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1 Dec 2020

AMMO CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

We are the AMMO Chiefs Association (ACA) established and operated by retired and active duty AMMO Chiefs dedicated to preserving our AMMO heritage. A fraternal, not-for-profit organization, our members consist of combat veterans and their spouses. The purpose of the ACA is to encourage and facilitate camaraderie and social activities among AMMO Chiefs and members of the AMMO Community by supporting and sustaining worthwhile AMMO related initiatives and programs.

We are AMMO, and damn proud of it!

Visit our web page at: AMMOCHIEFS.COM

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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ACA holds elections every 4 years. This BOD began their terms on 1 January 2020.		
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FROM THE PRESIDENT:

By Bart Ivy

I hope this finds all of you and your family in good health. In these times we need the support of our families and our FAMMOily to help us deal with everything that is going on around us. If you're feeling stressed out or need to vent reach out and talk with one of your AMMO brother or sister and get it off your chest. You can always email me at Bart.ivy@gmail.com or on Facebook to chat and I'll give you my phone number if you don't have it. Now down to ACA business. The ACA is sound and our Chapters are getting it done. Just a reminder as we get to the end of the year and if you are looking or know someone who is looking to donate to a non-profit organization for a little tax relief, why not donate to the ACA. We will be looking to hold our next reunion in September 2021.

Lastly, congratulations to Keith Bollinger, our new Chief-at-Arms. His term of service will run through December 2023. And our sincerest AMMO-Thank You to Fred O'Hern for his years of service on the board. IYAAAYAS!

From The Vice President:

By Mark Gossett

In the last Shell & Flame newsletter I added a Last Call article on SMSgt Greg Osburn (Ret). In my oversight I forgot to acknowledge the contributions from SMSgt Bud Rabuano. I would like to set the record straight and thank Bud for his inputs.

While on the subject of acknowledging contributions I would like to encourage everyone to take advantage of the ACA Memorial Paver program. I've purchased a few including one for SMSgt Greg Osburn. It is a great way to acknowledge the men and women of the AMMO community who inspired us through their hard work and continued contributions to the AMMO world. We are keeping track of which names are added to avoid duplicates. If you're interested, please contact CMSgt Mike Roylance (Ret) at the e-mail listed in this newsletter. Stay safe and until the next reunion, Keep Your Powder Dry.

FROM THE SECRETARY:

By Matt Lingelbach

Hope everyone is doing well. COVID has limited a lot of activities that would normally happen during the summer to include the Ogden Reunion. Mike Robertson had some great ideas to showcase all that Utah and AMMO has to offer. Hopefully in the coming years we can make it happen. I just wanted to thank Mike personally for all the hard work he put into planning the event during such trying times. Thank you Mike!

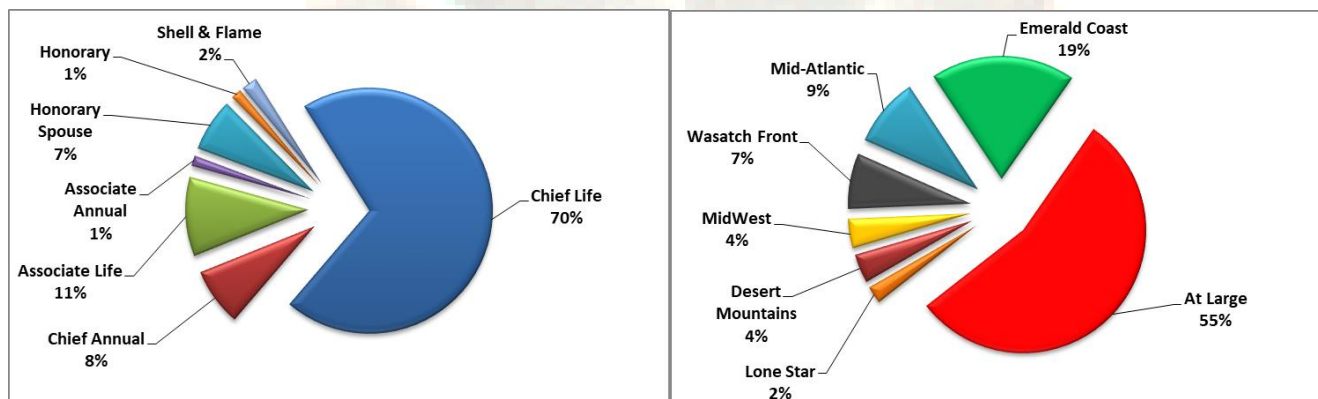
If you haven't heard...I held my retirement ceremony 25 September 2020 to bring my military career to a close after 27 years. It has been a great ride but it was time for a change. Look forward to all the upcoming things that retirement and a second career have to offer.

Finally, we do a great job promoting our career field but we need to continue to promote the ACA! We have another round of Chiefs getting ready to be notified in December and will be excited to see whose names make the list! Best of luck to all of those eligible.

From The Treasurer:

By Mike Roylance

<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 & Flame</i>
Lone Star	6	4	2					
Desert Mountains	10	8	1			1		
MidWest	10	9						1
Wasatch Front	19	15	1	2			1	
Mid-Atlantic	24	18		5	1			
Emerald Coast	50	31		13	1	4		1
At Large	144	101	11	15	2	10	2	3
October 13th 2020 Totals	263	186	15	35	4	15	3	5



ACA Donations and Contributions

So far this year we have had a total of \$200 in donations made to the ACA.

We have made donations in the amount of \$1,750. This was to support the Holiday Care Packages to deployed Ammo Troops handled by the Mid-Atlantic Chapter, a donation to the Moody Blues Ammo Call at the Jones Ray City, GA encampment, and one to the Chief Richard A. Gauvin Memorial Scholarship Fund. The winner this year was Emma Chekroun.

All four Ammo Bowls were cancelled this year and any donations made in advance were reimbursed.

If any Chapters or other Ammo type organizations are planning on holding an Ammo Call on or about December 4th for AMMO DAY please let us know.

ACA Memorial Paver Program

Nine ACA Memorial Pavers were purchased this year, all by members or family of the ACA. The program is now open to all Ammo Troops so if anyone is interested in purchasing a memorial paver for a friend, mentor, or even your own, let us know. There are now 78 installed and another 5 AWP. There are also five deceased Ammo Chiefs who names have recently surfaced that do not have pavers and were not members of the ACA upon there death. If anyone is interested purchasing one, the names are:

Memorial Pavers Needed		
Last Name	First Name	Rank / Grade
Crawford	Charles	CMSgt
Fisher	James "Jesse"	CMSgt
Freas	Joseph N	CMSgt
Lane	John C	CMSgt
Winnicki	Lyle M.	CMSgt

Should anyone want information on the program, send an email to:
acatreasurer@ammochiefs.com.



MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER:

By Phil Kennedy



<i>ACAMC</i>	<i>BOD</i>
President	Phil Kennedy
Vice President	Rich Pennington
Secretary Treasurer	Bill McCullough
Director at Large	Rick Follett



In spite of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ammo Chiefs Association Mid-Atlantic Chapter (ACAMC) continues to support the Ammo Community. Since our in-person meetings have been cancelled due to the pandemic, we have held two meetings via teleconference (July 18th and September 26th). Michael "Jake" Jacobsen and Phil Kennedy worked tirelessly on getting the summer care packages out the door to eight austere deployed units. Again, thanks to the ACA for their generous \$500.00 donation toward this endeavor. Below is some feedback sent to Phil Kennedy (personal/official information removed):

From: Hagerman, Kelley E MSgt USAF (USA)
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 2:39 AM
To: Kennedy, Phillip R CTR DTRA RD (USA)
Subject: MORALE PACKAGE - AMMO TROOPS (UNCLASSIFIED)

Chief Phillip,

I wanted to personally thank you on behalf of the AFSOC, Rescue, and Al Asad Ammo currently deployed in Iraq. You and your team added a much needed smile for our Ammo boys/gals. The way we project out and send the message of "Care" is outstanding. This is my 6th deployment and I am honored to serve side-by-side each and every ammo troop & retired. Thank you so much!!!

Sincerely,

KELLEY E. HAGERMAN, MSgt, USAF
Munitions Accountable Systems Officer/Superintendent
443 AES/AMMO FV5803

From: joseph.munis
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 8:57 AM
To: Kennedy, Phillip R CTR DTRA RD (USA)
Subject: Care Package

Chief,

I just wanted to say thank you for the care package. My guys/gals loved the snacks. It's always good to know we have people back home who care enough to take the time to send care packages like this. Hope you are doing well and are staying healthy during these crazy times. God bless!

Thank you

V/R,

JOSEPH J. MUNIS, MSgt, USAF
Munitions Flight Chief/MASO

☛ I.Y.A.A.Y.A.S.

If you see the bombs dropping, don't run... You'll just die tired!

From: joshua.mcgarvie
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 12:33 AM
To: Kennedy, Phillip R CTR DTRA RD (USA)
Cc: King, Candace P MSgt USAF AFCENT A4/MW
Subject: AMMO Care Package - Bagram Airfield Base

Chief Kennedy,

We just received the care package from the AMMO Chief's Association Mid-Atlantic Chapter. Thank you!

As we prepare to leave and our replacements head this direction, we are very grateful to have support from our AMMO community.

Very Respectfully,

MSgt Joshua McGarvie
190EFS Munitions Flight Chief

We received the 2nd Quarter ACC award winners' information: MSgt Jevon D. Boutte, 4 MUNS, Seymour Johnson was selected as the 2nd Quarter 2020 Outstanding Munitions Manager. Jack Miller generated the award package and sent it off to the winner's unit.

Our rolls stand at 18 members and 6 associate members. Our newest member is CMSgt Stephen Parcell stationed at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va. Frank Waterman officially moved to Florida and will join the Emerald Coast chapter.

We are working to get the holiday care packages on the way. The ACA was kind enough to send another \$500.00 in support. With this, along with Frank Waterman's donation of \$50.00 and monies from other members, we should be able to send some cheer to our troops.

We have a new chapter mailing address. It is: ACAMC, 362 Carolina Hickory St., Loris, SC 29569.

Jack Miller had knee replacement surgery and is in the recovery phase. Our best wishes go out to Jack for a speedy and full recovery. COVID-19 impacted our Ammo family. Tracie Jensen (TJ's wife) became ill from it and is recovering well.

We hope we can get back to business as usual in the near future. The COVID-19 virus put a screeching halt to our fundraisers at the Richmond International Raceway and BBQ plans for the Langley Ammo cadre.

The newly formed Mid-West Chapter requested information on programs that support the Ammo troops. The chapter agreed to share our programs and Rich Pennington sent the information to them.

Phil Kennedy is working on developing an Ammo history program based on individuals' personal experiences. This is in its infancy and more information will follow as the process matures.

Our next meeting is December 5th. By this time, we should have the election of a new chapter vice president finalized. The Sharp Ammo Troop and Ammo Troops-in-Need packages will be evaluated. We are hoping to do an in-person holiday luncheon.

Until next time, stay safe and watch out for your fellow Ammo Family members! IYAAYAS!

EMERALD COAST CHAPTER:

By John Greer

<i>ACAEC</i>	<i>BOD</i>
President	John Greer
Vice President	Dennis Tangney
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Johnny Long
Chief at Arms	Willie Mothersell



Editor's Note: Wishing Big John a speedy recovery after his fall that cracked a few ribs. I always knew he wasn't so light on his feet, but really....! Our thanks to John for providing the after action report on the AVA's 7th Annual Moody Blues AMMO Call event held earlier this year.

The Chapter cancelled our annual charity golf tournament, AMMO Call and Annual Outstanding Munitions Person of the Year dinner, all due to COVID-19. Our chapter officers will be presenting the award winners selected by the Flight Chiefs in their bomb dumps as soon as we can get the plaques made and a time set. We still don't have a secretary, but Jim Shelingowski is graciously filling in that slot.

Wasatch Front Chapter:

By David VanErt

<i>ACAWFC</i>	<i>BOD</i>
President	Chris Hazard
Secretary/Treasurer	Dave Van Ert

No activities or input for this issue

MID-WEST CHAPTER:

By Mark Gossett and Don Meyers

<i>ACAMWC</i>	<i>BOD</i>
President	Mark Gossett
Vice President	Don Myers
Secretary Treasurer	Gary Knighton

Don recently traveled to Arcanum, OH for one of his grandson's football games and stopped by to check in on Bill and Lynn Campbell. Lynn is recovering from having recent knee replacement surgery and is only two weeks away from having the other knee replaced. Says she wants to be ready for her and Bill to head to FL like they always do after holidays.

The 3rd quarter HQ AFMC awards board was held and the Outstanding Munitions Professionals award winners were:

AMN:	SrA Xaiver L. Pinkett	(96 MXS, Eglin AFB, FL)
NCO:	TSgt Jonathan C. Bowers	(88 OSS, WPAFB, OH)
SNCO:	MSgt Fredy Benitez Jr.	(649 MUNS, Hill AFB, UT)
CIVILIAN:	Mr. Corey M. McCool	(412 MXS, Edwards AFB, CA)

Our heartiest congratulations to all.

LONE STAR CHAPTER:

By Joe Dominguez

<i>ACALSC</i>	<i>BOD</i>
President	CMSgt Steven West
Vice President	Fred Lee
Secretary/Treasurer	Joseph Dominguez



It is that time again when we reach out to all in support of Wreaths Across America. The Lone Star Chapter is a sponsor organization and you can sponsor a wreath to be placed on a veteran's gravesite at a location of your choosing by visiting our [WEBSITE](#). Your sponsorship is greatly appreciated.

DESERT MOUNTAINS CHAPTER:

By Tom Cox

<i>ACADMC</i>	<i>BOD</i>
President	Tom Cox
Vice President	Bill Pennington
Secretary/Treasurer	Ricky Quattlebaum

No activities or input for this issue

363RD TRAINING SQUADRON

SHEPPARD AMMO

Points of Contact:

363 TRS/TTMB, MSgt Andrew D. Hester, <mailto:andrew.hester@us.af.mil>

363 TRS/TTMB, TSgt Christopher R Chafin, <mailto:christopher.chafin@us.af.mil>



Editors Note: Due to a change in personnel, several photos of the outstanding graduates were not taken and the individual hometowns were not captured. The 363rd TRS team has taken steps to ensure photos and student information are saved going forward.

AMMO Schoolhouse - ACA Outstanding Graduates

A1C Brittany Williams

Class: 20021

Hometown: Savannah, GA Gaining Base/Unit: Ellsworth AFB, SD



A1C Adam Hiten

Class: 20022

Hometown: Commerce, GA **Gaining Base/Unit:** Elmendorf AFB, AK



Amn Conner Rishi

Class: 20023

Gaining Base/Unit: Kadena AB, Japan

A1C Christopher Miglin

Class: 20026

Gaining Base/Unit: 177th ANG, NJ

A1C Kalynn O'Neil

Class: 20027

Hometown: Hughesville, PA **Gaining Base/Unit:** Eielson AFB, AK

A1C Jan Pabon

Class: 20028

Gaining Base/Unit: Moody AFB, GA

TSgt Samuel Keizer

Class: 20030

Gaining Base/Unit: 15th FW, WI

SSgt Justin Hassa

Class: 20031

Gaining Base/Unit: 148th FW, MN

A1C Jayden Peterson
Class: 20033
Gaining Base/Unit: 162nd ANG, AZ

TSgt Frederick Bower
Class: 20034
Gaining Base/Unit: 442nd ANG, MO

AB Daniel McCarthy
Class: 20036
Gaining Base/Unit: Eielson AFB, AK

A1C Samantha Roman
Class: 20038
Gaining Base/Unit: 177th ANG, NJ

A1C Aaron Sundquist
Class: 20040
Hometown: Gregory, SD **Gaining Base/Unit:** 114th ANG, SD



SrA Iris Savatgy
Class: 20041
Gaining Base/Unit: 419 AFRC, UT



Bringing Mixed Reality (MR) to the AMMO Schoolhouse

By TSgt Barry Lewis

The 363 TRS AMMO team is currently collaborating with Vectrona; an immersing technology and high-performance systems company, to bring mixed reality (MR) to the schoolhouse. With this partnership, we are attempting to develop innovative and interactive methods to assist Airmen in learning and retaining career field knowledge while remaining competitive and cost-effective. The effort is presently in Phase II; which is concentrated on assessing the effectiveness of utilizing both the Oculus Quest and the Hololens II. The initial idea is to use these tools in addition to our normal curriculum.

With the Oculus Quest, the students get to experience the Munitions Storage Area at Langley AFB Virginia. The students, using virtual reality, will gain access to the MSA and practice implementing storage area requirements; such as clear zones, EAL's, and RAB's. The Oculus Quest directly supplements what is trained during Block 2 of the Munitions Apprentice Course.



Augmented reality is the focus of the Hololens II. Utilizing the Hololens II, the students are able to view 3D models of bombs and missiles; such as the GBU-12, GBU-31V3, AIM-9X, GBU-38, BRU-61, GBU-39, and GBU-53. The Hololens uses optical sensors to create a 3D environment where the user can interact with the models via a 360 degree view of the munition and tear down capabilities

to visualize individual components. The user is also able to view tutorials, technical orders, safety information, and complete practical knowledge exercises. The Hololens is used as a supplemental tool for teaching Blocks 5 and 6.



This AFWERX led initiative hits the mark in multiple ways. First, the MR technology facilitates student learning by replicating real-world assets. This enables instructors to take a more hands-on and practical approach. This move away from theory or lecture alone makes the course more engaging for the students. Secondly, the students are able to interact naturally with this environment without the wear and tear of the physical assets. With an average of 1200 students a year coming through the schoolhouse, our training munitions are heavily used. In a single year, one AIM-9M will be torn down and built up more than 100 times and we will complete more than 200 bomb builds. The use of MR reduces the costly and continuous replacement of these assets. Last but not least, with MR technology, students can simulate an operation in a controlled environment. The instructors can guide the student through an entire pre-established operation with known controls. This eliminates many real world hazards found in the field. If a student makes a mistake, no equipment is damaged and no personnel will be injured.

The commercial augmented reality, virtual reality and mixed reality (AR/VR/MR) technology has undergone large advancements in software and hardware. The DoD has noticed the benefits of AR/VR/MR and is looking at capitalizing on this for future training; the Air Force's Pilot Training Next program being a good example. While the schoolhouse initiative is still in its testing phase, it has been well received by apprentice students, instructors, and visiting advanced course students. With the newer generation of Airmen coming into the military being highly influenced by technology, a move towards training that incorporates something that is natural or familiar to them only makes sense. Hopefully, with Phase III approval and full integration into the apprentice course, our newly graduated Airmen will leave the schoolhouse more capable than ever before.

AFCOMAC - 9TH MUNITIONS SQUADRON

Point of Contact: CMSgt Lonnie Stamper



ACA Outstanding Performer Awards

Class 2020 – 005, SSgt Kyle. A Welsh
Unit: 31 MUNS, Aviano AB, Italy



Class 2020-007, SSgt Harley Moore
Unit: 57 MUNS, Nellis AFB NV



Class 2021 – 001, SSgt Shannon Griffin
Unit: 4 MUNS, Seymour Johnson AFB, NC



CHIEF GAUVIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



The Chief Gauvin Memorial Scholarship Fund Application for 2021 will be available in January 2021 at www.rgauvin.org. Please distribute to anyone you know of in the fAMMOly that can take advantage of this opportunity. AMMO helping AMMO....huuaahhh!!!!

2020 Applications were graded and we are proud to say that we gave out 14 scholarships totaling \$9,000!

~~~~~

The Chief Master Sergeant (CMSgt) Richard A. Gauvin Ammo Troop Memorial Fund was founded in June 1998 by Class 9806 as a continuing class legacy to pay tribute to Chief Gauvin for his selfless contributions to his country and the Ammo community. Class 9806 contributed the initial funds in the amount of \$400.00, obtained through personal contributions by class members. All class members agreed the fund should be established to award scholarships to children of munitions personnel who held AFSC 461XX, 465XX or 2W0X1 on active, reserve, or ANG duty in the service of the USAF.

The Air Force Combat Ammunition Center (AFCOMAC) Senior Staff will administer the scholarship fund. All future AFCOMAC classes will have the opportunity to raise funds and contribute to expanding the scholarship fund.

The USAF Major Command Functional Managers who act as the AFCOMAC Board of Advisors (BOA) will be the Scholarship Selection Committee to review, approve, and decide on the amount awarded to each applicant. All scholarship applicants will submit their applications prior to 1 June of each year.

The AMMO Chiefs Association (ACA) contributes \$500 annually directly to the AFCOMAC BOA selected recipient of the Chief Gauvin Memorial Scholarship.

# **ACA MEMORIAL PAVER PROGRAM**

By Mike Roylance

The AMMO Chiefs Association Inc. has recently expanded their Legacy Memorial Paver Program to include all AMMO ranks.

We call it  
**AMMO ROAD**

The price of the pavers is \$70. Our cost is \$65 per paver which is the reduced rate we negotiated and receive from the Airman Heritage Foundation (AHF). Any orders via our PayPal account should include the fees of \$2, so \$72 total. We receive no further reduction for multiple pavers. However, our pavers are grouped together, the first AFSC to do so.

This profit of \$5 per paver would be used to start the funding for a future AMMO Memorial which has been discussed in the past year. The idea for a memorial had such good favor with the past ACA that they put aside \$2,500 into a Certificate of Deposit for construction of this future memorial. This \$5 per paver while small would see that \$2,500 start to grow. The ACA would continue to manage these funds until such time a formal organization is put into place to manage the AMMO Memorial before funds are released.

Today there are 67 memorial pavers in place and another 6 on order for a total of 73. The pavers in place are all AMMO CHIEFS or former members of the ACA. The program has been a success and that is why we want to open it to all of AMMO.

We would continue to administer the Legacy Memorial Paver Program thus ensuring the program remains valid and controlled. Access to our reduced rate via the AHF is controlled by a password. The use of the password also ensures any paver purchased would be placed with our group (AMMO ROAD).

All pavers would be placed as ordered there can be no reserved spaces or special grouping. Orders would remain "First in - First out". Order your own, one for a mentor you respected while on duty, a friend or a spouse. If you place an order and we find it is a duplicate we will let you know.

We would reserve the right to ensure any wording is in accordance with the AHF guidelines and our requirement that the paver have some wording related to AMMO. Remember there are 3 lines of text limited to 14 characters per line including spaces. Acceptable entries might read AMMO (rank), IYAAYAS, KYPD, AMMO Wife, AMMO SPOUSE, etc. Something easily identifiable as AMMO related.

|                                        |                                               |                                            |                                          |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| AMMO SSGT<br>ROBERT BOOSTER<br>IYAAYAS | SENIOR AIRMEN<br>PAVEWAY D FLUG<br>AMMO TROOP | AMMO WIFE<br>BETTY L BOPPER<br>1945 - 2020 | AMMO TSGT<br>SNUFFY SMITH<br>1978 - 1983 |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|

The focal point for all orders is the ACA Treasurer: [acatreasurer@ammochiefs.com](mailto:acatreasurer@ammochiefs.com).

## ***Background***



At the 2016 San Antonio Reunion ACA members toured The Airman Heritage Museum and later a recommendation was made to purchase a Lifetime Membership @ \$300 and receive a free single Legacy Paver.

Rather than a single one time donation via Lifetime membership, another proposal was made to create a new ACA tradition to perpetuate the memory of deceased ACA Ammo Chiefs.

The pavers are placed in a pathway that encircles the parade grounds at Lackland AFB in San Antonio Texas.

The purchase of Legacy Pavers supports the ACA Constitution and honors AMMO's heritage in a place highly visible to future Airmen and the public; it also supports the Airman Heritage Foundation long-term. Win/Win.



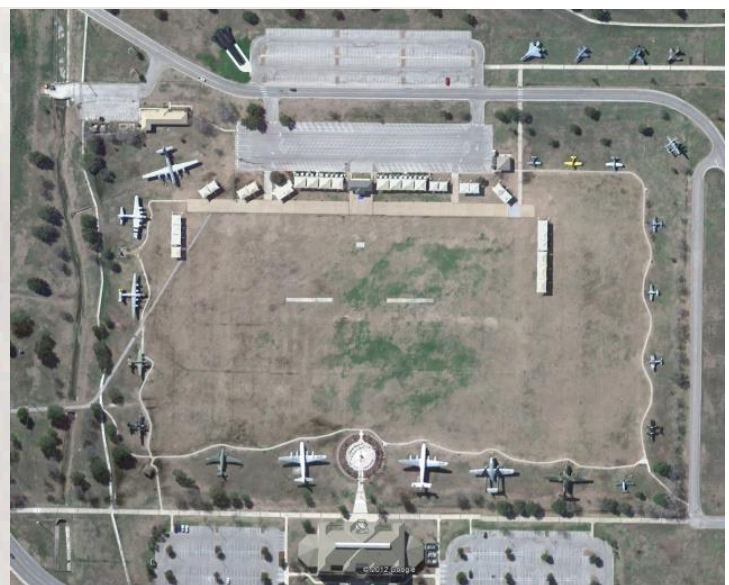
Initially the BOD agreed to purchase a Legacy Paver for all deceased ACA Ammo Chiefs then added all deceased ACA Members. Funding for all other previous Ammo Chiefs was funded by donations, most by ACA members. Several Chiefs have ordered their own.

The Program was adopted by the ACA BOD in mid-2017 and started shortly after. The first batch was ordered in Nov 2017 with the first 44 being installed in the ground in May of 2019.

They are installed in front of the B-17 aircraft known as "Heaven's Above" which is right next to the Medal of Honor Monument. You can see the area on a google map below. Top left corner.

As you can see from the pictures the ADA compliant path will be completed with blank pavers and as pavers are purchased the blanks will be removed and replaced with Legacy Pavers. Generally, this is how the entire program works. It is our understanding that there is room for upwards of 1,000 pavers in our area.

Orders yours today with a credit card via PayPal. The price is \$72: <https://ammochiefs.com/donations-to-the-aca/>



Or use your PayPal account and send \$70 to [acatreasurer@ammochiefs.com](mailto:acatreasurer@ammochiefs.com).

Paying by check or money order, send an email to [acatreasurer@ammochiefs.com](mailto:acatreasurer@ammochiefs.com). The response will tell you where to send your \$70 payment.

## **AMMO SUPPLY**

Source: Mike Roylance



## **Apparel & Accessories for the Ammo Chiefs Association**

### **Embroidered Apparel**

*We call it Ammo Supply*

**We have your Ammo Chiefs Apparel and Accessories.**

**Order today**

***Be ready for the next Ammo Chiefs Association Reunion in 2022***

**All orders benefit the Ammo Chiefs Association and the Ammo Community.**

## **AMMO NOTAMS**

### **Ammo Joke Book**

By Rudi DiAmco

I'm not sure if you are aware, but my Dad (Larry DiAmco) and I collaborated on a joke book over the last couple of months. It is mostly a compilation of all the jokes and anecdotes my Dad stored up in his cranium during his 32 years of service. I'm sure you've heard a bunch of them!

It also contains contributions from my Dad's Honor Guard friends, fellow service members, and some AMMO Chiefs. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, here is a link:  
<https://www.amazon.com/dp/Bo8BZQKPXS>.

We are already working on version 2 which could be an expanded version with more submissions from fellow AMMO Chiefs. If you are interested in contributing, please contact myself, Rudi DiAmco at [rudinandshannon@gmail.com](mailto:rudinandshannon@gmail.com).

## **We Are Veterans**

Author – Walt Ritter. Source: CherriesWriter.com (<https://cherrieswriter.com/2020/08/16/we-are-veterans/#comments>)

We left home as teenagers for an unknown adventure. We loved our country enough to defend it and protect it with our own life. We said goodbye to friends and family and everything we knew. We learned the basics and then we scattered in the wind to the far corners of the Earth.

We found new friends and a new family. We became brothers and sisters. We had plenty of good times, and plenty of bad times. We didn't get enough sleep. We smoked and drank too much. We picked up both good and bad habits. We worked hard, and played harder. We didn't earn a great wage. We experienced the happiness of mail call and the sadness of missing important events.

We didn't know when or even if we were ever going to see home again. We grew up fast, and yet somehow, we never grew up at all. We fought for our freedom as well as the freedom of others. Some of us saw actual combat, and some of us didn't. Some of us saw the world, and some of us didn't. Some of us dealt with physical warfare, most of us dealt with psychological warfare. We have seen and experienced and dealt with things that we can't fully describe or explain.

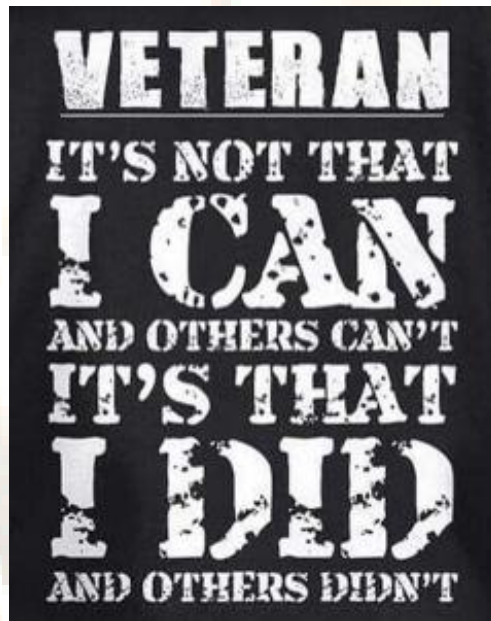


Not all of our sacrifices were physical. We participated in time-honored ceremonies and rituals with each other, strengthening our bonds and camaraderie. We counted on each other to get our job done and sometimes to survive it at all. We have dealt with victory and tragedy. We have celebrated and mourned. We lost a few along the way.

When our adventure was over, some of us went back home, some of us started somewhere new. Some of us never came home at all. We have told amazing and hilarious stories of our exploits and adventures. We share an unspoken bond with each other that most people don't have and few will understand.

We speak highly of our own branch of service and poke fun at the other branches. But we know that if needed, we will be there for our brothers and sisters and stand together as one in a heartbeat. Being a veteran is something that had to be earned, and it can never be taken away. It has no monetary value, but at the same time it is a priceless gift.





People see a veteran and they thank them for their service. When we see each other, we give that little upwards head nod, or a slight smile, knowing that we have shared and experienced things that most people have not.

So from myself to the rest of the veterans out there, I commend and thank you for all that you have done and sacrificed for your country. Try to remember the good times, and forget the bad times. Share your stories. But most importantly, stand tall and proud, for you have earned the right to be called a Veteran.

Thank you to all my brothers and sisters for your sacrifices while serving...



# **AMMO NEWS**

## **AMMO Veterans Association 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Moody Blues AMMO Call**

Source: John Greer

By Bob Jones

Ammo: Red, White and Blue was the theme for this year's Annual Ammo Call. Some ADVON team members reported in early on Wednesday and began organizing the event. Thursday was a bedtime period for many RVs and tents. Chili dogs and chips along with some other dishes was supper the first night as the stories began. FAMMOlies came together and started comparing notes of the life and times of the past year. Of course, for some who had just attended the Bash at the Beach, it was just another long weekend of camaraderie and partying!

The Good Lord gave us a beautiful, crisp Friday morning which set Chief John Greer and his beautiful wife Doris into the breakfast mode cooking up the camp one of their super breakfast's as everyone woke to coffee and smiles. The recon crew left early to catch "Saturday's Special Guest" which just happened to be a 120 pound Heritage Hog from across the street at the Boyd Farm. Joe, Ito and Angel (The Carolina Low Country Boys) cornered him up and got him hog tied and thrown into the bucket for transport. The prize was brought into camp with Jones Farm front end loader which got everyone to take a peek. Now everyone seemed happy the guest of honor had arrived except the guest of honor himself. Kinda of reminded me of Shakey especially his tusks. As soon as he settled down, the low country boys went to work on him and after plenty of drama he looked fine going into cold storage for the night. Eighty pounds of chicken leg quarters was on the menu for Friday night, but wait we hadn't had lunch yet? Scott and Nani went to work cooking up Scotty's Ammo Burgers. If ya'll hadn't had one of them, you are missing a real treat. Friday night came and the camp was coming to life. Kevin, (Greg Camps son-in-law) fresh in from the Coast Guard in Mississippi, sang some beautiful music as we began working on cooking them leg quarters. Eric Geringer had arrived with his Ammo Land famous potato salad and banana pudding. The 70 degree day started to give way to another crisp night. The campfire by the cotton field had some logs thrown on it.



That hog was eaten along with a whole bunch of salads, vegetables, cakes, pies, chips, chicken, banana pudding and pickles galore. One thing for sure, FAMMOly can eat. We like to thank some very special people for making all the food happen. Terrie Jones, Flo Zuniga, Nani Wansor, Becky Columbia, and of course the Carolina Low Country folks Joe Santua, Ito and Angel. The music and dancing kept on going till dark fell upon the farm. This year's spectacular fireworks display was put



on by Pyromaniac Eric (EROCK) Ankelein and Mountain Man Woody Woodard. What a display they did shoot for us.

The beer tasted a lot better that night sitting next to that campfire on the edge of the cotton field. The election was decided! 2021 was going to be a better year than 2020 and of course we celebrated what a wonderful country we belong to. You know, never once did I hear a thing about COVID-19 the whole weekend. Amazing how it just doesn't exist in some circles. As we well know, God loves Ammo troops. He can depend on us to save his other Christian Soldiers when called upon. Friday night turned to Saturday morning pretty darn quick for some. I ain't saying I heard any lies, but I might have heard an exaggeration or two.



The Scotty Wansor Band and Fan Club!

Saturday began with another Famous John and Doris breakfast and things began to get busy. The rifle range on the north end was opened and guests began filling the new target area full of lead. AK, ARs, handguns and rifles made it sound like a CATMs range. Ammo Dog (Dave Bressler) opened his camp for business.



The Ammo Call kept rolling along with laughter, spirits and Ammo cheers. A few active duty folks from Moody AFB bomb dump showed up and we had a blast with them. Of course, we love it when we get to meet the folks that took our place. Just want to make sure they are doing a good job because I don't think a few of us feel we can build bombs too fast anymore. We had the famous ammo raffle and auction with excellent results raising funds for the Ammo Veterans Association. We awarded the "Joe Pliler" esprit des corps award to none other than Chief Big John Greer and Doris for all his support he gives to all ammo troops far and near. We also thank the Ammo Chiefs Association (ACA) for their generous contribution to help us make this year's Ammo Call so very special. Porta Johns, backstops, ice, drinks, shirts, coins and food to sponsor an Ammo Call is expensive, and the ACA really chips in. We are fortunate to be able to complement one another. This year's special appearance was from Uncle Kay Mack, the Ammo Veterans Association official cannon man.



**I WANT YOU**



**TO BECOME A MEMBER OF  
AMMO VETERANS ASSOCIATION**



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The group photo was taken by Honorary Ammo Troop Malacki. The whole theme was well played out with red, white and blue patriotism the whole weekend.

Sunday morning camp came alive slowly. This Ammo Call was coming to a close. The hardest part is seeing RVs, vehicles begin to leave just as they came. One by one folks leave after saying their goodbyes. Hugs and promises abound till we meet again. As I stand there and wave and watch the last person leave, I look up and see that Ammo Flag flying on an empty farm and I get a little teary eyed. We came together by a bond we never forget. No virus can keep us apart. Many of us have been all over the world and experienced many things but nothing like we share through our camaraderie. As we draw the end to another perfect Ammo Call, let us not forget our fallen brother Pete Carpenter. We will be praying for Della's brother Pete. Let us keep Ms Dorothy Lawler and Ms Becky Columbia in our daily prayers.



## **LAST CALL**

### **CMSgt Charles J. Crawford Sr.**

**November 24, 1942 – August 23, 2020**



By CMSgt Mark Gossett (Ret)

CMSgt Charles Crawford was an AFK Chief. I first met him in the early 1980s when he was the MASO at the STAMP account at Hill AFB UT. I don't know much about his early AF days other than he was stationed at Bitburg AB Germany in the early 70s. When he made Chief, he took an unaccomplished tour to Germany and worked at HQ USAF/LGWL until his retirement in 1990. After retirement he settled in the Layton UT area and worked at the Clearfield Job Corps Center. We add one more lost member to the Fallen AMMO family.



### **CMSgt Thomas M. Zima**

**July 23, 1944 – November 27, 2020**

*Editor's Note: Just before this issue was released, the AMMO Community received the saddest news of Chief Tom Zima's passing. A more befitting Last Call article about this extraordinary AMMO Chief, husband, father, grandfather, and generous human being will appear in our next issue. Here is a [LINK](#) about the planned services and memorial page.*



# **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 us, we hope to meet them where no farewell tear is shed*

Aaron, Leon B. "Pete"  
Bachman, Michael  
Ballard, Larry G. \*\*\*  
Barber, Dave \*\*\*  
Barrentine, Wilbur R. \*  
Bechtal (Bectle), Gail  
Bell, Walter L. \* / \*\*  
Bolin, Frank D.  
Borzomowski, Anthony P.  
Branson, Jim "Jimmie"  
Bray, Rennice H. "Jim"  
Byrne, Shawn P.  
Carbonneau, Don  
Carter, Lott S. \*\*\*  
Costick, Edward H. "Ted" \*\*\*  
Craven, Preston  
Crawford, Charles J.  
Crayne, Bernard C. (Red)  
Curran, Michael D. "Mike" \*\*\*  
Curtin, James  
Danihel, Thomas E. Jr  
Delaney, Robert J.  
Delisi, Phillip  
Dressler, William R. "Bill"  
Eaton, Larry  
Eaves, Charles L. "Chuck"  
Elle, Kathy

Elledge, James N  
Everett, Thomas F.  
Fick, William "Bill" \*\*\*  
Fisher, James "Jesse"  
Freas, Joseph N.  
Gamache, Francis J. "Frank"  
Gauvin, Richard A.  
Gershutz, Karl J.  
Hamilton, Don \*\*\*  
Hess, Gerald "Red"  
Holt, Howard  
Ivey, Robert N.  
Jameson, Jay A.  
Jolly, Bill  
Jones, Perry D. \*  
Klein, Paul H.  
Lane, John C.  
Long, Karen  
Long, Paul \*\*\*  
Lovelady, William  
Marquez, Leo \*\*\*  
Mayo, Donald  
McAlister, Arthur L. "Lon"  
Mercer, Alvin "Al" \*\*\*  
Mills, Clifton E  
Mosier, William R. "Bill"  
Mullaney, Kevin

Mulvany, Darrell  
Norton, Charles "Chuck" \*\*\*  
Patry, Edward  
Phinney, James  
Poe, William "Bill"  
Prelip, Louis V.  
Prevett, Harold P. \*  
Redman, Erwin G. "Erv"  
Reinhart, Robert "Bob"  
Richards, Leander  
Rott, Leroy  
Schaible, Neil G.  
Scott, Gary  
Sechler, Robert G.  
Stubbe, Ben  
Wadsworth, Addison "George"  
Wata, Joseph S. "Joe" \*\*\*  
Whatton, Richard  
Whitley, Kenneth R.  
Wilson, Bruce  
Winnicki, Lyle M.  
Yarbrough, George  
Yurkanin, Michael J.  
Zima, Thomas M.

*The Light of the shell and flame will 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, 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 a single asterisk \* held the distinction of being a Charter Chief in the USAF. Those listed with a double asterisk \*\* were Bataan Death March Survivors. Those listed with a triple asterisk \*\*\* are Shell & Flame Awardees*