



AMMO Chiefs Association (ACA)

March 2014

“Shell and Flame”



Issue Number: XXXI

30 Mar 2014

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 Ammo.Chiefs.Association@gmail.com

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 www.ammochiefs.com website send to one of the ACA BOD members for approval! A special thanks to Rick Follett our Web-Site Manager.

From Your President

The 2014 ACA Reunion is off to a good start with our first members having sent in their signup sheets. I've included a copy of the signup sheet at the end of the newsletter for those that might have had a problem downloading from our website. Several of our ACA BOD members have been engaged in the efforts to get the final processes of the reunion finalized; however I would like to call out a few folks that have stepped up to really making this happen. Chief Elliott, the active duty chief at Nellis AFB, and a few of his Ammo troops engaged with local hotels and community to get some options for the ACA BOD to consider for final selection of the hotel. Chief Jack Seaman (ret) played a key role in meeting with the hotel management and working out a contract for the reunion. Chief Mike Roylance (ret) developed the signup sheet and will be tracking and managing the reunion account. Without these critical actions, we wouldn't be gearing up for the reunion.

We will do our best to continue to keep you informed as we move forward with the 2014 Reunion. If you have any questions, please send those to one of the following ACA BOD members that plan to attend the reunion: Jack, Mike, Howard, Bart, Mark, John, or myself; our email addresses are listed above.

Jack will be serving as the ACA Reunion Lead, and will work with the hotel to ensure we have a great time while in Vegas.

I know there will be a few of our members that will not be able to attend due to mission or personal reasons and we want to ensure you know that you still have an opportunity to take part in the business aspect of the organization. You can do this by submitting a proxy to any ACA member who will be attending the reunion; however, we ask that no member have more than five proxies. A standard proxy will be developed and sent out in the next newsletter.

Finally I ask that if you are planning to attend the reunion, please get your signup sheet sent in to Mike NLT 7 May 2014, so Jack can continue to work with the hotel to ensure we have the right size rooms for the gatherings and support. The hotel reservations can be made at a later date; however, once you know you are going to attend, it would be good to make those reservations as well so we can keep the block of rooms that has been set aside for us.

We still need historical inputs and old and new Ammo related pictures to share with the rest of the Ammo community. I've received a few emails with intent to submit an article for the newsletter. Once we receive them, they will be included in a future newsletter. It's always good to have articles and pictures from the past as well as the present on events Ammo community is engaged in. Our career field is represented by a lot of outstanding Ammo troops who compete for Air Force level awards, as well as many local level awards. I would like to include these types of recognition in our newsletter, so send them in with a picture and a short article.

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.

For ACA Newsletter inputs please send to:

John Matthews at rammoc1994@comcast.net

Rich Pennington at rpennington7@cox.net

Richard Pennington
ACA President



Reunion Planning Factors

Words From Our Secretary

Suggested Dinner Dress Code

I made a Motion, which a majority of the BOD approved, to notify the Membership of suggested attire for this year's Reunion to be "Western Casual" or "Business Casual" for those who don't wear jeans and boots. For example, I'm planning on wearing my "best pair" of Levi's, Western cut shirt and jacket, boots or shoes and **no tie!** For the ladies, jeans or skirts w/blouse, pant suits or cocktail dresses would be good choices.

My rationale is that this is the West and Las Vegas accepts any type of attire night and day. We want all attendees to be as comfortable as possible. We've all had more than our share of having to "dress up" for these kinds of affairs.

ACA Ammo Tour of Nellis Munitions Area

Chief Elliott is looking for a good turnout for this event. It will be a great opportunity for the old and new Ammo troops to exchange a few stories and show how Ammo supports the mission today. Ammo wives and ACA Reunion guests are invited to take part in this event. There will be an Ammo hotdog and hamburger burn to top off the event. So plan to come out and show your support to the young Ammo troops. Transportation is being planned for this event so we need to get a good head count on the signup sheet.

Bowling

Charity Competition event between ACA members and Nellis Ammo - just need number of bowlers for now. The hotel has a very large bowling alley; however, we do need to get a good idea of how many folks would like to have some fun and also raise a little money for local charity.

Wives Night Out

With the many shows and events in Vegas, we will leave this up to the ladies to decide what they would like to do. Will work the transportation if required.

Sunday Breakfast

After discussion with the hotel, it was decided the best option for this event was to let each member do a "pay as you go." We just need the numbers of folks planning to possibly take part in the Sunday breakfast so an area can be designated in the dining area.

Signup Sheets

Are located on the website and attached to the newsletter. Please double check the number of events and number of people who want to take part and send copy of signup sheet and check to:

*C/O Mike Roylance
1525 267th PL SE
Sammamish WA 98075*

Jack Seaman
ACA Secretary
IYAAYAS !!!!

NEW ACA SECRETARY ADDRESS

I've decided not to use a P.O. Box here for the Membership Applications mailed to me or for other ACA business. It was more convenient in Kansas, not so much here, and it costs double the price we paid there. Just no need for a P.O. Box here, will use my home address with "ACA Secretary" added to help separate it from other stuff.

Jack Seaman, ACA Secretary
2880 Bluebonnet Drive
Henderson, NV 89074

Jack
IYAAAYAS !!!!

We send our congratulations to our new SMSgt Selectees:

COMERFORD GORDON T	CREECH	DOSTART ROBERT W	TYNDALL
HENRY PATRICK B	SEYMOUR JOHNSON	HETTER GEOFFREY B	LANGLEY
HOSE MATTHEW D	DIEGO GARCIA	MCLEOD JASON L	INCIRLIK
HOUGHTON-WILSON AMBER HILL		RICHARDSON SCOTT R	MILDENHALL
MEADOR WILLIAM R	SEYMOUR JOHNSON	STORY JOSHUA L	LANGLEY
TERRELL WILBERT E	ROBINS	WALDROP KIMBERLY S	OSAN

With the continued reduction in the total force, the number of personnel being promoted continues to be reduced as well. We wish each of these SMSgt selectees the best as they face the new challenges that lay ahead of them.

Richard Pennington
ACA President

Artwork and Pictures

The below link will take you to a lot of past Ammo pictures and artwork that Chief McVey (ret) provided if you have any questions you can contact him at randrmcvey@classicnet.net

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/vuisls80tf3b0j0/bIF6iZ7_yN

Veterans Organization Tax Guide

Just saw this and wanted to share. Recommend it be transmitted to each Chapter for their review, can you make that happen? It appears to be a new version. : [Publication 3386: Veterans' Organizations Tax Guide](#) I have not had a chance to review this one yet but have seen the older version of same pub. I'll be reviewing this one when I get the chance.

Mike Roylance
ACA Treasurer

Special Request for Support

Our Grandson Jacob (who is a tetraplegia as a result of car accident two years ago) is entered in this year's National Mobility Awareness Month competition in an effort to win a van which will greatly improve his life. Thanks to all of you who worked hard and helped last year; unfortunately he didn't make the semi-finals. Would appreciate your support in registering and voting for him. You can vote once a day and can vote on more than one email address. Voting will end the 9th of May. You can also help by spreading the word on your social networks.

PS-Note: my new email address: Chief.OHern@gmail.com

You can register and vote by going to: <http://www.mobilityawarenessmonth.com/local-heroes/> In the search field it is: Jacob OHern Pavo Georgia

Thanks
Fred and Marion O'Hern

ACA Membership Update

17-Mar-14

Membership by Chapter

Includes 4 Shell and Flame awardees

Emerald Coast	41
Mid Atlantic	21
Mid West	6
None	114
Total	182

17-Mar-14

Membership by Type

AA = Associate Paying Annual Dues
AL = Associate Lifetime
H = Honorary
HS = Honorary Spouse
RA = CMSgt (Regular) Paying Annual Dues
RL = CMSgt Lifetime
SF = Shell and Flame Awarded *

* Includes 3 deceased members

AA	7
AL	18
H	5
HS	5
RA	5
RL	138
SF	4
Total	182

Mike Roylance
ACA Treasurer

Chapter News

ACA Midwest Chapter

The ACA Midwest Chapter was honored to recognize the four AFMC's 2013 Outstanding Munitions Professionals of the Year.

The winners were:

- SrA David P. Pashek, 96th MXS Eglin AFB, FL
- TSgt Ryan G. Hill, 649th MUNS, Hill AFB, UT
- SMSgt Todd M. Noll, 96th MXS, Eglin AFB, FL
- Mr. Johnny M. Long, 96th MXS, Eglin AFB, FL

Each winner received a Certificate of Recognition and a ACA Midwest Chapter Challenge coin.

Our congratulations goes out to each one of them and to all who were nominated.

That is it for now.

Thanks

Mark

ACA Mid-Atlantic Chapter



ACAMC Sharp Troop award was presented to A1C Chase Bennett in January. A1C Bennett subsequently applied for and received a humanitarian assignment to Hill. He is already out there taking care of family.

Dave

DAVID M. NIXON, CMSgt, USAF

Munitions Flight Chief

4 EMS, Seymour Johnson AFB

AFCAOMAC ACA winner for class 2014-03



Sir,

We are pretty busy here at Kadena. AFCOMAC was a very enlightening experience! I loved the pace, the curriculum and the opportunity for hands-on training that will better help me in any future contingency and to train my subordinates! I haven't had many opportunities to build bombs and it was very refreshing to actually be doing what most of my family and friends interoperate what "AMMO" is. Building our own MEP was probably the bread and butter of the training, I am glad that we all got the chance to be "in charge". It humbled some and enlightened us all of the importance of being able to develop a solid plan to complete our mission, whatever the mission may be.

The Cadre were very helpful and knowledgeable and let me understand "big picture" quality of the training that we were all receiving! Iron Flag was extremely eye opening to what an actual bare base set-up might resemble. Hours and hours of non-stop work made myself and everyone very wore out, but that didn't stop any of my fellow AMMO! We were all out there to learn and become even more proficient at what we do, in order to become more successful in accomplishing any mission! AFCOMAC takes you back down to your AMMO roots and I loved it! Thank you for the chance to be in your Ammo Chief's Newsletter!

//SIGNED//

Sarah W. Patrick, SSgt USAF
TARRP Scheduler/Crew Chief



Thanks to ACA associate member Tammy Nikolas for the following article.

This is an unbelievable set of photos - the REAL thing - pix from Tinian Island as the B-29 "Enola Gay" was being loaded. Today it takes about 100 times the number of people and TONS of paperwork to accomplish the same end.

Notice the "Top Secret" stamp on some of the photos. In the last few pix notice the CRUDE sheet metal work on the casing and fins of "Little Boy" - the bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima.....Japan

Gives a little look into the other side of the engineering on the first atomic bombs, the mechanical and logistical work that it took to handle, store, transport, and load them.

Declassified Historical photographs.

http://www.alternatewars.com/Bomb>Loading/Bomb_Guide.htm

News form Seymour Johnson AFB

Below is an update on Piper Wilhide as promised, plus a little info on this year's Southeastern AMMO Bowl.

Also, attached are photos of a new piece of AMMO artwork here at SJ. We needed something to replace the "Welcome to AMMO Country" sign on the side of the building as it had to be removed for the new roof installation. SSGT Sean Schaffer stepped up and designed, built and delivered this awesome monument. He spent over 100 hours of his own time in his garage welding, sanding, pouring concrete and painting to put this thing together for us. On top of that, he was doing all this while preparing to PCS to Korea, so he definitely had other things to worry about. (The piss-pots are solid concrete and weigh about 180 pounds apiece.) Anyway, anyone driving remotely close to the MSA knows, without a doubt, they're entering "AMMO Country."

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



From: WILHIDE, RANDY J JR TSgt
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2014
To: NIXON, DAVID M CMSgt
Subject: Piper Update

Chief,

Here is the update on Piper. We are still getting the AMMO Bowl things together but the dates are Ice breaker 15 Aug. Place for icebreaker is TBD as of right now. The tournament will run Sat through Sun 16-17 August at Myrtle Beach, SC. The softball fields are Grand Parks sports complex, all turf fields. That is all we have so far for Ammo bowl.

Update on Piper

Piper received great news in January when she had her routine 3 day scans. She still remains NED (no evidence of disease!) January marked 9 months of Piper being clear! We had a scare on the second day while she was under sedation. She stopped breathing, but her medical team was on top of it and we quickly escaped a very scary situation. Piper's next round of scans will take place in April and we pray we will hear that she made the



"ONE YEAR mark" of being disease free! Piper will be heading to clinic in March. Typically clinic visits, which consist of giving blood and urine, occur every month, however; Piper has "graduated" to being seen every two months. In addition to receiving great news from her scans, we were approached by the child life specialist because Piper's oncologist, Dr. Fuh, had nominated Piper to be one of the children to represent Vidant's Children's Miracle Network for 2014. We were not only notified that Piper was chosen from all of the selectees, but out of the 6 chosen miracle kids, Piper was chosen to be THE POSTER CHILD for 2014. We have her Children's Miracle Network photo-shoot coming up on February 18th in Greenville. So when you walk into Walmart or CVS or Sam's Club and see the big poster of the CMN child and events going on this year, the little girl on the poster's will be our sweet precious Piper. We are beyond excited and thrilled to share her story and raise awareness, along with funding, for our hospital. We will be participating in radiothons and telethons and other fundraising events. 2014 is spanning out to be quite an eventful year. We have started early this year with meetings for the "2nd Annual Piper's Promise 5K" event. Last year we raised \$27,500 and this year our goal is to raise \$50,000! :)

As always, thanks for keeping Piper in your prayers and supporting us during this journey. Sadly, one of Piper's buddies, Kayne, has earned his angel wings. They would always be together during treatments and scan days. Kayne, has a twin brother, and just started kindergarten this year. We will be attending his funeral this Saturday, the 15th. Cancer does not discriminate and we will do everything in our power to raise awareness and funding to find a cure so that NO family will go through ANY of what we have gone through. Thanks again for the continued support! We cannot express how much it means to us.

TEAM PIPER, WE BELIEVE!!!

TSgt Wilhide

AMMO Supply

The Ammo Chiefs Association now has an on-line store, we call it Ammo Supply. You can check it out here: <http://ammochiefs.qbstores.com>. 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: <http://www.queensboro.com/welcome-queensboro-shirt-company.html>.

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. 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.

So support the ACA with an order today and show off our association. Again, the monies we collect go toward our causes.

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

Mike Roylance
ACA Treasurer



LAST AMMO CALL



Aaron J. Weddle, 35 passed away in the loving arms of his family on February 12, 2014 at his home in Bloomington. He was born in Bloomington to Tom and Cheryl Weddle on June 10, 1978. After graduating from Edgewood High School, Aaron entered the United States Air Force then proceeded to graduate from the University of South Carolina with an engineering degree in environmental management. He was presently employed at Summit Environmental in Evansville, IN. Aaron has one son Griffin from a previous marriage. He married Andria Fleener-Hall in November of 2013. Aaron is survived by his loving wife Andria, parents Tom and Cheryl Weddle, his son Griffin, step-son Garrett, sister Kirsten Lawrence, maternal grandparents: Tom and Loretta Crecelius, paternal grandfather: Bob Weddle, aunts: Linda and Janis Weddle, aunt and uncle: Mike and Sherry Baxter, nieces: Kaity Barton and Taryn Hinds, Nephews: Dayton Hinds and Dakota Lawrence and numerous cousins. Aaron was preceded in death by his

grandmother Doris Weddle and grandfather Robert Baxter and great-grandmother Mattie Allen. The funeral service was held on Monday, February 17, 2014; with the Monroe County Veterans Honor Guard performing military rites.

The following was passed on by one of our ACA BOD members; we don't have any additional information to share with the rest of the Ammo community. We will provide additional detailed write ups on these Ammo troops in the next newsletter. If anyone has additional information they can share that's releasable to the public, please send it to me or one of the ACA BOD members.

Folks, it's with great sorrow that I have just learned we lost our third Active Duty Ammo troop this week. Our prayers go out to the families of: **SrA Dustin Owens**, found deceased in his room at Osan AB; **SSgt Aaron Parker** who passed away in his sleep at Luke AFB, AZ; and **SSgt Heber Rosales** who passed away due to complications after gall bladder surgery at Aviano AB, Italy.

8th Ammo Chiefs Association Reunion
15 – 19 October 2014
South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa
Las Vegas, Nevada



Sign Up Sheet

Return Sign Up Sheet and Check to:
ACA Reunion
C/O Mike Roylance
1525 267th PL SE
Sammamish WA 98075

First Name	Last Name	Spouse Name	Cell/Home Phone
Address	City	State	Zip
Email Address:			

Want an Ammo Chief Polo for the upcoming events? One for the Wife? Order online here: <http://ammochiefs.qbstores.com/>

EVENT SIGNUP MUST BE COMPLETED NLT 7 MAY 2014*				
Event	Description	Number Attending	Cost Per Person	Total
Reunion Fee	Associated with administrative and miscellaneous cost of reunion	#	\$25	
Reception Mixer (Wednesday Nite)	Hors d'oeuvre's, bar setup, tax and gratuity	#	\$10	
Ammo Bowling (TBD)	Charity Competition event between ACA and Nellis Ammo, just need number of bowlers for now.	#	TBD	0
Wives Nite Out (Thursday Nite)	Just need number of attendees; will be pay as you go.	#	0	0
Ammo Call (Thursday Nite)	Hors d'oeuvre's, bar setup, tax and gratuity	#	\$15	
Tour Nellis Ammo Areas (Friday)	Burgers, dogs, beer and soda furnished by Nellis Ammo. Fee is for transportation	#	\$15	
ACA Membership Meeting (Saturday)	ACA Members Annual Meeting	#	0	0
Dinner** (Saturday Nite)	Prime Rib.....#____ Panko Crusted Chicken.....#____ Ginger Halibut.....#____	#	\$51	
<i>**Sales tax and gratuity included</i>				
Breakfast (Sunday)	Just need number of attendees; will be pay as you go.	#	0	0
*Event fees are non-refundable, Individual Emergency Situations will be the only exception considered	Make Check Payable to: ACA Reunion Mail to: ACA Reunion C/O Mike Roylance 1525 267 th PL SE Sammamish WA 98075		Total \$	=

Room Reservations MUST be made NLT 17 Sept 2014

We have a block of 50 rooms set aside from 15 – 19 Oct 2014. Make your room reservations directly with the hotel and be sure to use Group Code # **AMM1015** for a discounted rate when you call***. Call Room Reservations Toll Free Number (866) 791-7626 **or go online direct at link below and create your own reservation:**

<https://gc.synxis.com/rez.aspx?Hotel=11548&Chain=6903&arrive=10/15/2014&depart=10/16/2014&adult=1&child=0&group=AMM1015>

***The Wed/Thur night total inclusive rate is **\$64.40** (\$45 x 12% tax, plus \$14.00 Resort Fee); the rate for Fri/Sat night is **\$98.00** per night (\$75 x 12% tax, plus \$14.00 Resort Fee). (The group rate that appears online includes the average of all nights room rates and resort fee) You can click on "View Price Breakdown" to see actual rates per night. If you call after the cut-off date there is a chance they could be sold out or you could be charged higher rates.

South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa is located at: 9777 Las Vegas Blvd South Las Vegas, NV 89183