





AFTAC Alumni Association West Coast Chapter P.O. Box 3974, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-3974 Email: TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com

#### JANUARY 2006 EDITION

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LOOK US UP AT: www.AFTACWest.org

# VETERANS DAY 2005 FALL SOCIAL

by Dale Klug, Editor

Our Fall Social at the Buggy Whip restaurant went really well. We had fifty-six attendees and looking at the pictures, (see next two pages) you can tell everyone was enjoying themselves. The food was delicious and camaraderie prevailed. The "Most Patriotically Dressed Vet" award should have gone to Bob Fitzgerald in his blue suit with white shirt, belt & shoes and star-spangled, red & white striped tie. I was out of town for the event, but will certainly attend next year. Thank You to all who organized, coordinated and attended this fine get-together.

# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL PERIOD CHANGES

by Joe Johnson, President

The association was formed in April some years ago and membership dues have been due in the middle of a calendar year. This has led to confusion as to when dues are payable, that is, someone paying dues in April 2006 would get a membership expiration date of 2006, yet the membership would extend into 2007. Therefore, dues paying members, not LIFE members, will be converted to a calendar year basis starting Jan 2006. Any member with a membership expiration date of 2005 will owe dues for calendar 2006 in Jan 2006. If anyone feels they are being treated unfairly, that is, they are not going to receive four newsletters for dues already paid, notify us and you will get four newsletters. However, ongoing membership will go to a calendar year basis on your next membership renewal.

# **WAY BACK WHEN**

by Jim Hall

O.K Guys, you asked for some "Way Back When" in your July 2005 Newsletter. I have already sent one to one of the chapters, but here is a different type.

Way back on April 8, 1919, Jim Hall was born, later spending over ten years in AFTAC (and previous designations) and am now 86½ years old. Just wonder how many AFTAC alumni members are older than me. I'm still kicking, but a lot more slowly than a couple years ago.

Just thought this might be a different "Way Back When" as to a birth date.

Keep up your good work in keeping the things going out there. I think you have the largest group of "old-time AFTACers among the three chapters. Good luck and God bless! Jim Hall, Apt. 1209, 5100 Randol Mill Road, Fort Worth, TX 76112 Ph. 817-429-1213 Ed. Note: Thanks Jim, you're the first to submit an article for this column. How about it you guys? Any alumni out there who can claim a birth date before Jim's?

We've started a new series of articles for the newsletter called "WAY BACK WHEN". This will be patterned after the Florida Chapter's series in the Post Monitor called "B.S. (Barely Substantiated) TALES". We're inviting everyone to submit articles with stories from days-gone-by at Detachments, OLs, Depot, Squadrons, Headquarters or TDYs. So crank up your "WAYBACK machines" and send us an article. Remember to keep all the inputs unclassified. E-mail all proposed articles to me at: FalloutEditor@AFTACwest.org

# Words From The Prez

by Joe Johnson, President

It's a new year and your association starts off with many new officers. Since we will not be hosting a reunion for a few years, your officers hope to clean up some housekeeping type chores that will help the association operate more effectively. Our Articles of Association need amending to reflect today's circumstances. The board of directors is scheduled to work on this project soon. As noted elsewhere herein, membership dues will be adjusted to a calendar year basis starting January 2006. If your mailing label shows a 2005 expiration date, your 2006 dues are due now. That includes my dues which I am mailing today. We are planning a picnic after the rainy season and before it gets too hot. More on this later. A member has suggested that we might host a boat trip and meal on the Sacramento river. This will be checked to see if it is possible and practical. Happy New Year to all.

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By Dave Price, Membership Chairman

### As of 18 August 2005: Active Members = 155 Life Members = 110

Bob Baker and Dain Leadmon changed to Life Members. David Goebel and Chester Finnerty renewed their memberships. Wayne Reece changed his e-mail address to reece w@msn.com. Welcome to new member, Lee W Jones and wife, Elizabeth.

Annual membership fee of \$5.00 is due by 01 Jan each year. Check your mailing label for an expiration date. Your last newsletter will be the one following your expiration date. Life memberships are available for \$50.00 and include a laminated membership card. You can use the Membership application/roster update on the last page of this newsletter or the one on our web site to send with your dues. Don't let your membership lapse. Several alumni who have not yet paid their 2005 membership dues have been dropped from the "active" roster.

# **EVENTS CALENDAR**

Business/Member meetings are 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays quarterly at the Lion's Gate Restaurant at McClellan Park: 7 Mar 2006 - 6 Jun 2006 - 5 Sep 2006 - 5 Dec 2006

(Call ahead to our President, to confirm time & place. Or check our 'Events' page at <www.AFTACwest.org>.)

MAIL CALL

Don't forget our E-mail address: TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com

Joyce Koscheski Email: 18 Nov 2005. Good Thanksgiving Report. Al & I are feeling especially thankful. During the past week or two he has made amazing progress toward full recovery from the heart surgery and other vascular problems. He had a very tough time of it for the first 10 weeks or so. After his latest treadmill test his cardiologist told him, "I think your heart surgery can be considered a smashing success." And his digestive problem seems to be improving. Doctors have told us that the abdominal area can, in time, channel around blockage, developing new capillaries. Perhaps that's what is happening. Also, Al has learned to eat often to compensate for the decreased blood flow. Right after surgery he had an "ischemic episode," (insufficient blood flow) in the right eye which caused some loss in his field of vision. That too has improved to a degree that hardly bothers him and it may completely heal as time goes on. He is driving again & beginning to play guitar once more. We've gotten together a couple times with our fiddler friend and his wife to practice songs for nursing home visits. So life indeed is good again!

Thank each of you who prayed, called, sent cards, or just thought of us during this time. We've felt your kindness and been amazed and humbled by the wonderful support we've received. From time to time Al still looks through the scrapbook of cards and notes & e-messages.

We hope all of you are in good health and will have good times with family and friends during the coming holiday season. Love, Joyce & Al alikosch@sbcglobal.net Ed. Note: Al would like to hear from those who know him.

Glen Whitcomb Email: 18 Nov 2005 I worked in the McClellan Central Lab from March 1980 until I retired in August of 1994. I worked in the Computer Communications Directorate. I would be interested in keeping in touch. My home phone is (916) 689-6095. Hope to hear from you soon. Glen Whitcomb. MSgt, USAF, Ret. glen.whitcomb@comcast.net Ed. Note: Sent Glen info on joining our Alumni Association.

**Karl Miner** Email: 18 Nov 2005 Re: Lupe Martinez' passing. I have been in touch with Brian Blue ... he is a former 99106 (now a GS-12) who works with Joey at the Cryptologic Support Group on Security Hill. Very sad and very tragic, Susie and I knew Joey and Lupe very well and our hearts go out to him. Take Care, Karl A. Miner, MSgt, USAF, Superintendent, Directorate of Nuclear Treaty Monitoring, AFTAC <a href="mailto:karl.miner@patrick.af.mil">karl.miner@patrick.af.mil</a>

**John Vaught** Email: 8 Aug 2005 Please pass my condolences to Mark Sepelyak and family. I met his father at Harris Corp and even had a chance to fish with him (and Mark) at the Sebastion inlet. Mark's pole exploded pulling in a ladyfish. John E. Vaught, Sys Admin, COMPOPS Branch, Ft Leonard Wood, MO 573-596-1496 (Computer Room) john.vaught@us.army.mil

# IN MEMORY OF

**HENNER Jr., Ernest Samuel** Col. Retired, U.S. Air Force. Born March 20, 1920 in Buffalo, New York. Passed away October 22, 2005 in Sacramento, California. He served as a command pilot during World War II, including campaigns in North Africa and Europe. Also served during the Korean and Vietnam wars. Awarded the Legion of Merit in addition to other decorations. He is survived by his beloved and loving wife of 61 years, Elizabeth O'Dea Henner; son, Michael & daughters, Patricia, Kathleen and Lisa; daughter-in-law, Sue; son-in-law, Craig; grandchildren, Jeremy, Stacy, Kara, Kelly, Katie, Chelsea and Devon; great-grandchildren, Connor, Megan, Bailey, Kaitlyn and Jade.

A memorial service will be held at the Mount Vernon Memorial Park, 8201 Greenback Lane, Fair Oaks at 2:00pm on Wed., Oct. 26. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to a charity of your choice in his name. *Published in the Sacramento Bee on 10/25/2005* 

MARTINEZ, Lupe (Guadlupe) The following was received from Teresa Alshire...Retired TSgt Joe (Joey) Martinez lost his wife in a tragic automobile accident Sunday morning - S.A Express-News newspaper article below. Joey worked here at the Wing (DOO) as a 9S100/MASINTer until he retired on or about mid 2002, he presently works at the Cryptologic Support Group. Please keep him and his children in your prayers. WRECK KILLS MOTHER, INJURES HER 3 KIDS A mother of three died Sunday morning on the Northwest side when a vehicle skidded through a red light and ran into her car. Lupe Maria Martinez, 41, died at the scene, police said. Martinez had a green arrow traffic light to turn north onto Bandera Road from Stonecroft around 8:48 a.m., said Officer David Muñoz. At the same time, the driver of a Honda CRV traveling south on Bandera saw her light turn from yellow to red, the officer said. The Honda tried to stop, but slid through the intersection, striking the Toyota Corolla. Firefighters had to work to free the foot of Martinez's 3-year-old daughter, trapped inside the Corolla. The girl and Martinez's two sons, ages 7 and 8, were recovering at University Hospital on Sunday, according to the officer. By Sunday afternoon, charges had not been filed, Muñoz said. Published in the San Antonio Express-News on 11/14/2005 Ed. Note: TSgt Martinez is also a TOD alumni

**MAGNESS**, **Georgia** Long-time secretary in the 1155<sup>th</sup> TOS prior to 1963 passed away on December 19, 2005. She was married to AFTAC alumnus John Magness who was stationed at both 1155 and 1158 TOS. *Published in the Roseville CA. Tribune.* 

#### The Wit and Wisdom of Will Rogers

- >Income tax has made more liars out of the American people than golf.
- >Everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody else.
- >Half our life is spent trying to find something to do with the time we have rushed through life trying to save.
- >Politics has got so expensive that it takes lots of money to even get beat with.
- >We can't all be heroes because somebody has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by.
- >The country has come to feel the same when Congress is in session as we do when the baby gets hold of a hammer. It's just a question of how much damage he can do with it before we can take it away from him.
- >Civilization has taught us to eat with a fork, but even now, if nobody is around, we use our fingers.

   Will Rogers —



# AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WEST COAST CHAPTER

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## **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / ROSTER UPDATE**

Annual membership fee of \$5.00 is due by 01 January each year. Check your mailing label for expiration date. Your last newsletter will be the one following your expiration date. Life memberships are available for \$50.00 and include a laminated membership card.

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