



Fund donors

Joe Purka, Virginia Priblya, Bonnie O'Leary, Paul Cole and Ted Daniel hold clocks which were presented to them at the annual reunion/meeting in April. They were recognized by AFPAAA for making generous contributions towards the Fund's goal of \$300,000. The Endowment Fund has received donations and pledges totalling more than \$117,000.



Members veto name change; elect four to board

The membership overwhelmingly decided to keep the name Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association during elections conducted in June.

Membership interest in this issue resulted in a record 71 percent of the ballots mailed being returned and counted. Some 62 percent of the membership opposed the name change, while 38 percent were in favor of the proposal.

"The suggested name change

elicited strong feelings on both sides," said Joe Purka, who becomes AFPAAA President July 1. "Now that the members have spoken, it's time to put the question behind us and work together on other issues of importance to the Association."

Voters also selected four people to step up into leadership positions in the AFPAAA.

Al Eakle, Rick Fuller, Mike Gannon and Dave Smith were elected to the Association's Board of Direc-

tors. They move into these positions July 1.

Also on that date, John Gura becomes Chairman of the Board and Smith becomes Vice President.

The new officers join board members Larry Greer, Jim McGuire and Joe Wojtecki. Greer and McGuire are filling the second year of their term on the Board. Wojtecki is filling the remaining term of John Terino, who resigned.



"Best of the Best" award

The annual "Best of the Best Award" was presented May 17 to Capt. John Haynes by Gen. Michael Ryan, Air Force chief of staff. On hand to witness the Pentagon ceremony was Jim McGuire, Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association board member, and Brig. Gen. Ron Rand, Air Force director of public affairs. AFPAAA sponsors the annual award recognizing the outstanding officer, civilian or enlisted person from among all bandsmen, broadcasters and public affairs people. Haynes is chief of public affairs for the 39th Wing at Incirlik AB, Turkey. Photo by TSgt James E. Varhegyi, USAF

Greener given choice of information or commissary

Links

by **Chuck Lucas**
EDITOR'S

NOTE: This column is a feature on stories from the Association's Oral History program.

"Would you rather be the commissary officer or the information officer?"

That was the offer made to Capt. William I. Greener at Mather AFB, Calif., in 1958.

It was really a no-brainer and the experience Greener was to gain over the next 12 years as an Air Force spokesman opened the door for additional careers as a senior government public affairs officer and as a senior executive in private industry.

Greener was a B-24 navigator in the 8th Air Force during World War II, flying 35 missions over Germany.

Transferred to reserve status after the war, he picked up a Business Administration degree from the University of Missouri and got married to the former Charlene McPheeters of Kansas City, Mo.

The outbreak of the Korean War found him back on active duty as a navigator instructor in Texas, Puerto Rico and then at Mather.

He moved on to Air Training Command, 7th Air Force in Vietnam and two tours with the Secretary of Air Force Office of Information before retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1970.

"Actually the major reason I decided to get out



Association President John Gura (left), Bill Greener (center) and Secretary of Defense Don Rumsfeld (right) pose for the obligatory "grip and grin." A highlight of the annual meeting occurred on Friday when Rumsfeld helped the Association by presenting Greener, his one-time ASD/PA an AFPAAA Presidents' Award.

was that I was very unhappy with the way the Air Force treated the Public Affairs career field," said Greener. "I never thought they took it seriously enough."

While others may have shared this assessment, Greener soon found himself in a position to do something about it.

As Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, he initiated a study in each service on the chances of being promoted to colonel in public affairs.

"In the Air Force, there was 40 percent less chance of making O6 than in the other career fields," Greener said. "I took that to (Gen. David C.) Jones, then Air Force Chief of Staff. That was the year that we made 15 full colonels,

for which Jones gave credit to the study."

Greener didn't leave SAF/OI one day and move to OSD the next day.

For more than seven years he was assistant to the IRS Commissioner for Public Affairs; assistant director of the Cost of Living Council for Public and Congressional Affairs; assistant to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for Public Affairs; associate director for Public Affairs, Office of Management and Budget; and deputy White House Press Secretary for President Ford before taking the OSD job.

In his familiar inimitable style, Greener's anecdotalism includes such familiar names as Baker, Brady, Cheney, Connelly,

Kissinger, Laird, Nessen, Nixon, Packard, Rumsfeld, Schultz and Zigler.

One that stands a bit taller than the others is Don Rumsfeld. He was Greener's boss at the Cost of Living Council, OMB and as Secretary of Defense, and for seven years as vice president for Corporate Relations at G.D. Searle & Co., a worldwide pharmaceutical firm.

Rumsfeld's return to the Pentagon this year as Secretary of Defense prompted some to wonder aloud if Greener could be far behind.

"Don's a tough cookie," said Greener. "He's the kind of guy who puts his hand on your chest, not literally, but figuratively, and pushes. If you kept backing away from him he would walk right over the top of you. But if you pushed back, he admired you and it was okay."

While openly disappointed in what he believes were inabilities to make stronger strides on active duty, Greener's Air Force ties are quite evident.

Lunch with a former SAF/OI colleague after his retirement provided the first step to the upper echelons of government. Maury Fiebusch was interested in Greener's plans.

"By the time I got back to my office, Maury had arranged an interview with the Assistant Secretary of Treasury," he said "The next stop was IRS, then Cost of Living Council and the rest is history.

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Gura thanks Association for a great year

From the President's Pen

Joe Purka assumes the president's duties and I get kicked upstairs on July 1st .

That's significant because it means, for the first time since our organization began, neither Mike McRaney nor Jim Hart will have an 'official' capacity. Mike and Jim have had, without question, the most to do with our success.

So, it's a bittersweet moment.

I'd be remiss if I didn't also thank retiring board members Kathy McCollum and Sally Davidson for their unselfish service to the association.

While we will continue to count on the counsel and support of Mike, Jim, Kathy and Sally, others are moving up to take over the reins of leadership.

That's good. That's the sign of a solid, vibrant organization.

I welcome our new board members- Al Eakle, Rick Fuller and Mike Gannon- and look forward to

their active participation in the continued success of the Association. There is a lot to do. Recruiting, endowment growth, the PA memorial, membership changes, future of the Oral History program, annual meeting plans and continued support of the active force are just a few of the issues the board must address in the coming months.

We promise to keep you informed on these and other Association activities on our website and via the quarterly newsletter.

Speaking of which, our new Newsletter Editor is Al Eakle - this is his first issue - and Joe Wojtecki now chairs the Communications Committee. I appreciate the willingness of both to get involved and work for the association.

By the way, no one worked harder for the association in the days leading up to our annual reunion than meeting chairman Jim McGuire and his local committee. Their hard work paid off in a super meeting with easily the best array of speakers, presentations and tours yet.

You can read about the high-

lights elsewhere in this issue.

However, I want to reiterate my personal congratulations to Pete Alexandrakos, the very deserving recipient of the Mike McRaney Distinguished Service Award.

And, I'm happy to again applaud our Presidents' Award winners, Bill Greener, John Correll and Frank Jennings for being Public Affairs Pioneers.

The continued growth of our Endowment Fund is especially good news.

Most recently we received Gold Level donations from BGen Ron Rand and Bob "Nick" Nicholson. Thank you both for helping insure our future.

Finally, this is my last President's Letter

It's been a quick year. We've taken a few steps forward. We've raised our visibility and increased our support of the active force. We're strong, solvent and building toward the future.

I'm proud to have served as your President.

John Gura
President

"You have to have total access to the boss," says Greener

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"All of our careers, most of us sat around as captains or majors in a room full of colonels, said Greener. "When we got to be a lieutenant colonel or colonel, we sat with generals. We never sit co-equal at the table, which was one of my big deals when I was ASD. I wanted them to set co-equal at the table... you have to say I am equal to all of these people.

"Stand up and do what you're supposed to do- give advice. One of my biggest disappointments is that people who get to be vice presidents of communications for major corporations can stay there as long as they like by doing nothing. The only way they can get in trouble is by doing

something. Therefore, they do nothing."

Greener also feels strongly in being close to the boss "You have to have total access."

When asked how you get the prestige of a job, Greener said, "Solve a problem for your boss and you'll have all the prestige you want. As for 'off-the-record statements', I think you can forget it. I just don't think there is any off-the record."

Gen. William McKee read one of Greener's ASD briefings and told him he would have given anything to have had that type of information, support and ability when he was the Vice Chief of Staff.

"I told him, general, you could have had it, you just wouldn't let Captain Greener in your office."

"I think there's too little time spent training senior commanders from outside of the career field in our career field, said Greener. "It's the same thing in industry. I don't think anyone should graduate with an MBA without having to take public relations. I don't think anybody should get a masters in public relations without having to take some business either. It's a two-way street.

"I remember saying to a group of new general officers. For those of you who are on a terminal assignment, you don't need to stay and listen to this. Those of you who hope to get another promotion might want to know what to do with the media. No one left."

The Greeners live in Wilmington, N.C.



The Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association newsletter is published quarterly for members of the Association. Online subscriptions are available at www.afpaaa.org

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: Individuals who have ever serve, or are currently serving, in Air Force Public Affairs, an Air Force Band, or as an Air Force Broadcaster, military or civilian, on active duty, or in the Guard or Reserve.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES: Full members- former Air Force Public Affairs, Broadcasters, or Bandsmen, military or civilian, retired or separated. Associate members- current or former Air Force Public Affairs, Broadcasters, or Bandsmen, military or civilian, still in service. Adjunct members- spouses, widows or widowers of those eligible to be Full or Associate members. Affiliate members- a limited number of persons not eligible for membership under any of the above categories may become a member upon favorable recommendation by the Membership Committee and approval by the Board of Directors (U.S. Citizens only).

CHANGING CATEGORIES: Members may change categories at any time as circumstances permit. They must notify the Membership Committee of their new status.

MEMBERSHIP RATES: \$300 for life membership (payable in four monthly \$75 installments). \$25 for one-year membership (full, adjunct and affiliate). \$50 for three-year membership (full, adjunct and affiliate). \$10 for one-year membership (associate). \$20 for three-year membership (associate).

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS: Available at www.afpaaa.org
Completed forms and check or money order should be sent to: **Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association, P.O. Box 540, Fairfax, VA 22030-0540.**
Chairman of the Board
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Joe Purka
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Board of Directors
Sally Davidson, Larry Greer, Kathy McCollom, Jim McGuire, Joe Wojtecki

AFPAAA to honor PA's killed in line of duty

The AFPAAA will sponsor a memorial to public affairs people killed in the line of duty.

The memorial will pay tribute to those men and women who have died while on an official public affairs assignment whether by hostile fire or in a duty-related incident/accident.

It will also reinforce the role of the PA career field and to acknowledge the vital, and sometimes hazardous duties PA's perform in support of the USAF's warfighting capability

Plans are to locate the memorial in the Air Force section of the Pentagon.

The PA Memorial project was developed by a committee appointed by the AFPAAA board in December 2000. Committee members were Ed, Johnson, chair; John Gura; and Larry Greer.

The text of Johnson's report presented at the annual membership meeting follows:

Background: The USAF Public Affairs Memorial is to be sponsored by the Association as a tribute to those men and women who have died while on an official public affairs assignment whether by hostile fire or in a duty-related incident/accident.

The memorial pays homage to all Air Force active duty, reserve and guard PA's, broadcasters and bandsmen - military and civilian - who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Purpose: To reinforce the importance of the role of the PA career field and to acknowledge the vital, sometimes hazardous duties, PA's perform in support of the USAF's war fighting capability.

The Memorial: (TBD) An alcove within the Air Force area of the Pentagon that includes an engraved plaque containing words of dedication and a suitable graphic. Arrayed around the basic plaque will be engraved name plates listing the name, rank, date and location of death of each

individual.

Selection Committee: The process of selecting or nominating individuals to be included on the memorial will occur in two stages:

- Initial Nominations - A five-person Initial Selection Committee will review and select the first names to be included on the memorial from a list provided by the AFPAAA.

The Initial Selection committee will be co-chaired by a member appointed by the Association's President and a military officer appointed by the Director of Public Affairs.

Of the remaining three members, two will be appointed by the Association's President and one by the USAF Director of Public Affairs.

Committee members may be retired or of any rank and will include an active duty military representative, a representative from the guard or reserve and a retired member of the Association.

The committee will base its selections on the Criteria for Selection.

- Regular Nominations - Following the initial selection process, a three-person Memorial Selection Committee will review nominations as received.

This committee will be chaired by a military officer appointed by the Director of Public Affairs and will include two other members appointed by the AFPAAA President.

The committee will base its selections on the approved Criteria for Selection.

Nomination Procedures: Initial nominations will be requested from the Association's membership.

Nominations should be sent to the Association P.O. Box, Attn: Memorial Committee.

Each nomination should include, at minimum, the nominee's name, rank and service number, a detailed description of the circumstances, an explanation of why the individual is being nominated and

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AFPAAA to honor PA's killed in line of duty

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PA Memorial

complete contact information (name, address & phone number) of the person making the nomination.

The nomination package may include news clippings, personal statements from others as well as any other material relevant to the selection committee including and official records.

After the "Initial" selection process, nominations may be offered by any person with knowledge of the nominee's qualifications.

Criteria for Selection: To be memorialized on the USAF PA Memorial, nominees and circumstances must meet the following criteria:

- The nominee must have been serving honorably on active, guard or reserve duty in the USAF in a public affairs, broadcast or band position - military or civilian - when they died.
- The circumstances of death must be related to the performance of official duties and, in most instances, should have occurred as a direct result of the performance of those duties.
- The beginning date for consideration is September 18, 1947.
- There will be no restriction on age, rank, gender, ethnicity or religious affiliation attached to the nomination and/or selection process.
- Finally, the selection committee will be as inclusive as possible within a reasonable interpretation of the selection criteria.

The Selection Process: The selection committee will review nominations for inclusion in the USAF PA Memorial at least once each year, such review to occur at least four months prior to the association's annual meeting. The committee will:

- Review nomination packages without prejudice for completeness and request any additional information from the nominator or USAF as required.
- Request a summary of the nominee's official military record from AF/DP through the SAF/PA representative.
- Review the nomination package and official military records and make a recommendation based on the Criteria for Selection. (VI. above)
- Selection Committee recommendations must be unanimous.
- If a nominee is NOT selected, a letter from the Selection Committee Chairman will be sent to the nominator explaining the reason(s) for non-selection.
- If a nominee is selected, the selection committee will confirm that the next of kin agrees to the nomination. If they do not, the nominee will be removed from consideration.

- The Selection Committee's list of recommendations will be presented to the Association's Board of Directors for final approval. Such approval will be by simple majority vote. The Board can not add or delete nominees outside of the normal nomination process.
- Once a nominee has received board approval, a letter from the Association's President announcing same will be sent to the nominator and the next of kin.
- The names of individuals to be added to the USAF PA Memorial will be announced during a suitable ceremony at the Association's annual meeting along with an explanation of the circumstances.
- An engraved plaque containing the nominee's name, rank, date of death and (geographic) location will be added to the memorial as soon as possible.

Presidents' Award

The Presidents' Awards are to honor outstanding Public Affairs leadership. They are conferred by the current and past Presidents of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association from nominations made by the sitting President. Each honoree must receive unanimous approval from all former Presidents. The list of selectees is then presented to the Board of Directors for confirmation.

Awards presented at this year's annual membership meeting/reunion went to:

William I. Greener

Whereas, he was the first former USAF PA to serve as an Assistant Secretary of Defense, Whereas, his dynamic leadership and example strengthened the role of military public affairs, Whereas, he has distinguished himself in both public and private public affairs positions, Therefore, in recognition of his accomplishments we declare William I. Greener to be a Public Affairs Pioneer.

John T. Correll

Whereas, his editorials for Air Force Magazine persuasively champion aerospace power, Whereas, he annually drafts the Air Force Association's influential statement of policy, Whereas, he has distinguished himself in the field of magazine journalism, Therefore, in recognition of his accomplishments we declare John T. Correll to be a Public Affairs Pioneer.

Frank W. Jennings

Whereas, he coined the term 'aerospace' to define the Air Force's operating environment, Whereas, for decades his editing of the Blue Letter helped commanders speak with a single voice, Whereas, he has distinguished himself as a writer, editor, historian and author, Therefore, in recognition of his many accomplishments we declare Frank W. Jennings to be a Public Affairs Pioneer.



Attendees at the annual meeting/reunion stand near the Pentagon for a group picture prior to briefings by senior Air Force leaders.

**Air Force Public Affairs
Alumni Association
Annual Membership
Meeting
Saturday, April 21, 2001
Alexandria, Virginia**

Minutes

• **Call to Order:**

The Eighth Annual Membership Meeting of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association was called to order at 2 p.m., Saturday, April 21, 2001 at the Hilton Hotel in Old Town

Alexandria, Virginia, by John Gura, President

• **Quorum:** In response to the President's request, David Smith, secretary, reported that 75 full members were in attendance, thus fulfilling the quorum requirement of 10 percent of the total of full members of the association.

• **Remembrances:** John Gura asked all members to pause and remember members of the Public Affairs, Broadcasting and Band communities who have passed away.

David Smith read the list, including John Caulfield, *Frank Maxwell, Florence S. Michael, *Joseph Murphy, *Rudolf J. Schmelz, David Stiles, Reade Tilley and Fran Tunstall. (*association member).

Others remembered were Topsy Taylor from the Air Force Chief

of Staff's front office and a second notation of the passing of former SecAF Eugene Zuckert.

Also mentioned was the passing of Mary Koons, wife of the late Ward Koons from SAC/PA and an endowment donation in the Koon's name by member Virginia Pribyla.

Smith asked if there were any members we needed to keep in prayer. Members named: Dottie Flanagan and John Gray.

• **Treasurer's Report:** Pete Alexandrakos reported that the treasurer's report was selected through an informal poll of the member's attending as the most exciting and interesting event of the annual meeting.

He noted the report only covers a 10-month period beginning at the last annual meeting in June 2000 to the end of March 2001.

The report includes neither income nor expenses from the current annual meeting because there is still money coming in and there are still bills associated with the annual meeting to pay.

The Endowment Fund is accounted for separately—this report is on the general treasury. The report shows a net surplus of \$1405.00. (Based on income of \$28,157.11, expenses of \$26,521.00 and transfer of \$230.62 to the endowment fund).

Personal observations: Alexandrakos noted that he was leaving the post of treasurer because he began to understand what his

accountant was telling him and discussed the satisfaction associated with establishing and guiding the Association to where it is today, the opportunity he has had to stay in touch with old friends and make new friends among people with whom he did not have a chance to serve.

He noted the Association continues to support the Public Affairs community—one of the original things we set out to do. He thanked everyone for the opportunity to be our bagman for seven and one-half years.

Gura thanked Alexandrakos for his service and made a pitch for a voluntary successor.

• **Membership Report:**

Neil Buttimer said total memberships now stand at 681—two having been added during the annual meeting.

The renewal campaign continues with second notices having just been sent out. About 40 have not renewed—probably procrastination.

Commented from a new member Mark Fleischer's letter and asked members to remember to update their directory listings as they move around the country (address and phone number). He urged using the website to make the changes.

Buttimer recognized Alice Price for the great job she does with the calligraphy on the membership certificates.

Comment from the membership that we need to try to get

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Brig. Gen. Ron Rand, Air Force director of public affairs, chats with George Weiss and Don Gilleland during the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association's annual reunion/meeting in April.

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members from the two unrepresented states (Wyoming and Rhode Island).

Question from the floor about finding and recruiting those public affairs folks who may or

may not be aware of the association. Buttimer challenged everyone to ask those they know who are not members to join.

Gura introduced Mike Gannon as the association's new recruiting chair.

• **Publications:** Gura said Joe Wojtecki is the new director of communications and introduced Al Eakle as the new editor of the association newsletter.

Eakle said the deadline for the next newsletter is the end of May.

Gura also said the presentation of the AFPAAA President's Award to Bill Greener by SecDef Donald Rumsfeld was an inexpensive way to heighten the visibility of the association.

Members asked when the next directory comes out (August).

Buttimer recognized Randy Morger and BAE Corporation for funding which allow printing the directory.

Hart mentioned that in each issue of the newsletter are membership updates and that he copies and pastes them into his annual directory to keep it up to date.

• **Oral History:** Gura explained recent activity in the oral history program which includes the recent completion of the Irv Breslauer history and the fact that the Reade Tilley history is in review by Jerry Dalton and Frank Jennings.

Ben Scarpino asked if the association was willing to deal on the price of oral histories.

Gura said we are sending a set of oral histories to DINFOS to replace an earlier set that has disappeared.

• **Web Site:** Gura said the

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Pete Alexandrakos gives the Treasurer's Report at the annual business meeting. Members of the Board of Directors listening to his report are (from left to right) Dave Smith, Kathy McCollom, Jim Hart, John Gura, Jim McGuire, Sally Davidson and Joe Purka.

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website is available and discussed the value of subscribing to the newsletter on-line as a means of saving the organization the cost of mailing the newsletter.

• **2002 Annual Meeting:**

Smith

discussed the fact that the meeting will be in San Antonio (May 30-June 2) at the Adam's Mark Hotel. Noted were optional tours to the Hangin' Tree, Sea World and dinner on the San Antonio River.

• **Endowment Report:** Hart began with a note from David Schillerstrom expressing his regret for not being at the meeting and his resignation as chair of the Development Committee. Hart asked all to send him an encouraging note.

Hart noted that five members will be recognized at the banquet for their significant contributions to the endowment fund with the presentation of walnut clocks.

Outstanding pledges of \$18,840.00, and a total of \$117,000.00 in donations to date.

As of April 20 the fund was valued at \$111,215.00.

Hart noted the recent difficulty on stock investments. He

asked everyone to keep the fund in mind as we try to reach our \$300,000.00 goal.

• **Board Elections:** Hart recognized departing board members: Kathy McCollom (1995-2001), Sally Davidson (1997-2001) and Jim Hart (1997-2001) (by Gura).

Hart extended thanks to John Terino for his service on the board and as Communications Chair and Newsletter Editor.

Hart named those standing for election: David Smith (incumbent), Linda Arnold, Al Eakle, Rick Fuller and Mike Gannon. Ballots will go out early May.

Hart noted John Gura will become chairman of the board, Joe Purka moves up to president, David Smith (if re-elected) will be vice president and the secretary will be elected from the board membership at the June meeting.

Hart briefly discussed the succession plan and how it provides continuity in the association's leadership.

• **Chairman's State of the Association Report:** Hart pointed out most of his discussion had already been included in reports like membership and financial—we have good controls, we will audit our finances when Alexandrakos turns it over to the next treasurer, the endowment fund is moving along and we are continuing to get contributions, and the website created and run by John Gura is a great source of information.

Hart said Brig. Gen. Ron Rand, SAF/PA, and his staff at the Pentagon have agreed to let the association take Air Force information

to post on our website (policy letter, Air Force News, etc.).

The association continues to expand support for SAF/PA. Whenever we receive a request, we make every effort to fill that request and Hart believes we have been successful.

He briefly discussed the presentation of PA badges to DINFOS graduates, our support for the SAF/PA golf tournament, funded the reception for the alumni event during the Air Force Association annual meeting, we supported marketing the new Air Force logo and Hart thanked Rand for encouraging AFPAAA membership among the active force.

Hart mentioned that Mike Beeman gave \$500.00 (last year) to help recruit new enlisted personnel. Board voted to give the memberships to the 2001 technical sergeant selectees.

The board has voted to accept donations to the endowment fund in the name of anyone whom an individual would like to honor or memorialize.

Noted Joe Wojtecki appointment to complete John Terino's unexpired term.

Hart closed by acknowledging the corporate support the association receives publishing the membership directory, annual meeting and other activities. He said, "It has given us the financial cushion that has enabled us to continue for eight years with our same dues structure."

Thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve and their support.

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New Business

• **PA Memorial:**

Ed Johnson discussed his proposal for a memorial and that John Gura and Larry Greer are members of his committee. He said a memorial should recognize Air Force active duty, Reserve and Air National Guard public affairs, broadcasters and band members; military and civilian who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

The purpose of the memorial is to reinforce the importance of the

role of the PA career fields and to acknowledge the vital, sometime hazardous, duties PAs perform in support of the US Air Force war fighting capability.

Johnson said the next steps are to work on the mechanics of the selection process, getting a place and a memorial design.

Gura said the board approved the concept, money to fund a design study and that SAF/PA supports the memorial.

Member asked how many people do we consider eligible? (Approximately 25). Member suggested the memorial be on the Pentagon tour route if possible. (That would be great, but not our call.)

• **Association Name**

Change: Gura said the membership will vote on the name change on the board member election ballot. Member asked how many active duty members.

Another asked why active

duty members were not allowed to vote (they are associate members). Alexandrakos discussed the establishment of the association.

• **Recommendations for next annual meeting (2003):**

Possibly Las Vegas or Dayton.

Alice Price noted the AF Museum is opening a third building.

Another member recommended Seattle, also suggested was St. Louis.

Hart said the board tries to keep the meetings at places near AF bases to obtain support.

Gura recognized Washington host Jim McGuire. McGuire recognized Jim and Donna Stratford, Connie Custer and Rick Fuller, Charlie Powers, Mike Gannon, Daryl Hayes and Carla Sylvester.

• **A member asked how are board meetings conducted?**

Gura described the process of meeting at Dave Shea's office in Rosslyn and the telephone connection with the board members who could not travel to D.C. Recognized Dave Shea and Raytheon for their continuing support.

• **A member asked why we don't put the oral histories out on the website?**

Gura said it was done to help fund the program. Alexandrakos explained we have made no money on the program to date.

Member asked about sending them the oral histories via e-mail rather than as printed and bound documents. Gura said it could be done, but none of the histories have been digitized and his present schedule restricts his ability to do so at this time.

• **There being no further business,** Gura requested a motion from the floor to adjourn and many made and seconded the motion. The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association was adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
David E. Smith
Secretary



Pete Williams, former assistant secretary of defense for public affairs, talks with Betty Jane Williams and Bonnie O'Leary. Currently a reporter for NBC, Williams was a featured speaker during Saturday morning's activities during the annual reunion/meeting.

Retired **Col. Reade F. Tilly**, 83, died March 28, 2001 in Colorado Springs, CO.

Colonel Tilly joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1940, before the United States entered World War II. He eventually moved into one of the American-manned Eagle Squadrons of the British RAF.

During the course of the war, Tilly flew Hurricanes out of England with the 121st Eagle Squadron

and Spitfires out of Malta with the 126th - flying into Malta off the U.S. Aircraft Carrier Wasp.

There, he destroyed seven enemy aircraft, had three probables and five damaged.

In addition, he was awarded the British Distinguished Flying Cross. The citation reads in part, "...on three occasions by making feint attacks after having expended his ammunition, he successfully drove off enemy fighters attempting to machine gun our aircraft as they landed."

In 1942, Tilly transferred to the U.S. Air Force, 8th A.F. Fighter Command.

He wrote a manual of advanced fighter tactics for the Army Air Force and the RCAF, and was active in developing fighter equipment and instruction.

After the war, he served in the U.S. Air Forces in Europe as part of the Berlin Airlift.

Later, as Director of Public Information, Tilly was on the team that helped Gen. Curtis LeMay build Strategic Air Command into the force it became. He also returned to a pre-war passion - auto racing - as a driver for the SAC team.

He retired in 1971 from the Aerospace Defense Command to Colorado Springs.

His awards include four Legions of Merit and the Cross of Malta.

He is survived by a sister, Mary Tilly Bessemer of Sarasota, FL; a son, Edward P. Myers of Silver Spring, MD; two grandsons, Reade F. Tilly, IV of New York City and Edward P. Myers, III of Portland, Ore.; a grand-

daughter, Brynn K. Myers of New York City; and his former wife, Barbara Tilly of Honolulu.

(President's Postscript: Colonel Tilly was arguably the person most responsible for the organizational blueprint upon which today's USAF PA career field is built. Many of the innovations and ideas he introduced are still in use and changed military public affairs forever. JTG)

Ben G. Wright, 88, died Apr. 10, 2001

He began his career in journalism working as a newspaper boy for the Saginaw News. He worked his way through college as a correspondent for the AP and Detroit Free Press, writing, at that time, for a 'nickel a line.'

During World War II, Wright served as the Public Relations Officer for Gen. Hoyt Vandenberg's Ninth Air Force in Europe. In this capacity, he supervised 12 Press Camps across Europe, whose communications facilities assisted correspondents in covering the battles and transmitting news dispatches and broadcasts to England and the United States.

Wright dismissed the glamorous image of the war correspondent.

'It was a difficult, dangerous, competitive business--correspondents chasing stories late into the night, jumping out of airplanes, competing for radio transmission, for jeeps to get into war.'

From the end of the war until 1949, Wright was director of public relations for American Airlines. In 1950, he joined Henry Holt and Co., as a vice president of its magazine division and publisher of Field and Stream and other Holt magazines.

In 1950, Vandenberg, then Air Force Chief of Staff, "borrowed" Wright from American Airlines for a few months and dispatched him to Korea to access Air Force public relations in that arena. After the war, Wright was awarded the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star for his service.

In 1959, he joined the syndicated Sunday supplement THIS WEEK Magazine as executive vice president, then president.

Although he and his wife of 60

years, Dolly, called New York home for most of their married life. Wright's dream of retiring in Vail was cut short in 1976, due to health issues, but they later chose to be near their daughter, Susie, and family and settled in Colorado Springs.

In addition to his wife and daughter, Wright is survived by son-in-law, Bill; granddaughter, Meghan; and grandson, Ben.

Retired Air Force Reserve Col. **Frank M. Maxwell**, 65, died Jan. 26, 2001.

Throughout his years as an Air Force reservist, Maxwell was involved in a wide variety of award winning public affairs projects. These include San Antonio's annual Armed Forces Week celebration, as well as the television productions "The First Step," narrated by actor Jimmy Stewart; "Monument to the Sky," narrated by actor William Shatner; and "A Salute to the Alamo Wing," narrated by Fess Parker.

He retired from the Air Force Reserve in 1989.

He is survived by his wife, Charlotte; and daughter, Sheridee Ellen.

AFPAAA member **Joseph F. Murphy** died Oct. 18, 2000.

Constance Hardwick Luehman, 88, a Bethesda, MD, resident who was a member of officers wives clubs and the Gray Ladies, died of congestive heart failure Apr. 18 at Bethesda Naval Medical Command.

She was born in Boston and raised in Michigan. She attended finishing school in Milford, Conn., and received her pilot's license in 1957.

She pursued her interest in flying while accompanying her husband, retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Arno H. Luehman, who died in 1989, on his assignments in Turkey and other places.

She presented the Luehman Award at the Air Force Association convention public affairs luncheon for several years.

Survivors include a brother.

Prop Wash and Jet Blasts

Member **C.V. Glines** reports there is a new \$2,500 scholarship available to those interested in aviation journalism.

The George E. Haddaway Scholarship was established to encourage young people to consider aviation journalism as a career choice, **Glines** said.

More information and application procedures is available at: Committee Foundation of Texas, 4605 Live Oak St., Dallas TX 75204. Their website is

located at: www.cftexas.org

The Air Force Sergeants' Association has begun a campaign to raise the final amount needed to begin construction of the Air Force Memorial, according to AFSA officials.

The "Bring Us Home" campaign will run through the end of July.

Donations can be made online, through a secure server, at: <http://www.airforcememorial.org/contrib.html>.

Individuals can also mail their contribution, made payable to the Air Force Memorial Foundation, to: **The Air Force Memorial Foundation**, c/o Air Force Sergeants Association, 5211 Auth Road, Suitland, MD 20746

The Greater Portland (Maine) Transit District was recently named one of the 10 most improved transit systems in the country by Metro Magazine. According to Portland Transit General Manager **Pete Hefler**, "Enhanced marketing efforts and expanding into new markets increased ridership systemwide." People who have attended any annual meeting and ride the bus may ask, "Can it be he really knows all that stuff he tells us in his 'bus lectures?'"

Submissions for the AFPAAA newsletter are welcome

from the membership. They should be either emailed to: eakleallen@uswest.net or mailed directly to: Al Eakle, 10351 Devonshire Rd Apt 109, Bloomington, MN 55431.

Welcome aboard to new members : **Farley Banks, Billy Birdwell, Kathi Blevins** (life), **Claude "Brad" Bradshaw, Kevin Clary, Reynard Flake, Mark Fleisher, William R. (Rick) Fuller** (upgrade to life), **Steve Hinderliter, Tom Kimball, Peg Moffett, Lisa Neidinger, Lloyd Peterson, Jack Pulwers, and Dale Warman.**

Nicole E. Greenwood, APR, was recently promoted to major in the Air Force Reserve. **Greenwood** currently serves as the Individual Mobilization Augmentee to the Chief of Public Affairs for the 60th Air Mobility Wing at Travis AFB, Calif.

The **Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association's 2002 meeting** - the ninth annual meeting - will be held in San Antonio, Texas Thursday, May 30 through Saturday, June 2, 2002. The hotel will open the reservation book on June 15. Individuals can either use the 1-800-444-ADAM or call the direct dial number 210-354-2800. The AFPAAA rate is \$117.00 (usually to \$230) per night. Smoking and non-smoking rooms are available. Amenities in rooms includes cable, mini bar, coffee maker, hair dryer, iron & ironing board, safe, and data line. There is a restaurant, pool, 24-hour room service, valet/laundry, fitness center, sauna, whirlpool and child care. The group reference when making reservations is Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association. If there are any problems with making reservations at the hotel, individuals should ask for Kathy Squadrille. "I recommend making reservations early if you can, especially if you want to get there a day or two early or stay a day or two longer," said local chairman **Dave Smith**. Any ideas or suggestions should be directed to **Smith**.

Two AFPAAA members recently had stories published. Veterans counselor and freelance writer **Mark Fleisher** had a recent piece on the National D-Day Museum in New Orleans published in the *Elmira (N.Y.) Star-Gazette*. **Don Gilleland** an article about the need for the F-22 publish in *Florida Today*.

A bandsman has been selected as for the first enlisted Public Affairs Triad Education with Industry (EWI) position.

SSgt. Andrew Cleaver, U.S. Air Force Band of Mid-America, Scott AFB, IL, is PA's very first enlisted EWI participant.

Cleaver is a Regional Band Journeyman, Saxophone, with 13 years service. Before moving to Scott AFB, he was assigned to the band at Langley AFB, VA, and the USAFE Band at Einsiedlerhof, Germany.

He earned his bachelor's degree in Fine Art and Music, and in addition to his regular duties, he has served as videographer, load crewmember, and drum major.

His selection for EWI means a move to D.C. for **Cleaver**.

"He'll arrive here this fall and be assigned to SAF/PA," said **Brig. Gen. Ron Rand**, Air Force public affairs director.

"However, he'll spend his first 10 months here as a member of the The Hill & Knowlton Washington Technology Team.

"This is the fastest growing marketing and public relations practice in the US. It was recently created by H&K's acquisition of The Pro Marc Agency, which is where we were originally planning to place our enlisted EWI participant.

"At H&K, he'll learn about and use the most advanced public affairs and web application methods in the industry," said **Rand**.

"At the end of 10 months, he'll come to work here in PA heaven, where we'll put his new-found knowledge and skills to good use telling the Air Force story."

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Cleaver made it through a very tough selection process conducted by the PA, Band, and Broadcast career field managers and our assignments manager.

“They found that each of the eight applicants has a stellar record,” said **Rand**, “and that we have great people in all three legs of our Triad.”

Membership directories will be mailed in August and can be updated through the website. Individuals with questions can contact **Buttimer** at (540) 972-0083 or by email at nbuttimer@afpaaa.org

In an effort to reduce Association costs, members can “**subscribe**” to delivery of the *Quarterly Newsletter* via the web. This help’s reduce printing and mailing costs. (For every 60 subscribers, AFPAAA saves about 10 percent in postage and printing costs!). If you change your mind later, it’s easy to re-establish “snail mail” delivery. Online subscriptions may be done through the

organization’s website at: www.afpaaa.org.

The first AFPAAA-sponsored public affairs badges were presented in Dec. 1999 by then-Chairman of the Board **Mike McRaney**. The Association pays for the badges as one way to support the active, Guard and Reserve force. Members who would like to represent AFPAAA at the ceremony should contact the Association through our web site at: www.afpaaa.org or by dropping a note to: AFPAAA Badge Presentations, P.O. Box 540, Fairfax, VA 22030-0540

An Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association member was among those honored at an 8th Air Force Historical Society banquet at Andrews AFB, MD, recently. **Ken Blackshaw** was among 15 veterans who were presented special certificates for their involvement in the liberation of France during World War II. The Consul General of France made the presentations to an audience of about 180 members and spouses who attended the banquet. Blackshaw flew 35 combat missions as the pilot of the B-17, Gray Lady, with the 306th Bomb Group.

Two AFPAAA members have accepted new positions. **John Moscatelli**, APR, has been named senior vice president and chief operating officer for the public relations firm Anne Klein and Associates. **Randy Morger** has been named communications vice president for BAE Systems North American Information and Electronic Systems Integration Sector.

This year’s tech sergeant promotees were given a one-year membership in the Association, thanks to the generosity of member **Mike Beeman**. He made the donation to encourage enlisted participation in the organization.

Maj. Sandy Troeber and the men and women of the **National Media Outreach Office- New York (SAF/PANW)** were named by Air Force Chief of Staff **Gen. Michael Ryan** winners of the quarterly We Are Recruiters Award. The New York Office was instrumental in the success of some of the highest visibility recruiting public events last year, including a swearing-in ceremony at Times Square and guest appearance by more than 40 Air Force recruiters on **David Letterman**.