



The 6th Dimension

Vol. 24, Issue 2

Dec 2009



6th Weather Squadron
(Mobile)
Alumni Association

The 6th Dimension
Oklahoma City, OK 73153-1642
www.6thweathermobile.org

Members Proclaim 2009 Reunion As Best Yet!



Attendees Pose for Photo By Wx Van

MEMBERS & GUESTS WHO ATTENDED THIS REUNION

Board Of Directors—Officers

- Chuck Miller—Chair
- Chuck Hewitt—Vice Chair
- Carl Bishop—Treasurer
- John Lassiter—Asst. Treasurer
- Elmo Reddick—Secretary
- Don Garbutt—Past Chair
- Ted Lungwitz—Member
- Jerry Hunt—Member
- Leonard Allen—Member
- Chuck Morris —Member
- Bill Weigel—Member

Membership Committee

- Buck Bucklin—Chair
- Shirley Eldringhoff—Vice Chair
- Wilbur Biggs—Member
- Bill King—Member
- Joe Kerwin—Member
- Tom Rivers—Member
- Gordon McCann—Member
- Barbara McCann—Member
- Gerry Guay—Member-Web Master
- Dave Weiner—Member
- Neil Prete—Member

Leonard Allen
John Baker
Wilbur Biggs
Georgia Biggs
Carl Bishop
Ann Bishop
Ken Brown
Buck Bucklin
Col Norman Clark
Jim Eldringhoff
Shirley Eldringhoff
Don Garbutt
Erika Garbutt
Steve Gladish
Steve Gladish II
Tom Grace
Mary Grace
Pat Grona
Gerry Guay
Jay Hartz

Rickey Heister
Chuck Hewitt
Clifford T Jones
Joann Wylie
Christine Moglia
Joe Kerwin
Bill King
Fred LaPerriere
John Lassiter
Eunice Lassiter
Charles Lee
Sarah Lee
Ted Lungwitz
Charles Mabe
Betty Mabe
Harold Maille
Gordon McCann
Barbara McCann
Chuck Miller

Carolyn Miller
Chuck Morris
Mark Neitenbach
Don Nissen
Bob Plisek
Aniello Prete
Elmo Reddick
Robert Reid
John Tasetano III
Matt Tasetano
Virginia Tasetano
Kenny Tasetano
John Webb
Dave Weiner
Virginia Weiner
Elizabeth Hutkowski
Matt Weiner
Danielle Weiner
Tex Winder
Jausell Winder
Ernie Workman

BOD Voted to Retain Incumbent Officers

Chair Secretary
Vice Chair Treasurer
Asst. Treasurer

See upper left panel

DD-214s NOW Online

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their form DD-214
<http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>

Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use the system to request documents.

INSIDE

- New Members
- Info & Financial Report
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- Honors & Awards
- Memorabilia /Order Form
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Tom Dorgan
Thomas Kinney
Lynn Rathbun
Daniel Rea
Clold J Sowell



Spirits & Goblets from 1st Reunion Are Returned

Thanks to John Webb, the spirits and goblets that were dedicated at the 1st reunion—to be used by the final two 6WSAA members living to Toast the demise of the Association—were returned after being missing for the last decade. John found them while going through his late wife's storage and presented them at the 2009 banquet. **Welcome back**

Shirley Eldringhoff, Our Historian Sez...

- A BIG thank you for the 20 "histories" that have been completed by members and are now in a notebook. They are interesting, funny, entertaining and sincere. We need many, many more. If you need another form, please contact Shirley at shirknjim@aol.com or call 410-838-0973.
- If anyone is having difficulty with veteran's benefits and needs some guidance, Charlie Lee is involved with the Veterans Assistance Commission in his locale and will gladly listen to and advise you. He can be contacted at Charles1@accessus.net.
- If you participated in atmospheric nuclear weapons testing, you are encouraged to participate in the VA's Ionizing Radiation Registry examination program. You can learn more about the program by calling 1-877-222-8387 or online at www.VA.gov/EnvironAgents
- We lost a good friend with the recent death of Clifford T. Jones. If you have a favorite memory of Clifford that you would like to share, either please mail it to our Historian, Shirley Eldringhoff or email to shirknjim@aol.com. These memories will be placed in a notebook for sharing at the reunion of 2011.

~~~~ Membership List Get A Makeover ~~~~

The Ad Hoc committee recommended the Membership List be reformatted into categories. The General Membership vote passed and was accepted by the Board of Directors to reorganized the list as follows; **Active** (Dues current) and **Honorary, In-active** (Dues non-current), and **Potential** (prospective members). *Legend is first.*

Thanks

**Participating Board of Directors—including Gordon McCann
The Reunion Committee**

**All the members and their families who take the time & effort
to attend**

ALL OF YOU MAKE OUR REUNIONS POSSIBLE & ENJOYABLE

Financial Report as of 7/29/09

2009 Reunion Fees & Donations Received	\$ 1920.00	
2009 Reunion Expenses	\$ 2095.04	
Excess Reunion Expenses		-175.04
Bank Balance 5/27/09	\$ 5330.89	
Deposit	\$ 288.00	
Operating + Misc. Expenses 7/08—7/09	\$ 1531.40	
Bank Balance 7/27/09		\$ 4087.49

**Electronic 1099R for 2009 is available
on "myPay" at**

<https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx?flps=99R~RCPS>
Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) implemented the myPay web-based system in March 2000. The Web-based system allows members to access electronic 1099R, RAS and other financial information. If you do not have a Password for accessing myPay, you can obtain one by clicking on the New Password button at the web address shown above to get a temporary Password. If you have any questions about myPay, please call our center at 1-888-DFAS411 or 1-888-332-7411. For questions on your 1099R, please call 1-800-321-1080.



Wednesday — Some of Early Arrivals



Sat—SMC-1 van arrives from Colorado



Thursday — Some at Tinker AFB BX



Friday Morning Tour
National Severe Storms Lab
Norman, OK



Friday Afternoon Tour
KWTV News-9
Oklahoma City, OK



Daphne Thompson, NSSL Briefs ...



Lunch in Moore, OK



KWTV9's Michael Armstrong Briefs

Saturday Morning General Membership Meeting



ALL PHOTOS
COURTESY OF
GERRY GUAY

ALL PHOTOS
COURTESY OF
GERRY GUAY

Shirley Starts It Off

Tex Looks On



Banquet



Time





AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Life Membership Awarded To Two Members



Chairman Shows Life Award mailed to Col Barney



Col. Bernard Pusin

Col Barney & Clifford T, both in their 90's & icons of the former USAF 6th Wea Sq (MOB), and faithful members of the 6WSAA, were awarded Life Membership. The award confers paid-up membership and full retention of all voting privileges. Unable to attend, Col Pusin's Life Award was mailed to him.

Congratulations



Clifford T. Jones



Left, the Chairman is shown presenting the Life Member Award to Icon Clifford T. Jones

Chuck Hewitt gets Chairman's Award



Honorary Member to Fred LaPerriere



John M, Mark, Nancy, and Virginia accept Appreciation Award for Risk Reduction



JOHN L. SMITH PRESENTS APPRECIATION AWARD TO CHUCK MILLER



Wilbur wins the Coveted Cross-Stitch



Jay Hartz wins Signed Quilt



Author, Educator, Member, Benefactor Awarded to Stephen G. Gladish, Sr.



Steve Gladish gets History CD Set



Appreciation to Jerome Thomas for providing Music





Key-Chain Coin-holder

New! Now available, a key-chain that is also a coin holder. Thanks to BOD member Ted Lungwitz, these nifty coin companions add portability and allow members to carry their coin along for ready/instant display to one & all. \$6.00, Please allow 2-weeks to process.



Fewer Coins Remain

We still have a few 20th-yr commemorative Coins on hand. They are available on a first order basis. See PO form to order.



History CDs are still available for members to order. There are eighteen CDs that contain 6WSq history artifacts transferred from books and records retained/secured from the Squadron Deactivation and from some of our members. They are **\$1.50 each—includes postage**. You may order one, two or all 18 of the CDs **direct** from;

Shirley Eldringhoff, Historian
521 W Ring Factory Rd
Bel Air, MD 21015

Please allow two weeks for processing.



The original 6th Weather Sq. Patch is Available

If you have not ordered a Patch, we still have them available for you to purchase at **only \$2.50/each, includes postage**. To receive your Patch (s), complete the order form and mail to;
6WSAA
P O Box 7642
Oklahoma City, OK 73153-1642
Allow 2-weeks for processing.
Many Available



The **6WSAA Decal** is available for members to order. This is a window decal that is **transparent** in the white area around the eagle & outside the Logo, and is 4" X 6" in size. The **price is only \$5.00 includes postage**. Complete the order form mail to;

6 WSAA
P O Box 7642
Oklahoma City, OK 73153-1642
Allow 2-weeks for processing.
Many On Hand



"Original Storm Chasers" Unique Cap

It is Royal Blue with White Lettering and White Trim, un-dated. Really nice and available.

Complete and submit the Order Form with your check.

Full Color Logo Polo Type Shirt

Complete the order form to get yours now!

PURCHASE ORDER FORM

Name: _____
 Street/P.O. Box: _____
 City: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____
 Home Phone No: () _____ Alternate Phone No: () _____
 E-mail address: _____

Item	Description	Size	Qty	Cost \$	Total
6WSAA Decal	Adhesive backed decal	6" X 4"		5.00	
6WS(MOE) Patch	Embroidered patch	6" X 4"		2.50	
Coin (Less than 10 remain)	20th Army Commemorative			13.00	
Key-Chain Coin Holder	See Image in Newsletter			6.00	
* * Shirt (50% Cotton & 50% Polyester)	White Polo with 6WSAA Color Logo above left pocket	S, M, L, G, XL		13.00	
" "	" "	2X		15.00	
" "	" "	3X		17.00	
Baseball Cap (Blue, White Letters, Trim)	Original Storm Chaser	Adjustable	if 2 caps-1 Add Post-5.00	10.00	
* * Shirts	Postage—Per Shirt		ADD	4.00	
				TOTAL	

Enclose a check or money order for the TOTAL payable to 6WSAA.

Mail to: 6th WEATHER SQUADRON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
 P.O. Box 7642
 Oklahoma City, OK 73153-1642

Thank you for your order. Please allow 2 to 4 weeks after receipt for delivery by USPS.



NEW/RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership categories are:

Primary Members: Former members of the USAF 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) or any of its predecessor units including civilian employees. Annual dues are required to remain Active.

Associate Members: Current or former members of any organization that provided direct service to 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile). Civilian employees, spouses or other immediate family of this group may become Associate Members. Annual dues are required to remain active. *Spouses of Primary Members in good standing hold Associate Membership and are exempt from dues.* Voting privileges are not enjoyed by Associate Members.

Honorary Members: Persons who must be nominated for Honorary Membership by a Primary Member and who must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Widows and widowers of Primary Members are deemed Honorary Members by relationship. Honorary Members are exempt from dues. Voting privileges are not enjoyed by Honorary Members.

*YOUR NAME: _____ NICKNAME: _____

YOUR SPOUSE: _____ NICKNAME: _____

Check Type Membership Applying For: Primary _____ Associate _____ Honorary _____

*Widow/Widower of alumni member - Enter the deceased Member's name, rank, and year in which deceased:

Deceased Member's Name: _____ Rank: _____ Year Deceased: _____

Your Mailing Address:

STREET/P.O. BOX: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

Date of Birth _____

Home phone No: () _____ Office phone No: () _____

E-mail address: _____

Years in 6th WS (MOB) (ex. 60-64): _____

Organization (if not 6th MOB): _____

Enclose a check or money order for \$10.00/year payable to 6WSAA.

Enclosed is \$ _____ for (# years) _____ Dues.

Mail to: 6th WEATHER SQUADRON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
P. O. Box 7642
Oklahoma City, OK 73153-1642



Final Launch

Robert W. **"Bob" Reid** was born April 28, 1936 in Tacoma, WA to William V. and Marie Reid. He died on November 13, 2009 at Integris Hospice House of congestive heart failure. He graduated in 1954 from Prosser High School in Prosser, WA. Bob joined the Air Force in 1955 and was honorably discharged in 1958. He was a member of our 6WSq (MOB) from 1956—1958. Known to many of his fellow servicemen as "Swede", he was well liked and developed life-long and lasting friends that continued till his death. After the military, Bob then graduated from Central State College in 1962 with a B.S. in chemistry. He was an agent for Allstate Ins. Co for 31 years. After this retirement on December 31, 1993, he spent many happy hours fishing, hunting—much with our own Tex & Ernie—

and cooking. Bob married Angela Demmer in 1957, and they had three children. He is survived by his wife, Angela, and children Susan Reed and husband Dave, Steve Reid and wife Barb of OKC and David Reid of Houston, TX. Also surviving are 5 grandchildren, all of OKC, and sister, Arlene Reynolds and husband Len of Yaki-ma, WA. Mass of Christian Burial was at 10:00 am on November 16, 2009, at St. Francis of Assisi Church in OKC. Interment was at the Union City Catholic Cemetery. **Many of us will miss the Swede. FAREWELL BOB...**

Col Robert Vincent, a former 6th Wea. Sq. (MOB) Commander, & 6WSAA member died December 9, 2005 after an extended illness according to his daughter, Pat Black. It was also said that his wife, Patti still lives in Stillwater, OK but we've been unable to make contact. This information was revealed in response to our **Historian's initiative** of sending all members of record a "My 6th Weather History" form to complete so a historical record can be establish and compiled. Col. Vincent was one of 5 former Commanders who received the **specially designed 20th Year Commemorative Coin** during our 2005 reunion. John Lassiter & Bill King presented it him at his home.

Robert T. Fennell. Another returned "My 6th Weather History" form from Lou Fennell, widow of Robert T. Fennell. Lou said and I quote, "Bob died of complications of lung cancer surgery on May 21st last year (2008). **He would have enjoyed this.**" Our condolences go out to Lou and her family from our 6WSAA family.

Shirley Eldringhoff wrote; "I learned that **Walter Slater** died and I looked it up on the SSDI and he died on June 12, 2009. Looks like he died during our reunion and isn't it curious because his wife, Lee also died during one of our reunions." ~Another result from her "My 6th Weather History" project~

Edward Allan Town: Mr. Edward Allan Town, age 70 of Weston, Texas passed away July 8, 2009, in Plano, Texas. He was born on August 31, 1938, in Grove City, Pennsylvania to Eugene and Josephine (Ross) Town. On December 23, 1995, he married Sharon Gunn in McKinney, Texas. Mr. Town proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1985. Following his military retirement, he assumed a career with Rockwell and Boeing and retired in 2000. Edward became Mayor of Weston, Texas in 2007. Edward is survived by his wife, Sharon Gunn-Town, daughters, Mary Heath, Michele Town and Melissa Zak; 7 grandchildren, 2 nieces and a nephew. **According to our member, Joe Kerwin, Ed Town was an airman in 6th Weather Sq. (MBL) and went on to get his commission and was a Para Weather Jumper, then retired as a Lt. Col.**

Clifford T. Jones passed away Monday, September 28, 2009 at the age of 92. Life member of the 6WSAA. He served with the 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) from 1951 to 1958 and 1960 to 1963. He was an icon of both, the 6th Weather Squadron (MOB) and of the 6th Weather Sq. Alumni Association. Even when he was seriously ill, he still opted to have his dear friend, Joann Wylie, help him make the trip to OKC where he attended the 2009 6WSAA reunion through it's duration in June—he never missed one. The Association honored him by bestowing on him one of only two Life Memberships ever awarded. Cliff was well loved by many of our 6WSAA family & will be greatly missed. He is survived by a son & his daughter, Christine Moglia. Those knowing Clifford who may have memorable stories may send them to our Historian, Shirley Eldringhoff, see Member list.



Billie R. Wright: In collecting "My 6th Wea History", Shirley Eldringhoff received from our member, **Arthur L Ketterling**, who wrote and I quote, "On May 11, 2007 I went to a funeral for **Billie R. Wright** also a Det 6 troop of earlier times. He was retired as a MSgt and thought the world of 6WS and its mission. Whenever I saw him (Commissary, BX) all he could speak of was the old times in 6 WS, etc. I worked with and for Billie in times past. A tough master! Please remember him in your notes!" Billie died on 7 May 2007.

Pat Vineyard, widow of our late member, Jerry Vineyard passed away in March of 2009, it was learned. Pat lived in New Brunsfels, TX at the time. No other details were available.

KAMP, Richard L. "Dick," 70, of Tampa, passed away June 12, 2009. He was born in Mt. Carmel, Ill. and came here in 1978, from Illinois. He was Lutheran by faith. He served 22 years in the U.S. Air Force. During the period when he was in the USAF, Dick was assigned to 6th Wea. Sq (Mob) 1962—1970 and developed life-long friends among his fellow service members. He was a member of our 6WSAA and attended several reunions where he was well known and loved by many. Richard retired after 24 years with the National Weather Service in Ruskin, Fla. He enjoyed bowling and golf. He is survived by his children, Jeff Kamp of Miami, Fla., Scott Kamp of Lithia, Fla. and Tracey L. Nicholson of Tampa; and two grand- children. Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., Thursday, June 18, 2009, at Brewer and Sons Funeral Home, Tampa, FL Military honors service was conducted at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, Fla. Photo copied from his NWS retirement.





Dr. Roland H. Alexander Ph.D., 82, of Fairview Heights, Ill., died Monday, Jan 26, 2009, at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Belleville, Ill. He was born Nov. 29, 1926, in Radford, Va. After 21 years, Roland retired as a MSgt from the US Air Force in 1968. He was a member of the 6th Weather Sq Mobile from 1954 to 1955, then a long standing member of our 6th Weather Sq Alumni Association. Roland began another career as an instructor of Vocational Electronics at East St. Louis Senior High School in East St. Louis, Ill. From 1971 to 1979, he earned a B.S. in Technical Education, an M.S. in Occupational Education, and a Ph.D. in Education from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Dr. Alexander retired as System Director of the East St. Louis Community College and Lovejoy Regional Vocational System. During his tenure, he earned numerous awards and teaching honors. His professional affiliations were many. Dr. Alexander was preceded in death by his parents, Muriel Douglas and Lillie Clark Alexander, and six siblings. Surviving are his loving wife, Joyce of more than 54 years, sons, Derek and Robert Alexander, both of Fairview Heights, Ill., a sister, two brothers, and a host of other relatives and many friends. Funeral service were held at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb 6, 2009 at Trinity United Methodist Church, East St. Louis, Ill. Interment was in Jefferson-Beads National Cemetery, St. Louis, Mo.



Donna Mae (Bradshaw) Taiclet, 71, of Newton, home-maker, loving wife, mother, grand-mother and sister, passed away Monday (April 27, 2009). She is survived by her husband, Jack Taiclet of the home; children, Terri and Bryan Wilkins of Boise, Idaho, Sharron Fisher of Wichita, Kari and Zack Butler of Tampa, Ind., George and Peggy Taiclet of Fort Worth, Texas, and Shane and Lisa Taiclet of San Angelo, Texas; brothers, Dewayne Bradshaw of Blackwell, OK., and Max Bradshaw of Bartlesville, OK.; 17 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Gwendolyn Elaine Taiclet; great-grandson, sister, father, Don Bradshaw; & mother, Avesta McClure. Services were Thursday at Liberty Baptist Church, Newton, KS



Ted Wilfred Campbell 78, of Fairfield, VA died Sunday, Sept. 7, 2008, in Avante of Waynesboro. Mr. Campbell was born March 11, 1930, in Rockbridge County, to the late Harry Houston Campbell and Josephine Chittum Campbell. A veteran of the Korean War, he served in the U.S. Air Force and was assigned to the 6th Weather Sq (Mobile) from 1954 to 1957. Ted was a member of the 6th Weather Sq. Alumni Association, and attended the 2005 20th year reunion. He expressed great enjoyment and vowed to return. He was a member of Fairfield United Methodist Church, and was the principal of Rockbridge High School for several years. His wife, Thelma Louise Campbell preceded his death. Surviving are three children, Michael Scott Campbell of Clifton, Terry Patrick Campbell of Fairfield and Lisa Anne Campbell of Tampa, Fla., a brother, and a sister, and three grandsons. Funeral was conducted on Thursday, Sept. 11, 2008, at Harrison Funeral Chapel.

Edwin Dickenson: It was learned from a member during the 2009 reunion that Edwin passed away in 2005, and that his wife, Mary Lou still lives in OKC.

Harry Kohler: deceased in 2007, from a member.

Jack Van Matre With another returned *unopened* History form, a check of the Social Security Death Index revealed he died on October 26, 2001; his DOB was listed as 5 July 1930. And Sharon? No clues.

Good Wishes and Prayers

For all of our dear members and our families—unfortunately, too many of us to list individually, but nearly all of us are in various stages of some form of illness or health issue. Know that many of us pray that our health remain or improve to a level of functional comfort, then to full wellness—God willing. So we are able to carry out the normal day-to-day tasks of daily living; not only for ourselves, but for others we love including our 6WSAA family. God Bless! *Chuck Miller*

This newsletter is published for the exclusive use of our 6WSAA members. Information is included as reported without vett and is edited for space. If you discover an error or items that need a correction, please notify Chuck Miller, Editor, 405-424-5058, or email; cpemiller@sbcglobal.net. Or, you may contact any BOD or Membership Committee member listed in the left panel on the first page. Contact info? See Member List.



The United States Military's Highest Aviation Award



DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS (DFC) AWARDED

June 27, 2009, Phoenix, AZ

Army Capt. Stephen Gladish II was awarded the DFC in a Ceremony for his heroism & extraordinary achievement in combat operations in Afghanistan as an AH-64D Apache Longbow Helicopter Pilot. There were 18



documented reports of his heroic acts. Steve is the son of our own Stephen G. Gladish, Sr. Here, Steve II renders a salute after being pinned with his DFC medal.

Congratulations Steve II and thanks for your service.