



# Depot Fallout



AFTAC Alumni Association West Coast Chapter  
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## JULY 2006 EDITION

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LOOK US UP AT:  
[www.AFTACWest.org](http://www.AFTACWest.org)

## WE'RE GOING CRUISING ON THE RIVER

*by Joe Johnson*

We'll be cruising on the Sacramento River and partying at the Rio City Café beforehand.

**When:** August 26, 2006  
**Where:** Old Sacramento  
**Address:** Depart from the dock of the boat "Spirit of Sacramento"  
**Time:** Boarding 7 pm. Sails at 7:30 pm (3-hour cruise) Returns 10:30 pm  
**Cost:** Cruise only, \$30 per person  
**Details:** The company offering this cruise "Riverboat Cruises"

describes this cruise as a "dinner cruise". Cost for the cruise with dinner and entertainment would be \$70 per person. An option is available for the "cruise only" at \$30 per person.

We suggest you opt for the "cruise only" plan. We also suggest you plan to arrive at the dock area at 4:30 pm and meet your fellow travelers in the "RIO CITY CAFÉ" which is located next door to the boat dock. You'll be able to eat, drink and be merry prior to sailing.

**Reservations:** You can make reservations for the \$70 or \$30 cruise as you wish. Reservations that **insure** a seat on the cruise **must** be made by **advance ticket purchase** only. If you want to go we strongly suggest you make an advance ticket purchase. Tickets can be returned at least 48 hours prior to departure for a refund minus a 20% service charge. Tickets can be purchased by phone and charged to your credit card. Phone numbers are: 1-800-433-0263 or 916-552-2933. Advance ticket sales are also offered at the cruise office, 110 "L" Street in Old Sacramento. Tickets are also offered 1 hour prior to departure at the ticket booth located by the departure pier. **If you choose this option, you probably will not be able to get a ticket due to prior reservations.**

If you plan to party prior to departure, you should make reservations at the "RIO CITY CAFÉ". Phone number is 916-442-8226.

If you need wheelchair access on the boat, insure that you advise the cruise company when you purchase your tickets.

**Parking:** The nearest parking garage is located on the Sacramento side of the river on the right side of Capitol Avenue before you get to the Tower Bridge. Another one is located across the street from the railroad museum in Old Sacramento.

**Summary:** You will note that this is a "do it yourself" program. Due to the number of options available to you, we felt that it would be near impossible for the association to gather all of your choices and offer a plan where the association handled the details. We again emphasize, if you plan to participate, get your tickets early and make "RIO CITY CAFÉ" reservations if you plan to party there. We will see you there!!!

**AFTAC Alumni Assoc. – West Coast Chapter  
2006 SPRING PICNIC at FOOTHILL COMMUNITY PARK**

**1 of 2**

Photos by Ken Breitwieser



Joe Johnson & Dave Price

#599



Picnic Honchos: Charlie Penn & "Butch" Kemna

#600



Bob Fitzgerald & Chef, Dave Tarquino

#601



George McAlister & Al Pavik

#602



Tony Rubertino, Tom Bressan & Dave Price

#603



Bob Morrison, Charlie Penn, Butch Kemna & Clay Lemire

#604



Dave Tarquino, George McAlister, Joe Johnson & Jack Allison

#605



Gayle Johnson, Marge Iske & Jeanne Haslett

#608

**AFTAC Alumni Assoc. – West Coast Chapter  
2006 SPRING PICNIC at FOOTHILL COMMUNITY PARK**

**2 of 2**



#609

Bob Haslett, Darlene Fitzgerald, Nancy & Dave Price  
(With Al Pavik & Robert Osborne standing in background)



#611

Tae Ja Hickey, Bob & Tommie Baker



#612

BBQ Chef's: Dennis Nolan & Dave Tarquino



#616

The Crew: Ken Breitwieser, Charlie Penn, Butch Kemna,  
Dave Tarquino & Dennis Nolan

**SPRING FLING PICNIC A BIG SUCCESS**

*by Dale Klug*

Our best picnic yet, over 60 people showed up for what turned out to be a beautiful day for great food and a super get-together under the big pavilion at Foothills Community Park. Our thanks go out to **Butch Kemna** for arranging the picnic site; **Charlie Penn and Butch** for obtaining & delivering the BBQ food, beverages, etc; and chefs **Dave Tarquino, Ken Breitwieser & Dennis Nolan**. A lot of familiar people from our past events showed up and a surprising number of alumni newcomers helped make the picnic a success. The weather was great; the food was good and a lot of friends renewed acquaintances. Photos of the picnic are included in this newsletter and more, in full color, can be found on our Web site, <[www.AFTACwest.org](http://www.AFTACwest.org)>. Again a special THANK YOU to the Picnic crew!

**AFTAC WORLDWIDE REUNION 2007 DENVER, CO**

7 June - 11 June 2007 Double Tree Hotel - Stapleton Plaza

The Colorado Chapter will host the next worldwide reunion. Any and all personnel that have served with AFTAC, SWS, 1009th, AFMSW-1, AFOAT-1, 1035th FAG, WFO, Worldwide Dets, etc... are invited and encouraged to attend. Guests are welcome. Questions, comments, plans of attending...

**Please contact: Jack Smith, e-mail [coaftrmkt@aol.com](mailto:coaftrmkt@aol.com), or call 303-428-1812**

REGISTRATION      AGENDA      INFORMATION PAPERWORK

Packets will be available at a later date...

Members of Det-426 1962-1967 RAAF STN Pearce, West Australia, will be attending the reunion. This group of veterans has formed an E-Det to share memories, stories, pictures, and renew friendships. E-Det 426 has over 20 active members, and is still looking for these Det 426 personnel: Harold Adams, Frank Barre, Art Davies, James Harris, George Kale, Ed McDaniel, John Nielson, Bill Thompson, John O'Keefe and William Woodard. Contact Don Dike, e-mail [msgdike@yahoo.com](mailto:msgdike@yahoo.com)

## E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES NEEDED

*by Dale Klug, Editor*

Right after mailing out the January newsletter we had occasion to get an important time-sensitive announcement to as many alumni as possible, so we sent an e-mail message to all 119 members who provided us with an address. We got back over one-third of those messages as "UNDELIVERABLE". When you get this newsletter, **everyone**, please, (if you haven't already), send your current e-mail address to [d1price@pacbell.com](mailto:d1price@pacbell.com), [ga9jo8ro7ca@hotmail.com](mailto:ga9jo8ro7ca@hotmail.com) and [dcdzrize@pacbell.net](mailto:dcdzrize@pacbell.net) we will acknowledge your message and ensure our roster is corrected. Thank You Very Much!

## WAY BACK WHEN

*by Dale Klug, Editor*

We've started a series of articles called "WAY BACK WHEN". This will be patterned after the Florida Chapter's series in the Post Monitor called "B.S. (Barely Substantiated) TALES". We're inviting everyone to submit articles with stories from days-gone-by at Detachments, OLS, Depot, Squadrons, Headquarters or TDYs. **Crank up your "WAYBACK machines" and send us an article.** Remember to keep all the inputs unclassified. E-mail all proposed articles to me at: [FalloutEditor@AFTACwest.org](mailto:FalloutEditor@AFTACwest.org) or snail-mail to: P.O. Box 3974, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-3974.

## WORDS FROM THE PREZ

*by Joe Johnson, President*

We are now in a position to start sending our newsletter DEPOT FALLOUT to you by e mail if you so desire. **Please, when you receive this notification, immediately send us an email with the email address you would prefer we use for WCC notifications. Also indicate if you want your newsletter via email.** Address your e-mail to: [d1price@pacbell.com](mailto:d1price@pacbell.com) With cc to: [ga9jo8ro7ca@hotmail.com](mailto:ga9jo8ro7ca@hotmail.com) & [dcdzrize@pacbell.net](mailto:dcdzrize@pacbell.net)

Many of the Florida chapter members receive their newsletter (PO MO) via email. This saves a ton of money for them. We will offer the same service if you op-in to receive your newsletter in that manner. Note that you will receive it days before a printout can be reproduced and mailed to you. Also, any colored material in the letter would appear in color. Pictures taken at our various activities really are improved.

The Colorado Chapter AFTAC Alumni will be hosting the World Wide reunion in Denver. Planning for the event is already started with details on lodging and activities to be finalized later this year. Although the event will be posted to both the Florida and California Chapters take a moment to get the word out to Alumni you know, but who may not be members of any of the chapters.

Because of the Labor Day holiday it was decided at our June membership meeting to move the September meeting to the second Tuesday, 12 September.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

*By Dave Price, Membership Chairman*

### As of 12 June 2006: Active Members = 158 Life Members = 118

We have two new members, Tom Hickey (life) and Gerald Tenenbaum (2 years). Robert Dean, Dennis Tasto and George Hill renewed their memberships.

Annual membership fee of \$5.<sup>00</sup> is due by 01 Jan each year. **Check your mailing label for an expiration date. Your last newsletter will be the one following your expiration date.** Life memberships are available for \$50.<sup>00</sup> and include a laminated membership card. You can use the Membership application/roster update on the last page of this newsletter or the one on our web site to send with your dues. Don't let your membership lapse. **Several alumni who have not yet paid their 2006 membership dues will soon be dropped from the "active" roster.**

## EVENTS CALENDAR

- River cruise & dinner in Old Sacramento on 26 August 2006.
- Veterans Day Dinner at the Buggy Whip on 11 November (More about this in next newsletter edition)
- Business/Member meetings are 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays quarterly at the LionsGate restaurant at McClellan Park:

**12 Sep 2006 (second Tuesday) - 5 Dec 2006 - 6 March 2007**

*(Call ahead to our President, to confirm time & place. Or check our 'Events' page at <[www.AFTACwest.org](http://www.AFTACwest.org)>.)*

## MAIL CALL

Don't forget our E-mail address: [TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com](mailto:TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com)

**Warren Wascher** Email: 14 Jun 2006. Please change my address effective 7/1/06 to: Warren W. Wascher 222 Sunrise Bluffs Drive, Belen, NM 87002 Phone: 505-861-6107 Retiring again, this time from Boeing in Seattle and going to enjoy some sunshine! <wascher@wans.net> **Ed. Note: Warren, welcome to the ranks of the "retired but not tired" .**

**Wayne Reese** Email 8 Apr 2006. Hi. I wanted to let you know that I just switched to EarthLink for my Internet access, and so I have a NEW EarthLink email address: waynereece92ma@earthlink.net Please take a moment today to write down my new address and add it to your email address book. I don't want to miss any of your messages! Sincerely, Wayne and Mary.

**Clark Wilberg** Email: Jun 2006. Please update your address books. I've changed my email address to try to avoid spammers. New address is [cnwilberg@earthlink.net](mailto:cnwilberg@earthlink.net) A permanent address that forwards to this email is [SEO027@member.afa.org](mailto:SEO027@member.afa.org) (That's Sierra Echo Oscar Zero Two Seven). Don't want to loose contact with you. Clark and Joyce

**Tom Niquette** Email: 21 May 2006. If you already have gotten one of these, we are just trying to make sure that everyone gets it. So, the address is 707 Dungeness St. Simons Island, Georgia, 31522. The phone number is: (912) 634-8016 Hope that this helps ya'll stay in touch. Tom & Judy <TNiquette@aol.com>

**Jim Lee** Email: 2 Jul 2006. My first supervisor in 1970 at McClellan was Gene Landrum. He left for Turkey in 1970, returned for a few visits to Sacramento, but finished his career at Patrick AFB. There are a lot of guys who will remember him. His daughter called me this morning, and Gene passed away at 9:45 this morning (7/2) in Rock Hill, SC after a brief illness. He was 65. His family is all at the Landrum home: 4432 York Highway Rock Hill, SC 29732 803-329-5300 <gandblandrum@comporium.net> If you could let the troops know. Jim Lee, Tyler, TX **Ed. Note: Thanx Jim, See notice in "In Memory Of".**

**Jim Lee** Email: 9 Jul 2006. After months of real estate school, I have successfully passed the Texas Real Estate exam, and am now a licensed realtor. If you know of anyone moving to Tyler and areas around Smith County Texas, let me know. Thanks. Jim Lee Choice 1 Realtors, 903-534-5955, Tyler, TX Ph: 903-279-9235 (cell) <jfl1946@cox.net>

## In Memory Of

**Richard Lema**, distinguished retired Air Force Chief Master Sergeant, father of four and active community volunteer in Portola, died May 5, 2006 at St. Mary's Hospital in Reno from multiple health problems, including cancer.

Born in Oakland in 1934, to Alice (Long) Lema and Antone Lema, Richard Allen Lema's childhood and adult commitments were shaped by America's victory in World War II over tyranny. Attending college during the Korean War, he left U.C. Berkeley to join the Air Force, hoping to qualify for combat. The war ended before Lema completed his training, but not as a combat pilot. His less-than-perfect eyesight and extraordinary ability in math and physics presented him the career (and personal delight) he would follow the rest of his life—electronics and computers. "Magic," he would call it. The great U.S. concern during the Cold War was our enemies' development of enhanced nuclear weapons. Richard Lema was assigned with top-secret clearance to help develop detection equipment to monitor foreign atomic testing. His equipment flew on satellites, B-52s and the U-2. He received numerous public patents for his work, as well as citations and awards during his three-decade career primarily at McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento. He was Outstanding Airman of the Year in 1975, and met President Ford in the White House. He remained in contact with members of his squadron, who worked together in an underground lab at McClellan.

Lema moved to Portola several years after a heart bypass forced him to retire from the Air Force. He opened an electronics and computer business, and appreciated the irony of fixing a VCR or installing a computer for a local customer while his classified design skills had created equipment for surveillance satellites flying over Russia and China. Richard Lema's major commitment to the community he loved was through Rotary International. He served as the Portola club's president several times, as well as treasurer. He

appreciated the mission and energy of Rotary. At uncountable Rotary events, his good humor prevailed, interacting with Rotarians and the general public. His involvement with Rotary at the Beckwourth Fly-In and other events as "Egg Meister" was especially humorous since, while cracking hundreds of fresh eggs with other volunteers, he had hated eggs since childhood. Apart from his professional and community service activities, he always was fascinated with the unknowable questions. Where did we come from? Why? What is our future? His own exposure in the Air Force to events and equipment led to him to challenge people to think about the possibilities. There was "magic" in his considerations, and in the many presentations he made of evidence of visitation of Earth by other life forms. He also sold a plot outline for "Star Trek."

Richard Lema's personal signature was the perennial Donald Duck hat he wore. He was a total devotee of Walt Disney. He made yearly pilgrimages to the biggest computers on Earth- Disneyland and Disneyworld. In the unlikely event you didn't remember his name, you always remembered "that guy in the Donald Duck hat."

Richard Lema was preceded in death by his parents and second wife, Alice, and is survived by his brother, Robert; four children, Rick, Danise, Michele and Linda; nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

A graveside ceremony is planned for May 10, 2006, at 1 p.m. at Whispering Pines Cemetery, Grizzly Road and Highway 70 in Portola. Those who are unable to attend the service but would like to send a tribute or condolence may do so at [www.mannifuneralhome.com](http://www.mannifuneralhome.com). Donations are encouraged in Richard Lema's name to Rotary International of Portola, P.O. Box 1121, Portola, CA 96122, as well as to the American Heart Association, 28 Hanover Lane, Suite B, Chico, CA 95973 and the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 4142, Quincy, CA 95971. From the Plumas County News.

**Robert Eugene Justman** Born in Wausau, Wisc., on Jan. 23, 1944, to Norma and Warren. Bob joined the Air Force in 1963 and served for 23 years in AFTAC both overseas and in Sacramento at McClellan AFB. He married Lenore Anne Edgeworth on Nov. 28, 1965. He died on June 30, 2006. When he retired from the Air Force in 1986, he went to work for KVIE Channel 6 where he was Facility Services Manager. He became active in the Presbyterian church in the early '80s, and over the last 20 years has become deeply involved in the local and national governing bodies of the church. He was an elder at St. Stephens Pres. Church and the current Moderator of the Synod of the Pacific. Bob is survived by his wife Lenore, his children Ian and Anne Marie, his sister Mary, his mother Norma, and many friends.

He will be much missed, but his memory will be treasured for his wisdom, his dry wit and his cowboy hat and ponytail. Services will be held at Celtic Cross Pres. Church on July 13 at 11:00 AM. In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations to St. Stevens Presbyterian Church or Side by Side Ministries c/o Loaves & Fishes.

Published in the Sacramento Bee on 7/11/2006. **Ed. Note:** Bob worked in the lab almost his entire career in AFTAC. He attended several of our alumni events over the past years. AFTAC was represented at his memorial services by Orv Prichard, Sharon Templeton & myself.

**Lester Autry "Gene" Landrum** Lester "Gene" Autry Landrum, 65, of 4432 York Hwy., died Sunday, July 2, 2006, at Piedmont Medical Center. The funeral will be 11 a.m. Wednesday at First Baptist Church, with the Rev. Steve Hogg officiating. A native of Erlanger, Ky., Mr. Landrum was a son of Dorothy Lyford Landrum of Columbus, Ohio, and the late Lester Landrum. He was retired with honor from the U.S. Air Force with the rank of Master Sergeant. He was retired as director of marketing from the Baxter Hood Center at York Technical College. He was an honorary Kentucky Colonel. He was formerly called the "Voice of the Eagles" by the Winthrop men's basketball team. He served as the public announcer for Winthrop men's baseball, Northwestern High School's football and baseball teams and for the Rock Hill Sox baseball team. He formerly worked as an umpire/official for several sports, including baseball, slow- and fast-pitched softball and football at the high school and college levels. Surviving in addition to his mother are his wife, Becky Landrum; his son, Jeffery D. Hebert of Kinsington, Conn.; three daughters, Tammy Bongiovanni and Debbie Landrum, both of Bristol, Conn., and Danita Hess of Rock Hill; his sister, Sylvia June Spicer of Columbus, Ohio; and five grandchildren. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 tonight at Bass-Cauthen Funeral Home, 700 Heckle Blvd. Published in Rock Hill SC Herald.



# AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WEST COAST CHAPTER

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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / ROSTER UPDATE

**Annual membership fee of \$5.<sup>00</sup> is due by 01 January each year.** Check your mailing label for expiration date. *Your last newsletter will be the one following your expiration date.* Life memberships are available for **\$50.<sup>00</sup>** and include a laminated membership card.

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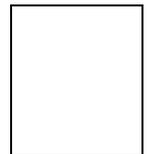
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*From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy*

**Support Your West Coast Chapter: Please pass a copy of this form to your AFTAC Alumni friends.**

*[From the Depot Fallout]*

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**= FIRST CLASS MAIL =**

**Your membership expiration date is printed in the lower left hand corner of this mailing label. Those with a 2005 date owe 2006 dues. Please renew now.**

