



THE 6TH DIMENSION

WILLING & ABLE

Less than 6 weeks to go!




If you haven't already registered to be a part of the **"Last 6WSAA Reunion"** you still have time. As we announced in the last newsletter, and in the letter from Buck Bucklin in February, this is the one last hurrah or as Gene Autry would say:

The Last Round-Up!

So join us at our reunion in
Oklahoma City, home of our beloved
6th Mob & Tinker AFB on June 8-12, 2016!

A Note from Buck Bucklin:

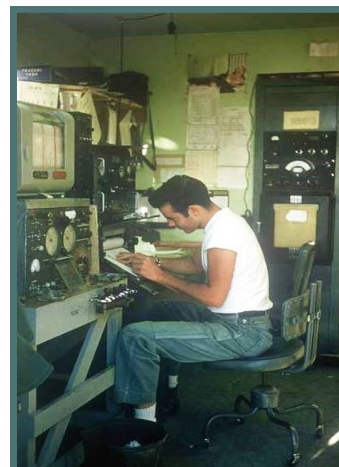


The year was 1983, I along with many others I received a letter from Tom Rivers talking about a reunion of us ex 6th Weather folk. My first reaction was "are they kidding?". A few days later I received a phone call while at work from my old buddy Bill King, asked if I had received the letter, and are you going? I replied it was 2 years away, I don't know! His reply was, I'm going! Well to make a long story short, Bill and I got there a day early, checked in at the Continental Motel and then went to get something to eat. On the way we past the Celebrity Club, Bill spotted River's truck and the party began. Back at the motel other "Mobers" had arrived and it went on from there. I can't say how many of us were at that first reunion, we all met so many old friends and made so many new ones the numbers are meaningless.

So now some 31 years later we are faced with the last reunion. Our numbers have dwindled, none of us are kids any longer but the spirit of the "Mob" is still there. The 6th Weather Squadron Alumni Association will continue, even though we are not planning another reunion but, as the saying goes "never say never".

On June 8th, we will reunite at the Wyndham Gardens Hotel in Oklahoma City for the last time. Bittersweet? Yes but, it's been one hell of a run. So join us, to toast all that have passed before us, and relive your past.

Buck



Operation Plumbob - 1957
Bob D'Alfano

Inside this issue:

Reunion Information	2
Radiosonde History	3
Final Launch	4
Schedule of Events	A
Registration Form	A



6TH WEATHER SQUADRON
(MOBILE)
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
WILLING & ABLE



6WSAA
P.O. Box 851362
YUKON, OK 73085
WWW.6THWEATHERMOBILE.ORG





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Page 2

Have you registered yet for The 6WSAA Last Reunion?

Time's short, so please don't miss this opportunity to reunite and send in your registration today and make your reservations at the hotel. As of April 20th we have: 26 paid and registered, 3 due, 8 listed as yes and 1 Elmo. A total of 38 so far. Here are some of those attending:

CLAUDE & 'PEG' BARROW	NEIL PRETE
CARL & ANNA BISHOP	STEVE GLEDISH
"TEX" WINDER	BILL KING
GORDON & BARBARA McCANN	ED SKOWRON
DON NISSEN	CHARLES & SARAH LEE
STEVE & MARY STYRON	TOM & CANDI RIVERS
JOE KERWIN	LEE WEBB
JIM & SHIRLEY ELDRINGHOFF	JOHN WEBB
DAVID & LEANNA GUENTHER	PAT GRONER
JOHN & EUNICE LASSITER	KEN BROWN
"BUCK" BUCKLIN	ELMO REDDICK
CARELOS & BETTY BOBURG
ERNIE WORKMAN
AL & VIRGINA BARDUSCH	
ROY & ELAINE FREIBURGER	



Chuck Miller - 2003 Reunion - Our Hero



Fred LaPierre's Van -2009

Are your dues up to date? (Does not apply to Honorary Members) If your dues date is 7/2016 or older, then your membership will soon expire. Renew your membership today using enclosed Membership Renewal form and send in the \$10 fee per year to keep your association membership current. You can also pay your dues using the Reunion Registration form when you send it in.

This 6th Dimension Newsletter is published for the exclusive use of our 6WSAA members. Information is included as reported without vetting and is edited for space. If you discover an error or items that need a correction, please notify Gerry Guay Editor, Email: webmaster@6thweathermobile.org Members are encouraged to submit articles, information or stories that would be of interest to the general membership. Thank you.



For Reservations at Our Reunion Hotel Wyndham Garden Hotel

Oklahoma City Airport
2101 South Meridian Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73108

Call 1-800-622-7666 or (405) 685-4000

Blocked Room Rates are \$84 Single/Double/
Triple/Quad, plus 13.875% Tax., per night.

Reservations must be received by:

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

(After that date, reservations will be accepted
on a Space Available Basis Only)

(Rates available Wednesday—Sunday; Check-
in 3:00 pm, Check-out 12:00 Noon)

Last Call for The Last Reunion

June 8 - 12, 2016 at the
Wyndham Garden Hotel, OKC.

- Fill out the Reunion Registration Form included in this mailing and mail to Buck Bucklin with your check soon. You can pay the association dues on this form also.
- Call Wyndham Garden Hotel and make your reservations for the room or rooms you need. (see above for Hotel information). Identify yourself as a member of 6WSAA for the reunion. Guests are responsible for paying all reserved accommodations and incidentals.



15th Reunion 2013 Cups

Great cups w/ 3 logos. **Only 2 left.** \$10 + Shipping
Last Chance. E-mail Shirley to order at:
shirknjim@aol.com



Oysters, beer, and a meteorological genius - Boston Globe: April 17, 2016

By James Rodger Fleming - A story on the early Radiosondes

Carl Rossby pushed back his plate of empty shells, drained his mug, and donned his still-damp trench coat, bidding his newest bosom buddies at the bar *adjö* as he headed out of the Union Oyster House into the snow, sleet, and freezing rain. The avuncular Swede, the leading meteorologist in the world, had a pressing appointment at the East Boston Airport with his MIT colleagues. During the slow cab ride through the slick streets, he recalled the path that had brought him to head the MIT meteorology department: Bergen, Norway, where he learned about cold fronts and polar air masses as an apprentice to the great physicist Vilhelm Bjerknes; Washington, D.C., where his new-fangled forecasting methods challenged the stodgy ways of the Weather Bureau; California, where he installed a model aviation forecasting system for the Guggenheim Foundation. Now, he was poised for yet another innovation in forecasting weather — not at the surface, but at 18,000 feet.

With grants from the National Academy of Sciences and the Guggenheim Foundation, MIT had purchased a research airplane in 1931 to carry aloft a device that traced a continuous record of temperature, relative humidity, and barometric pressure on a rolling paper chart. For the past five years Rossby had used these measurements to identify dynamic features of the upper atmosphere. On this January evening in 1936, the weather made flying much too dangerous, even for experienced pilots. Yet it was just such severe conditions that were most disruptive to society and were of most interest to meteorologists.

Rossby kept his head down as he dashed into the hangar, greeting his MIT colleagues K.O. Lange, director of the flying laboratory, and Professor Daniel C. Sayre, the veteran research pilot. A single-engine Cessna, Model A, the institute's airplane, stood idle behind them. The center of attention, however, was Vilho Väisälä, a distinguished Finnish entrepreneur who was providing the best commercial "robot-reporters" or radiosondes.

The new technology involved an expendable meteorological instrument package, borne aloft by a free-flight balloon, to measure, from the surface to the stratosphere, the vertical profiles of atmospheric variables and transmit the data via radio to a ground receiving system. According to Rossby, communications are the alpha and omega of meteorology. Early in his career, he had used Marconi wireless for signaling, but now radio was taking over in the form of miniaturized transmitters attached to balloons.

The four men bundled themselves up and dragged (or more accurately, wrestled) a 5-foot helium-filled balloon onto the tarmac and let it fly. Almost immediately it disappeared, carrying its instrument package into the low-hanging clouds. But the receiving station in the hangar was humming, receiving continuous data until the signal was lost. Success!

Helium-filled balloons could fly to 40,000 feet — much higher than piloted aircraft — and could be launched in virtually all weather conditions with no risks to aviators. As the balloon rose, it expanded and eventually burst. The small radiosonde package returned to earth on a parachute. The package had a postage-paid label instructing anyone finding it to return it to the Weather Bureau.

Meteorologists quickly adopted radiosondes for daily weather soundings, immediately expanding both the height and the meaning of the term "atmosphere." Specially equipped models carried cosmic ray, ozone, and ultra-violet radiation detectors, and eventually the technology was adapted for remote sensing applications and radio telemetry used in the space age, on rockets and satellites. Since a radio receiving ground station was part of every radiosonde launch, Rossby added courses in electronics as essential components of meteorological training at MIT.

Rossby ordered 300 radiosondes that evening, enough to supply a network of 10 stations in New England for an experimental, month-long project. He also ordered more oysters and beer for his colleagues by way of celebration. Rossby encouraged the Weather Bureau to begin a national network of twice-daily balloon launches, eventually numbering 200 per day.

Rossby used such measurements to identify large-scale flow patterns in the upper atmosphere: planetary waves — often called Rossby waves — that have a direct influence on surface weather. This was perhaps his most important scientific discovery.

Rossby moved in both geophysical and practical circles, first as a Bergen school acolyte, and then building models of planetary waves that circle the entire Northern Hemisphere at high levels. He inspired and mentored a new generation of theorists. During World War II, he trained thousands of army weather officers and consulted on practical meteorological matters worldwide. His toolbox included airplane soundings, radiosondes, digital computing, and networks for chemical climatology. He built three major academic programs — schools really — at MIT, Chicago, and Stockholm, launched several journals, and circulated in the highest levels of both the US and Swedish governments.

Wherever Rossby went — and he went far — he was at the center of a moving seminar on atmospheres and oceans, surrounded by his many colleagues, nurturing a cadre of elite students, and holding court at the best dining and drinking establishments in town.



Changes: Please keep us informed of any e-mail or address changes by e-mailing us at:



webmaster@6thweathermobile.org or

USPS mail us at our mailing address: 6WSAA, P.O. Box 851362 Yukon, OK 73085



Final Launch



Wilbur A. Biggs - May 30, 1948 - February 12, 2016 Wilbur A. Biggs, age 67 of Monticello, passed away Friday, February 12, 2016 at his home. He was born May 30, 1948 in Gould, AR to the late Allen Price Biggs, Jr. and Gay Nell Clarke Biggs. He was retired from the United States Air Force, a retired truck driver and a member of Ladelle Baptist Church. He served in 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) from 1970 to 1973 at Tinker AFB, OK and was a member of 6WSAA. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by a brother, Rusty Biggs and a sister, Sara Mae Maxwell. He was an avid outdoorsman where he enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening and cooking. He was referred to as the "gentle giant", loving the Lord, his family and friends with all of his heart and might. Survivors include his wife, Cheryl Biggs of Monticello; two sons, Jason Biggs and John Biggs both of Ashville, NC; one brother, Allen Biggs and wife Petra of Cattle Mills, TX; three stepdaughters, Michele Koppel and husband Jason, Denna Luedecke and Shelia Verser; two stepsons, Steve Luedecke and Kelly Luedecke; a number of step-grandchildren and great-grandchildren; along with numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends



Anita Louise Hewitt - July 5, 1928 - March 21, 2016 Anita L Hewitt was born on July 5, 1928 in Shamrock, OK to Leslie and Goldie (Gwartney) Crow. Anita passed from this life on Monday, March 21, 2016 at the age of 87. She was preceded in death by a brother, Leslie Dean Crow. She is survived by her husband, Charles "Chuck" Hewitt of the home; her children, Mike Fugate of Tulsa, OK, Greg Fugate of Claremore, OK, Leslie Brunken of Tulsa, OK and Gary Fugate of Tulsa, OK; her step children, Christina Callahan of Poquoson, VA, Elizabeth Linson of Tulsa, OK and Valerie Hewitt of El Reno, OK; brothers, Jim Crow of Locust Grove, OK and Hulbert Crow of Cleveland, OK; 11 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.



Brickyard Brewery Gang - 2003



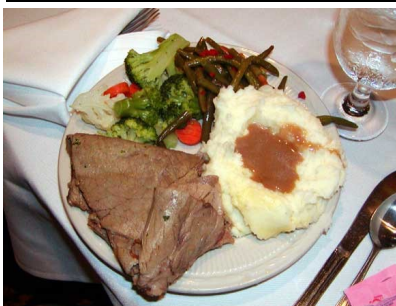
Tinker AFB Main Gate - 2003



At OKC Memorial - 2005



Bricktown Canal Water Taxi-2003



Buffet Dinner - 2007



Jerry Hunt & Flyin' High - 2005

"We are grateful that we can gather together once again to renew friendships and make new ones, celebrate with those who are present, remember and miss those who are absent, and mourn those who are departed."