



Videmus Omnia

55th STRAT RECON WING ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2005

24TH REUNION

9-13 March 2005 – San Diego, CA



The Red Lion Hanalei Hotel was HQ for yet another great **55th SRW Association** reunion. **Bill and Carol Lewis** were responsible for the planning and organizing the four days' festivities, and **an outstanding job it was!** Kudos from the attendees were forthcoming throughout the week about how well organized the events were.

The crowd began rolling in as early as Monday the 7th to take advantage of the many great attractions and scenery San Diego offers. But the doings began in earnest with registration on Wednesday afternoon in the Hospitality Room.

Almost three-quarters of the nearly 280 attendees were there by the end of the evening, and the joint was hopping! Warm greetings of long time friends and comrades, and reminiscing abounded.

Of course that area was the hub of activity, and very convenient for meeting and greeting even during relaxed times, all through the week with generous hours of service every day of the reunion. Dan the Bartender Man said, "I haven't worked this hard since spring break at Ft Lauderdale." (*High praise indeed.*) The Lewismobile's trips to replenish supplies were several and often during the week.



Tours and Attractions

Attendees had a variety of tours to take in order to enjoy the historic area over the next four days, or they did it on their own. There was a grand tour of the city, a shopping excursion to LaJolla, a run to Tijuana, and other outings.

Many took advantage of the Old Town Trolley to see the Mexican flavor of restaurants and shops; or stop off on Coronado Island and the majestic Del Hotel; at the Seaport Village or other interesting

locales. Of course there was the world famous San Diego Zoo, one of just three in the US displaying Giant Pandas.

Balboa Park offered fourteen varied museums, including an aerospace museum with an excellent assortment of historic aircraft, and the Museum of Man, in addition to the very large, green activity areas, and the world's largest outdoor pipe organ.

The obligatory golf outing was ably coordinated by **George Back**, and about 30 duffers and hackers hit the course at North Island NAS on Friday morning. The winning foursome was **George Miller, Jim Maloney, Tom Garrity and George Ross**. The main prize was a three year extension of Association membership. *(Miller commented that since he was already a life member, that his life expectancy would be expected to be three years longer. Rim shot, ba-da-bing!)*

A delightful highlight was the dinner cruise on San Diego Bay Friday evening. Nearly 200 **55thers** occupied most of the boat's two dining decks. The crew was professional and efficient, and the elegant three course meal was superb. The 3.5 hour sail offered a magnificent view of all aspects of San Diego's glittering skyline and surrounding vistas; including passing the USS Ronald Reagan, the world's largest aircraft carrier, and cruising under the Coronado Bridge.

Saturday's Schedule

Saturday's agenda was jam packed. The Association general membership meeting kicked off the morning. Business was recapped by **President Bill Ernst**, various officer and committee reports were given, and a new Board of Directors was elected. *(Note: Complete minutes of that meeting are published later in this newsletter.)*

Immediately following the meeting, a presentation was given by **Rear Admiral (Russian Navy – Retired) Boris Novyy** on the joint efforts to



document and locate the remains of American reconnaissance crewmembers who were victims of Cold War incidents. Interpreter and US-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs member, **LtCol Michael O'Hara**, US Army, explained the work of the commission to determine the fate of Cold War, Korean War, and Vietnam War American casualties in Soviet control. He works closely and diligently with Adm Novyy in that effort.

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*Readers of the October 2004 **Videmus Omnia** newsletter will recall an article by **Pat Phillips** recounting that Adm Novyy hosted the visit to Russia in May of that year by Pat, her daughter **Roxanne**, and **Maria Goforth McAtee** and her daughter, **Linda Schilder**. The invitation by the Association for Adm Novyy to attend the reunion was, in part, to reciprocate for his hospitality.*



An RC-135 from the **55th Wing** at Offutt arrived that morning at North Island Naval Air Station. **LtCol Chris Cohoes** and six other crewmen provided a tour of the aircraft for several reunion attendees, to include Adm Novyy.



(All involved could readily grasp the irony in that, and how history has moved along since the Cold War.)

Those who toured the plane appreciated how the crewmen were eagerly engaged in proudly showing their 'place of work'.

The crewmembers were the guests of the Association at the banquet that evening.

Saturday evening festivities began with a cocktail hour, and a poolside performance by the Marine Band from the San Diego Marine Recruiting Center. It was a rouser well received by a most receptive audience; and in fact, heard by patrons throughout the hotel complex whether they wanted to or not. Many were seen on their courtyard balconies enjoying the show.

The Grand Banquet

The assemblage then proceeded to the banquet hall for the climatic event of the reunion. Pres Ernst made welcoming remarks; the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the audience; and Ernst introduced the head table and special guests. He then gave well deserved recognition and praise to Bill and Carol Lewis for such a terrific job in organizing and running the reunion. The attendees responded with a sincere and prolonged standing ovation.

Appropriate toasts were given, and the Reverend **Fred Glass**, the Association de facto chaplain, gave the invocation. After the members enjoyed another superb meal and dessert, the program continued. Ernst announced Association's the elected officers and Board of Directors to serve until the next reunion.

Newly-elected **President Jim Thomas** took the podium, and with retiring-**Vice President Hoover**, gave appropriate recognition and appreciation to Ernst for his nearly nine years' service as president



of the Association. Ernst was presented with a mantel clock adorned with two Cold War Memorial coins (*front and back displayed*), and an engraved

plate honoring him. He was accorded a standing ovation, as well.

Special presentations were given to Admiral Novvy in recognition of his valuable assistance and cooperation in researching Cold War incidents. Thomas gave him an Association tie; then Pat Phillips presented him with an Association pin.

Pres Thomas then gave a summation of the potential sites for the next reunion in the fall of 2006. He stated that the Board of Directors would be researching whether to select Washington, DC, or Omaha, and would seek volunteers to plan and



run same. He made closing remarks and bid all safe travels. The crowd adjourned for one final, farewell session in the hospitality room.

On Sunday many reunion attendees partook of the hotel's sumptuous and expansive champagne brunch, while others headed for destinations across the nation. There were several folks who remained in the area for another day or two to visit friends, relatives, or hit attractions in San Diego they had previously missed.

In summation, this was one more in the series of spectacular reunions for members and friends of the **Fightin' Fifty-Fifth**, and we all look forward to the next one in the fall of 2006.

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*Those who wish to view an extensive photo slide show of the reunion can visit the Assn web site, or click on: <http://www.55SRWA.org/reunion05s-show/ulthm.htm>. The shots were provided by **Don Griffin, Nick Yanuzzi and Pat Gros**.*

(Note: A roster of those who attended the reunion is elsewhere in this newsletter.)



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings to all from the Heartland:

Our most recent event in San Diego was, as previously described, a grand affair. Bill and Carol Lewis surely know how to put together a reunion. To Bill and Carol... a big "thank you", from all attending. We will always remember the good times in San Diego. Bill and Carol, you made it happen.

Videmus Omnia.

Welcome to our new directors: **Ricky McMahon, Fox Censullo, Jay Strickler**, and **Kevin Todd**. All are a big part of the history of the **55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing** and the **55th Wing**. Furthermore, all are currently contributing directly to the daily mission accomplishments of the Wing. Ricky McMahon through the Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance connections at the Pentagon and around the Washington D.C. area. Fox Censullo as a RC-135 Test Pilot and Program Engineer at Detachment Two, Greenville, Texas. Jay Strickler as a RC-135 pilot and Chief of Staff, **55th Wing**. Kevin Todd stepped out of his active duty role and returned to the **55th War Plans Division** as a full-time member of the Nebraska National Guard. Their service to the Wing spans the years since 1977, almost thirty years. All are excited and ready to pitch in and keep this Association rolling down the trail to bigger and better things. Welcome aboard gents. I am proud to be serving on the same team with each of you, again.

Side Bar : Just an observance of mine while at San Diego I want to pass on. There were some very special happenings, some very meaningful emotional exchanges at the reunion with our special guest, Admiral Boris Novvy, Representative to the US-Russia Commission on POW-MIA Affairs. Remember, Adm Novvy has been and remains directly involved in locating the remains of our fallen comrades Dean Phillips, Oscar Goforth and Eugene Posa.

The Admiral was moved many times at the reunion by the repeated expressions of friendship and goodwill made toward him for his noble efforts to bring our cold warriors home. Despite the language barrier, and with the help of an extraordinarily talented interpreter, US Army LtCol

Mike O'Hara, Adm Novvy impressed many with his humor, candor, and genuine humanity. He recalled to us a story about his ailing mother. He was describing to her his work in locating missing warriors. Pleased with his success, she told him his work was "a noble cause". His last promise to her was to never stop in that search. The Admiral pledged to the membership that he would not break that promise to his mother. That was just one of a few times when the Admiral spoke that I heard a soft moan from the membership. The search will continue; he remains on track with a plan. We are all the better for building this personal relationship between the Admiral and many of our members. I am sure we will be hearing more from Admiral Novvy.

It was through the vision and efforts of Robb Hoover that Admiral Novvy came to visit us at the reunion...no small task! Thanks, Robb.

The **55thWing** Hall of Fame remains in good hands and has continued this past year to add two very deserving members. The new processes, criteria, and structure that was added to the program served us well this last cycle. This process was set in motion to assure that the results are arrived at in a time-phased process with all things considered fairly and broadly evaluated, so as to assure the highest of standards and thus, a value-added result. We will continue to protect the responsibility that the current Wing has given to us to administer, the **55th Hall of Fame Program**.

But, we here at/near Offutt are not all there is to this program. Each and every member of the Association has an opportunity to be a part of that process. Without recommendations coming our way, there will be no appropriate recognition of those whose contributions to the **Fightin' Fifty-Fifth** standout among many who have served so well. There are many among you who are deserving, and many who know of that service. I will put out the Call for Nominations at the end of the summer in the next newsletter and on our website with specific mailing instructions. (*The Hall of Fame criteria and instructions were published in the October 2004 issue of Videmus Omnia, available on the Assn website.*)

However, now is not too early to start gathering up those documents and going through old orders and records to put the case together. Get started

now. Avoid the rush. Last year I received the first recommendation in June and it was thirty plus pages. It is not easy writing and documenting things that happened as far back as 1948, but it can and should be done for the deserving. Let us keep putting our best on the Wall of Fame for the current generations to look up to as examples of patriotism to follow.

One item of business we left undone at the reunion was the selection of the site of the next reunion. Well, the volunteers have all arrived and they are beating a path to my front door elbowing each other out of the way to gain advantage.

Come September 2006, it will have been ten years since the Association has rallied with the current warriors of the **55th Wing**. Much has changed in those years at the Wing. It is time to 're-blue' the Association right here at Omaha. Coming 'back to our future' this time is the right thing to do.

I have a large group of experienced, ex-crewmembers of the **Fightin' Fifty-Fifth** ready to put this thing together, and the **55th Wing** is ready to help host the affair. Details to follow on the website and in future newsletters.

Well, enough from me for now. Bet you are ready to get on reading another fantastic newsletter creation of Max's. Any comments please, favorable that is, send them along. Carry on ...and...y'all be careful out there, you hear.

Videmus Omnia, Jim

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LETTER FROM RETIRING PRESIDENT ERNST

Dear friends,

For those of you who didn't attend the reunion in San Diego, you missed a terrific time. Bill and Carol Lewis are wonderful hosts and entertained us in grand order.

As you will have read in this edition of *Videmus Omnia*, I have stepped down from the presidency of this great organization, a position that I held for nearly nine years.

It was a wonderful tour, and one that I could never fully express how humble I felt to have been selected to lead the Association, and how honored I am for the recognition I received at the banquet

before passing the torch to Jim Thomas. I was very fortunate to have a Board of Directors that wanted to move the organization to new heights and accomplish things that we had not dreamed of doing. They are all leaders in their own right and it will be my distinct pleasure to continue to serve with them as a member of the Board.

Just a short bit about your new president, Jim Thomas. He is one of the finest officers that I have had the pleasure to have served with. I have known him since 1973 when I was commander of the 343rd and he was upgrading to crew commander in the squadron. I have watched him progress through the ranks from captain to colonel, and observed his cool confidence and professional effectiveness in every job he has had. One of his last positions was as Ops Group Commander (DO) of the Wing.

He is a superior leader with all those characteristics that you hope to see in today's leaders: boldness, honesty, unquestionable integrity, flexible, and a great sense of humor. He will be a terrific president of our Association.

Again, thanks for the honor of serving as your President of the **55th SRW Association**. I hope to see you in 2006 here in beautiful downtown Omaha, Nebraska.

Videmus Omnia, Bill

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MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

12 MARCH 2005 - SAN DIEGO, CA
RED LION HANAIEI HOTEL BALLROOM

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Ernst at 0800. He welcomed the assembled members and then introduced the current Board of Directors in attendance: **Vice Pres Robb Hoover, Secretary Max Moore, Treasurer Errol Hoberman, Webmaster Don Griffin, Joe Gyulavics, Jim Maloney, Jim Thomas, George Ross, Sam Pizzo, Sparky Adams**. He also recognized those not in attendance: **Charles Waters, Mike Cook, Dennis Haun, LtCol Will Hampton, LtCol (Col-select) Jay Strickler, and outgoing member Capt Beth Kelley Horine** (deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, and going PCS to RAF Lakenheath, UK, thereafter), for their service to the Association.



Ernst called for the secretary to read the minutes from the 6 September 2003 Dayton reunion membership meeting. Thomas moved that we dispense with the reading. **Darrel Kirbie** seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer Hoberman gave the Association financial report stating, "the Association is still solvent" with liquid assets of \$20,972 in checking and savings. He also reported that there are 1097 members in good standing (a gain of 33 since 1 October 2004), which included 164 widows and 43 associate members. The president noted that Maloney and Ross had completed the required audit of the treasurer's records and reported found "all to be in order".

Ernst then gave a comprehensive report on Association business in the past year: the Cold War Memorial financial commitments have been met; and the brick patio is essentially complete to include the replacement and/or addition of any bricks that were incorrect, defective or missing; and that trees were planted behind the memorial to enhance the area. The Association made significant donations to the Air Force Memorial (\$1000 in January 2004), the 55th Wing Birthday Ball fund (\$1000 annually), and to the Tuskegee Airmen Reunion held in Omaha in August 2004 (\$600).

He also gave explanations of the 55th Wing Hall of Fame and the Association Award for Excellence processes, and recognized the leadership of Awards Chairman Cook in those endeavors. He stated that the 55th Wing leadership was pleased with the results of how the Association had conducted the selection process since assuming the responsibilities the last two years.

Ernst made comments regarding his retirement as Association president, acknowledging it was time for new leadership and a fresh outlook. He also had

high praise for the all the Board of Directors members he had worked with in his nine-plus years' tenure. He stated it was his great honor and privilege to have served the Association, and that he would continue to do so.

VPres Hoover reported that the current 55th Wing leadership re-ignited interest in producing a sequel to Bruce Bailey's book, "*We See All*". The new book would cover history of the 55th from the late 1960s to the current times. A core committee of the Association is working with the 55th Wing Historian's office on this effort. (Ongoing.)

Hoover noted that Bailey had passed to the Association the rights to the original book for publication, and expressed the Association's gratitude to Bailey for that action. He then recapped the most recent "*Tales of the 55th*" event (18 February), and said the tradition would continue next year and that Thomas has volunteered to assume the responsibilities for organizing it.

Webmaster Griffin stated that the effort to find "new blood" to maintain the Association web site resulted in Maloney volunteering to begin assumption of those duties and responsibilities once he passes a 'stand/eval.'

The president recognized Nomination Committee Chairman Pizzo, who announced the slate of nominees for the Board of Directors: for re-election: Moore, Hoberman, Griffin, Gyulavics, Cook, Haun, Thomas, and Ross. Plus, nominees for first time election: Ricky McMahan, Fox Censullo, Kevin Todd, to make up the maximum allowed eleven elected Board positions. Pizzo added that she, Adams and Waters would remain as permanent Board members, with Ernst, Hoover and Maloney opting for that status, each having been elected four or more times. The active duty representatives from the 55th Wing, as approved by the Association Board, are LtCol Will Hampton, 338thCTS Commander, and LtCol (Col-sel) Jay Strickler, 55th Wing Chief of Staff.

The floor was opened for nominations from the floor. There being none, Adams moved that the slate of nominees be accepted and elected by acclamation. **Norm Paul** seconded. Motion passed by voice vote of the members.

President Ernst commented on the new Board members' qualifications and long affiliation with the Wing and this Association, and he noted the

movement toward younger leadership as being a positive and needed action for the Association's future. He then announced that the newly elected Board would meet in the area of the podium immediately following the adjournment of the membership meeting.



Board of Directors: Back row, L-R: Thomas, Gyulavics, Griffin, Maloney, Ross, Hoberman, Pizzo. Front row: L-R: Moore, Hoover, Ernst, Adams. (Nice ties, guys.) Not pictured: Cook, Waters, Haun, Todd, McMahon, Censullo, Hampton, Strickler.

He then recognized the reunion organizers, **Bill** and **Carol Lewis**, for their superior, dedicated hard work in orchestrating a superb reunion, and "for doing such a terrific job." The membership responded with a rousing standing ovation.



The floor was opened for discussion on where to hold the next reunion in the **fall (Sep/Oct) of 2006**. Omaha, Tucson and Washington, DC, were

all suggested, but no one volunteered to lead at any of those locations (or anywhere else). It was noted that the last gathering in Omaha was in September 1996, and that perhaps it was time to return to 'Recca' for the exposure and reconnection to the active duty troops of the **55th Wing** at Offutt. Also mentioned was that DC would be hosting the dedication of the Air Force Memorial and Air Force Association national convention in September 2006.

A straw poll indicated that Washington, DC, led in the voting, with Omaha a very close second. It was determined that the Board would have this as open for further action. Once a decision is reached, announcements will be made via the Assn web site, newsletter, and e-mails to spread the word as quickly and widely as possible.

Moore commented on the pending arrival of an RC-135 aircraft from Offutt, and the planned static display tour, being coordinated via cell phone by Thomas. He stated that further information and details would be announced and posted in the Hospitality Room.

He also took the occasion to elaborate on Pres Ernst's leadership and the many significant contributions and milestones which occurred during his time in the presidency as the Association grew in numbers and function, and as it became a more solid and relevant organization. The membership again responded with a standing ovation.

Griffin moved the meeting be adjourned. Bill Simon seconded. Motion carried at 0938.

Respectfully, *Max R. Moore, Secretary*

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TREASURER'S REPORT

The Association, on 1 May 2005, had a checking account balance \$8958.26 Another \$17,430.98 is in a saving account.

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of 1 May 2005, the Association had 1024 members in good standing, 162 of which are widows, and 43 associated members. This is a net decrease of 10 members since 1 October 2004. There were 63 lapsed or dropped memberships, but

they were nearly balanced out with new and returned members.

The Association has members in **49 states** (*still no Alaska rep*), Guam, Puerto Rico and APOs in Europe.

The number of **active duty members** continues to rise as interest has picked up due to the Association's exposure in the Offutt area, and as members continue to recruit.

Membership status indicators are herein defined: 2005 on your address label means that your **dues expire at the end of that year**, and you are a member in good standing. Any other year shown indicates when your **dues expire**, or **have already expired**.

In the latter case, **its time to reup, now.**

LM designates a life member. (Persons who contributed \$500 or more to the Cold War Memorial, and those who have provided special 'over and above' service to the Association.) **Dues not required.**

HLM denotes Honorary Life Member (Widows). **Dues not required.**

AM indicates associated members, such as certain **55 Wing** senior staff positions and other individuals with a special relationship with the Association. **Dues not required.**

NLR is a **new** designation to indicate that the newsletter goes to individuals and organizations for the benefit of the Association. **Dues not required.**

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If your dues expired 2004, \$20.00 is due to include 2005. One year's dues is \$10. \$25 will update your membership for three years beyond what now shows as an expiration year.

NOW is the time to renew.

If your dues expired in 2004, this is the last newsletter you will receive unless you renew your membership.

Please remit dues to **55SRW Association** and mail to Errol Hoberman as soon as practical. For those who receive this newsletter via regular post, an Association-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

New members receive the Association's dual-shield lapel pin and the **55thSRW** Cold War Memorial coin when they join. Members desiring replacement or additional pins can get them from Errol for \$5.00 prepaid (*if you want more than one*

pin, the cost is just \$3.00 for each additional pin if mailed at the same time; i.e. one pin, \$5, two pins, \$8, three pins \$11, etc.).

Ernst and Moore have pins and coins, as well, so members in the Omaha area can get the pins from them for \$3.00 without the S/H. Extra coins are \$5.00.

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TALES OF THE 55TH

The fifth edition of the “*Tales of the 55th*” was held Friday, 18 February 2005, at the Offutt Club.

Opening the 55th Wing Birthday Ball weekend, speakers from various eras of 55th heritage tell their tales. It is one more opportunity for 55th alums, both local and out-of-towners, and active duty troops to mingle, and relive, or learn of, some significant stories from the **Fightin’ Fifty-Fifth’s** history.

This year’s event was tri-sponsored by the 55th SRW Association; the Strategic Roost, Association of Old Crows; and the local Curtis E. LeMay Chapter, Order of Daedalions.

(LtCol Ricky McMahon dubbed the weekend gathering as “a yearly winter migration to Recca”, since the 55th is the equivalent to Mecca for all recon dogs. So, “Return to Recca” is now part of the 55th lexicon. Max.)

The largest crowd ever, 250+ standing room only, attended this year to hear Master of Ceremonies Robb Hoover and BGen Craig Koziol, 55th Wing Commander, make opening remarks, after the ringing of the historic ceremonial 55th bell by Harry Tull, Arlen Howe, and Chuck Meyer.

John Wagner, a veteran 55th SRW navigator related a few vignettes from the RB-50 era. Tom Butler narrated the details of an incident when an E4B collided with a flock of snow geese on takeoff from Offutt in December 1987 doing severe damage to one engine and lots of sheet metal. *(Some 200 geese didn’t fare to well, either.)*

MSgt Brian Martin, a 55th Wing security policeman, told of his experiences during the Iraqi war operations at Tallil AB, Iraq, in 2004. The first female ‘Tales’ speaker, LtCol Becky Weirick, 55th Contracting Sqd Commander, had many unique



experiences after being sent to train Iraqi garrison commanders. Her challenges were daunting, indeed, and even more so as an American woman officer vying for acceptance and respect among the Iraqi officers and troops.

The event was highlighted with the presentation by Colonel (Ret) Bruce Olmstead of his recently awarded Silver Star (43 years after the RB-47 1 July 1960 shootdown and imprisonment of him and Col (Ret) John McKone), to the 55th Wing as a tribute to those who served in the Wing, past, present, and future. BGen Koziol accepted the medal on behalf of the Wing.



(Note: The details of the Silver Star award ceremony at the annual Air Force Association Convention last September were in the October 2004 issue of the Videmus Omnia.)

The evening wound up with Hoover, BGen Koziol and the speakers leading in offering a toast to the over 1000 55th Wing members currently deployed in the worldwide war on terror. The crowd heartily responded with the Wing motto, “*Videmus Omnia*”.

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55TH WING BIRTHDAY BALL 2005

The 27th Birthday Ball was held on Saturday, February 19, 2005, at Harrah’s Hotel in Council Bluffs, IA, and another superior gala it was! This year’s theme was “*Warriors of the 21st Century*”

emphasizing today's 55th Wing missions and honoring its personnel. Theme coin shown below:



The Association annually contributes \$1000 to help support the Ball. In recent years, Ernst, Hoover and Moore have served on the Ball committees as special advisors. This year's outstanding planning effort was led by 1Lt Karen Lee and 1Lt Sheldon Knutsen of the 55th Maintenance Group.

The formal event was attended by a packed house of over 760 active duty wing members, community leaders and retirees. Well over 100 Association members and guests, including Pres Ernst and his wife, Linda; VP Hoover and Shirley, Secretary Moore and Carol. Board members Jim Maloney and Peg, Michael Cook and Tina, Jim Thomas, LtCol Will Hampton and Jennie, and Denny Haun and Cheryl also represented the 55th SRW Association.

Four former wing commanders attended: MGen Ron Sams and his wife Diane (Gen Sams was also the featured speaker at his year's event); Steve Stevens and Suzanne; Larry Mitchell and Susan; Dan and Katy Peterson.

In addition to the many local Association members, several parties from out of town attended the festivities: Pappy and Anka Cole, Jim and Marion Taylor, Roger Craig, Hank and Sandra Dubuy, Al and Sandy Feldkamp, Al Kamback, Rich Wilson, Bucky Shiers, Joe Siniscalchi, Fox and Theresa Censullo, Loose and Cynthia Lane, Jack and Retha Cooke, LtCol Ricky McMahon, Golda Eldridge, Sr., Paul Amen, Col and Mrs Jack McQuiston, Greg Smith, Tom Butler, et al.

WWII veterans MGen (Ret) Ed Giller and Millie, Neil Webster and Harold Hall represented the 55th Fighter Group.

The Program

The program included presentation of the colors, the national anthem, and POW/MIA

ceremony. Opening and closing remarks were made by BGen Koziol, and an enthusiastic speech by MGen Sams. A video presentation paid tribute to the Wing's personnel serving at Offutt and far flung locales pursuing the War on Terror and other critical missions

BGen Koziol, MGen Giller, and AmnBasic Donny Fernandez, the youngest airman in attendance, did the ceremonial cutting of the birthday cake. They used the 55th SRW Association engraved saber which was presented to the Wing at the 2001 Ball.

Also on the agenda were the induction of new members into the Wing's Hall of Fame (*see article below*), and the announcement by Pres Ernst of 55SRW Association Award for Excellence (*see later article*).

Visiting, commiserating and reminiscing with long-time friends, and dancing continued until midnight. Music was performed by "Nightwing", the pop/country ensemble of the ACC Heartland of America Band.



55th WING HALL OF FAME

In 2003 the 55thSRW Association assumed the administrative lead for the selection process of the 55th Wing Hall of Fame. Nominees for induction are solicited each year for selection. The inductees are announced annually in conjunction with of the 55th Wing Birthday Ball.

That process has been an evolving one for a number of years, and this year an Association presidential appointed committee continued the selection process under the able leadership of Assn Awards Chairman Mike Cook.

The inductees for 2005 are from two distinct eras of the 55th:

LtCol (Ret) Warren (Pappy) Cole is an authentic strategic recon pioneer from the arduous days before and during the Korean War, and the early years of the Cold War.

He commanded a select RB-50 select crew on 85 challenging operational missions, which often required overflight of hostile Russian, Chinese and North Korean territories. Cole and his crewmembers helped establish the foundation of the history of the **Fightin' Fifty-Fifth's** recon program.

T A P S



Major (Ret) Thomas (Loose) Lane was recognized for his far reaching and lasting contributions to the 55th Wing's RC-135 fleet in the areas of research, development and procurement of equipment and upgrades, and in flight training requirements, both as an active duty instructor navigator and as a contractor.



THE 55TH SRW ASSOCIATION AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

The 55th SRW Association Annual Award for Excellence is presented to that individual, crew, group, or organization that best exemplifies the basic tenants of the 55th SRW Association.

The award winners are announced at the annual 55th Wing Birthday Ball and at 55th SRWA reunions. Their names are inscribed on the base of the trophy and they receive a representative plaque.

The winner of the 2004 award is **TSgt Terry C. Hunt**, the Enlisted Manager of the Pediatric Clinic of the Ehrling Berquist Hospital at Offutt AFB, NE.

TSgt Hunt's superior performance and outstanding professionalism had been recognized by his commanders and supervisors with many awards within the wing and several nominations for higher HQ commendations.

The previous award recipients are **LtCol Ricky McMahon**, 338th Combat Training Squadron commander, for 2000; and **MSgt Steven and MSgt Lisa Hagggett**, 55th Wing Command Section, for 2001; **LtCol Kurt Kramer**, 38th RS commander, 2002; and **Col (select) Glen Gulleckson**, 343rd RS commander, 2003.

The unveiling of the imposing trophy always gets an appreciative response from the Ball crowd.



*A clear conscience is usually
the result of a bad memory.*



*The most precious thing we have is life. Yet, it has
absolutely no trade in value.*



Sam J. Cavataio, Rockford, IL; newsletter returned in October 2004 marked "Deceased". Only information known.

Muriel "Kenny" Connor, 13 February 2005; Vienna, VA; wife of **Ed**, a former RB-50 EWO.

Jean Hayes, 11 March 2005; Spring Hill, FL; widow of **Bill**, former 343rd SRS navigator and 55th HQ staff in the 1960s.

Richard W. Hedge, 69; 13 November 2004 in an aircraft accident; Bellevue, NE; wife, **Joanne**. Dick was a long time strat recon pilot in RC-135s at Eielson AFB, AK, Offutt AFB, NE, and with CEVG at Barksdale AFB, LA. He also served as the 55th SRW vice commander and as wing commander at Mildenhall RAF, UK.

Maurice "Mike" Hunt, 24 March 2004; Tucson, AZ; wife, **Janell**.

William W. Klausner, 72, 9 April 2005; Las Vegas, NV; wife: **Mary Kay**. Bill served with the 55th as a pilot in RB47s at Forbes AFB, KS, and in RC-135s at Offutt. He was the 82nd SRS commander at Kadena AB, Japan, and returned to the 55th at Offutt in several staff positions.

Peter Kost, 14 October 2004; Lakewood, WA; retired CMSgt, 338^h RB-47E/K crew chief in 1954. He later became a flight engineer and served in MAC in the 1960s.

Roger B. Light, 68; 19 February 2005; New Port Richey, FL. Roger was a former EWO in RC-135s and a staff officer in the 55th SRW at Offutt.

Albert C. Lofton, 59, 22 December 2004; Bellevue, NE; wife, **Julia**. AC was a veteran audio visual artisan at SAC and with the 55th SRW at Offutt. He was also a gifted artist and was responsible for the 18 portraits in the original 55th heroes and legends lithograph in 1998-99, and every portrait for the Hall of Fame through 2003.

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LETTERS AND STUFF

Gladys Marshall, 14 November 2004; Dunnellon, FL; wife of **Robert**. Bob was with the 91st SRW and the **55th SRW** as an RB-29/50 aircraft commander from 1949-1956.

Pearl Mattison, 17 September 2004; Forest Lake, MN. She was the widow of **Hobart “Matt”**, who died in June 1990. Matt was a WWII vet who flew RB-47s at Forbes and is a member of the **55th Hall of Fame**.

Larry Merideth, 57, 13 October 2004; Mililani, HI; wife **Patricia**. A USAF Academy graduate, Larry was an RC-135 pilot in the **55th SRW** at Offutt and on staff at Mildenhall RAF, UK, and with PACAF at Hickham AFB, HI.

Richard V. Palcowski, 24 June 2004; Longwood, FL; wife **Martha**. Dick served in the **55th A&E Sqd** from 1956-61. He was also in missiles at Altus AFB, OK; and worked on the B-1 at Wright Patterson, AFB, OH. After AF retirement, he worked at Lockheed Martin in Orlando, FL.

James E. Paxton, 79; 1 November 2004; Tempe, AZ; wife, **Anita**. An B-29 aviator in WWII and Korea, Jim later was a flight engineer in RB-29s/50s with the 343rd SRS from 1949-53 at Barksdale and Ramey AFB, PR. After the AF, he flew as a flight engineer and pilot/captain with TWA for 29 years, retiring in 1982.

James A. Reinhardt, 70; 31 March 2005; Bellevue, NE. Jimmy was a pilot/aircraft commander for many years in RB-47s in the **55th** at Forbes AFB, KS; and in RC-135s at Eielson AFB, AK, and with the **55th** again at Offutt.

Leola “Odie” Waple, 9 October 2004; Fairfax, VA; wife of **Hugh**.

* * * * *

TAPS – News of Association members, friends and associates taking the “Big PCS”, hitting “High Flight”, or “folding wings”, should be sent to Jim Thomas and Max Moore (*see DIRECTORY, page 8 for contact info*). **Please include next of kin and an address to which the Association condolence card may be sent; date of demise, pilot/nav/EWO, whatever; time with 55th, and any other pertinent information.**

The news in TAPS is limited by how much and how accurate the given information.

Dear Members(*of the 55SRWA*) December 15, 2004
The Alfonzo W. Davis Chapter, Tuskegee Airmen, Inc, hosted the 33rd annual national convention in Omaha, NE, August 30, 2004.

Among the approximate 850 participants were 80 original Tuskegee Airmen. Over 250 volunteers, members and supporters (*helped execute numerous events*) honoring the Tuskegee airmen at Offutt and in Omaha. And for the first at a national convention (*there was*) formal recognition of the Women of Tuskegee.

Those six days of continuous activity were made possible by the contributions of time and money and support of groups such as yours.

I have received numerous compliments and expressions of gratitude for the attentive and friendly assistance our visitors received. I pass them on to you, along with my personal thanks, and thanks on behalf of the Central Region and Tuskegee Airmen Inc. for you generous contribution. The financial support was needed and greatly appreciated.

The greatest value of your contribution is as an indicator of your interest and respect for the Tuskegee Airmen.

Sincerely, **Robert D. Rose**,

President, Central Region, Tuskegee Airmen.

(*Note: The Association donated \$600 to the reunion funding. Max.*)

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Gentlemen:

April 21, 2004

My thanks go to the full “Command Staff” of the **55th Strat Recon Wing Association** for the way you have continued to “keep the ship in the air” so long and so effectively. The group remains one of the proudest affiliations of my entire life.

Please convey my warmest regards to everyone who knew the wing in the middle 1950s.

With much appreciation,

David E. P. O’Dell

Former SSgt, **55th AEMS**; President, The Eastwood Group; Adjunct Professor/Communications, Rochester Institute of Technology.

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Dear Mr. Hoberman: October 2004

I cannot tell you how pleased I was with the 55th coin. It is just lovely. I plan to surprise our three daughters with coins in their Christmas stockings.

My late husband (*LtCol (Ret) Lewis Hayes Dickerson*) loved the Air Force and the 55th SRW.

Elaine T. Dickerson, Milford, DE

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Errol: 20 October 2004

Thanks for the e-mail and attachment (*e-newsletter*). Looking forward to the hardcopy and roster in US mail.

No doubt the (*Association*) newsletter is one of the best I receive from any other of my organizations. Thanks again,

Nick Yanuzzi, Thousand Oaks, CA

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Max: 9 November 2004

I have been so very impressed with the job that you have done with the 55th newsletter. (*Previously*.) I had not read every single word with such memories as I have since you took over.

I do appreciate the memories and I do love being kept abreast of the things going on. (*The 55th*) is, and always will be, home to me.

Thank you for all of your hard work. I know a lot of it is thankless. No one really knows how much work these things take unless you have done it. *Phyllis Meyer*, Bellevue, NE

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Thanks so much for keeping in touch (*with the newsletter*).

LtCol Steve Ling,

95th Recon Sqd Commander, Mildenhall RAF, UK
(*From an e-mail, 17 October 2004*)

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Thanks for the great newsletter.

Ken Urtz, Marshall, MO

(*E-mail 20 October 2004*)

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An outstanding newsletter...again. Thanks

Jack Kovacs, Fairborn, OH

(*E-mail 17 October 2004*)

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(*Note: Numerous,.....okay - several,..... well - some, favorable e-mails and notes similar to those above, were sent regarding the recent newsletters and their content. Warm fuzzies are always appreciated. Thanks back to all who think this endeavor is worthwhile. Max*)

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Bill, Jim, et al:

Great news to learn. I had a suspicion I might have a shot at being elected to the Board after talking to several of you at the Birthday Ball in February. But, I never imagined the outcome.

I can't thank the true recon legends enough for their confidence in me to become a member of this elite governing board. I will attempt to serve the Board proudly. I guess I'll need to come to "Recca" more often to keep the communication and traditions as alive and vibrant as all of you have done over the years.

As a member of the Board, I will take it upon myself to get more of my peers involved in this fine organization. There are plenty of soon-to-be and /or recently retired recca warriors who have along history in the 55th. It's time for them to get more excited and involved in keeping the 55th SRWA healthy.

Again, thanks to everyone who had a hand in making my nomination a reality.

VO Forever,

LtCol R.J. McMahan, Nokesville, VA.

(*E-mail, 16 March 2005*)

(*Note: McMahan was subsequently elected vice president of the Assn at the San Diego reunion. Good to have a man with his enthusiasm aboard. We are confident Censullo, Todd and Strickler, the other new Board members, echo his words. Max*)

* * * * *

Editor's plea: If any members wish to contribute letters, stories and articles, please send them to me. If events occur in your area that you think would be of interest to the general readership, mail or e-mail the pertinent details, and include the names of those Association members who attend. Names are news.

The only way to broaden our coverage is to get input from 'out there'.

Thanks, and Videmus Omnia, Max



ASSOCIATION POLO SHIRTS/CAPS

They are unisex, so get one for your spouse, significant other, or other family members. They make great gifts. One more way to identify with your Association and “show the logo” at appropriate functions, on the golf course, wherever.

After reunion sales, the May shirt inventory by sizes is: small- 1; medium- 3; large- 2; XL- 3; XXL-1; XXXL- 0. **We can always reorder more of any size, as needed. Cost is \$25 per shirt.**

There are 16 **golf/ballcaps** on hand. They are royal blue with the dual shield logo on the front and adjustable back strap. **They go for \$7 each.**

The items can be viewed in color on the Association web site at www.55srwa.org, and click on the *Clothing Sales* link.

Anyone desiring to purchase either or both can send an e-mail to: MaxMoore55@aol.com; phone: (402) 291-8272; or write to: 201 Basswood Court, Bellevue, NE, 68005-2001

There are charges for postage to be added to the individual item costs: \$7 for two shirts; \$6 if both a shirt and cap are ordered; \$5 for a shirt only; \$3 for a cap only.

Checks for the full amount of your order should be made to the 55th SRW Association, or to Max Moore. Either way, the bucks end up in the Association treasury.



THE ASSOCIATION TIE

After the original order of over 330 ties was sold, there was such a demand to continue this new Association symbol that **Jim Thomas** picked up the baton from Sam Pizzo, the original ‘regimental tie’ vendor, and ordered a new batch of 75 ties. After the “Tales” and reunion sales, 48 ties remain available, so get ‘em now!

The tie is an attractive and distinguished blue and red striped design with the Association’s dual shield logo prominently displayed in the tie’s center. A fine gold line defines every fourth blue/red stripe.



The price is \$20 each, which includes shipping postage. You will want one to show the ‘regimental tie’ at appropriate events.

Contact Jim at JThomas927@aol.com, or write him at 4418 Anchor Mill Dr, Bellevue, NE 68123-1168. **Make checks payable to the 55SRW Association.**



MEMORIAL COINS

The coins shown below (*actual size: 1½ in diameter*) were produced expressly for the purpose of providing them to Association members at the September 2003 reunion as a memento.

Those who did **not** receive one as yet, and want to have a Memorial Coin, **contact** Errol Hoberman (SAC-EWO@mchsi.com, or 6441 Avenida De Galvez, Navarre, FL 32566-8911); or Bill Ernst (BillErnst@aol.com, or 410 Greenbriar Ct, Bellevue, NE 68005). One memorial coin will be mailed to you **free of charge**. Additional coins are available for \$5 each.



Coin Front



Coin Back



SPARKLY 55TH PINS



Pin shown is near actual size

As a direct result of newsletter notices, the above pins have sold at a steady pace to Association members all over the country. They are quite in evidence at social occasions in and around Offutt AFB on ladies of the 55th Wing.

You can acquire one for that special lady in your life to wear at any appropriate occasion.

The Association does **not** sell these pins and receives **no** money. But, as a service for those who wish to possess same: **Erwin's Jewelers, Frank Kumor**, proprietor, in Olde Town Bellevue, has an inventory and **you can purchase directly from the store.**

Send requests to 223 W. Mission Ave, Bellevue, NE; or call: (402) 291-2454, or fax to (402) 293-5873 to order the pins. Cost is \$9 for the pin and \$3 for shipping.



YOUR 55TH SRW ASSN WEB SITE

www.55srwa.org

The Association website is an integral and vital part of the Association's line of communications. If you have not already done so, you are urged to check it out.

Everything you want to know about the Association is there: **constitution, bylaws**; officers and bios; membership form, library, picture gallery, **an e-mail address listing**, bulletin board, and links to many other associated sites.

Info and updates on the next reunion, other events and important bulletins on any projects in progress are posted. Also, there is e-mail traffic on subjects of interest to members.

Webmeister **Don Griffin** and his creative cyber-sidekick, **Dave Johnson**, maintain and update the site so as not to get stale.

Jim Maloney has agreed to become the new webmaster. He will be getting transition training from Grif as he and Dave gradually retire from maintaining the site they have so brilliantly done since its inception.

They are always looking for new and fresh ideas. Inputs from members are encouraged and welcome. Send them pictures, war stories, anything you want to share with the Association.

An area in need of continuous attention is the e-mail address roster. The active members e-mail address listing is found at http://www.55srwa.org/55_adr1.html.

The webguys would like for anyone who does **not** want their e-mail address posted to let them know and that address will be deleted. If your address is **not** currently listed, but you wish it so, tell 'em that, too.

They would also like for all members to check the list and see if the information is correct and up to date. If not, send corrections.

Any change requests to the e-mail listing should be sent to both: dgrif@citlink.net and SAC-EWO@mchsi.com. If you don't receive e-mails from the Association, it likely is because your e-address is not listed. To get on the members only e-mail roster, send current address to SAC-EWO@mchsi.com.



YET ANOTHER MUSEUM NAME CHANGE

At an official ceremony on 14 October 2004, the USAF Museum's name was changed to "National

Museum of the Air Force". This changes puts it on a status similar to the Smithsonian.

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In a related item of interest to aviation history buffs, the city of Memphis, TN, apparently hasn't taken very good care of the WWII B-17 made famous in movies, the "Memphis Belle".

So the ol' girl will be moved to the National Museum of the Air Force for restoration that is estimated to take five years before it can be put on display.

Info thanks to Jack Kovacs

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WHO SHOT WHAT?

Picture credits to: Red Lion website for hotel; Nick Yanuzzi for the hospitality room pix; Pat Gros for RC-135, Novyy/Cohoes, Board of Directors, the Lewis', and Thomas; Moore for Novyy/O'Hara, trio with clock, and Assn flag; Griffin for the membership meeting shot; Birthday Ball coins by **TSgt Robert Powers**, 55th Comm Sqd; Maloney for Memorial coins; Capt Beth Kelley Horine for 55th pin; "Tales" photos courtesy of 55th Wing PA.

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REUNION ATTENDEES

SAN DIEGO, CA MARCH 9-12 2005

ADAMS, SPARKY & CONNIE &
DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW,
JEANETTE & JERRY BROCKMEYER
AGRONIS, GIL & ELLEN
ANDRIJESKI, FRANK & ALENE
ARBUCKLE, JIM & PAM
BACK, GEORGE & GERRIE
BARKALOW, HANK & JOY
BARKER, JACK & NONA
BARRETT, BURTON & CHARLEEN
BEAUVAIS, MO & CRIS
BERGMANN, PHIL & BESS
BLOUNT, HARRIS & NORMA KUSSMAN
BOWKER, BILL & JEAN
BOYDSTON, TED & MARLENE
BRAMMER, JOHN & RENE
BRYAN, KEN & GRETCHEN
BUTLER, JON & MARGE
CALDWELL, JIM & NANCY

CAMPBELL, DICK & EVE
CARBAUGH, PHIL & MICKEY
CAREY, JOHN & BARBARA
CASELTON, JEAN & SUE
CLARK, CHARLES & CAROLYN
CLARK, RICH & THELMA
COFIELD, RALPH & JOAN
COOPER, BOB & MARY FURRIE
CRAFT, ROBY
CROSS, BILL & BARBARA
CURZON, DAN & LINDA
DANT, RICK & MARY
DAUBER, WAYNE & BEV
DAWES, TOM & LORRAINE
DESROCHE, GEORGE & DORRIS
D'ORVILLIERS, LARRY
DOWD, GEORGE
DRAGON, GENE
DROST, JOHNNY & REESE
DUBE, BUCK
DUBUY, HANK & SANDRA
DUBYAK, JOHN & JANE
DZIEWJOWSKI, RENE & ANNE
HEATH & DAVID DZIEJOWSKI
ERNST, BILL & LINDA
EVERLING, TOM & MONICA & MICHELLE
FRAZIER, ANNE
GARRITY, TOM & FRANCINE
GIAMBRI, PHIL & MARGARETA



Hospitality, hospitality, yakety, yak.

GLASS, FREDRICK & MARNE
GLOVER, MARGARET
GOEDEN, SAM & PAT
GRIFFIN, DON & MARSHA
GROS, ANDY & COPPER
GURNEY, DON & BARBARA
GYULAVICS, JOE & DOTTY

HAGIE, DOUG & PHLLYIS
 HALE, ROBERT
 HAMPTON, CAROLE JEFFERS
 HEATH, ANNE
 HICKS, FRANK & LEWANDA
 HOBBERMAN, ERROL & SUE
 HODGSON, JACK & WILLIE
 HOOVER, ROBB & SHIRLEY
 HOWE, ARLEN & MARY
 JEFFERS, FRED & HEIDI, &
 ART & JACKIE RUSSELL
 JOHNSON, BILL & JEANNE
 JOHNSON, GEORGE & MARTHA
 JOHNSON, JOHN & DEE
 JOHNSON, JOHN & TONI
 KELLY, RALPH
 KIEFER, DICK & CARRIE LOU
 KIRBIE, DARRELL
 KNECHT, RON & DONNA
 KRESGE, CLETE & MARGE
 LAFLAIR, LARRY



Aren't we pretty? Sure do clean up nice, huh?

LEEMAN, DAVE & JAN
 LEWIS, BILL & CAROL
 LEWIS, MARK
 LILLER, CHARLES & SARA
 MALONEY, JIM & PEG
 MARK, JOHN
 MARTIN, DANIEL & MARY BURG
 MCCALL, CASH & BETTY
 MCKINNEY, TOM & KATE & TOM, JR
 MELONE, PAT & MARIE
 MICHAEL, AL & PEGGIE
 MILLER, GEORGE
 MILLER, P.B. & JUDY

MITCHELL, LARRY & SUSAN
 MOLLNOW, MARVIN & CINDY
 MOLSTAD, GORDON & ERNA
 MONCURE, ALICE
 MOORE, MAX & CAROL
 MORROW, JIM & CAROLE
 MORSS, BUD
 MURPHY, TERRY & KATHY
 NAVARRO, LLOYD & SYLVIA, BILL
 O'BRIEN & SALINA PADILLA
 NELSON, JIM & SHARON
 NICKERSON, RON & MARTHA
 NOVYY, ADM (Russian Navy – Ret) BORIS
 O'HARA, LT COL MIKE (USA) AND
 PARENTS, DR LAWRENCE AND JUNE
 O'HARA
 O'KELLEY, JEAN
 OSBORN, PHIL & JAN
 PALMIERI, ELVIO & DARLENE
 PAUL, NORM & JOYCE
 PENFIELD, GEORGE & ROB
 PHILLIPS, PATRICIA & ROXANN
 PHILLIPS, TERRY & DOLLY SANZONE
 PIZZO, SAM & MARY
 POTTER, ELIOT & TREVA
 RAIS, TONY & JUNE
 REED, TOM & CELIA
 RIEDEN, HANK & JOANN
 ROGERS, PAUL
 ROSS, GEORGE & BETTY
 ROSSER, BILL & ELLY
 RUID, GLEN & KAY
 RYAN, DON & BARBARA NITZEL
 SAENZ, ROLAND & KATHY & ALMA &
 ALEJANDRA CECENA
 SANDELL, NORMAN & BONNIE
 SCHOONOVER, FRANK & HILDE
 SCHULZ, DON & LUCIENNE
 SCHWIESO, DUAINE & MARY
 SEABAUGH, MILFORD
 SIMON, BILL
 SJOLUND, DAVE & CAROL
 SMITH, AL & MARY
 SMITH, MRS. C. HUNTER (PEG)
 SMITH, GARY & PATTY
 SMITH, KEITH & FRAN
 STAPLES, BUCK & DONNA
 STERN, TED & AUDREY
 STEVENS, STEVE & SUZANNE

SUL, ARISTEO & VIRGINIA
 TAYLOR, JIM & MARION
 THOMAS, CLYDE
 THOMAS, JIM
 THOMAS, DON & BARBARA
 TUCKER, DICK & JUDY
 HULL, HARRISON
 URSCHLER, REGIS
 WAPLE, HUGH & ETTA BROST
 WARD, LLOYD & MARY
 WHITE, BEN & BETTY MILLER
 WHITWORTH, NEIL & DOLORAS
 YANUZZI, NICK & GEORGINA

They were there and you weren't!!!

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**BIG SAFARI ASSOCIATION
 2005 REUNION
 7-10 September – Boston, MA**

The Wyndham Hotel in Andover, MA, will be the HQ for this reunion. Call for room reservations at 978-975-3600. Use BIG SAFARI as code for group rate.

There will be registration, golf, a clam bake, symposium and banquet. For more details, **Barry Kibbe** is the contact at 10511 Linda Lane, Greenville, TX, 75402-35119; PH: 903-454-3764; e-mail: Kibbeb@bigfoot.com

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E – NEWSLETTER

Association members in good standing (paid up dues) who so desire can receive the newsletter via electronic transmission. **To get on the members only e-mail roster, send current address to SAC-EWO@mchsi.com. (Yes, you read this earlier.)**

Or go to: www.55srwa.org for full instructions on how to read and/or download the e-newsletter.

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Some mistakes are too much fun to make just once.

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*Don't cry because its over,
 smile because it happened.*

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PRO-NUN-SEE-A-SHUN

During a social encounter a couple of years ago, a young second lieutenant (*are there any other kind?*), who professed to have survived four years as a student of *Latin*, informed this editor that the correct pronunciation of the **Fightin' Fifty-Fifth Wing** motto is thus: *Wi - dAy - moose Omnia*

He insisted the 'v' be pronounced as a 'w', and with emphasis on the mid-syllable and a hard A.

However, common usage and personal preference will likely prevail in the use of 'v', as in vigilant, valiant, victorious. (*This is a repeat item from a previous newsletter for those who didn't see it the first time around, or newbies. Max*)



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**Quotes taken from actual federal
 employee performance reports
 (Allegedly.)**

“I would not allow this employee to breed.” (*Ouch!*)

“This young lady has delusions of adequacy.”

“He doesn't have ulcers, but he is a carrier.”

“This employee is depriving a village of an idiot.”

“When his IQ reaches 50, he should sell.”

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