



AMMO Chiefs Association (ACA)

September 2014

“Shell and Flame”



Issue Number: XXXIII

22 September 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 Air Force celebrated its 67th birthday this past week; we have a few of our retired Ammo chiefs that are older than the Air Force and we owe a lot to them for setting the standard and blazing the Ammo trail for us to follow. Even though many weapon systems have evolved over the years, as well as a few new ones, the Ammo career field is vital to the Air Force's ability to employ Air Power most often referred to in speeches and briefings. I know many of us have often used the phrase that "Without Ammo the Air Force would just be another unscheduled airline."

Over the years we have seen the consolidation of several career fields into what is known today as the 2W0. Because of the complexity of our career field we need to ensure our folks are getting the experience of working in the different functional areas. As they gain rank and responsibility, it not only helps them personally, but the organization as well, by not under or over committing resources.

As the Air Force continues to try to balance the budget between sustainment and future requirements, the manpower cuts are being seen across most all career fields. This even drives us to ensure we maximize the limited resources we will be left with to get the mission accomplished. At some point we will have to start deciding on which less value added tasks we do today that we will be able to not accomplish, and still meet minimum mission requirements.

I'm sure everyone has heard about the manpower cut drill that's taking place at the MAJCOMs and the reduction in our career field. I recall in my early career going through this same process and finding ways to continue to support the mission when the funding wasn't there to do necessary repairs or procure supplies to run the shop. The Ammo community is very good at finding ways to meet mission requirements even when the environmental restraints they are working in would say otherwise. I ask that we take some time and discuss with our front line supervisors the importance of taking care of our personnel; even a good work horse can become tired if not given a break. Some of us were discussing this issue at our chapter meeting a few days ago and the main point was that Ammo hasn't busted a mission yet. This has often meant some long days for some of our Ammo troops; for the Ammo pride wouldn't allow the mission to fail.

There are a lot of good articles for this edition of the newsletter and we appreciate the inputs to share with the rest of the Ammo community. This time of year is headlined by Ammo softball. There have been a few regions that have completed their playoffs and there's still a southwest regional playoff scheduled in October at Luke AFB. The last time we held a worldwide Ammo Bowl competition was back in the 2004 timeframe. Mission and economics impacts the ability to host a worldwide Ammo Bowl nowadays.

It's not very long until we start the effort to send care packages to the AOR; the ACA Mid-Atlantic Chapter got this off the ground several years ago and continues to take the lead in getting care packages in the mail to arrive before the holidays. More information can be found later in the newsletter.

Look forward to seeing many of you at the reunion in October.

Richard Pennington

IYAAAYAS!!!



ACA Emerald Coast Chapter Update

The Emerald Coast Chapter hosted the annual Ammo Call at the Helen Back Café's Tiki Ammo Bar where over 150 Ammo troops from the Gulf Coast attended. All the troops participated in several Ammo yells but we had a couple of young Ammo officers that may need additional training in conduction the proper yells. Tom Zima sang his Ammo songs that had the troops wanting more but overall a great time was had by all. Many sponsors helped the chapter with donations to help bring the troops together for a night of feasting and Ammo bonding. Owner of Helen Back's Chris Sehman showed up to give his famous Ammo toast and thank the troops for their service and support.

The chapter also conducted their annual charity golf tournament in July at the Ft Walton Beach Golf course. Although the participation was a little down from last year we were still able to raise over \$1400.00 to split between the local Toys-for-Tots and the Okaloosa/Walton County Mental Health Association which helps homeless veterans in the area.



We also had our annual picnic at the Hurlburt Fld picnic area where there was food aplenty and folks enjoyed an afternoon without rain for a change. We will have our next meeting on 18 Sep to discuss agenda inputs and proxies for the annual business meeting at the reunion in Vegas.





We will have our annual dinner/dance in November to recognize outstanding Munitions Performers from Tyndall, Eglin and Hurlburt.

Big John Greer

ACA Mid-Atlantic Chapter Update

The Ammo Chiefs Association Mid-Atlantic Chapter (ACAMC) had another busy quarter. The Ammo Morale Team at Joint Base Langley-Eustis assisted us with the April fundraiser at RIR. We presented a check to them for \$400.00 at the flight roll call on July 24th.



In early September, we worked another fundraiser at the Richmond International Raceway (RIR) NASCAR event. We were spread all over the place and worked under grueling conditions. We did have one casualty - Ricky Hamada slipped on some grease in the Bojangles' booth and hurt his back. That aggravated his ongoing back issues. Ricky's too young for this! This fundraiser goes a long way to support our numerous programs that help the Ammo community.

Our membership is growing. Brett Kulp and Rickey Clay are our newest members. They are both working at the Pentagon. Once CMSgt Bobby George officially joins the ACA, he will be added to our rolls to bring our membership up to 22 Chiefs and 4 Associate Members. Bobby will be taking over the Ammo Flight at Joint Base Langley-Eustis.

Mike Robertson set up our September meeting at the Pasta House Italian Restaurant in Mechanicsville, VA. Eleven members and another eight guests enjoyed a great meal and socializing before the official chapter meeting started. The meeting was quite productive and we set the wheels in motion to get the annual Care Package, Sharp Ammo Troop, and Troops-in-Need program rolling. On a sad note, Frank Waterman is still in the recovery mode after his back surgery in June and could not make the meeting. Our best wishes to Frank on a speedy recovery! Jackie Miller was our long-distance traveler for the meeting and Dave Nixon drove up from Seymour-Johnson on his Harley.

Ricky Hamada and Jackie Miller represented the chapter at the Southeast Ammo Bowl held at Myrtle Beach, SC. Ricky presented chapter coins to the winning team members from Seymour-Johnson AFB. Since this about wiped us out of coins, we got a new order of 100 in.



A large banner for the 'AMMO ANNUAL BBQ' is displayed. The banner features a central graphic of a bomb with a lit fuse. The words 'IYAAYAS' and '2014' are written on the bomb. The banner is decorated with handwritten signatures and names in blue and black ink. The text 'AMMO' is on the left, 'ANNUAL' is on the right, and 'BBQ' is at the bottom. The banner is held up by a wooden pole.

A large group of people, including men, women, and children, are posing for a group photo under a covered pavilion. Several individuals are holding signs that read "USAF AMMO RETIREE", "SECOND ANNUAL", "THIRD ANNUAL", and "AMMO ANNUAL". The group is diverse in age and appearance, and the setting appears to be an outdoor event space.

Dave
David M. Calandra, Civ, USAF

AMMO CARE PACKAGES

We appreciate the ACA Mid-Atlantic Chapter for their continued outstanding support of our Ammo troops in the AOR. The two folks that continue to take the lead on this effort are retired Chiefs Wilbur (Bill) McCullough and Jack Miller. The ACAMC continues to support fund raising events to raise funds to support AOR project as well as support some of the local Ammo troops that need a little extra help during the holidays. Jack does the shopping and packing and working with the post office to get the packages to the Ammo troops before Christmas holidays. Over the years we have received thank you notes back from the deployed locations expressing their thanks for supporting and thinking about them.

For Funds Donations:

If you want to donate funds to support the care packages being sent to the AOR sent checks to ACA Mid-Atlantic Chapter. Last year we had several members and associate members contribute to this project.

ACAMC
5931 Danielle Dr.
Fredericksburg, VA 22407

For Dry Goods

Any dry good items sent to Jack Miller for adding to the care packages need to arrive by 8 Nov 14.

Jack D. Miller
2405 Ashford Dr.
Concord North Carolina, 28027

We appreciate everyone's continued support of this project; maybe one day we will be out of the AOR arena.

VR
Rich Pennington

Membership Update

Membership Totals by Type	
Membership Type	Count Of Membership Type
AA	8
AL	19
H	5
HS	6
RA	6
RL	144
SF	5
Total	193

Membership Totals by Status	
Status	Count Of Status
Active	16
Deceased	4
Honorary Spouse	6
Veteran	167
Total	193

Membership Totals by Chapter	
Chapter Affiliation	Count Of Chapter Affiliation
Emerald Coast	44
Mid Atlantic	22
Mid West	6
No Chapter	121
Total	193



Way to go Misawa AMMO!!

Mountain Home Ammo supports Rim of the Pacific 2014



Staff Sgt. Travis Briese, holds a Captive Air Training Missile 9-M fin in place as Staff Sgt. Paul Rinehart, uses a speed wrench to remove the fin from the guidance section of the missile head.



Staff Sgt. Paul Rinehart, and Senior Airman Elizabeth Brieser, 391st FS Munitions Flight munitions controller, remove a Captive Air Training Missile 9-M head. Both Rinehart and Brieser are deployed to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, from Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, in support of Rim of the Pacific 2014.



Staff Sgt. Travis Briese, 391st Fighter Squadron Munitions Flight equipment maintainer, connects the Captive Air Training Missile 9-M head to a TSU 4044 test set for trouble shooting.

15th MXS Munitions Flight helps bring air power to RIMPAC by Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden, 15th Wing Public Affairs

The 15th Maintenance Squadron C-17 Munitions Flight is working around the clock to provide munitions support for Rim of the Pacific 2014.

Since the beginning of the exercise the flight has checked in munitions for more than 60 aircraft and provided support and infrastructure for more than 100 tons of munitions and cargo.

Master Sgt. Michael Stephens, 15th MXS Munitions Flight chief, said his team puts the "force" in Air Force.

"We're a big part of the air components involvement in RIMPAC because we enable the fire power for all the players," he said. "Without Ammo, there would just be a bunch of flying observation platforms (aircraft) around without much to do."

"Ammo is ammo, he said. "There are differences in munitions, but safety, building, and moving munitions are about the same worldwide, so we're basically doing more of what we normally do on a day to day basis including issuing, inspecting and storing munitions."

"RIMPAC has been great for networking with my peers," he said. "I've been able to meet new people, see how things function at other bases and pick up knowledge about things I don't normally get to see here, such as how things work at fighter bases, and how everyone works toward getting the same overall mission accomplished."



The 28th Munitions Squadron members teamed up with midshipmen from Naval Munitions Command Seal Beach for the first time to assist in building, loading and deploying Mk-62 and Mk-65 Quick Strike mines.

Staff Sgt. Raymond Elmendorf and Airman 1st Class Eric Morrison, 28th Munitions Squadron conventional maintenance crew members, assist Petty Officer 2nd Class Dwight Moore, Naval Munitions Command Seal Beach mineman, with loading Mk-62 Quickstrike mines onto munitions carts at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D.

U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Anania Tekurio

'Total Force' Airmen keep ammo rolling for vital OEF missions

By Master Sgt. Cohen A. Young, 455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs / Published August 28, 2014

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan (AFNS) -- Airmen assigned to the 455th Maintenance Squadron aren't just practicing total force integration during an exercise or at home, they are performing it for real in a combat zone and they are doing it as the U.S. Air Force gets smaller. They're proof that TFI works in the real world doing the real mission in a combat zone.

A team of 10 munitions systems airmen from three different bases and three different levels of service are responsible for making the bombs and ammunition that keep U.S. ground forces safe on patrols and convoys throughout Afghanistan with Close Air Support missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. This group is comprised of active duty members and reservists from Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri; Air National Guardsman from the 177th Fighter Wing, Atlantic City, New Jersey and the 187th Fighter Wing, Montgomery, Alabama.

Although diverse in backgrounds, the members have all come together with varied experiences to support a vital mission here.

"It's been a great experience working here," said Staff Sgt. Terrin Love, a munitions systems craftsman and native of Montgomery, Alabama. "I've worked with some really good people from Whiteman AFB and New Jersey. We've got active duty, guard and reserve out here and we've all meshed together to support the same mission.

"Our job is very important," added Love. "If we produce weapons that don't do what they are supposed to do, then the aircraft is flying for no reason. These munitions support all the troops on the ground, and if these bombs don't go off, then it's mission fail."

One of their responsibilities is building GBU-38 bombs for the F-16C Fighting Falcon, a highly maneuverable and proven air-to-air combat and air-to-surface attack aircraft. The GBU-38 bombs are an essential part of the aircraft's weapon system.

According to most of these Airmen, they have a great deal of satisfaction in doing what they do.

"There's a lot of job satisfaction in this job," said Airman 1st Class Casey Cain, a native of Unionville, Missouri deployed from Whiteman AFB, Missouri. "You actually get to see your project at the end of the day. You start out with a bomb body and you add munition that can do anything you want depending on the configuration, and it's pretty cool."

The Total Force Integration Airmen look forward to aircraft returning without the bombs or ammunition that they have provided.

"When a jet comes back empty, it means everything functioned the way it was supposed to. It means that we did a good job. It means that everyone performed correctly and safely," said Senior Airman Christopher Reed, deployed from the 442nd Fighter Wing.

While the team follows the same technical order data to perform their tasks, there can still be differences in the way things are done, but in a TFI environment, they are able to learn from one another and make each other better.

"What's really cool about integrating reserves, guard and active duty from different bases is that you have a very diverse culture," said Reed, a native of Des Moines, Iowa. "When you have a diverse culture, you get to see things from different perspectives and when you have different views on things that are when improvements happen. That's when you start noticing problems with processes or with equipment and then you can work toward a goal to improve those processes and make them easier, make them faster, make them safe and more efficient."

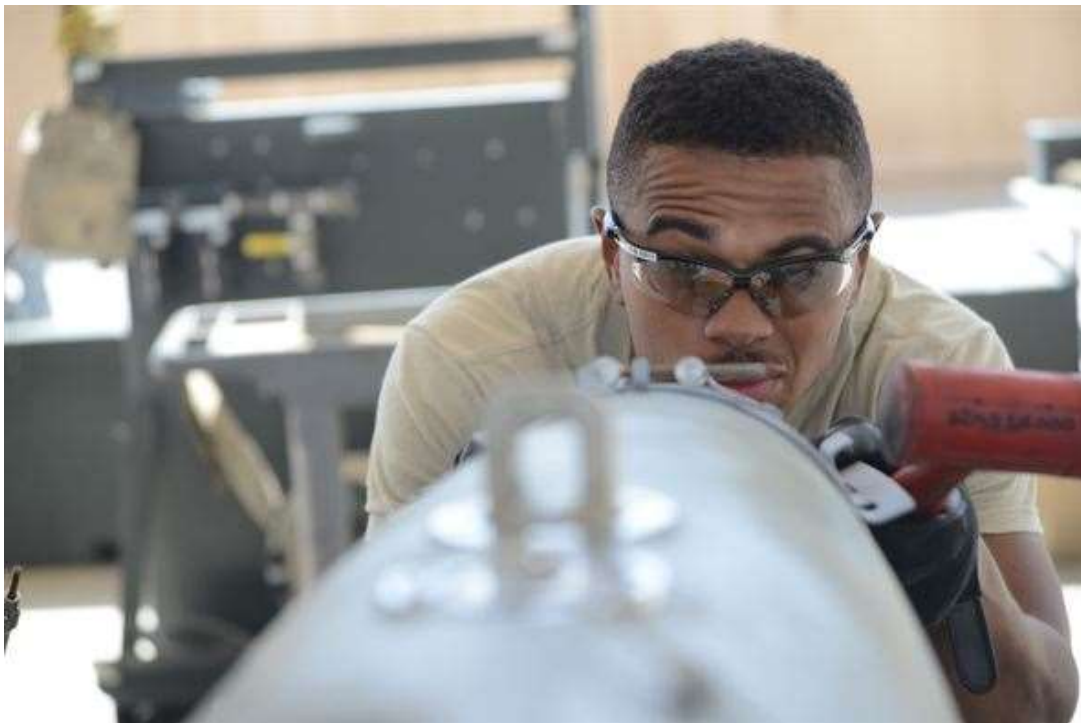
"We've come together as a family, us active duty, reserve and guard members," added Reed.



Tech. Sgt. Patrick Williams (left) and Senior Airman Brandon Graves attach GBU-38 bombs to a hoist that will be used with a munitions assembly conveyor to move the bombs during transport Aug. 14, 2014, at Bagram Airfield in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Both men are currently assigned to the 455th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron and both are reservists deployed from the 442nd Fighter Wing, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Cohen A. Young)



Airman 1st Class Casey Cain and Tech. Sgt. Patrick Williams tighten the screws on a GBU-38 during its construction while at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan Aug. 14, 2014. The GBU-38 is a necessary part of the weapon system of the F-16C Fighting Falcon. Cain is a reservist deployed from Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Williams is a reservist deployed from the 442nd Fighter Wing in Missouri. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Cohen A. Young)



Airman 1st Class Tony Chatman aligns the front strike of the bomb lugs of a GBU-38. The GBU-38 is the prime bomb utilized with the F-16C Fighting Falcon. Chatman is a munitions systems technician currently assigned to the 455th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron. The Ammo section is an example of total force integration; Chatman is an Air National Guardsman deployed with active duty members, reservists and other guardsmen as well. Chatman is deployed from the 177th Fighter Wing in New Jersey. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Cohen A. Young)

AFCOMAC Class Outstanding Performers



2014 Southeastern AMMO Bowl, Myrtle Beach SC, 15-17 August 2014

Attending Teams: Seymour Johnson A, Seymour Johnson B, Moody, Shaw A, Shaw B, Langley, Jacksonville ANG, and ORFs.



Champions: Seymour A Team



MVP: Brad Mattern, S-J
Big Stick: Randy Wilhide, S-J
Little Stick: Jim Flagg, ORFs



Runner-up: Moody



HR Derby Champ:
Michael Hentz, Moody



3rd Place: Shaw A



Ammo Bowl After Action Report from Sheppard

Here is the stats that I have tallied up from ammo bowl:

10 teams (Sheppard A and B, Tyndall, Hurlburt, Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Barksdale, Dyess, Davis Monthan, and Whiteman).

There were a total of 196 home runs over the 65 games of the tournament.

Average runs per game between both teams were

36 RPG.

Tyndall won the tournament by defeating Sheppard A in the championship game.

Barksdale Finished 3rd while Hurlburt finished 4th.

Overall, the tournament was a success. The goal as always with this tournament is embrace what makes us so different from every other career field in the Air Force, our camaraderie and friendships we've built while being a 2W0. It also helps that we have plenty of beer and get to smash softballs while doing it.

IYAAYAS

SSgt Jason Laferriere