

THE LOADER

Official Newsletter Of The Professional Loadmaster Association

Volume 18 Issue 1 | March 2015

Friendship Through Airlift



Professional Loadmaster Association
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CABIN REPORT

Kathy Disney, National President - Hey Load! Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and safe Holiday Season. With a new year ahead of us, I'd like to address some challenges this organization has faced with some goals for the year. How

many of us have approached a Loadmaster about becoming a PLA member and hear the response "What's in it for me?" Just as a reminder, the PLA does offer benefits for members and their families such as scholarships and assistance in time of need. However, the real benefit is what each and every one of you brings to the organization. Your experiences, your professionalism, your energy, your ideas and your talents are what the organization, you, and we all benefit from. The great coach, Vince Lombardi stated, "The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual." Without each of your efforts, this organization will not succeed. After all, people are an organization's most important asset. It is the people who constantly have new and innovative ideas to help transform organizations from mediocrity to great success. So how does the PLA measure success? It can be measured by the size of membership, including how many people actually renew their membership. It can also be measured by the amount of involvement from those members. This is not to suggest that every member needs to be actively involved. However, for those members who do want to get involved, the opportunity should be there. We are all dues-paying members with a voice in this organization. If you want to be more involved, have great ideas to express, or just want more communication, please speak up to your chapter representatives, vice-presidents, or me and voice your concern. Again, I cannot stress enough, it is the people that make or break an organization. We are the recruiters when we believe in an organization, and we are the ones that can destroy an organization when we are dissatisfied. To overcome the challenge of selling our organization to other Loadmasters and increase membership, we need a clearly defined mission and goals. Bill Cannon and the initial cadre created the PLA motto, "Friendship through Airlift...Yesterday -Today - Tomorrow." Stated another way, with mutual respect for all members, our mission is to preserve (Yesterday), unite (Today) and promote (Tomorrow) the Loadmaster career field. In order to ensure we are preserving, uniting and promoting the Loadmaster career field, we need goals that can be accomplished at each chapter. For example, the chapters can (and should) capture and document Loadmaster accomplishments and successes. The new website being designed (Thanks to Ryan Lockhart!) is a great location for this. Another free resource is Facebook. Does your chapter have a Facebook page (see page 14)? If so, please share. You can put a link to it from the Loadmaster website. This is just one of several ideas for preserving the Loadmaster career field. If you or your chapter has other ideas, please pass them on. The last goal I will discuss in this "The Loader" edition is communication with the executive members and chapter officers. Per the National

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The Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA) was formed in the State of Washington as an active membership organization for an exclusive group of professionals recognized as, loadmasters. The PLA is organized and governed by a duly-elected Executive Committee of past and present loadmasters. In March 1997, the State of Washington issued a Certificate of Incorporation declaring the Professional Loadmaster Association a nonprofit organization. PLA membership is comprised of and limited to current and former military and civilian loadmasters who have flown as an aircraft loadmaster performing aircrew duties on transport aircraft. The association's principal reason for being is for the benefit of all loadmasters and their families. The core values of the association are the Flag of the United States, Our Self-confidence, and Our Empathy for each other. Its basic mission is to guide the membership in solidarity, facilitate trust and mutual respect for one another, and inspire personal growth and the pursuit of a purposeful sense of vision for the future of the PLA. The association shall establish scholarship and grant programs to benefit Loadmasters and their family members. Reunions and meetings shall be scheduled and arranged so as to provide maximum participation and productive feedback to as many members as practical. A newsletter titled "The Loader" shall be published three times a year to inform membership of loadmaster participation within the airlift community and the association's current & future business activities.

Cover Photograph: Golden West Chapter President Steve Clark and PLA member Nicole Corace in cargo compartment of a C-17 during a Golden West Chapter visit to the 729th Airlift Squadron at March ARB CA on October 25, 2014.

By-Laws, quarterly communication needs to be established between Chapter Presidents and PLA Executive Committee. As you can imagine, trying to establish a teleconference with about 20 people is nearly impossible. We will not give up on the effort, but we need to maintain communication at a minimum via email between Chapter Presidents and National Vice Presidents. Do you know who your Vice President is? If not, please let me know. Establishing communications and working at preserving our Loadmaster experiences, I believe, is a good start to a successful organization. As always, please feel free to contact me with your concerns at: Kathydisney1@yahoo.com. Load Clear!

RENEWAL NOTICE: PLEASE RESPOND if you desire to remain an active member and continue receiving “The Loader” newsletter. There are only two ways to join or renew membership and that is by mail to the PO Box or online thru PayPal. We are still receiving online, new and renewal applications with no way to confirm payments. When paying by PayPal, print and save your receipt to confirm your payment. PayPal Site: www.loadmasters.com/payhere.htm

ELECTRONIC CONTACT: If a member has an email address, all contact between the Secretary and the member will be conducted electronically. During the second quarter of 2013, I started to electronically send renewal letters. The association has saved on postage due to sending out renewal, grace period, and re-instatement letters. And we owe a big thank you to those, 100 stateside and 8 overseas members, who have agreed to accept “The Loader” electronically. If you are willing to receive “The Loader” electronically please notify me by mail or email.

TELEPHONE CALLS to Members: Over the past several months, I have made phone calls to the majority of active PLA members referencing their contact information and bad EMAIL ADDRESSES. When a message is left on your answering machine, PLEASE return my call or send change of address information to Secretary@Loadmasters.com.

DECEASED MEMBERS: If you know of, or suspect that a PLA member has passed, please contact me and we will take the necessary action.

LOST LOAD CANDIDATES: If your “The Loader” newsletter is returned to the association by the Post Office, the PLA pays \$2.47 for the return. When trying to contact you for new information and find your phone has been disconnected and you also have a bad e-mail address, **YOU WILL BE PLACED ON THE LOST LOAD LISTING.** Please keep your contact information current.

ELECTRONIC 2014 CHRISTMAS CARD: If you’re an active PLA member and did not receive an electronic Christmas card, then we do not have a good email address for you. Please submit a change of address form COMPLETELY filled out.

PLA MEMBERSHIP

PLA Membership as of: February 15, 2015
Total Active Members: **1007** (10 Lost Loads)

MOVING? IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO MOVE OR TRANSFER, PLEASE SEND US YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND NEW CONTACT INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. We cannot get your “The Loader” newsletter to you or make contact if we don’t know where you are. Send an e-mail to Secretary@Loadmaster.com or John H. Moore at buildsmall2@mac.com, or leave a free two minute message at 1 (800) 239-4524. Remember to speak slowly and distinctly, so we can copy your information down. Thank you!

NEW MEMBERS (17) listed since the November issue (*Denotes Life Member)

OCTOBER (4)

Philip G. Harris Meridian, ID
*Matthew T. Holmes Kings Mountain, NC
*Douglas MacGregor Graham, WA
Bettina Washington Chicago, IL

NOVEMBER (6)

Frank Costa Suisun City, CA
David J. Methvin McGuire AFB, NJ
Michael Molzhon Cabot, AR
*Bob Scott Mechanicsville, VA
James “JC” Wiley Vacaville, CA
Sharon Williams Yellville, AR

DECEMBER (4)

Jaime Garcia-Cruz Sherwood, AR
Hurley L. Faul Cincinnati, OH
*Eugene Melvin Troutdale, OR
Timothy Raymon Puyallup, WA

JANUARY (3)

Shaun Bowlin Altus, OK
Oriol Christopher Altus, OK
*Brian Johnson Anchorage, AK

INACTIVE MEMBERS (36) listed since November 2014 issue

Stan Alsing	Helendale, CA	December
Michael Anderson	Altus, OK	August
Ryan L. Atkinson	Cabot, AR	September
Marvin L. Bauer	Richmond, KY	September
Luis Cardenas	San Antonio, TX	August
Collin Cenci	Altus, OK	September
Dale R. Cleaveland	Easley, SC	December
Tracey Crozier	Chattanooga, TN	August
Ryan Crumrine	Abilene, TX	August
Kristina Dykens	Vacaville, CA	September
Steven Elmore	Altus, OK	November
Mark Felhofer	San Antonio, TX	October
Verlinda V. Garcia	San Antonio, TX	December
David Grant	Camden, DE	November
Benjamin Griffin	Ireland	October
Jeffrey Harmon	Altus, OK	August
Stephen Lamb	Clovis, NM	September
Carl Larson	Lakewood, WA	September
Charles F. Lesley	Greenwood, SC	November
Kevin Letz	Tuscola, TX	August
Michael McArty	Jacksonville, AR	September
John Metzger	Altus, OK	September
Agustin Nalsen	Altus, OK	December
Peter Olsufka	Pacific, WA	October

The Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA) offers five scholarships annually for college and/or vocational/technical school after high school graduation. We have two scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each named in honor of John L. Levitow and Bill Cannon. These are permanent scholarships. Three additional \$500.00 scholarships, each named for a different deceased Loadmaster, will be awarded each year. Candidates for the selection process must be from PLA members in good standing and their family members (sons, daughters or grandchildren), and are limited to one scholarship per applicant. If exceptional circumstances should arise, the Executive Committee will handle them accordingly. For more information on scholarships go to www.loadmasters.com and click on scholarships. Applications, located on the PLA website, may be applied for through Jim Engelker at engelkerj@gmail.com.

Timeline for Scholarships

Selection of names to be honored for upcoming scholarships shall be provided by December of the year before scholarship announcement.

Submission of all scholarship applications is due to engelkerj@gmail.com by the close of business on April 1st Mountain Daylight Time of the year before scholarship announcement. All scholarship applications received after that date will be returned. Announcement of the scholarship award to the individual participant shall be no later than the middle of May of the year before scholarship announcement. Announcement of scholarships awarded shall be published each year in the July issue of "The Loader" newsletter. Remember our scholarship fund will be used to support two scholarships of \$1000 and three \$500.00 scholarships a year to PLA members and their family members.

Donations can be made to our PLA Headquarters:

P.O. Box 4351 Tacoma WA 98438

Write "Scholarship Fund" on checks. Remember every little bit counts toward keeping this program ongoing.

Scholarship Manager

Jim Engelker

10925 County Road 29

Ovid, CO 80744

engelkerj@gmail.com

Scholarship Update: The selection committee would like to encourage every chapter to talk to their members about the scholarships and encourage them to take advantage of this rare opportunity for our Loadmasters and their family members - past, present, and future - to further their education with a scholarship that honors our fallen Loadmasters. While the application is time-consuming, the selection committee needs the information from the application to make an appropriate selection. Specifically, the committee is looking for information about the applicant and his or her commitment towards the work required to complete a collegiate degree. There are a lot of Loadmasters with children who are considering college; and there are numerous scholarships from which to choose. But the PLA scholarship is specifically and uniquely designed to support our own. When completing your PLA application (see page 5) you will need to know the PLA membership # and date. Please contact John Moore at Secretary@Loadmasters.com or buildsmall2@mac.com to obtain this information."

Liberty Chapter Loadmaster Coins

Mailed for \$10 each plus priority shipping of \$5.80. Thirty in one box for that shipping cost. If chapters want 30 or more, sold for \$9 each with shipping included. Cheaper alternative is to ship up to three, for \$4.00 shipping first class mail. Send a check made out to Liberty Chapter PLA, or USPS postal Money Order made out to Kent Brown, 28 Pineview Dr., Browns Mills, NJ 08015-6850.



PLA Coins

The new coins have both Friendship Through Airlift and Yesterday -Today - Tomorrow around the circle on the back and now it's in full color! The US Flag is in color and unchanged. The box below the flag is empty so you may have whatever you wish engraved in it. The PLA coin is \$10.00 If you or your Chapter are interested in having some, please contact us. E-mail: secretary@loadmasters.com



PLA Pins and Patches

PLA Coins, Pins and Patches are available through the National Secretary. The PLA Pin is \$7.00 and the Patch is \$10.00 each, including mailing. If you or your Chapter are interested in having some, please contact us. E-mail: secretary@loadmasters.com



PROFESSIONAL LOADMASTER ASSOCIATION
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION Rev: November 2012

Please limit your application to only those items requested on the form below.
NOTE: If additional space is required to complete the application, please continue on a separate piece of paper, and make sure you reference the item you are continuing.

Student's Full Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____
Email address: _____

High School Students:
GPA: _____ Class Rank: _____ Class Size: _____ ACT/SAT: _____
College(s), University(ies), and Vocational/Technical School(s) you have made application to:

College Students:
College/University, Vocational/Technical School GPA: _____
College/University, Vocational/Technical School you are or will be attending: _____

All Students:
Proposed Field of Study: _____
Why did you choose this field of study? _____

Scholarships/Financial Aid you have received (include amounts):

Scholarships/Financial Aid you have applied for and still pending:

What is your connection with the Professional Loadmaster Association? Please provide the name of the PLA member and his/her relationship to you. _____
Membership # and expiration date of PLA membership: _____
(i.e., I am a member, my father/mother/grandparents are members, etc.): _____

Have you ever received a PLA scholarship in the past? If so, you are not eligible for additional PLA scholarships.

If at all possible, complete application and email to engelkerj@gmail.com.
Please attach the following items:

- 1. List of activities (high school or college or military or all) to include positions/offices held in athletics and/or organizations.
- 2. List of community activities to include positions/offices held.
- 3. A typed written paragraph of your educational goals and your dreams for what you will be in five years.
- 4. Explain why financially you should receive this scholarship.

Student signature

Date

Secretary Report - Cont. from page 3

Bryan Painter	Fairfield, CA	December
Manuel Pena	San Antonio, TX	October
James Ray	Goose Creek, SC	September
David Scandalito	Bulvedre, TX	September
Troy Severon	Charleston AFB, SC	November
Hugh M. Sheppard	Hartford, AL	August
Scott A. Skinner	Altus, OK	August
David Thomas	Headrick, OK	October
Jaime Torres	Trujillo Alto, PR	September
Ronald Trout	Cabot, AR	November
Walter Weathersby	Rantoul, IL	October
Mark F. Wilder	Bulverde, TX	November

LOST LOADS (10): If you know any of the Lost Loads please have them contact us with their current contact information. ***Denotes Life Member** - Last address, month and year when they became lost.

*John L Branski	Tacoma, WA	Nov 2011
*Jesse L. Burdette	Cabot, AR	Nov 2011
*Robert B. Burnett	Dulles, VA	Jul 2011
*Christopher S. Clay	Arlington, VA	Nov 2011
*Daniel Downey	Abilene, TX	Jul 2012
*Jack L. Langenstein	Summerville, SC	Jul 2014
*Brian K. Murphy	Dayton, OH	Nov 2014
*Dewhitt Sizemore	Bonita Springs, FL	Nov 2012
*Tony E. Strader	APO AE	Nov 2011
*Lucas J. White	Warner Robins, GA	Nov 2014

“The Loader” Editor

Bill Weeper - During the 2014 Gathering of Loads (GOL) convention I gave a briefing about “The Loader” and how fortunate I thought our association was to have a great publishing company called Snohomish Publishing Inc. I said it quite a few times at the GOL, that I didn’t know how Snohomish published our newsletter so reasonably and quite frankly how they could stay in business at those rates. After the November 2014 issue of “The Loader” was printed and mailed, I found out that Snohomish Publishing Inc. went out of business. I would like to thank Snohomish Publishing Inc., especially two of their employees Nancy Fox and Shannon McKenzie, who helped our association get “The Loader” printed and mailed out three times a year. I would like to welcome Sound Publishing out of Everett WA as our new publisher. If any of our association members have any concerns about their March 2015 issue of “The Loader,” please email me at weeperjr@satx.rr.com. I am continuing to work hard to make this the best newsletter that I can. My main focus is obtaining 100% of all chapter inputs. Some chapters have been reconstituted, and I will do what I can to help promote those chapters through “The Loader.” Congratulations to the Denali (JD Bartlemus) and The Rock (Marc Calcaterra) Chapters on getting back together. Also congratulations to our new Chapter Presidents: Keith Roscoe (Aloha), Toby McKnight (Gateway), Mike Weber (Northwest), Ryan Thompson (The First State), Marc Calcaterra (The Rock), and Danny South (Trailblazers). I am trying to provide interesting subjects; but

to give you the best issues, I need your input. If you belong to a PLA Chapter please help your Chapter President submit inputs to me providing Loadmaster stories (old and new), chapter information, personal achievements, etc. If you don’t have a chapter, send me your Loadmaster related information directly to: weeperjr@satx.rr.com.

East Coast Vice President

Kent Brown, East Coast Vice President, heyload@comcast.net, (609) 893-1833 - East Coast thoughts: At the Gathering of Loads GOL in St. Louis our new President asked each Vice President to get more involved with the goings on at each chapter in each AOR. So I am reaching out to the First State, Mid-Atlantic and Southeast Chapter Presidents, officers, reps. or just anyone interested in the area that would like to continue the activities of their chapter. I would like good contact information to include name, phone & email. We are trying to keep each chapter active and don’t want to revoke any charters. Please contact me soon. Thank You in advance.

What you do at the GOL stays at the GOL: The heading to this article is not true. What I saw at the Gathering of Loads (GOL) in September 2014 embarrassed me and some other members I have talked to. The Gateway chapter put a lot of time and thought into getting the guest speakers. The opening speaker Gen. Zadalis was very friendly to enlisted and thought highly of Loadmasters. He had a great message, but the room was far from full, there should have been standing room only. Some folks attending spent too much time in the hospitality suite the night before and couldn’t muster the early start time. I think when someone is willing to talk to our organization, and the planning the host chapter has done is ignored by some folks, when some don’t show up for the opening speaker, it is disrespectful and leaves a bad impression with that speaker. This is not the only time during the GOL that this happened. It seemed that as it went on, less people showed up. I thought the attendance for the general membership meeting on Saturday was lacking. There were far less people there than I expected. I know how hard it is to get speakers lined up for the GOL, since the Liberty Chapter hosted the 2012 GOL, and that was my responsibility. Since 2004 when the Liberty Chapter hosted in Atlantic City, we have been having professional development & informational seminars during the GOL. Before that we just got together, outside either Pope or McChord, had our required meetings, told war stories and drank beer! Maybe not that harsh, but we are a professional organization and need to act like it. By providing these types of seminars and briefings, our active and reserve loads can get funding to attend, with commander approval, and hopefully learn something. If the Air Force is footing the bill, they expect you to be filling one of those seats at each planned seminar or briefing. I know you retirees will say nobody can make you attend all those things but when you register to come to the GOL the host chapter expects to see you in those seats, at least some of the time. I have gained some insightful knowledge from attending some of the briefings; and they can be fun, as they promote

Alamo Chapter

Bill Weeper - Buenos Dias from San Antonio and the Alamo Chapter. The Alamo Chapter has recently changed to quarterly meetings with our first one being held on Thursday, November 6, 2014 at the Holiday Inn by Seaworld in San Antonio TX. Andy Vaquera is looking for a new place to meet and will announce the next meeting location via text message and email. We hope to have our next meeting at the 68th Airlift Squadron on Kelly AFB in early May 2015. We would like to thank John Tosh (Museum Director) for allowing us to meet at the Texas Air Museum during the past few years. A presentation of an engraved C-130 window will be made to John at the Texas Air Museum in the near future. All chapter members are invited to come to the presentation and to personally thank John for helping our chapter. Andy Vaquera will send a text message and email with the date and time. The Alamo Chapter continues to sponsor a BLM classroom at the CEA/CoE on Lackland AFB Texas. The Alamo Chapter will be purchasing more picture frames and photographs displaying Loadmaster history and heroes in the sponsored classroom. If you would like to help the Alamo Chapter with this classroom financially or materially, please contact Andy Vaquera at (210) 559-7487, andyvaquera@sbcglobal.net or Hector Leyva at (210) 767-8160, Hector145@msn.com. Chapters or individuals that are interested in sponsoring a classroom at the CEA/CoE and/or the BLM can contact CMSgt Eric Rigby, Commandant, CEA/CoE, 344th Training Squadron, Commercial: (210) 671-5945, eric.rigby@us.af.mil.

Aloha Chapter

Keith Roscoe, Aloha Chapter President - Aloha ke akua! Although the Aloha Chapter has been busy sipping Mai Tais and tanning, we have taken a break from our hectic schedule to inform you that we have nearly reached our goal in raising money for our first chapter scholarship! Keith Roscoe has taken over the position of Aloha Chapter President, and Connor Gray is our new V.P. Both Keith and Connor are excited to take the positions and plan on making some changes in how we raise money. Keith has put together a beach outing for our chapter members at the end of March, and we hope to share some pictures in the next edition of "The Loader." Ryan Lockhart, our chapter Secretary, has taken on the task of creating a new Professional Loadmaster Association national website. Please email a brief explanation of what your chapter does/stands for and a picture to ryanslockhart@yahoo.com. The new website will have the same features as the current one, only updated to reflect a more current style and appeal. Active members will be able to login to a secure database with their own username and password, allowing them to view information about any PLA member. The goal in using a secured online database is to stop publishing of personal information in "The Loader," while still allowing active members to reach out and contact someone if they wish. The new site is near completion and should be live within the next few weeks. Any questions about the site can be directed to the same email address. Ke Akua pu a hui hou! (God bless and see you later!)

Big Country Chapter

Michael P Lutzko, Big Country Chapter President - The Big Country Chapter sponsored an entry in the Veterans Day Parade in Abilene, Texas on November 8, 2014. The weather was great and participants had an enjoyable day. It is always an honor to be able to participate in such a great event. We look forward to next year. We celebrated our annual Christmas dinner at VFW Post 6873, Abilene, Texas, on December 6, 2014. Twenty two guests enjoyed dinner, participated in a gift exchange and renewed old friendships. The Big Country Chapter meets on the first Saturday of every other month at 11:00 am. The next meeting will be April 4, 2015 at VFW Post 6873. Our chapter officers are: President, Michael P Lutzko, (325) 829-4026, michaellutzko@yahoo.com; Vice President, Vacant; Secretary, Vacant; Treasurer, Robert Staples, (325) 673-1249, staf1134@aol.com; Chaplain, Robert Leet, (325) 698-7057, nursebob1@sbcglobal.net; Historian, Bennie R Lopez, (972) 345-5066, ybL40@sbcglobal.net.



Big Country Chapter members Robert Staples, Mike Lutzko, Juan Levario, Gary Van Cleave, and Sonny Dickinson at Veterans Day Parade



Mike & Bettie Lutzko at Big Country Christmas dinner

Denali Chapter

JD Bartlemus, Denali Chapter President - The Denali Chapter of the Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA) is officially active. I, JD Bartlemus, am currently the interim President. Now that there is a lull in the action on most fronts (Fishing, Hunting, etc.) we are having our first meeting to nominate new officers on February 25th at the 249th/517th Heritage Room. The current

plan is to have our first full membership gathering on the 11th of March, with an election at that time. Our Election committee is comprised of members from the Active, Guard and Retired communities, in good standing with the PLA. If there are any members or potential members interested in the reconstitution of our chapter please contact me at jdbartlemus@gmail.com.

Gateway Chapter

Kevin Butler, Gateway Chapter President - The Gateway Chapter has started this year with a fresh start. We have elected a new president, had a nice gathering, and made a donation to the Missouri USO. Our new President, Toby McKnight, was elected by a unanimous vote and was heartily welcomed. Already he has ideas to help out membership and our surrounding communities. Our gathering on the 7th of February was a hit among our members. The chapter was able set up an event at the Silver Creek Saloon in Belleville, IL. There were good times had by all. John Malone was able to regale us with C-130 stories., one of which is what happens when a pilot attempts to use the lavatory and doesn't know how to set it up or ask a Loadmaster how it works. Other stories included reminiscing about Vietnam, Korea, both of the Gulf Wars, and Afghanistan. One of the ways our chapter has helped our local community was to donate \$350.00 to the USO of Missouri. The USO of Missouri sets up events from Whiteman AFB, to Ft. Leonard Wood, to Lambert Airport, to Scott AFB. The monies went toward refurbishing a new trailer and purchasing equipment to enhance the quality of USO events. The USO of Missouri is an amazing supporter of military in the local area, and the Gateway Chapter is proud to be able to donate to them. In the coming months the Gateway Chapter will be planning for our next gathering, looking for new ways to help our community and working toward our gun raffle this summer and our fourth of July Celebration.



Gateway Chapter members donate to USO

Golden West Chapter

Steve Clark, Golden West Chapter President - Greetings and Happy New Year from The Golden West Chapter members. After a successful 2014, we hope to increase our chapter activities in 2015. We are planning on more community involvement and Loadmaster functions. As always we are looking to recruit new members in the SoCal area to join our Chapter. We meet the

second Saturday of each month. It's a day full of war stories and Loadmaster issues. Location is Pepper Steak Diner, 26589 Highland Avenue, Highland CA at 1000Hrs. Contact for the Golden West Chapter is Steve Clark: steve.clark38@yahoo.com. Recently we had the opportunity to visit the 452AMW/729ALS on March ARB to observe C-17 duty sections and flight line operations. We enjoyed the informative briefing sessions and aircraft preflight procedures. Our kudos and thanks to TSgt Nicole Corace (PLA member) for the detailed presentation. Our belated Christmas luncheon was held at the Pinnacle Peak Steak House in Colton CA, a favorite of former Nortonites. Big kudos and congratulations to CMSgt Mike Welch on his retirement from Boeing. All his years of expertise will surely be missed by the Airlift Community. It's great to have him as part of the PLA family. Load Clear!



Golden West Chapter members at 2014 Christmas luncheon



Golden West Chapter President Steve Clark at a C-17 Loadmaster Station

Liberty Chapter

Michael Kent, President Liberty Chapter - Hello from Exit 7. Greetings from the Liberty Chapter! My name is Mike Kent and I am the Liberty Chapter President. The other officers within our chapter are Secretary Shem Miller and Treasurer Kent Brown. Kent also serves as the East Coast Vice President. We are centered around Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. We hold our meetings the 2nd Saturday of each month at the Garden State Diner in Wrightstown, NJ. We meet for breakfast at 0900 and have our meeting at 1000. The diner is located approximately 2 miles from the main gate. We held

our annual Holiday Party in December. The event was hosted by JP & Barb Salisbury. They have graciously offered their house for a number of years for this event. Kathy Disney, The Professional Loadmaster Association National President, was a special guest at our party this year while in the area visiting friends for the holidays. The chapter provided a main course, and members brought a side dish or dessert. We played a few games and enjoyed the company of our fellow loadmasters. We also collected gifts to donate to a local children's charity called Operation Santa Claus. Our holiday party continues to be one of our favorite events of the year. I have included a picture from the party. We have big plans as the weather warms up this spring and into the summer. We plan on having a meeting on March 14th and after the meeting we will be cleaning the area around the C-141 memorial on the base. This is an event we would like to continue in the coming years. Many of the chapter members flew on the C-141 and many flew the actual plane that is on display. In place of an April meeting we are planning a trip to the AMC Museum at Dover AFB on April 18th. The museum has open aircraft days on the 3rd Saturday of each month from spring to fall. We have done this trip a few times in the past. Chapter members really enjoy it and it is only a 90 minute drive for us. The museum gets better every time we visit. We will also be volunteering with the New Jersey Honor Flight again this year on June 6th. This organization provides free trips for veterans to the war memorials in Washington DC. The chapter voted to donate \$500 for this event and will be volunteering to help the veterans. In the past, we have found this event to be a very rewarding experience and we will likely continue to support it in the future. To close out our summer, we are planning a chapter picnic for some time in July or August. JP and Barb have stepped up again and volunteered to host the event. They have a nice back yard that is on a lake. Boats and fishing will be available. The event is open to members and non-members including their family. It should be a great time!



Liberty Chapter members at 2014 holiday party

Northwest Chapter

Michael Weber, Northwest Chapter President - We have meetings during the second week of the month. We have started to have the meetings two of the three months per quarter at one of the flying Squadrons to accommodate more people and the

third month we will continue to have on base on a Saturday morning. The Chapter had their annual Christmas party at Ron Pierce's house, good eats and good company were had by all. We are starting to plan for summer functions and a picnic event sometime in the August time frame. We are also looking at setting up a PLA booth at the Rodeo this summer, and hope some of you can make it up to the event! We had elections back in January and the newly appointed Chapter officers are as follows: President, Michael Weber 4302 Goldcrest Drive NW, Olympia WA 98502-9015, Tel. (253) 861-5595, weberm77@yahoo.com; Vice President, Harold Edvalds, 1702 90th St. Tacoma WA 98444-3122; Secretary/Treasurer, Victor Fredlund, 1841 Trosper Rd SW #8, Tumwater WA 98512-6964, Tel. (360) 705-3755, victorfredlund@msn.com.



Northwest Chapter 2014 Christmas Party

Parker-Aguillon-Payne Chapter

Mark E. Raymond, Parker-Aguillon-Payne Chapter President - Our annual Christmas Party was held at the Travis Heritage Center (Travis Museum) on December 12, 2014. We had a great turnout and lots of door prizes. The Travis conference center again did a great job on the catering. Thanks to all the contributed to the door prizes and thanks to Georgette, Emma and Rocco for their assistance. Our chapter continues to participate in the annual American Cancer Society, Relay for Life, held in Vacaville, California every year. We have already started to raise money for the July 2015 event. Last year we raised over \$21,000.00 in donations. Joe Brown is our team Captain and is assisted by Al Horwedel. We have been having our monthly meetings the first Tuesday of each month at Delta Breeze Club (NCO Club), on Travis AFB for just about the entire sixteen years we have been a chapter. Thanks again to all the great members who continue to support our chapter and the Professional Loadmaster Association. If you have any question, please contact Mark E. Raymond at mark.raymond@att.net or mark.raymond@kc10ats.com.



P-A-P Chapter members at the 2014 Christmas Party



Mark Raymond's family at the P-A-P Chapter 2014 Christmas Party

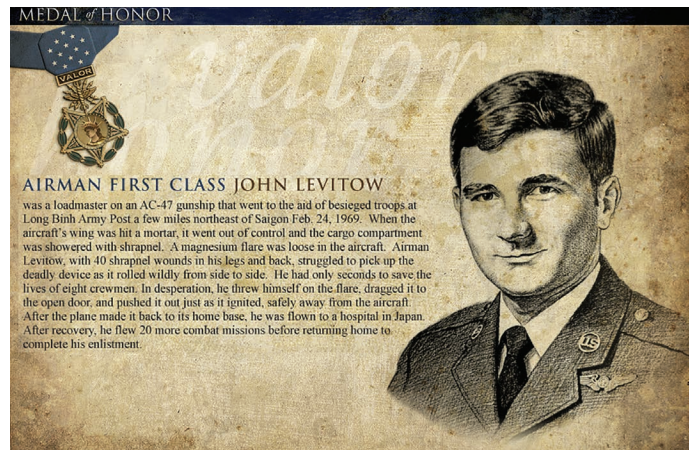
Trailblazers Chapter

Danny South, Trailblazers Chapter President - The Chapter has locked down the dates for the next Gathering of Loads convention. It will be held on September 15 -18 September 2016 in Oklahoma City OK. The hotel has been reserved and more information will follow in the upcoming issues of "The Loader."

Bill Canon Bench Update

Bill Canon Bench Update - Erin Manley met with a representative at the National Museum of the US Air Force a couple weeks ago. The PLA is going to secure two spots next to the existing Loadmaster Monument. One for Bill Canon's bench and one for a future project. Next will be the design phase of Bill Canon's bench. At the 2014 Gathering of Loads Convention in St. Louis MO a suggestion was brought up by Alex "Wookie" Walter that a request be made in "The Loader" asking all PLA members to contribute \$10.00 to aid in the purchase of Bill Canon's bench. If a majority of PLA members voluntary contribute to Bill's bench it would be possible to pay for a considerable amount of the construction cost. If you would like to contribute please mail a check to "Professional Loadmaster Association, P. O. Box 4351, Tacoma WA 98438." Please write "Bill Canon Bench Donation" in the note section of your check. Your donation will be greatly appreciated. Thank You

John Levitow



Artwork by U. S. DOD/DMA. John Levitow received the Medal Of Honor for his actions 46 years ago on February 24, 1969

Altus AFB Assists With Army National Guard Jump Training

By Airman 1st Class Nathan Clark, 97 Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs, Published January 27, 2015 - Army National Guard Soldiers wait in the cargo hold of a C-17 Globemaster III cargo aircraft before taking off for a training jump Jan. 23, 2015, in Austin, Texas. The Soldiers jumped from the aircraft using a static line method which deploys their chutes immediately as they exit the aircraft. The Soldiers are from the 1st Battalion, 143rd Infantry Regiment. Even with the noise of the aircraft flying 1,000 feet above the ground, the mood is quiet. "Six minutes!" yells Staff Sgt. Laura Bourdlais, a 58th Airlift Squadron Loadmaster, before she opens the side door revealing the lights of San Antonio, Texas, in the distance. Soon, 80 Soldiers with the Texas Army National Guard, 1st Battalion, 143rd Infantry Regiment, will jump out the side door of a C-17 Globemaster III, and attempt to land in a drop zone in total darkness. This was the scene as two C-17s from the 58th AS participated in a joint exercise Jan. 23. "Altus (Air Force Base's) primary objective is to get personnel air drop currency for our Loadmasters because they cannot get it here at Altus," said Capt. Jason Sikorski, a 58th AS C-17 Instructor Pilot. According to Bourdlais, C-17 Loadmasters are required to complete a static line jump once a year to stay proficient. In addition to the annual training requirements, Loadmaster graduates from technical training have to complete a static line jump within 90 days of arriving to their first duty station. "I love working joint operations," said Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael Kanzler, a 294th Quarter-Master Company Parachute Rigger NCO. "The Air Force is always an excellent teammate in these operations. They're very friendly and accommodating." According to Kanzler, the C-17s help to get a lot of paratroopers current in their training status at one time. Several passes were made over the drop zone to get all 80 Soldiers out of the aircraft safely. "One of our missions we are working toward is a full airfield seizure," said Army National Guard Maj. Wade Aubin, the 1st Battalion Airborne operations officer. "In order to put our entire battalion on the airfield at once, it takes large aircraft... so we can have the maximum effect."



Altus AFB C-17's airdropped personnel from the Texas Army National Guard, 1st Battalion, 143rd Infantry Regiment. See the video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2TSOhbW21w&list=PLBV-tF3X5uF1W0sPWcl530vVEpu-cU-V>

The “Almost” Candy Bombers of Iraq

By Staff Sgt. Shawn Nickel, Air Forces Central Command Public Affairs - Published August 31, 2014 - U.S. CENTRAL COMMAND AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY - The U.S. government provided the Container Delivery System bundles and the military aircraft, but something just seemed to be missing on the airdrop packages. Master Sgt. Stephen Brown had something sweet for the kids in mind to make things just right. Following in the footsteps of Retired Col. Gail Halvorsen, the original Candy Bomber of World War II, Brown taped a package of Skittles to a bundle of Halal Meals Ready to Eat, which was delivered in an airdrop to displaced Iraqis in the vicinity of Sinjar Mountain in northern Iraq earlier this month. “Although my favorite candy that doesn’t melt in this desert heat is Starburst, I took what I had in my bag and just taped it to the side of the box,” he said. “After that everyone started making the drops a little personal with more candy, and I even think I saw a teddy bear.” The acts of kindness were a slippery slope for the 816th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron aircrews, which have graduated from single packs of candy to garbage bags full of donated sweet treats for the most recent airdrops in the area of Amirli, Iraq, Aug. 31, 2014. “We’ve been really impressed with the turn out and dedication of our wingmen,” said Master Sgt. Emily Edmunds, 816th EAS Loadmaster superintendent. “We are definitely not at the level of the Candy Bomber, but I’d give us an ‘almost’ for our modern version of it.” Overall, two C-17 Globemaster IIIs and two C-130 Hercules dropped 10,545 gallons of water and 7,056 Halal Meals Ready to Eat in 109 bundles, and almost every one dropped with a little extra. Items Airmen received in care packages, bought themselves, and even were given just for the occasion have made this a big deal for the squadron, Brown said. “I can just imagine being in the shoes of these parents down there. Not being able to provide much during a time of war would be heartbreaking,” he said. “This could be something that will make a dire situation a little brighter even if it’s just for a few moments.”



MSgt’s Stephen Brown (right) and Emily Edmunds, 816th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron Loadmasters, attach candy to container delivery system bundles filled with fresh drinking water on a C-17 Globemaster III in preparation for a humanitarian airdrop over the area of Amirli, Iraq Aug. 30, 2014. The candy was collected by the squadron to supplement United States government humanitarian aid. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Shawn Nickel)



A teddy bear donated by an American child remains tied to a C-130 Hercules assigned to the 746th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, prior to take-off during a humanitarian airdrop over Iraq, Aug. 14, 2014, at a base in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. The humanitarian aid includes bottled water and food which was delivered to displaced citizens in the vicinity of Sinjar, Iraq. The teddy bear was donated to pass along gratitude to children trapped in the Iraq conflict. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Vernon Young Jr.)

Cope South 2015

Cope South 15 launches in Bangladesh - By 1st Lt. Jake Bailey, Pacific Air Force Public Affairs / Published January 27, 2015 - BAF BASE BANGABANDHU, Bangladesh (AFNS) — U.S. Air Force and Bangladesh air force (BAF) personnel took to the sky Jan. 24, for the launch of exercise Cope South 15, a Pacific Air Forces-sponsored, bilateral tactical airlift exercise at BAF Base Bangabandhu, Bangladesh. Eighty U.S. Airmen along with three C-130H Hercules aircraft from the 36th Airlift Squadron at Yokota Air Base, Japan, integrated with approximately 200 Bangladesh airmen and one Bangladeshi C-130B during the exercise, scheduled through Jan. 30. “Cope South provides valuable training for U.S. and Bangladeshi Airmen in air-land and airdrop delivery,” said Lt. Col. Andrew Campbell, the 36th Airlift Squadron commander. “Our work here is vital in contingency and disaster-response operations. We build the personal relationships that, at a tactical level, enable us to

help when disaster strikes and people are in need, not just in Bangladesh, but across the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. “Campbell said Cope South, and his squadron’s activity with Indo-Asia-Pacific partners throughout the year, builds bonds that enable the region’s forces to rapidly respond and operate shoulder-to-shoulder during any crisis. The first day’s operations built on previous Cope South exercises. U.S. Air Force crews safely airdropped Bangladeshi commandos using their host nation’s airdrop procedures. “My crews arrived in Bangladesh only 18 hours ago, and today, we airdropped supplies and personnel using our host’s procedures,” Campbell noted. “That’s an uncommon capability made possible by our regular and enduring engagement that builds trust between my crews and our joint Bangladeshi partners. It’s a capability unique to (U.S. Pacific Command’s) assigned forces.” BAF Group Captain Awal Hossain said exercises such as Cope South are particularly important to BAF response capabilities. “Bangladesh is a flood-prone country, and we have been enhancing our capability, so we can drop men and materials in a disaster zone quickly and easily to support locals,” Hossain said. In addition to cooperative flight operations, during the exercise U.S. and BAF airmen will conduct several subject matter expert exchanges focused on aircraft generation and recovery, day and night low-level navigation, airdrop and air-land tactics, aircraft maintenance procedures and rigging techniques. “Already, it’s clear this year’s exercise is further advancing our mutual understanding of each other’s capabilities and enhancing our ability to operate together,” said U.S. Air Force Maj. Adam Staubach, the Cope South 15 mission commander.



Cope South 2015 - Staff Sgt. Noel Jones prepares to board a C-130H aircraft after engines start January 24, 2015 during exercise Cope South at Bangladesh air force base, Bangabandhu, Bangladesh. Cope South helps cultivate common bonds, foster goodwill, and improve readiness and compatibility between members of the Bangladesh and U.S. Air Forces. Jones is a Loadmaster assigned to the 36th Airlift Squadron, Yokota Air Base, Japan. (U.S. Air Force photo/1st Lt. Jake Bailey)

U. S. Marine Corps C-9B Loadmaster

Fly By, Highlighting Cherry Point’s Warriors - Lance Cpl. Joshua R. Heins | April 3, 2014. Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C. - Marines across the Corps find themselves in various units and job assignments throughout their career. Sgt. Erica Bloomingdale is no stranger to stepping up to the

challenge of filling multiple roles at once. “I am originally a Loadmaster for the KC-130J Hercules,” said Bloomingdale, who currently works as a Loadmaster for one of two Marine Corps C-9B Skytrains with Marine Transport Squadron 1. “My job includes the loading and unloading of passengers and cargo, rapid ground refueling, aerial refueling, air drops of cargo and personnel and battlefield illumination.” Bloomingdale, a Plymouth, Ohio native, enlisted in the Marine Corps September 2005 and has deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and in support of the Special Marine Air Ground Task Force in Sigonella, Italy. “I chose the job because it looked like something that would fit my personality,” said Bloomingdale. “I really enjoy challenges and I felt this job would present that to me.” Aside from her normal duties and between flight hours, Bloomingdale schedules all the annual training for the Marines of VMR-1 as part of her duties as the ground-training noncommissioned officer for the squadron. However, her true passion is being in the air. “What I like most about my job is flying,” she said. Bloomingdale says she is looking forward to continuing her career in the Marine Corps. “Something I’m looking forward to in my career is just being a Marine tomorrow,” said Bloomingdale. “I’m definitely looking forward to advancing in rank, but I really enjoy being a sergeant, I enjoy being a Marine today.”



Fly By, highlighting Cherry Point’s Warriors - Sergeant Erica Bloomingdale, a native of Plymouth, Ohio, stands next to a sign displaying the unit logo for Marine Transport Squadron 1, March 28, 2014. Bloomingdale is a Loadmaster for the VMR-1’s C-9B Skytrain and the ground-training noncommissioned officer for the squadron.

East Coast VP - Cont. from page 6

conversations that benefit the old and the new Loadmasters. The host chapter is also responsible for making the GOL interesting to all. I know from experience that it is hard to fill all the hours of the GOL with things that all will enjoy. My opinion of this is to have briefings that fill the time, but will keep the attention of all attendees, briefings need to start around 0830 and end by

1600. Most of the Loadmasters that attend the GOL are retired, so things need to be geared toward them, unless you know that the audience majority will be active or reserve Loadmasters. We have never set how many hours must be briefings, so the host chapter needs to balance this with time allowed for being able to see the local area. Maybe it would be best to just have briefings in the morning with the afternoon free for tours or sightseeing, or only on one full day instead of two, with the second day used for an extended tour or event. There are several hours that need to be included in the GOL: executive members' meeting that is best done on the first full day at the end; and then we are required by our By-Laws to have a general membership meeting which usually occurs on the morning of the last full day. Lastly having the hospitality room close at a reasonable time -- I'll let you decide what that is -- may help with attendance at the next day's events. Enough ranting, I hope this will raise awareness on what goes into having a great GOL. It is the host chapter's effort and the Loadmasters that attend that make the GOL. I hope that more of you will consider joining us in Oklahoma City in 2016 and support the efforts of the Trailblazers Chapter from Altus. As soon as a date is published for the GOL, put it on your calendar and plan on attending, I know you will have a good time. I would like to hear your opinion on what I have said, either good or bad, and I will pass on any suggestions to the Trailblazers Chapter and the other PLA officers.

U. S. Navy C-40 Loadmaster



EL PASO, Texas (March 23, 2014) Naval Aircrewman (Mechanical) 2nd Class Fred Johnson, a Loadmaster assigned to Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VRC) 57, inspects cargo pallets before they are loaded onto a C-40A Clipper at Biggs Army Airfield. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Daniel M. Young/Released)

U. S. Coast Guard HC-130H Loadmaster



US Coast Guard, Defense Media Activity – Hawaii News Bureau, (Photo by TSgt. Michael Holzworth) - U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class Shane Ramos, aviation maintenance technician Loadmaster, communicates with pilots on the flight deck during engine of a Coast Guard HC-130H Hercules

Air National Guard C-130 Loadmasters



Alaska ANG takes part in arctic mobility exercise, (176th Wing Public Affairs, Photo by SSgt Edward Eagerton) - Loadmasters from the 144th AS rig a palletized arctic sustainment package in a C-130 during Excercise Spartan Pegasus

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Professional Loadmaster Association:
www.loadmasters.com

C-130 Hercules.net:
<http://www.c-130hercules.net/content.php>

C-141 Flying Squadrons:
<http://www.c141flyingsquadrons.com/>

C-141 Heaven:
<http://c141heaven.info/>

Air Force Vignettes - At the 2014 Air Force Association Air and Space Conference, held September 15-17, 2014 in National Harbor, MD, General Mark Welsh, Air Force Chief Of Staff showcased four Air Force vignettes to highlight Airmen throughout the Air Force. One of the vignettes featured two C-17 Loadmasters, TSgt Shevaun Reighter and SSgt Kelly Chapman: **<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xWZ9ydIaEM>**

PLA Loadmaster Monument Dedication Video - Kent Brown Liberty Chapter, has posted a 20 minute video of the Dedication Ceremony that took place at the Museum of the US Air Force, Dayton, Ohio on September 21, 2012 on You Tube. **http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WS5N1ZoB_Pk**

FACEBOOK LINKS

Professional Loadmaster Association:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/158506894161061/>

Alamo:
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Alamo-chapter-of-the-Professional-Loadmaster-Association-PLA/1523886031175487>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/901763776518434/>

Big Country:
<https://www.facebook.com/BigCountryPLA>

Denali:
<https://www.facebook.com/Denali.Pla>

Gateway:
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/PLA-Gateway-Chapter/52855915723573>

Liberty:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/122389717788338/>

Northwest:
<https://www.facebook.com/PLANorthwestchapter>

Parker-Aguillon-Payne:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/loadmasters/>

Links

Southeast:
<https://www.facebook.com/southeast.pla?fref=ts>

The First State:
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/PLA-First-State-Chapter/482364305225584>

The Rock:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/therockpla/>

Trailblazers:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/platrailblazer/>

Aircraft Loadmasters (USAF):
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2324368340/>

Aircraft Loadmasters - Boeing - McD D:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/131867540171381/>

USAF Enlisted Aviators/Aircrew - Past and Present:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/USAFEnlistedAviators/>

Vietnam Airlifters:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/193653244015188/>

57th TCS/MAS/AS/WPS - Alumni:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/57th.alumni/>

C-5 Galaxy:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/665493410158408/>

C-5A Galaxy BABYLIFT Crash:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/C5.Babylift/>

C-141 Flying Squadrons:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/C141flyingsquadrons/>

C-141 Loadmasters (LM):
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/116504779674/>

UPCOMING REUNIONS

March 14, 2015 - 14th Airlift Squadron - Order of the Pelican, Once a Pelican...Always a Pelican!, 75 years - Pelicanus Jubilaeus, [Francis Marion Hotel](#), Carolina Ballroom, 387 King Street Charleston, SC 29403, <https://sites.google.com/site/orderofthepelican/>

Apr 24–26, 2015 - 40th TAS Reunion Group - The reunion is for anyone who served in the 40th TCS, 40th TAS, and 40th AS. POC: Lonnie Jackson, 40thtas@gmail.com and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/40TAS/>.

June 20, 2015 - Former Travis AFB C-141A/B Crewmembers Reunion, to be held at Pippo Ranch in Vacaville CA. POC: Jack Pledger (520) 705-0658 or Vic Terry (707) 321-3016.

Underlined name denotes a PLA Member, * Denotes PLA Life Member

The Professional Loadmaster Association offers condolences to the families and friends of the following Loadmasters whose passing has been reported to our association.

Frank Lawrence Kennedy, 87, passed away on November 15, 2014, in Oklahoma City, OK. He was born on April 1, 1927 in Colon, Panama, to Emile Tisdale and Amy (Lawrence) Kennedy. After high school and attending some college, Frank joined the United States Air Force, and proudly served our country during, WWII, the Korean Conflict and Vietnam. He retired after 24 years of faithful service to this great nation. He loved nature and being outdoors and enjoyed occasional visits to the Oklahoma City Zoo. Frank was preceded in death by his parents; and sister, Jane Kennedy. He is survived by his loving wife, Dianne Kennedy; daughters, Karen L. Kennedy, Jane Kennedy, Linda V. Kennedy and Joyce E. Kennedy; sons, Frank L. Kennedy, Jr., David S. Kennedy, and Philip M. Kennedy; many grand and great-grandchildren are left to carry on his legacy. A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Full Military Honors will be held at 2:00 p.m. in the Fort Gibson National Cemetery. Condolences may be offered at www.eisenhourfuneral.com.

*Norman E. Keppler, 78, Graham, WA, passed away November 23, 2014. Norm was born in Detroit, Michigan, March 13, 1937. He served in the military and retired at McChord AFB. Upon retiring he did the things he loved: hunting, fishing, golfing, and enjoying God's creations. He was a giving man, always helping others. Norman is survived by his wife Barbara and four children: Norman, David, Karin, and Mike; 11 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. Viewing to be at Fir Lane Funeral Home, 924 East 176th Street, Spanaway WA, Thurs. Dec. 11th 2-7 pm. Service at Tahoma National Cemetery, Friday Dec 12th at 10 am, with Reception at 2 pm at Fir Lane Funeral Home.

*Edward (Eddie) R. Meza age 68, of San Antonio, passed away Saturday, November 9, 2013. Eddie served in the Air Force for over 30 years earning numerous awards. His dearest passion was his sweetheart, Mary Louise, and his family. He adored his grandkids. He also had a passion for hunting, where he was when the Lord called him home. He is preceded in death by his brother, Vidal Meza, and his parents, Eliseo and Manuela Meza. Eddie is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Mary Louise Meza; daughter, Judy Meza; son, Edward (Eddie) Meza and his wife, Sylvia; grandchildren, Christopher Hubby and wife, Gabriella, Ruben Lopez, Kristal Meza, and Nicole Meza; great granddaughter, Jazmine (Jazzy) Hubby; brother, Eliseo Meza; sisters, Ernestine Barron, Elena Ramirez, Elma Saucedo, and Evangelina Lozano; mother-in-law, Jovita Cardenas; father-in-law, Louis Cardenas and wife, Elma. Interment in Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

Andrew T. Phillips, SMSgt, USAF Retired, born October 15, 1965 went into eternal rest at David Grant Medical Center, Travis AFB, CA, January 16 at 6:20 pm. Services will be held Saturday, January 24, 2015, 1pm at Life Changing Reality Christian Center, 1425 North Texas St. Fairfield, CA. Visitation will be held from 11:00 to 12:30 PM.

Robert C. Rodemeyer, CMSgt, USAF Retired, Corona, CA, passed away on 11 November 2014. No Obituary written.

Dutch Lee Binnarr, age 79, husband of Alvaleane White Binnarr, entered into eternal rest Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at his home in Summerville SC. <http://palmettocremationsociety.frontrunnerpro.com/book-of-memories/2001169/Dutch-Binnarr/obituary.php>

Fred William Clinard, 80, of Summerville, husband of Joyce (Jones) Clinard, passed away on Sunday, January 4, 2015 at his residence. <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/charleston/obituary.aspx?n=fred-william-clinard&pid=173766344#>

Willie Edgar Jones passed away on Wednesday, November 12th, 2014. <http://www.benniesmithfuneralhome.com/book-of-memories/1982887/Jones-Willie/obituary.php>

Jorge Luis "Marty" Martinez-Gotay, 68, of Fayetteville NC passed away on Friday, December 5, 2014 in Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. <http://www.jerniganwarren.com/obituary?id=51351>

Lowell T. Orman, 76, of Calvert City, KY, died on Thursday, November 6, 2014, at Baptist Health in Paducah, KY. <http://www.collierfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Lowell-Orman/>

Thomas H. Rolens, 81, of Mascoutah, IL, born Oct. 19, 1933 in St. Louis, MO, passed away Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014, at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Belleville, IL. http://www.mollfuneralhome.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=2862256&fh_id=13999

J.B. "Jay" Walker, Jr., October 21, 1945 - October 22, 2014, 69, of Vidor TX died Wednesday, October 22, 2014, at his residence. <http://memorialofvidor.com/obituaries/obituary-listings?obId=346611#/obituaryInfo>

Donald (Donnie) Grover West, 54, passed away peacefully on July 20, 2014 at Bay Pines VA Medical Center in St. Petersburg, Florida. <http://www.schildknechtfh.com/book-of-memories/1911906/West-Donald/obituary.php>

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