



Association of Air Force Missileers

"Victors in the Cold War"

Late News - June 1998

Guardian Challenge 1998 ... President Jay Kelley and Vice President Jim Burba represented *AAFMM* at Vandenberg. We presented a commemorative coin, with the *AAFMM* logo on one side and the 1998 competition logo on the other, to each of the participants. The 341st Space Wing from Malmstrom won the Blanchard trophy as the best missile wing. The 21st Space Wing, Peterson AFB, took the Aldridge Space Operations trophy and the 45th Space Wing, Patrick AFB won the Schriever Spacelift award. The Guardian Challenge program booklet included a photo of 1969 competitor and *AAFMM* member Marv Melton.

Ongoing History Projects - interest in older missile systems, especially the early ICBMs, continues to grow. *AAFMM* gets several requests for information each month from people interested in buying old missile sites. Two people in England are working on histories of the Thor in the UK, and an Italian AF NCO recently contacted us for material on a book he is writing on the Jupiter in Italy. Two BBC producers have asked for assistance on television specials - several of you talked to one of them, and the Grand Forks Herald recently included several articles about the 321st in a special "inactivation issue." When researchers, producers or reporters ask for contacts to interview, we provide lists of members who have served in the systems or units involved, so if you get a call or visit - you now know why.

E-Mail Updates - over 800 members now receive monthly e-mail updates. It is important that you keep us current on your e-mail address. If you are not receiving the updates even though you submitted your address, either we got it wrong or the system rejected it. Some services reject our messages on occasion - AF addresses often return a "message receipt delayed" followed by a "message undeliverable" reply. Let *AAFMM* know if you aren't getting the updates.

October Meeting - don't delay registering for our national meeting - the form is on the reverse. A number of members have already signed up. If you have a topic that should be discussed at the general membership or board meeting, let us know now. Current topics include the missile and space issue, a review of by-law updates to conform to changes in the Colorado law and an review of *AAFMM* programs.

Photos - we are always looking for good photographs to use in the newsletter and on our display. If you send us the original, it will be copied and scanned and returned ASAP. We can also use images on disk in most formats and good color copies of both color and black and white photos.

SAC 2000 is coming! The 54th Anniversary (and Reunion) of the founding of the Command will be 21-24 June 2000 in Omaha. A number of activities, including the Grand Banquet, will be at the New SAC Museum.

New Commander - General Richard B. Myers has been named as the next commander of Air Force Space Command, to replace General Estes. General Myers is currently Commander, Pacific Air Forces.

Do You Like Old Airplanes? - We are missileers, but many of us also have an interest old aircraft. Air Classics magazine has a special offer - subscribe for \$19.95, and \$5 of the amount goes to our Missile Heritage Fund. Return the enclosed card and your check payable to *AAFMM*, Box 5693, Breckenridge, CO 80424.

Reunions -

579th Strategic Missile Squadron (SMS) is having a reunion in Las Vegas, 7&8 Aug 98. Those interested can reserve a room at Palace Station, 1-800-476-8607 or 1-702-367-2441. Ask for 579th SMS Reunion. For additional information contact Pete Cummings, 702-367-1774 or Gene Lamb, 405-737-2471.

6555th Guided Missile Squadron - B-61 Matador project, 1951-53 at Patrick AFB. Seeking former members for a reunion roster. Contact Richard Gross, 6468 Safford Terrace, North Port, FL 34287, phone 941-423-8314.

Taps for a Missileer - LtCol (Retired) Nick Snay, who served at SAC in Ballistic Missile Evaluation, and in other missile assignments, died earlier this year.

Missile Heritage Fund - our grants to museums continue to grow, thanks to the generosity of *AAFMM* members. Contribute and receive an *AAFMM* memento to recognize your donation. Our mementos are leftovers from special events or have been donated by members or organizations. Donate the amount below and request the items listed:

\$5 - an *AAFMM* lapel pin, *AAFMM* patch, Subterranean Sentinels Patch, Bill McKee's "Missile Business Cartoon" Book or Bob Wycoff's poems, including "Missileer" or reprints of 1993-1994 newsletters.

\$8 - an engraved *AAFMM* ball point pen, *AAFMM* mug or special 10/30/50 Anniversary mug (honoring the anniversaries of AFSPC, the missile competition and the USAF).

\$10 - an *AAFMM* golf cap, 1998 Guardian Challenge/*AAFMM* coin, 1995-1997 newsletter reprints, Whiteman closing patch or 321OSS patch.

\$20 - the 44th Missile Wing Commemorative Book.

Mail your check to *AAFMM*, Box 5693, Breckenridge, CO 80424.