



AMMO Chiefs Association (ACA) *August 2011*

“Shell and Flame”



Issue Number: XXI

15 August 2011

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 a Sunshine Committee to respond to members’ 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 the 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/ammochiefs.com>.

From the gavel...



My fellow chiefs and friends, the year has been good with all the events that have been happening to support our troops and AMMO community. I would like to thank all who have supported these events and ask that we continue this outstanding support. The more we can do the better we can help the AMMO community. We have also been working to have the AMMO plaques placed at the Enlisted Heritage Museum in Gunter and the Lowry Museum at Denver. We will be putting out a schedule of when these plaque dedications will take place so if you can make the events please put the dates on your calendars.

Our next big event is our election of officers for 2012-2016. We will be putting out request for nominations with a date for all members to cast their votes. I ask that all members to please look at who you would like to nominate for a position and please verify with the individual before hand to ensure that member is willing to fill the office so nominated.

As most of you know we have a new AMMO Chief at the Pentagon, CMSgt Ricky Hamada, who is an active member of the ACA and with his help I ask everyone to beat the bushes and get those members who have not been active in a while or have now applied for membership to join the ACA. Our strength is in our members with the outstanding accomplishments and support of the AMMO community by our members and chapters.

Finally, remember our Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen who are in harm’s way and their families. As I look into the young faces of these patriots I see the same young faces in every war or conflict who sacrificed many things to include the ultimate sacrifice to serve this country. Please keep them in our prayers. IYA AMMO YAS!

IYA AMMO YAS!

Darrell

From Your Vice President



ACA Members, as we start to wind down 2011 we need to start the process of electing new officers for our organization. Our membership should receive an email in the next couple months seeking nomination and soon thereafter the voting in of the new officers. Over the past couple years the terms of the ACA BOD was extended and now all of the positions are up for election. In this edition I've highlighted the first Ammo Chief Brothers and a short history after retirement of one of them. If you have any short stories or items of interest you would like to share with the rest of our membership send it to John and I and we will work to get it published in the next edition of the Shell and Flame. Again, I ask each of you to start thinking about nominations and considering volunteering for one of the positions. If you are nominated please consider this as an honor by your fellow Ammo chiefs. Our next newsletter will be sent out about mid-December.

For ACA Newsletter inputs please send to:

John Matthews at RAMMOC1994@comcast.net (New Home Email Address)
Rich Pennington at rpennington7@cox.net

Richard Pennington
ACA Vice President

From the Desk of the Secretary



Elections for ACA Officers: The term of office for all members of the ACA Board of Directors expires on 31 December 2011. In accordance with the recently revised Constitution an election is required to fill all positions for a period of four (4) years. We urge all Ammo Chief Members to consider serving the ACA, the duties of officers can be found on the web-site in the ACA Constitution, Article VII.

Nominations for the following offices will open on August 27th and close September 25th; President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Chief at Arms, and four Directors at Large. Once the eligibility and willingness to serve is confirmed for nominees, voting will take place from October 1st to October 22nd. Members eligible to vote will be sent an e:mail/snail-mail ballot! Please note you must be an Ammo Chief Member in good standing to submit or accept nomination for office.

Membership: Membership in the ACA remains static in that the membership in good standing figure has hovered around 150 for the last couple of years. It is particularly concerning are the 70 in-active or lapsed members. The number of active duty 2W0 chiefs and chief selectees who have not chosen to participate is mystifying. Attached is the Membership Roll current as of 15 August. We urge all members to review it and actively encourage those eligible to join or reinstate their membership. If you believe there is an error on the roll please contact me at ACASecretary@aol.com.

Membership dues should be paid NLT 31 January each year. If you have paid dues continuously you are eligible to convert from Annual to Life Membership by paying the additional years to receive credit for 10 years of paid membership. Please contact me for the balance of your pro-rated payments.

If you previously joined or submitted an application to the ACA and are not listed on the attached Membership Roll, your membership is lapsed. We would welcome you back, you may be reinstated by paying 2011 dues (\$25); send a check and new application to ACA Secretary, 6046 SW 98 Loop, Ocala, FL, 34476.

Please keep your address and contact details current. A quick e:mail to me will suffice.

Fred O'Hern ACASecretary@AOL.COM or FOHern@AOL.COM

You can reach ACA Officers by email at the addresses below 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.

Darrell Beasley ammobeasley@cox.net Rich Pennington rpennington7@cox.net
President Vice President

Fred O'Hern fohern@aol.com Danny Bridges dannyandjanice@cox.net
Secretary Treasurer

Tom Zima zimat@mchsi.com
Chief-At-Arms

John Cecere cecerejc@aol.com Mark Gossett mgossett@prodigy.net
Director-at-Large Director-at-Large

Dwight Howard DHoward@jpkii.com Bart Ivy bart.ivy@evanhoe.com
Director-at-Large Director-at-Large



New ACA Website Manager Rick Follett E-mail: Rfollett@egginc.com

Additional Ammo Plaques

Two additional Ammo Plaques have been delivered to the Gunter Enlisted Heritage Hall and the Museum of the Rockies in Denver (old Lowry AFB). Dedication details are being finalized and will be publized on the web-site. Pictures and details will be included in the next edition of the Shell and Flame. Big thanks to Mark Gossett for having the additional plaques produced and to Ammo Chief (ret'd) "Doc" Holliday in Denver and Chiefs Grant Embrey and Thomas Young at Gunter for working this project. Note: Chief Embrey was an Ammo troop who was a winning Surefire Team Member at RAF Upper Heyford back in the 80s.

7th AMMO Chiefs Association Reunion

The process of identifying the next ACA Reunion location needs to start. Start the email crosstalk about locations, dates, and hosting the event. This will be one of the top agenda items for the new ACA officers; I'm sure they would like to hit the ground running with a game plan in the works.

**AMMO Chiefs Association, Inc. (ACA)
6046 SW 98 Loop, Ocala, Florida 34476**

ACA Web Page News

Visit <http://ammochiefs/ammochiefs.com> or further information.

Chapter News

Mid-Atlantic Region

"The Ammo Chiefs Association Mid-Atlantic Chapter (ACAMC) had a productive quarter. The group met June 18th after a very successful yard sale that netted over \$600.00 in profits. Mike Gavin spearheaded the yard sale. Chris and Salina Arnold, Steve Bowersox, and Jerry Merichko helped Mike set things up and price the items. Eddie Fuquay, Steve Bowersox, Mike Gavin, Jerry Merichko, and Bill McCullough worked the sales. Sherrie Gavin and Rick and Rita Follett cooked up a feast for the famished group and their spouses in attendance. Of course, the sale would not have been a success without all of the donated items and Mike's garage space! These funds will go a long way in meeting the chapter goals of supporting our troops during the holiday season. Not only will we support some Ammo families in need, but the chapter voted to send another care package to our troops overseas who are in harm's way. This follows the one we sent to Bagram AB in April which was greatly appreciated. Mike Robertson took the lead on this for a second time. Thanks Mike!

Our Chapter rolls temporarily dropped when we learned Ed Weisheit will be leaving the area after he retired. We also found out we will be losing Steve Bowersox to a recruiting supervisory position in Arlington, TX. Ed and Steve will be sorely missed since they both contributed immensely to chapter goals. Eddie Fuquay and Jerry Merichko paid their dues and helped us maintain our membership status.

Also at the June 18th meeting, the membership ratified the new Constitution and Bylaws. This met our biennial review requirement and allowed us to make some needed changes.

Our next meeting is scheduled for the September/October time frame at Mike Robertson's house. We anticipate continued support of our Ammo community."

Midwest Chapter

The ACA Midwest Chapter had their summer meeting on 18 June 2011. The meeting was hosted by Charles 'Jay' Yockey. Gary Knighton was reelected as Secretary/Treasurer with a term beginning on 1 Jan 2012. Everyone had a great time. The Chapter also sponsored a hole at the AFSA and Wright-Patterson Chiefs Group Golf outings.

Thanks
Mark Gossett

Emerald Coast Chapter

On 17 Jun 2011 the Emerald Coast Chapter hosted an Ammo Call for the Northwest Florida Troops their wives and ammo friends at the Helen Back Cafe, Ammo Bar. Although Bar owner Chris Seaman could not attend and make his famous ammo toast the troops were entertained by the infamous Tom Zima as he sang his ammo songs and swooned the ladies with his renditions of several other golden oldies. A good time was had by all as they enjoyed best pies on the Gulf coast and several kegs of adult cheer.

The chapter hosted its annual charity golf tournament at the Ft Walton Beach Pines course with 24 teams participating on 8 July. This year a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Richard Gauvin Memorial Scholarship Fund. President John Greer wanted to thank all of those who took time out of their busy schedule to support the tournament and the members who made it happen.

The weekend of 22-24 July saw 11 ammo softball teams come in to town to support the Southeastern Ammo Bowl at the Niceville Sports Complex. There was plenty going on from the Ammo Call on Friday night until opening ceremonies at 0730 Saturday morning. With the first game starting at 0800 there was non-stop Ammo ball except for a short rain delay until the final game Sunday as Shady-J beat Tyndall to take the championship. Plenty of Ammo troops came in to town to renew old friendships and enjoy the games. Congrats to Shady-J and all the great Ammo Troops who showed up. Hope to see you all again next year.

The Chapter annual picnic is scheduled for 20 Aug at the Hurlburt Field picnic area at 1300 with beer butt chickens and cold beverages provided by the chapter and members bringing covered dishes. Again if you are in the area stop by and socialize.

The Emerald Coast Chapter hosts an Annual Ammo Call each year in the May/June time frame and all Ammo troops, active and retired are invited. So if you are in the area put this event on your calendar and plan to be here.

We hold our meeting quarterly at Scully's on the Bayou on Eglin Parkway on the third Thursday of the month at 1700. So if you are ever in the area give us a shout and stop by. IYAAAYAS!

John Greer (aka Big John)
President
ACA Emerald Coast Chapter

Deployed Ammo Troops

Ammo flight turns in 51K pounds of munitions residue, \$424K in excess material

BY: SENIOR AIRMAN DAVID CARBAJAL, 451ST AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS
08/10/2011

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -- It's not uncommon for service members to want to drop a few pounds while deployed. In three months, one unit on base has dropped about 25 tons of excess weight.

The 451st Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron munitions flight has turned in about 51,000 pounds of munitions residue and more than \$424,000 in excess munitions containers as part of an ongoing disposal project.

The excess material was turned into the installation's Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office to be recycled

either here or at stateside locations.

"We turned in 15 aircraft pallets of 30 mm residue alone," said Tech. Sgt. Thomas McMasters, the unit's senior munitions inspector. "The residue we turned in is very valuable and can be reused in the future."

Most of the "residue" the unit turned in was casings from 30 mm and M206 munitions.

The 30 mm rounds are primarily used by the 74th Fighter Squadron's A-10 Thunderbolt IIs to return fire in hostile situations. The M206 infrared countermeasures munitions are used by U.S. and NATO forces to counter heat-seeking missiles shot at their aircraft.

When the aircraft return from combat sorties, the munitions casings are extracted from the aircraft and taken to ammo for disposal.

Before the excess can be turned in, members of the flight must perform a complete inventory of the materials, and certify the items free of explosives.

"We take an in-depth look of the condition of the containers and the residue," said Staff Sgt. Rebecca Montelius, munitions crew chief. "This gives us a good opportunity to ensure the munitions are safe before we turn them in to DRMO."

Recently, the unit made that opportunity count; they found more than 20,000 unexploded ordnance components and five live M206 flares.

"This definitely isn't a normal occurrence," said McMasters. "But we took the necessary steps in order to remove the hazards and ensure the safety of our troops and the DRMO personnel who handle these assets."

The necessary steps were time-consuming ones.

"It took two eight-person teams, working dual shifts for about a month to completely recertify the residue which led to the discovery of the live rounds in the expended residue," said McMasters.

The flight earned July's U.S. Air Force Central Command unit safety award of distinction for discovering and disposing of the unexpended rounds.

Ammo also turned in nearly 1,240 munitions containers to DRMO. Similar to the munitions casings, the containers are reusable and can be reutilized. Munitions specialists place the value of these containers at \$424,145.

"Safety is our primary concern," said 1st Lt. Jonathan Tolman, munitions flight commander. "But in this case, we were also able to be efficient with our resources."

First Ammo Chief Brothers William (Bill) and Richard (Rich) Pennington. This is Bill's story after retirement. Cannon AFB, New Mexico had the honor of two brothers working in the munitions storage area (bomb dump) for a period of time. It made for some interesting times at work while it also brought an Uncle to visit and help.



I started my career in the munitions storage area at Luke AFB, and retired 26 years later within the munitions storage area at Luke. I began substitute teaching at various public schools (elementary thru high school). Substitute teaching brought me to Adobe Mountain School (The Arizona State Department of Juvenile Corrections) which is for boys up to 18 years old. Immediately, was asked to apply to work within the units with the boys and so my second career began.

Now 19 years later, I have worked most of the boys units at Adobe being called upon to start new programs or get a unit back in control. I also had the experience of working in the girls' units which were next to Adobe separated by a mound of dirt and fence. Working with the boys and girls, you learn that they are average youth that took the wrong turn in their lives. You see many of them getting into trouble because they are just plain bored in school and not challenged. They lack parent involvement in their lives and parental guidance. How many times have I heard "Thanks Mr. Pennington for being strict with me".

The court system adjudicates youth to the system and based on the information provided, we begin our assessment to determine the needed treatment. Based on these assessments, youth are placed in the necessary unit (drug treatment, alcohol treatment, mental health, anger control and violence, sex offense, etc.). Youth are up before 6 a.m. and in rooms for the night at 9 p.m. Movements on the campus are done in line formation. Youth attend regular classroom studies on a daily basis for four hours a day. Returning to their units, they have mandatory treatment groups which are done by the case manager, psych or me, as a manager. Youth have a certain number of treatment hours to complete before they can be returned home or to placement. Youth must maintain inspection ready rooms. Rooms consist of two beds, a desk, and shelves for their clothing. Should a youth decide not to follow the rules, he can have his stay extended by the treatment team (lead by a manager) who reviews his records every 30 days. Youths causing serious interruptions are placed in separation and receive a hearing done by a manager who decides the consequences and steps needed to return to the youth's unit. As a manager of a unit and on specific days, as manager on duty for the entire campus, I work to keep the facility running smoothly and correct problems.

No matter what unit I am in charge of or supervisor of, I inform all youth that I expect them to work for their high school diploma/GED, and if available begin working on college classes. As a retired Chief, youth coming into my unit fully understand what I expect and how I will provide consequences if not followed. If I have to have behavior groups and expectation groups free time and privileges are forfeited.

Among my years I worked with the girls for 6 years ages ranging from 10 to 18 years of age. Pregnancy was a part of some of the girls' lives when they arrived in the units. As supervisor, I had certain staff work with these girls providing books, videos and information to assist them in preparing for motherhood. I became an adopted "Grandpa" for several of the babies. Emotions play a huge struggle working with the girls and they hold grudges a lot longer. Success stories have been a part of my years with one girl getting her Pharmacy Tech certificate and supporting her young child. Another girl was challenged by me to complete her high school after leaving Black Canyon and we attended her graduation in a small town in Arizona.

Yes, there are success stories on a regular basis. Some youth (boys) have left and completed their college degrees, joined the military, working at Home Depot and Lowe's. As youth leave my cottage, I remind them that they don't know where I may appear. Whether it is a trip to a local store or a youth walking into one, the surprised and startled look on their faces are success stories to me when they stop, acknowledge me by name and proceed to let me know how they have changed and making better decisions in their life. Success stories are about younger youth now; however, success stories still come my way as a retired "AMMO" chief.

To my brother Bill--it was easy and an honor to follow in some of the same footsteps as you throughout our career. Rich.

25th Annual Southeastern AMMO Bowl Update

Dates: 22-24 July 2011

Location: Niceville, Florida



MSgt James Nagle (Eglin AMMO tournament director) on the left and Chief Select Kreg Carlson accepting for Seymour Johnson in the war paint



Thanks to Johnny Long for the pictures.

Tournament Coordinators were MSgt James Nagle and MSgt Bryan Cooper--thanks for another outstanding Ammo Bowl.

The 25th Annual Southeastern Ammo Bowl took place the 22nd thru the 24th of July at the Niceville sports complex. It was a very heated competition that took place over these two days. We had eleven teams attend this year to include Seymour Johnson, Langley, Moody, MacDill, Alabama ANG, Barksdale and of course the teams from Florida themselves. The first day started on time and then as anyone who has ever attempted to compete in a Florida tournament we had the normal rain delay. After the fields dried off we continued play with Seymour Johnson taking the number 1 seed in one pool and Eglin taking it in the other pool. As Sunday started we had some very heated games which lead to the elimination of the Alabama ANG, Eglin B team and MacDill quite early. The ORFs brought their A game but after losing Sean Patrick to a broken hand on Saturday they too were eliminated. Tyndall stayed undefeated and waited the winner of the Seymour Johnson vs. Barksdale game. Seymour triumphed that game which sent them to the championship game. After coming from behind the first game and giving Tyndall their first loss they forced the "IF" game to be played. Again after coming from behind they beat an exhausted Tyndall team to take the championship home to Seymour Johnson. Breakdown of the placing went as follows. Seymour Johnson Champions, Tyndall Runner-ups, Barksdale third place, with Eglin B, MacDill, and Alabama ANG closing it out as the first teams to 2 and bar-b-que, all in all it was a great tournament.

AFCOMAC 25th Anniversary Update

From Herlong to Beale, there have been many AMMO Troops around the world that have played a vital role in the success of AFCOMAC. On Friday, September 16th 2011 @ 0900, AFCOMAC will celebrate 25 years of providing the AMMO community with advanced training in mass combat ammunition planning and production techniques. AFCOMAC would like to cordially invite all AMMO Troops, both past and present, to Beale AFB, California to help celebrate this special event with them. On top of celebrating the past 25 years, AFCOMAC will also be dedicating their 9th Munitions Squadron Building in honor of the "Founding Father of AFCOMAC", Lt Gen Leo Marquez, who plans on being in attendance for this special dedication. If you would like to attend or would like further information to include a schedule of events, please contact TSgt Nicholas Sady at nicholas.sady@beale.af.mil (530) 634-3693/DSN 368-3693.

Below is a timeline of events that will take place for the 25th Anniversary.

Friday 16 September 2011

0830	Reception	AFCOMAC Breakroom
0930	25 th Anniversary Dedication (Leo Marquez Bldg Dedication)	Outside Front Foyer
1130	Lunch	Outside Front Foyer
1300	Ammo Fun Games/ Facility Tour/ New Equipment Showcase	PT/MAC Pad/ Schoolhouse and Bays
1300	Bombuilder Brewfest	AFCOMAC Schoolhouse

Saturday 17 September 2011

0800	Golf	Coyote Run Golf Course (RSVP w/ TSgt Sady if you plan on playing nicholas.sady@beale.af.mil)
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NICHOLAS B. SADY, TSgt, USAF
DSN 312-368-3693
COM 530-634-3693

ACA will contribute \$250 to assist with expenses of the AFCOMAC 25th Anniversary celebration.

UPCOMMING REUNIONS

Bitburg AB Germany, 3, 4 & 5 September, Lodge of the Ozarks, 3431 West Hwy 76, Branson, Missouri. This is the seventh reunion for AFK (Munitions Supply), EOD, Missile, Munitions, Weapons, Special Weapons Maintenance and supporting administrative and staff personnel assigned to the 36th Tactical Fighter Wing and the 525th FIS at Bitburg AB, Germany from 1952 to 1994. If you are interested in attending contact:

Jay Mathews
906 Prospect Ave
Norfolk, NE 68701
(402) 371-4776
bit36mms@lycos.com

Camp Darby 7235th Ammo Reunion October 7th and 8th which is a Friday and Saturday. A number of people will be arriving early on Thursday and some are staying on past Sunday. The reunion will be in Nashville. This is the web site <http://www.radisson.com/7235th> for the reunion. You can make your reservation and get some information about the area from the site. If you have additional questions please feel free to contact me back. My number is 630-894-6944 and of course you have my e-mail address.

Jerry Young
Committee Member
gywhatever@att.net

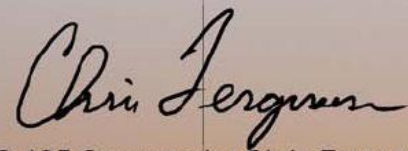
National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Face in Space

Congratulations!

This certifies that the AMMO Pisspot has flown in space aboard the Space Shuttle Atlantis on mission STS-135 from July 8 - July 21, 2011. The face was flown on Atlantis' mission to the International Space Station at an altitude of 220 miles above the Earth. It flew at a speed of more than 17,400 miles per hour as it orbited our planet. On behalf of my crew and all of NASA, we thank you for sharing the excitement of our mission and welcome your interest in space exploration. We were glad to have you aboard.



Chris Ferguson

STS-135 Commander Chris Ferguson

Bill Garger (retired Ammo) was responsible for getting the pisspot on the space shuttle

AMMO Visits White House for 4th of July

MSgt Adkins had the great fortune of accompanying the Commander in Chief during his 4th of July address to the nation. She was also personally addressed in his comments during the address.



The visit to the White House was an amazing experience for me and especially for the kids. The President and his wife made a special stop to talk to my children as they went through the receiving line, making it a memorable 4th of July for them. But that aside, I really felt that I was the one standing with true heroes. Getting to hear, first hand, the personal stories and experiences of the other service members, made me feel truly honored to stand with them on that balcony. I am so grateful to have been given this opportunity.

Heather S. Adkins, MSgt, USAF
Command Conventional Munitions Manager
HQ ACC Policy and Operations

MSgt Adkins is on her way to her new assignment at Mountain Home AFB ID. We wish her continue success in her new assignment and Air Force career.

LAST AMMO CALL

One of the things ACA does in tribute to our Ammo brothers and sisters is make a donation to a charity selected by the family in their honor or send a check to the family.

Since the last newsletter I haven't seen any recent emails on passing of Ammo troops, if I missed it please forward so we can get it in the next edition.



AMMO Chiefs Association

Membership Application

Dues: \$25.00/year or \$250 Life Membership

(Note: Applications for Associate Membership must be submitted and endorsed by an active AMMO Chief Member.)

First Name _____ MI ____ Last Name _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Mailing Address:

Street: _____

City, State, ZIP Code: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Service Status: Active Duty: (Circle one) Yes No

Present Grade/Rank or Rank at Retirement: _____

Date Entered Service: _____

Date of Retirement: _____

War Veteran: (State War or Conflict) _____

Brief history of your AMMO work, i.e., duty/unit assignment, dates, bases stationed at, etc.