6TH WEATHER TROOPS ARE FACING AN UNPRECEDENTED VIRUS NAMED COVID-19 AKA CORONAVIRUS.....

MAY 2020 6WSAA ALL STATIONS

MOST OF US ARE GETTING UP THERE IN AGE AND WE MUST TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS AS WE ALL KNOW BY NOW. I MADE MY WEEKLY TRIP TO THE SUPERMARKET THIS MORNING TO PICK UP SOME FOOD AND WEARING MY MASK, SANITIZING MY HANDS AND BASKET HANDLE, FOLLOWING THE ARROWS ON THE FLOOR TO DIRECT US IN ONE DIRECTION. NOW ALSO PLEXIGLAS BETWEEN ME AND THE CASHIER ALSO WEARING A MASK. WHAT A STRANGE NEW WORLD WE LIVE IN. SOME OF US ARE HUNKERED DOWN IN OUR HOMES, SCARED TO VENTURE OUT TO PLACES WE NORMALLY VISIT, RESTAURANTS, HAIR SALONS, BARBER SHOPS. VISITING WITH FAMILY AT A DISTANCE IS A NEW NORMAL. SOME STATES ARE RELAXING GUIDELINES AND OPENING MORE SHOPS WITH RULES, BUT IT WILL BE A WHILE YET AND MAY NEVER OVERCOME SOME NECESSARY CHANGES.

WE RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER AND TOGETHER WE WILL OVERCOME THIS LIKE MY PARENTS DID IN THE 1918 PANDEMIC. TO ALL THE “WILLING AND ABLE” STAY SAFE.

This newsletter is e-mailed to everyone who has an e-mail account which helps us save the labor and cost of publishing and mailing a paper copy. So if you are receiving a paper copy and you have an e-mail address or no longer want to receive the newsletter, please notify us at: webmaster@6thweathermobile.org or write us at: 6WSAA c/o Buck Bucklin, 8 Sherwood Lane, East Hampton, NY 11937

Are your dues up to date? 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 dues per year to keep your association membership current. If you receive the newsletter by e-mail, you can go to our website enter the User ID and Password in the security window, click on Member List to get to the page, then click on Member List. You can also e-mail me at webmaster@6thweathermobile.org.

Inside this issue:

Notes. Dues, Newsletter 1
6th WS History 1966 2, 3, 4, 5
Misc, Dave’s Notes 6
Final Launch 7, 8
My Notes from 6th Weather Squadron ~ January to December 1966

1966 and Col Elwyn Moseley is 6th Weather Commander with Lt Col Robert Vincent as Executive and Operations Officer. As of 30 June, the squadron is staffed with 6 Officers, 1 Warrant, 69 NCOs 151 Airmen and 2 Civilians for a total of 229 personnel. There is usually a difference in the number authorized and assigned and it changes frequently during the year. In January, the Squadron was proud to hear it was selected as Air Weather Service nominee for the coveted DCS/Systems and Logistics Award for 1965 with special recognition to Lt Sidwell, CMSgt Schumacher and MSgt Downey. Met support was provided to 15 projects in Alaska, Panama, Ethiopia, the South Pacific and Greenland and to Air Force units, AF contractors, US Army and US Weather Bureau and personnel help to five 6th Weather Wing Detachments. Since March of ‘62 AF Project 60-13 Oyster Shell, Aerial Survey Team-7 was conducted in the Southwest Pacific and was concluded in March of ‘66. Three mobile upper air teams provided met data to the Aerial Survey Team-7 for photomapping support in Micronesia, Australia, Melanesia and western islands of Polynesia. AF Project 58-3 Kings Ransom, is a continuing project from April ‘64 with met support to Aerial Survey Team-4 of the 1370th Photo Mapping Wing. A joint US - Ethiopia project with four weather teams in the first half of the year at Dire Dawa, Ghinir, Aware and Goda and a supervisory element in Asmara, Ethiopia. Additional sites were operating later at Arba Mench, Jimma, Adis Ababa and Negele. Project Ash Can provided rawinsonde equipment and personnel as required for overseas support of air sampling operations of Det 31, 6th Weather Wing. A three man team provided support at Albrook AFB, Canal Zone from January to April. A two man team provided weather support at Eielson AFB, Alaska from May to August. Then in September returned to Albrook then deployed to Natal, Brazil and returned to the Canal Zone in November. Rome Air Development Center received support of two personnel at Griffiths AFB, NY for RADC’s electromagnetic energy propagation project. In October additional soundings were conducted in support of AFCRL’s LO-LOCAT Project, a co-located project. A Spring Observation Program from April to June was conducted by the National Severe Storms laboratory at Norman, Oklahoma to allow NSSL to observe a few severe storms with fine analysis and correlation of data to determine process of evolution of a storm’s life. 6th Weather provided six mobile upper air teams deployed at, Watonga, Cordell, Ringling, Chickasha and Paul’s Valley in OK and Childress, TX. A total of 811 upper air soundings were performed during this project. AF Project 770 was provided three mobile rawinsonde teams by 6th Weather in April and May in support of high altitude research balloon flights. Our teams were stationed in Childress and Levelland, TX and and Hobbs, NM. This was a refinement and more sophisticated concept of Operation Hen House that 6th Weather supported in 1964. Project Mountain Iron directed by Battelle-Northwest was provided three teams with 13 personnel and 2 rawinsonde

(Continued on Page 3)
through Feb ’66 at Beale AFB, CA. 6th Weather provided a 13 man mobile flight to assist Det 20, 9th Weather Sq by conducting rawinsonde and wiresonde operations. **AFCRL Balloon Flight Tests** in May was provided rawinsonde and tracking support by a mobile rawinsonde team of 6 personnel at Fallon NAAS, Nevada. They conducted 20 rawinsonde flights and 100 pibal observations in support of the balloon flights. **Project Goatley** in Cudjoe Key, FL in June and July one weather observer assisted in pibal operations. **Rocketsonde Operations**: The rocketsonde launch facility at Thule AB, Greenland was reinstalled during late March with the first launch of 1966 in April. There were 27 launches with 18 complete successes, 5 partial successes and 4 failures. It was 100% success with the rocket motors. Personnel were increased from 12 to 19. An increase of 3 launch facilities was anticipated by August. The rocketsonde section is also performing quality control checking of all launch records conducted by our mobile flights, and training of personnel has been a priority. **Project Deseret(?)** in Fort Greely, Alaska a highly classified project to assist the US Army in their operations from July to October required 6 of our personnel. Although not mentioned in our historical records, I believe this was a continuation of **Project Devil Hole** from the bigger **Project 112**. A VX aerosol was the agent being studied. This was directed from the Deseret Test Center in Utah. **Project Skin Diver/Hardlook**, a classified project deployed to the South Pacific utilized 13 of our 6th Weather personnel and 2 GMDs in May through October in a still unknown location or purpose. No information was found online but if any of you reading this can shed some light, I would be grateful. Write me at webmaster@6thweathermobile.org. **USQ-28 Tests (AFSC)**, FL & GA, 16 personnel in 4 upper air observing teams were deployed to Sebastian, New Smyrna and Andytown, Florida and Jekyll, Georgia in providing weather support for the USQ-28 Tests. Each team was equipped with UMQ-9 meteorological sub-systems to obtain upper air data. Tests have proven the reliability and vast improvement and in mobility over the GMD-1 for HIRAN and (Continued on Page 4)
SHIRAN projects. Project Blue Rock (AFCRL) similar to the Balloon Flight Tests in May were conducted in November at Fallon NAS, Nevada with 6 personnel for the Defense Atomic Support Agency. In the 2 weeks of this project the team provided 15 rawinsonde soundings and 55 pibals to 6,000 feet. Upper Air Support to Harmon AFB, Newfoundland from September to December was provided by 7 men to phase out the AWS operations and transfer this to the Canadian Upper Air Section in a close coordinated effort and smooth transition. They performed 150 soundings. Long Range Oblique Photography (LOROP) Project at Colorado Springs, CO required 6 airmen in August and September to acquire upper air data. A site was set up between Pike’s Peak and Castle Rock to support Honeywell Corp in conducting the Long Range Oblique Photography mission. A total of 38 rawinsonde soundings were completed. 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) also provided an augmentation force to the following Detachments/Projects:

- Det 10, Eglin AFB, FL from March to May three observers assisted with pibal operations.
- Det 21, Edwards AFB, CA and El Centro NAS from January through November one observer augmented the rawinsonde section and in May three additional observers were deployed to Edwards for the 6511th Test Group Support. In December one operator at El Centro was assigned permanently to Det 21.
- Det 30, Vandenberg AFB, CA two observers were manning the Base Weather station in support of Project Mountain Iron.
- Det 31, Goodfellow AFB, TX from March to June an observer was deployed to augment their rawinsonde activities.
- Det 54, Hanscom Field, MA from February to May, an observer was deployed for weather support for Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories’ (AFCRL) projects.

AFCRL Support at Hanscom Field was provided by two airmen in November at the Equipment Engineering and Evaluation Branch for revising rate of rise tables for pibal and ceiling balloons.

Oklahoma State Fair Display was held in the first week of October when the squadron set up an Air Weather Service meteorological display and eleven personnel worked on this community relations display in Oklahoma City. The display consisted of a complete mobile rawinsonde unit and rocketsonde setup. The colorful display was enthusiastically attended by 260,000 members of the public.

Rocketsonde Operations continued and expanded in both scope and operation from one part time launch facility to three continuous launch facilities. At Thule AB, Greenland scheduled rocketsonde launches continued through August, then to resume in Spring of 67. Deteriorating weather conditions and lack of adequate radar support were primary factors in terminating the operation. At Eniwetok Island, the rocket launch facility became operational in July and operated by a three man flight and scheduled for three launches per week with any requested additional launches required by AFWTR. The plan to use DMQ-9 instruments with tracking by GMD-4 was scrapped because of non-availability of operational DMQ-9 payloads. An alternative using an on-site CPS-9 radar was adapted to track the Arcasonde-1A instruments to provide range and altitude data. Quite a feat of field expediency. In October and November at Vandenberg AFB, CA, a three man flight installed and operated a launch facility in support of the Office of Aerospace Research for an Atmospheric Variability Study, a joint Air

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Force, Navy and US Weather Bureau with simultaneous launches from Vandenberg, Point Mugu and San Nicholas Island and USNS Range Tracker. The ship USNS Range Tracker provided launch operations using an Arcas Launcher commenced operation in November with 2 USWB and one 6th Weather person. The movement of the ship, proximity of the tracking equipment to the launcher and narrow beam of the radar proved a major problem. Panama Canal Zone with a three man team, established a launch facility at MacKenzie Battery. Jointly manned by Army and Air Force to provide data to the Atomic Energy Commission, the facility became operational in December. Verbal instructions have been received to deploy a 3 man flight to Cold Lake, Canada in January to establish a launch site and train and assist Canadian personnel in its operation. Research, test and studies were conducted at Tinker AFB on 1. Density, fall rate and temperature profiles over a three year period from 5 launch sites at different latitudes to obtain a standard profile that could be used at at any launch location. 2. Arcasonde Baseline Tests were conducted to determine instrument irregularities. Our personnel were also busy writing standard rocketsonde operating and data reduction procedures for all AF rocketsonde activities. In order to enhance the quality and validity of the product provided to users, we pursued the evaluation, quality control and research on a continuing basis. There is so much more but we know 6th Weather was at the heart of rocketsonde operations. And much credit goes to all the support arms and activities that make all these operations possible. The continuing of Upgrade Training and Testing, the General Military Training, Rocketsonde Training and Certification, ASCENTS (Atmospheric Sounding Central Evaluation & Test Section), Weather Editing, Weather Equipment Maintenance, Motor Pool, Unit Personnel and Administration, Squadron Safety Program and Community Relations.

Another story of 6th Weather ingenuity and field expedient capabilities of its personnel by Bob Bowling. 50 years ago, April 17, 1970. Apollo 13 had a problem. I was on an Air Force mission on board a Navy ship (1943 Liberty Ship). We were from 6th Weather Sq Mobile from Tinker and were using a GMD-2 for upper air wind tracking. NASA asked us if we could track Apollo 13. We gave it some thought and with the aid of a GS engineer, we strapped his commercial receiver to the top of the GMD above the normal receiver. We ran the AGC signal from his receiver to the AGC input on the driver assembly, and it tracked. I knew we needed to replace the center of the ant dish with a standard antenna. I went to the ships carpenter shop and found some 2 X 2 wood strips and built a frame then took a roll of 1/4 inch cooper pipe and pulled it along and over the wood frame attached an RF cable with a BNC connector, mounted it in the center of the dish, attached it to the commercial receiver and dialed in the NASA tracking signal. We were able to pick up the signal and engage the GMD it tracked the Apollo 13 to the water. I had to use an audio link to the radio room giving azimuth and elevation readings every 3 min until we tracked it to the water. The ship I was on was the backup recovery ship, and the navy guys had prepped the ship to pick up the spacecraft if need, but the planned recovery ship was closer.
Notes from Dave Weiner’s page on our website:

6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) 1960 - 1963

I enlisted on 3 Dec, 1959 went through basic, we were shipped out early just after 1 Jan. to be at Chanute to start school. We didn’t have the graduation etc. at Lackland, didn’t even get the AF pictures in our blues. I finished school, went home to Wisconsin for a 15 day leave and reported to Tinker. First project 9-60 to 11-60 at Wendover, Utah. Clifford T. Jones NCOIC. We were deployed to Lake Side test site. We lived in some old barracks that had been drug in from....., they sat up on cement blocks on the corners, bathed in a bucket from a water trailer. Upon return, I volunteered for a mission with Staff Sgt. Billie Lassiter from the motor pool. We took a Tactical Tractor from our motor pool, picked up 40 Ft helium trailers from a plant in TX and delivered them to the Tornado Alley sites. January 1961 Tornado Alley, trained at south 40, I was on a team with TSgt Paul Hardy, NCOIC. Left Tinker for Ellington AFB, TX Jan., stayed in BOQ just across the parade ground from the NCO club for the duration until late May. Tinker resupply then to Goodland KS (full per diem $14/day) We rented a house from Edna Eversole, a bankers widow. We almost got kicked out for making loud noises late at night and PW falling down the basement steps and disrupting all of the laundry tubs! Tooley and I saved the day, we trimmed all of her shrubs about 100’ of overgrown bridal wreath.... did such a neat job that the mayor came over to thank us. We kept Hardy quiet after that...but Ted and I had some problems with noisy girls as I recall... but just kept kissing up and trimming the hedge. Mrs. Eversole kept us in fresh bread. Tooley and I got promoted to A2C... notified by telegram from Lt. Col. David C. Barrow, acting commander, after Col Pusan and Before Lt. Col. Mosely. After return from Goodland, I took my 5 level, then started teaching in the Squadron classroom and doing squadron art work and sign painting at the base sign shop. Got home for Christmas that year and came back in January to form up for deployment to Operation Dominic...NCOIC MSGT Kenneth Benson, a retrainee, aircraft mechanic. We all worked at S-40 training the "retreads", Benson, Schulenburg, Ken Brown, and ? Interesting, we trained them and they wrote our APRs... what an idea!!

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Lorraine D. Jones 1931 – 2019  Senior Master Sergeant Lorraine D. Jones, USAF, Retired, passed away peacefully Saturday, November 2, 2019 in Fort Walton Beach, FL. She was born December 15, 1931 in Orange, NJ to Mary E. (Lenman) and George R. Jones. She was predeceased by her sister, Esther M. and husband, Herbert I. Wright Jr.; nephew Herbert I. Wright III of Bayville NJ. She is survived by her nieces, Janice Broadwater of Marathon, FL., Patricia and Steven Zaccaro, also Laurie and Ralph Villano of Bayville NJ. Lorraine graduated from Toms River High School in June of 1949 and enlisted in the United States Air Force in January 1950. She completed basic training at Kelly Field, San Antonio, TX. and was assigned to the Weather School, Chanute AFB, IL. Lorraine was in meteorology for over 25 years and served during the Korean and Vietnam wars. She was stationed in ten stateside bases and volunteered for duty overseas in Keflavik, Iceland, Frankfurt, Wiesbaden, and Ramstein, Germany and Korat, Thailand. Sgt. Jones earned the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with 3 bronze oak leaf, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with 3 bronze one leaf clusters, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters, Army Good Conduct Medal with 4 bronze loops, National Defense Service medal with a bronze star, Vietnam Service Medal with a bronze star, NCO Professional Education Graduate Ribbon, Air Force Longevity Service Award with a silver star, Small Arms Expert Ribbon and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. Lorraine retired in November 1976 as First Sergeant of the 33rd. Tactical Fighter Wing from Eglin AFB and continued to reside in Fort Walton Beach, FL. Lorraine was a member of Air Weather Association, Women in the Air Force Association, honorary member of both 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) Alumni Association and Texas tower #4 Association. She was a Charter member of the Women in Military Service Memorial and lifetime member in both Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. She enjoyed her Women in the Air Force Reunions held all over the country and also enjoyed going home to attend her high school reunions in Toms River. While visiting her hometown in Bayville with her family and loving cousins especially Drew Furchak, she enjoyed the steamers, clam chowder and crabs from the Barnegat Bay. Lorraine also gives thanks for her friendships with Anita Boyle, Jeane Mims and Helen Andrews. Lorraine will surely be missed. Services will be private as she is reunited with her mother in the Barnegat Bay.

David Weiner - 1941 - 2020  David Arthur Weiner, 78 passed away April 25, 2020 in Lafayette, IN. He was born September 7, 1941 to Frederick and Edwina (Bassler) Weiner. After graduating Tomah High School he served in the Air Force from 1959-1963. He was stationed at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, assigned to the 6th Weather Air Mobility Squadron. His duty assignments took him around the world, to have a once in a lifetime experiences. The bonds of those he served with lasted his entire life, they became family. He was also a member of 6WSAA. The strong sense of duty was passed on to his children. Son David J. served 6 years in the Air Force, stationed at McGuire AFB New Jersey at the 608th AMX Squadron. Son Matthew J. is career Air Force, stationed at Andrews AFB Maryland, at the 89th Air Lift Wing. Following his Honorable Discharge he pursued a career in engineering. He formed his own company specializing in architectural and mechanical design for commercial and industrial companies. He held Corporate Engineer positions in the food industry for major meat producers. In retirement he found his second calling to teach at Purdue University and Ivy Tech State College in Lafayette, IN. During his life he also dedicated his time to public service. He served on the Monroe County Board of Supervisors, and as Chairman for the Town of Grant, both in Wisconsin; as well as other non-profit organizations. Dave’s hobbies and interests included: jeeps, collecting/rebuilding Cub Cadet Tractors, gardening, travel, reading, fishing, hunting, spending winters in Alabama and most importantly spending time with his children and grandchildren. Survivors include: the love of his life, Virginia, his wife of 37 years; children David J. of South Carolina, Matthew J. of Maryland, Elizabeth A. of Indiana; grandchildren: Henry, Sullivan and Ian Weiner. He is preceded in death by his parents and beloved brother Fred. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.
Donald Lee Cowles – 1940 - 2018  Donald “Boomer” Cowles, 77, formerly of 219 Sizemore Road, Gaffney, SC passed away on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at Richard M. Campbell Veterans Nursing Home. Born in Louisville, KY, he was the husband of Cecilia Schmidt Cowles of Cambria, CA and son of the late LeRoy Cowles and Audrey Tarter Cowles. He retired from Blue Cross Blue Shield, loved singing, was a U. S. Air Force veteran and of the Seventh Day Adventist faith. He served in 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) at Tinker AFB, OK in ’68 and ’69 and was a member of 6WSAA. Surviving are a son Don Cowles, Jr. and wife, Laura of Ohio; two daughters, Paula Looser and husband, Jim, and Kim Boyer and husband, Rick, both of Ohio; a sister, Marcia Millard and husband, Jim, and Kim Boyer and husband, Rick, both of Ohio; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by a brother, Larry Cowles. A Memorial service will be held at a later date with military honors.

Rudy Villarreal - Rudy Villarreal ~90 passed away on August 25, 2019, last known address was Natalia, TX. No obituary available. Rudy deployed with Rawinsonde teams to several locations and was a long-time Tinker Flight NCOIC. He served with 6th Weather Squadron from 1947 to ’58 and ’66 to ’71 and retired as a SMSgt in 1971.

Donald E. Adams – 1933 – 2019 Don Adams of Moscow, ID died peacefully at his home on Sunday morning, September 22, 2019 of kidney failure. He was 86. Don was born July 1, 1933 in Spokane to Harle and Selma (Schultz) Adams in Spokane, Washington. He graduated from Moscow High School in 1951, shortly thereafter joined the Air Force. He served for four years, during the Korean War from ’53 to ’56, in the 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile) at Tinker AFB, OK and witnessed 16 tests of the Atomic Bomb. He was a member of the 6WSAA. He enrolled at the University of Idaho and worked at the Moscow Post Office where he was a clerk for 15 years. Don was then transferred to the UI post office for four years before being appointed Postmaster at the Garfield Post Office in April of 1977. He retired in July, 1988. He drove school a bus for the Moscow School District for 12 years. His favorite bus route was driving the children with mental and physical challenges. Don married Judy Frei on March 3, 1962 at St. Gall’s Catholic Church in Colton, Washington. He was very involved with St. Mary’s School in Moscow where his three daughters attended and in fund raising for the Bear Band Boosters at Moscow High School. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. He was a family-oriented person and his greatest joys in life were his wife, kids and grandkids. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Judy, at their home and his three daughters, Terri O’Keeffe (John) of Boise, ID, Toni Wigle (Chris) of Moscow, ID and Erin Chaiet (Keith) of Bend, OR. Other surviving family include five grandchildren, Bryant, Adam and James O’Keeffe and Lauren and Audrey Chaiet, as well as brothers-in-law James Cochrane of Boise, ID, Herb and Mark Frei (Bobbie) of Moscow, ID, Terry Frei of Grangeville, ID, Dale Frei of Genesee, ID and a sister-in-law Marilee Axling (Jim) of Gresham, OR. He had many special friends whom he considered extended family, including Maryjude of MN, and Pennie, Kristie and Alyssa from Cardiac Rehab at Gritman Medical Center. He was preceded in death by his parents Selma and Harle Adams, his twin sister Donna Paulsen and his younger sister Joan Cochrane. Special thanks to Marie and Lisa from Elite Home Health & Hospice and Terry Lindsay, whom provided such loving care.

Travis Greening 1936 – 2020  Travis Leon Greening was born to Gus and Della (Jenkins) Greening on January 2, 1936 in Camden, AR and passed away on Monday, February 17, 2020 in Clinton, OK having reached the age of 84 years, 1 month and 15 days. Travis was raised and attended school in Camden, AR. In 1954, Travis joined the United States Air Force serving for 28 years, and in 6th Weather Squadron (Mobile), moving numerous times before settling down in Fay, OK. Travis worked as the Postal Clerk in Thomas before retiring. He enjoyed gardening and was a “hobby” farmer. He loved sports especially Thomas football and the St. Louis Cardinals. Travis is survived by his wife, Christina of the home in Fay, OK; four sons, Gordon Greening and his wife, Nancy of Norman, OK, Steve Greening and his wife, Maria of Fay, OK, Andy Greening and his wife, Melissa of Fay, OK, and Scott Greening of Tahlequah, OK; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two brothers, John Greening and his wife, Betty of Bryan, TX. and Jack Greening and his wife, Betty of Topeka, KS. He was preceded in death by his parents, and four brothers, Morris, Wallace, Eldridge and Orland; a son, Travis Leon, Jr.; a grandson, Jerico.