, and many others. Their work provided the Association an excellent road map for planning and executing our activities. Many projects and activities were proposed and a spirited discussion followed about what choices the Board should make. It was decided to conduct a member survey to better determine the right direction. That survey will be sent to you soon and we need every member's input for solid feedback. We are particularly interested in knowing who is willing to work on various projects as that is an essential element of success. Look for it, fill it out, and get it back to us quickly.*

*So much has been accomplished already - organization into a tax-exempt, nonprofit group; publishing a quarterly newsletter and annual membership directory; issuing a distinctive membership certificate; two successful annual meetings; membership over 500; recruiting efforts; an investment program for the organization; funding of the top Air Force Public Affairs performance award; cosponsoring the SAF/PA alumni luncheon and sponsoring an expanding oral history program. From this healthy start we need to carefully plot a future that clearly meets the needs of our members.*

*Many have provided important suggestions, ranging*

## Lord Guard and Guide . .

**William J. McGinty**

Born in Trenton, Ontario, Canada; grew up in Pennsylvania; trained as a fighter pilot by the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1941; Mac survived and returned to flying after a crash in a Spitfire in which he sustained spinal injuries that kept him bedridden and in therapy for a year.

He transferred to the Army Air Forces in 1942; was credited with three and a half German aircraft shot down during 85 missions; and was a P-51 squadron commander in World War II.

Captain McGinty, at the age of twenty-six in 1945, had achieved what most people would consider a legendary life-time. But, there was a lot more to come.

Mac entered Public Affairs in 1948 as an Information Officer at Headquarters Air University, Maxwell AFB, Alabama. He was Deputy and Acting Director of Information for Far East Air Forces, Tokyo, during the Korean War years of 1950-1952.

During his career he was instrumental in putting the Air Force's intercontinental ballistic missile and space programs before the American people.

McGinty battled the public affairs bureaucracies and biases of the Department of Defense and the Military Assistance Command - Vietnam (MACV) in 1965-66 to bring the Air Force's story to the American people.

Mac's Public Affairs expertise was recognized in 1966 when the Aviation and Space Writers Association presented him the Orville Wright Award. He retired as a colonel in 1967 and was Director of Public Affairs for The Boeing Company in Washington, DC. until 1985.

Pursuing the concern for family, friends, and people in general that he had known throughout his life, Bill McGinty was an active member of the Gideons International. He died of a heart attack at his home in Alexandria, Virginia, on May 31.

*from new recruiting schemes to fund-raising, and we are grateful for their suggestions. We need those inputs to preserve our future and secure our financial position. Our newest board members, Jim Hart, Kathy McCollom, and Dave Smith have already begun active participation and we are pleased to have their talents and ideas working for the Association.*

*Keep on looking for new members, consider gift memberships, and send us your comments, ideas, criticisms, and accolades. We accept all of them.*

*- Mike McRaney*

# Colorado Springs Meeting Draws 138 From Pacific, Alaska, Europe, & CONUS

Shirley Cavanaugh and Lou Torraca caught a wave from Hawaii, Bill Mack kayaked from Alaska, and Rudy Schmelz en route to Boston for hip surgery dog-legged in from Austria to bring the attendance to 138 members, spouses, and guests at the Association's Second Annual Membership Meeting in Colorado Springs, June 15-18.

From registration on Thursday afternoon until the last farewell on Sunday, it was a rousing success.

Highlights of the registration and ice-breaker included the arrivals of the much asked for Dinny

Dinsmore and Reed Switzer, neither of whom had preregistered, and the 'capture' of the Marriott's cocktail lounge and lobby as the crowd swelled.

The 'What Did We Look Like Then' photo display kept drawing increasing attention as the contributions of Dave Shea, Pete Alexandrakos, Alice Price, Matt Lipartiti, John Meyer, and Art McConnell were posted for all to see.

Friday's tour at the Air Force Academy produced some interesting and hysterical - if not historical - happenings.

We managed to drive

the group photographer to the end of his wits with 'advice' on how to do it better. The result was about what you would expect from scores of hams mugging the camera.

In a case of apparent mistaken identity, six-footer Sam Lessey was stopped by a woman on the chapel steps who inquired if he was "with the Chinese group."

The Friday evening reception, dinner, and entertainment at the Fine Arts Center was the highlight of the meeting after we posed for 'prom' pictures as we entered.

Easily identified by the red, white, and blue star-spangled ribbons they wore, more than 20 members who served in World War II were honored, given mementos, and showered with the gratitude of all present for their contributions to preserving freedom.

Saturday's business meeting found a couple of wags bringing in a clown to make Mike McRaney feel at ease and Dave Schillerstrom delivering his strategic planning pitch with an accompaniment of chants and cheers from the Mary Kay chorus in the adjacent room.

## Mantle, Berra Have Nothing On Art McConnell; 78-Year-Old Player/Manager Senior Softball Whiz Seeks Championship Rings 5 And 6 This Fall

Remember the little guy at the meeting in Colorado Springs who strutted around like a bantam rooster and looked like he could lick anyone there with one hand tied behind his back?

He was Art McConnell. I knew Art when he commanded the Ranch Hands at Bien Hoa, Vietnam, and when he was the IO for the 26th Air Division at Luke AFB in the early 1970s. He was then what he is now, a competitor.

So, it comes as no surprise to learn that at 78 Art, a player-manager, has put together and honed to championship form an age 75-and-over softball team in San Juan Capistrano, California.

In March, as player-

manager of the Angels 75+ team - you'll find him on the field at either shortstop or second base - he guided the team to the championship of the John Marshall League in Anaheim.

But, for the highly competitive Art, that is only a start.

He has his Angeles 75+ team scheduled to compete in two national championship tournaments this year - Sept. 15-20 in

Overland Park, Kansas, and Oct. 1-5 in Palm Springs, California.

Championship play is nothing new for Art, he has been on

championship rings. If he adds two more rings this year, that will give him eight championship rings since 1989.

What are the Angels 75+ chances? Just check the team's record.

Since the Angels were organized in 1981 they have recorded a .721 winning percentage. And in that period they have won 25 trophies in Orange County California competition and two over-70 and two over-75 national titles.

Art puts it another way, "We're aiming for more world titles and more rings." Move over Mickey and Yogi, Art's on a roll.

- John Terino



**General** – The Second Annual Membership Meeting of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association was called to order at 9 AM on Saturday, June 17, 1995, at the Marriott Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colorado, by the Association's President and Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mike McRaney. A memento of the meeting was distributed to all in attendance.

Frank Jennings was summoned to the front of the lectern and the assemblage visited upon his ears a loud, if not exactly melodious, rendition of the birthday song for his 78th birthday.

Mike McRaney expressed the Association's appreciation to Jim Hart and Panhandle Eastern Corporation for the reception they sponsored prior to dinner at the Fine Arts Center the previous evening. He conveyed Jim's regrets at not being present due to an emergency involving his company.

Outgoing Board of Directors member Gene Sands, who was instrumental in getting the Association off the ground, was presented a plaque for his service on the Board (similar plaques were sent to Marv Braman, Ted Daniel, and John Gulick).

Mike also praised Dave Shea; Jim Moore and his volunteers – Barry Grossman, Ron Hinkle, Fred Muerer, George Titus, and Ed Robertson; and Air Force Academy Director of Public Affairs Joe Purka, and Judy Bruns of his office, for their work in making the meeting a success. John Terino was complimented for the World War II booklet distributed at the dinner.

**Quorum** – Secretary John Terino reported that the more than 75 full members attending the meeting met the quorum requirement and the meeting could proceed.

**Membership** – Membership Chairman Neil Buttimer could not be present. Pete Alexandrakos delivered his report. On June 13, 1995 the Association had 504 members – 110 Lifetime Founder; 1 Lifetime; 263 three-year; and 130 one-year. Of the 504 members, 387 held Full membership status; 18 were active duty Lifetime Founder or Lifetime members; and 99 were Associate members. Efforts to retain the 188 one-year members up for renewal at the end of 1994 were 85% successful, well beyond our projection of 60%. Factoring in the members lost in the past year, the Association grew by 155 members from the 378 on the rolls on June 7, 1994. Pete also noted the additions of Russ Tarvin, Mike Cox, and Peg Bowman since the meeting began, bringing the membership to 507.

Since last year's meeting, the Membership Committee had compiled and distributed two directories, one in September 1994 and the other in May of 1995. The latest edition marks an improvement from the first effort with the addition of e-mail addresses and printing on pre-punched three-hole paper for those members who wish to put it in a binder. He stressed that the Association will not distribute the directory to non-members, even if they are willing to pay for it. Consideration is being given to publishing a supplemental listing, that would include new members and updates, six months after directory publication.

Through the efforts of John Gulick, the cooperation of Keith Ferris and Jim Hart, the Association's distinctive membership certificate was developed and printed. Then, Alice Price found a calligrapher to personalize each certificate.

continued on page 6

## Association Delivers On Members' 1994 Meeting Motions

Motion - Explore co-sponsorship of annual SAF/PA-AFA Luncheon.



**Action - Done. Co-hosted in 1994; see page one for details on this year's luncheon.**

Motion - Investigate producing a PA history; identify resources for an oral history as the first phase.



**Action - Done. Sixteen oral histories completed and transcripts given to Air Force Academy Library; 15-20 more anticipated in next year.**

Motion - Discuss sponsoring awards for enlisted/officer/civilians with SAF/PA.



**Action - Done. 'Best of the Best' Award established and presented; see story on page one.**

Motion - Consider appointing regional coordinators.



**Action - Continuing; was reviewed in strategic planning effort. Will be looked at further after membership survey.**

Motion - Present statement of purpose and projects to the membership.



**Action - Continuing. See Strategic Planning portion of minutes on page seven.**



A recruiting brochure, designed by John Terino, was published. It has been effective in responding to requests for information about the Association and recruiting new members. The Association will be working on being more active in its recruiting efforts. Notices in *The Retired Officer*, *Air Force* magazine, and other publications have brought many inquiries, with 35-40 resulting from an article in the May edition of the *Afterburner*.

Mike McRaney pointed out that mass mailings were given careful consideration, but due to the cost the best means of recruiting new members is by personal contact.

Charlie Brown raised the question of membership eligibility for film and photographic personnel. Mike McRaney said that they, as well as other allied career fields, had been considered when the Association was established and a decision was made to limit membership to PA and broadcasting personnel.

Mike McRaney urged members to personally sign up or give gift memberships to people they know to bring them into the Association. Particular attention is needed to get recent retirees to ensure continuity. He challenged each member to recruit two new members by next year. Dave Shea passed out recruiting brochures.

**Finances** – Treasurer Pete Alexandrakos presented the financial report from June 1, 1994 through May 31, 1995, exclusive of the 1995 Annual Membership Meeting. The Association began the period with \$18,259.20. Income – sources included membership dues, investment interest, a donation to the Oral History Program and 1994 Annual Membership Meeting registration fees – amounted to \$31,744.90 (the largest source of income was the 62 new and upgraded Lifetime Founder and Lifetime Members). The Association incurred expenses of \$19,693.44 during the year, leaving it with a balance of funds of \$30,310.66.

The budget year runs from October 1 through September 30 to coincide with our accounting year for tax purposes. Our initial budget was very conservative and we had to revise projected income and expenses upward. We anticipate a surplus at the end of the budget year. Thanks to Jim Hart, we have avoided thousands of dollars in printing and postage expenses for the newsletter and members are encouraged to express their appreciation to Jim for this support. We have \$25,000 invested in three certificates of deposit.

We are in good financial shape right now, but our big challenge for next year is to generate enough income to cover expenses without touching our investments. Next year only one-year memberships are due for renewal. If all renew, that will only give us about \$3,000 of income. New memberships will add to that total. Our routine operating expenses are under \$1,000 per quarter, larger expenditures are considered by the Board as the situation dictates. It is clear that dues alone will not cover the Association's expenditures and to avoid using our reserves we are looking at other sources of income to support the Association's activities.

John Rose said that Air Force Association chapters provided a block on their renewal forms for donations in addition to dues and suggest that we do likewise. The Board will give that consideration.

**Election** – Chuck Lucas, with the aid of C. Gordon Furbish, was responsible for tabulating the ballots. One hundred fifty-one ballots were cast for the four two-year seats on the Association's Board of Directors. Jim Hart, Kathy McCollom, and Dave Smith were elected as new Board members, and Jim Reinhard won reelection.

**Oral History Program** – John Gura reported on the project that

originated from last year's annual meeting. He pointed out that until now, no one had taken the time to collect the lessons learned and the historical, and sometimes hysterical, experiences of Air Force Public Affairs people to benefit military and civilian students and practitioners of public affairs, as well as authors.

Since starting last year, the program has stayed within budget. Sixteen people have been interviewed, six more are scheduled to be interviewed by the end of the fiscal year (Sept. 30), and 15-20 more will be done next year. In addition to the Air Force Academy Library, which yesterday accepted the first group of completed interviews, the Defense Information School at Fort Meade, and the Air Force Historical Research Agency at Maxwell AFB will house the collection. Through the work of Jerry Dalton, the collection will be archived at the Public Relations Society of America Resource Library in New York City, Boston University, the University of Florida at Gainesville, Purdue University, San Diego State University, and the University of Texas at Austin.

Scotty Duncan asked if he could approach the Director of the University of Wisconsin School of Journalism about receiving the histories and was encouraged to do so. Sam Giammo suggested that we also place the collection at the University of Oklahoma.

Dave Smith suggested that the collection be made available on disks. John Terino raised the issue of keeping control of the work in the Association and the copyright problems that might arise. John Gura said that the disk issue would be investigated along with selling published interviews to help support the program. Fred Muerer raised the issue of preserving documents with the oral histories. That is being considered, but no direct action has yet been taken.

**Award Program** – Mike McRaney reported that an award program with SAF/PA had been established. The Association is sponsoring for ten years the 'Best of the Best' award to the top Air Force Public Affairs practitioner as selected annually by SAF/PA. The first award was presented in March.

**AFA Luncheon** – The Association, beginning last September, now co-sponsors with SAF/PA the annual luncheon at the AFA meeting. This provides an opportunity to gain associate members from the active duty force as well as retirees who have not yet joined.

**Smithsonian's Enola Gay Exhibit** – The Association joined other groups in insisting that any display accurately reflect the history of WW II in the Pacific. This resulted in the Enola Gay exhibit being revised and the head of the Air and Space Museum resigning.

**Regionalization** – Ben Scarpero suggested monthly regional activities as means to stimulate recruiting. The Board will consider if and how this should be done.

**Strategic Planning** – Dave Schillerstrom, who chaired the strategic planning effort, explained that when he chose his planning team, it was important that they be representative of the Association with enlisted, civilian, and officer; retired and active duty; and male and female members. The group that was formed addressed six major areas: purpose and goals; organization and leadership structure; programs and publications; relationships with other organizations; membership issues; and financial matters.

A draft and revisions were done between January and May. Major contributors were Don Brownlee, Neil Buttimer, Bob Hunter, Hugh Burns, Chuck Cooper, Art Dederick, June Forte, Mike

Gallagher, Marv Harris, Darrell Hayes, Don Hilkemeier, Frank Jennings, Vince Tocci, Peg Moffett, Bob Nicholson, John Ohlsen, Dave Smith, Mike Warden, Walt Werner, and Harry Zubkoff.

Mike McRaney thanked Dave and the people who helped him for their efforts and passed out a summary of the draft strategic plan and the issues it raised. He also discussed the Board's review of the strategic planning effort in terms of where the Association has been, what was recommended, and where it should go.

He pointed out that the Association had accomplished much in its first 18 months: it was legally established, obtained more than 500 members, provided two membership directories and a distinctive membership certificate, held two elections, established the Oral History Program, co-sponsored the SAF/PA-AFA luncheon, conducted two annual meetings, established the 'Best of the Best' Award, and began an investment program to secure the financial base of the Association for the future.

He said the Board reviewed the Strategic Planning Committee recommendations on: membership recruiting and retention goals; finances; fund raising strategies and the dues structure; member benefits and services, including local/regional activities; honoring deceased and ill members; interactive electronic forums; a job bank; professional development programs; transition assistance for those leaving the Air Force; a lifetime achievement award; a mentor/advisor program with the active duty force; and projects, such as an archival collection of Air Force Public Affairs related artifacts and documents; a mechanism for regular interface with national military organizations, professional associations, and universities; and a capability to communicate to publics beyond AFPAAA using news releases, speakers, seminars, and workshops. That review raised three key questions for the Board:

1. What will these proposals cost and where will the money come from to support them?
2. Who will do the work to ensure the proposals succeed?
3. What does the membership want the Association to be in the future and how do we find that out?

In a unanimous vote, the Board decided that the proper way to address those questions was through a membership survey to determine what activities the Association should undertake and the willingness of the membership to pay higher dues, make tax deductible donations, and volunteer to lead or work on activities. The survey will be developed and provided to the members later this year.

McRaney pointed out that money and time, as well as the members wishes, are the real drivers. Members of the Board and committee chairmen are spending a lot of time making current activities and projects a reality. If we are going to do some of the things that were suggested, volunteers to do the work and a willingness to provide additional financial support are needed.

Russ Tarvin asked about an accreditation relationship with PRSA. That will be considered. Right now we encourage accreditation but would need substantial financial and personnel resources to establish our own program.

Wally Miller asked about e-mail addresses in our directory. They are included if the members submitted them. A quick survey of the members present indicated that about 50% could receive electronic mail.

Ben Scarpero volunteered to make available SAF/OI & SAF/PA rosters dating back to the 1950s for use in identifying potential new members.

Dick Rapp asked about the electronic AF Home Page and if we could get its number. We will do so and put it in the newsletter.

Don Brownlee asked if we could become part of the AF Home Page in ways such as having our newsletter included. There might be legal obstacles to including AFPAAA and, even if it could be done, somebody would have to work it in Washington. Brownlee volunteered to take on the task of finding out what relationship could be established. Mike Terrill volunteered to determine how an independent AFPAAA Home Page could be established and what would be needed to sustain it.

Charlie Brown volunteered to work on putting a transition package together for those leaving the service. Mike McRaney said that the board needed to define what it wanted to do in that area but would count on Charlie to work it once a course had been determined.

Bob Hunter warned about the membership being 'lulled' to sleep by the in-kind services the Association receives and the impact if those services had to be paid for. Mike McRaney and Alice Price pointed out the membership certificates would have cost approximately \$10,000; John Terino said that printing and mailing costs of the newsletter would run about \$7,000 per year and that the writing, editing, design, and layout would run another \$10,000-\$12,000 per year – without the donated efforts, the newsletter alone could eliminate 80% of the Association's cash reserves in just a year.

Mike Terrill suggested we consider corporate sponsorships. He also suggested that members be reminded at the end of the year when they are doing their last minute tax planning that tax deductible donations can be made. McRaney said that corporate sponsorship was being explored and that the donation reminder was a good idea.

Sam Lessey pointed out that the Aviation and Space Writers Association was a case study in how an organization collapsed financially. McRaney said the Board was aware of that and was looking closely at how that happened.

McRaney urged the members to take the surveys seriously when they get them and provide meaningful feedback.

Pete Alexandrakos asked for more volunteer 'worker bee' support, particularly from the 'retired-retired community' because we could use it.

**Annual Meeting** – Mike McRaney announced that the Association's 1996 meeting would be in Hampton, Virginia, with Dave Smith as the on-site chairman, and that Colonel Ron Rand had agreed to host us at Air Combat Command Headquarters at Langley AFB. Dates for the meeting would be established in 60 days and published in the newsletter. He added that the Association had deliberately stayed away from the East Coast for the first two meetings to reflect the national scope of the Association and to aid recruiting.

Scotty Duncan asked about how he could bid to host a future meeting in either Santa Fe or Taos, New Mexico. Mike said that bids for future sites would be accepted two years in advance and all that had to be done was to submit a proposal by mail or fax to him.

Dave Shea pointed out that for the '97 meeting the plan is to tie into the Air Force Association's Gathering of Eagles in Las Vegas.

Mike McRaney called for other items of business. There were none.

**Adjournment** - Bill Anderson stated that those who had put on the meeting had done 'one hell of a job' and moved that the meeting be adjourned; there were numerous seconds and the motion passed unanimously.

*John G. Terino*  
*Secretary*

## Thanks SAF/PA & AFNEWS For Airman, Policy Letter, AF Link

A big 'thanks and well done' to SAF/PA Director Brigadier General Ron Sconyers and AFNEWS Director of Air Force Internal Information Kim McDonald who sure know how to get things done quickly.

At the annual meeting in Colorado Springs, Sconyers observed during his luncheon remarks that Association members were a vital part of the Air Force's Public Affairs communication team.

He said we needed current information on what was happening in the Air Force so we could tell the Air Force story in our communities.

To get that information into our hands and in response to the Association's request, he directed distribution of *Airman* magazine and the

*Policy Letter Digest*, as well as instructions on how to access the electronic *Air Force Link* on the World Wide Web.

Almost as soon as we got home, the first *Airman* and *Policy Letter Digest* had arrived. Any Association members who have not received copies of the publications should let us know.

For those of us who have Internet connectivity via our computers, modems, and services such as America Online, CompuServe, and Prodigy, the latest Air Force news, biographies, fact sheets, sounds from Air Force bands, and photos of operations can be accessed via *Air Force Link* on the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.dtic.dla.mil/airforcelink>

## Hampton Annual Membership Meeting Site July 11-14, 1996

Hampton, Virginia, the home of Air Combat Command (ACC) Headquarters - it used to be called TAC - has been chosen as the site of the 1996 Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association Annual Membership Meeting.

On-site Chairman Dave Smith has reserved the Radisson Hotel and the program is already being put together with ACC. Touring

the NASA Langley Center and visiting the new air and space museum, which is just a short walk from the hotel, are also being considered.

The Radisson Hotel is convenient to the waterfront, tennis and golf courses, and shopping.

Mark your calendar and watch for more information as arrangements are completed.

## Air Force Memorial Site Ok'ed

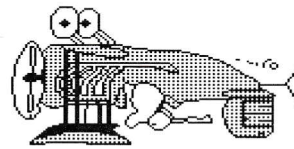
The National Capital Planning Commission has approved building the Air Force Memorial adjacent to Arlington Cemetery between the Iwo Jima Memorial and the Netherlands Carillon.

The site of America's first military flight is nearby at Ft. Myer, Virginia.

Air Force Memorial Foundation Chairman, Joe

Coors, Jr. "... anticipates a design concept to be completed by late summer." He said that a ceremony is planned on the site in September 1997 to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Air Force.

Information about the memorial can be obtained by calling the Foundation at (703) 247-5800.



## Prop Wash & Jet Blast



### Who's Got The News? Youse Dooze . . .

*This minor journalistic effort is for you, the members. While the staff has considerable creative skills, the object of the exercise is to communicate between the members; not just what is going on in the Association and other items of general interest, but things like holes-in-one, who got promoted, who was honored, who was accredited, who changed jobs, who has left us - you know, 'people news' . . . So, drop a line, send a fax, or just call when you have an item of interest.*

### Welcome Aboard To New Members . . .

Jon Allen	Michael Kelly
Lew Allison	Nori La Rue
Sonja Beaudoin	Lawrence Lanwehr
Almarah Belk	Linda Leong
Temple Black	Frank Loterzo
Lindsey Borg	Henry Marquez
Peg Bowman	Elizabeth Mauger
Joseph Carter	Broun Mayall
Fred Coleman	Jack McAfee
Mike Cox	Jim McDonnell
Annette Crawford	Bob Morris
Gordon Cruickshanks	Paul Muehring
Jim Cunningham	Joe Panvini
'Lucky' Cuoco	Garian Perugini
Connie Custer	Gwyn Pooch
Bobby D'Angelo	Eddie Riley
Sally Davidson	Charles Rockhill
Daniel Davis	John Schlimmer
Michael De Stephanis	Rudy Schmelz
Nancy Dunkin	Stu Shadbolt
Lisa Ehrler	Edwin Sowa
Leslie Frazee	David Sutherlin
Mark Gilman	Russ Tarvin
Ron Hinkle	Anne Toulouse
Lee Hogan	Fran Tunstall
Christopher Hoppin	'Red' Viguerie
Jack Jamison	Charles Wynne
Octavio 'Jack' Jordan	Irv Ziff

. . . and special recognition to Katie Cutler, who upgraded her membership and is the first Lifetime Member of the Association.

### PRSA Silver Anvils Fell On . . .

Jim Hart and his staff at Panhandle Eastern for crisis communications involving an apartment complex and a gas line break, and for investor communications.

### Promoted, Pinned & Movin' On . . .

Jim Moore vice president and credit card manager at the Air Academy National Bank . . . Larry Greer working with the Defense POW/MIA Office . . . Mike Perini certified by the International Association of Business Communicators . . . Denny Schulstad, mobilization assistant to the DCS Plans and Programs at ACC Hq, promoted to Brigadier General in the Air Force Reserve . . . Ron Sconyers lookin' good with his B.G. stars on . . . Woody Hogle with his Major General selection going to Plans at AMC Hq.