



The 6th Dimension

Vol. 27, Issue I *Spring* 2012

6th Weather Squadron
(Mobile)
Alumni Association

6WSAA
PO Box 7642
Oklahoma City, OK 73153-1642
www.6thweathermobile.org

Officers—BOD

- Chuck Miller—Chair
- John Lassiter—Vice Chair
- Carl Bishop—Treasurer
- John Webb—Asst. Treasurer
- Elmo Reddick—Secretary

Board Of Directors

- Chuck Hewitt—Member
- Don Garbutt—Member
- Ted Lungwitz—Member
- Chuck Morris—Member
- Jerry Hunt—Member
- Leonard Allen—Member

BOD Advisory Committee

- Shirley Eldringhoff—Chair
- Buck Bucklin—Member
- Bill King—Member
- Joe Kerwin—Member
- Tom Rivers—Member
- Gordon McCann—Member
- Barbara McCann—Member
- Carle Clark—Member

Membership Committee

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

BOD Elections Bring Changes

In accordance with the Bylaws, the BOD conduct Officer elections during the meeting following each reunion. Although a motion was made to retain all incumbent officers, Chuck Hewitt declined to remain as Vice Chair due to personal and family health. To fill that vacated position, John Lassiter accepted the nomination as Vice Chair & John Webb accepted the vacated office of Assistant Treasurer. All other Officers accepted nomination to continue serving in their respective positions. See panel along left side. Chuck Hewitt agreed to continue serving as a BOD member, & we thank each of you.

2011 Reunion Attendees Meet First Honorary



Earnest 'Ernie' Edwards

All the way from Down Under--Australia, Ernie our First Honorary and his son Errol came to the USA for the first time to visit friends formed fifty-years ago in 1961 during a 6th Wea deployment. Members attending this reunion for this rare opportunity were; Gerry Guay, Gordon & Barbara McCann, Chuck & Carolyn Miller, Jim & Shirley Eldringhoff, Carl & Ann

Bishop, Buck Bucklin, Joe Kerwin, Chuck & Anita Hewitt, Ted Lungwitz, Lee & Patricia Webb, John Webb, John & Eunice Lassiter, Jerry & Muffy Williams, Bill & Gloria King, Don Nissen, Ernie Workman, Carle & Margret Clark, Charles & Sarah Lee, Dave & Ginnie Weiner, Gerri Hayes, Claude & Peg Barrow, Tex Winder, Tom & Mary Grace, Don & Erika Garbutt, Pat Grona, Dave II & Erin Weiner, Elmo Reddick, Ken Brown, Joe & Justine Stewart, & Chuck Morris. Also, Bob Epps, Angie Reid, Carlos Boburg stopped by. It was a honor inducting Ernie into the 6WSAA.

Another HOTEL Sought for NEW REUNION SITE

As charged by the members at the General Membership meeting on 11 June 2011, and as directed by the BODs at our 26 Aug 11 post-reunion meeting, the Chair, accompanied by the Vice Chair visited five hotels as a potential site for our 2013 Reunion. (see page 2)

Welcome New Member

Chester 'Chet' & Margaret 'Peggy' Wilcox

Mark The Date Next Reunion Set 13 - 16 June 2013

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HOTEL Search (continued from page 1)

Prior to our hotel search, the Chair created an evaluation form using the Wyndham Garden Hotel as the benchmark for features we require for our members. Evaluation included Access, Facilities, Rates, and any Amenities we already enjoy at our present reunion site.



Hotels we visited were **Country Inn & Suites, Ramada Inn, Hampton Inn, Embassy Suites, and Best Western —Saddleback Inn.**



Each hotel we visited failed to meet requirements in at least two or more of our benchmark categories; such as, a dedicated Hospitality Room, Meeting/Banquet Room, Rates & more. Of the five hotels we visited, there were two close candidates; they were Embassy Suites & Best Western Saddleback Inn (site of our 2002 reunion). The disqualifying features for Embassy Suites were the lowest hotel Rates started at \$119+tax per night because all rooms are suites, and Hospitality/Meeting/Banquet Room location and rates we were shown and given were undesirable. The disqualifying features of the Best Western were Access—Parking vs Room locations, Hospitality/Meeting/Banquet room locations—were close to high traffic by other hotel guests, hotel room Rates slightly higher, and lack of outside space to display the SCM-1, restored WW-II Weather Van.

~::~The BOD Decision~:::



***** STAY PUT *****

After assessing the reported findings of the Chair and the Vice Chair, the BOD voted unanimously to **retain** the present site of the **Wyndham Garden Hotel, OKC Airport** for our **2013 Reunion Hotel**. A visit with the Sales Staff resulted in Hotel Rates remaining at \$79+tax, same as 2011 reunion, and now known to be the lowest rates in the area with no matching competitor.

2011 Reunion Photos



First stop. . .

Chuck Hewitt, BOD

Chief Registrar



Ted Lungwitz, BOD

Memorabilia Sales



Hammer & Ernie
Reacquaint
After
50 years



Ladies assembling your last newsletter for mail-out



More Meet & Greet and the war stories are flowing

**ARE YOU A ★ ★ ★
MILITARY RETIREE?**

SmartDocs@dfas.mil (an on-line Newsletter) says; The most convenient way to manage your pay is through **myPay**, the official online account management system for military members and retirees. **You can start by going to** <http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/newsevents/newsletter/managingyourpayacct.html>



Awards Recognition & Drawing Winners



Ernie Edwards, First Honorary



John Webb, Chairman's Appreciation



Ken Brown, Chairman's Award



Bill King, History CD Set



Signed Quilt

Memorabilia



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.



"Original Storm Chasers" 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 on White Polo Shirt

Complete the order form to get yours



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 are 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 and mail to;

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



Basis for Awards

First Honorary—Ernest Edwards: Whereas the year was 1962 and, whereas the location was the island of Witu, in the Territory of Papua New Guinea and, whereas a team of 6th Weather Sq. (MOB) airmen arrived on a USAF mission and, whereas team members Jerry Williams, Dave Weiner & Jim Parr was befriended by Mr. Ernest Edwards, Langu Plantation Manager, along with his wife Hilde and their four young children and, whereas the hospitality extended by the hosts yielded a lasting relationship that spanned distance and time and, whereas the 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) Alumni Association was born some two decades later and, whereas the Bylaws allowed, then therefore Mr. Ernest Edwards was nominated by Dave Weiner, seconded by Tom Rivers and accepted by voice vote unanimously as the First Honorary Member of the 6WSAA with all rights and privileges thereof. Due to absence of early Association records, conference was delayed to present day.

Chairman's Appreciation Award—John Webb: For his major contribution to the 6WSAA by recognizing an electronic distribution problem and providing an immediate solution. Because of varied differences in equipment and technology possessed by members, documents were being transmitted in several different formats in an effort to accommodate what each member could accept. This required retransmissions that was labor intensive. John provided a tool that allows conversion of any file-type to a format that can be universally read. John's solution was/is an invaluable and timely contribution with Cute-PDF.

Chairman's Award—Kenneth A Brown: For his inconspicuous service and support of the 6th Wea Sq Alumni Association's mission to provide an interesting and informative experience for our members and their guests while they attend our bi-annual reunion. Over the past several reunions, Ken has functioned as our liaison with NOAA Public Affairs to coordinate our tour of the National Weather Service National Severe Storms Laboratory (NSSL) and the National Storm Prediction Center. Without his interceding, the tour would be decidedly more difficult if not impossible to provide to our membership.

Legacy Award—Jay Hartz: turned reflective thoughts into reality by funding a **tribute to wives and children**—of USAF 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) airmen—**left behind** to manage daunting tasks of maintaining the home-front while the warrior was deployed to varied and distant places around the globe. His thinking back over his memorable career in the Mob and since, Jay realized that families of then TDY members had never been recognized for the challenging and arduous times when they had to become head-of-household and fend for themselves. Evidenced by his word and deed, this caring and thoughtful gesture by Jay epitomizes the character of a typical Sixth Weather Squadron (Mobile) Alumni Association member. Created for all to witness now, and for reunions to come, the legacy of Jay Hartz is born and his Tribute shall be exhibited at each 6WSAA reunion hereafter to honor those here-to-fore unrecognized wives, significant others, and children.

Drawings

Drawings were for the **coveted items Framed Cross Stitch 6WSAA Emblem and the hand-made Quilt** signed by all members and guests attending the reunion. Both the Cross Stitch and Quilt have become standards that are made and donated by Shirley Eldringhoff, using her own resources. **Thank you Shirley!!**

Door Prizes

This 2011 reunion, door prizes of Polo Shirts, Caps, Patches, and Decals were made available that allowed more members the chance to win an item

How do I Know My Dues Date?

There are several ways to find what your dues expiration date is;

1. The right-most or last column on your Members List (7/2013) is the date your dues expire.
2. The top-line of the Mailing Label shows the dates you were in the Mob and your Dues Expiration Date ex. "66-72 7/2014".
3. Visit the "Members Only" page on the web site and view the Member List as in 1. above.
4. Call/email Chuck Miller 405-424-5058, cpemiller@sbcglobal.net
5. Call Carl Bishop 405-794-4028
6. If your dues date is 7/2012, it has expired and \$10 makes you current.

REUNION EXPENSE ACTIVITY 7/1/10 — 6/30/11

Name Tag Holders—Office Depot	\$ 42.26
Reunion Awards—Midwest Trophy	129.60
Caps—Midwest Trophy	351.00
Copy—Newsletter, Member List	100.00
Cards, Misc. Supplies—BX	95.50
Banquet—Wyndham Garden Hotel	\$ 1502.30
Total Reunion Expenses	\$ 2220.66
Bank Balance 3/25/12	\$ 4167.64
Reserved Funds—Gift & Dues>2013	\$ 1820.00
Total Available Operating Funds	\$ 2347.64



6th WEATHER SQUADRON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (6WSAA)
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 back decal	6" X 4"		5.00	
6WS(MOB) Patch	Embroidered patch	6" X 4"		2.50	
*** Postage Already	Included in Decal & Patch	Price ***			
Shirt(50% Cotton & 50% Polyester)	White Polo with 6WSAA Logo above left pocket	S, M, LG, XL		13.00	
“ “	“ “	2X		15.00	
“ “	“ “	3X		17.00	
Cap (Royal Blue White Letters & Trim)	“Original Storm Chaser”	Adjustable		10.00	
Shirts and/or Caps order	Postage—Per Order		ADD	4.00	
TOTAL					

Shirt Size – Circle Size for **S, M, LG,** and/or **XL** to specify the size desired
 Enclose a check or money order for the **TOTAL** payable to 6WSAA.

Mail to: 6th WEATHER SQUADRON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION or 6WSAA
 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



Photos Copied From Web-site

NEWS TOUR

Courtesy of Gerry Guay



General Membership Meeting



Banquet



Awards Program & Drawings - Winners Page 3



WINDING DOWN

Signed Mirror Wine & Goblets from 1st Reunion



Farewell good Friends 'Till 2013



Cloid James "Jim" Sowell, 83, passed away March 14, 2011 at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home in Charlotte Hall, MD. He was born August 22, 1927 in Ringling, Oklahoma to Cloid and Johnnie (Chapman) Sowell.

Jim was raised in Oklahoma, attended public schools and joined the U.S. Merchant Marine in 1943 at the age of 16.

He served in the Pacific Theater aboard a gasoline tanker ship, and later enlisted in the US Air Force. His training specialty in the Air Force was as a weather observation technician (meteorologist), and he was instrumental in predicting weather conditions during the Berlin airlift from 1946-49. He served in the 6th Weather Sq. (MOB) 1951-53. He discovered and joined the 6th Weather Sq Alumni Association family where he reconnected with members from days of old. Farewell friend!



Georgia Dutton Biggs; August 21, 1945 - October 28, 2011 Georgia Dutton Biggs, 66, of Monticello, passed away Friday, October 28, 2011 at Jefferson Regional Medical Center in Pine Bluff. She was born August 21, 1945 in Joplin, MO. She was a housewife and attended the Church of Christ. She was the daughter of the late Herman Dutton and Ethel Swadley Dutton. Survivors include her husband, Wilbur Biggs of Monticello; two daughters, Denna Luedecke of Gentry and Shelia Verser of Decatur; two sons, Steve Luedecke of Bentonville and Kelly Luedecke of Monticello; one brother, Marvin Dutton of Lincoln, NE; one half brother, David Dutton of Chester, NE; two half sisters, Sue Gardner of Lincoln, NE and Kathy Berry of Chester, NE; her step mother, Bernice Dutton of Chester, NE; ten grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. Wilbur being a member of 6WSAA, he and Georgia attended reunions and gained many friends who will surely miss her.

Robert A. 'Bob' D'Alfonso, Sr., 73, a Mechanical Engineer for Halliwell Engineering Associates for over 40 years, died Saturday, September 24, 2011 at Home & Hospice Care of RI. He was the beloved husband of Gloria P. (Guglielmo) D'Alfonso for 52 years.

Born in Providence, he was a son of the late Vittorio and Maria (Montecalvo) D'Alfonso. Mr. D'Alfonso enjoyed spending time with his family, gardening, fishing and target shooting. He was a Veteran of the US Air Force, assigned to the 6th Weather Sq. (Mob) from 1957—1960. Bob joined the 6WSAA that's composed of former 6th MOB members and reconnected with many of his friends from those days. Besides his wife he is survived by his children, Maria G. Dutra (Paul), Robert A. D'Alfonso, Jr. (Margaret), Loh A. Faragalli (Gary, Sr.), and John C. D'Alfonso (Marcy); one brother Victor D'Alfonso; one sister Amalia Iannucci; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. He was the father of the late Joseph M. D'Alfonso, grandfather of the late Gloria and brother of the late Joseph, Lawrence, Benedetto D'Alfonso and Hortense Ruggiero. His funeral was Wednesday, 9 am at the Thomas & Walter Quinn Funeral Home, with a Mass of Christian Burial in St. Clement Church at 10 am. Burial was in St. Ann Cemetery, Cranston. Although many of his 6WSAA family did not have the opportunity to meet Bob, we mourn his passing.



Lt. Col. (Ret.) Tunis D. Morrow, 87, of Fort Walton Beach, Fla., passed away Saturday, May 7, 2011.

Tunis was born Oct. 6, 1923, in Hammon, Okla. He leaves behind his loving wife of 63 years, Hazel Rose Morrow; two sons, Blair Morrow and wife, Brenda, and Brad Morrow and wife, Catherine; granddaughters, Lauren and Morgan Morrow; and grandsons, Ryan and Nathaniel Morrow. He is also survived by his sister, Sue Finley. Tunis proudly served his country for 25 years in the U.S. Air Force, and was a member of the Order of Daedalians, Seagull Flight No. 161. He was assigned to the 6th Weather Sq. (Mob) 1952-1956 and was a long-time member of the 6WSq. Alumni Association, formed when the 6th Weather Sq. (Mob) was deactivated. Many friendships were forged by 6WSAA members even though they never met during active service. We thereby share in the loss of Tunis.



Tunis was laid to rest with military honors at Barrancas National Cemetery, Pensacola, Fla., at 1:15 p.m. Monday, May 16.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations be made to your favorite charity.

The family was served by McLaughlin Funeral Home, Fort Walton Beach, FL.

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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 Advisor Committee member listed in the left panel on the first page. Contact info? See Member List. Members are encouraged to submit articles, information or stories that would be of interest to the general membership.