



# Depot Fallout

AFTAC Alumni Association - West Coast Chapter  
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**LOOK US UP AT**

**[www.AFTACWCC.org](http://www.AFTACWCC.org)**

## **ATTENTION WCC ALUMNI** **2017 AFTAC WORLDWIDE REUNION** **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

By Dave Tarquino

It's time to put a reunion committee together. A committee chairperson plus at least six members are necessary to get the job done right. **All seven committee members must be identified by the 2 May meeting.** The board will make a go/no go decision to host a reunion at a meeting at the Lions Gate on 2 May at 7:00 based on projected costs and attendees and sufficient volunteers coming forward. Our "Departed" page tells the story. Many of our members that could have been counted on for support have passed away. The rest of us aren't getting any younger. So come on folks..... Squeeze out one last bash. Let's give 'er one last **HOORAH**. **There will not be a reunion unless at least seven volunteers come forward.** Please contact Vice President Joe Johnson to volunteer.

## **WHAT AFTAC MEANS TO US**

*by Don King, WCC Newsletter Editor*

" The history of failure in war can be summed up in two words: Too Late. Too late in comprehending the deadly purpose of a potential enemy; too late in realizing the mortal danger; too late in preparedness; too late in uniting all possible forces for resistance; too late in standing with one's friends."

*General Douglas MacArthur*

We all remember this extraordinary man. Where would we be today except for his leadership in the Pacific in WWII and his efforts in post-war Japan? These words from a lifelong military and civilian career centered around duty, honor and country are easily applied to our unique AFTAC heritage. The following is my attempt to place them before you as I have seen them in my life.

Think of how **AFTAC** fits into these observations over the many years since the first atomic bomb. President Truman quickly realized the danger of the Soviet Union with nuclear weapons. He and President Eisenhower realized the mortal danger if action was delayed. Our nation prepared for this with the establishment of monitoring techniques to be proactive in real time verification of nuclear activity anywhere. Our nation used the military and diplomatic resources as well as the establishment of monitoring sites around the world that called potential enemies to accountability. And we are still standing with our friends in this mission. Be proud of our record. It remains a shining light in this volatile world.

## [www.AFTACWCC.org](http://www.AFTACWCC.org)

### Website Activity Report for the period 1 Jan 2016 – 31 Mar 2016

*Submitted 10-Apr-2016 by Bob Fitzgerald, WCC Webmaster*

<u>Month</u>	<u>Unique Visits</u>	<u>Highest Visit Day(#Visits)</u>	<u>Mo. Average Visits/Day</u>	<u>Most Popular* Page (#Visits)</u>	<u>Next Most Popular* Page</u>
Jan 2016	<b>8,152</b>	01/08 ( <b>1,120<sup>v</sup></b> )	263	Albums** (223)	Departed (166)
Feb 2016	<b>9,626</b>	02/04 (988)	332	Links (166)	Albums** (154)
Mar 2016	<b>7,095</b>	03/19 (323)	177	Albums*** (503)	Albums**** (177)

Notes: \* Does not include our 'Home' page, which almost always is the most popular page.

√ On **Jan 8<sup>th</sup>** we hit a new daily high for number of unique visits, but the 'hits' were spread over most all of our site.

\*\* In **Jan** the **14Nov2014 Fall Social Album** was the most popular and in **Feb** it was the next most popular.

\*\*\* In **Mar** the **17May2014 Spring Picnic Album** was the most popular, and

\*\*\*\* also in **Mar** the **16May2015 Spring Picnic Album** was the next most popular. People looking for people? ☺

Our "Links" page always does quite well. If you don't see your favorite organization linked from our website, contact me with the URL. Just email your Webmaster at, [Webmaster@AFTACWCC.org](mailto:Webmaster@AFTACWCC.org). Also, I'm always open to suggestions for new content, page designs, & any assistance offered. Thank you, ... Bob

## WHO SAID THAT??

### (In fear of upcoming elections)

*by Dale Klug, Editor Emeritus*

- >> Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly and applying the wrong remedies.
- >> The hottest place in Hell is reserved for those who remain neutral in times of great moral conflict.
- >> One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors.
- >> Always vote for principle, though you may vote alone, and you may cherish the sweetest reflection that your vote is never lost.
- >> All people are born alike - except Republicans and Democrats.
- >> Bad politicians are sent to Washington by good people who don't vote.
- >> If you have always believed that everyone should play by the same rules and be judged by the same standards, that would have gotten you labeled a radical 60 years ago, a liberal 30 years ago and a racist today.
- >> Do you ever get the feeling that the only reason we have elections is to find out if the polls were right?

January 2016's quotes were from **Ralph Drabble, John Leguizamo, Bill Gates, John Adams, Norman Vincent Peale, Franklin P Adams, Mario Cuomo and Anonymous.**

## **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

*by Dave Price, Membership Chairman*

**As of 14-Mar-2016**

**Total Active Members = 146 Life Members = 136**

The lifetime membership dropped by one to 136. John Lanigan was converted to Lifetime status. The Total decreased by four (to 146) with the addition of John Weigelt.

**Annual membership fee of \$10 is due by 01 Jan each year.** Check your mailing label, or check the “WCC Roster” from our website “Forms” page. **Life memberships are available for \$75.** You can use the “Membership Application/Roster Update” form on the last page of this newsletter or the one from our web site “Forms” page to send with your dues. Don’t let your membership lapse. **Those alumni who are not current with their membership dues will be dropped from the “active” roster along with our newsletter distribution & email notification lists.** (See our web site “Forms” page, “WCC Roster” link to check your status.)

## **MEMORY TIME**

*. by Ron Carpenter*

**Who are these kids and what were they up to?**



The attached was taken in San Francisco I believe 1964-1965. In the picture left to right is, I believe, Gary Duncan, Boyd Cawely, unknown, Lonnie Dalhgreen. Who is the unknown young man and what were they doing? Please access your old memory banks and see who can come up with the missing name. With all of the visual recording sensors (cameras) that they were carrying they were obviously TDY near the wharf to verify the significance of unusual activities near the waterfront. Does anyone recognize this exact spot? Since SF is just a short drive from McClellan, we were never far from the magical places there such as restaurants, sights, good music, the ocean, baseball or football. Of course, that mainly applied to the A and C people.

## IN MEMORIAM



### **John "J.R." Johnson Jr., Col USAF (Ret) b. 22 Mar 1922; d. 05 Feb 2016 in Granite Bay, CA**

John Riley "J.R." Johnson died peacefully on Friday, Feb. 5, 2016, in Granite Bay, Calif., at the age of 93 with his son and daughter in attendance.

John was born March 22, 1922, in Providence, Ky., the fourth of seven children of J.R. Johnson Sr. and Zita Marguerite (Lucas) Johnson.

He graduated from Frankfort High School in 1940 and in 1942 joined the U.S. Army Air Corps as a pilot. During a mission over Holland, he was shot down and held as a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft 1A, Barth, Germany. His memoir about this period, "Un-Armed, Un-Armored and Un-Escorted, A World War II C-47 Airborne Troop Carrier Pilot Remembers," was published in 2014.

After the war, John returned to Frankfort and married his high school sweetheart, Lou Avah Pevlor. He graduated from University of Kentucky with a B.S. in Industrial Chemistry and was subsequently awarded an M.S. in Nuclear Chemistry from Ohio State University and an M.A. in International Relations from George Washington University.

John served in the U.S. Air Force for 30 years with assignments in Yokota, McClellan, Wright Patterson and the Pentagon. He retired from the military in 1973 as

Deputy Director for Scientific and Technical Intelligence, Defense Intelligence Agency.

After his distinguished career in military service, he spent another 22 years working in private industry in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area before finally retiring.

Following the death of Lou Avah in 1993, he moved to Granite Bay, Calif., where he was actively involved with his church and community.

He was preceded in death by Lou Avah Johnson, his son Kenneth Layne Johnson, his second wife Anne Deets Johnson and third wife Lois Johnson.

He is survived by his sister Rosemary Dodds; his three children, Jenefer Lee Johnson, Cindy Lou Johnson and husband Nick, John R. Johnson and wife Claudia; and his two grandchildren, Scarlet Teresa Johnson and Eva Ruby Johnson.

He will be remembered as a pilot and patriot and as an admired father, grandfather, brother, uncle, friend and neighbor, loved by all who knew him.

Services will be held at the First United Methodist Church in Frankfort, Ky., on Saturday, Feb. 27 at 2 p.m. with a burial following at the Frankfort Cemetery.

### **LAURIE KEMNA b. 31 July 1942, d. 11 Apr 2016**



Laurie Kemna, of Citrus Heights, California, passed away peacefully at home on Monday, April 11, 2016 with her husband John by her side. She was born July 31, 1942 in Redlands, Ca. She taught Spanish for 37 years at Rio Americana and Oakmont High School. Her love for teaching and her students was evident and resulted in many friendships lasting long after retirement. She was married to John Kemna in 1972 and they were married for 45 years. During her life, she was an avid reader, fitness enthusiast and gardener. Her favorite place to spend time was at their second home in Nevada City, situated on property left to her by her beloved father. She is survived by her husband John, her brother Steve and her cousins.

As published in the Sacramento Bee on April 17, 2016

## **FYI**

*by Dale Klug, Editor Emeritus*

# **Retiree personnel service available 24/7**



**The Total Force Service Center can deliver personnel services to the retiree family via telephone any time and from any location.**

**To reach a Total Force Service Center agent, call 800-525-0102 and select the menu option for retired military with personnel inquiries.**

**Note: Expect a long menu of options to select, but you will get some useful information.**

## **Report death to DFAS soon to avoid pay issues**

Defense Finance and Accounting Service officials advise reporting a retiree's death as soon as possible by calling 800-321-1080, or completing a Notification of Death Fast Form on the DFAS website. **Need help? Call the McClellan Retiree Activities Office: 916-640-8446**

This will help avoid delay and possible financial hardship to surviving beneficiaries, family members or executors, who will be required to return any unearned military retirement payments.

Eligibility for military retired pay ends with the death of the retiree. If a retired pay payment was issued for the month in which the retiree died, the bank will be notified to return the payment. The beneficiary of the arrears of pay may be due a prorated amount for the month of death.

The caller reporting the death will need the retiree's name, Social Security number and date of death.

## **MORE FOR VETS**

*. by Don King, WCC Newsletter Editor*

You might be surprised at the huge amount of benefits such as free sporting event tickets, restaurant discounts, movie discounts and more if you just ask. If you all would send these details to Don King, I will make sure to get them in future issues.

## **CALL FOR STORIES**

*. by Don King, WCC Newsletter Editor*

What is the most amusing thing that you can recall from your time in AFTAC? Who do you remember as a special AFTAC person? How would you compare AFTAC to other assignments that you have had?

What do you know about the organization or about former members that would be interesting? It can be lost forever in a moment, and we really enjoy hearing the stories! Tell one about tech school like wandering around the school looking for a hidden piece of radioactive material!

## **ANOTHER MEMORY**

• *by Don King, WCC Newsletter Editor*



**1959 AUSTIN-HEALEY 100-6**

### **WFO Sports Car Racing**

From 1958 through 1960, WFO was a hotbed of sports car racing! I know that it sounds strange, but what would you expect from our unique bunch of people? Scuderia McClellan was our name, and the rearing skunk that looked a lot like the rearing horse of the Ferrari was our emblem. It was chosen so that we could feel a kinship with Ferrari. Bobby Jones and I had silver Austin-Healey 100-6's, Don Yarnell had a bug eye Sprite, and another guy had an MG TF. An officer from another unit on base rounded out our team with another Sprite.

A guy in our unit had been involved in sports car racing on the east coast, so we had his guidance to help us do things to the cars to make them more competitive. Nothing was done to the engines of the 100-6's except to tune them really well. The Sprite engines were taken apart, balanced, lightened the push rods and the flywheel, and the headlights were remounted to fit inside the bonnet. Those suckers would rev over 10,000 rpm and accelerate like a scared rabbit topping 100 mph. We initially raced in the parking lot across from the base in timed single car at a time events called Gymchanas.. We then graduated to actual racing against other cars on an airport track. The Sprites were the only ones used there since they were way ahead of anyone else in their class. The first race, however, was not quite a success. To shorten the time for any pit stop, we decided to leave the bonnets unlatched after trying it before the race. Well, the race got underway, and after several laps we discovered the error of our ways. The non-WFO car came in and said the he was having the bonnet flip up when he was in traffic. We latched his and sent him back out, and we had a pit board ready telling Don to bring his in. We didn't need to. He arrived at the pit with the bonnet all the way back over so the it hit the boot. We had removed the windshields, so the only thing else that it could hit was Don's helmet! It hit so hard that the seat rails under him were bent down! He was so strong that he only suffered a little discomfort in his neck. We never won that kind of race, but when we included rallying, we hit pay dirt! Pete Thomkins had gotten a Triumph TR-3 to join us. Our club put on a long rally called the Petite Monte Carlo. With Pete driving and me navigating the 100-6, we pulled off first place to top a well-seasoned field. The next big one was in the Clock and Dial Rally. This was a prestigious statewide rally pitting novices and serious teams against an overnight 12-hour course with numerous checkpoints. Hitting the checkpoints with the least variation in elapsed time was needed to win. If you missed any one by a minute, you were in serious trouble. The year before, Don had run this in his Sprite and had actually flipped off the road landing upside down on some substantial brush! With a lot of help, they got it back on the road and finished! We did not want that to happen to us! With a couple of miscues and a lot of luck, Pete and I took first place in his TR-3 in the novice division, and our team of 3 entries took first place in the novice teams! Move aside Enzo Ferrari and Juan Fangio! That was the high point of our racing, but oh what fun and what a memory!

### **EVENTS CALENDAR**

Just a reminder that our business meetings are held the **2<sup>nd</sup> Monday** of March, June, September, and December at 7:00 PM at the Lionsgate Hotel on McClellan Park. The meetings last about an hour and all Alumni are welcome. It is a also great time for the kind of informal get togethers that we had when we were on active duty at a site or on TDY somewhere, or when we are in the hospitality rooms during a reunion. The date of the next meeting is Mon 13 Jun.

Always check our 'Events' page at [www.AFTACWCC.org](http://www.AFTACWCC.org) or call ahead to our President to confirm time & place.

# AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION - WEST COAST CHAPTER ANNUAL PICNIC – 14 MAY 2016 – 11AM-2PM

Tempo Park, 13201 Fair Oaks Blvd, Citrus Heights, CA 95610

## ATTENTION TO ORDERS

Once again it's time for our annual Spring get together. We will be hosting our annual WCC picnic on **14 May 2016** at the same venue as May 2015's picnic. Good restroom facilities, ample parking, and a covered pavilion. We will be lighting the BBQs at 1100 hours and wrap things up by 1400 hours this year. Once again the West Coast Chapter (WCC) of our alumni association will supply the basics: hamburgers, hot dogs, soft drinks/water, utensils & paper products. We ask that you bring a salad, side dish, dessert, or chips. **Please remember that due to current county regulations there is no alcohol consumption allowed at this facility.** All members and their guests are cordially invited, but **please sign up early** so the logistics can be tweaked. Don't forget to bring your stories, goodies & appetite to the picnic. Please fill out the sign-up form & send it to us. **SIGN UPS ARE NEEDED BY 8 MAY 2016.**



### VITAL DETAILS:

When: **Saturday, 14 May 2016**

Where: **Tempo Park**

Address: **13201 Fair Oaks Blvd, Citrus Heights, 95610**

Hours: **1100 Hrs -1400 Hrs (11:00 am – 2:00 pm)**

Cost: **Nada\***

*(\*However, If you would like to help defray the cost of this event there will be a container at the picnic for your donation.)*



### DIRECTIONS

From I-80: Go East on Greenback, turn left (North) on Fair Oaks Blvd. The park will be on the left side.  
From Hwy 50: Go North on Sunrise Blvd, turn right (East) on Greenback and left (North) on Fair Oaks Blvd.

The 2016 Picnic is handled by **Butch Kemna**, WCC Treasurer. (Hopefully with help from some friends.) If you have any questions, call Butch, **(916) 722-8509** or Email: "[PicnicGurus@AFTACWCC.org](mailto:PicnicGurus@AFTACWCC.org)".

**PLEASE FILL IN & MAIL YOUR SIGN-UP FORM BY 8 MAY 2016 to:**

**AFTAC-WCC, P.O. Box 3974, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-3974**

*(Or you may scan or copy and email the completed form to [PicnicGurus@AFTACWCC.org](mailto:PicnicGurus@AFTACWCC.org).)*

I  mailed /  Emailed my form on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/16. There will be \_\_\_ of us coming & we'll bring \_\_\_\_\_ for potluck.

**(The upper part is for your records, so keep it as a reminder)**

-----*(cut here & mail or scan the form & e-mail it to: "[PicnicGurus@AFTACWCC.org](mailto:PicnicGurus@AFTACWCC.org)"*

-----**Picnic Sign-up Form**-----

### ANNUAL WCC PICNIC – 14 MAY 2016

*(Please print)*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE/GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Add'l Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Total Number Attending [  ]

I/We will bring for the potluck:

Salad [  ] Side Dish [  ] Dessert [  ] Other \_\_\_\_\_

Your Ph#: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email Addr: \_\_\_\_\_



# AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WEST COAST CHAPTER

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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / ROSTER UPDATE

Annual membership fee of \$10.<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 \$75.<sup>00</sup>.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last, First MI Last Rank Held Nickname Name of Spouse*

Addr: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street, Apt #, etc. City State Zip Code*

( ) - \_\_\_\_\_  
*Home Phone Work Phone Email Addr*

Active Duty: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Branch of Service From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy Branch of Service From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy*

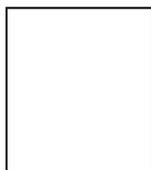
AFTAC Dates: \_\_\_\_\_  
*From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy From: mm/yyyy - To: mm/yyyy*

**Support Your West Coast Chapter: Please pass a copy of this form to your AFTAC Alumni friends.** *[From the Depot Fallout]*

CHECK OUR WEBSITE AT [www.AFTACWCC.org](http://www.AFTACWCC.org) FOR THE LATEST WCC NEWS & PHOTOS



== FIRST CLASS MAIL ==



RETURN ADDRESS:  
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