



AMMO Chiefs Association (ACA)

December 2015

“Shell and Flame”



Issue Number XXXIX

21 Dec 2015

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>.

First, I want to thank the past ACA BOD for their support over the past four years. As your new ACA BOD takes over we will need your continued support and recommendation to continue growing our organization. Feel free to contact any of your ACA BOD at the email addresses below.

President – Van Ray vanrayammo@aol.com
Vice President – Mike Robertson me-rob@verizon.net
Secretary – Jack Seaman ammo.chiefs.association@gmail.com
Treasurer – Mike Roylance Mikeroylance@comcast.net
Chief-at-Arms – Fred O’Hern chief.ohern@gmail.com
Director-at-Large – Bart Ivy bart.ivy@evanhoe.com
Director-at-Large - "Big John" Greer bigjohn461@bellsouth.net
Director-at-Large - Joel "Dusty" Rhodes joelrhodes@cfl.rr.com
Director-at-Large – John Ray jray206@gmail.com
Web-Site Manager Rick Follett RFollett2@gmail.com

I wish everyone a great Christmas; and wish a safe return for all of our personnel serving in harm’s way.

VR
Van
IYAAYAS!!!



As in the past you can reach your new ACA Officers by email; if you would like their snail mail addresses contact the ACA Secretary at ammo.chiefs.association@gmail.com.

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.

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 RFollett2@gmail.com our Web-Site Manager for his continued support in maintaining and continuing to improve the website.

From Your Vice President:

As we approach the Holidays, I'd like to wish the entire ACA membership a Happy Holiday season. I hope you get the opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends. As the incoming VP, I look forward to supporting the ACA President, BOD and membership to sustain and strengthen the ACA as an organization, what we do, how we do it, and have some fun along the way... I'll be preparing the Shell and Flame Newsletter each quarter so I'll be reaching out to the BOD, Chapters and Membership for information and topics as we go forward. We appreciate the contributions that everyone offers to the ACA and the Shell and Flame.

For ACA Newsletter inputs please send to:
Mike Robertson me-rob@verizon.net

Have a great Holiday!
MikeR

From Your Secretary:

Greetings to all as we get ready for a brand new year. Some things happening within the ACA in the next few months include - - our new BOD Members taking over the reins 1 January and the 2016 Reunion, to name a couple. Looks like we'll be getting together in San Antonio for the Reunion, the inputs you provided selected this location by an overwhelming majority vote. Now all we need are some volunteers to put it all together. I'm contacting our Members living in or near the area asking them to do just that. We'll be letting you know who they are and providing more Reunion Information as the details start coming together.

Those of you who pay your ACA dues annually can do so now or at any time prior to the 31st of January. After that, those not paid up will be considered delinquent and will be dropped from the ACA's paid up "active" rolls. We don't like to see that happen so get your check books out and mail me your \$25.00 soon. You can also contact Mike or myself and we'll let you know what's remaining on your \$\$ balance for becoming a completely paid up Lifetime Member. **My new mailing address is:**

Jack Seaman
717 Smokey Mountain Avenue
Henderson, NV 89012

I'm looking forward to working with our new and returning BOD members over the next 4 years as we all help keep the ACA and AMMO Flame's burning. We all welcome your comments and suggestions for making our Association stronger and more visible to our Active Duty AMMO troops. We also ask for your help in "recruiting" more of these younger folks as well as those in the Retired AMMO community who have not yet joined up.

You and all of yours stay well, be safe and please keep in touch.

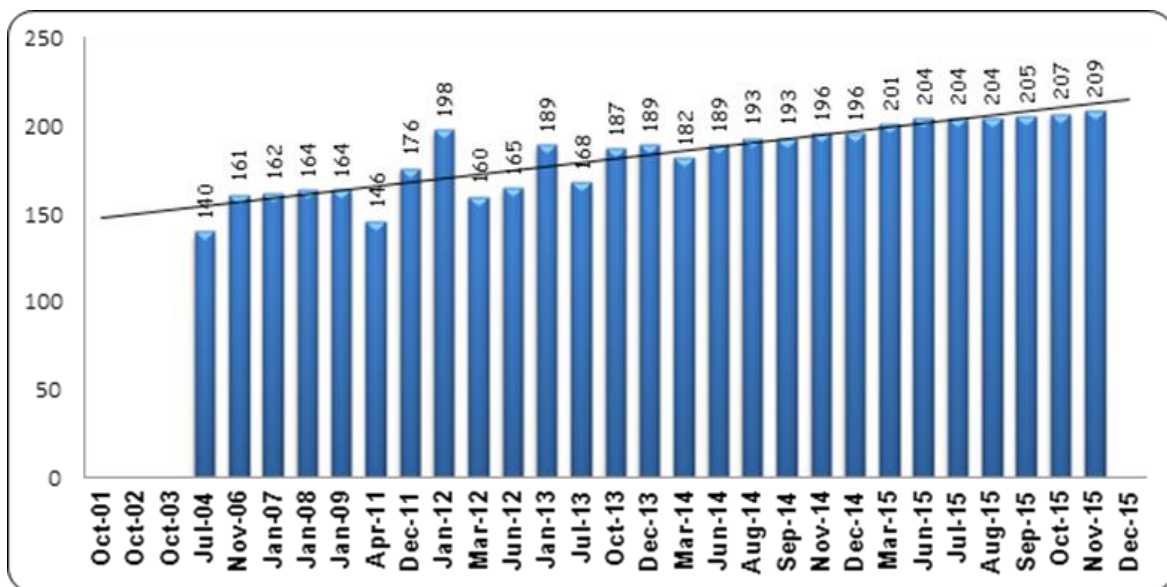
Jack **IYAAYAS !!!!**
 ACA Secretary

From Your Treasurer:

Membership Status as of Dec 2015

While scanning through the membership database I found a few folks who have what I call “Consistency”, “Regularity” or downright “dependability”. While many of us took the easy route and paid in larger installments or even all at once, these two members have consistently paid dues at the standard rate over the years to finally obtain the Lifetime Membership title as allowed by our Constitution. Let’s give a big “Hell Yeah” to Ray Wilson and John Rivard. Ray completed his ten payments in 2013 and John completed his in 2014. Thanks for hanging in there to support the ACA guys.

Membership as of 30 Nov 15



01-Dec-15

Membership by Chapter

<i>Mid West</i>	6
<i>Wasatch</i>	13
<i>Mid Atlantic</i>	25
<i>Emerald Coast</i>	41
<i>None</i>	124
Total	209

01-Dec-15

Membership by Type

AA = Associate Paying Annual Dues
 AL = Associate Lifetime
 H = Honorary
 HS = Honorary Spouse
 RA = CMSgt Paying Annual Dues
 RL = CMSgt Lifetime
 SF = Shell and Flame

<i>AA</i>	8
<i>AL</i>	22
<i>H</i>	4
<i>HS</i>	10
<i>RA</i>	11
<i>RL</i>	153
<i>SF</i>	1
Total	209

01-Dec-15

Membership by Status

<i>Veteran/Shell & Flame</i>	1
<i>Honorary Spouse</i>	10
<i>Active</i>	23
<i>Veteran</i>	175
Total	209

15 AMMO Seniors Selected for Promotion to Chief Master Sergeant

<http://www.af.mil/News/ArticleDisplay/tabid/223/Article/467517/400-selected-for-promotion-to-chief-master-sergeant.aspx>

On 17 Dec 2015, the Air Force announced the promotion of 400 Senior Master Sergeants to Chief Master Sergeant. Of the 400, 15 Outstanding AMMO Troops were selected to be our newest AMMO Chiefs!

The ACA congratulates each of you -- Well done!

- Eric S Barlet
- Mark P Jackson
- Jonathan P Crain
- Patrick J Oliver
- Walter D Delauder
- Philip Jason Cox
- Adam J Jez
- David A Nichols
- Steven D Farwell
- Frank Erzar
- Stephen M Parcell
- Lonnie J Stamper
- Cameron H Johnson
- Jennifer P Jones
- Guadalupe L Ruiz

Chapter News:

Wasatch Chapter

The ACA Wasatch Chapter combines efforts to show off their holiday spirit! Twelve AMMO Chiefs attended a quarterly meeting on 9 Dec 15 at Runway Ruby's restaurant with the main purpose of helping out the less fortunate Airmen over the Christmas holidays. All funds collected will be spread across active duty, reserve, deployed Ammo troops stationed at Hill AFB as well as to support future events like the Annual AMMO BBQ (open to both Active Duty/Retired).

The Wasatch Chiefs will be purchasing DECA (commissary) gift certificates and presenting them within the next few weeks to the following organizations; 388 EMS, 419 MXS, 649 MUNS, GACP, SMO, 86 FWS (WSEP), and deployed AMMO personnel as well.

It was a truly a special occasion as the group welcomed recent arrivals Chief (Ret) Mike Robertson (ACA VP eff. 1 Jan 16) and Chief Vicki Lemke (649 MUNS). The group even got to hear from Chief (Ret) Stan Madaj about his service from 1956-1986. There was even a special guest appearance by Chief (Ret) Dave Nixon who sported the obligatory Utah goatee! The group also announced a fine farewell to Chief Gene Porto (GACP) as he officially retires on 8 Jan 16, 1300, at the Hill AFB Museum.

Chiefs in attendance:

Chief (Ret) Dave Calandra (President), Chief (Ret) Mike Eisenberg (Secretary/Treasurer), Hon. Chief Randy Tymofichuk, Chief (Ret) Joe D'Arco, Chief (Ret) Stan Madaj, Chief (Ret) Mike Robertson, Chief (AD) Vicki Lemke, Chief (Ret) John Pfromm, Chief (Ret) Tim Culbertson, Chief (AFRAT) Shawn Scott, Chief (Ret) Paul Smith, and Chief (Ret) Dave Nixon was a visiting attendee from the Mid-Atlantic Chapter. Thanks again to all the Chiefs in attendance (and those not at the meeting) that generously donated to support their extended AMMO family!

Mid-Atlantic Chapter

The Ammo Chiefs Association Mid-Atlantic Chapter (ACAMC) had another busy quarter. The Ammo Morale Team (AMT) at Joint Base Langley-Eustis assisted us with the September fundraiser at Richmond International Raceway (RIR). We received a partial payment from Americrown and are waiting on the rest of the money so we can present a fair check to the AMT for their assistance.

Jackie Miller spearheaded the Ammo Care Package program and got the boxes mailed by mid-November. With contributions from the ACA, over \$1,180.00 was spent on goodies and postage for Ammo troops deployed at four austere locations. We received very positive feedback from two locations.

Our membership is staying steady. Stuart Nikolas retired and moved to Georgia in December. We wish Nik our best as he permanently reunites with Tammy. In lieu of a gift, Nik asked us to make a donation in his name to the CMSgt Richard A. Gauvin Memorial Scholarship Fund. Our membership is back to 21 Chiefs and 4 Associate Members. Bobby George is PCSing to Korea and we will keep him on the rolls as a member. Rick Follett took over as the lead for the RIR fundraisers since Bobby left.

We held elections for the offices of Chapter President and Vice President. Jackie Miller is our new President, and Yvonne Watts is our new Vice President. They will be officially installed on January 1st. Our thanks go out to Eddie Fuquay and Nik Nikolas for their great leadership and guidance during their tenure.

We had our last meeting of the year on December 5th at Bill McCullough's house. We had eight members and one Associate member in attendance. With the five proxies, we were able to legally conduct business. Our longest traveler was Frank Waterman, who made the long drive from Myrtle Beach, SC.

During our December meeting, we selected AIC Benjamin Latimer from Pope Army Airfield as our annual Sharp Ammo Troop award winner. He will receive a chapter coin, \$50.00 check, and certificate from the chapter.

Also at the meeting, we selected one each Ammo Troop-in-Need from Joint Base Langley-Eustis and Seymour-Johnson AFB. With our chapter funds, a donation from Frank Waterman, and proceeds from the White House Christmas ornament raffle, each troop will have over \$375.00 in shopping available. The group went over the 2016 Calendar of Events and Budget. Both were sent to the membership with approved changes.

As Eddie's and Nik's last official acts as officers, we had the finalized version of the Chapter Constitution and Bylaws approved to meet our 2015 suspense.

After the meeting, Marilyn McCullough put out a spread of food for the members and their significant others. The ACAMC wishes all of its Ammo brothers and sisters a Merry Christmas and a safe, happy, and healthy 2016!



Midwest Chapter

Mark Gossett was re-elected President of the Midwest Chapter effective 1 Jan 2016 for another three years. The Chapter met recently for a get-together and wishes everyone a Very Merry and Happy Holiday.



AMMO Care Packages

Thanks to the ACA Mid-Atlantic Chapter again this year for putting together the care packages for the Ammo troops in the AOR. Jack Miller of the ACA Mid-Atlantic Chapter lead the effort again this year buying items and packaging them and getting them in the mail in time to arrive before Christmas. The ACA organization is committed to supporting this worthwhile effort as long as we have Ammo troops serving in harm's way in the AOR.



2016 Reunion –See you in San Antonio

After a final tally, San Antonio was selected as the location for our 2016 Reunion and we also got a Reunion Boss, Joe Dominguez (jfdom2504@hotmail.com). Joe, along with Fred Schoettler (fjschoettler@aol.com), makeup the San Antonio Reunion team and they have started planning the venue and activities. If you would like to assist in organizing this year's reunion or if you have any suggested activities you would like to see included, please make contact with Joe. The dates and hotel will be finalized in the coming months with an itinerary of activities to follow soon thereafter. Thanks to everyone for taking the time to vote and we look forward to seeing you in San Antonio.



LAST AMMO CALL



MSgt Matthew (Gonzo) Gonzalez passed away 25 Oct 2015 from natural causes. Matt is survived by his daughter Sophia and ex-wife Angelina. Matt was an 18 plus year Ammo Troop who was known throughout the Ammo Community. Matt had a larger than life personality and his fingerprints were all over the 5th Munitions Squadron, Minot AFB, North Dakota. Matt's previous assignments included Aviano AB Italy, Kadena AB Okinawa, Kunsan AB Korea, Nellis AFB Nevada and Lakenheath UK.

Minot AFB honors the memory of MSgt Matthew Gonzalez

11/3/2015 - **MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D.** -- Team Minot came together to mourn the passing of Master Sgt. Matthew Gonzalez during his funeral and memorial service at Minot Air Force Base, N.D., Oct. 30, 2015. Gonzalez was born January 26, 1979, in Neenah, Wis. and enlisted in the Air Force in September 1997. He is survived by his four-year-old daughter Sophia. (<http://www.minot.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123462526>)

