

Scholin Challenges Gura:

Who Is Air Force Public Affairs Daddy?

"No one, certainly, would question the fact that Reade Tilley has proven to be an outstanding Air Force Public Affairs officer," Al Scholin wrote. "But I would suggest that Reade himself would hesitate to accept for himself the title the newsletter has bestowed on him."

The point in contention for Al comes from the minutes of the last AFPAAA Annual Membership Meeting in the Summer/Fall issue. The minutes reported "Gura said the next oral history to be published will be Col. Reade Tilley, who has been recognized as the father of Air Force Public Affairs."

Scholin, a retired colonel, covered the Army Air Corps at Chanute Field in 1937

for the Urbana, Illinois, Courier and continued writing about the Air Force and defense matters for magazines after World War II. "... we have had many noteworthy practitioners furthering Air Force Public Relations," Scholin stated. He then cited many contributors,

including Barney Oldfield, Bill McGinty, Maury Casey, Sory Smith, Jerry Dalton, Frank Jennings, Bill Greener, and Mike Burch.

What do you think: Is there one person who formed and shaped Air Force Public Affairs or did it evolve with many people playing pivotal roles? Pick the five people – enlisted, civilian, officer – you feel were most influential in establishing and developing Air Force Public Affairs into what it is today. Send your picks to: terinocom@earthlink.net with the subject line: **AFPA Daddy** We'll publish the results in the next issue.



News & Notes
Public Affairs Alumni Association™
April 2006

Avoid Late Fee! Register Now For Annual Meeting

Time is running out. April 18th is the last day we can accept registrations for our 13th Annual Membership Meeting, May 4-6, in Baltimore without an additional \$25 per person late fee. Go to page 5 now, fill out the form, and get it and your check in the mail to arrive NLT April 18.

Room reservations at our reduced group rate at the Wyndham Baltimore -Inner Harbor Hotel also have to be made by April 18th. Just call 1-800-996-3426.

And, if your schedule permits, be sure to arrive early enough on Thursday, May 4, to attend the always popular Thursday afternoon/evening "Ice Breaker."

Friday, May 5, will be leisurely with a mid-morning departure from the hotel and Fort Meade, and our visit there to DINFOS, and the President's Luncheon on the schedule.

Saturday morning we'll have presentations on the latest in Space Available Travel and the reorganization of the American Forces Information Service, and a media panel. At lunch we will hear from newly appointed Director of Public Affairs, Colonel (Brig. Gen. Sel) Michelle Johnson. The afternoon will conclude with our business meeting in plenty of time to get ready for our evening gala reception and dinner.

Committee Announces Candidates For Board

The nominating committee has completed its work and Dick Abel and Hal Smarkola will join incumbents Hank Hufnagel, Tom Halbert, Jim Hart, and Pete Peterson on the slate of candidates for AFPAAA's Board of Directors.

Ballots will be sent to members by May 1 and the results will be posted on AFPAAA's web site – www.afpaaa.org – by June 20. The newly elected board members will begin their term on July 1. They will join Linda Arnold, Sam Giammo, C. B. Kelly, Christine Queen, John Terino, and Miles Wiley on the board.

Web Site Directory Search Now An Easy 1, 2, For All

At the request of many non-geeks and our numerous computer-challenged members, John Gura, AFPAAA's web site guru, has made the search for a member in the on-line directory a simplified two step process.

"All you have to do is: 1. type the last name of the person you are searching for in the text box; then 2. click search," Gura explained. "Just go to afpaaa.org, hit directory, log-in, and give it a try," he urged.

For those who need a more extensive search, the old advanced search options are still available via a link from the basic page.

Treasurer Reports Financial Status Solid

"AFPAAA is financially strong and its balance sheet continues to grow," said Treasurer Jim Hart in his mid-year report. At the end of January AFPAAA had an endowment fund worth \$201,353, \$18,283 in its checking account, and \$15,972 in its money market account. AFPAAA's total net worth was \$235,608 with all bills paid.

"Since the first \$200 from Pete Alexandrakos and John Terino, that got AFPAAA started in 1994, the board has provided excellent stewardship of the dues and contributions from our members." Jim observed. "Our largest asset, the endowment fund, has grown since it was started in 1997, from the first \$5000 pledge to a current value, just seven years later, of more than \$200,000."

The fund's initial goal was \$300,000 to provide a source of income for operations and to ensure AFPAAA would be able to provide member services in the future. "As of December 31, we have received gifts and pledges from 98 members of \$156,494 and we still have \$6,033 in pledges outstanding," Hart reported. The remainder of the fund's total has come from investment gains.

He urges those who haven't contributed to the endowment fund, to consider doing so now. All donations are tax deductible. Pledges of \$5,000 over a five period will be recognized with a Gold Level award at the next Annual Membership Meeting; \$3,000 gets a Silver Award, and \$1,000 a Bronze Award. Phone Jim at 850 592-4740 or e-mail him at: jimwhart@digitalexp.com with any questions about donating to the endowment fund.

Annual Membership Meeting:

Don't Be Bashful – Let Us Have It

To make our Annual Membership Meetings more interesting and meaningful to you, your Board of Directors needs to know what you like and don't like about the meetings. Please complete the questionnaire below and mail it to Christine Queen, Attn.: AFPAAA, 400 Avondale Drive, East Peoria, IL 61611. Or, go to the AFPAAA web site (www.afpaaa.org) and complete the questionnaire on line.

1. How long have you been a member of AFPAAA? _____ (Number of Years)

2. Where do you live? (Please check one)

Northeast East Coast Southeast Midwest Southwest
 Northwest West Coast Alaska or Hawaii Outside the US

3. Have you attended an AFPAAA Annual meeting in the last 5 years? Yes No

If you answer no, please skip to question #8

4. How many AFPAAA Annual meetings have you attended in the past 5 years? _____

5. Where was the last AFPAAA Annual meeting you attended held?

1994: San Antonio, TX 1998: Wright-Patterson, OH 2002: San Antonio, TX
 1995: Colorado Springs, CO 1999: Satellite Beach, FL 2003: Las Vegas, NV
 1996: Hampton, VA 2000: Long Beach, CA 2004: Destin, FL
 1997: Las Vegas, NV 2001: Alexandria, VA 2005: Tacoma, WA

If you answered Tacoma, WA, please skip question #6

6. Why did you not attend the meeting in Tacoma in 2005?

Location Cost of Travel Cost of Hotel Other Commitments
 Other (Please explain) _____

7. What do you like most about AFPAAA Annual Meetings?

Seeing old friends. Learning about today's USAF. Other (Please explain) _____

8. What do you like least about AFPAAA Annual Meetings?

Locations Cost of Travel Cost of Hotels Uninteresting Programs
 Other (Please explain) _____

9. How do you suggest we improve attendance at our Annual Meetings?

If you are a regular attendee at our Annual Membership Meetings, your part is complete and we thank you for your participation. If you are not a regular attendee, please answer Question #10.

10: Why have you chosen not to attend AFPAAA Annual Meetings?

For Membership Confirmation Only, Your Name Please: _____

From The President's Pen ———

The time is fast approaching when we will be getting together in Baltimore for our 13th Annual Membership Meeting on May 4-6. If you haven't sent in your registration yet, please do so. If you need a hotel reservation, please call them soon as our guaranteed reduced rate is only available to those who make a reservation before April 18th. Check out our web site at www.afpaaa.org for details and to see who has already signed up.



The response to our survey has been less than overwhelming. We really need your thoughts and comments if we are to make our meetings better each year. We are running the survey form again, on the opposite page, in the hope that those of you who have been meaning to complete it will take this opportunity to do so. You can also complete the survey in less than 5 minutes by going on-line to our web site. Please take a few minutes and let us know what you like and dislike about our annual meetings. We can only get better with your input.

In response to comments at the last Annual Meeting in Tacoma, we are shortening our day on Friday. We are going to start a little later, not cram in quite so much stuff, and return to the hotel no later than 4pm. This should make it easier to spend time with friends in the evening, without being exhausted by a long day. And instead of getting you “reblued” this year, we are going to help turn you a lovely shade of purple when we spend our time in the joint service environment at Ft. Meade. “Activity consolidation” seems to be the phrase of the day for many of the activities we have all taken for granted. This will be our chance to find out what it really means to USAF Public Affairs.

The Saturday morning program is really shaping up and promises to be informative and interesting. Charley Powers has arranged for a panel of reporters to discuss “Military and the Media”. There will be lots of time for questions and discussion. And Mel Russell, the Director of AFIS will be there to tell us all about the latest goings on with broadcasting, Stars and Stripes, and the new Pentagon Channel.

Your Board of Directors and I look forward to welcoming all of you at the ice breaker at the hotel on May 4. Travel safely.

Linda Arnold



Lord Guard & Guide . . .

Edward V. Johnson

Ed Johnson, who chaired AFPAAA's memorial project, died on February 4th, in San Antonio. He was 74.

He was born in New Haven, Connecticut; graduated from Williston Academy and Hobart College, and earned a Masters Degree from Boston University School of Communications.

During a 22-year career his assignments included 7th Air Force Headquarters, Vietnam; SAC Headquarters; and as the Palace Info Officer at AFMPC in the mid 1970s. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1975.

Ed's post Air Force career in public relations included work for the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce and other firms in the area. He became an avid sailor and was Commodore of the Lake Canyon Yacht Club, and chair of the Youth Sailing Foundation. He is survived by his wife Yvonne, three daughters, two sons, and six grandchildren.

Art Mathison

Art Mathison died January 9, from a heart attack in Wilford Hall Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas. He was 72. I learned of his death from his widow, Billie. Billie and Art married at age 17 in the small town of Deer Lodge, not far from Missoula., Montana.

During his career in uniform he served in Germany and Thailand. Art and I worked together when he was a major in the Internal Information Division of SAF/PA in the 1970s. After he retired, I persuaded him to come from Dead Wood, South Dakota, where he edited a weekly newspaper, settle in San Antonio, and work as the civilian head of the Air Force Newspaper Program.

Art engendered enormous affection and admiration from everyone who worked with him. He always reflected the education, training, and professionalism from his journalism and communication courses at the University of Montana in Missoula. He graduated in 1955 with a master of arts degree. He loved music and very large pet dogs by the pair. He had a warm feeling for others and an explosive laugh. He and Billie raised a son and daughter who are teachers in San Antonio.

When I passed the word about Art's departure, the response was quick and deeply heartfelt. A large newsletter would be needed to print them all.

Oscar Dixon, Pro Basketball Editor of USA TODAY wrote: "Art Mathison was my mentor. The success I have had at USA TODAY is because of Art. He was a Public Affairs legend and a journalism pioneer.

He encouraged me to think even farther outside the box than I ever dared to, and when I stepped too far out on that limb, he never left me hanging out there. He supported me, defended me, molded me and made me better at my craft. Art was an old school newsman, a true professional and a great human being. The PA community has lost a treasure, and I have lost one of my dearest friends."

Jerry Dalton, Gerry Hickman, John Hinds, Jerry Stringer and others wrote similar memorials that recalled Art's unique and remarkable qualities.

– Frank W. Jennings

Karen McRaney

There are no adequate words to express the appreciation for the cards, letters, e-mails, flowers, gifts of all kinds, food, visits, and wonderful phone calls Karen and I received this past year. All of it brightened her warm smile and boosted her spirits. Most importantly we are deeply grateful for the many prayers offered us by our Air Force Public Affairs family. I'm absolutely sure those prayers kept her from having any pain or any seizures during her 10 month battle against brain cancer – a fact that amazed all her doctors. For that we are grateful for His mercy. Please accept my humble and sincere "thank you" for everything you did for us. While her star dimmed on January 30th, her smile and a brighter star lit the heavens.



– Mike McRaney

Karen, was born in San Francisco 60 years ago. She is survived by Mike; her stepdaughters Melissa and Nancy; grandchildren Eliza, William, Owen, and Georgia; and her sister, Paula. The following are excerpts from Mike's eulogy:

"... Karen was a special person to so many people in so many different ways. From the special love and attention that she gave to her special education students for 27 years, to the concern she showed for the sons and daughters of friends we made along the way, Karen was always there, always ready to help as much as she could. She never expected anything in return – only the friendships which she cherished dearly.

I gave Karen two wonderful stepdaughters. She called them her own, and gave them her generous and unconditional love. It was a beautiful thing to watch and enjoy. I gave her an extended Air Force family, and she took in every one of them, as if they were her brothers and sisters. She loved them, cared for them and laughed with them for many

wonderful years. I gave her the usual problems in life, and she gave me unselfish and successful solutions – with love, patience, generosity and forgiveness. I gave her a hard time sometimes, and she gave that smile and little giggle of hers in return, and all was suddenly well. I tried to give her my very best, and she outdid me every time . . . Karen was a perfect wife, stepmother, friend and teacher. She was a valuable friend to all, a wonderfully warm and gentle helper to all in need. She was my perfect mate . . ."

Robert L. Scott, Jr.

World War II hero, Robert L. Scott, Jr., who served as the Director of Information in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force from April 1955 to August 1956, died February 27 in Warner Robins, Georgia. He was 97.

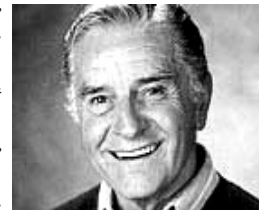
A 1932 graduate of the U. S. Military Academy he flew air mail in 1934. Flying the P-40 Warhawk, he was credited with shooting down 13 Japanese aircraft in the China-Burma-India theater and was awarded three Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Silver Stars and five Air Medals.

He chronicled his exploits with the Flying Tigers in the best seller "God Is My Co-Pilot" which was made into a movie starring Dennis Morgan. He ended his career as the commander of Luke AFB, Arizona, retiring in 1957 as a Brigadier General.

Ken Blackshaw, who flew co-pilot with him several times when he was at SAF/OI said, "He was quite a guy and everybody loved him."

Don Stewart

Don Stewart, who was Michael Bauer on the soap opera "The Guiding Light" for 16 years, died of lung cancer January 9 at his home in Santa Barbara, California. He was 70. There was, however, another Don Stewart. Before his acting career he was an Air Force pilot for six years – one of the youngest aircraft commanders in Strategic Air Command (SAC). He was a strong advocate of the Air Force. In the 1970s he produced and voiced-over radio spots for Air Force Reserve recruiting and employer support of the National Guard for the Indianapolis, Indiana, based 9014th Reserve Information Squadron.



After the "Guiding Light," he moved to California, and worked in commercials, movies, television, and the theater.

– Richard C. Basore

Registration Form

13th Annual Membership Meeting
AF Public Affairs
 Alumni Association™
 Baltimore, Maryland – May 4-6, 2006

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Name(s) of guest(s): _____

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

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

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

How many in your party will take the tour of DINFOS on Friday, May 5th? _____

Full Registration

(Includes all events on Friday and Saturday except optional tours. Must be registered by 4/18/06)

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

Partial Registrations

Trip to DINFOS – Friday
 (Includes Presidents Lunch and transportation)

Members Attending _____ X \$ 55 = _____
 Guests Attending _____ X \$ 55 = _____
 Non-Members Attending _____ X \$ 90 = _____

President's Lunch Only – Friday

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

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

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

SAF/PA Director's Luncheon – Saturday

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

Reception & Banquet – Saturday Evening
 # of Beef _____ # of Chicken _____

Members Attending _____ X \$ 50 = _____
 Guests Attending _____ X \$ 50 = _____
 Non-Members Attending _____ X \$ 60 = _____

Total Remitted = \$ _____

Please make your check or money order payable to AFPAAA and mail it with your completed registration form to: Linda Arnold, Attn: AFPAAA, 1831 Parhaven Drive, San Antonio, TX 78232. Registrations received after April 18, 2005 will be charged a \$25 (per attendee) late registration fee.

Hotel: The Wyndham Baltimore-Inner Harbor Hotel, 101 West Fayette St., Baltimore, MD 21201. Reservations: 1-800-996-3426. Our group rate is \$120 per night plus tax. Reservations must be made by April 18, 2006 to get the group rate. Ask for Group Code: Air Force Public Affairs Assn. Or, go to the AFPAAA website and click on the hotel link to make reservations on line, find driving directions, or get more information. If you are not a "Wyndham By Request" member, contact them at www.wyndham.com or 1-800-996-3426 and join. There is no charge to join and they will place a free snack and beverage of your choice in your room for your arrival.

Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association News & Notes is published quarterly for members of the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association. On-line subscriptions are available at www.afpaaa.org. **Membership Information:** Individuals who have ever served 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 are eligible for membership. **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, and widowers of those eligible to be Full or Associate Members. *Affiliate Members* – a limited number of persons (U. S. citizens only) 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. **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 quarterly \$75 installments). \$25 for one-year membership or \$50 for a 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 447, Locust Grove, VA 22508-0447.*

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