



FAC Association Newsletter

Volume 20 Issue 1

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Reunion year!!!! Always look forward to these gatherings personally. It is a chance to reconnect with a whole bunch of folks again, share our life experiences from the past couple of years and, of course, tell each other just how great we were when we were so much younger. (I know our spouses/significant others have heard it all before but it is still fun) We get to take part in some really neat activities in various locations throughout our great country and share fellowship/friendship with our fellow warriors. Last but not least, we take the opportunity to honor our comrades who made the ultimate sacrifice.

This year's activities will take place in Colorado Springs, CO and many of the details are included in this newsletter courtesy of our reunion chair, Mike Lyons and his bride, Peggy. Take a look at his information and make plans to attend and share a few days of camaraderie with fellow FACs and FAC supporters. It promises to be another great gathering.

The off-year board meeting was held in early November last year and we have made our charitable contributions to the appropriate agencies after a quick review of their charity ratings (thanks Denny Crouch) to insure they are still doing what we want to support. One subject of great interest to me and others on the board is filling positions amongst the officers and directors of the FACA. Each of us has enjoyed the benefits of belonging to the FAC Association over the years and many have stepped up to fill needed positions over the 20 years since we started. It is time again to ask for volunteers willing to help out. Each officer and board member have been asked to search for their own replacement if they believe it is time for them to step down. I am more than willing to discuss duties and responsibilities of the various positions if you want. Please contact me directly and we can get into more details. Remember, this is your association and it needs folks to step up and serve to keep it running smoothly. Last but certainly not least, we need to start talking about FR2022 location and who is willing to step up to be our point person.

I certainly hope that each and every one of you had a great Holiday/Christmas and that the new year finds you and yours well. I look forward to seeing many of you in Colorado Springs this fall

TREASURER'S REPORT January, 2020

As of the end of December 31, 2019, our financial worth was \$134,358:

Checking Balance - \$7,240 (includes \$806 remaining in the reunion account and \$1,340 in our historian account)

Savings Balance - \$24,301

CD Balance - \$66,556

Investment Balance - \$36,261

In 2019, we made our annual contribution of \$2,000 to the FAC Museum, as well as our previously approved donations of \$1,000 to the Homes for Our Troops Foundation and \$1,000 to the Fisher House Foundation.

We still have new FACA challenge coins. They are available from our historian, Al Matheson, for \$5 (\$10 for non-members), plus shipping of \$5 regardless of the number of items purchased. He also has "Hit My Smoke" key chains and decals at two for \$5.

To help the association save money, if you haven't already done so, consider switching your newsletter delivery to email. We still have more than 250 members getting the newsletter by snail-mail, costing us more than \$800 each year to mail the newsletter. Just let me know and I'll make it happen.

If you do get a snail mail copy, you can also help by keeping track of your membership by noting your status on the first line of your address on this newsletter. The first number is the last year of your membership. Unfortunately, the printer failed to get this in the address last time. If you get the newsletter by email notice, you can email me or Fred Pumroy to check your membership status. If your membership is due for renewal, consider becoming a life member. In either case, make your check to FACA, Inc and send to me at PO Box 222, Polson, MT 59860.

Thanks for your support.

Trey Moran, Nail 13

In memory of the FACs who flew West during 2019

Applegate, Wm - Nail 59, Spike 59, Hammer 59	Hodges Rae C.- Covey 524 (passed Sep 2018)
Britton, Jimmy - Jake 47, Walt 16	Humphries, Craig - Nail 86
Buck, John T, - Jade 03	Kirk, Robert C. - Helix
Butcher, Jack – Covey, POW	Marlin, William - Red Marker 04
Cain, James - Butterfly 70, Raven 41	McMurtry, Jon - Nail 66
Carry, Timothy - Rash	Selke, Robert K. – 19 / 23 TASS
Carruthers, William B, - Rustic 34	Smothermon, Phillip R. "Skip" – Helix 41
Caruthers, Timothy - Nail (23 TASS)	Tarr, Roger – Cider 30/31
Duiguid, James "Briggs" - Raven 26, Walt 21/23	Waggoner, Cecil E. – David 33, Beaver
Elliott, Hall - Covey Easy	Waterman, Charles "Chuck" – Red Marker 01

FAC Reunion 2020:

The reunion will be returning to Colorado Springs the week of September 20 to 26, 2020. The schedule will be similar to other reunions with a Friday general membership business meeting, formal dinner on Friday evening, and a memorial service to close the reunion on Saturday morning.

Each FACA member is encouraged to reach out to other FACs and encourage them to attend the reunion. You are especially encouraged to reach out FACs not currently active in the FACA. These individuals may only learn about the reunion through your efforts. They may not know about the reunion without you making the effort to contact them. We all know how fast retiree schedules fill up, so planning to attend the reunion should be done as soon as possible.

With the calendar catching up to SEA vets, now is the time for SEA vets to attend a reunion while they, their spouses, and veteran friends can also attend the reunion. Please reach out to someone you would like to see again. The location, anticipated weather, and planning efforts will lay the groundwork for a good reunion. Encouraging your friends to attend will put the reunion over the top as a memorable event.

Reunion Schedule:

Monday, 9/21/2020

- Host hotel is Elegante with 75 rooms blocked for our Reunion at
- a rate of \$143 per night (includes hot breakfast buffet for two).
- Hospitality suite complimentary Sunday through Saturday (one-time
- 200 cleaning fee). Adjoined rooms with kitchen/bath between = **PERFECT HOOTCH!**
- Banquet room, other meeting rooms complimentary.
- Complimentary parking spots (700) and wireless internet in rooms and public spaces.
- Complimentary COS airport transportation.

Tuesday, 9/22/2020

- Reunion registration desk open all day.
- Afternoon tour of Dragonman's complex.
 - Shooting range for AK-47 and various rifles/pistols.
 - Museum includes Vietnam War Room, WWII equipment and uniforms (Japanese, German and US), 89 running tracked and wheeled vehicles.
- Bus transport to and from hotel optional (by MRP)

Wednesday, 9/23/2020

- Registration desk open all day
- AM tour of SEA Memorial at USAF Academy
 - Interactive map detailing combat at An Loc, Tchepone,
 - Quang Tri, Khe Sanh, Hue, etc.
- PM tour of National Museum for WWII Aviation
 - Docents include a FAC and other veterans
 - Located at old COS airport
- Optional Bus Transport arranged by MRP

Thursday, 9/24/2020

- Registration open AM
- Day Tour at Wings Over the Rockies Museum in Denver
 - Recently restored O-2 aircraft, tail number 86877
 - Other aircraft include A-7D, B-52B, EA-6B, EB-57, B-1A, F-4E, F-14A, FB-111A, and F-104
 - Museum does not plan an O-2 dedication ceremony until corporate sponsors fund same.
 - Optional bus transportation to and from Denver WOR Museum arranged by MRP.

Friday, 9/25/2020

- Board meeting AM in Hotel Elegante Centennial Room
- General membership meeting at 1400 in Hotel Elegante Centennial Room
- Banquet in Hotel Elegante Foothills Room
- Guest Speaker, Dr. George E. Nolly;
 - O-2 FAC in 20th TASS, Da Nang AB in 1969;
 - then flew the F-4 at Ubon, RTAB, in 1972.

Saturday, 9/26/2020

- MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR FACs KILLED IN ACTION DURING THE SOUTHEAST ASIA WAR
- Outdoor Service at Memorial Park, Colorado Springs, at site of Memorial dedicated during the 2008 FAC Reunion.
- Backup plan for service is to use Hotel Elegante.
- Optional bus transport to and from Park arranged by MRP.

SEPARATE SIGN-UP SCHEDULE FOR SPOUSE/GUEST ACTIVITIES WILL BE IN JULY NEWSLETTER

REUNION RESERVATION INFO FOR HOTEL ELEGANTE, COLORADO SPRINGS

Hotel Elegante is located at 2886 South Circle Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. You should use the blue link to follow for online booking:

<https://www.reseze.net/servlet/SendPage?hotelid=1410&skipfirstpage=true&page=2344745>

You also may call the Hotel directly at (719)-576-5900 and say that you are attending the FAC Reunion or use reference reservation number **2344745**.

The contracted room rate is \$143.00 per night plus taxes/fees pending processing of our not-for-profit status. This rate includes a hot breakfast buffet for two guests and is blocked for 21 - 26 September 2020. Further the rate is available 3 days prior and 3 days post the blocked dates. Parking, wireless internet access and Colorado Springs Airport shuttle service are complimentary. One-third of the rooms are king rooms and two-thirds are queen double rooms. THE DEADLINE FOR ADJUSTING THE HOTEL CONTRACT IS 21 MAY 2020 SO DON'T DELAY MAKING RESERVATIONS.

EVENTS AND TRANSPORTATION

On Tuesday afternoon (22 September), a tour of Dragonman's complex is planned. The owner, Mel Bernstein, is a US Army Vietnam veteran who has developed a firing range and museum which includes a Vietnam War room, WWII equipment and uniforms (Japanese, German and US), and 89 running tracked and wheeled vehicles. **ONLY** private tours conducted by Mr. Bernstein are possible, based on a minimum of 25 people signing up. If you prefer to transport yourself, please indicate the number in your party in the quantity block for "visit Dragonman...." on the registration form. Optional charter bus transport is available for \$35 pp with a minimum of 30 people to make it a go. Museum tickets can be purchased at the door for \$10. FACs and guests interested in shooting an AK-47 or 50 calibre machine gun can do so during the tour at separate cost.

A full day is planned for a visit to the Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum (WORASM) in Denver on Wednesday, 23 September. A recently restored O-2 aircraft (tail number 86877) is now displayed at WORASM. This O-2 was flown in Southeast Asia and any FAC with combat mission data on 877 should communicate same to Mike Lyons or to an officer/director of the FAC Association. At present, WORASM hopes to have a dedication ceremony for 877, contingent on finding corporate sponsors for same. Other US aircraft on display at WORASM include A-7D, B-52B, EA-6B, EB-57, B-1A, F-4E, F-14A, FB-111A, and F-104. Museum tickets can be purchased at the door for \$15.

Optional charter bus transport can be selected on the reunion registration form for round trip cost of \$59 (30 person minimum). The bus option is highly encouraged to avoid Denver traffic snarls resulting from I-25 construction zones. **YOU MUST REGISTER AND PAY FOR A BUS**

TICKET PRIOR TO 10 AUGUST IN ORDER TO BOARD THE BUS. NO TICKET MEANS NO LAST-MINUTE BOARDING!

There is initial planning for a group dinner on Wednesday evening, 23 September. Association members have shown interest in The Airplane Restaurant and the Flying W Ranch. While the Flying W Ranch was destroyed during the Waldo Canyon fire a few years ago, reconstruction of a new restaurant and entertainment facility is underway. By publication of our July newsletter, the status of Flying W Ranch

should be known and whether it could support an evening of dinner and entertainment for our September Reunion. Note that this event will be reflected as TBD in the reunion registration form.

On Thursday, 24 September, there are visits planned to the Air Force Academy Southeast Asia Memorial in the morning and to the National Museum of World War II Aviation (NMWWIIA) in the afternoon. You will be able to access an interactive map display at the SEA Memorial and look up data for most locations of airstrikes controlled by slow FACs in South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Certainly included is data on the bigger fights such as An Loc, Hue, Quang Tri, Tchepone, Khe Sanh, etc. On Thursday afternoon, a tour of NMWWIIA is scheduled with talented docents telling the stories of Army and Navy pilots flying combat in WWII. Two of these docents are former slow FACs with SEA experience! The Academy SEA Memorial is free and tickets for NMWWIIA cost \$14 at the door or \$12 on line if purchased prior to 24 September. If you want to provide your own transport to the Academy and NMWWIIA, please indicate the number of attendees in your party in the "Quantity" block of the registration form on the line for "visit S&A memorial...and NMWWIIA." This head count is needed for docent scheduling. If you opt for (30 person minimum) charter bus transport (\$59), a boxed lunch (\$12) is included along with a discounted NMWWIIA ticket (\$12) for a total of \$83 per person selected on the Reunion registration form. **AGAIN, YOU MUST REGISTER AND PAY FOR A BUS TICKET PRIOR TO 10 AUGUST IN ORDER TO BOARD THE BUS. NO TICKET MEANS NO LAST-MINUTE BOARDING!**

On Friday, 25 September, all activities are at Hotel Elegante. There is an Officer/Director meeting in the morning and a general meeting for all in the afternoon. The closing banquet is in the evening in the Foothills Room of Hotel Elegante. The guest speaker is Dr. George E. Nolly who was an O-2 FAC in the 20th TASS, Da Nang AB, in 1969. George also flew the F-4 at Ubon RTAFB in 1972. Note the cost of registration for a FAC is \$100.00 and includes the banquet meal, Hooch contribution, coin, hat and admin costs. Guest registration is \$80 which does not include a hat and coin. The banquet meal is plate served and you should select either Pan-seared chicken, Angus steak, or Vegetarian for you and each guest. The Angus steak is 8 ounces and will be cooked the same (medium) for our large group. For the banquet, a cash bar will be available to you for ordering alcoholic beverages.

Our Memorial Service is planned to be outdoors at Memorial Park in Colorado Springs on Saturday morning, 26 September. This Service is for remembering the 245 FACs Killed in Action during the war in Southeast Asia and will be located at the SEA War Memorial dedicated during the 2008 FAC Reunion. Optional charter bus transport is available (30 person minimum) from Hotel Elegante to Memorial Park and return at a cost of \$35.00 per person. **AGAIN, YOU MUST REGISTER AND PAY FOR A BUS TICKET PRIOR TO 10 AUGUST IN ORDER TO BOARD THE BUS. NO TICKET MEANS NO LAST-MINUTE BOARDING.**

FORWARD AIR CONTROLLERS 2020 COLORADO SPRINGS REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

The registration form for the 2020 Colorado Springs 5 H has been designed to be interactive using Adobe Reader. If you don't have this program on your computer we suggest you update your computers by adding Adobe Reader <ou can just click on the following:

<https://get.adobe.com/reader/?promoid=KSWLH> and download it from there.

*Once you have done that, **download the registration form to your computer**, fill it out, send a completed copy of the form via email to Mike Lyons at*

MIKEPEGLYONS@GMAIL.COM . Then follow the instructions on the form and mail a paper copy of it and your check to Robert L. Peterson .

NOW YOU CAN CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE REUN , 2 1

<https://www.fac-assoc.org/reunion/2020COS/2020Registration.pdf>

NOTE: If you order a shirt, indicate the items you wish to be embroidered on the shirt by placing an asterisk (*) in that item's box. For example, if you wish your name, call sign and tour dates to be embroidered place an asterisk in each of those boxes.

IMPORTANT: The number of your people attending each event even though you intend to provide your own transportation. We need an accurate count to provide enough guides and docents.

FAC Association

1849 Southlawn Drive
Fairborn, OH 45324

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Contact specific Association officers or directors by going to our website: <https://www.fac-assoc.org/contacts01.html>

Annual dues are \$20. Life membership dues depend on your age:

55yrs and under—\$225
56 to 60 yrs — \$200
61 to 65 yrs —\$175
66 to 60 yrs —\$150
70 to 75 yrs —\$125
76 + yrs —\$100

Copy this page, complete the form below, and
send your check, payable to FACA, Inc. to:

Trey Moran
PO Box 222
Polson, MT 59860

FAC Association Membership and Annual Dues Form

Last Name:		First Name:		Initial:	
DOB (dd/mm/yyyy):		Spouse's Name:			
Address		Phone #:			
City & State:		Zip + 4:		Cell #:	
email:		Send newsletter: <input type="checkbox"/> By Email		<input type="checkbox"/> By Snail Mail	
A/C or Specialty:		Call Signs :			
Organization/Sqdn/TASS:		FAC Tour Dates:			
Locations:					
Comments:					
Enclosed is my check # _____ for \$ _____. Make me a member or continue my membership in the FAC Association. (Note: Your Dues Status can be found in the address block printed above.)					
Current Dues Status:			Signature:		