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162nd Wing Retiree News May 2016

This newsletter is published by the 162nd Wing Retirees Office for the sole purpose of providing information relevant to retirees. Photos in this publication are from Retirees Office files or public domain, unless otherwise noted. Questions or comments regarding this publication should be forwarded to the address listed in the upper left-hand corner of this page.

Summer events highlight 2016 for the 162nd Wings current members and retirees. Plan to attend one or all of these events.

Annual AZANG White Mountain Picnic Scheduled for June 16, 2016

The 2016 Arizona Air National Guard White Mountain Retirees Picnic will commemorate the 12th Anniversary of this popular event. This picnic creates a perfect opportunity for desert dwellers to escape the summer heat and join former coworkers in the cool pine forest of east-central Arizona. Put a visit to the picnic on your summer schedule.

Location: The Orchard behind Charlie Clark's Steakhouse, 1701 E White Mountain Blvd., Pinetop, AZ



Food, Drink and Parking: The meal is included in the attendance fee. Drinks are available for purchase at the picnic. On-site vehicle parking is free.

Cost: \$20.00 per person. Please RSVP by 6 June. Include the first and last names of each person who will be attending so your name tags will be ready. Make checks out to Hugh Kennedy and forward names and the check to:

162 Wing Retirees Office
1650 E Perimeter Way
Tucson, AZ 85706-6052



For information on the picnic call the Retirees Office at (520) 295-6663. If no answer, leave a message and we will get back to you.

162nd Wing 60th Anniversary Party will be held on August 26 - 27, 2016

The 162nd Wing celebrates 60 years of service to our country this year. A gala event is scheduled at the Casino Del Sol Resort in Tucson to commemorate this important milestone. All 162nd current members, retirees, and their families, are encouraged to put this date on their calendar and join in the celebration.

There will be something for everyone in the family. Activities start at 9 a.m. on Friday with a golf tournament giving our duffers a chance to socialize and show off their golf skills. Saturday at 9 a.m. starts family day with events for youngsters of all ages. There will be swimming, jumping castles and a host of other events to keep the kids busy and happy. Cost for family day food tickets are only \$1 each.

In the evening, both Friday and Saturday, a social hour will be held where current and retired Guard folks can mix and share war stories about notable events in their military careers. On Saturday at 6:30 p.m. a grand finale evening banquet for adults will wrap up the Anniversary celebration. It promises to be a grand event all around.

If you would like to spend the night at the resort, rooms are available for \$109 per night. Call the resort, at 1-855-765-7829 for reservations; or go on-line at <http://www.casinodelsolresort.com>. Use offer code ANG60A to ensure the special rate. Making early reservations will ensure availability. If you change your mind, cancellations can be made up to 48 hours before check-in.

Banquet tickets are \$36 per person and will go on sale on 26 May 2016. For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact SMSgt Alex Leyvas by calling 295-7129 or by email to alex.r.leyvas.mil@mail.mil.

Retiree Events May-September 2016

Monthly Retirees Luncheon
Held the second Tuesday of each month at Golden Corral Buffet, 6865 N. Thornydale Rd., 11:00 am. Scheduled dates are:

May 10
June 14
July 12
Aug 9
Sept 8



Monthly Flightline Luncheon
Held the last Monday of each month at Famous Sam's, 7129 E Golf Links, 12 noon. Scheduled dates are:

May 30
June 27
July 25
Aug 29
Sept 26



Monthly Pilot's Breakfast
Held the first Tuesday of each month at the IHOP, 5101 E. Grant Rd., 7 am.



Seasonal Monthly White Mountain Retirees Breakfast
Held the second Wednesday of each month from May to September at The Picnic Basket, 436 E. White Mountain Blvd, Pinetop, AZ, 7:30 am.

May 11
June 8
July 13
Aug 10
Sept 14



Copying your military ID card is against the law, with few exceptions

Copying of a U.S. Government ID card is a violation of federal law.

Some government agencies, such as police, are exceptions to the rule. Also, medical facilities (doctors, hospitals, etc.) can make copies for insurance claims purposes.

Showing your military ID to verify military service is OK, but don't let private organizations make a copy.

Whenever possible it's a smart idea to use another form of ID, such as your drivers license, to verify your identity. Show your military ID only when necessary. It's your identity; do everything you can to protect it!



Retirees Remembered

The following former unit members recently passed away. Sincere condolences are extended to the family and friends of these dedicated friends and coworkers who served with us at the Tucson Air National Guard:



Wayne Webb: Wayne was a long-time unit member who worked as a crew chief on our fighter aircraft.

James "Doc" Hoffman: Doc was a 162nd member who served with us in Aircraft Maintenance.

Garrel Scott: Scotty was a long-time unit member who worked in Aircraft Maintenance.

Bill Higgins: Bill was one of the early 162nd members who served the unit in the Hydraulic Shop.

Jeff Miller: Jeff was a recently retired 162nd member who served the unit in Weapons.

Veterans from all services, and all eras, dedicate Marana Veterans Cemetery

The Stars and Stripes were waving in the gentle desert breeze and a large crowd was present for opening ceremonies at the new Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Marana on March 26th.

Dress uniforms from the civil war to the present day represented the proud history of the United States military.

Veterans and their spouses, which includes National Guard retirees, are eligible to be interred in this cemetery. For information call (520) 638-4869.



Wanda Wright, retired Arizona ANG Colonel, former member of the 162nd, and current Director of the Arizona Department of Veterans Services, addresses attendees at the cemetery opening ceremonies.



Corrections: In the February Newsletter article about the December Luncheon we misspelled Liz Koller's name. It's Koller, not Kohler. Our apologies to Liz. We stand corrected.

Also we misdated the newsletter by a year. It was labeled February 2015, not 2016. We don't like making mistakes and apologize to all who were affected by these errors.

Tucson Air Guard Memorial is now under new management

As of 1 January 2016 the Tucson Air Guard Memorial Committee was revised. Former Committee President John Salazar has stepped down after serving as the President since the memorial's inception in 1989. Also, Ed Gillooly, who served as the finance manager for the Memorial Fund since 1989, has passed the financial baton to a new member.

Thanks to John and Ed, and all other committee members for their many years of dedication to the Memorial. It was time to pass responsibilities to a new generation.

The seven new committee members are current unit members SMSgt Emiliano "Emo" Rodriguez, President; MSgt Julio Rosales, Vice President; SMSgt Pete Hillier, Treasurer; MSgt Kristeen Jones, Secretary; and 3 retirees, Jim Stenger, Frank Pella and Butch Kennedy.

Donations to the Memorial are gratefully accepted. Please forward your donation to:

**Air Guard Memorial Fund
c/o Peter Hillier
1510 E. Super Sabre Drive
Tucson, AZ 85706**

Also, donations are accepted at retiree events by any Retirees Office representative. All donations are tax deductible and, as always, very much appreciated.

When some early 162nd unit members pass away we sometimes have difficulty finding information. You can help us out

As time goes by there are occasions, when a former unit member passes away, that we recall a person being in the Guard but we don't know when, or how long, they were with us. Some people were in the unit 40 or 50 years ago and long since retired. Some retire after 20 years but don't stay in contact with us. Many did not stay for 20 years to retire from the unit and some moved on to pursue their military careers at other units. There are others who serve their time and move on to a civilian occupation.

Unfortunately, some folks left the unit without signing up on our retirees list so we have no way to contact them or their family. To further complicate things when people die today fewer obituaries are placed in the newspaper.

There is a reason we need this information. When a former unit member dies they could be eligible to have their names placed on our memorial. If they qualify it's our duty to see they are memorialized at the 162nd.

This is where you, our retirees, can help out. If you are still in contact with a former unit member and their family, and they die, please pass this info along to us as we may not know about it. A simple phone call or email is all we need. Once we know the name of a deceased person we will follow up and ensure that any obligations we may have to former unit members are fulfilled.