

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 2

JULY 2012

# FAC NEWS



[www.fac-assoc.org](http://www.fac-assoc.org)

1849 Southlawn Drive  
Fairborn, OH 45324

**ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP:**  
Officers and Committee Chairmen:

**President:** Phil Litts, Elk Grove, CA, 209-329-6970, phil-liplitts@sbcglobal.net  
**Vice Pres:** Robert (C3B) Green, King George, VA, numba1cc@crosslink.net, 540-775-2830  
**Secretary:** Joseph "Jay" Barnes, West Orange, NJ, 973-325-6208 jake26tamky@gmail.com  
**Treasurer:** Bob Gorman, Newbury Park, CA, 805-376-9893 jake4404@hotmail.com  
**Director:** Cal Anderson 252-437-0550 Whitakers, NC calvinandersonsr@hotmail.com  
**Director:** Tom McGrain 480-460-1969 Phoenix, AZ Nail28@cox.net  
**Director:** Dennis Crouch 937-426-6246, Beavercreek, OH, denniscrouch@earthlink.net  
**Director:** Darrell Whitcomb, 703-359-7824, Fairfax, VA nail25@aol.com  
**FAC Historian:** Rick Atchison 703-569-2418 Springfield, VA Ricka61@verizon.net  
**Legal Advisor:** J. D. Caven, Sunrise Beach, MO, 573-374-8275, jcaven002@charter.net  
**Website:** Bob Gorman, 805-376-9893, Newbury Park, CA, jake4404@hotmail.com  
**Newsletter:** Tim Eby 254-796-4850 Hico, TX teby540@embarqmail.com  
**FAC Search:** Jon Alexaitis 817-581-8381 Bedford TX jalexaitis@sbcglobal.net  
**Membership Database:** Fred Pumroy 937-878-7257 flmapumroy@aol.com  
**Chaplain:** Howie Pierson 415-893-1862 Novato, CA howie.p@comcast.net  
**Mission:** Jay Barnes 973-325-6208 West Orange, NJ barnesjay@juno.com  
**FAC Book Project:** Al Matheson 435-586-9762 Cedar City, UT citabriair@yahoo.com  
**Reunion Advisory:** Zot Barazzotto, Beavercreek, OH, 937-429-2119, zot250@ameritech.net  
**Reunion Advisory:** Claude Newland 850-654-2955 Destin, FL rustic19@cox.net  
**Reunion Advisory:** Cal Anderson, Whitakers, NC, 252-437-0550, calvinandersonsr@hotmail.com  
**FAC Memorial:** Don Echelberger, Mary Esther, FL echelberg@aol.com



Phil Litts

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Phil Litts

Jake 26, Bully 21, Tam Ky, Danang  
September 1970-71

Ladies & Gents,  
Generally, the July newsletter before our once-every-two-years (wow-I just

looked that term up & there actually is a word for it—biennial...learn sumthin' every day!), FAC reunion is a little sparse, but I bet I can fill up the space with some good stuff!!

The best thing to report is that while a few of us have had some significant health challenges this year, all the reports I get is that we're all on the mend, and for that I am most grateful. Regardless of your faith, or lack of, prayers seem to work very well!

Next thing is that our 2012 Reunion is fast upon us!!! Pratt Ashworth and a HUGE cast of characters are all ready for us and it promises to be the standard that future Reunions will be held to! > If you have not done so yet, go to our FAC web site and register—NOW! Tucson is a fantastic venue & it's going to be an affair to remember. **You do not want to miss this one!**

Next, many of you may remember that back in January, 2011, the old 20th TASS was reactivated as the 20th Reconnaissance Squadron (RS), flying the MQ-1B Predators out of Whiteman AFB, MO. Some 15 of us old FAC farts attended, were treated like royalty, and had a GREAT time. Well, under the leadership of their commander, Lt. Col Travis "Flare" Burdine, the squadron is going to host a HUGE Open House/20th Reunion for ALL FACs and families, this **September 11-16!** Our own Jay Barnes (Jake 26) was asked to serve on the reunion committee, so it will be a whiz-bang occasion for sure!

We can expect a FAC hootch, golf, some briefings/videos, some stick time on one of the RPAs (nah—just kidding about that one), tours of the RPA cockpit (they ARE NOT referred to as drones!), and plenty of time to rub elbows and swap war stories with many of the over 200 folks in the squadron. Keep in mind that this modern day FAC mission (yep, they do what we did some 40+ years ago, only not in harm's way, thank God), is run 24/7 at Whiteman. Most of the facilities and mission details are classified, but Col Burdine is very interested in the skills we honed in SEA, to see how they can be used today—AND, he promises to give us a good peek at their operations! Be fully prepared to get your socks blown off when you learn first hand what these young warriors are doing to keep our country safe and to perpetuate our FAC heritage. Please set the time aside and try to make this event.

Patricia & I are so looking forward to seeing you all in just a few short months in Tucson. Have a wonderful summer, and be safe. Fondest regards to all, PHIL—Jake 26 (the third)

[www.fac-assoc.org](http://www.fac-assoc.org)





# 2012 FAC REUNION

**17-21 October 2012**  
**in Tucson, Arizona**  
at the *Doubletree Reid Park Hotel*  
Hosted by the Arizona FACs

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**  
(Updated: 26 April 2012)



[Doubletree Reid Park Hotel](#)



[Old Tucson Studios](#)



[Arizona Desert Museum](#)



One of Davis-Monthan's [HH-60G](#) "PAVEHAWK" Rescue Helicopters



[USAF MQ-1 "Predator"](#)

## TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2012

- Reunion Set Up
- Meals on your own.

## WEDNESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2012

- Reunion Registration Open.
- Golf (9:00 AM) or Tennis available.
- Hospitality Suite & FAC Hooch.
- FAC Association Board of Directors Meeting.
- Meals on your own.

## THURSDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2012

- Reunion Registration Open.
- Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum & Old Tucson.
- Hospitality Suite & FAC Hooch.
- Optional Casino Night.
- Meals on your own.

## FRIDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2012

- Pima Air & Space Museum (pick one):
  1. Pima Air Museum only.
  2. Pima Air Museum & AMARG ("Bone Yard"), DOD Aircraft Storage.
  3. Pima Air Museum & Titan Missile Museum.
- Hospitality Suite, Ladies Boutique & FAC Hooch.
- Evening Mexican Buffet.

## SATURDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2012

- Memorial Service at Davis-Monthan AFB's Heritage Park (9:00 - 10:00 AM).
- Option 1 (10:00 AM - 2:30 PM):
  - Tour Davis-Monthan AFB: A-10s, HH-60G Helicopters and MQ-1 "Predator".
  - Lunch at D-M O'Club (Briefings: Air Base Wing, 12th AF & ANG Predator).
- Option 2 (10:00 AM - 5:00 PM): For spouses and honored guests only: Lunch, shopping and touring in historic Tubac, Arizona.
- Hospitality Suite & FAC Hooch.
- 3:30 PM: General Membership Meeting at hotel.
- Informal Evening Banquet with Speaker.

## SUNDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2012

- Breakfast (on an individual basis).
- Golf, Tennis or more tours on your own.

**We're looking forward to seeing you all in Tucson next October! -- The Arizona FACs**



SR-71 at the [Pima Air Museum](#).



[D-M's AMARG](#) ("Bone Yard")



D-M [A-10](#) on the Goldwater Range



Shopping in [Historic Tubac, AZ](#)

[Click Here for Details & Registration Form.](#)



*You're Invited:*  
*2012 FAC Reunion*  
*17 to 21 October 2012*  
*Tucson, Arizona*



We suggest you keep this sheet handy as you begin filling out the registration form. Note: due to processing times, these alternate paper instructions contain slightly different submittal deadlines from the web on-line instructions.

The daily schedule of **events and tours** is included in this newsletter for your information. On Friday, 19 October, there are three tours running concurrently, so you should sign up for only one of them. You could, however, send your guest (s) on one and you could go to another! Note: a government issued ID card will be required for the AMARG (“Boneyard”) tour.

When you are completing the actual **Registration** Form, you will see that Lines 4 (Tennis), 6 (Desert Casino), and 15 (National FAC Association Challenge Coin) don’t show a unit price. We only need a count for these items to plan for tennis court scheduling, Desert Casino busses for the no-cost casino night, and the number of National FAC Association Coins to have available for purchase. For the Saturday evening Banquet, indicate the total number attending on line 14 and in the “NOTES:” section, indicate your meal selection preferences. If you plan to attend the Memorial Service on Saturday morning, be sure to fill in your full name (as shown on your ID card), your drivers License # (including state of issue), your social security number, and your date of birth in the space provided on the registration form. Security at Davis-Monthan AFB requires this information in advance for a base entry authorization list and will also require you to show your ID on Saturday morning.

When you have completed the Registration form, mail it, along with your check made out to “FAC Association, Inc.” to arrive in Tom McGrain’s mailbox ( Tom McGrain, Nail 28, 16449 S. 2nd Place, Phoenix, AZ. 85048 ) no later than 9 August, 2012.

All activities are on a first come basis. If there are insufficient sign-ups for an activity, your activity fee will be refunded.

Your **hotel reservation** must be made directly with the Doubletree Reid Park Hotel by phone at 1-800-222-8733 or 1-520-881-4200 no later than 17 August 2012. Identify yourself as being part of the *FAC Reunion*, to get the special Reunion group rate of \$102.00 (plus taxes, of course) per night, single/double occupancy. This rate will also be offered for three days before and after the Reunion dates and includes complimentary breakfast and parking.

The registration fee will include a special reunion hat with a reunion pin. We also have three **memorabilia** items available for purchase: Golf shirt with Reunion Patch and Name/Call Sign; Arizona Reunion Challenge Coin; and an Arizona Reunion Patch. To order any of these items, complete the included order form with the required information, make out a check payable to PROFORMA CREATIVE PROMOTIONS and mail both to Tom McGrain (address above), along with your registration form and reunion fees, by 9 August 2012. All items will be picked up when you check-in at Registration.

If your schedule frees up at the last minute and you find that you can attend, please come to the reunion. Last minute “walk-ins” *are welcome* but some activities may be filled.

*Elton Humphreys, Rash 03 – POC, Reunion Registration*  
*ehumphreys2@cox.net*  
*281-825-1606 (C)*

**FORWARD AIR CONTROLLERS 2012 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM**

Date

**THIS IS HOW YOUR / GUESTS' NAMES WILL APPEAR ON YOUR NAME TAGS**

First Name  Last Name  Call Sign

A/C Flown  Tour Dates  Locations

Address  City  State  Zip Code

Home Phone (10#s)  Cell Phone (10#s)  E Mail

I am  The FAC  The Spouse  The Child  The Grandchild  Other Your FAC 's Name

Primary Emergency Contact  Phone Number (10#s)

**If you plan on attending any event on DM AFB we will need your Full Name, Date of Birth, Drivers License # and your Social Security Number**

Full Name  Date of Birth:  SSN (9#s)

Drivers License (# / State)  (mm/dd/yyyy)

**GUEST NAMES** (If needed, please list additional guests on a separate sheet.)

Full Name   The Spouse DL#  SSN  DOB

Full Name   Child/Other DL#  SSN  DOB

Item#	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount
1	REUNION REGISTRATION - FAC	1	\$40.00	\$40.00
2	REUNION REGISTRATION _ GUEST		\$40.00	
3	WEDNESDAY - GOLF		\$40.00	
4	WEDNESDAY - TENNIS		\$0.00	
5	THURSDAY-BUS & TOUR DESERT MUSEUM/ OLD TUCSON		\$40.00	
6	THURSDAY EVENING - BUS SERVICE - DESERT CASINO		\$0.00	
7	FRIDAY - BUS & TOUR OF PIMA AIR MUSEUM (*)		\$30.00	
8	FRIDAY - BUS & TOUR OF PIMA AIR MUSEUM & AMARG (BONEYARD) (*)		\$35.00	
9	FRIDAY - BUS & TOUR OF PIMA AIR MUSEUM & TITAN SITE (*)		\$40.00	
10	FRIDAY - EVENING BUFFET & ENTERTAINMENT		\$25.00	
11	SATURDAY - MEMORIAL SERVICE ONLY		\$10.00	
12	SATURDAY - MEMORIAL SERVICE & DM OPERATIONAL BRUNCH		\$40.00	
13	SATURDAY - SPOUSE/GUEST TOUR TUBAC		\$35.00	
14	SATURDAY EVENING - BANQUET WITH SPEAKER (**)		\$50.00	
15	NATIONAL FAC ASSOCIATION CHALLENGE COIN (***)		\$0.00	

**MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO:  
FAC ASSOCIATION, INC.  
THEN:**

Mail your check to:  
Tom McGrain, Nail 28  
16449 S. 2nd Place  
Phoenix, AZ. 85048

**NOTES:**

(\*) **SELECT ONLY ONE TOUR PER FAC/GUEST**

(\*\*) **MEAL PREFERENCE: Note: Use #s**

MEAT  FISH  CHICKEN

(\*\*\*) **INDICATE # OF NATIONAL FAC ASSOC.**

**COINS TO BE PURCHASED AFTER ARRIVAL**

**Total**

MY CHECK #

Signature:



**Memorabilia Order Form:** Pictured below are the items selected for the reunion. **Fill in the "My Order Equals" lines and the table below. Then add \$7.55 to cover shipping & Handling.** PLEASE PRINT your information for readability and processing your order correctly. Deadline is **AUGUST 9, 2012.** Don't wait – order now!

 <p><b>AZ Challenge Coin with case</b>          Cost: \$8.00/Coin</p>  <p>My Order Equals ____ Coins          \$ _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Men's Golf Shirt</b></p>  <p>100% combed cotton jersey golf shirt (Stone color) with Reunion Patch (left side) &amp; Name &amp; Call Sign (right side) *</p> <p>Price for your size is shown in the chart below. Circle your size and enter the cost in <b>My Order Equals and the table below.</b></p> <p><small>* Name (limited to 10 characters) and Call sign(s) (limited to 20 characters). Spaces count as a character.</small></p> <p>My Name is: _____          My Call Sign is: _____          My Order Equals \$ _____</p>
 <p><b>Patches</b>          Cost \$4.25/Patch</p> <p>My Order Equals ____ Patches          \$ _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Women's Polo Shirt</b></p>  <p>100% combed cotton jersey Polo shirt (Stone color) with Reunion Patch (left side) &amp; Name &amp; Call Sign (right side) *</p> <p>Price for your size is shown in the chart below. Circle your size and enter the cost in <b>My Order Equals and the table below.</b></p> <p>My Name is: _____          My Call Sign is: _____          My Order Equals \$ _____</p>

Men's Golf Shirt Size			Ladies Polo Shirt Size		
Chest	Size	Cost	Chest	Size	Cost
40	S	\$32.96	56	2XL	\$34.96
44	M	\$32.96	60	3XL	\$36.96
48	L	\$32.96	64	4XL	\$38.96
52	XL	\$32.96	67	5XL	\$40.96
			70	6XL	\$42.96
			47	2XL	\$34.96

ITEM	Coins	Patches	Shirt—Men	Shirt-Ladies	S & H	GRAND TOTAL
COST	\$	\$	\$	\$	<b>\$ 7.55</b>	\$

Please make check payable for the Grand Total to: **"PROFORMA CREATIVE PROMOTIONS"**  
 Send check and THIS form to: Tom McGrain, Nail\_28 (Same address as reunion registration)  
 Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## IN MEMORIAM

“To fly west, my friend, is a flight we all must take for a final check.” — *Author unknown*

Robert Charles Smith	Callsign	04Jan 12
Clarence Al Rustvold	Cagey 30	11Jan 12
Stanley Harris Wells	Issue 24	29Jan 12
Waldemar Krueger	Covey, Rustic	03Mar 12
Richard Starner	Nail 128	12Mar 12
James B. Moore	Helix 38	01Aug11
Keith Taylor	Gombey, Nail	unk

### My Salute

Who'll tell this vet he can't salute?  
 Whoever does may feel my boot.  
 I took the oath, I fought the fight,  
 So who's to question my earned right?  
 It's my decision when and where;  
 What others think I couldn't care.  
 I don't salute for mere effect;  
 I salute to show my deep respect,  
 For my fellow warriors and Old Glory;  
 End of argument, end of story.

Russ Vaughn



via Dennis Crouch

*The following is only six years late, but underscores the importance of enjoying our reunions while we can:*

Dear Tim,

My husband, Ed Richardson, was really revved up about coming to the reunion. He was a FAC, and I believe his call letters were Nail 21... Ed developed a rare and aggressive cancer the VA said came from his exposure to Agent Orange, and he died on March 9, 2006. He was a tremendous husband, father and grandfather, and we all miss him tremendously.

When we were at Arlington for Ed's funeral, a fellow came up to me and said, "I understand your husband was a forward air controller." I replied, "Yes, he was," and he then asked me if it was okay if he put a nickel on top of Ed's urn. Of course I said, "Yes," not really knowing what it was all about. After we left the columbarium, the fellow introduced himself and told me what the significance of the nickel is. I was really impressed with this sign of camaraderie you fellows have for each other. It just made me feel so good, knowing that Ed's outstanding service didn't go unnoticed by a FAC.

So have a good reunion and put a nickel on the grass for Ed and all the other guys who put their lives on the line for our country.

Cordially, Kathleen Richardson

## Small World Department

...Two years ago my wife and I sponsored a reunion in Tacoma, WA for my pilot class, 54-M, and advertised it in various military magazines and websites.

One of the calls I received in response was from Gary Dingham. He was asking about a brother with whom he had lost contact who might have graduated with my class. During our conversation, he told me that he was also retired AF, and it turned out that we had been in Vietnam about the same time. He was a IV Corps FAC, callsign "David 24" working with the 9th ARVN out of Vi Thanh.

I told him I had flown F-100s with the 90 TFS out of Bien Hoa and that we were called "The Pair of Dice." I told him my plane had been shot down in his area, and he asked when. Oct. 12, 1966, I said. Imagine my surprise when he said, "I was your FAC. When you turned left off your last pass it was right over a VC encampment and I knew you were hit. I contacted a Huey slick, Tiger 731, flying Mekong River patrol and had him come get you. I also contacted Tan Son Nhut for A-1s because your guys couldn't get permission to put in suppressive fire."

Between the Huey that braved the VC coming towards us, the A-1s putting in suppressive fire, and my guys making dry passes, we were picked up in two hours—well, it seemed like two hours. They told me later it was closer to 20 minutes.

Hey, David 24 saved my life! He told me he proudly displays a 90th TFS plaque on his wall, "thanking him for his service." I don't know who sent this to him.

Gary Dingham (David 24) told me he also saved two Ramrods and an F-4 crew during his tour. So if I could propose a toast it would be "to the FACs who took care of us while flying at Mach .01."

James H. Bradley, USAF ret.

via Bob Gorman



Photo: Jimmie Butler

Photo: Tim Eby



## TREASURER'S REPORT

July, 2012



As of June 1, 2012 our current financial position continues to be solid.

Checking, including the 2012 Reunion account,

Current Balance of: \$16055

Money Market: Current Balance - \$8363

CD's (2) : Current Balance - \$148881

In my last report I told you that changes in the banking world had finally caught up with us. Services that used to be free of charge are no longer free and interest rates remain at a low levels. We have investigated a number of options, including transferring our banking support to USAA. But for now, at least until December when one of our CD's will be ready to "roll over", we will stay where we are here in California.

Tom McGrain, the TUCSON reunion committee finance guru, has opened an additional bank account with Wells Fargo using the FAC Association tax ID, and while again, nothing is free, the fee structure is clearly defined and work arounds are well documented. (Keep \$XXX in the account and monthly fees will be waived.) We have setup an online interface between the bank and the Quicken accounting software that I'm using and I'm providing backup support to the committee where needed.

The general membership meeting that will be held on Saturday, October 20th at 1530 will be your opportunity to get directly involved in the management of the Associations' future spending plans. I will review the 2012 position and present, for your approval, the 2013 and 2014 spending plans. You will be asked to commit \$25000 of future \$ in support of the Associations' second College Scholarship Program. **DON'T MISS THIS MEETING.** Membership continues to grow.....4 New Members and 5 "Lifers" have signed on since the first of the year.

**SEE YOU IN TUCSON.....Jake 44**

*Ed. Note: Effective this issue we have 106 folks being notified this is their **FINAL COPY**. Jake 44 sent emails to all possible—16 bounced and only two replied. Wonder why?? Update your new emails and pay your dues to Jake 44 pronto!*

## Major Robert Woods honored

*Excerpted from Lori B. Alves, Air Force Print News Today  
—Seymour Johnson AFB, North Carolina—*

"What a gift to our family," said Mrs. Lana Taylor, the eldest of Maj. Woods' four children. The family had joined airmen of the 916th Aerial Refueling Wing in dedicating a new auditorium in Maj. Woods' name. "He would just be shaking his head. He was such a shy man, but he would be grinning on the inside."

The decorated pilot was declared missing for 39 years before his remains were discovered and returned by the Joint POW/MIA Account Command. He was buried on April 9, 2008 at Arlington National Cemetery. He had begun his AF career in 1948 as an enlisted man, completed OCS and pilot training, flew KC-97 Stratotankers, and served as a FAC in the Skymaster with the 20th TASS. In June, 1968, Maj. Woods and Capt. Johnnie Cornelius crashed in a remote mountainous area and were pronounced MIA at that time.

"The forward air controller pilots of Vietnam are unsung heroes—every one of them," said Bob Green, VP of the FAC Association, who spoke of his time in Vietnam as a crew chief for the (FACs). "I helped pilots out of planes that were so shaken up by the mission they literally could not move...yet these brave pilots continued on with their mission."

L/C Phil Hezeltine, 911 ARS commander, as an ROTC cadet at the U of Utah, purchased a POW/MIA bracelet with Maj. Woods' name on it. He presented the bracelet to the family at the Arlington funeral ceremony. "I never could have guessed that what seemed such a simple act of honoring an MIA warrior over 20 years ago would have brought us to this day," said L/C Hezeltine. A band of metal, bearing the name of someone I have never met travelled with me around the world, was present with me at my wedding, when I earned these wings, was in my pocket on every combat mission, at the birth of my children, and when I got the call that he had been found.

The Major Robert F. Woods Auditorium is located on the first floor of the 911th ARS building and accommodates up to 200 people. A shadow box will be mounted outside containing a photo of Maj. Woods, his dog tags, air medals earned as a tanker pilot, and DFC and Bronze Star medals earned in combat in Vietnam, accompanied by a proclamation declaring June 26, 2011 as Maj. Robert F. Woods Day.

As Maj. Woods always signed his letters home ...

Covey 40,

*Photo by  
Crew Chief Bob*



# FAC Association

1849 Southlawn Drive  
Fairborn, OH 45324

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Annual dues are \$20  
Life membership dues depend on your age

55yrs and under	—\$225
56 to 60 yrs	— \$200
61 to 65 yrs	—\$175
66yrs +	—\$150

Copy this page, fill in the table below, and  
send your check to:

Bob Gorman  
3416 Broken Hill St.  
Newbury Park, CA 91320-5501

<i>FAC Association Membership and Annual Dues Form</i>			
Last Name :		First Name:	Initial:
DOB (dd/mm/yyyy)		Spouse Name	
Address		Phone #	
City	State	Zip + 4	Cell #
email			
A/C or Specialty		Call Sign	
Organization/Sqdn/TASS		FAC Tour Dates	
Locations			
Comments:			
Enclosed is my check for \$ -- -- --- Make me a member of/continue my membership in the FAC Association. (Note: Your Dues Status can be found in the address block printed above.)			
Dues Status		Signature	