

Register Now For Our 15th Annual Membership Meeting

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For
Details

Six Seats Open, Peterson Seeks Third Term, Chair; Ballots Will Be Mailed

Pete Peterson is seeking his third term on AFPAAA's Board of Directors. The Lifetime Founding Member is currently the association's president. If he is reelected to the board, then in accordance with the leadership succession plan, Pete will succeed Tom Halbert as board chair July 1.

At that time, Sam Giammo will become president and Christine Queen vice president. A new secretary will then be chosen from the other members of the board.

Six seats are open this election. Ballots with the full slate of candidates will be mailed to eligible members



Pete Peterson

shortly with information on where and by when they need to be completed and returned.

Peterson had a 38-year active duty and reserve Air Force career. His final assignment was IMA to the

deputy director of Public Affairs. He retired in 1994 as a colonel. As a General Motors executive for 34 years, he held personnel and public affairs positions around the United States that included Northeast and Midwest regional directors of Public Affairs.

He has been active in business, civic, and minority organizations including the Interracial Council for Business Opportunity, United Way, Junior Achievement, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and GM Cancer Research Foundation. Pete has lectured at the Northwestern graduate school of business, Rutgers University, and the University of Massachusetts.

AFP
Public Affairs
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News
&
Notes
April 2008

Iraq Helicopter Crash Claims Life Of Public Affairs Specialist Chris Frost

The Public Affairs family lost one of its own when Staff Sergeant Christopher S. Frost, 24, of Waukesha, Wisconsin, died March 3 in the crash of an Iraqi Army Mi-17 helicopter near Bayji, Iraq.

The helicopter crashed during a dust storm. Seven members of the Iraqi Air Force onboard were killed as well. Coalition combat search and rescue teams began a search for the helicopter when it was reported overdue and

found the wreckage about mid-day on March 4.

Sergeant Frost was a Public Affairs Specialist from the 377th Air Base Wing at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, where he was the base newspaper editor. He had been at Kirtland since July 2005.

A six-year Air Force veteran, he was deployed in September to the Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq.

His assignment was to

tell the story of the rebuilding of the Iraqi Air Force whose members were being trained by American airmen.

Sergeant Frost had two children, a five-year-old daughter and a three-year-old son. A non-government organization is raising money for them. Full information is available at the web site: www.afblues.com

Sergeant Frost was buried at Prairie Home Cemetery in Waukesha.



We're Going To Have A Blast At Our San Antonio Meeting!

It's time to get your registration in if your going to join all your friends at the 15th Annual AFPAAA Membership Meeting, May 15-17, in San Antonio. Just complete the form on page 7 or download the one on our web site: afpaaa.org Then mail it and your check to Linda Arnold, Attn: AFPAAA, 1831 Parhaven Drive, San Antonio, TX 78232.

And, don't forget your hotel reservations. The San Antonio La Quinta Convention Center Hotel, directly across from the Riverwalk, has given us a group rate of \$89 per night. Call reservations at 210-222-9181 and ask for group code: Air Force Public Affairs – the rate is good for three days before and after our meeting, space permitting. The

reservation cutoff date is April 24th. Lower AAA or AARP rates may be had, if those rooms are available when you call.

You don't need to rent a car if you fly into San Antonio. Taxis and shuttles from the airport to the hotel are about \$25 each way. Self parking at the hotel is \$7.00 a day with no in and out privileges.

Our hotel is convenient to the Riverwalk/Alamo areas and you can walk or take a trolley to almost anyplace downtown.

Registration in the hotel lobby is from noon until 6 pm on Thursday, May 15th. Our no-host icebreaker begins at 5:30 in the lobby dining room with a special welcome to San Antonio planned. After the icebreaker you are on your own for dinner.

Friday we bus to Randolph AFB, and will be greeted by the Commander of Recruiting Service,

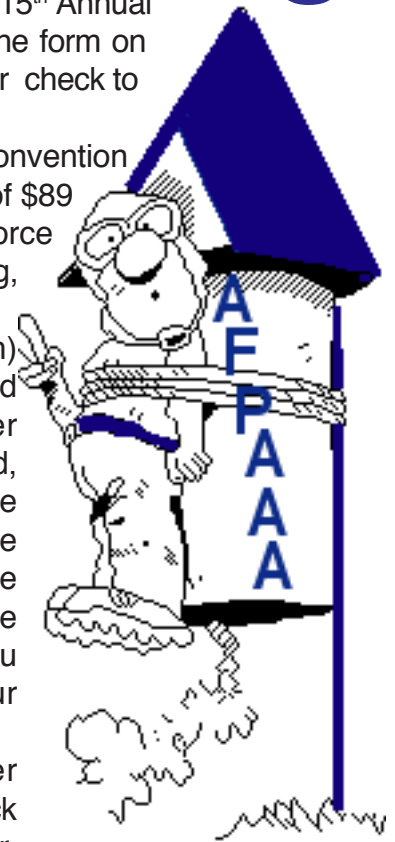
Brigadier General Suzanne Vautrinot, who will discuss the challenge of recruiting in the global war on terrorism era. After a windshield tour of a T-6A Texan II display and a briefing on pilot and instructor pilot training we take our group photo. Following lunch at the O'Club we see Brooke Army Medical Center and the privately funded, state-of-the-art physical rehabilitation Center for the Intrepid, a specially designed facility for those wounded in Iraqi and Afghanistan. We will be back at the hotel by 5 pm.

An optional dinner and boat ride on the San Antonio Riverwalk is available that evening. We have reserved the Republic of Texas restaurant, a casual drink and dining place overlooking the San Antonio River two blocks from our hotel. The \$45 tab includes appetizers, dinner (choice of chicken,

beef, or a Mexican dish) and a champagne and dessert ride on river barges. Space is limited, so sign up early. The barges will return to the Republic of Texas where a DJ and wooden dance floor are available if you want to kick up your heels a bit.

Saturday, Brigadier General Robert Murdock (USAF Ret), Director, Department of Military Affairs, City of San Antonio, will discuss the major expansion of military medical training and its impact on San Antonio.

Mark Rosenker, National Transportation Safety Board Chairman and AFPAAA member, will cover the intertwining of the NTSB's and the USAF's missions. Lieutenant Colonel John Mitchell from the Air Force Security Forces Center will talk about force protection throughout DoD. He will be followed by CMSAF



Bob Gaylor (USAF, Ret) who will discuss the enlisted force, past and present. Next will be the SAF/PA luncheon.

Following lunch is our membership business meeting which is expected to end by 3 pm.

The gala banquet, which concludes our meeting begins with cocktails at 6pm, followed by dinner at 7pm. At the banquet, The McRaney Award, our most prestigious recognition of one of our members, will be presented.

From The President's Pen ———

Not all AFPAAA members are aware of the mission and varied activities of the Board of Directors. Elected by the membership, the Board meets quarterly to address Association business matters including finances, membership, annual meetings and fund raising. Typically lasting two to three hours, debate is sometimes contentious with all members contributing to a detailed discussion of agenda issues.



One key role of the Board is to develop new leaders in the membership and encourage their service on the Board and in key administrative positions. Most notable are essential tasks currently filled by senior members including treasurer, communications chairman/newspaper editor, membership chairman and web site manager. If the Association is to survive and prosper, younger public affairs professionals with fresh new ideas and energy must step forward and assume the mantle of leadership.

“People don’t join organizations anymore” is a much-heard comment as countless groups across the nation experience declines in membership and vanish from the scene. Those who have observed the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association over the years are often amazed and inquisitive regarding the reasons for its ongoing success as a viable and productive organization. The answer lies with continuing efforts to enhance the value of membership combined with vigorous and innovative recruiting efforts such as the recently implemented Member Get A Member (MGM) campaign.

Provisions of the highly successful MGM program call for complimentary one-year memberships for active duty, reserve and civil service public affairs professionals. Generating an immediate response, the promotion has resulted in scores of applications driving AFPAAA membership toward record levels. The Board continues to pursue similar opportunities to recruit new members and, just as important, to retain current members.

Early responses indicate a heavy turnout for the 2008 AFPAAA Annual Meeting in San Antonio May 15-17. The on-site team has created an intense and productive itinerary of interest to all. Look forward to tours and briefings at area military facilities including a visit to the Center for the Intrepid, the advanced rehabilitation center for returning military amputees and burn victims. Events conclude with the Saturday evening annual banquet promising more than a few surprises. Be sure and use this occasion to extend a warm welcome to the many new members attending for the first time.

– Pete Peterson

New Slogan Aims Recruiting Efforts At AF's Next Generation

The Air Force's new advertising campaign to recruit the next generation of Blue Suiters, as well as better inform people about the Air Force mission, centers on the slogan "Above All."

"The new slogan is admittedly a bold one," said Colonel Michael Caldwell, Air Force Deputy Director of Public Affairs, "but so are Airmen." The campaign aims to accurately portray Air Force people and how they perform the Air Force mission of ensuring the security and safety of America now and in the future.

"Above All" is about what we do and how we do it," Colonel Caldwell said. "The job of the Air Force is to defend America and we do that by dominating air, space, and cyberspace. The new campaign and slogan capture our roots, but also illustrate where we're going



as a service as the Air Force prepares to contend with future threats."

The campaign seeks to create a dialogue with potential recruits, their parents, and those most likely to influence young people to join the military about the Air Force's critical role in defending America's future.

The "Above All" campaign began in February and can be

seen on television, in print, and in cyberspace. In addition to being shown at sporting events, "Above All" ads are on during the commercial breaks of many television top-rated news and entertainment programs, as well as being in magazines.

The campaign features actual members of the Air Force performing their missions.

Staff Sergeant Lee Jones from Barksdale Air Force Base, LA, is featured in the campaign as a front line warrior in the Air Force's cyberspace warfighting domain.

"I'm excited to be a part of this and to represent the Air Force this way," said Sergeant Jones, a computer systems operator and cyberwarrior. "'Above All' is a great slogan because it says how we shine in what we do to defend our nation and accomplish our mission."

The Above All slogan was chosen over several other phrases as best describing the Air Force mission. "From all the research we did about how people feel about the Air Force - including civilians, Airmen, and representatives of other services - this was the phrase that stood out the most," said Colonel Caldwell.

Guide For Military Families Dealing With Media After A Tragedy Available On-Line

AFPAAA and PRSA member Christopher Hoppin, who has seen more than his share of helpful guides to working with the media, recommends "*Guide for Military Families on Dealing with the Media After a Tragedy*." Written by Ami Neiberger-Miller, APR, and distributed by her firm, Steppingstone LLC, it is available on the internet at: www.steppingstonellc.com/Resources.htm Once there just click on the title to view or download the text.

She wrote the guide after her brother, Christopher, was

killed in Iraq in August and dealing with the media for her family. "As a seasoned media relations professional, it seemed natural that I would manage media on behalf of my family in the days following his death. For me, talking to reporters was something I had done for ten years. I knew what to do - or so I thought," Ami writes in the introduction.

But, from that experience, she realized that often when military families are contacted by the media, it is during some of the worst moments of

their lives - after the death or serious injury of a loved one in action. When they are least able to cope, they are thrust into the unfamiliar media spotlight and expected to make decisions about their participation that will both honor their loved one and protect their privacy.

She does not see these dealings as a necessarily negative situation - it can be an opportunity to honor the life and sacrifice of a loved one and provide information to family and friends you don't have close contact

with - but there is still a need to be prepared for any eventuality.

She covers many facets of dealing with the media and the tragedy, including *Reporters and Children; Dealing with Protestors: What now?*, and *After the Story Runs: Preserving Memories*.

Her experience has led her to do media relations work for the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) - www.taps.org - working with families who have lost loved ones in military service.

‘The UN Is Different’ – Temple Black Details Public Affairs In The Balkans

When Lieutenant Colonel Temple Black called his friend Jacques Klein of the State Department in early 1996 to congratulate him on being named the Transitional Administrator for the United Nations in Eastern Slavonia, little did he realize that his call would move him from the very familiar environs of the Chief of Media Command to the middle of the tumultuous Balkans.

Klein had been the Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force for International Affairs when Temple had been a major in the Pentagon and they had worked together; now he wanted him to be his media advisor. Black accepted.

In Zagreb, he met some of the staff he would work with and inquired about where they were going and was told, “Oh, we’re going to where the Serbs & Croats are still shooting at each other and where the mass graves are . . . so get ready!”

Arriving in Vukovar, which borders on Serbia, Black was “shocked by the devastation . . .” and ended up living in “. . . a home that had more bullet holes than any house in a five-mile area.”

As he set about getting a media program going he quickly realized “The UN was “different “ from the Air Force.”

He found that, with the exception of the United States and British forces, the rest of the U.N. force was essentially indifferent to the mission.

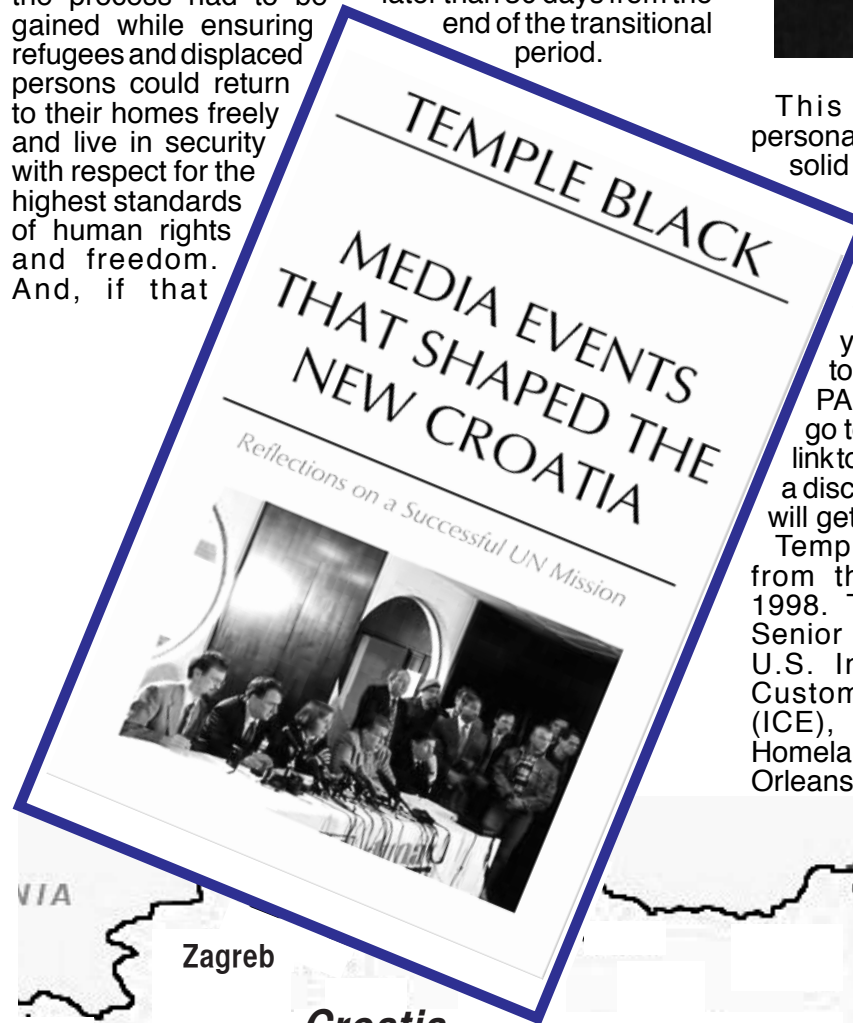
Black’s job was to advise Klein on the best ways to use media to bring the region, which bordered on Serbia, under the control of Croatia while maintaining its multi ethnic character. In addition, the people’s confidence in the process had to be gained while ensuring refugees and displaced persons could return to their homes freely and live in security with respect for the highest standards of human rights and freedom. And, if that

wasn’t enough, the media effort had to promote the redevelopment and reconstruction of the region in consonance with the overall plans of the Republic of Croatia, including organizing free and fair local elections no later than 30 days from the end of the transitional period.



This book blends personal anecdotes with solid information on the goals established, the planning process, and how the program was executed. Get your copy by going to afpaaa.org, hit the PA Store button and go to the bookstore to link to amazon; you’ll get a discount and AFPAAA will get credit too.

Temple Black retired from the Air Force in 1998. Today he is the Senior Spokesman for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Department of Homeland Security, New Orleans, Louisiana.



Donald E. Burgrabbe

Don Burgrabbe, who had an immeasurable impact in shaping and guiding the people in the Air Force Public Affairs community, passed peacefully in his sleep at home on the morning of January 26th, 2008.

Don was born in his parents house in East St. Louis on June 24, 1932, and was declared stillborn and left on the kitchen table while the doctor tended his mother. But, restless squalling sounds from the kitchen alerted the family that little Don was very much alive, much to the ultimate benefit of his family, friends, the Air Force, and the nation.



He wanted to fly, and joined the Navy Aviation Cadets in 1950; but, at the end of basic training, he learned he was color-blind, wouldn't be allowed to fly, and departed the Navy. He went to Southeast Missouri State at Cape Girardeau, took up acting, started working in broadcasting and founded the Sigma Tau fraternity.

When Uncle Sam came calling in 1954, Don went to the Air Force recruiting office. Don secured a copy of the eye test, memorized it, and, although he didn't become a pilot, became a master navigator. While flying missions out of Sacramento and the Philippines, he created and aired radio shows for the Air Force.

Don moved from cockpit to the Information career. In the 70s, while struggling to come up with a new slogan for Air Force advertisements, his superior asked him why he was in the Air Force. Don replied, "It's a great way of life", and that became the official Air Force slogan for decades.

Among his assignments, he was the first Information career manager at the Air Force Personnel Center and headed the Los Angeles Office of Information until he retired as a colonel in 1980.

He thrived in the Air Force and in private industry after his retirement, but Don's greatest love and passion was always for his family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Alice Burgrabbe, sister Barbara Marble of Battle Creek, MI, brother Brad Burgrabbe of Marquette, MI, his three children, Brock and his wife Sharon, Boyd and his wife Samantha, and Alisa, her husband Tom, and their two children, Merritt and Marlene.

Donations in his memory may be sent to the American Cancer Society or Sutter VNA and Hospice-Roseville, 1836 Sirrea Gardens Drive, Roseville, CA 95661.

Don rescued my career in 1970, reassigning me from the Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories, Hanscom Field, Massachusetts, to Luke AFB, Arizona. That gave me a chance to show what I could do and led to my career going beyond the rank of captain. He had a real human touch for people with problems and always seemed to be able to solve those problems and make life better for the ones who needed help.

– John Terino

Don was always a straight shooter, a guy who did his best to make it work for you but didn't lead you on when something wasn't doable. We were fortunate to have him at the beginning because he set the bar very high for all those who followed him.

– Dave Schillerstrom

Lord Guan

Because I served in the Secretary's Office of Public Affairs under its various names from 1954 to 1985, I clearly recall Don Burgrabbe with great fondness. As a civilian employee, I did not deal closely with him in terms of personnel moves as did all the officers, but I recall how respected and loved he was by all those who served with him over the years. Don was one of the most affable, laid back and savvy officers I knew during all those years. He was the kind of person who is not only fun, but worthwhile, to be around. And seeing him from time to time in more recent years at AF Public Affairs Alumni Association annual meetings has always been good for my spirits.

– Frank Jennings

When Major Burgrabbe was the first IO personnel guy at Randolph, I was a missile launch officer in Wyoming. I read an article in AF Times about the Palace Info position with Don's name and number. I called him and said I wanted to be one of you guys. He made it happen, including convincing a board to disregard a letter from SAC that said, basically, that the security of the free world rested on my remaining a SAC missileer. Although there may be many that say I would have done less damage had I stayed around nuclear weapons, I was always ready to buy Don's drinks if we were in the same bar. Unfortunately, that rarely happened but I thought the world of him. He's one of the IO/PA legends that will be missed.

– Neil Buttimer



Don banters v

I did not know Don Burgrabbe, but when I read his obituary I felt an instant connection as a fellow color-blind PA comedian. If you read the obit, you'll know what I mean. I was in a joint assignment. The Army insisted that color vision was part of my Air Force reenlistment package. Not wanting to argue the point, I agreed to the test knowing full well that I have a color differential problem. Similar to Don's approach, I got the Army medics laughing so much they had to restart the test three times, and by then I had memorized enough of the cards to pass the test. I'm sure it was fun to be with him. My best to his friends and family.

– Tom Clements

Don Burgrabbe will long be remembered by many as one of the pioneers in the Air Force Public Affairs career field. He was the best Palace Info career advisor that we ever had. When I was uncertain about staying in the Air Force, I remember him saying: "the captains of today will be the colonels of tomorrow." I believed him and decided to stay. Don was always a straight-shooter and did a great job in matching service requirements with personal desires. He, along with General Jerry Dalton, helped build the foundation of what became the premier military public affairs organization.

– Art Forster

ard & Guide

How many people do you know who can inspire and lead long distance, by phone? But, Don did, he had a certain greatness of character that inspired other.

– Jack Gregory

Don Burggrabe's most lasting contribution to the Air Force and its public affairs community was his time as the PA career advisor at the Air Force Military Personnel Center at Randolph AFB, Texas. Don's savvy guidance enhanced our careers, and maybe even saved some. As a captain, having missed an opportunity for a Master's Degree due to a Southeast Asia assignment (there WAS a war on, after all...) I told Don I was thinking about hanging up the blue suit. He made sure I got the next available Air Force scholarship for public affairs professionals. That boosted my chances for promotion and the very rewarding assignments that followed. I'm sure many of us could tell similar stories about the help Don gave us. Don always had a great perspective on things, even when they weren't going well at the moment. I truly enjoyed knowing him. We'll all miss him very much.

– Mark Foutch

To many AFPAAA members of a certain age, Don Burggrabe was either mentor, career advisor, recruiter - or all three. Many more blue suiters will recall that "A great way of life" was the official Air Force mantra for years. But few know that those

words were Don's, uttered as a reply to the question, "why did you join the Air Force?" . . . I appreciate this opportunity to tell you publicly, Alice – you and your family – how much those of us who were part of Don's Air Force family valued his friendship, his leadership, and, perhaps most of all, his "can do" approach to life . . . Don Burggrabe inspired, cajoled, guided, led and in some cases rescued countless people during his life. He cared; he had a human touch. He was, not only fun, but also worthwhile. For that and much, much more, we, the members of his Air Force family will cherish his memory and miss him too. (From grave side eulogy)

– John Gura

Really sorry to hear about Don. He was such a great guy, a true leader, and had lots of smarts. He was also extremely adept at navigating the mine fields buried in the air staff.

– Brian Sheehan

Don was the single person most responsible for my career. When Reade Tilley "found" me teaching ROTC at the University of Puerto Rico, he went to Don to get me into the PA career field. I went to DINFOS, graduated top of my class and went to work for Reade at ADC Hqs . . . From then on Don was a monitor, mentor and friend. I remember a story he told, he had what he thought was bad news from his doctor, and said he was going home in a brand new car and a VERY

expensive motor home and let everyone figure out why . . . May God rest his soul – especially because he took a waif like me under his wing. One of the last things he said to me was he regretted not getting me to O6. However, it was my doing, not his. My kids needed the stability and schooling that retirement brought and I made the choice. Don was funny, iconoclastic, and cared very much about those officers he had in his charge. I only wish he knew how truly grateful I was - and am - to him. I told him, but . . .

– Robert Hunter

Don, Alice and their children became friends of Pat, myself and our three sons when our families lived in Universal City, near Randolph Air Force Base in the early seventies. I remember Don as a good friend, a fellow officer and Air Force Recruiting advertiser, a personal mentor and role model, a wonderful host and a very supportive, caring individual in every way. His smile was infectious. His attitude was always positive and supportive.

I'll never forget how Don kept a stenographer's notebook with him wherever he went, writing in small script detail after detail about the many projects he juggled daily. Though I tried to follow his lead and become as organized, I will never be the juggler Don was. He was a master of detail, a creative manager, a very friendly and outgoing person, a natural leader, and an excellent role model for the younger officers in our organization.

When Don and Alice left the San Antonio area heading west after retirement, we missed them greatly then, and now we will miss Don even more. To Alice and Don's entire extended family, we hope you realize how sorry we are for your loss. We are all are thinking of you.

We pray with you for Don as he navigates his final heavenly journey. May God bless you and be with you in our mutual time of sorrow.

– Troy Brand

Marjorie M. Gray

Marjorie M. Gray, who had a military career from World War II until the 1970s, died in February at the Long Island State Veterans Home in Stony Brook. She was 95.

Marjorie was born in Manhattan in 1912, but her family moved to Cliffside Park, N.J., shortly thereafter. She graduated from what is now the Douglass Residential College at New Jersey's Rutgers University. Her first flight was on July 4, 1937, at what is now Francis S. Gabreski Airport in Westhampton Beach. A year later, she soloed and received her pilot's license.

She was a women's aviation pioneer. During World War II she was in the first class of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) in Houston, and flew B-24, B-25, B-26, C-47, and 15 other types of aircraft. The WASP were disbanded when the war ended and she ran Marjorie M. Gray Inc. Aero Service from 1946-1950, training pilots and flying charters. Subsequently she worked for Curtiss Aviation, was an associate editor for Flying Magazine from 1953-1960, and retired from Grumman Aviation in 1981.

Her civilian career as an editor of technical publications

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with Bob Hope



did not deter her from pursuing her love of aviation. She helped organize a women's pilots club on Long Island.

Majorie joined the Air Force Reserve in 1950 and was an active member of the New York Public Affairs Reserve Squadron. She retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1972.

Charles D. Cooper

The Air Force Public Affairs community lost a good friend and former colleague when Colonel Charles D. (Chuck) Cooper, USAF (Ret), 75, passed away at his home in Springfield, Virginia, January 4, after a long battle with cancer. After more than 18 years of Air Force pilot duty, Chuck began his public affairs career in 1972 as Chief of Internal Information, and later as Deputy Director of Information, Headquarters, Air Force Logistics Command, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. From January 1976 to July 1977, he served as Deputy Director of Information at Headquarters, 5th Air Force/U.S. Forces Japan, Yokota AB, Japan.



Col. Cooper came to the Pentagon in September 1977, where he served as SAF/PA's Deputy Chief, Community Relations Division, and later as Deputy Chief, then Chief, Media Relations Division. He concluded his military career in December 1983 as Director, Information Division, Air Force Service Information News Service, with duty at the Pentagon.

Following a two-year sabbatical doing volunteer work in his community and with his church, Chuck joined The Retired Officer Association as Executive Editor of The Retired Officer Magazine. From September 1986 to December 1996, Chuck served as the Association's Director of Publications and Editor of the magazine.

Chuck was born and raised in Exeter, NH. He began college at the University of New Hampshire in Durham and was active in Air Force ROTC. His interest in radio and television prompted him to transfer to Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. He continued in the ROTC program and became Cadet wing commander.

Upon graduation in 1954, he received his commission as an Air Force second lieutenant. He later entered pilot training at Williams AFB, AZ, earning his wings in February 1956. He subsequently served as a pilot, instructor/flight examiner, aide-de-camp, and research and development test pilot at bases in the U.S., Germany, and the Republic of Vietnam. He accumulated more than 9,000 flying hours in T-29, C-131, C-54, U-10, and T-39 aircraft.

Chuck was a shrine mason and member of the Gilkey Masonic Lodge #101 in Groveton, NH. As a member of Messiah United Methodist Church in Springfield, VA, he was active in the church choir, served on the finance committee, and participated in other service activities.

Funeral services were held at the Messiah United Methodist Church in Springfield, Virginia, on January 19.

Burial with full military honors was February 21 at Arlington National Cemetery.

Surviving Chuck are his wife Beverly, a former Air Force nurse, daughters Liane and Kristin, son Dale and two grandchildren.

The family requests that those desiring to make memorial gifts do so to one of the following:

Messiah UMC Music Fund
6215 Rolling Road
Springfield VA 22152

The Jefferson Foundation for Pancreatic
Cancer Surgical Research
925 Chestnut Street, Suite 110
Philadelphia PA 19107-4216

Colonel Coop, as we called him, was a good friend, mentor and all-round good guy to many of us junior officers in SAF/PA in the late 70's and early 80's. He had a great sense of humor, some would say a warped sense of humor – it was great just to be around him. He fought many battles for us young guys and gals – always passing on the kudos while accepting all the darts from the senior Air Staff and Secretariat leaders. He was an accomplished writer and editor, skills he applied later as editor of The Retired Officer Magazine. Chuck was a devoted family man and an active member of his church. He displayed courage and grace during a long battle with cancer and will be missed by many.

– Art Forster

Colonel Cooper was a real institution. He taught all us "younger folk" so much, and always stood up for what he believed. His sometimes gruff exterior covered a real heart of gold. And he had the greatest sense of humor - I will never forget the way he peered over the tops of his glasses at us when we did something stupid. He will be missed.

– Valerie (Elbow) Johnston

Chuck was our DINFOS class president in the fall of 1972 when I cross trained into Public Affairs after nine years doing other things in the Air Force. He was cross training at the same time and we have stayed in touch ever since. Of all Chuck's good qualities, the three that stood out most to me were his positive attitude about everything, his incredible energy, and his great sense of humor. His e-mails were always a treat to get and I already miss them. He put up a tremendous battle. Alas, FlyBoyFifty6 has fallen silent. God bless him.

– Wayne Corbett

I only knew Chuck slightly when I was at SAF/PA, but after, when he edited The Retired Officer and I was free-lancing we got to know each other well. Chuck was a real pro and a very warm human being; may we all be so blessed.

– John Terino

2008 Thunderbirds Schedule



The 2008 season for the Air Forces Aerial Demonstration Squadron –The Thunderbirds– began two weeks ago, but there are still plenty of opportunities to see the Air Force’s premier flying unit as it will make appearances across the nation and in Canada until from now through November. Just check the schedule and pick your spot.

April

5 & 6 — Punta Gorda FL
 12 & 13 — Lakeland FL
 19 & 20 — Wilmington NC
 26 — Charleston AFB SC

May

3 & 4 — March ARB CA
 10 & 11 — Langley AFB VA
 17 & 18 — Fort Smith AR
 24 — Tinker AFB OK
 28 — U.S. Air Force Academy (Invitation only)
 31 — McGuire AFB NJ

June

1 — McGuire AFB NJ
 7 & 8 — Rockford IL
 14 & 15 — Quebec City Canada
 21 — Klamath Falls OR
 24 — Eielson AFB, AK
 28 & 29 — Elmendorf AFB AK

July

4 & 6 — Battle Creek MI

12 & 13 — Milwaukee WI
 19 & 20 — McChord AFB WA
 23 — Cheyenne WY
 26 & 27 — Rochester NY

August

8 & 10 — Abbotsford Canada
 16 & 17 — Offutt AFB NE
 20 — Atlantic City NJ
 23 & 24 — Kansas City MO
 30 & 31 — Travis AFB CA

September

6 & 7 — Westover ARB MA
 12 & 13 — Reno NV
 14 — Mountain Home AFB ID
 20 & 21 — Scott AFB IL

27 & 28 — Salinas CA

October

4 — Vance AFB OK
 11 & 12 — Fort Worth TX
 18 & 19 — Dobbins AFB GA
 25 & 26 — Houston TX

November

1 & 2 — Lafayette LA
 8 & 9 — Nellis AFB NV

Military Golf Classic May 27-31 At Myrtle Beach

Heads up, AFPAAA duffers, the 25th Annual National Retired Military Golf Classic will be held May 27 - 31 at Myrtle Beach, S.C. It will be played on five courses at the Myrtle Beach National and Wildwing Golf Clubs.

There are slots for 872 men and 128 women in this tournament who will

compete for more than \$125,000 in cash and prizes this year. Among the prizes will be a car – a Chrysler – as a special hole-in-one prize for both men and women.

Golfers who are on the tournament’s mailing list have been sent applications. Those who have not received an application can find

them at most military golf courses around the United States.

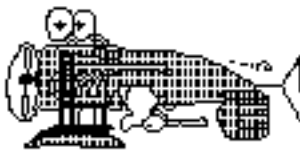
Since the first of February, acceptance has been on a first-come, first-serve basis, with a waiting list established once the tournament is full.

If you don’t have a military golf course nearby, call (866) 469-7853; write to Oceana

Resorts, National Retired Military Golf Classic, P.O. Box 3608, Myrtle Beach, SC 29578; or go to: www.oceanaresorts.com/myrtle-beach-golf/retired-military-golf-classic.asp

More than \$35,000 has been donated by the Classic to the Fisher House Foundation.

Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association News & Notes, John Terino, editor, is published quarterly for members by the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association, P. O. Box 447, Locust Grove, VA 22508-0447. On-line subscriptions are available at www.afpaaa.org. **Membership Information:** Individuals who have served in Air Force Public Affairs, an Air Force Band, or as an Air Force Broadcaster, military or civilian are eligible for *Full Membership*. Current or former Air Force Public Affairs, Broadcasters, or Bandsmen, military or civilian, still on active duty, or in the Guard or Reserve are eligible for *Associate Membership*. **Membership Rates:** \$300 for life membership (payable in four quarterly \$75 installments). \$25 for one-year membership or \$50 for a three-year full membership. \$10 for one-year or \$20 for three-year associate membership. Membership applications are available at www.afpaaa.org. **Board of Directors and Officers:** Chairman, Tom Halbert; President, Pete Peterson; Vice President, Sam Giammo; Secretary, Christine Queen; Treasurer, Jim Hart; Members Dick Abel, Sam Giammo, Tom Halbert, Jim Hart, Hank Hufnagel, C. B. Kelly, Pete Peterson, Hal Smarkola, John Terino, Christine Queen. **Committee Chairmen:** Annual Meeting, Sam Giammo; Communications, John Terino; Development, Joe Purka; Elections, Kathy McCollom; Finance, Jim Hart; Membership, Neil Buttimer; Oral History, John Gura; Public Relations, Bud Ross; Web Site, John Gura.



Prop Wash & Jet Blast



Welcome Aboard To . . . Jeff Capenos, Denise Kerr, Lon Lancaster, Lisa K. Polarek, Libby Van Hook, Steve Wolfe.

New Lifer . . . Congratulations to Bob Glymph who upgraded his membership to Lifetime status.

You Better Hurry . . . to apply for the Defense Media Activity (DMA) Director job. Applications for the \$114,468.00 to \$172,200.00 position under announcement DMA-SES-08-001 are due by Thursday, April 17. The DMA Director reports to the ASD/PA, oversees a budget of more than \$225 million, and heads a world-wide group of 2400 military, civilian, and contractor personnel. Go to: dma.mil for full details and a link to OPM web site and application instructions.

Movin' Up . . . to two stars, Associate Member and SAF/PA Director Darren McDew, who has been selected for promotion to Major General.

On To Ninety-One . . . years that is, for Member Ken Blackshaw, who piloted B-17s in WW II, retired from the Air Force as a colonel in 1963, and is probably best remembered by most of us for his civil service career during which he headed the CFC in the Pentagon. Ken celebrated his 90th birthday, March 8, at the National Press Club.

Such A Deal . . . Plan to retire in the Las Vegas area? Lifetime Founder Brian Sheehan's son, Scott, President of TSL Builders, is offering AFPAAA members up to 35% off the regular price on custom built homes. "A new area retirees love is Parrumph, about 40 minutes from the Las Vegas Strip, where truly beautiful homes can be built for as little as \$300,000 on very good sized lots," Scott said. TSL has built more than two hundred custom homes in the past five years. For details give Scott a call at 702-869-5678 or buzz Brian in the Washington DC area at 703-416-1950.

Did You Get Yours? . . . the 2008 AFPAAA Membership Directory – if not, contact Neil Buttimer at: buttimer@afpaaa.org or call him : 540 972-0083. And, a special thanks to BAE Systems for printing the directories.

Veni, Vidi, Vici



Barbara Pushed The Buttons – AFPAAA Lifetime Founder John Terino holds the lead crystal trophy, but it was wife Barbara who was the big winner on January 23rd when this picture with Caesar and Cleopatra was taken. Barbara took first place in the Caesars Palace Las Vegas "Millionaire Maker Slot Tournament" and walked away with \$50,000. The win qualifies her for participation in the "Millionaire Maker Tournament of Champions" in October when the top prize will be a cool million bucks.

Directory Updates

Jeff Capenos

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Denise Kerr

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Lon Lancaster

Major, 1970 Crosslake Cove #1, Ft Walton Beach FL 32547, (850) 974-3041; Business: USAF Special Operations School, Hurlburt Field FL 32544, (850) 884-4756, E-mail: llancas@earthlink.net

Lisa K. Polarek

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Libby Van Hook

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Steve Wolfe

YC-2, 1921 South Charleston Rd., Jamestown OH 45335, (937) 675-2866, Business: 88th ABW/PA, 5215 Thurlow, Ste. 4, Wright Patterson AFB OH 45433, (937) 522-3252, Fax: (937) 522-3500, E-mail: steve.wolfe@wpafb.af.mil

Registration Form



Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Name(s) of Guest(s): _____

Are you a new member of AFPAAA? No Yes Is this your first AFPAAA Annual Meeting? No Yes

How do you want your name/guest name to appear on your name badges: _____

How many in your party will take the tour on Fri, May 16th ? _____

Full Registration

Includes all events on Fri & Sat (Except Optional Dinner & Golf) Members Attending _____ x \$150= _____
 (Note: Must be registered by May 1, 2008) Guests Attending _____ x \$140= _____

Partial Registration

Welcome Icebreaker (No Host Bar) 5-8 pm, Thurs, May 15 Members & Guests _____ **Free** \$0.00

Trip to Randolph AFB & Center for the Intrepid, Fri, May 16 Full Registration _____ **Included** \$0.00
 (Includes bus transportation & President's Luncheon) Members Attending _____ x \$60= _____
 Guests Attending _____ x \$60= _____

President's Luncheon Only, Fri, May 16 Full Registration _____ **Included** \$0.00
 Members Attending _____ x \$20= _____
 Guests Attending _____ x \$20= _____

Saturday Briefings, SAF/PA Luncheon, Membership Meeting Full Registration _____ **Included** \$0.00
 (Membership meeting is open to all members & guests) Members Attending _____ x \$40= _____
 Guests Attending _____ x \$40= _____

Saturday Night Reception and Banquet Full Registration _____ **Included** \$0.00
 # of Chicken _____ # of Beef _____ Members Attending _____ x \$60= _____
 Guests Attending _____ x \$60= _____

Optional Friday Night Dinner at "The Republic of Texas" and Champagne Boat Ride on the San Antonio River Members Attending _____ x \$45= _____
 (Space is limited . . . First come, first served) Guests Attending _____ x \$45= _____

Optional Golf Tournament for AFPAAA Members, Thurs, May 15 Members Attending _____ x \$50= _____
 (Price includes transportation, green fees, cart, prizes) Guests Attending _____ x \$50= _____

Total Remitted _____

Please make your check or money order payable to **AFPAAA**. Mail it with your completed registration form to: Linda Arnold, Attn: AFPAAA, 1831 Parhaven Drive, San Antonio, TX 78232

Registration received after May 1, 2008 will be charged a \$25 (per attendee) late registration fee.

Hotel Arrangements: We have negotiated a block of rooms at LaQuinta Convention Center Inn & Suites, 303 Blum, San Antonio, at a rate of \$89 per night. To make reservations, call 800 531-5900 and ask for discount code **Air Force Public Affairs**. The hotel is offering this rate for 3 days prior to and 3 days after our meeting.

Please go to www.AFPAAA.org/annualmeet.html for additional info on the hotel, planned activities, and driving directions.

**Do You Know The Way
To San Antonio
May 15-17?
– see page 2**



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