

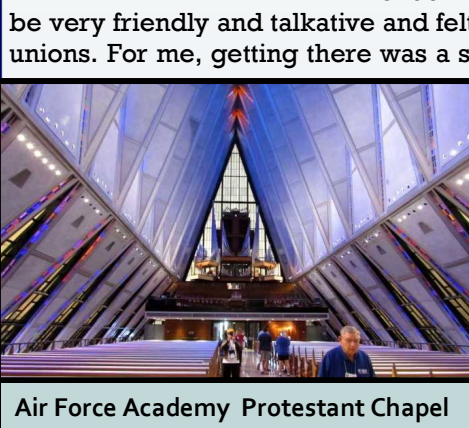


THE 6TH DIMENSION

WILLING & ABLE



AWA Reunion - The 2018 Air Weather Association Reunion was held in Colorado Springs at the Marriott Hotel as scheduled with three of 6th Moberers attending, Neil Prete, Larry Beaver and myself. A few more 6th Moberers had planned to attend but had to cancel. 6th Weather Alumni held the last reunion in 2016 in OKC. Never attending a AWA Reunion before and not knowing any members, I quickly made friends with a few ex-weather people and found them to



Air Force Academy Protestant Chapel

be very friendly and talkative and felt at home pretty much like our 6th Weather Reunions. For me, getting there was a short flight from Salt Lake City to Denver, then driving down to Colorado Springs in a rental car, a 1 hour and 10 minute drive. Some of the people I met were reunion chairman Tom Accola, photographer Tony Baltz, AWA webmaster Jim DeCarufel, Kevin Lavin, Gene Harsh, John Mazella, Bob Endlich and Roger and June Lowe from Tennessee. An old friend and Honorary member Fred LaPerriere was also there with his familiar historical weather van and meteorological instruments. We chatted a while and it was good to see Fred and the van display again. I put my book of all our newsletters on a table in the hospitality room for people to look at and received a few compliments on the collec-



Fred LaPerriere's weather van



Garden of the Gods

tion. Friday I signed up for the bus tour of the Air Force Academy, mostly visiting the chapel and student classroom and quarters area and then to Garden of the Gods, a popular tourist park of beautiful red rock outcroppings. They also had other tours to National Museum of World War II Aviation, Old Colorado City and Magic Town which I would have liked to visit but time was short. Friday evening was a BBQ buffet dinner held outside the hotel in a large white tent with tables and chairs. The food was delicious and was included in the cost of the reunion. I wanted to drive up Pikes Peak which I never had the chance to do on previous trips to Colorado Springs. So Saturday morning I drove



Academy grounds & display

up the road that goes to the summit of Pike's Peak, an elevation of 14,115 feet, barely enough oxygen up there. Had to take a shuttle the last couple miles because of construction of a new summit house and parking was not available.

Are your dues up to date? NEW Renew your membership today. Just write a check payable to 6WSAA and send it in. to: 6WSAA c/o Buck Bucklin, 8 Sherwood Lane, East Hampton, NY 11937 \$10 fee per year to keep your association membership current. If you do not know what your dues date is, you can go to our website letstalk.6thweathermobile.org, enter the User ID and Password in the security window, click on Member List to get to the page, then click on **Member List** to view the list. You can also e-mail me at webmaster@6thweathermobile.org and ask for your dues date or for your User ID and Password to access the secure site. It will be e-mailed back to you. Thank You

Inside this issue:

AWA Reunion	1, 2
6th WS History AST-7	3, 4
Steve Gladish's Book	5
Final Launch	5, 6



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THE 6TH DIMENSION

Page 2

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.



Garden of the Gods

After walking 20 steps I was quite out of breath. Of course age might also have something to do with this. Saturday night was the reunion banquet beautifully set in the large ballroom with dinner served individually at the table. I sat with Eric and Lyn Walther from Kansas and Harvey Kahle from Missouri, a WWII vet at 93 years old with his friend Robert Nihouse. We had good table discussions and the food was delicious, I know the prime rib was. Sunday morning was the farewell



National Museum of WWII Aviation

breakfast with some friends, then the drive back to Denver to catch my Southwest flight back to Salt Lake City. It was a good weekend and reunion. Wish that other 6th Mobers could have made it also.



Tony Baltz, Sam Verhunc & 6WSAA member Neil Prete



Me (Gerry Guay), Regina and Jim Hogan & 6WSAA member Larry Beaver



Robert Nihouse, Harvey Kahle (WWII vet), & Me (Gerry Guay)



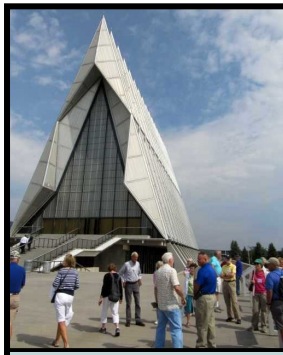
Banquet night in the ballroom



At the top of Pikes Peak 14,115 feet elevation.



On the way up to Pikes Peak seen in the distance



AF Academy Chapel



Catholic Chapel



Visit Stephen Gladish's website at: <http://stephenbgladish.com/>

My Notes from 6th Weather Squadron - Operation Oyster Shell AST-7 '62,'63,'64

In the last newsletter I talked about Operation Dominic's 1962 nuke tests in the Pacific. During that time and into the next couple years we were also providing upper air weather support to the Air Photographic and Charting Service, APCS photomapping a large area of the U.S. and Australian Trust Territories south of Guam. Starting in March 1962 through end of 1964, three man flights (2 weather observers and 1 weather equipment technician) J, K & L inhabited many islands in the Southwest Pacific as part of Aerial Survey Team 7, better known to all of us as AST-7 and sometimes referred to as Project Oyster Shell and 60-13. This project continually utilized 10 to 11 airmen with the NCOIC Section located at Andersen AFB, Guam. Over the time of this project, the sites were located at various remote islands far beyond the normal reach of the Air Force supply lines for logistic and administrative support, but the dedicated NCOs and airmen of the 6th Mobile used their professionalism and ingenuity to overcome all situations that arose. Besides the NCOIC headquarters at Guam, the sites for Phase I were on islands of Truk, Ponape, Kapingamarangi, they were later moved to Mussau, Buka, and Vitu for Phase II. When Phase III began in February of 1963, the sites were moved to more favorable locations, Mussau site to Kavieng, New



Ken Zinke and Bongo & troops on LST-529 USS Cayuga County



Weather site at Kapingamarangi

Ireland; Buka site moved to Losuia in the Kiriwina Islands and the Vitu site was later relocated to Port Moresby, Papua, New Guinea. I arrived at that site in July '63 living in a hotel, then shortly after moved to another new site at Wewak on the northern coast where the three of us rented part of an Aussie's house for our accommodations. Friendly Aussies treated us well. Mail delivery was sparse and sometimes absent depending on the remote location of the site. A Receiver/Transmitter on each site was used for daily communications with the Net Control Station in Port Moresby and the sites received project instructions for weather sounding requirements for that day. The receiver also provided us with world news and happenings via Voice of America, and sometimes if



Truk Islander's welcome.



RB-50s at Port Moresby Airport

conditions were right, we were able to listen to radio station KOMA in Oklahoma City. A little morale booster. Also, a weekly communication with the NCOIC in Guam or his representative for the activity and maintenance report was provided every Saturday morning. The NCOIC was aboard the resupply ship a good part of the time enabling better communications and site visits during resupply runs. Port Moresby was also the headquarters for AST-7 and the RB-50s that were flying the lines, and their crews and photomapping support people. I believe there were about 150 Air Force personnel in Port Moresby in July '63, about the time I arrived there. All

(Continued on Page 4)

Changes: To keep our costs low: Please keep us informed of any e-mail or address changes by e-mailing us at webmaster@6thweathermobile.org or USPS mail us 6WSAA c/o Buck Bucklin, 8 Sherwood Lane, East Hampton, NY 11937





THE 6TH DIMENSION

My Notes from 6th Weather Squadron - Operation Oyster Shell AST-7 '62,'63,'64 (Continued from Page 3)

balloon releases were specials as required for that day and none were scheduled releases. The requirement consisted of temperature, pressure and humidity soundings to 40,000 feet or less depending on the aircraft's mission for that day. A sounding was only taken when a photographic mission was flown and the data was then radioed to the project AST-7's Net Control Station in Port Moresby. Sometimes our sites were alerted to standby during the time of the mission for an immediate release as required. HIRAN was used in the photomapping and consisted of an electro-distance measuring system similar to SHORAN but with improved accuracy for measuring distances from an airborne station to each of two ground stations. Many of these HIRAN stations were on mountain tops surrounded by jungle and all site



Navy H-34 helicopter on deck of LST USS Cayuga County



Airmen Henthorn & Swanson at Port Moresby Airport weather site

people, supplies and provisions had to be flown in by helicopter. They started with a Navy Sikorsky H-34 then later switched to a Kaman Aircraft H-43B which had better altitude performance. The LST USS Cayuga County, LST-529 was used for transport of supplies, sites and personnel from one island to another. It did not have a helicopter flight deck so they had to carefully land on the aft main deck. Small boats were also used to carry supplies from the ship to the docks. In June of '62 a Navy H-34 helicopter crashed-

landed at a high altitude on one of the islands and fortunately the two man crew survived the wreck but with severe burns on their backside and were able to follow a stream down the mountain to reach the rescue team which could not be dropped at the crash site because of the weather. The accident was a result of "ground settling", trying to hover in thin air with too much weight. The AST-7 project continued during 1964 with weather support for the 1370th Photo Mapping Wing. At the beginning of '64 two of our sites were in Australia and one still in Port Moresby as they worked on the last stages of Phase III in Australia. Photomapping support was in it's third year and soon to be completed. As AST-7 was coming to a close, a new photomapping project, 58-3 Kings Ransom was starting with three rawinsonde teams arriving in Ethiopia in May and the fourth in June of 1964. 6th Weather troops continued to do a lot of travelling in providing support as they always have wherever they were needed. Willing and Able is our appropriate motto.



Sergeants Morris & Thompson on inspection trip at Wewak Airport



Kaman H-43B Huey at Wewak



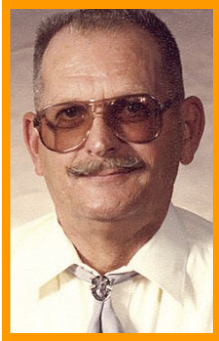
Weather site at Wewak, New Guinea



Airman Jim Parker at Wewak site



Don't forget to visit our website at: <http://6thweathermobile.org>



Final Launch

Ted V. Lungwitz November 16, 1932 – January 10, 2018 Ted Lungwitz, 85, born November 16, 1932; passed away January 10, 2018. Preceded in death by daughter, Martha. Survived by children, Lisa (Danny) and Linda (Dan), and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Ted was a retired meteorologist, veteran, and ham radio operator. He served in 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) in 1955 and 1956 at Tinker AFB, OK and was a member of 6WSAA and also served on the Board of Directors. At his request cremation and no services.

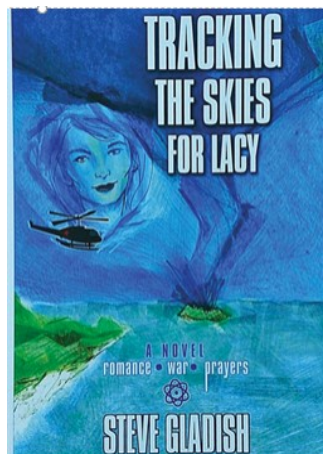


Alfred "Al" Mayo Jr. 1938-2010 Alfred E. Mayo Jr., of Magnolia, Delaware passed away Saturday, Dec. 18, 2010, in Kent General Hospital, Dover. He was 72. Alfred was born on Feb. 7, 1938, in Concord, N.H., son of the late Alfred and Ida Mayo. He served his country proudly in the United States Air Force, retiring with the rank of Master Sergeant. He served in 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) from 1957 to 1958, 1960 to 1963 and 1965 to 1968 at Tinker AFB, OK and was a member of 6WSAA. He later worked in finance for Civil Service for 10 years. Alfred enjoyed wood carving, painting, playing cribbage and pinochle. He was preceded in death by a son, Shawn Sweeney. Alfred is survived by his wife of 39 years, Jeanette Mayo; six children, Timothy Sweeney of Magnolia, Terry Campbell and her husband Bruce of Camden, Jonathan Mayo and his wife Janice of Magnolia, Michael Mayo and his wife Doris of Boscawen, N.H., Brian O'Reilly and his wife Karen of Penacook, N.H., and Colleen Mayo of Dover; two sisters, Edwina Bennoit and her husband Lester of Penacook, N.H., and Dorothy Shaddick of Penacook, N.H.; seven grandchildren, Angel Bradshaw of Baltimore, Md., Timothy C. Sweeney of Camden, Amanda and Emily Campbell of Camden, Cindi Lu Mayo of Boscawen, N.H., Tyler and Jared Mayo of Magnolia.

Tracking the Skies for Lacy is a Sixth Weather Squadron military adventure romance novel with inspirational themes of love and loss, danger and perseverance. Luke LaCrosse joins the Air Force's Sixth Weather Squadron (Mob), tracks weather balloons twenty miles up to provide information to USAF weather forecasters, supports upper-atmosphere thermonuclear missile tests around Samoa, chases tornadoes with classic motorcycles and Sixth Weather sidekicks in Oklahoma, and flies rescue helicopters in Vietnam, always yearning to reconnect with Lacy DeLuca who has held his heart since early high school. The novel is dedicated to all members of Sixth Weather Squadron, whose camaraderie, self-reliance, and adventures around the world were handed down and around from one reunion to the next. Without the reunions this novel would never have been written. Steve says, "The dedication doesn't mean a thing unless you read the book! Money back guarantee."

In "Tracking the Skies for Lacy," Lacy's own adventures start when she wins independence from her wealthy family's expectations, gets out on her own, and discovers what real life is like. She is years ahead of the women in the 'Sixties' who accepted more conventional roles as their lot. After years of loneliness and heartbreaks afflicted on each other, Lacy and Luke meet at a Sixth Weather Reunion, which leads to a fateful river trip. *Tracking the Skies for Lacy* is an affirmation of the power, independence, and faith of love.

** This is the first of a Sixth Weather trilogy. The next story, "Riding the Ranges for Quanah," takes place mainly at the Nevada Test Site. The hero, Dakota Duval, is modeled after our Sixth Weather hero, Chuck Miller. You know you will want to read this novel. The heroine, Quanah, is a tough Paiute/Shoshone woman whose family catches, breaks, and trains mustangs.** STEVE GLADISH



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Riding the Ranges for Quanah

Coming 2019

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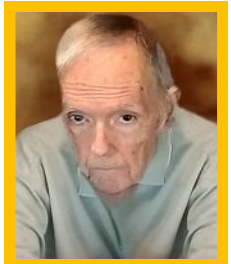
Final Launch



John Davis Baker 1943 - 2018 John Davis Baker, 75, of Ragland, Alabama passed away on August 3, 2018 in Pell City. Mr. Baker was a retired Master Sergeant with the U.S. Air Force. He served in 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) from 1965 to 1966 at Tinker AFB, OK and was a member of 6WSAA. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jean and Bernice Baker. He is survived by his wife, Sandy Baker; sons, Robert Baker (Jessica) and William Baker (Lara); daughter, Tracy Baker (Brian Strueser); sister, Janiece Oliver (Vaughn); and eleven grandchildren.



Harold John Maille 1940 - 2018 Harold J. Maille, age 78, a resident of Heatherwood Retirement Community in Boise ID, passed away peacefully Tuesday, June 26th 2018, at St Luke's Meridian Hospital. He was born February 14, 1940, to Harold W. and Gertrude (Mussig) Maille of Schenectady NY. Harold retired from the U.S. Air Force after 20 yrs. He served in 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) from 1957 to 1961 at Tinker AFB, OK and was a member of 6WSAA. He also worked with the Veterans Administration in Albany NY as a substance abuse counselor. He was an avid reader, particularly of history, and loved his travels throughout the US as well as Europe and Asia. He loved sharing his experiences traveling widely in China and treasured his time at The Great Wall. Harold was preceded in death by his daughter, Tara Palmer, and is survived by his daughters, Kelly Palmer and Angie Vasquez, and his son, (Harold) Tony Maille; as well as his sisters, Judy and Debbie, and all his nieces, nephews, and grandchildren. He will be remembered by his friends and family as a very interesting person who always enjoyed channeling his New York roots, cooking and learning new things.



John E. Craig 1933 - 2017 John E. Craig, 84, of Revere MA, passed away on October 13, 2017 surrounded by his loving family. Beloved husband of Barbara (Silva) Craig. Loving father of William J. Craig and his wife Charlene of Kansas City, MO and James Craig and his wife Kathleen of Gloucester. Dear brother of the Janice Craig of Revere, Donald Craig of Melrose and the late Carolyn Bocanfuso and Joan Gutmann. Cherished grandfather of Meadow, Danica, and Ailsa Craig. Also lovingly survived by many nieces and nephews. Late U.S. Air Force Korean War Veteran and lifelong member of the American Legion Revere. He served in 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) from 1954 to 1956 at Tinker

AFB, OK and was a member of 6WSAA.



Miguel D. Sena Miguel D. Sena, of Hephzibah, Ga., entered into rest Saturday, August 8, 2015 at his residence. Mr. Miguel D. Sena, Jr. husband of Mrs. Margaret Ann Sena have been married since February 7, 1959. He was a native of Alameda, New Mexico and Retired MSGT of 20 years in the U.S. Air Force. He served in 6th Weather Squadron at Tinker AFB, OK in '65-'67, '70-'72, and '75-'76 and he was a member of 6WSAA. He was a lifetime member of the VFW, he was the past commander of the American Legion Post 69 in Alameda, NM, and he was member of the first class to graduate from Valley High School in 1955. He was a faithful supporter of the Special Olympics. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Augusta. He loved spending time outdoors with family and friends. Additional survivors include two sons, Mark Sena and Matthew Sena; brother, Jerry Sena; and two sisters and Dora Garcia, Jeanette Gutierrez; and one granddaughter, Jordan.

George "Jack" Parker - Jack Parker recently died in Sapporo, Japan. He served in 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) at Tinker AFB, OK in '50 to '51 and '67 to '72. Obituary not available.

