



News and Notes

January 2023

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Kenneth Raimondi, a GS-12 audiovisual specialist at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, is this year's AFPAAA Best of the Best. (Courtesy Photo)

Civilian Producer selected as 2022's "Best of the Best"

By Dick Cole
Editor

Ken Raimondi, lead producer and director for the 3d Audiovisual Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland has been named this year's winner of the AFPAAA Brig, Gen. James W. Hart, Jr., Best of the Best Award.

As the award winner, Raimondi will have his airfare and hotel paid for by the association to attend the 2023 annual meeting in Tampa, Fla., a \$1,000 cash award, an engraved trophy and an AFPAAA life membership. Additionally, Raimondi's name will be added to the plaque with the names of all of the

award winners on permanent display in the Brig. Gen. H.J. Dalton, Jr., Conference Room in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force (Public Affairs).

Raimondi was selected the most outstanding public affairs person from the nominated bandsmen, broadcasters, multimedia and public affairs specialists.

"I don't take being named 'Best of the Best,' lightly," said Raimondi. "I know so many talented and creative PA professionals who deserve this kind of recognition. We have an incredible pool of talent. We need to learn how to create environments that allow these talents to push the boundaries and get the public talking about the incredible

(cont'd on p.3)

**Happy
New
Year!**

From the President's pen...



Happy New Year! I am pleased to report that planning for our annual meeting in Tampa is continuing as Perry Nouis, our committee chair, reports on page 10 of this issue of *News and Notes*.

Speaking of *News and Notes*, I hope our members are happy with the format and content of the newsletter with Dick Cole at the helm, and once again I would like to sincerely thank John Terino for his 25 years of selfless service to the Association as our newsletter editor.

Let me add my personal congratulations to

Kenneth Raimondi on his selection as the AFPAAA Brig, Gen. James W. Hart, Jr., Best of the Best Award winner! We look forward to meeting Ken in Tampa!

Remember, too, that if you are interested in serving on the Association's Board of Directors that your nomination is due by February 1. The article directly below explains the procedure for submitting a nomination.

Best wishes to all for a happy and prosperous 2023!

Greg

Nominations Due February 1 for April's Board of Directors Election

If you want to be on the AFPAAA Board of Directors election ballot in April, you must get in your request by February 1.

Any full member of AFPAAA in good standing can run for one of the six open seats in the election. Successful candidates will serve a two-year term on the Board beginning July 1.

A member who wants to be a candidate for the Board should make that known by February 1 to the nominating committee lead by Perry Nouis by submitting a nomination packet to him at perry.nouis@gmail.com.

The committee will screen the pack-

ets received for suitable candidates to be placed on the ballot.

Packets should include a short resume/biography that would encourage members to vote for them. It should briefly state their qualifications; how they have supported AFPAAA, and why they want to be on Board of Directors. A head and shoulders picture, either jpeg or TIFF format, or a print suitable for scanning should be included.

Potential candidates should understand that being a member of the Board means they are willing to enter the leadership progression to potentially become secretary, vice

president, president, and ultimately, Chairman of the Board.

The ballot will be in April's *News and Notes* and online voting via AFPAAA's website will also be available. Election results will be posted on the website and in the July issue of *News and Notes*.

The terms of five Board members that are seeking reelection—Brett Ashworth, John Dorrian, Doug Kennett, Chuck Merlo and Carla Sylvester—expire June 30. Incumbent John Gura is not running.



“Best of the Best” (cont’d from p. 1)

work our Air Force does.”

Raimondi is responsible for producing high-quality staff and major command video productions. He works independently with senior level officials in determining communications goals, target audiences, and distribution methods for audiovisual productions. This includes writing scripts, shooting video, and editing the products. He also produces live event broadcasts and directs crews of as many as 20 production personnel.

“I am incredibly honored and in all honesty, surprised to have won this award!” Raimondi said. “I’ve spent most of my career Public Affairs adjacent. I worked for AFN, Air Force Recruiting Service and the 3d Audiovisual Squadron. In each of these capacities, I’ve created products for Public Affairs efforts but only in recent years do I feel like I’ve had the opportunity to shape how those products are used. In that capacity, I have felt more empowered and seen more success than I ever had before. I hope that by earning this award, as a non-traditional PA, others in the enterprise feel empowered to use their expertise and knowledge to shape how and where their talents can be most effective for the Public Affairs mission.”

Raimondi was assigned as the lead producer and director in Sep-



Raimondi hosts and welcomes Public Affairs professionals to the 2022 Storytelling Workshop in San Antonio, Texas. (Courtesy Photo)

tember 2022. Prior to that, he had been working as a producer/director with the 3d AVS for five years. He recently earned a Lonestar Emmy nomination for his work on a docuseries titled, “Basic.”

He has earned multiple civilian of the year honors and was named a “Top Ten Outstanding Young American” by the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce in 2017.

He served in the Air Force, leaving as a master sergeant. His distinguished military career includes being a two-time Levittow Award winner — once at Airman Leadership School and once in the Noncommissioned Officer Academy. He served in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and served two

years in the Republic of Korea.

His work while in uniform was recognized with multiple annual awards to include being named Air Force Recruiting Service’s top enlisted airman and competing for the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year. He’s also won a number of Air Force and DoD Media Contest awards.

His military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

He has a bachelor’s degree in history from Thomas Edison State University and a master’s degree in fine arts in film from the Vermont College of the Fine Arts.



Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association News and Notes, Dick Cole, editor, is published quarterly for members by the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association, P. O. Box 2446, East Peoria, IL 61611-2446. On-line subscriptions are available at www.AFPAAA.org **Membership Information:** Those who have served in Air Force Bands, Broadcasting, Multimedia, and Public Affairs career fields, as either military or civilian, are eligible for Full Membership. Current or former members of those career fields, still on active duty, or in the Guard or Reserve are eligible for Associate Membership. **Membership Rates:** Lifetime \$300 (payable in four quarterly \$75 installments); Full Membership, one-year \$25 or three years \$50. Associate Membership, one-year \$10 or three years \$20. Membership applications are available at www.AFPAAA.org **Officers and Board of Directors:** Chairman, Brett Ashworth; President, Greg Smith; Vice President, John Dorrian; Secretary, Eric Schnaible; Treasurer, Phil Ratliff, Julie Briggs, Dick Cole, Doug Kennett, Jim McGuire, Chuck Merlo, David Phillips, Jerry Renne, and Carla Sylvester. **Committee Chairmen:** Annual Membership Meeting Coordinator, Perry Nous; Communications, Dick Cole; Development, Joe Purka; Elections, Kathy McCollom; Finance, Phil Ratliff; Membership, Christine Queen; Oral History, John Gura; Website, Jim McGuire; SAF/PA Liaison, Lou Timmons.

LORD GUARD AND GUIDE



DARRELL C. HAYES

Darrell Clifton Hayes, 75, passed away on Thursday, October 13, 2022, after being involved in a motorcycle accident on October 3.

Loving husband of Rozella; cherished father of Tamara Donohue (Brian); grandfather of Will, Eric and the late Jackson Donohue; brother of Yvonne Valverde (Dan) and Dale Hayes. He will be missed by many.

Darrell was the oldest of three children, born in Grand Junction, Colo., to Clifton and Lois Hayes. As a child he moved all over the world, finally settling in Albuquerque, New Mexico. There he met Rozella P. McCabe and they were married in December 1970.

After graduating from the University of New Mexico with B.S. and M.A. degrees, he served for 22 years in the United States Air Force in a variety of personnel and public affairs positions, additionally receiving a second M.A. degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Following his career with the USAF, he opened his own public relations

firm, served as the managing director of the Aerospace Education Foundation and was a full-time adjunct faculty member in the School of Communication at American University where he taught public communication campaign courses for graduate students and theory classes for undergraduates. Until 2011, when he retired from full-time teaching, he served as an assistant professor and also as director of the Weekend Public Communication Graduate Program for working professionals. He taught crisis communication and a variety of practical professional courses in the School of Communication. He also taught courses in media relations and crisis management for the School of International Service.

He was the author and editor of *Public Relations Cases*, 9th edition, published in January 2012 and also of the 8th and 7th editions—a textbook used on more than 125 college campuses. He also conducted media relations courses for the U.S. Department of State Antiterrorism Assistance Program.

He was accredited with the National Public Relations Society of America.

Darrell was an active member of First Baptist Church of Alexandria. He taught various Sunday School classes, sang in the church choir, served as a deacon, chair of the executive church council and church historian.

A funeral service was held at First Baptist Church of Alexandria, October 26, 2022. Inurnment followed at Quantico National Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Baptist Church of Alexandria building fund.

Darrell Hayes was one of our profession's best communicators. And he was my friend. I knew him for his last years of active duty and through his service to the Air Force Association, as a valued faculty member at American University, in private public relations practice, and in retirement. He had the ability to assess a situation and determine just the right course of action in a calm, measured manner.

He approached his tenure at AU in the same way. I had the privilege of watching him teach a number of times, and there were always valuable lessons about the subject and from his manner of presenting it.

Darrell and I did a lot of guy stuff. Our mutual fondness for motorcycles, sailboats, and automobiles made for an easy partnership.

Not everyone knew that he suffered from a chronic form of leukemia for nearly 10 years. His treatments were tough on him at times. He kept me updated, but he never complained, focusing instead on the good care he received at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, and Ft. Belvoir. His hallmarks were service to and consideration of others.

I miss him greatly, but through our common, strong Christian faith, I know where he is.

— Alan DeFend

Darrell was one of the best and brightest PAOs I ever served with. A meticulous planner, outstanding communicator and consensus builder, Darrell was a

much sought after advisor on critical, late-breaking issues. After retiring from the USAF, he applied his many skills as a communications professor and counselor at American University. Darrell was a real gentleman with a sharp wit – he was fun to be around and always had a kind word for everyone. He and his wife, Rozella, were valued members of our SAF/PA team under Brig. Gen. McRaney. Farewell friend, you will indeed be missed by many!

— **Art Forster**

This is terribly sad news for both the Air Force community and the PR academic community. Like Darrell, I went from the Air Force to the campus. For many years, I used Darrell's case study text to teach PR strategies; in my view, it was the best. My sincere sympathies to his family, friends and colleagues.

— **Alan Freitag**

A great teacher, and just an all around great guy - that was Darrell Hayes. Losing him was tough to take, but it also brought back some fond memories.

In those dark, dark ages before I had ever even heard of the word Internet, I remember being stuck in the office one night when Darrell introduced me to the wonders of modern technology. I desperately needed a document for some crash project (weren't they always crash projects at SAF/PA?!) and called Darrell at home to see if he could help me find it. With me sounding increasingly frazzled and Darrell calm as could be, he directed me to the office printer. I walked over to the printer and watched with amazement as exactly what I needed was somehow coming out of it. How he could possibly be at home, locate what I needed, and then direct a printer miles away to spit it out, was a complete and total mystery to me. But I quickly decided I could learn a lot if I stuck close to this magician. And so I did, and had fun doing it, especially when we would go whitewater rafting in West Virginia or Carla and I would explore the Washington area on long bicycle rides

with him. Thanks for the lessons, Darrell, and thanks for the good times. We'll miss you.

— **Jim McGuire**

We have lost a true professional colleague and good friend with Darrell's passing.

Although Darrell's commitment to his profession was remarkable, it was his personal character that will be missed most by all of us, who were privileged to work with, and for, him. Not afraid to laugh at himself, he taught us that a full life includes a giving spirit and an open heart. He freely offered his unfiltered advice and friendship to anyone that needed it and never expected anything in return.

Darrell took the challenges of working in PA in stride, moving along his path with determination and fortitude and then later shared those values and his professional expertise with hundreds of his students as a highly successful educator in his second career. He was a source of strength and inspiration for all of us.

Words cannot describe how much we will miss his professionalism, and friendship. May he rest in peace.

— **Mike Gannon**

A Good man, friend and mentor over the years.

— **Bob Williams**

Darrell was one of my bosses. Such a compassionate man. Rest In Peace.

— **Gail Hayes**

Very sorry to hear. He was a mentor to many of us.

— **Jerry Renne**

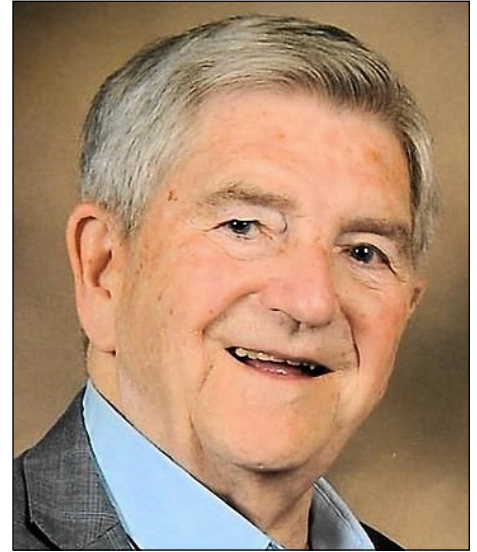
He was my first boss at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. My condolences to Rozella and his family.

— **Chester R. Curtis**

I was at the Oklahoma University Short Course with Darrell. What an

amazing person. Darrell would pick out my empirical study that I would write about. He understood my humor. Darrell would laugh when we called him Mr. Rogers because he wore a tie and sweater everyday. Darrell will be missed.

— **Christine Queen**



DONALD HILKEMEIER

Donald Hilkemeier, 89, passed peacefully in his home on November 23.

Don was a man who wore many hats. He filled the roles of Dad, "Pop Pop," Uncle Donnie and loving husband. He was a devoted Christian and enjoyed his years of involvement in various positions with religious organizations. He was a navigator and a journalist and combined his love of story telling by describing his many adventures. He often said "Let me tell you a story..." and entertained his audience with vivid details.

Don loved traveling, golfing, cruising, dancing, cooking his famous Thanksgiving stuffing, teaching Bible classes, spending time with family and recently completed 100 jigsaw puzzles! But mostly, Don will be remembered as being loved by everyone in his life.

Don was preceded in death by his first wife of 47 years, Grace Schmidt

and eight siblings.

Don is survived by his wife of 16 years, Adana L'hommedieu Hull Hilkemeier, step-son Robert Money-penny (Cathie), daughter Amy Hilkemeier Kemmerer (Dustin); step-children, Steven Hull, Jody Chritton, Jeffrey Hull (Wendy), Christine Hutchinson (Laura), Kimberly Crouch (Drew), Tracey Hull Carver, numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren, two great-great grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews.

Don and his surviving twin sister, Delores, were born the youngest of 10 children in rural Knox County, Neb., and graduated in 1955 from Creighton High School where they were King and Queen of the Senior Prom.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism at the University of Nebraska, a Master of Arts at the University of Oklahoma, and all but the dissertation of his PhD in Communications at the University of Southern California. His early career was as a reporter for the *Lincoln Journal*.

Don served in leadership positions with the Methodist Church in six different states at local, district and conference levels. After his retirement in San Antonio, he worked in family Christian films with White Lion Media, where some 20 Christian films were produced, including "Music Box" puppet videos, "Good Time Growing Show" and "Estate Sale."

For 53 years, Don taught Sunday School and led Bible studies for youth and adults. He was a life-long member of the national United Methodist Men.

In 1988, Don joined the senior leadership team of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). He was managing editor of *Victory Magazine* where he oversaw promotional gear and served on the board of directors. There he met Rod Handley, founder of Character That Counts. Don served as advisor and contributor to this

Kansas City ministry.

During his 30-year career in the Air Force, Don accrued over 7,000 flying hours as a master navigator in C-118 and C-135 transport aircraft, visiting nearly 50 countries. His assignments included a year in Vietnam, the initial cadre of Air Force jet transports, and a tour with the Special Missions Wing in Washington D.C. Notable passengers included Ambassador-at-Large Harriman in an around-the-world flight with the "Manila Communique" about the South Vietnam war. He also was on the crew carrying then South Vietnam President Nguyen Van Thieu to Guam with President Lyndon B. Johnson.

After his aviation experiences he became actively involved in Air Force public affairs, including a tour in the Pentagon and in Los Angeles where he coordinated Air Force support of West Coast media, TV, and movies, such as "I Dream of Jeannie" and "Hogans Heroes."

He co-founded and commanded the Air Force Service Information and News Center (later Air Force News Agency) at Kelly AFB, Texas, relocating the Army Air/Force Hometown News agency, Internal Information and the Air Force Radio and Television Service to San Antonio in 1978. He retired in San Antonio in October, 1985.

A memorial service was held on December 6 at Colonial Hills United Methodist Church. A private graveside service at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery will be held in the near future.

A wonderful person. Rest in peace.

— **Jack Gregory**

One of my favorite people. My condolences to his family.

— **June Forte**

Don Hilkemeier was my boss for five

years at the Air Force Service Information and News Center, Kelly Air Force Base, Texas, and was a true joy to work for and serve with. His care and concern for everyone was displayed by his actions every day. His public affairs acumen was thoughtfully amazing. I shall miss his great stories, warm smile, excellent judgement and great faith. Rest in peace dear friend.

— **David E. Smith**



ELLIOT JOHNSON

Elliot Johnson, 88, passed away on September 5, in San Antonio, Texas.

Elliot was born in San Francisco and graduated from San Bernardino High School. He and his twin brother, Blake, served in the Air Force during the Korean War. Elliot finished his education at San Bernardino Valley College and San Diego State College.

He spent 22 years in the Air Force and retired as the Deputy Chief, Public Affairs Division at Military Training Center, Lackland AFB in 1980. He worked for the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce and as vice president and regional manager for two savings and loan institutions before finishing out his career at USAA.

Elliot was actively involved at local VFW Post 8541 and served in numerous positions and was Commander of the Post on several occasions. He and his twin brother grew up in show business and were able to perform with many top stars and many of the old-time vaudevillians.

Elliot leaves behind his two daughters Wendy O'Brien and Shelly Johnson, granddaughter Jessica Borrego, grandsons Justin Bloomer, Brendan O'Brien, and his eight great-grandchildren.

He acquired the knack and timing of telling good jokes. As he said before he died, "Come visit, but stay on top! See ya at Fort Sam."

His burial was at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery on September 27.



DR. H. DAN O'HAIR

New Year's Eve, 2022, Henry Dan O'Hair, beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and colleague passed away peacefully at age 69.

Dan was born in Dimmitt, Texas, on April 2, 1953, and grew up in the rural West Texas town of Earth, Texas. He became an Eagle Scout at age 14, drove a combine on wheat harvests from Texas to South Dakota, and in college met his future wife, Mary John, on the Texas Tech University

debate team. They were together for more than 40 years.

He started his teaching career at Texas Tech. He was later the speech department chair and professor at the University of Oklahoma where he was also the director of the Air Force, and later the DoD, Short Course in Communication. From 2009-2018, Dan served as dean of the College of Communication and Information at the University of Kentucky.

One of his greatest professional joys was mentoring and supporting faculty, staff, and students. He was known for having an open-door policy for any student looking for help—whether they were working on a course assignment, career planning, or seeking guidance in their lives.

As a prominent communication scholar and former President of the National Communication Association, Dan published over 100 research articles and scholarly chapters and authored and edited over 25 books in the areas of communication, risk management, health communication, and terrorism, including the best-selling, *A Pocket Guide to Public Speaking (7th Ed)*.

He loved spending time in Santa Fe, N.M.; golfing with his son and son-in-law; listening to classic rock music and The Lexington Podcast produced by his daughter and son; and taking his grandchildren to Freshie's every Friday for ice cream.

Dan was best known for his quick-witted humor and sayings, fierce determination, and generous spirit.

He is survived by his wife, Mary John; daughter, Erica (Anders) Friis; son, Jonathan O'Hair; grandchildren, Fiona and Hank Friis; sister, Brenda (Mike) O'Brien; and brother, Bill (Gayle) O'Hair.

A memorial service was held in Lexington, January 14, at Crestwood Christian Church, in Lexington.

In lieu of flowers, the family re-

spectfully requests that memorial contributions be made to the O'Hair Early Career Faculty Fund in the University of Kentucky College of Communication and Information.

MORTON M. "PAT" PASCO

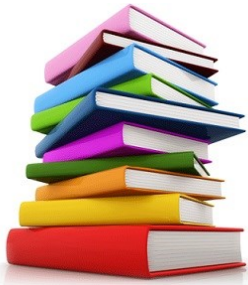
AFPAAA life member Morton M. "Pat" Pasco. Age 86, of Pensacola, Fla., passed away February 22, 2022. He was born in 1935 to Nathan and Ella Pasco.

He served honorably in the Air Force and retired after 20 years. He continued his career as a civilian in the State Department. In his spare time, he enjoyed computer technology.

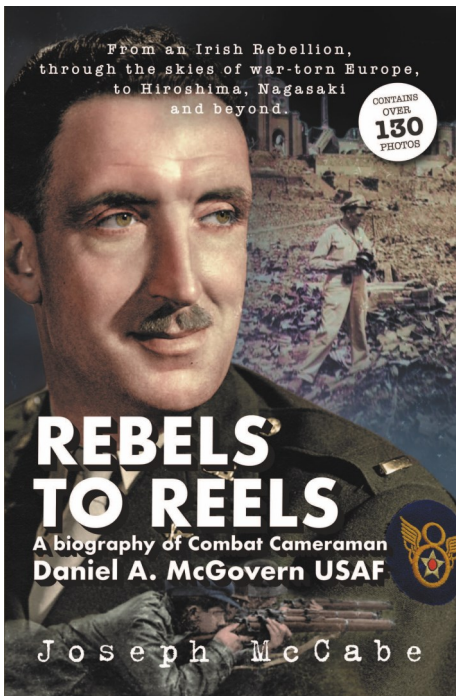
He was preceded in death by his son, Shane. He is survived by his wife, Beverly; son, Guy; daughter, Denise; son, Paul; and son, Michael.

Burial took place March 2, 2022, at Barrancas National Cemetery, Pensacola, Fla.

A recruitment poster for the AF Public Affairs Alumni Association. At the top is the AF logo with the text "Public Affairs Alumni Association". Below the logo, the text "We Want YOU!" is written in large, colorful, stylized letters. A graphic of a fist holding a microphone is positioned over the word "YOU!". At the bottom, the text "To Recruit a New Member" is written in a cursive font.



BOOKS WORTH READING



REBELS TO REELS: A biography of Combat Cameraman Daniel A. McGovern USAF

A new book about combat cameraman Dan McGovern is a great read! Its author, Joseph McCabe, the author of *Rebels to Reels – A biography of Combat Cameraman Daniel A. McGovern USAF*. writes “On 9th September 1945 a cameraman of the United States Army Air Forces entered the devastated city of Nagasaki in Japan with a group of high-profile American press correspondents. He was among

the very first Americans into Japan following the dropping of the atomic bombs, which finally ended World War Two. Lt. Daniel A. McGovern, all of six feet five inches tall, found himself amid the cataclysmic scene of death and destruction one month to the day after the second of the atomic bombs, Fat Man, had been dropped on the city.”

“Big Mack,” as he was better known to his Air Force colleagues, would film there and in Hiroshima and all over a defeated Japan for nine months.

The many reels of unedited footage he captured and that was shot later by other USAAF cameramen under his command now reside in the National Archives. Also, in the vaults of those archives is a completed and often harrowing atomic aftermath documentary film directed by McGovern. It has English narration throughout but was shot entirely by Japanese cameramen both before and after the capitulation of the Empire of Japan.

“These color and black and white films, filmed almost eighty years ago, along with many of McGovern’s still photographs from the time, represent the definitive aftermath film and photographic record we have today of the only time in history atomic weapons have been used in an-

ger,” wrote McCabe.

The book is a three-part, 450-page, highly-researched work which contains over 130 striking images.

The biography includes the complete story of how those remarkable motion pictures and photographs were captured throughout Japan by McGovern and his team immediately after hostilities ended. The book also reveals how the U.S. government suppressed those films for decades, fearful of public revulsion. The book also details the story of McGovern’s tireless efforts to safeguard the films “for posterity” in the hope that someday they would be seen by people the world over.

Referencing new documentation only unearthed during research for this book, *Rebels to Reels* also now tells the full story of how that footage was eventually declassified.

Rebels to Reels also includes Dan McGovern’s reflections after filming Project Blossom V2 rocket test flights with former Nazi scientist Werner Von Braun.

As the Cold War began to intensify, McGovern became an integral member of the camera teams, which filmed the atomic tests at the Nevada Test Site and also on Bikini and Eniwetok atolls. He filmed test detonations during Operations Plumb Bob and Hardtack—footage which is also

now in the National Archives.

“McGovern was based at the Top Secret Lookout Mountain facility in Hollywood at the time,” the *Rebels to Reels* author pointed out. “His insights into that facility and also how he filmed those atomic tests in Nevada and in the Pacific are quite revealing as are his opinions of some of the practices adopted for those tests,” he added.

Earlier in his career and shortly after the outbreak of World War II, McGovern was photographer/cameraman to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

In late 1942, with the rapidly expanding U.S. Army Air Forces starting to deploy to war theaters all over the world, McGovern set up the USAAF combat camera training school in Hollywood, Calif., and led the training of the very first batch of cameramen to deploy overseas. *Rebels to Reels* tells the full story of how this transpired and also contains fascinating insights into how McGovern rubbed shoulders with Hollywood’s A-List actors, directors, and technical experts as they combined their talents for the United States’ war effort. These included actors Clark Gable and Ronald Reagan who served during the

war in the USAAF.

Rebels to Reels also tells the story of McGovern’s exploits as a combat cameraman in the 8th Air Force in Europe during 1943 where he filmed combat footage for Hollywood director William Wyler’s acclaimed documentary “The Memphis Belle – A Story of a Flying Fortress.”

During the war, Big Mack flew numerous sorties on B-17 bombers over Nazi-occupied Europe filming airmen at work.

After the war, but before filming America’s atomic test detonations, McGovern was even involved in the famous 1947 “Roswell incident” where a supposed alien spacecraft crashed in New Mexico. The book reveals how, decades later, McGovern’s filming expertise was called upon when a controversial film surfaced that was claimed to be footage of an autopsy on one of the Roswell crash aliens.

As a boy, McGovern had been no stranger to war and conflict. He was not a native of the United States – but of Ireland. As the son of a policeman, he witnessed the Irish War of Independence unfold between the British Crown forces and the rebels of the Irish Republican Army –

hence the title reference to rebels.

Dan also witnessed the foundation of the Irish Free State in 1922. It was shortly afterwards that the McGovern family emigrated to the United States where Big Mack would later pursue his remarkable career path.

“Another thread running through this biography is the evolution, as McGovern saw it, of the Army Air Corps into the U.S. Air Force and his part in that,” author McCabe said.

Author McCabe has worked in the media for 30 years. He is a native of Carrickmacross, County Monaghan, Ireland, which was also the hometown of McGovern. As a journalist he has contributed to national, international and local publications as well as to the broadcast and online media.

Rebels to Reels – A biography of Combat Cameraman Daniel A. McGovern USAF, published by Gallowglass, is available directly from the author’s website for the book: rebelstoreels.com/. It is also available from Amazon and other major booksellers.

Thanks to Art Forster for the recommendation!

– Dick Cole



The News and Notes is your publication!

We encourage your submissions! Tell us your professional news, share a professional book review, express your thoughts and comments. Got an interesting career story? Share! Have interesting photos from your PA days? Share! Send submissions to Dick Cole, editor, at dickcole1853@verizon.net!

Annual Meeting Planning for Tampa Ongoing

By Perry Nous
Annual Meeting Coordinator

Planning is well underway for the next Association Membership Meeting scheduled for Tampa, Florida. The dates for the meeting are October 26-28, 2023.

The Annual Meeting Committee is in the process of evaluating hotels in the Tampa area to host us. We anticipate having an appropriate facility identified and contracted by the end of January. As soon as we have hotel information confirmed we will post a registration form on the AFPAAA website (afpaaa.org).

Current plans call for a typical meeting structure with an ice-breaker/mixer the evening of Thursday, Oct. 26. A visit to MacDill AFB is being planned for Friday, Oct. 27. Saturday (Oct. 28) will feature membership business meetings and the traditional awards banquet in the evening.

A golf outing at Bay Palms Golf



Complex will be planned for the morning of Thursday, Oct. 26. As with all planning in an uncertain world, plans are tentative and could change.

At this time, in addition to a visit to the 6th Air Refueling Wing, we're planning a stop at HQ U.S. Central Command and potentially HQ U.S. Special Operations Command.

We're going to shorten the day by a couple of hours in the afternoon to give members more time to take advantage of the many attractions in the Tampa area.

We advise members to check the AFPAAA website frequently

as we will post a Registration form, hotel information, a list of those planning to attend, and the itinerary as that information is confirmed and becomes available. We're hoping for a great turnout as four-and-a-half years will have passed since we last met in Charleston. We're going to make every effort to ensure those who attend have a wonderful time visiting Tampa.



Teddy Austin
Casey Mahon
Michael Ward
Thomas Christie
Life Members

Welcome:

William Young
Full Member



John Herrick
Glenn Robertson
Associate
Membership



New Mobilization Assistant Assigned to SAF/PA

Air Force Reserve Col. Beth K. Horine has been assigned by the Chief, Air Force Reserve, as the new mobilization assistant to the Director, Air Force Public Affairs.

Horine's last assignment was as Chief, Air Reserve Component Case Management Division, Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

She is no stranger to public affairs having served as Director, Public Affairs for Air Force Reserve Command from 2018-2019, and as mobilization assistant to the Director, Public Affairs for Air Combat Command from 2016-2018. She was also the commander of the 4th Combat Camera Squadron from 2012-2014.

Time to Apply for Dalton Scholarships

The Association will begin accepting applications for the Brig. Gen. H.J.. Dalton, Jr., Scholarship Program from March 1 to May 31, 2023. Any enlisted, officer, or civilian Air Force member, whether active, guard, or reserve, working in one of the specialties of the Public Affairs career field—Band, Broadcasting, Visual Information/Combat Camera and Public Affairs—is eligible for a Dalton Scholarship.

The first career PA officer to be promoted to brigadier general and head SAF/PA, Dalton worked tirelessly throughout both his military and civilian careers to promote the advancement of the Public Affairs profession.

Dalton was well known for his commitment to mentoring and encourag-

ing the professional development of PA personnel. He strongly promoted the value to PAs of taking advantage of the educational opportunities offered by programs like Education With Industry, the Air Force Institute of Technology and the Air Force Short Course in Communication. He also advocated PAs achieving professional accreditation from organizations like the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA).

This is the second year of the program and we will offer recipients up to \$1,000 to fund not just college courses but also seminars, workshops, music lessons and courses provided by professional organizations (e.g., PRSA) specifically aimed at enhancing skills related to the PA field. Selected recipients can apply

for additional scholarships in successive years if they have successfully completed their previous course work.

Up to five \$1,000 scholarships can be awarded each year. More scholarships may be awarded in a year depending on the funds required to meet the cost of approved applicants' training and education. Payment will be made to the scholarship recipients upon successful completion of the approved coursework.

Those wishing to apply should visit the AFPAAA webpage at www.afpaaa.org/scholarships.html to access an application form. Completed applications must be sent to the AFPAAA Dalton Scholarship Committee at scholarship@afpaaa.org





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Submission deadline for the next issue is March 1!