

THE LOADER

Official Newsletter Of The Professional Loadmaster Association

Volume 19 Issue 2 | July 2016

Friendship Through Airlift



Professional Loadmaster Association
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CABIN REPORT

I'd like to begin with a big "Thank You" to our fellow Loadmasters across the "pond" for inviting PLA members to their Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance at St. Clement Danes - the Central Church of

the Royal Air Force - honoring fallen comrades. It was such a pleasure to meet the members of the Royal Air Force Air Loadmaster Association (RAFALMA). Thank you Josh Stewart for being such a wonderful host and coordinating events with other members. Kyle and I were accompanied by Kris and Ron Pierce, and Dan Watson, a dear friend of Bill Cannon's. We had a nice dinner with RAFALMA members on Saturday evening prior to the ceremony. After the ceremony on Sunday, they provided a lunch at The Yacht on the River Thames. Sunday evening, we were able to catch the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London. It was a quick trip, for some quicker than others; however, it was well worth it! Next year there may be another ceremony at St. Clement Danes church. I will keep everyone posted as it develops. In addition to the fun that was had, Paul Couchman and I were able to discuss some organizational demands and opportunities. Even though both organizations are separated geographically, we share many similarities and challenges. I look forward to an increased dialogue with the RAFALMA, as we share ideas to help each organization grow and prosper. So again...Thank you RAFALMA!



Kathy & Kyle Disney at dinner with the RAF Air Loadmaster Association Loadies

My second shout-out is to all the members who nominated individuals for the first Loadmaster of the Year award. Thank you! As well as to those on the Awards & Recognition Committee who had the task of grading packages and picking a winner from each category (SNCO, NCO, and Airman). Thank you! The three individuals have been notified by their Commanders and will be recognized at this year's Gathering of Loads. And the winners are.... SrA Ryan D. Usher, SSgt Richard A. Hauf III, and MSgt Adam N. Mattson. Congratulations!! My last shout-out is to the Scholarship Committee. Once again they had the task of reading through applications and picking winners. Thank you for your work on the committee! The five recipients of this

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PLA ADVISORS

President Emeritus	Bill Cannon		
Scholarship Chairman	Jim Engelker	(303) 585-1212	engelkerj@gmail.com
Webmaster	Ryan Lockhart	(559) 283 7977	ryanslockhart@yahoo.com

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 Photo: March 18, 2016 - PLA member TSgt Paul Garcia, 21st AS Instructor Loadmaster, stands on the flight line at José Martí International Airport in Havana, Cuba. Garcia, was part of a recent Presidential support mission to Cuba. For the full story go to the Daily Republic website at: <http://www.dailyrepublic.com/news/fairfield/cuban-american-travis-airman-part-of-presidents-trip-to-havana/> (Photo courtesy TSgt Paul Garcia)

year’s scholarships have been notified. They are Cutter Cannon, Courtney Gordon, Andrew Welch, David Vanderwall, and John Soto. Congratulations and good luck with your studies! If anyone has not yet registered for the Gathering of Loads 2016, please go to www.loadmasters.com for more information, or <https://www.eventbrite.com/> and search Gathering of Loads. The Trailblazer Chapter is working hard to make sure this is a successful event! Again, I hope to see you all in Bricktown, Oklahoma City at the Gathering of Loads 2016. Until then... Load Clear!!

East Coast Vice President

Kent Brown, East Coast Vice-President - “THE DIFFICULT WE DO IMMEDIATELY, THE IMPOSSIBLE TAKES A LITTLE TIME.” In the last Loader I mentioned this but let me make some more comments. To keep our organization going strong it takes a group of volunteers to run the chapters, do fund raisers and service projects. We need to show a unified front, and one way we can do that is to stand out in the crowd. When we all put on that flight suit, everyone knew that our job involved airplanes. We were proud to wear that uniform and didn’t want to take it off to wear any other uniform; we were flyers. So if you are at a chapter meeting, service project or fundraiser, let’s all wear something with the PLA wings or logo on it. At the Liberty chapter’s last meeting, I made a motion and we wrote into the minutes that from that meeting forward we encourage our members to wear PLA logo-wear to all events. You ask, where can I get something like that? Every town in this day and age has an embroidery shop or silk screen printer; or you can order online if your chapter doesn’t already sell something. I would like to encourage all members to acquire some shirts and wear them when you go to a chapter event. When we attend the GOL in September, I would like to see more people wearing PLA logo-wear. So next time a chapter asks for volunteers, step forward and be proud to wear that PLA logo. We don’t ask you to be there for everything; but if everyone volunteered once a year and came to meetings on occasion, it would be much easier to run this organization. Thanks, Cabin Secure

PLA Secretary

RENEWAL NOTICE: PLEASE RESPOND TO YOUR ELECTRONIC OR MAILED LETTER 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 P. O. Box or online thru PayPal. When paying by PayPal, print and save your receipt to confirm your payment if a question should arise.

ELECTRONIC CONTACT: If a member has an email address, all contact between the secretary and the member will be conducted electronically. The association has saved on postage due to sending out renewal, grace period, and re-instatement letters. A big thank you to those, 106 stateside and 8 overseas members, who have agreed to accept “The Loader” electronically. If you are willing to receive “The Loader” electronically, please send the secretary a note with your email address.

LOST LOAD CANDIDATES: If your “The Loader” newsletter is returned to the association by the Post Office, for whatever reason, the PLA pays for the return. When trying to contact you for new information and we find your phone has been disconnected and you also have a bad e-mail address, YOU WILL BE PLACED ON THE LOST LOAD LISTING. 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 email to buildsmall2@mac.com or Secretary@Loadmasters.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. We have had a problem with the 800 number but the company believes it has been solved. Thank you!

PLA MEMBERSHIP

PLA MEMBERSHIP AS OF: June 15, 2016

TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS: 948 (12 Lost Loads)

(14) NEW MEMBERS listed since the March 2016 issue (*Denotes Life Member)

February

Dale Foster	The Colony, TX
Norito Hernandez	Altus, OK
James A. Lucier, Jr.	Charleston, WV
Kenneth L. Morey	Charleston SC

March

Andrew Hansen	Tucson, AZ
*Adam Roberts	Scott AFB, IL

April

Jason Badder	Cedar Park, TX
Bobby Barton	Crestview, FL
Freddie Kondoff	San Antonio, TX
Valerie Stephens	Altus, OK

May

Christopher Fullmer	Honolulu, HI
Edward Metz	Charleroi, PA
Robert Moon	Williamston, MI
Nicholas Phipps	Summerville, SC

(2) LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

*Aaron Avery	Hanahan, SC
*Bodie Baker	Altus, OK

(43) IN-ACTIVE MEMBERS listed since March 2016 issue

Marc Allen	Puyallup, WA (NW)	March
Gregory Benton	Rockingham, NC (MA)	March
James Bobbitt	Bowling Green, KY	March
Shawn Bowlin	Altus, OK (Trail)	January
Mark J. Blinn	Hedrick, OK (Trail)	January
James Bonk	Aiea, HI (Aloha)	February
Gerald Cannata	Marlton, NJ (L)	March
Parnell G. Fisher	Jacksonville, AR (Alamo)	February
Terry L. Fox	Laurel, MT	January
Dominic Gallagher	Australia	March
Samuel Gilbert	Fairview Heights, IL (Gate)	February
Conner M. Gray	Honolulu, HI (Aloha)	January
John Gudmundson	Fayetteville, NC (MA)	January
Thomas G. Harrison	Altus, OK (Trail)	January
Johnnie Henderson	Phenix City, AL	April
La Verne E. Kappauf	San Antonio, TX (Alamo)	February
Thomas Kelleher	Chelmsford, MA	April
George Lytle	APO AE (MA)	February
Kevin Letz	Tuscola, TX (BC)	March
Arthur Martin	Dunnellon, FL	March
Norman Metz	Altus, OK (Trail)	January
Mitchell McCooley	Macon, GA	January
Darryl McPheron	Mt. Carmel, TN	April
Daniel C. Moore	McChord AFB, WA	April
Agustin Nalsen	Altus, OK (Trail)	February
Jeffrey Page	Richburg, SC	March
Eric Pietras	Puyallup, WA (NW)	March
Richard Randall	Kansas City, MO	March
Alva W. Reid	Blairsville, GA	January
Garth Rose	Tacoma, WA (NW)	March
Ivan Sanches	Kapolei, HI (Aloha)	April
Don Sawyer	San Antonio, TX (Alamo)	April
Christopher Schroeter	JBER, AK (D)	March
Adam Scripture	Fayetteville, NC (MA)	February
Delmus T. Sinclair	Mangham, LA	February
Frank C. Solis	San Antonio, TX (Alamo)	February
Zach Steenhusen	Altus, OK (Trail)	April
James D. Stegeman	Lakewood, WA (NW)	February
Patrick TurnerFort	Walton Beach, FL (SE)	March
Jeffery Van Landingham	Altus, OK (Trail)	January
Donny Washam	Huntsville, TN (Trail)	March
Kory Williams	Honolulu, HI (Aloha)	April
Mark Wright	Cheyenne, WY	April

LOST LOADS (12): If you know any of the Lost Loads please contact us or 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
*Robert B. Burnett	Dulles, VA	Jul 2011
*Christopher S. Clay	Arlington, VA	Nov 2011
*Daniel Downey	Abilene, TX	Jul 2012
*William Ghent	Merkel, TX	Nov 2015

*Donald B. Kubik	Warner Robins, GA	Mar 2016
*Jack L. Langenstein	Summerville, SC	Jul 2014
*Dewhitt Sizemore	Bonita Springs, FL	Nov 2012
*Tony E. Strader	APO AE	Nov 2011
*David L. Terrell	APO AE	Nov 2015
*Daniel K. Torgerson	Anchorage, AK	Mar 2016
*Lucas J. White	Warner Robins, GA	Nov 2014

REUNIONS

Sep 7 – 11: **C-7A Caribou Assn (Vietnam)** in Washington. POC: John Tawes, (770) 447-4336, jtawes@gmail.com

Sep 15 – 18: **317th Troop Carrier/Airlift Vets** (All Eras) in Abilene, TX. POC: Jim Timmons, (443) 844-4711, jimt0708@aol.com

Sep 16 – 18: **2nd Aerial Port Squadron**, Sewart AFB, TN in Smyrna, TN. POC: C. Vaught, (812) 853-5603 or D. Neyman, (615) 459-6692 (24th Reunion)

Oct 7 – 9: **Straygoose International (SGI Air Force MC-130 Talons in the Pacific) and Maynard's 50th anniversary** in Ft. Walton Beach, FL. POC: Lee Hess, (850) 240-0707, papasan@straygoose.org

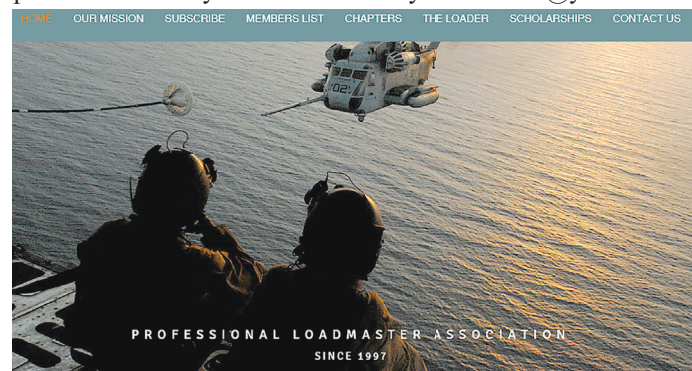
Nov 6 – 9: **463rd Airlifters Association, 316th Tac Airlift Wing** (1965-75) in Long Beach, CA. POC: Phil Tenney, (626) 822-0262, jennytenney@gmail.com

Treasurer Report

Chris Dockery, Treasurer - As of June 2016 The Professional Loadmaster Association has a total of \$10,598.78 in checking and \$41,031.23 in savings.

Webmaster

Ryan Lockhart, PLA Webmaster - The new Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA) website is up and running. The new website is: <http://www.loadmasters.com/>. You are now able to go to the Membership List tab and create an account. If you have a smart phone, there is a mobile friendly version. If any of the PLA Chapter Presidents or the general membership have suggestions to improve the website, please contact Ryan Lockhart at ryanslockhart@yahoo.com.



Welcome to the Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA). The PLA is a non-profit organization dedicated

“The Loader” Editor

Bill Weeper, “The Loader” Editor - Thank you to all the chapters who submitted articles and photographs for “The Loader.” Please look under the Trailblazer Chapter for an update on the 2016 Gathering of Loads (GOL) by Danny South. **Please register for the event at: www.eventbrite.com, search Gathering of Loads.** If you are unable to register for the event at that website on page 10 of this issue there is a paper registration form. Also included is the Sequence of Events for the GOL on page 9. For current active duty, Reserve and Guard Loadmasters there is a TDY/Permissive TDY letter on page 11 that may help you in obtaining funding to come to the GOL. If you know of any company that would like to advertise in “The Loader” please send their contact information to any of the Executive Committee (see page 2) or to me. Advertisements will help defer the cost of printing “The Loader.” A full page advertisement is \$500.00, a 1/2 page is \$250.00, a 1/4 page is \$125.00 and a Business Card size is \$100.00. Some chapters have been reconstituted and I will help promote those chapters through “The Loader.” In order to provide the best, most interesting articles in “The Loader,” I need your input. If you belong to a PLA Chapter please help your Chapter President submit inputs to me (providing old and new Loadmaster stories, chapter information, personal achievements, photographs, etc.). If you don’t have a chapter, send me your Loadmaster related information directly to: weeperjr@satx.rr.com.

Alamo Chapter

Bill Weeper, Alamo Chapter Member - Buenos Dias from San Antonio and the Alamo Chapter. The chapter has gone back to monthly meetings and they will be held again at the Texas Air Museum (the air conditioning is fixed) but the chapter will also be having a meeting once a quarter at the 68th Airlift Squadron. To start off our monthly meetings, the Alamo Chapter had a meeting on April 2, 2016. The location was in the Loadmaster Classroom at the 68th (Bravo 12) Airlift Squadron, 215 Galaxy Rd, (Building 828) on Kelly AFB, Texas and fourteen Loadmasters attended. Elections were held and Andy Vaquera was reelected as President/Treasurer, Jerry Zuniga was elected as Vice President and David Molinar was reelected as Secretary. Two new members were signed up: Freddie Kondoff (1 Yr.) and Jason Badder (1 Yr.) and renewals: Albert Campos (3 Yrs.), Edward Campos (1 Yr.) and David Molinar (1 Yr.). The chapter discussed “The Loader” newsletter, the upcoming Gathering of Loads Convention in Oklahoma City OK, the new national website, the Alamo Chapter (open) facebook webpage, sponsorship of the Basic Loadmaster Course classroom and breakroom, future fundraisers, and Loadmaster awards. The next meeting was held on June 4, 2016 at the Texas Air Museum. Eight members attended. It was very nice to be back at the Texas Air Museum with John Tosh as our host. To highlight all that John has done for the chapter, he was finally presented with an inscribed C-130 window as a token of appreciation from the chapter. A donation of \$200.00 was given to John to help with the cost of the air conditioning repair. The chapter also made a donation of \$500.00 to the Troop Carrier/Tactical Airlift Association (TC/TAA) for the TC/TAA monument to

be dedicated in 2018. The chapter decided to sponsor (pay for their registration fee) four to six Loadmasters to attend the 2016 Gathering of Loads Convention in Oklahoma City OK. It was brought to our attention that Thomas Stalvey had a new book out called “The Lucky Loadmaster II, The Wishes of Youth, the Wiles of War and the Realities of Life.” The next scheduled meetings will be on July 9, 2016. We will meet for breakfast at 1100 at Brown Bag Touch-N-Go @ Stinson Sandwich Shop, 8535 Mission Road San Antonio TX 78214. We will go to the Texas Air Museum, 1234 99th St, San Antonio, TX 78214 and have our meeting at 1200. We will try to meet at the 68th AS again on August 6, 2016. Andy Vaquera or David Molinar will send out notice for the upcoming meetings by email, text or telephone call. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Andy Vaquera at (210) 559-7487, andyvaquera@sbcglobal.net or David Molinar at (210) 415-3735 damolinar@aol.com.



June 4, 2016 Alamo Chapter Members, L-R Jerry Zuniga, Hector Leyva, Andy Vaquera, Ralph “Bullwinkle” Bemis, John Tosh, Doug Rasar, David Molinar and Bill Weeper

Big Country Chapter

Mike Lutzko, Big Country Chapter President - Our chapter had a plaque dedicated by our local active duty Loadmasters for Staff Sergeant Ryan Hammond and SRA Quinn Johnson-Harris of the 39th Airlift Squadron at Dyess AFB who lost their lives in Afghanistan when they crashed after takeoff last year. We also held a ceremony in front of VFW Post 6873 placing a plaque on our PLA memorial bench with their names engraved.



Big Country Chapter members in front of the monument representing the PLA at the VA cemetery

Gateway Chapter

Harley Ricketts, Gateway Chapter President – It's difficult to believe that 2016 is already half over - how the time flies! The Gateway Chapter has been diligently working towards several programs that will yield great benefit to the Loadmaster legacy and the Scott AFB community! Our Chapter sponsored a hole at the annual "Boots on the Green" Golf Tournament hosted by H.E.R.O.E.S. Care. The mission of the organization's tournament is to utilize the therapeutic benefits of golf, such as increased strength, balance, range of motion, grip strength, endurance, competition, fun and social skills with veterans who are disabled. Our Chapter will also be supporting Camp Hope this year, a retreat for military Veterans wounded in the War on Terror. The mission of Camp Hope is to "honor the fallen by helping the wounded." In more somber news, our Chapter purchased two memorial bricks for our fallen brothers from TORQUE 62, SSgt Ryan Hammond and SrA Quinn Johnson-Harris. The bricks will be laid at U.S. Air Force Enlisted Heritage Hall as a lasting tribute to their brave service and ultimate sacrifice. In the coming months the Gateway Chapter will be looking for new innovative ways to help our Loadmaster brothers and sisters and support our local community. We are also looking forward to, what will surely be a fantastic, "Gathering of Loads" in Oklahoma City, OK! Meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at the Scott AFB VFW, Post 4183, at 1630. More information about "Boots on the Green" and "Camp Hope" are available at the following websites: <https://heroescare.org/> & <http://www.chrisnealfarm.com/public/?q=about-camp-hope>

Golden West Chapter

Golden West Chapter, President Steve Clark - Greetings from the SoCal Loads. We wish all a safe and enjoyable summer season. Our Chapter will be making plans for summer events and they will be posted for all Loads in the local area. In March at the former Norton AFB site, "The Stars Return to Norton" reunion featured many former Airlifters and Support Maintainers. It was an awesome gathering of friends and family, bringing back so many memories for all. Loadmasters were well represented. Kudos to all!



March 5, 2016 Norton AFB Loadmasters the "Stars Return to Norton" reunion

In April, after a few years away March ARB had their Airshow 2016, with plenty of displays and maximum crowds. Other events we participated in were as follows: Viet Nam 50th Anniversary Celebrations, Corona High School Vets Appreciation Day, Norton AFB Museum 3rd Anniversary Celebration, and Community Service. Wishing Bill Heaton and Ernie Vasquez a speedy recovery from DNIF status. C-130E/2358 from Little

Rock is being prepared for static display at the Air Force Flight Test Museum. Also we sent out emails and bulletins for the 2016 Gathering of Loads in Oklahoma City in September. Hope to see all there. We are hoping to get more Loads on board during the summer. We meet the second Saturday of each month at the Pepper Steak Diner, 26589 Highland Ave Highland CA at 1000hrs. You can contact me at steve.clark38@yahoo.com Load Clear!

Liberty Chapter

Michael Kent, Liberty Chapter President - Hello from Exit 7 and Greetings from the Liberty Chapter! My name is Mike Kent and I am the chapter President. Shem Miller is Secretary and Kent Brown is our Treasurer and the East Coast Vice President. We have all held numerous posts within the chapter over the years. The Liberty Chapter is centered around Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL), 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 about 2 miles from the main gate of the base. We returned to the C-141 Memorial at JB MDL in April for a spring clean-up. Instead of a meeting we met on the 10th of April at 1000 at the Memorial. We weeded most of the flower beds. We weeded and edged the walkway around the Memorial. We also replaced some edging around the walkway. This was truly a team effort. We had active, Reserve and retired Loadmasters. We also had some maintainers and family members. A short time later we mulched the flower beds in conjunction with the base beatification day. We owe a big thanks to the 6th AS Loadmaster section for providing the majority of the help for the mulching. We could not have completed the job in such a short time without them. We will be scheduling several clean-ups from spring to fall. We had hoped to participate in the JB MDL Airshow May 14 - 15, 2016. Unfortunately, our organization was not selected. There was a lot of interest in this event around the joint base and the organizers had to hold a lottery. We were a little disappointed as this is a big fundraiser for the chapter. We felt a little better when we were given another fundraising opportunity by the base in July. We will be providing members for security at a 2-day soccer tournament. We are expecting to make a little more than we would have at the airshow. We volunteered for the 3rd year helping out the New Jersey Honor Flight on June 4th. We had 2 members act as Guardians for the day. Guardians are paired with a Veteran for the entire day. They are responsible to help the Vet in whatever way is needed. The two Vets we assisted both served in the Korean War. They both were very interesting and had lots of good stories. We also had volunteers that helped with breakfast in the morning and loaded the buses. When the Vets returned in the evening we had volunteers help unload the buses and serve dinner. The chapter plans on partnering with this group for many years to come. The chapter also donated \$500 to this great event. We have a busy summer coming up. The chapter has decided not to host a picnic this year. We are planning a luncheon instead. We are still working out the details and will have firm plans by our July meeting. We are working on another fundraiser for August. We have participated in the "Grind In The Pines" race for several years and are working

with them to help out again this year. We are making our plans to attend the GOL in September. The 18th Airlift Squadron is also holding a reunion in September. The summer is packed full of events. Hope to see every one at the GOL.



Liberty Chapter member Mike Oxley with 2 Veterans at the Korean War Memorial

Northwest Chapter

Caleb Patterson, Northwest Chapter President – Greetings from the Great Pacific Northwest! Our spring here is off to an interesting start with a mix of seasonal liquid sunshine mixed with one day where we saw sunshine and highs in the mid 90s. We have transitioned to a mostly active duty executive counsel. Our meetings are held the second Saturday of the month at Habanero's Grill at the McChord AFB golf course. If you are in town stop on by at 0900 for breakfast and 1000 promptly for the meeting. The chapter is sticking with the recruiting and retention focus for the foreseeable future and we have seen more active duty loadmasters involved in the organization. We held our inaugural chili cook-off in March, hosted by the 7th Airlift Squadron, and it was a success.



Northwest Chapter spring cookout held at Mcchord Field

We were able to raise \$150 and recruited 5 new members to the organization. In June we had a spring burger burn to raise funds and most importantly, get more young active duty involvement. One of the most solemn events the chapter has participated in the past few months was during Memorial Day. Members traveled to local cemeteries and placed American flags on gravesites of deceased loadmasters. We are planning our annual summer picnic on August 13 at Heritage Hill. Once again, if you are in

the area please feel free to come on out and join the festivities. We hope to see you all at the GOL!

Parker-Aguillon-Payne Chapter

Mark E. Raymond, Parker-Aguillon-Payne Chapter President - Our chapter has been very busy getting ready for our annual participation as a team in the American Cancer "Relay for Life." We would like to again thank Joe Brown who has worked so hard to make the Relay a success over the years. He has passed on the reins to Gabe Escamilla. Gabe has jumped right in and done an outstanding job getting our chapter ready and advocating fund raising. We have had two separate fund raising/social dinners and can't thank our chapter members enough for their unselfish donations to the cause. As usually the Relay King, Al Hordewell is leading the pack for individual donations received for the entire Vacaville Relay event. We are in the last month of accepting applications for our annual "Irv Mahler Scholarship" in which we present \$1,000.00 to a local Loadmaster or a family member of a Loadmaster. We are hoping to get several applications. Our past scholarship winners have all continued on with their educational goals and we are so proud of all their accomplishments. I volunteered to be the National PLA Committee Chairman for this year's election of Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Relations positions. I thank all those that took the time to vote but am very disappointed in the number of members that did not vote. We need to keep the spirit and vision of CMSgt Bill Cannon's Professional Loadmaster Association alive and well. The racing season is upon us in Northern California and our chapter will again be asking for volunteers to participate in NASCAR, NHRA, and Indy Car events at the Sonoma Raceway. This is a great opportunity for us to raise money for our annual scholarship and Christmas party. At times they can be long and hot days but overall a pretty easy way to support our chapter's events. As I always do in this newsletter, I'd like to thank all those loyal members who have continued to support our local chapter since 1998. A great tribute to those members who continue to support our chapter. We have been having our monthly meetings the first Tuesday of each month at Delta Breeze Club (NCO Club). If you have any question, please contact Mark E. Raymond at mark.raymond@att.net or mark.raymond@kcl10ts.com.

The First State Chapter

Chris "Nut" Koch - Hello from the First State Chapter. This may come as a surprise to people reading this but I found we do have a chapter here in Dover and want to send out the invite to anyone in the mid-Atlantic area to join me in the task of making this chapter alive and strong. What is hard to see is why we as Loadmasters have let chances to show what we do slip away. We have let money for school be left on the table. We have not given our newest, brightest Loadmasters the chance to get involved in an organization that is all about us, and we all know Loadmasters love to let people know that our job is the best in the Air Force. So, the invite is out there, and the challenge will be to find the old members who have given up, have walked away thinking that PLA in Dover will be no more. To make it simple, the First State Chapter is waking back up and looks forward to

a new and more active future. For the Loadmasters here in the 3rd AS, focus has been on the ground cargo training and joint operations with multiple agencies. During one OST we had vehicle loading, accomplished eight Vehicle Prep and loading checklists for an armored personnel carrier, road grader, tactical vehicles, winched three times an 11-thousand-pound trailer, and a validation load of two Coast Guard port security boats and trucks loaded side-side. This is a total upload of roughly 180 thousand pounds. We also supported the 180th Fighter Wing in providing two bodies for aircraft emergency training. This training exercise had a fog generator fill the aircraft to simulate a fire inside. We provided one litter and one ambulatory patient assisting 12 aeromedical personnel and 10 fire department firefighters in getting heavy-aircraft extraction qualified. In the upcoming months we will be working with the 9th AS to bring to light how much has been done on the C-5M front and with luck welcome them back to Dover once the runway is fully operational. Until next time fly safe, and Loadmasters put the Load in Airlift.

The Rock Chapter

Marc Calcaterra - The PLA Rock Chapter President: Greetings from The Rock Chapter. Lately, we have been struggling just to have people show up to a meeting. Most months, it is just myself and Jerry Dunphy. I encourage all retired, active duty and Guard PLA chapter members to attend our meetings. I ask that you put all your past differences aside and come together as one PLA chapter. I really need the retiree members to step up and help me get the chapter going again. If you do come to a meeting, try to bring another member or potential member with you. That being said, we had a very good meeting on June 21, 2016 and we had a total of six people show up for the meeting. This is a lot better than what we have had in the last eight months. It was voted to have a fund raising event in September and a "tail gate party" on October 1st at War Memorial Stadium for the "Razor Back" football team. All food will be provided and 5 pairs of game tickets will be given away to PLA members attending the event. This sounds like a good start, and we have considered to elect a new governing board. This idea has been tabled, so we may address it at our next meeting. Here's a attendance list for the June 21st meeting: Nathan Castle, Dave Hoffer, Adam Monroy, Jerry Dunphy, Mickey Spillane, Gerald Pritt and myself. Additionally, we also received some good news. SMSgt Jason Kunkel (past Rock Chapter President from 2008), has been reassigned to Little Rock AFB. I'd like to be the first to say: "Welcome Home Jason" and we looking forward having you as an active member of PLA The Rock Chapter. As for news from Little Rock AFB, the 50th AS deactivated on April 1st of this year (when that happened I bought the 50th AS barbeque smoker, which will be used for future PLA activities). Reactivation is rumored, but the place and time are unknown. It is speculated the 50th AS will be reactivated as an Air Refueling squadron. Additionally, the 48th AS is scheduled to be deactivated and re-designated the 62nd AS and to pick up the student training for all the new C-130J model students. I will announce the next chapter meeting by email, text, phone call and Facebook. I hope to have an even bigger turn out for this meeting

when we look for nominations for a new governing board. If you have any questions, please give me a call. My number is (501) 606-3133 or email me at calcaterra76@gmail.com. Load Clear



The Rock Chapter members during chapter meeting on June 21, 2016

Trailblazer Chapter

Trailblazer Chapter President, Danny South - Greetings from HOT southwest Oklahoma!!! The Trailblazer chapter is extremely busy tying up loose ends for the Gathering of Loads. If you have been under a rock, we are planning the Gathering for 2016. It will be September 22 thru 25, 2016 in Oklahoma City OK. The hotel has blocked out some rooms for us. I have not received the code from the hotel, but don't let that stop you from booking your room. Make sure you select that you are military with a valid military I.D. and you should get a room discounted to \$98.00 a night. Registration is locked in at \$45.00 per member and \$35.00 for spouse/guest(s) which will get you into the mixer Thursday night and cover your meal at the dinner Saturday night. PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD!!!! We can't say that enough. Additionally, we need everyone to start registering for the event. **To register for the event, go to www.eventbrite.com, search Gathering of Loads.** If you don't have a computer or access to one you can use the paper registration form on page 10. If you need to pay with check or cash that is fine; we will be accepting payment at the door. As I mentioned the first event will be the mixer Thursday night at Bricktown Brewery, about two or three blocks from the hotel. Hopefully, you have had a chance to look at the schedule in this issue on page 9. This event promises to be one for the ages but we need your help. Friday we have lined up some panels of Loadmaster leadership for us to ask questions to. Panel members range from the AFPC Loadmaster to the Career Enlistee Aviator Training Manager to our guest speaker Mr. Glen Nickel, who is an Operation EAGLE CLAW veteran. We are in the process of lining up vendors to come to the event on Saturday to showcase their new products. Finally, start asking your squadron leadership who they want to send and if they are funding any individuals to go (see the TDY/PTDY letter on page 11). This is a chance for us to get some PME that is specific to our career field and talk shop and find out what life is like on the other side. The Trailblazer chapter is very excited to be putting this event on and our team is working very hard to make it an event the PLA can be proud of. We look forward to seeing everyone in September.



Hilton Garden Inn, 328 E Sheridan Ave, Oklahoma City OK 73104, (405) 270-0588. Conveniently located just off I-40 in the heart of Bricktown, the city's downtown entertainment district, Hilton Garden Inn Oklahoma City Bricktown is near numerous shops and restaurants and just 20 minutes from Will Rogers World Airport (OKC). <http://hilton-gardeninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/oklahoma/hilton-garden-inn-oklahoma-city-bricktown-OKCSAGI/index.html>.



Gathering of Loads Convention 2016 - Bricktown OKC - September 22, 2016 - September 25, 2016, hosted by the Trailblazer Chapter. This event will be updated as planning continues. Trailblazer 2016 Gathering of Loads Convention (Facebook): <https://www.facebook.com/#!/events/1615103915423228>

2016 Gathering of Loads – Schedule of Events:

All times and presentors are subject to change

Thursday September 22, 2016

1400 - 1800 Registration, Hilton Garden Inn
1800 - 2200 Welcome Mixer, Bricktown Brewery

Friday September 23, 2016

0900 - 1030 **Ray Snedegar, Operation Baby Lift**
1030 - 1040 Break
1040 - 1130 **SMSgt Steven Martin, Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC)**
1130 - 1300 Lunch
1300 - 1350 **SMSgt Chris McGovern, Total Force Aircrew Management (TFAM) Recruiting Coordinator**

1350 - 1400 Break
1400 - 1450 **SMSgt Doug Kuhn, 618th AOC,**
1450 - 1500 Break
1500 - 1550 **SMSgt Norman “Skip” Hurley, Career Enlisted Aviator Training Manager**
1550 - 1600 Break
1600 - 1730 **Glen “Nick” Nickel, Operation Eagle Claw veteran**

Saturday September 24, 2016

0900 - 1020 **Charlie Armistead & Ralph Bemis, An Loc experience**
1020 - 1030 Break
1030 - 1120 **Doug Gardiner, FAA Rulemaking Committee Update**
1130 - 1300 Lunch
1300 - 1315 **VA/VFW Brief**
1315 - 1320 Break
1320 - 1400 **Command Chief Panel, CMSgt Jeff Wilson, Command Chief Vance AFB**
1400 - 1405 Break
1405 - 1500 **General Membership Meeting**
1800 - 1900 Group Banquet Social Hour (Hilton Garden Inn)
1900 - 2200 Group Banquet and Guest Speaker (Hilton Garden Inn)

Sunday September 25, 2016

0800 - 1130 Checkout Hotel

No Veteran Left Behind



Airman Lee Hopp

Lynette and Lee Hopp

Lee Hopp is a Professional Loadmaster Association/Alamo Chapter member. He was a C-130 Hercules and C-141 Starlifter Loadmaster and flew many missions to Vietnam. Lee, 66, was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease or ALS. The devastating illness slowly worked its way through his body, eventually he lost his abilities to walk, to hold his head upright, and speak. Brian Arola from Mankato Free Press wrote a very nice article about Lee and the “We Honor Veterans,” program which is a collaboration between National Hospice And Palliative Care Organization and the Department of Veterans Affairs. The full article is at the Mankato Free Press website at: http://www.mankatofreepress.com/news/no-veterans-left-behind-hospice-program-honors-vets-in-last/article_e8b8e622-236d-11e6-9605-0f0395c8614f.html. If you knew Lee or want to send Lee a message you can contact him at Lee Hopp, 1518 Graystone Lane, North Mankato MN 56003-2444 or you can visit him on his Facebook webpage at: <https://www.facebook.com/leon.g.hopp?ref=t>.



**2016
GATHERING
OF LOADS
PROFESSIONAL LOADMASTER ASSOCIATION**



NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

NAME(s) OF YOUR SPOUSE/GUEST(s) _____

★ BANQUET MEAL SELECTION: BEEF _____ CHICKEN _____ VEGETARIAN _____

PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS: _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY: _____

IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER AND WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE PLA GO TO: WWW.LOADMASTERS.COM

REGISTRATION FEES

MEMBERS REGISTRATION FEE ___ X \$45 = \$ _____

SPOUSE/GUEST(s) REGISTRATION FEE ___ X \$35 = \$ _____

TOTAL = \$ _____

PAYMENT IS DUE NO LATER THAN AUGUST 22, 2016

PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS AND MADE PAYABLE TO:

PLA TRAILBLAZER CHAPTER

1808 Caribou Circle

ALTUS, OK 73521

(843) 696-1859

- Confirmation of Registration and Itinerary will be sent out by August 27, 2016.
- A \$20 per person cancellation fee will apply to all cancellations received within 30 days of the event.
- Cancellations received within 10 days of the event will be non-refundable.
- Recommended lodging accommodations include these three physically adjoined hotels:
* Hilton Garden Inn 405-270-0588 (code: PLA) / Hampton Inn 405-232-3600 / Homewood Suites 405-232-3202
* Event Epicenter

WE'LL SEE YOU SOON IN BEAUTIFUL BRICKTOWN, OKC!



PROFESSIONAL LOADMASTER ASSOCIATION

Friendship Through Airlift

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June 20, 2016

To All Current Active, Reserve, and Guard Loadmasters

The Trailblazer chapter of the Professional Loadmaster Association is hosting the Gathering of Loads 2016 convention at the Hilton Garden Inn, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, September 22 – 25, 2016. By attending the convention you will have an opportunity to come together and obtain valuable information regarding your duties and functions as a Loadmaster, as well as develop an understanding of USTRANSCOM (including assets from other services such as the Marine Corps, Navy or Coast Guard), Major Commands such as AMC, and the 618 AOC/TACC. We will be inviting the current top Air Force Loadmasters from the Air Mobility Command Headquarters Staff, Air Force Personnel Center, and Major Commands. Additionally, during the 3-day convention you will have the opportunity to have one-on-one and one-on-group question and answer discussions regarding your career, assignments, promotions, and other topics. Exhibitor booths will also provide information, resources, and giveaways.

TDY Funding: We encourage all eligible Loadmasters to work with their supervisors and commanders in an attempt to get full TDY funding to attend the convention. We will be hosting several professional development seminars during the gathering (see convention schedule) which should encourage supervisors and commanders to send Loadmasters TDY for their professional development. If full funding is not available, see the Permissive TDY section below.

Permissive TDY: Eligible Loadmasters (Active Duty, Reserve, ANG and DOD Civilians) can be authorized to attend the convention under Permissive TDY (PTDY) authorization, if your unit commander approves your request. They can authorize up to 10 days of PTDY. This is a Non-Funded TDY, but there are some advantages. The benefits of Permissive TDY are: you can travel Space-Available on DOD flights; you are not charged leave; you are not part of your units 10% leave pool; and you get to attend some professional development seminars from senior Loadmasters around the Air Force.

Reference: AFI36-3003 Table 7, Rule 14 states that unit commanders may approve up to 10 days of permissive TDY to attend meetings or seminars sponsored by non-Federal technical, scientific, professional (e.g., medical, legal, ecclesiastical, IT, and mechanical) societies and organizations, so long as the meeting or seminar has a direct relationship to the member's primary military duties and clearly enhance his or her value to the Air Force.

Please join us in Oklahoma City and have a rewarding and exciting time with Loadmasters from around the world. If you have any questions about the convention, please contact Danny South at (580) 481-1569, or dan63084@yahoo.com.

Kathy Disney
President, Professional Loadmaster Association

What is AC 120-85A

Dave Bell, June 22, 2016, **WHAT IS AC 120-85A** and why is it important? - Advisory Circular (AC) 120-85A "Air Cargo Operations" is a product of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration. The original AC-120-85 was released in 2005 and was developed by a working group of air cargo industry experts (my boss at the time being one of them) in response to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) investigation of the 1997 Fine Air DC-8 crash just after takeoff in Miami, Florida, in which basic steps were not followed during the aircraft loading phase. Ten years later in 2015, the AC was revised after the NTSB's accident investigation and subsequent safety recommendations of the Dubai-bound National Air Cargo 747-400F crash just after takeoff from Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, in April 2013. Key points of AC-120-85A include:

- Provides operators with *recommended* procedures for managing cargo operations.
- Provides *recommendations* about what items should be included in an air carrier cargo operations system.
- Contains *guidance* on cargo loading.
- Provides *guidance* for aircraft Cargo Loading Systems (CLS) (rollers, side guides, locks, etc.), restraints, special cargo, and Unit Load Devices (ULD) (pallet with a net or container).
- The FAA considers the AC a *recommended* minimum level of detail that should be included in an air carrier's manual that is essential to air cargo operations.
- The AC is *not mandatory* and *does not constitute a regulation*.
- (NEW) This AC describes an *acceptable* means, but not the only means, of complying with applicable regulations to manage cargo operations.
 - The terms *must* and *will* are used in the AC to reflect regulatory requirements.
 - When the AC uses *suggestive* and *permissive* language (e.g., *should* and *may*), it is used to describe *recommended* or *acceptable* means, but not the only means, to comply with the AC.
- (NEW) The AC was revised after evaluating special cargo operations, load planning, restraint calculations, restraint methods, freight staging, freight forwarding, and interlining of cargo.
- (NEW) It enhances the safety of flight operations by clearly identifying responsibilities of parties and enhances guidance concerning the operator's Weight and Balance (W&B) control program and procedures for cargo restraint and aircraft loading, ULD, restraint devices; and the transport of special cargo.
- (NEW) The AC provides clarity regarding cargo handling training requirements.

As many of you know, the National 747 was transporting heavy military vehicles. The uncontrolled movement of those extremely heavy military vehicles backwards along the aircraft during takeoff resulted in damage to both hydraulic and mechanical systems, causing the aircraft to crash. Those military vehicles are defined as "special cargo" loads. What is **Special Cargo**? According to the AC, *Special Cargo* is 1) *cargo not contained in a ULD certified for the airplane CLS*, or 2) *cargo not enclosed in a cargo compartment certified for bulk loading* (e.g., lower deck/belly). *This type of cargo requires special*

handling and securing/restraining procedures. However, the NTSB determined the underlying *causes* of this accident were clearly connected to the human factor in the loading operation, which highlighted the widespread lack of knowledge and understanding of the safety critical aspects of cargo loading throughout the air cargo industry. AC 120-85A was the result after evaluating weight and balance (W&B) personnel training, special cargo operations, load planning, restraint calculations, restraint methods, freight staging, freight forwarding, and interlining of cargo throughout the air cargo industry. It grew from a 74 page document to 97 pages!

Here's the link to the current AC 120-85A: https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/advisory_circulars/index.cfm/go/document.information/documentID/1027808

The NTSB recommendations detailed:

1. Training requirements for cargo handling personnel
2. Development of advisory material for Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 121 carriers and principal operations inspectors (POI)
3. Curriculum content to include (but not limited to) W&B cargo handling, cargo restraint, hazards of misloading, and training for cargo handling personnel.

WHY IS AC 120-85A IMPORTANT? In my opinion, this AC provides direction towards industry standardization amongst commercial air carriers. In other words, why can't there be similar cargo loading procedures on similar type aircraft and CLS, rather than each individual carrier making up their own? Why can't ULD and restraint device limitations be standard across the board for all carriers? Some may argue they already are, but are they really? In my 12 years at Air Transport International (ATI) and working with other carriers and freight forwarders, I can honestly say they were not. When writing operating procedures, I've found that plagiarism is the best form of standardization. For example at ATI, I used a collection of original, Boeing, T.O.-9 and other carrier material to build our Cargo Loading and Weight & Balance Manuals. Most other carriers do it to some extent and it can *really* help out airport ground support personnel when dealing with a plethora of carriers. For example, on the military side of things, each USAF cargo aircraft has their unique T.O. C-XXX-9, and within each -9 is a Section 6 Specific Procedures for "Special Loads" for that specific aircraft. Why can't there be similar procedures within the commercial air cargo industry? Harmonizing procedures within the commercial air cargo industry benefits everyone! **WHERE ARE WE NOW?** By the time you read this article, the FAA will have already put together (and maybe even announced) the names of the Loadmaster Certification Working Group (LCWG), created based on the three NTSB recommendations above. Like the working group put together to create AC 120-85, the LCWG will consist of "12 industry members who have in-depth experience with Special Cargo operations on U.S. carriers." You may recall the Fine Air DC-8 crash was the result of unrestrained ULDs and had nothing to do with "special cargo," therefore Special Cargo was never defined or discussed in the original AC. With the LCWG, the FAA has

The Professional Loadmaster Association offers condolences to the families and friends of the following Loadmasters whose death has been reported to our association. Underlined name denotes a PLA Member, * Denotes PLA Life Member

***PAUL S. BIONDI**, MSgt USAF, Retired. After a long battle with ALS, Paul passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, August 26, 2015 at 5 am. Services were held at Fort Snelling National Cemetery on September 9, 2015. Paul was raised in Dearborn Heights, Michigan and lived there until he enlisted in the Air Force in December 1998. He flew on the C-130 as a Loadmaster while on active duty and also for the Michigan Air National Guard. In 2003 he changed positions on the aircraft and flew for the MIANG, moving to Minnesota in 2006. He completed his career as a Flight Engineer on the C-130 for the Minnesota Air National Guard. Paul retired in October of 2012 once the symptoms of ALS began to develop. Paul is survived by his wife Christine, his parents Ron & Mary Biondi and his brother John Biondi. He was Godfather to Marley and uncle to Anna, Rebecca, Aleana, and Kaila. He was loved by all as a great friend and for his outstanding sense of humor. He will be greatly missed.

LAURENCE "LARRY" CHITTY, 87 died January 6, 2016 in Olathe, KS. He was born on November 27, 1928 in Clay Center, KS, the son of James and Anne (Loftus) Chitty. Larry was raised in Jamestown. He joined the US Navy. On April 5, 1948, he joined the Army Air Corps which became the US Air Force. He was stationed at bases around the United States and the world. Larry married Jeanette Swenson Eagan in Wichita Falls, TX in 1958. He retired from The Air Force in 1968. They made their home in Raytown, MO where he worked as a Warehouse Manager until his retirement in 1989. He belonged to the Air Force Sergeants Assn., 62nd Wing Assn., Disabled Veterans Assn., American Legion and the Professional Loadmasters Assn. He is preceded in death by his parents, brothers, Mike, Bobby Wayne, George and Steve, sister Sharon Chitty and military brother, TK Davis. Survivors: Wife: Mildred Jeanette Chitty, Olathe, KS; Son: Michael Chitty and wife Carla, Overland Park, KS; Son Bob Chitty and wife Susan, Olathe, KS; Son: Larry Eagan and wife Liana, Manhattan, KS; Daughter: Annie Bryant and husband Ed, Eudora, KS; Many Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren, Nieces and Nephews. Funeral Services will be held on Friday, January 8, 2016 at 1:30 PM at the Neill-Schwensen-Rook Funeral Home in Clay Center, KS; Officiating the service will be Rev. Matthew Coleman, burial will be in the Greenwood Cemetery, Clay Center, KS. Visitation will be held on Friday, January 8, 2016 from 9 AM until service time at Neill-Schwensen-Rook Funeral Home. Memorials: Good Samaritan Society Olathe, 20705 West 151st Street, Olathe, KS 66061, and Crossroads Hospice, Lenexa, 11150 Thompson Avenue, Lenexa, KS 66219.

KENNETH J. REILLY CMSGT (Ret), January 16, 2016, When Irish eyes are smiling, sure, 'tis like the morn in Spring, In the lilt of Irish laughter, you can hear the angels sing. Ken was proud of his Irish heritage, and his smiling Irish eyes will be missed by all. His wife of 60 years, Belva, and his children: Lynn, Jami (Tom Mason), Shawn (Gayle), and Shamus (Pam) are overwhelmingly saddened by Ken's unexpected death, but comforted by the knowledge that Ken led a full life, and accomplished much. A native of New York City, born to Dorothy and James Reilly, Ken spent a fulfilling 30 year career in the US Air Force. An Air Medal recipient, and Veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Ken's Air Force career took him to the four corners of the world. His military orders resulted in moves to six states and Japan for the Reilly family. A favorite duty assignment with the Air Rescue & Recovery Squadron in Hawaii involved lifesaving rescues and the excitement of the Apollo Missions reentry - it wasn't an average desk job. Along with his successful military career, Ken was a devoted student. While busy in his roles as a husband, father, and soldier, Ken succeeded in obtaining his BS and MS degrees at EWU. He placed a high value on education, and spent his second career as a counselor for the Warden and Moses Lake School Districts. Ken Reilly had a life well lived, and his family meant everything to him. Ken was fond of spending time with his grandchildren: Kayla, Shamus, Brenna, Dalton, Kendra, Dani and Cassidy. A significant loss earlier in Ken's life was the passing of his sister Patty (Emmett O'Brien). He enjoyed phone calls/visits with his sister Maureen (Henry Schmidt); nieces, nephews, in-laws, cousins, and friends. Ken also loved cheering on the EWU Eagles, attending grandchildren's events, dropping by his sons' sandwich shops, swimming with the FAFB aquatics group, reading and traveling. The 'wild' Irish side of Ken led him to fill-in his 2016 calendar - he loved to have plans. Regretfully, he was unable to fulfill his latest plans. Ken's wish was to be cremated. A service celebrating Ken's life will be held May 20th 3:00, at the WA State Veterans Cemetery, reception to follow at Northern Quest. In lieu of flowers, we ask that donations be made to Inland Northwest Honor Flight, 608 W. 2nd St., Ste.309, Spokane, WA 99201, or the WA State Veterans Cemetery, General Fund, 21702 W Espanola Rd, Medical Lake, WA 99022.

***HARRY FRANK BROWN SR.** passed away May 23, 2016 at home in Lakewood, Washington after a short battle with cancer. He was born in Millerstown, Pennsylvania on October 11, 1939 to James and Lena Brown. Harry graduated from Greenwood High School in 1957, and joined the United States Air Force right out of high school. Harry married Monta DeLancey in August 1957 and traveled the world, arriving in Tacoma, Washington in 1969, where he retired from the USAF in 1982. He owned his own fencing company from 1972 until the present. He was preceded in death by his wife. He is survived by one brother, four children, eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Viewing will be on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, from 3-7pm at New Tacoma Funeral Home. A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, June 8, at 10am in New Tacoma Cemetery's Chambers Creek Chapel with a graveside committal following at Tahoma National Cemetery at 2pm.

VURLEY DELANA "V.D." OWENS (CMSgt Retired) of Melbourne FL. He was born on September 30, 1936. In his eightieth year of life, V.D. passed away on June 22, 2016. He was born to his loving parents, Vernon and Ola Mae Owens

in Dover, OK. "V.D." as he was known to his friends, was an active duty Chief Stan/Eval Flight Examiner Loadmaster with the 438th MAW at McGuire AFB, NJ and flew on the C-141 Starlifter and was a member of the Professional Loadmaster Association. V.D. is predeceased by his loving wife, Norma Owens. He is survived by his children: daughter, Paulett Owens, son, Karl Owens, daughter Bernadette (William) Rozier, and son, Delane (Latanya) Rouse and daughter, Valerie Sills. Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, July 9, 2016 at 10:00am in the Life Event Center at Florida Memorial, 5950 South US Highway 1, Rockledge, FL. For additional information contact Karl Owens at owenskarl@aol.com or 321-698-0215.

DAVID A. SAIZ, (Inactive Member) of Shady Cove, OR, died June 2, 2016, no obituary, no local service. David will eventually be interred at Arlington National Cemetery. For additional information contact Ruby Saiz at (541) 727-2436.

OLDER OBITUARIES

DALTON EDWARD HARTS, age 62, of Rocky Mount, went home to be with the Lord on Friday, June 6, 2014, at the Greenville Inpatient Hospice. He was preceded in death by his parents, William "Bill" and Linda Baker Harts, his first wife, Rachel Connelly Harts, and his daughter, Rachel Lauretta Harts. He is survived by his wife, Joanne Thomas Harts; his son, Dallas C. Harts, both of Rocky Mount; his brother, Alvin Ray Harts and his wife Debbie of Castalia; his step-mother, Peggy Harts of Tarboro; his mother-in-law, Shirley J. Thomas of Rocky Mount; his brother-in-law, Jim Thomas and his wife Beth of Wilson; his niece, Sara Balance and husband Jonathan of Sharpsburg; his nephews, Michael Thomas and wife Beth of Rocky Mount, Brandon Thomas of Nashville, and Farrin Dunn and fiancée Lindsay Sazy of Wilson; and 4 great nieces, Payton Dunn and Ava Dunn, both of Wilson, Kayla Thomas and Mackenzie Thomas both of Rocky Mount, and his great nephew, Jacob Balance of Sharpsburg. He was an active member of the Shenandoah Baptist Church, serving on the Meals Committee and the Grounds Committee and also active in the Choir. He also was a member of the Rocky Mount Tarheel Flyers. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and the Air Force Reserves retiring after 33 years of service as a Master Sergeant. He was employed by Watsons Electric for 10 years and for Nash Health Care Systems for 24 years until his retirement in March 28, 2014. A visitation will be held Monday, June 9, 2014 at Johnson Funeral Home from 6 to 9 p.m. A celebration of Dalton's life will be held Tuesday June 10, 2014 at 11 a.m. at Johnson Funeral Home 661 English Road in Rocky Mount with Pastor Glenn Hill and Pastor Tim Parker officiating. Burial will follow at Rocky Mount Memorial Park. Flowers will be appreciated however donations may be made to the Shenandoah Baptist Church Building Fund, or to the Gideon's International.

NON PLA MEMBERS

FORREST L. ROWLEY, age 92 of Ogden, UT passed away April 9, 2016. www.lindquistmortuary.com/notices/Forrest-Rowley
RICHARD LESLIE MRAS, 34 of Indianapolis passed away April 13, 2016. <https://indianafuneralcare.com/obituary/richard-l-mras>

FAMILY CONTACT INFORMATION NEEDED: The PLA Secretary is seeking information on the following deceased members. We need permission to name a scholarship after them, but don't have any information on next of kin (mailing address, telephone number, email address, etc). **CHARLES E. BUCHER** (Big Country), ***RODNEY E. CLAPPER** (Alabama), ***DONNA M. DOBBINS** (Liberty), ***DONALD J. FLAVIN** (Big Country), **CLAUDE "FRENCHY" FERRAND** (Big Country), **JOHN EDWARD GROOMS, SR.** (Smyrna, TN), ***ELMORE JACKSON** (Southeast), ***ROBERT C. JOHNSON** (Indiana), ***EDWARD R. MEZA** (Alamo), **ROBERT C. RODEMEYER** (Golden West). If anyone has any contact information, please contact the secretary at buildsmall2@mac.com or Secretary@Loadmasters.com.

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 they are 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 or buildsmall2@mac.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 or buildsmall2@mac.com.



Scholarship 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

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 <http://www.loadmasters.com/#!scholarships/ctg9>. Send applications, to Jim Engelker at engelkerj@gmail.com. When completing your PLA application 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." **Timeline for Scholarships:** 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. **Additional Scholarship Name Selection:** Selection of names to be honored for upcoming additional scholarships shall be provided by December of the year before scholarship announcement.

What is AC-120-85A - Cont. from page 12

been much more specific as to who they want in this group. I know the PLA is lobbying to get a PLA member in the group that meets the criteria. I also know several other carriers such as ATI, Kalitta, Atlas, UPS, FedEx and Alaska (to name a few) are applying to be in the group. What carrier using professional loadmasters wouldn't want to participate in a process that will eventually impact their operations? The FAA expects the LCWG will have at minimum, quarterly meetings in person at a location determined by the Working Group Chair, and monthly meetings via teleconference. I believe through the efforts of the LCWG that the term "Loadmaster" will become more than just a noun, but a professional, certified FAA title, to include (hopefully) specific crew duty time and crew rest limits. Carriers are apt to ignore words such as "guidelines", "recommended", "should" or "may" because of their non-mandatory suggestion, so I hope the LCWG has enough leverage to push for it.

Bill Cannon Street Renaming

Dan Watson, Bill Cannon Street Renaming Update - This is an update on the effort to rename 5th Street NE to CMSgt William M. Cannon Street on Joint Base Lewis McChord (JB LM) WA. The package for the CMSgt Cannon street renaming has cleared McChord and is now at Ft. Lewis. It has passed the Department of Public Works and is awaiting a decision next month from the memorialization board. If approved, then it is on to the installation commander for final step in the process. While it will take some time to get through the different offices at JB LM, there is still some time for any of you in the Professional Loadmaster Association who want to send in some additional letters of endorsement. If you would like to send a letter of endorsement, you can contact me at Daniel J. Watson, Director of Facilities, 406 Porter Way, Milton WA 98354, Office: (253) 922-2787, DWatson@cannonconstructioninc.com.

The 2016 PLA Scholarship Recipients Are:



Bill Cannon Scholarship = \$1000.00

Cutter Cannon
Major: Business Administration
Has applied to four (4) institutions
PLA Connection: Grandfather, Bill Cannon, was the founder of the PLA



John Levitow Scholarship = \$1000.00

Courtney Erin Gordon
Major: Radiologic Technology
Southwestern Illinois College
PLA Connection: Her father (SMSgt Michael R. Gordon) is a lifetime member



Gary P. Whitman Scholarship = \$500.00

Andrew Ford Welch
Major: Business Administration
Has been admitted to five (5) institutions
PLA Connection: Father is an original member, Mike Welch



Leslie H. Morgan, Jr. Scholarship = \$500.00

John Soto
Major: Aviation Operations/Management
McMurry University
PLA Connection: He is a PLA lifetime member

Burl D. Taylor Scholarship = \$500.00

David Robert Vanderwall
Major: Biochemistry/Molecular Biology
Has made applications to Twelve (12) institutions
PLA Connection: Grandfather Robert L. Vanderwall is a lifetime member

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In This Issue.... Cabin Report, East Coast VP, Secretary Report, Treasurer Report, Webmaster, “The Loader” Editor, Chapter Reports, 2016 Gathering of Loads Update/Schedule of Events/Paper Registration Form/TDY/PTDY Letter, Articles, In-Memoriam, Memorabilia, and Scholarship Information

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COMPANY/BASE/UNIT _____ JOBTITLE _____
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ACTIVE _____ RETIRED _____ RESERVE _____ ANG _____ OTHER (please specify) _____
HOW DID YOU HERE OF THE PLA? _____
WHO REFERRED YOU? _____
ADD ANY COMMENTS ABOUT YOURSELF: _____

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP: ONE YEAR - \$20.00, THREE YEARS - \$50.00, LIFETIME - \$250.00

Please enclose Check or Money Order. Send to:

PROFESSIONAL LOADMASTER ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 4351
Tacoma, WA 98438
1-800-239-4524

You should receive your welcome package in 2-3 weeks. Thank you for your membership and Welcome to your organization

Web Address: www.Loadmasters.com