

# AMMO Chiefs Association (ACA) October 2013

# "Shell and Flame"





Issue Number: XXIX

6 Oct 2013

We are the Ammo Chiefs Association, a not-for-profit; fraternal Association dedicated to the promotion of camaraderie among active duty and retired **USAF AMMO Chiefs**. Our members work throughout the year to raise funds for worthwhile charitable causes such as the Richard Gauvin Memorial Fund, the Enlisted Widows Foundation, and to respond to members of the Ammo community in time of distress. The ACA contributes to the morale of active duty AMMO troops at the Chapter level through recognition and sports programs. The ACA sponsors awards programs for the AMMO School House Outstanding Performer, and AFCOMAC Outstanding Performer. ACA has contributed to cultural enterprises such as the RAF Welford AMMO Museum. *We are AMMO, and proud of it!* Please visit the AMMO Chiefs web page for more information at http://ammochiefs.com.

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Please keep your address and contact details current, a quick e:mail will suffice to me at <u>Ammo.Chiefs.Association@gmail.com</u>

You can reach ACA Officers by email at the addresses above if you would like their snail mail addresses contact the Secretary. Please contact any of the members of the ACA Board of Directors if you have any items of interest or information you feel would be of benefit to the organization.

Membership Application can be found on our website, if you know of anyone that would like to renew membership or join please pass on the application.

If you have something you would like to have posted on the <a href="www.ammochiefs.com">www.ammochiefs.com</a> website send to one of the ACA BOD members for approval! A special thanks to Rick Follett our Web-Site Manager.

#### From Your President

Looking forward, we have started efforts to get the 2014 ACA Reunion off the ground. Based on the voting of membership, Las Vegas as a location was the top choice. One of the major objectives now is getting a few folks in the Vegas area to assist with selecting a hotel that will provide some of the amenities and menu options. The date is the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of October 2014; the details of events have not yet been determined. There's a lot of options in the Vegas area and you might find it difficult to do everything in just a few days.

I've been in contact with Chief Elliott, the active duty chief at Nellis, who will try to make contact with ACA members to start working with the local community and hotels for costs. Identifying the location and date were key to getting the 2014 Reunion off to a good start; however, we still have a lot of planning ahead of us. As the information is collected over the next few weeks, we will need to have some key personnel in Vegas doing the leg work coordinating with the local community. We will need someone to be the Reunion Boss, who will work directly with the hotel and local community. The ACA BOD has allocated \$1,000 to be available to the Reunion Boss for any approved deposits in support of the 2014 Reunion.

For those that visit Vegas regularly, maybe you can send us recommendations for activities suited for couples, small groups, and large groups. For those planning to attend the 2014 Reunion, send in your recommendations as well. Let us know how much free time you would like to have to venture out on your own to explore the sights or take in a show or have time in a casino. We will do our best to keep you informed as the 2014 Reunion starts to emerge.

The holidays are quickly approaching and we still have Ammo troops serving around the globe. Some are on their first deployment or remote while others have been there many times. I still recall my first remote tour and the empty feeling when the special holidays started to take place. We will always miss being with our family during the deployments and remote tours; however, we as Ammo do our best to look out for each other and make the best of the conditions. It's just one of the meanings of the Ammo community to take care of our own when other family is not around.

We wish those serving overseas a safe return; we truly appreciate what you are doing to keep the Ammo flame burning and making the world a safer place to be.

We still need historical inputs and old and new Ammo related pictures to share with the rest of the Ammo community.

For ACA Newsletter inputs please send to:

John Matthews at <a href="mailto:rammoc1994@comcast.net">rammoc1994@comcast.net</a> Rich Pennington at <a href="mailto:rpennington7@cox.net">rpennington7@cox.net</a>

Richard Pennington ACA President



### **Words From Our Secretary**

Greetings to all. It has been a busy three months since the last Newsletter reached you. We've had a good showing in new Members joining us. Mike has been instrumental in that happening, his volunteering to take over as our Treasurer has been and will continue to be a big "positive" for the ACA. I appreciate the assistance he received from the Audit Committee and ECC Members who provided the information needed to make it a fairly "painless" transition.

We still have a small handful of Members who have not paid their 2013 Dues. They have been taken off the "active rolls" and will not show up on the websites Membership listing. They can be reinstated by simply paying their 2013 Dues and I encourage them to do so.

The 2014 ACA Reunion will be held in Las Vegas the weekend of 15 thru 19 October. We don't have a Reunion "Boss" yet and would welcome one of the Las Vegas area Chief's stepping up and volunteering to do this for us. By the end of this October, I'd like to have a Hotel selected with at least some of the planned events drafted for you to look over. I'd ask that any of you seriously considering attending the Reunion to send me any comments or suggestions as to what you would like to see provided. As we negotiate for events and they solidify, you will all be provided a sign up sheet by email and on the website laying out exactly what will take place, when, their cost(s), Hotel contact Number(s), dinner menu's, etc, etc.. Las Vegas offers so much, I'm sure we can make this an enjoyable event for all who attend.

You all enjoy the Fall Season, cooler temperatures and the upcoming Holiday's!

Jack IYAAYAS!!!!

## **Update From Our Treasurer**

#### **Membership Roster Update**

- 1. I have been working with Jack Seaman to update our Membership Roster. The data we collect is important to the administration of the ACA.
- 2. Over the Labor Day weekend I sent every current member of record an email with their data for corrections and additions to be made and returned. If you have not seen an email from me by now you can be confident that the email address we have on record is wrong or incomplete. To correct this problem please send Jack or I and email directly and we will update the membership roster. The board of directors uses the data to manage the association. It is not to be shared with anyone outside of the association membership.
- 3. On our website we list all current members by name, membership number, chapter and state, that's it, no address, no phone numbers. We will periodically update the Web Site listing as changes occur but not less than every quarter. The Key to the membership numbers will be posted along with the list. Should you not see your name then either you are not shown as a current member or there is a mistake. Again, contact Jack or myself directly and together we will sort it out.

#### **IRS Tax Issues**

1. The ACA is a 501c19 Veterans Organization. We have in the past been Tax Exempt but not Contribution Exempt. This means we did not pay any taxes on our income except for Unrelated Business Income which has been nil, therefore no taxes. The contribution exemption allows someone to make a contribution tax free.

- 2. To remain Tax Exempt at least 75% of the members must be past or present members of the United States Armed Forces.
- 3. To be eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions under IRC 170(c)(3), at least 90% of the members must be war veterans. Substantially all of the other members must be veterans, cadets, or spouses, widows, or widowers of war veterans, veterans or cadets. Again, we have never held this exemption but feel it would be beneficial and are sure most if not all of our members have served during one of the defined periods of conflict. These periods are as follows:
  - a. April 21, 1898, through July 4, 1902;
  - b. April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918;
  - c. December 7, 1941, though December 31, 1946;
  - d. June 27, 1950, through January 31, 1955;
  - e. February 28, 1961, through May 7, 1975, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period;
  - f. August 5, 1964, through May 7, 1975; and
  - g. August 2, 1990, and ending on the date prescribed by Presidential Proclamation or by law.
- 4. In July we discovered that our Tax Exemption had lapsed and in the process of reapplying for the Tax Exemption under 501c19 we have also requested the Contribution Exemption under IRC 170(c)(3). If and when approved this will enable a contributor to claim a tax exemption when they make a contribution to the ACA. Sorry no this does not include your dues
- 5. However, we must be able to show that we meet the criteria. At this time we intend to keep it simple and that is why during the Membership Roster Update Request we asked for your date of enlistment and date of retirement.
- 6. This article and associated tax exemptions are applicable to the ACA only and not any of the association chapters. Once we receive approval for the exemptions then we will begin discussion about the application of these exemptions with each association chapter. Should any member have any questions on this issue feel free to contact me direct.

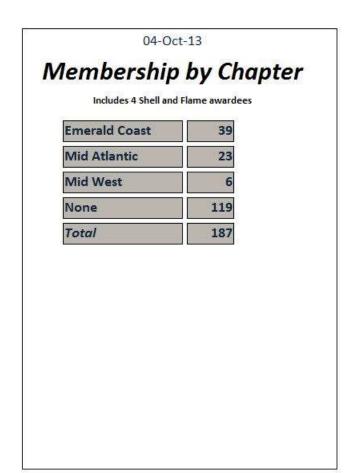
What happens when you put the word THE and the word IRS together? It spells THEIRS!

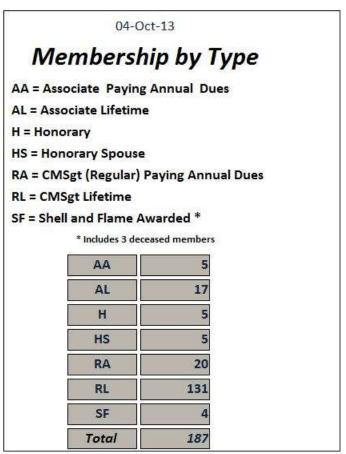
About sums it up these days!

Mike Roylance

#### **Membership Status**

Thanks to Mike for complying a membership status update, you can see that most of our membership is not aligned with a chapter. There are areas that have enough members to standup a chapter; I'm sure the existing chapters would provide assistance and copies of any requested documentation. The same goes for the ACA BOD we would be glad to provide assistance and work with you.





#### **Chapter News**

#### **ECC Chapter**

The Chapter dinner/dance is scheduled for 25 Oct this year at the Holiday Inn (same place as the reunion) with G2 Entertainment (Gene Cox, Ammo troop)providing the music. Social hour will begin at 1800 and dinner will be served at 1900. We will wrap up around 2200. Dinner costs will run around \$35.00 per person, and the room prices will be available sometime in August. They are telling me the prices should be around what we paid for the reunion. I will put the word out when I have a firm price. This is open to all ACA members. Contact Big John if you want to attend, bigjohn461@bellsouth.net.

JOHN K. GREER
PRESIDENT
Emerald Coast Chapter
ACA Mid-Atlantic Chapter

#### **ACA Mid-Atlantic Chapter**

The Ammo Chiefs Association Mid-Atlantic Chapter (ACAMC) membership roll is currently 19 Ammo Chief members and 4 Associate members. Our newest member is CMSgt Dave Nixon from Seymour-Johnson AFB. Since our meeting in June, we were able to keep a little active in the Ammo community. We presented an award package to AIC Tevin Ortega from Langley AFB for being selected as the ACC Outstanding Munitions Technician for this past quarter.

Our fund-raising chairman, Chris Arnold, secured a spot for the chapter at the Richmond International Raceway NASCAR race on 6-7 Sep. Since we didn't have enough people to run our own booth, we augmented other organizations. For many of us, it was a lot of hard, nasty work. We are still awaiting the final tally on the funds we raised, but we believe it will be a major boost for our coffers. Our thanks go out to the chapter members who volunteered. However, special kudos are reserved for the many spouses, 1st FW Ammo troops, and ACC staff personnel who donated their time. Chris is also investigating an Ammo Christmas ornament as a potential fund-raiser. Once we get feedback from the Ammo community regarding if they are interested in the ornament, and the cost details worked out, we will decide whether or not to pursue this effort. Chris believes CMSgt Kevin Hendershot will be able to step in as head of the fund-raising committee when Chris PCSs to Camp Darby, Italy in December.

We are still monitoring the progress on SSgt Wilhide's daughter Piper at Seymour-Johnson AFB. She has gone through multiple operations for her neo blastoma cancer. Piper's Fun Run was held on the day of our meeting on September 14th at Goldsboro, NC. Dave Nixon will get an update on the event and let us know if Piper's family needs additional support.

Our September meeting was attended by 13 members. With the three proxies we had, we had no trouble conducting business. Frank Waterman and his wife drove down from New Jersey to attend the meeting. Dave Nixon braved a long motorcycle ride from North Carolina to make his debut as our newest member – a real show of dedication! Yvonne Watts was able to make her first meeting. It was great to see so many friendly faces from our past Ammo lives. During the meeting, we discussed initial preparations for the Ammo Care Packages we send to the troops in austere locations every Christmas season. Jack Miller will lead this effort again this year and we anticipate another successful program. We also discussed making the correction to the Constitution and Bylaws to remove Georgia from our potential region of coverage. We received confirmation that the Emerald Coast Chapter covers that state. The Southeast Ammo Bowl at Seymour-Johnson AFB was briefed. Many of us were surprised that only six teams participated and that there were very few spectators. Seymour-Johnson won but decided to hold the 2014 Southeast Ammo Bowl at Myrtle Beach, SC. We also talked about the 2014 ACA reunion. The group seemed pleased with Las Vegas as the location. There are plenty of things to do there and it is in close proximity to the various munitions operations at Nellis AFB.

Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 7th. We realize the holiday season makes it tough being able to break away sometimes. However, are hoping for a good turnout since a lot of decisions need to be



made regarding the Ammo Troops-in-Need and Sharp Troop Award programs.

Wilbur C. McCullough III Secretary, ACAMC

#### **Wasatch Chapter**

27 July 2013--Wasatch Chapter Hill AFB, Utah --- 3rd Annual Ammo BBQ and Picnic

This Annual BBQ is open to all Ammo Troops and their immediate family members past and present. We had about 100 people attend this year's extravaganza. Each person/family is asked to bring a covered dish and their choice of beverage. The money collected/donated helps buy hot dogs, burgers, chicken, soda and water. Family fun activities includes: Horseshoes, Volleyball, Ladderball, Bean Bag Toss, Frisbee, Golf, a Water Games, and Music.

This annual event is held at Hill AFB in Centennial Park. Retired Ammo Troops Rich Leseberg and Tim Matuszak hosted this year's event. They are also the founders and POC's for next year's event.

Just trying to keep the Ammo community together and Keep the Flame Burning!





**IYAAYAS** 

#### KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan

Munitions airmen make an impact every day in Afghanistan by building the weapons systems necessary for the close air support mission.

Go to the Air Force link below and see what our Ammo troops are doing to support the mission.

http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123362072

#### **Update on Piper Wilhide**



She is still clear of any signs of neuroblastomo. She continues to go in for checkups every three months, but has been given a clean bill of health concerning the cancer and we all hope that stays the case. However, Piper does have a lump (it doesn't always show up) and although the doctors are not sure, they think it may be an abdominal hernia. It's too early to tell, but it is not a significant health concern at this time. The docs are going to watch and wait to see if it's something that possibly will correct itself as she grows. If we hear of any news, we'll let everyone know.

The event this weekend, Piper's Promise was a success. This was something the Wilhide's and friends put on to benefit the Ronald McDonald House and Riley's Army, not to raise money for Piper or the family. They netted \$29,104 after expenses and it all goes to the two organizations already mentioned. From this link, <a href="http://ecrr.us/events/1st-annual-pipers-promise-5k-race-and-1-fun-walk/">http://ecrr.us/events/1st-annual-pipers-promise-5k-race-and-1-fun-walk/</a> Mrs. Wilhide explains: "Our hearts are full of gratitude and sincere appreciation for the endless acts of kindness shown to our family over the past 8 months from family, friends

and strangers. Specifically, Riley's Army and the Ronald McDonald House are two charities that we "promised" to give back to once Piper was healed. Piper has been declared NED since February 2013 and we are on a mission to give back to those that gave to us. The 1st Annual Piper's Promise 5K race and 1 mile fun walk is a great opportunity for us to do just that. We feel honored and blessed to put on a race for a community that pulled together for our precious daughter and want to celebrate her life by honoring her and all other pediatric cancer warriors!"

Dave

DAVID M. NIXON, CMSgt, USAF Munitions Flight Chief 4 EMS, Seymour Johnson AFB

#### **AFCOMAC Update**

Since the Air Force Combat Ammunition Center's (AFCOMAC) inception in 1984, many factors have shaped its development. The organization was designed to provide munitions systems personnel realistic combat ammunitions planning and production training, as well as hands-on training for Ammo students, senior officers and upgrade training for maintenance and munitions officers. Students are introduced to a variety of weapons systems ranging from dumb bombs to global position system guided munitions. As of today 14,244 students have completed the course.

Due to sequestration after April 2013, the last three classes of the year were canceled. This delayed training for 140 active duty and 70 guard students. During the past several months of down time, AFCOMAC advisors have perfected their skills by reviewing, teaching and instructing each other through the different blocks of academics and through the functional areas (Big Bombs, Small Bombs, Control, Accountability and Breakout). This activity consisted of 15 PowerPoint presentations that contained 375 slides of Air Force instructions. The process ensured that the current curriculum given is valid and up to date. Finally tests were validated to ensure changes were consistent with the material given.

Instructors also honed and tested their schooling skills during Wing and Top-3 sponsored professional developments seminars. Collectively, the advisors volunteered 37 hours of their time to teach many professional development blocks to the 9 RW upcoming leaders.

The local MC-12 pilots approached us and requested familiarization training on munitions that they would see down range. The pilots want to use this information for situational awareness while completing their reconnaissance missions while deployed down range. The AFCOMAC team developed and administers familiarization training every other Monday on a large facet of different weaponry that are currently used in the AOR.

We received a request from the AFRC 301st FW Fort Worth, TX to assist them with their process and aid them in refining them with their processes. Our combined efforts resulted in a "SAT" rating for their Consolidated Unit Inspection relook. We put the word out that if units wanted us to assist with inspections and giving units a second look at their processes, to let us know. The 148th FW Duluth, MN took us up on the offer and we headed out to assist them in preparing for their upcoming Combined Unit Inspection. They were so pleased with our efforts and assistance that they requested an additional visit two weeks prior to their inspection that resulted in an "EXCELLENT" rating.

Our second challenge has been in supporting our local units. We offered our services and joined tiger-teams and provided the Maintenance Group with in-house inspections in prep for the upcoming Logistics Compliance Assessment Program and Combined Unit Inspection.

It was a short year for AFCOMAC, but we still carried on with our mission, helping other units succeed, making things better for AMMO and ensuring that everyone knows that "AMMO MAKES THE MISSION". With FY14 just around the corner, we are looking forward to providing the best combat ammunitions planning and production training possible to all Air Force munitions personnel.

ANTHONY S KOBERSTEIN, CMSgt USAF ACC 9 MUNS/MXW

All of us that have enjoyed the AFCOMAC experience at least once never got a chance to see the supporting cast. I asked Chief Koberstein to provide me some pictures and write the above article on AFCOMAC. The fund part has been and will always be to build munitions and see them loaded on a jet or bomber; and not see them return. The AFCOMAC support team get the satisfaction of knowing they are providing the Ammo community a chance to hone those skills and always providing serviceable munitions to every class.

We appreciate their efforts and wish them continues success—for without them we wouldn't have the munitions to meet the training mission.

Rich Pennington ACA President

#### **AFCOMAC CADRE**



#### 9 MUNS

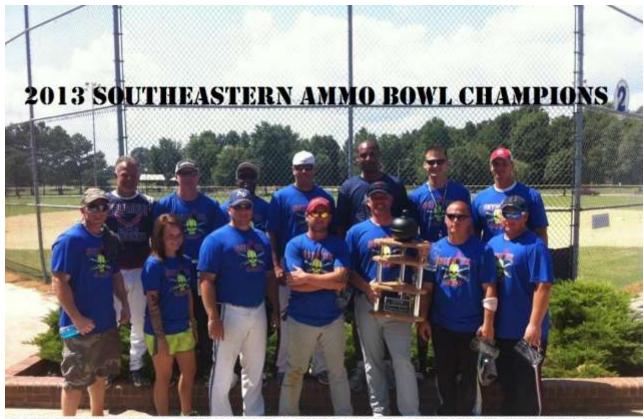


#### **BIG BOMB TEARDOWN**



#### SMALL BOMB TEARDOWN





(BACK) DOUG GUERRETTE, WILLIAM SMITH, DAMON HAIRSTON, TONY PATRICK, FULTON SPRIGGS, DARREN DEWALT, RANDY WILHIDE (FRONT) ROSS BURNS, KATY MCCLENAHAN, MAC HOPGOOD, JAMES PYEATT, CHRIS SAFFEL, ANDREW STEADMAN, BRAD MATTERN

Here are a couple pictures from SE AMMO Bowl, 2-4 Aug. Kyla and Patrick Murtha throwing out the first pitch.

SE AMMO Bowl had six teams: SJ, Shaw, Moody, Langley, SJ B team, Jacksonville ANG. SJ came in 1st (3 peat) followed by Shaw and Moody. Next year is planned to be at Myrtle Beach.

Five Chiefs in attendance: Dave Nixon (SJ), Ken Childre (Shaw), Chris Arnold (Langley), Billie Fick (retired Cocoa Beach), and myself.

CMSgt Hamada



From class 13027T, SSgt Lance Vanlewen is from Tallahassee, Florida and is assigned to the 113<sup>th</sup> DC National Guard at Joint Base Andrews, MD.

#### From the Sheppard AMMO Schoolhouse - 25 Sept 13

In this latest round of top performers we are happy to present five more AMMO troops who have truly reached for the top in the three A's...academics, aptitude and attitude. Along with the Top Graduate Award that each of these individuals received, they were also presented with the ACA Top Graduate certificate and ACA Spirit Award coin.



From class 13028T, TSgt Alex Seguin is from San Antonio, Texas and is assigned to the 149<sup>th</sup> Mx Sq, Lackland ANG, Texas.



Congratulations to all for a job well done!!



From class 13028S, SSgt Philip Haugan is assigned to 161<sup>st</sup> Mx Sq, AF ANG, Sheppard AFB, TX.



From class 13034, A1C Patrick D. Palmersheim, is from Strawberry Point, Iowa and is headed to Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

From class 13033, MSgt Rafael Trespalacios is from Jacksonville, Florida and is assigned to the 125<sup>th</sup> FW, Florida ANG.

#### **AMMO Schoolhouse**

The AMMO Schoolhouse Top Graduate Award was presented to Airman First Class Justin R. Elenez (3 July 2013), Technical Sergeant Jason H. Burnside (11 July 2013) and Airman First Class Kraig A. Fender (18 July 2013) for Outstanding achievement in the Munitions Apprentice Course, Sheppard AFB, Texas. On behalf of the ACA, the Munitions Training Flight Chief, Mr. Byrd, and the Munitions Training Flight Superintendent, SMSgt Ward, further recognized all three for their superior accomplishments with the presentation of the AMMO Chiefs Top Graduate Award along with the ACA Spirit Award coin.



Airman First Class Justin R. Elenez



Technical Sergeant Jason H. Burnside



Airman First Class Kraig A. Fender

A1C Elenez's is from Sahuarita, Arizona and his first tour of duty will be at Nellis AFB, Nevada; TSgt Burnside is from Salt Lake City, Utah and has his current tour of duty with the 419 MXS, Hill AFB, Utah; and A1C Fender is from Union, Mississippi and his first tour of duty will be at 8 MXS, Kunsan AB, South Korea.

#### **Upcoming Events**

The ECC Chapter dinner/dance is scheduled for 25 Oct 13, at the Holiday Inn. This is open to all ACA members. Social hour will begin at 1800 and dinner at 1900. Dinner costs will run around \$35.00 per person, and the room prices will be available sometime in August. I will put the word out when I have a firm price. Contact Big John if you want to attend, <a href="mailto:bigjohn461@bellsouth.net">bigjohn461@bellsouth.net</a>.

Ammo Bash at the Beach (Myrtle Beach) weekend of **April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014**; for details contact Jimmy Taylor on Facebook (Ammo Bash at the Beach 2014) Page. Will be held at the Clarion Hotel Myrtle Beach.

# **AMMO Supply**

The Ammo Chiefs Association now has an on-line store, we call it Ammo Supply. You can check it out here: <a href="http://ammochiefs.qbstores.com">http://ammochiefs.qbstores.com</a>. Queensboro will handle all the details and all we have to do is advertise within our group. They handle all the orders, inventory, shipping, returns, etc, everything. You can read more about them here: <a href="http://www.queensboro.com/welcome-queensboro-shirt-company.html">http://www.queensboro.com/welcome-queensboro-shirt-company.html</a>.

Your support for this store helps us support the ACA and our causes. Five percent of all orders come back to the ACA, that's about \$1.00 for every \$20 spent. Not much but the neat thing about this is that we don't have to bother with managing an inventory, packaging or shipping. Plus the order process is just like what you are accustomed to when you shop at other stores on-line. And I believe right now the shipping is free. Also if there is something you would like added or a particular line you prefer, let me know and I'll see if they carry it. In 2006 we used this company to provide the shirts and hats sold during the ACA Reunion held in Reno Nv. You can spot some of the shirts in this photo. The photo was taken on our side trip over to AFCOMAC. Rich, Jerry, Mike (Currans the name.....), Larry, George and myself are wearing the polo. That's two Navy, three Purple and one Green polo.





The logo on the shirt from that reunion is shown on the left. Today if you order you will be able to get any one of the many products offered with the embroidery shown on the right. The intent was to provide a simple design on a quality product. How good is the product from Queensboro? Below is a picture I took the other day of a "T" shirt I've had since 2006. I think it has held up pretty well after all these years. Plus out of the 64 items (sweatshirts, T-shirts, hats and Polo's) we sold during the 2006 reunion we never had one complaint



that I'm aware of.



Back then we did not have a store front. We made several orders and had them shipped to Reno and handed it out during the reunion. Getting the orders in, managing the orders and making sure everyone got what they ordered was a huge task. Setting up this storefront with Queensboro allows us to offer these items in a multitude of sizes and colors and allows you to order as you see the need.

Why the current logo you might ask? Why, because it was already available and as long as we keep it to one logo (should we change it there will be some fees but it can be done) everything was free due to our past orders. The logo and store setup all free, not bad considering our last

orders with this company were back in 2006!

So support the ACA with an order today and show off our association. Again, the monies we collect go toward our causes and a recent example is the \$500 we just spent for upcoming holiday care packages for Ammo troops at locations in the AOR overseas.

Here is a screen shot of our storefront! You can see it and order here: http://ammochiefs.qbstores.com.



Mike Roylance ACA Treasurer

#### **AFCOMAC 2013 Gauvin Scholarships**

The 2013 Gauvin Scholarships will be awarded to: Emily Bilcik (\$1000), Monique Russ (\$750), and Thea Spriggs (\$500). We've informed Remy and have also asked her for a new essay topic for next year's scholarships.

There was a total of \$5,852.82 in the account. \$2,500 must remain in the account to prevent monthly fees. There will be \$1,102.82 (in addition to the \$2500) remaining in the account after the above awards are disbursed to start next year's collection. AFCOMAC was forced to cancel the 3 remaining classes of FY13 and 1 class opted to not participate in the Gauvin fund, hence the low funds available.



# LAST AMMO CALL CMSGT MIKE CURRAN



We lost one of our true Ammo warriors a few days ago. Chief Curran wrote an article for the March 2013 newsletter that, if you didn't get a chance to read it, you should go to the website and download it.

The ACA BOD awarded CMSgt Mike Curran the Shell and Flame Award. Mike epitomized the Ammo Spirit and his sons followed him around the world probably hearing IYA Ammo YAS more than they wanted to. We felt it appropriate and a meaningful gesture to present them with an Ammo Spirit Coin at the time the Shell and Flame Award was presented. We were hoping Mike would recover long enough to present the award to him while his wife Pauline and their four sons were in attendance; however, Mike never recovered.



Taken at the reunion in 2006.

Our Ammo Brother: Chief Mike Curran was laid to rest at Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, Fl on Tuesday, October 1st. Full military honors were rendered by the Honor Guard of VFW Post 4781 of which Mike was Post

Commander for two years. During his tenure the Post earned All American honors. Ammo was represented by Kieth Rollan and David Southworth (retired Ammo and former Curran Commando's) the Junior Vice Commander of Post 4781 Barry Browne (Ammo); the Honor Guard Commander Chief (retired) Ron Taylor (a former EMS 1st Sgt at Shaw); and Chaplain Bill Moynihan (463 retired) and of course yours truly.

Following the formal military honors I presented Mike's "Order of the Shell and Flame" certificate along with an Honorary

Membership Certificate to Pauline, and Ammo Spirit coins to Mike's sons Mark, Paul, Liam, and Sean.

After the service adjournment to the VFW Post was in order where along with family and friends, Farewell toasts of Mike's favorite tipples (Jameson Irish Whisky and the black stuff) were rendered accompanied by loud and hearty Ammo Cheers.





TSgt Curran, Welford Munitions Control 1974



Dave Southworth, Brian Jones, Bubba, Mike and Pauline



Mike leading an Ammo Cheer at Surefire



Farewell old friend, IYA Ammo YAS



Fred