



FAC Association Newsletter

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President's Corner July 2020

Greetings to one and all. My sincerest hope is that this newsletter finds you and yours well and surviving the perils of this year. Who would have **thunk** it?? Pandemic and all of the accompanying side effects. Without getting into the politics of the uproar following the killing of the man in Minneapolis, the nation/world-wide demonstrations have piled on the pandemic problems. At our tender old age (speaking for myself only) it all seems a bit overwhelming. I truly hope that each of you and your families are well and staying safe and.

That being said, what about this year's reunion??? After much consideration and deliberation, your officers and directors have decided that there are too many unknowns on the near event horizon for us to attempt to hold a large gathering of FACs and friends this fall. So, we voted to postpone the 2020 reunion for two years. We will still hold the reunion in Colorado Springs, CO in the fall of 2022 (specific date to be determined). Mike Lyons and his gang will proceed with planning for that reunion and more information will follow as soon as we get it. A quick explanation is that there were still too many unknowns about what the state of Colorado would allow concerning large gatherings. Additionally, I believe that the majority of our members would be somewhat reluctant to risk travel and attendance in September of this year at the reunion. The board agreed and the vote was unanimous to postpone until 2022.

You might ask why not 2021?? Great question! Since we have always had our reunions during the even calendar years, and other organizations (Rustics/Jakes/Bronco Association) hold their meetings during the off years, and we did not want to compete/conflict with them so the move to 2022 became our best option. So, you ask, will we have four years between our reunions? No, the boards says! The idea was floated that we should try our best to have a gathering of some sort (probably informal) sometime in 2021 to get together to have a beer/adult beverage of choice and swap some stories. One of the board members said something to the effect of 'let's get together and have a beer or two and talk about how great we were'. That being said, we are exploring possibilities and hopefully will be able to put something together for the next spring.

There are some items required by by-laws that still need to be addressed and we are working toward a solution to these. We will keep the membership informed as soon as we have put together a plan. As we approach the mid-point of 2020, I ask you to bear with us as we work these issues.

I close with the best wishes for all of you and your families for good health and safety in the remainder of the year, and beyond. It has been a challenge for every one of us and I can only offer my personal best wishes and thoughts for each of you in the upcoming times.

Stay safe, check six and as always, Cleared Hot!!

Brad Wright,
Covey 251

TREASURER'S REPORT June, 2020

As of the end of June, 2020, our financial worth was \$134,502:

Checking Balance - \$6,818 (includes \$2,997 in the reunion account and \$1,210 in our historian account). Additionally, we have a Savings Balance of \$24,303, CD Balance of \$67,118 and an Investment Balance of \$36,265. I will be sending reunion refunds soon.

So far this year, we made our annual contribution of \$2,000 to the FAC Museum, and submitted our corporate report to Florida and our tax form to the IRS. We still need to make 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 2020

Bradley, Wayne D., Nail 46, Ascot 10 – 16 Oct 19

Brown, Donald R., Nail 32 – 18 Feb 20

Burke, David K., Bomber 31 – 09 Aug 20

Haden, Robert H., Nail 80 – 17 Nov 14

Hammond, Robert E., Shark 03, Mike 59, Tonto
02 – 22 Jan 20

Lindahl, Frederick W., Speedy 01, Barkey 07 – 27 Oct 18

Roberson, John M., Nail 20, Tamale 17/52 – 19 May 20

Spier, Hebert J., Helix 42 – 22 May 19

Tynan, George P., Cagey 02 – 16 Jul 20

Dr. Wrightman, Ernest T., 22nd TASS O-1s – 18 Jun 20

Wroblewski, Jon E., Nail 58 – 18 Mar 20

Note: Although the title to this section calls attention to those that passed since the last newsletter, there are some we list outside that window because we just learned of his passing.

Note: Expanded information and links to some obituaries are at <https://www.fac-assoc.org/flew-west/flew-west2020.html>

Poignant Note from Norbert Simon: consider this message a pre-obit if you wish. I have had a brain tumor removed which is virulent. I have elected not to take chemo or radiation so the docs don't expect me to live much longer. Will be 92 on July 27 and there will be no one around to send you the actual obit. I had a great Air Force career topped off by being 56SOW commander and most importantly Nail 17 of the 23TASS. Flew about 63 combat missions as a FAC, earned a few Air Medals, nothing big time like a Silver Star, but still some very memorable TICs and rescues. You FAC troops were the greatest. But the sorriest day of my life is when they decided to make NKP 7AF HQ and I was relieved of command of the 56SOW. Norbert L. Simon, Col. USAF Ret.

About Reunion 2020 in Colorado Springs, it has been postponed.

The 2020 FAC Reunion at Colorado Springs this Fall has been postponed to 2022. Complications and uncertainties brought about by the Covid-19 outbreak has caused the FACA Board of Directors to re-think this year's reunion. Consequently, they passed the following resolution by Phil Litts:

I move that we postpone FR 2020 to 2022, that we keep the Reunion in COS and further that Mike Lyons and his crew continue with communications with Hotel Elegante, MRP, and all involved vendors, to make this happen.

There are plans in the making for an informal mini get together next year; details are forth coming.

From our Aussie Brothers: A Casualty of Covid 19 Outbreak.

The Australian War Memorial (AWM) in Canberra was planning to unveil our OV-10 No. 639 in late March but COVID-19 ended that plan. The AWM OV-10 is the only aircraft exhibit in USAF markings and there has been no word on when another unveiling will be attempted — it will happen, but when is the big question. When a date is selected, we will again advertise the event on the FACNET.



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PERMIT NO. 882Contact 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 age

55 Years and under - \$225.00	56 to 60 years - \$200.00
61 to 65 years – 175.00	66 to 70 years - \$150.00
71 to 75 years – \$125.00	76 plus years - \$100.00

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

Trey Moran
P O 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:		