



AMMO Chiefs Association (ACA)

March 2017

“Shell & Flame”



Issue Number XLIV

31 Mar 2017

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 CMSgt Richard Gauvin Ammo Troop 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 Top Graduate, and AFCOMAC Outstanding Performer. ACA has contributed to cultural enterprises such as the Air Force Heritage Museum.

We are AMMO, and proud of it! Please visit the AMMO Chiefs web page at: <http://ammochiefs.com>.

The ACA Board of Directors:

| | |
|---|---|
| President - Van Ray | vanrayammo@aol.com |
| Vice President - Mike Robertson | me-rob@verizon.net |
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| 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 - Bob Yeager | ryeager@atlanticbb.net ; siteadmin@ammochiefs.com |

From the President:

The ACA remains a busy organization with new members flowing in and lots of activity. Our membership continues to grow steadily and we are always looking for new regular and associate members. We are also looking forward to the 2018 reunion in Branson, Missouri, and welcome Rich McVey's interest in planning and executing the festivities. All help is welcome and feel free to volunteer your services through any of our board members. Have a safe and enjoyable spring!

Van

From the Vice President:

Once again, thanks for all the great inputs for this quarters Shell & Flame Newsletter. I'm always amazed by the incredible things we do in the AMMO community to take care of the Fam'AMMO'ly whether it be active duty units and troops, guard, reserves, or retired; and coalition partners on occasion...check out the article on page 19 on AMMO troops working with our Australian Air Force counterparts supporting Operation Inherent Resolve. ACA is always looking for new members, so go find the nearest AMMO Chief for details.

Mike

From the Secretary:

Greetings to all, hope this finds you well and looking forward to some good weather this Spring. There are a couple of things I'd like to mention. First, let me say that I and the rest of the BOD are always open to any suggestions / comments from our members suggesting incentives they would like to see the ACA Board of Directors explore to improve our association. A lack of positive / negative feedback on what the ACA is actually doing or not doing is frustrating. Hearing from you now and then would be appreciated by not only me but I'm sure the rest of the BOD as well. In December of last year I asked for the same in my Secretary comments section of the ACA web site and to date - - haven't received anything there either.

Secondly, for those (25+) who either still haven't paid their annual 2017 Membership Dues or have dropped off the membership rolls for some other reason - - you guys really need to get back on board!! I would think AMMO Chiefs and Associate members would be more responsible in getting this done. Those of you delinquent could save yourselves and the rest of our members from having to hear this same old rhetoric from me by either getting your checks in the mail on time or simply contacting Mike Roylance or myself, finding out what your balance is for becoming paid up lifetime members and then doing so. Stay safe out there and please do keep in touch.

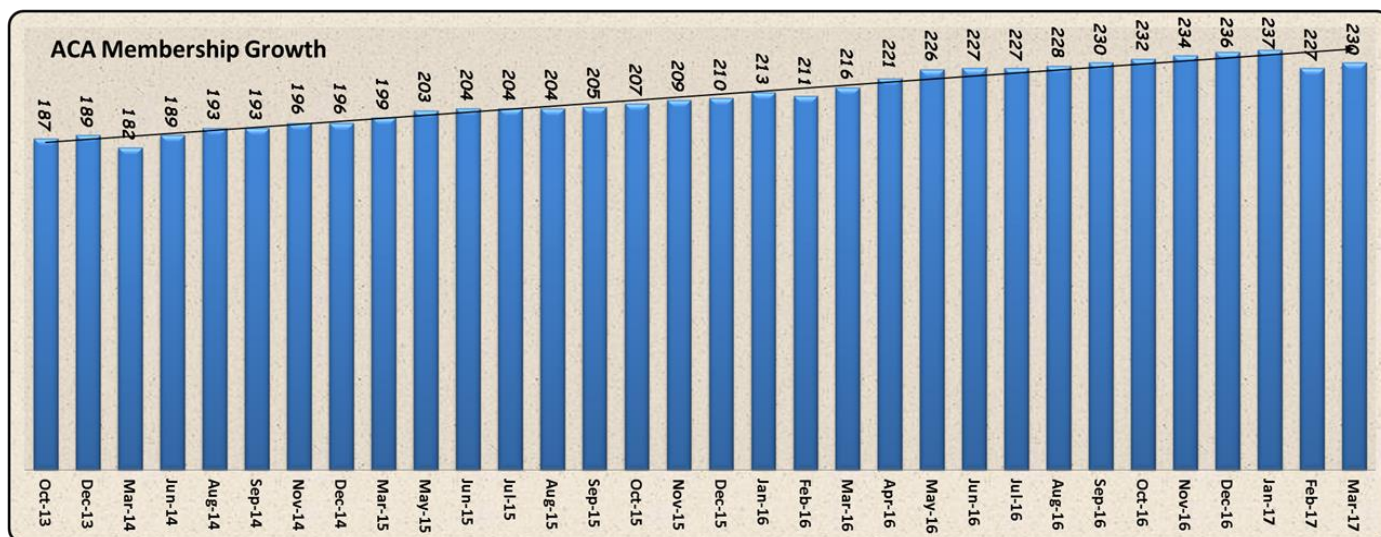
Jack **IYAAYAS !!!!**

From the Treasurer:

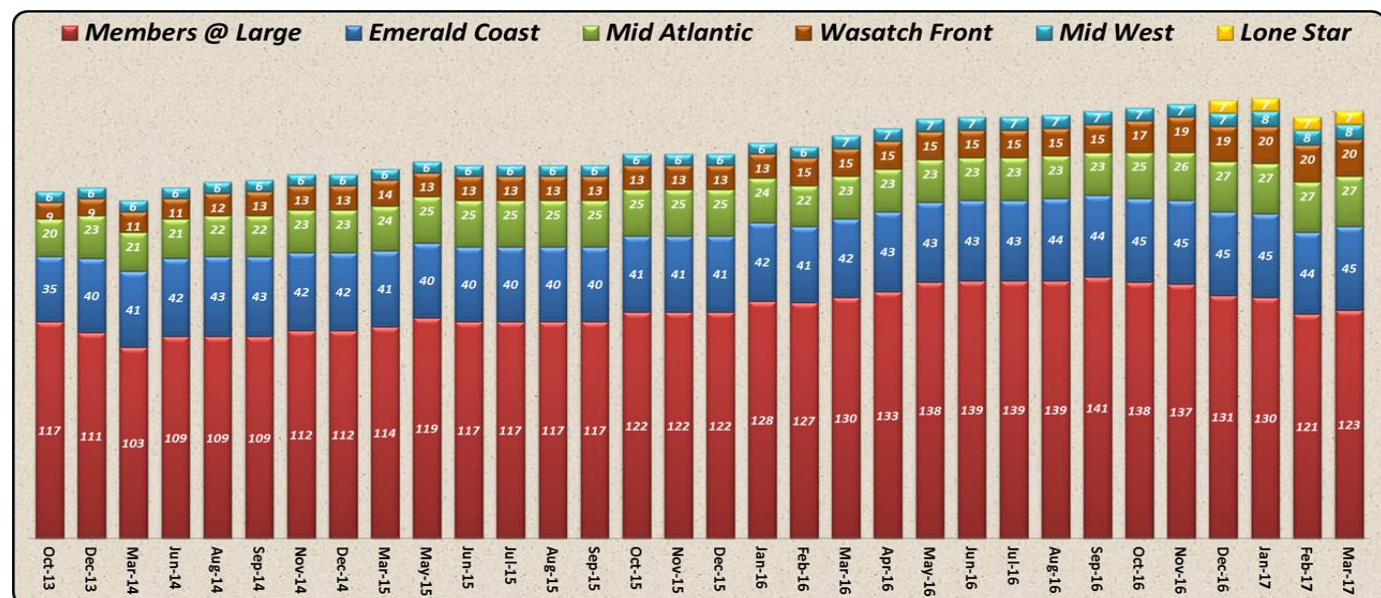
ACA Membership Status as of 21 March 2017

| <i>Membership Totals by Chapter and Type</i> | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| <i>Chapter</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Chief Life</i> | <i>Chief Annual</i> | <i>Associate Life</i> | <i>Associate Annual</i> | <i>Honorary Spouse</i> | <i>Honorary</i> | <i>Shell and Flame</i> |
| <i>Lone Star</i> | 7 | 4 | 3 | | | | | |
| <i>Mid West</i> | 8 | 8 | | | | | | |
| <i>Wasatch Front</i> | 20 | 16 | 2 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| <i>Mid Atlantic</i> | 27 | 20 | 2 | 3 | 2 | | | |
| <i>Emerald Coast</i> | 45 | 26 | | 12 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| <i>At Large</i> | 123 | 96 | 2 | 12 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 2 |
| <i>Totals</i> | 230 | 170 | 9 | 28 | 6 | 10 | 4 | 3 |

Membership usually drops off a little at the beginning of the year because annual member's dues often come in late. Jack sends out reminders and membership tends to increase again throughout the year.



The Chapter memberships are pretty solid. It is the “At Large” members where we tend to lose a few each year gaining them or new members as the year progresses.



AMMO Chiefs and ACA Membership Roster

We will be releasing the 2nd Annual Chiefs and Membership Roster about the time you receive this newsletter. There are 600 Ammo Chiefs listed in this roster. Please remember this roster is provided as benefit for being a member of the Ammo Chiefs Association and it is not to be resent to anyone outside of the association. Some members have elected to share their contact information with other members only and therefore it is listed. Please respect their privacy, this roster nor any of the data contained in it is to be shared with non-members. If you wish to change your selection for sharing data then please notify either Jack Seaman ACA Secretary (ammo.chiefs.association@gmail.com) or myself Michael Roylance Treasurer (mikeroylance@comcast.net) and we will make the corrections. Same applies for any address corrections or additions needed. We plan to release new versions annually at the end of March. If there are mistakes, duplicates or if someone is missing please let us know. If you are in contact with any Ammo Chiefs who are not members of the ACA please encourage them to join. We encourage Associate membership as well, membership eligibility can be found at our web site <http://ammochiefs.com/aca-membership/>.

ACA Website (<http://ammochiefs.com>)

The ACA website has been coming along well over the past few months. We've posted AFCOMAC and AMMO Schoolhouse award winners, the passing of Chief Bill Fick, information on Burial in a Veterans Cemetery and information on pending legislation dealing with retired pay. In addition, we removed the events calendar from Facebook and moved it to our own website in order to reach a larger audience." If you have information to share, please send us the info to siteadmin@ammochiefs.com.

Other things I've worked on are updating the ACA reunions and pictures. We now have pictures and some commentary from the ACA reunions for 2002, 2004, 2006, 2014 and 2016. I've added a new Jobs feature to help manage any jobs posting. It allows anonymous job posting, with admin moderation and I have posted some open positions I ran across. If you know of a job you think one of your fellow AMMO troops might be able to fill, either send me the details or go ahead and post it to the ACA site.

Finally, there has been some significant behind the scenes work regarding security. The ACA site is built on an open source platform called WordPress and it powers millions of websites around the world. As such, it is often the target of malicious attacks from hackers. To increase security, I've added some additional security features and set the site up to route through Content Delivery Network (CDN). The CDN basically isolates the ACA site in the cloud and blocks all traffic to the site and routes it through their complex algorithms to block out the bad guys.

So, if you have any suggestions, comments or want something posted please let me know.

Bob Yeager
ACA Web-Master

Chapter News

Lone Star Chapter (ACALSC)

Our first officers meeting was held in James Biggerstaff's (ACALSC President) home on February 11th with all elected officers in attendance. Future plans were discussed including holding two general membership gatherings this year with one in April and the other in October. Thoughts of hosting a Holiday party were put on hold pending engagement of our general membership. An official Logo for the ACALSC was discussed and initial budget for its development and procurement of coins was approved. Fund raising events were brought up and suggestions will be presented at our general membership meeting in April. Community support projects were suggested and these too will be brought up at the general membership meeting. Our membership core consists of active duty, recent retirees, as well as some of us old timers. If any AMMO Chief in the state of Texas is interested in joining or attending one of our general membership meetings, please contact myself at FJSchoettler@aol.com or Joe Dominguez at jfdom2504@hotmail.com for more information.

ACALSC Vice President
Fred Schoettler

Mid-Atlantic Chapter (ACAMC)



Since our last input in December, the Ammo Chiefs Association Mid-Atlantic Chapter (ACAMC) continued to support our Ammo Community. We received the final payment from the September Richmond International Raceway (RIR) fundraiser and were able to donate an additional \$367.00 to the Joint Base Langley-Eustis Ammo Morale Team (AMT) for their assistance.



We held our last general membership meeting on March 18th at the HQ ACC Munitions Directorate facility conference room on Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA. Six Members and two Associate Members were in attendance. With seven proxy votes, we conducted Chapter business. Unfortunately, we had three members drop out at the last minute due to family health issues. Myong Matthews suffered a back injury and the chapter sent a get well card to her.

Our efforts to have Incirlik Coin make a new coin with the chapter logo John Matthews developed did not come to fruition due to their lack of quality. The chapter decided to approach ammocoins.com with the project.

Dave Nixon is our Awards committee chairman but was not at the meeting. However, we ascertained MSgt George Coppock was a Lance P. Sijan Award winner and MSgt Christopher Cummins was the NCO of the Year for the 1 FW. We are in the process of getting the awardees a certificate, chapter coin, and Visa card sent to them.

The ACAMC is gearing up for our next fundraiser at the Richmond International Raceway April 29-30. The proceeds go a long way in supporting our Troops-in-Need and Care Package programs. Our project lead, Rick Follett, is in communication with Americrown personnel to ensure there are no future payment issues.

Jack Miller initiated the process for the summer Care Package program. He collected some material goods and requested Jake Jacobsen acquire potential locations with gender, quantity, and point of contact information. We already received data on an Air National Guard deployment.

Mike Gavin recommended we send congratulatory cards to Ammo SMSgt and CMSgt selectees. This was agreed upon by all. Once we get the particulars, we will send cards to (S)MSgts Coppock, Dunham, and Gilligan.

The membership began the review of the chapter Constitution and Bylaws. Initial inputs include increasing the allowed fiscal expenditures without membership approval, addition of the Director-at-Large officer position, and making the document gender neutral.

The 2016 Annual Audit and Chapter Reports were approved and sent to the ACA in January.

Our membership remains at 22 Chiefs and 5 Associate members.

Bill McCullough
ACAMC Secretary-Treasurer

The Ammo Chiefs Association Mid-Atlantic Chapter (ACAMC) presented a flag flown over Bagram Air Base to the 1 Fighter Wing Ammo Flight to be permanently displayed in the flight's administrative facility. The flag was hoisted in appreciation of the care package the ACAMC sent to Bagram AB Ammo.

The flag and the accompanying certificate, shown below, were encased by Rich and Sue Pennington.



Flag Certificate

Emerald Coast Chapter (ACAECC)



The Emerald Coast Chapter held our first meeting of the year at AJ's on the Bayou at 1700 with the following members/guests present:

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| John/Doris Greer | Darrell/Ronnie Beasley |
| Johnny Long | Mark/Donna Dunn |
| Chuck Kusma | Jesse Alcala |
| Mark Madamba | John/Brigitte LeGualt |

We approved our yearly budget and schedule of events with the key activities being our annual charity golf tourney benefitting homeless veterans in June in conjunction with the Ammo Bowl softball, annual Ammo Call in May, and the Annual Outstanding Munitions Performer Dinner Dance in Nov.

Our Audit team is finishing up and will have the final results at the Mar 25th meeting.

Billie Campbell, Bill Sweezy, and Van Ray and their wives were in town in Feb and we had a group at McGuires to swap lies and cold adult beverages. Larry DiAmco couldn't make it but he sent money to buy a round of cheer on him. A good time was had by all!

Our 25 Mar meeting was held at AJ'S on the Bayou at 1830 with the following members attending:

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| John & Doris Greer | Lupe & Sunshyne Ruiz |
| Johnny & Jeanne Long | Dave & Gigi Bressler |
| Dwight & Jan Howard | Danny & Jan Bridges |
| Sam & Pam Giardina | |

John briefed the status on the Hahn AFB Ammo reunion at Helen GA on 21-22 April and told folks they could go on Facebook and get the info about the hotel and make reservation if they wanted to attend.

We have finalized the 20 May Ammo Call at the Helen Back on Okaloosa Island with flyer being sent out in Facebook and email. Hope to see you all here.

We have set up this year's golf tourney to be on the same weekend with the Southeastern Ammo Bowl softball tourney so we should have a great turn out. We already have 10 teams signed up so get you team together and get them turned in. **See flyer on next page.**

We look forward to working with the ACA BOD in 2017 and hope to many of you at our functions this year. IYAAYAS!



**Emerald Coast Chapter of the
Ammo Chiefs Association
Is hosting a
CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT
To benefit;
HOMELESS VETERANS
and
Okaloosa/Walton Counties
Mental Health Association**

WHEN: 9 JUN 2017, 8:00am, Scramble, shotgun start

WHERE: Hurlburt Field Gator Lakes Golf Course

COST: \$55.00 PER PERSON

POCs: JOHN GREER, 686-6805, 939-6659, DARRELL
BEASLEY, 865-0663 or JESSE ALCALA, 582-9958. Email to
bigjohn461@bellsouth.net.

HNDCP

A PLAYER _____ / _____

B PLAYER _____ / _____

C PLAYER _____ / _____

D PLAYER _____ / _____

TEAM POC/ NAME AND/email _____

SIGN UP BY 21 MAY 17

Emerald Coast Chapter Ammo Chiefs Association

Midwest Chapter:

The Midwest Chapter reported that HQ AFMC has awarded the 2016 AFMC Outstanding Munitions Professionals of the Year:

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| AMN: | SrA Cara J. Setsodi | 96 MXS, Eglin AFB, FL |
| NCO: | SSgt Jonathon D. Slivicke | 96 MXS, Eglin AFB, FL |
| SNCO: | MSgt Todd C. Moore | AFLCMC/EBHMA, Hill AFB, UT |
| CIVILIAN: | Mr. Louis Vasquez | 412 MXS, Edwards AFB, CA |

The ACA congratulates these Outstanding AMMO people!

Wasatch Front Chapter (ACAWFC)

The ACA Wasatch Front Chapter held its Quarterly General Membership Meeting on 22 Mar 2017 at the Argentine Corner restaurant in Clearfield, UT. AMMO Chiefs and members in attendance were:

CMSgt (Ret.) Shawn Scott (President)
CMSgt Vicki Lemke (Treasurer/Secretary)
CMSgt (Ret.) Dave Calandra
CMSgt (Ret.) Mike Eisenberg
CMSgt (Ret.) Joe D'Arco
CMSgt (Ret.) Richard "Chet" Atkins
CMSgt (Ret.) Mike Robertson

This was the first meeting with the new Chapter Officers. Old and new business was discussed and some war stories were shared...

The Hill AFB combined AMMO Call will be held on 14 April. More info to be published soon!

The 7th annual HILL AFB AMMO BBQ/PICNIC will be on 29 July 2017 and is open active duty, reservists, retired, and their families. The POC's are Richard Leseberg at richard.leseberg@us.af.mil or (801) 775-2504 or Tim Matuszak at timothy.matuszak@us.af.mil or (801) 777-9339.

AFCOMAC - ACA Outstanding Performer Awards

Subject: Class 17-002 ACA Winner, SSgt Cinde YoHo

The latest ACA Outstanding Performer Award from the AFCOMAC. SSgt Cinde YoHo did an outstanding job and excelled during IRON FLAG week!

BENJAMIN PADILLA, CMSgt, USAF
Superintendent, 9 MUNS
9th Munitions Squadron
Air Force Combat Ammunition Center
AMMO I.Y.A.A.Y.A.S!



363rd TRS Sheppard AMMO Schoolhouse

AMMO apprentice students are challenged by their schoolhouse Flight Chief to excel and we are proud to present Sheppard's top Ammo Performers for January through March 2016...those who have truly reached the top in the three A's...academics, aptitude and attitude. On behalf of the ACA, the class Top Graduate is presented with the ACA Top Graduate certificate and the ACA Spirit Award coin. Without the deeply rooted commitment of the instructor cadre, these students could not have achieved such high honor...now THAT's AMMO family at its best!

ACA Top Graduates, December 2016 to Mar 2017

Class 17002
A1C Krystle K. Carreon
Gaining Base: Kadena AB, Japan
Grad Date: 7 Dec16



Class 17002
A1C Elizabeth N. Tears
Gaining Base: Mount Home AFB, ID
Grad Date: 7 Dec16



Class 17005
A1C Gonzalez Murillo
 Gaining Base: TBD
 Grad Date: 22 Dec16



Class 17005
A1C Ron Jensen
 Gaining Base: TBD
 Grad Date: 22Dec16

Class 17006
A1C Justin O. Nabholtz
 Gaining Base: TBD
 Grad Date: 19 Jan17





Class 17006
A1C Paul Monroy
 Gaining Base: Pope AFB, NC
 Grad Date: 19 Jan17

Class 17006
AB Kendall Duncan
 Gaining Base: Cannon AFB, NM
 Grad Date: 19 Jan17



Class 17006
A1C Stephen Walters
 Gaining Base: Minot AFB, ND
 Grad Date: 19 Jan17

Class 17007
A1C Chelsea Goodrich
 Gaining Base: 158th FW Vermont ANG
 Grad Date: 2 Feb17



Class 17007
A1C Terry Wong
 Gaining Base: Kadena AB, Japan
 Grad Date: 2 Feb17

Class 17008
A1C Christian Scott
 Gaining Base: Seymour Johnson AFB, NC
 Grad Date: 12 Jan17





Class 17009
A1C Matthew Lewis
 Home town: Tucson, AZ
 Gaining Base: Davis-Monthan
 Grad Date: 8 Feb 2017

Class 17010-1
A1C Dillon Brown
 Home town: Mobile, Alabama
 Gaining Base: Eglin AFB, FL
 Grad Date: 14 Mar 2017



Class 170010-3
AB Brandon M. Hotchkiss
 Home town: Depew, OK
 Gaining Base: Hurlburt Field AFB, FL
 Grad Date: 14 Mar 2017

Class 17011-1
AB Bowen Eastman
 Home Town: Tuscon AZ
 Gaining Base: Eglin AFB, FL
 Grad Date: 21 Mar 2017



Class 17011-2
A1C Lorenzo Locsin
 Home Town: Freemont, CA
 Gaining Base: Langley, VA
 Grad Date: 21 Mar 2017



Class 17011-3
A1C Faith Brown
 Home Town: Seneca, SC
 Gaining Base: Ellsworth, SD
 Grad Date: 21 Mar 2017





Class 17012-1
A1C Joshua B. Curtiss
 Home town: Torrington, CT
 Gaining Base: Langley AFB, VA
 Grad Date: 28 Mar 2017

Class 17012-2
SSgt Edward Porter III
 Home town: Newport News VA
 Gaining Base: Langley AFB
 Grad Date: 28 Mar 2017



Class 17012-3
A1C Cameron C. Powell
 Home town: San Diego, CA
 Gaining Base: Minot AFB, ND
 Grad Date: 28 Mar 2017

AMMO in the News

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Flares and Munitions - 62nd MXS Ammo

By Staff Sgt. Naomi Shipley, 62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs Comments, March 23, 2017



Staff Sgt. Chad Warner unloads squibs or impulse cartridges, which provide a small propellant charge that ignites the flare stick, to build flares for the C-17 Globemaster III at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, March 14.

In a warehouse located on the 62nd Maintenance Squadron ammunitions grounds on McChord Field is the conventional maintenance production flight, which is responsible for maintaining all of the flares and ammo for Team McChord at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

Staff Sgt. Chad Warner, 62nd Maintenance Squadron conventional maintenance production superintendent, helps maintain the flare systems for the C-17s as well as oversees the production and tear down of the flare systems.

These aircraft-dispensed flares are used as infrared countermeasures designed to defeat heat-seeking surface-to-air missiles.

"We process all the flares for the jets on the flight line," said Warner. "We host quarterly builds to keep the built-up flare levels at a sufficient amount to support all the missions here and overseas. We build flares for training missions and real-world missions for overseas deployment and the Antarctica missions."

The flight tracks the lifespan on all flare systems to anticipate which ones require replacement.

"First, we do a little research on the upcoming months for the flare sets that will be expiring," said Warner. "Every four months we will have a set of flares that will be expiring; we use this number to determine how many flares we want to build."

They use two different types of squib or impulse cartridges for the four different types of flares the C-17 here at McChord uses.

The squibs provide a small propellant charge that ignites the flare stick.

"We do the build and then we'll start pulling the flares from the flight line and swapping them," said Warner. "The flare sticks themselves get put inside bulk quantity cans."

After the build is complete, they track where all the flare sets are in the world for the 48 C-17s assigned to McChord. They do this in case a set is coming up on expiration and is away from home station.

"It's imperative that we configure everything correctly and follow our books step by step," said Tech. Sgt. Bejan Saatchi, 62nd MXS conventional maintenance NCOIC. "It's definitely important for the jets that the flare systems are loaded in the mods correctly so that way the countermeasure systems function the way they're intended to."

"It's imperative we don't send a jet downrange with expired flares on it; those systems are lifesaving and it's what they would use to stop a threat." They are fired off regularly for training missions and are sometimes used in deployed locations, according to Saatchi.

"They come back with expenditures - we're not informed of the circumstances but we do know that they work," said Saatchi. "It's definitely good knowing that we're helping protect the aircrew and aircraft."

Each flare set is worth approximately \$50,000.

"We do a lot more than just manage the flares for the aircraft," said Saatchi. "We're responsible for all the munitions on McChord, which includes thirty-eight custody accounts."

Any organization that uses any type of explosives to include pepper spray and ammo depend on the 62nd MXS ammo flight to inspect it, issue it to them and track it all.

Source: <http://www.northwestmilitary.com/news/airlifter-blog/2017/03/flares-and-munitions-62nd-MXS-ammo/>

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US, Coalition Air Forces Build Relationships Through Munitions

By Senior Airman Tyler Woodward, 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs, Published February 13, 2017

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFNS) -- Members of the Royal Australian Air Force and U.S. Air Force constructed 4,000-pounds of Joint Direct Attack Munitions in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and Operation Okra at an undisclosed location Feb. 9.

Partnering nations contribute in the dismantling of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant in nearly every aspect of OIR. From aerial refueling to armament building to conducting strikes, the coalition provides commanders with decisional advantage daily.



Members of the Royal Australian Air Force and U.S. Air Force construct Joint Direct Attack Munitions at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia, Feb. 9, 2016. The RAAF has employed more than 1,600 munitions against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant since 2014. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Tyler Woodward)

“We are fighting the same war,” said Stefan, a RAAF leading aircraftman. “Communicating with the Americans has been so easy. They’ve been able to teach us so much that has helped us with our jobs and vice-versa as well.”

First Lt. Leigh Ann, the munitions flight officer in charge, shared why coalition relationships at the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing are so unique.

“Working with coalition partners brings to light the scope of what we are doing out here,” Leigh Ann said. “The mission that we are working has a worldwide effect and it is awesome to see how the small day-to-day interactions result in big, strategic missions and accomplishments. I think that is what makes this environment so special—multiple countries working together for a common goal.”

According to U.S. Air Forces Central Command, nearly 99 percent of all weapons employed have been precision guided—making OIR the most precise air campaign in the history of warfare.

As of 2014, both RAAF F/A-18 Hornets and F/A-18 Super Hornets have flown cumulatively over 2,101 sorties and 16,146 hours and dropped in excess of 1,630 munitions during Operation Okra.

“I think it’s important to develop coalition relationships,” said Andrew, the RAAF’s 77th Squadron armament technician leading aircraftman. “It just makes you feel like a part of a bigger team.”

Source: <http://www.af.mil/News/ArticleDisplay/tabid/223/Article/1081378/us-coalition-air-forces-build-relationships-through-munitions.aspx>

57th MXS redesignated as 57th MUNS

By Staff Sgt. Siuta B. Ika, 99th Air Base Wing Public Affairs / Published January 30, 2017



Maj. Matthew Zakri, 57th Munitions Squadron commander, prepares to furl the 57th Maintenance Squadron guidon during a redesignation ceremony at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Jan. 27, 2017. During the ceremony, the 57th MXS was inactivated and all of its former Airmen stood up the newly activated 57th MUNS.



The 57th Munitions Squadron guidon is displayed after its unfurling during a redesignation ceremony at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Jan. 27, 2017. The 57th Maintenance Squadron was inactivated and the 57th MUNS took its place to better align the unit with its primary mission.

NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. -- A little more than seven years after it was designated as the 57th Maintenance Squadron, the squadron was inactivated. On Jan. 27, all of its former Airmen stood up the newly activated 57th Munitions Squadron during a redesignation ceremony, here.

Col. Shane Henderson, 57th Maintenance Group commander and the ceremony's presiding official, spoke about how the redesignation came to be and how it better aligns the squadron with its primary mission.

In 2008, Henderson said the 57th Component Maintenance Squadron and 57th Maintenance Operations Squadron were inactivated. Their functions were to be performed strictly by contract personnel, and the 57th Equipment Maintenance Squadron was redesignated as the 57th MXS -- which would house munitions, the Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory, weapons standardization, quality assurance and group staff functions.

"The purpose of the closures were to provide Airmen back into combat-coded units due to budget cuts," Henderson said. "So the 57th MXS hit the ground running and didn't look back."

Over the past year alone, Henderson said Ammo has delivered approximately 3.2 million munitions to the flight line supporting more than 16 U.S. Air Force Weapons School classes, hundreds of operational tests and "Red" air missions, and over 75 flag exercises.

"While doing this, Ammo received 12,500 inspections with a 92 percent pass rate. Additionally, the munitions flight is the largest and most dynamic in Air Combat Command producing 34 percent of ACC's total expenditure value and 19 percent of total munitions expended," Henderson said. "Our maintenance professionals in PMEL performed over 72,000 maintenance actions and over 1,800 inspections with a 93 percent pass rate -- supporting those same Nellis missions that I outlined for Ammo -- as well as being the regional hub for test and calibration efforts."

Following Henderson's remarks, Maj. Matthew Zakri stepped to center stage, relinquished command of the 57th MXS and assumed command of the 57th MUNS, which was formerly known as the 57th Munitions Maintenance Squadron.

After the 57th MXS guidon was furled and encased and the 57th MUNS guidon took its place among the squadron's formation of Airmen, Zakri spoke to the crowd -- which included Ammo veterans who served in the 57th Munitions Maintenance Squadron -- and the Airmen of the newly reactivated munitions squadron.

"The squadron activation has been several years in the making and it is absolutely amazing to see it finally coming together," Zakri said. "Beginning today, our Airmen promise to uphold the legacy of the 57th Munitions Maintenance Squadron by producing world-class fire power and system calibration. Fellow Mustangs, together we will continue to keep the peace by preparing for war."

Source: <http://www.nellis.af.mil/News/tabid/6431/Article/1064517/57th-mxs-redesignated-as-57th-muns.aspx>



LAST CALL

William “Bill” Fick

(3 Jan 2017)



AMMO Chief (Ret.) William “Bill” Fick passed away on 3 Jan 2017.

So sad/shocked to hear that my favorite cousin has passed on. I was extremely honored the day Bill gave me his Chiefs Coin. It's the only material thing I have to remember him, except our 1 hour plus phone calls every few months. Bill talking about his next Chief's Association gathering, or his last one and all the great times they had, the trips to Costa Rica with his buddies . Bill never talked too much about himself but of all his brothers in arms.

I loved all of his stories of his amazing life. I am sure he is with them drinking a few beers and resting peaceful with his family and his brothers. I will miss our great conversations!!

Richie

Richard Davidson, Bill's Cousin.

Chief Fick was an ACA Lifetime Member # RL-034.

At the time ACA was made aware of Bill’s passing any services held had already happened. By majority vote of the ACA Board of Directors the Shell and Flame Award was posthumously awarded to Chief (Ret.) Bill Fick. The "Moody Blues" AMMO Call in October 2017 would be held in memory of Bill.



LAST CALL

Daniel A. Poormon

(1949-2017)



TYRE/SENECA FALLS – Daniel A. Poormon, 67, of 1828 Rt. 318, died on Sunday (March 12, 2017) at Highland Hospital in Rochester, NY.

Friends may call from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday (March 17, 2017) at Coe-Genung Funeral Home in Waterloo, New York. The funeral service will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday (March 18, 2017) at the funeral home. Spring burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery in Waterloo, New York. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Tina M. Poormon, at 1828 Rt. 318, Seneca Falls, NY, 13148, for Tina to give to organizations she would like to support in Dan's memory. Dan was born June 29, 1949, in Waterloo, New York., the son of Edwin and Barbara A. DeWall Poormon.

He was a 1967 graduate of Waterloo High School. After graduating, he enlisted in the US Air Force, serving his country from 1968 to 1994. Dan retired as a Senior Master Sergeant. He was a member of Barge Canal Bassmasters, and an avid fisherman.

He is survived by his wife, Tina M. Meckley Poormon; son, Daniel (Wendy) A. Poormon Jr. of Elizabethtown, KY; grandchildren Carlos and Ovidio Gonzalez; brothers Curtis (Rosemarie) Poormon of Mineral, VA. and Karson Poormon of Lexington, TN; sisters Nellie (Anthony) Grandberry of San Antonio, TX, Rebekah (David) Ketchum of Auburn, NY, Victoria Trout of Pensacola, FL, and Cindee (Ted) Kennett of Lancaster, PA; many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Condolences for the family may be sent to www.coegenungfuneralhome.com.

Source: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/fltimes/obituary.aspx?pid=184488022>



In Memoriam

Therefore, it has pleased an all wise Providence, to remove from among us, our much esteemed Friends.

We will cherish the memory of those deceased whose memory is ever fresh in our minds.

Though parted from among us we hope to meet them where no farewell tear is shed.

**Michael Bachman
Wilbur R. Barrentine *
Gail Bechtal
Walter Bell */**
Frank D. Bolin
Anthony Borzomowski
Jimmie Branson
Rennice H. "Jim" Bray
Shawn P. Byrne
Don Carbonneau
Lott S. Carter
Edward H. "Ted" Costick
Preston Craven
Michael "Mike" Curran
James Curtin
Phillip Delisi
Bill Dressler
Larry Eaton
Charles "Chuck" Eaves
James Elledge**

**Thomas Everett
William "Bill" Fick
Francis "Frank" Gamache
Richard Gauvin
Karl J. Gershutz
Don Hamilton
Gerald "Red" Hess
Howard Holt
Robert N. Ivey
Jay A. Jameson
Bill Jolly
Perry D. Jones *
Paul H. Klein
Karen Long
Paul Long
William Lovelady
Leo Marquez
Donald Mayo
Lon McAlister
Alvin "Al" Mercer**

**Clifton Mills
Kevin Mullaney
Darrell Mulvany
Edward Patry
James Phinney
William "Bill" Poe
Louis V. Prelip
Harold P. Prevett *
Erwin G. "Erv" Redman
Leander Richards
Leroy Rott
Neil G. Schaible
Robert Sechler
Ernest Shamburger
Ramsey Stonewall
Ben Stubbe
Addison "George" Wadsworth
Richard Watton
Bruce Wilson
Michael J. Yurkanin**

The Light of the shell and flame will also serve as a reminder of the level of excellence and esprit-de-corps set by those who came before us; the light of the shell and flame will also help us look back to remember those Ammo Troops, both active duty and retired, who are no longer with us and the service they performed for their country and to the Ammo community. In doing so, we will gain strength from the fact that such men and women lived.....FOR WE ARE AMMO!

*Those listed with an asterisk * held the distinction of being a Charter Chief in the USAF.*

*Those listed with a double asterisk ** are Bataan Death March Survivors.*