THE LOADER

Official Newsletter Of The Professional Loadmaster Association

Volume 20 Issue 3 | November 2017

Friendship Through Airlift

Professional Loadmaster Association
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CABIN REPORT

By Kathy Disney

Hey Load! For those of you who attended the PLA's 20th Anniversary, 2017 Gathering of Loads (GoL) in Little Rock, you are well aware of the good times had by all! If you were not able to make it, you missed another good one. The Rock Chapter did a phenomenal job with hosting this year's Gathering! They brought in interesting, informative and inspiring speakers that spoke to ALL Loadmasters. A big THANK YOU to all who helped organize the event, supported the event with your heritage briefings, and to all the sponsors, thank you again! Our guest speaker this year was retired Chief of Staff, Gen Norton Schwartz. It was an honor to have him attend and support this organization. And to everyone who attended - Thank you for making it another successful event! In addition to the General Membership meeting held at the Gathering, a Business meeting was held with all the chapter presidents or representative. Some items which came out of the Business meeting is a By-Laws Review Committee headed up by Mike Kent. Please reach out to him if you have any concerns with the by-laws. They are updating job descriptions and compiling committee information as an attachment for continuity purposes. The organizational structure was discussed in an effort to increase the effectiveness of chapter involvement and communicating with the chapters. At the General Membership meeting we agreed to postpone the next elections to line up with the 2019 Gathering of Loads. This means next year we will form an elections committee and hold elections for a 2019 turnover of officers. We also voted on the previously discussed membership changes of having a 3-year, 10-year, and Lifetime membership. We agreed to start using a database management company to help with membership management. Hopefully you will see some website changes soon as we incorporate the database into our website. We do have a new Webmaster, Andrew Lloyd - thank you! And a huge THANK YOU to Ryan Lockhart. You did an amazing job designing the new website. Your efforts will always be appreciated and remembered! The next Professional Loadmaster Association Gathering of Loads will be hosted by the Northwest Chapter. I look forward to seeing you all in the Northwest sometime in 2019. Again, thank you all for supporting this organization. If you desire to get more involved, please consider running for some of these elected positions, help out with one of the many committees or just continue to attend the Gatherings. It is all necessary and appreciated! After each Gathering of Loads, I am still amazed at what a group of volunteers can accomplish when we have the same passion, goals and commitment to the success of this professional organization. I've said this before, in CMSgt Bill Cannon's own words "We are all different from one another but it is important that we are all alike, alike in our need to feel important as part of a Loadmaster

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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: L to R: Bill Cannon's family at the "CMSgt Bill M. Cannon Boulvard" street renaming at Joint Base Lewis McChord on August 19, 2017. In the photograph are his daughter Kathleen, wife Marion, daughter Anna, son Mike, and daughter Lillian.

team which includes all Loadmasters, past and present." The Gathering of Loads provides the forum for all Loadmasters, past and present, to be part of something important. If you do not agree, I will have to guess you've never attended a Gathering of Loads! The 2017 Gathering definitely represented "Friends Through Airlift". Thanks again Rock Chapter and to everyone who attended and supported this year's Gathering. Load Clear!

PLA Secretary

NEW MEMBERSHIP SCHEDULE: The membership voted to do away with the 1-year membership at the 2017 Little Rock Gathering of Loads. New rates effective October 1, 2017: **3-Years - $50.00; 10-Years - $150.00; Lifetime - $250.00**

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 reinstatement letters. Thank you to the, **133 stateside** and **7 overseas** members, who have agreed to accept "The Loader" electronically. If you are willing to receive "The Loader" electronically please send a note to the secretary with your preferred e-mail address.

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 buildsmall2@mac.com or thru www.loadmasters.com at **CONTACT US,** or leave a free 2-minute message at 1 (800) 239-4524. Remember to speak slowly and distinctly, so we can copy your information down.

PLA MEMBERSHIP

PLA MEMBERSHIP AS OF: October 1, 2017

TOTAL **ACTIVE MEMBERS**: 992 (10 Lost Loads)

(43) NEW MEMBERS listed since the July 2017 issue (*Denotes Life Member)

June

Cole Bertolozzi	Renton, WA
Robert W. McNeely	Waverly, IL
Michael Stubler	Altoona, PA
Raymond J. Turnquist	Coon Rapids, MN

July

William D. Green	Summerville, SC
***Jesse Kessler**	Ladson, SC
Antonio L. Munoz	Fayetteville, NC
***Charles Neil**	Ward, AR
Robert O'Brien	Bargara, QLD, AU
Tyler A. Pangonis	Anchorage, AK

August

Danni Armstrong	Altus, OK
William Baker	Summerville, SC
Keith Bighorn	Abilene, TX
Michael Chase	Levittown, PA
Brandon Costello	Abilene, TX
Brian Daigle	Sherwood, AR
Tiffany Del Castillo	Ladson, SC
***Daniel R. Denman**	Altus, OK
Chelsea DiMarco	Altus, OK
Stefan Eirmann	North Little Rock, AR
Nelson Esqueda	Abilene, TX
Maurice J. Gagnon	Jacksonville, AR
James Guetschow	Portage, IN
William Harmon	Abilene, TX
David McAleece	Windsor, CA
***Delmarie A. Durieux Mendoza**	Aiea, HI
***Timothy Moran**	Abilene, TX
Allen Newton	Tacoma, WA
Patrick Norton	Abilene, TX
Don Ratliff	Norwalk, OH
Donald Randle	JBER, TX
***Peter Scheidt**	Ladson, SC
Eric Thomas	Puyallup, WA
Lucille Vieira	Abilene, TX
Tyler Weaver	Charleston, SC

September

Eric Gast	Hernando, MS
Daniel Giusti	Yelm, WA
Kyle Hernandez	North Charleston, SC
Tranquilino Herrera	Puyallup, WA
Mike Jackson	Little Rock, AR
Andrew M. Lloyd	Tacoma, WA
Wayne Rose	San Diego, CA
Renne Walker	Vacaville, CA

(4) LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

***Christopher Koch**	Magnolia, DE
***Keith Hudson**	Surprise, AZ
***Scott R. Swaim**	Woodbridge, WA
***Kenneth F. Wood, Jr.**	Sun City, CA

(9) INACTIVE MEMBERS listed since July 2017 issue

Banks, Eugene	Bedford Heights, OH	June
Kelleher, Thomas P.	Chelmsford, MA	June
Mattson, Adam	Summerville, SC	June
Metz, Edward	Charlleroi, PA	May
Moon, Robert	Williamson, MI	May
Olson, Robert E.	LaPine, OR	June
Owens, Chad	Altus, OK	June
Phipps, Nicholas	Summerville, SC	May
Ricketts, Harley J.	Scott AFB, IL	May

18 MEMBERS DID NOT RENEW JAN THRU APRIL 2017

86 MEMBERS DID NOT RENEW IN 2016.

LOST LOAD CANDIDATES: If your "The Loader" newsletter is returned to the Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA) by the Post Office, for whatever reason, they charge the PLA $2.47 for the return. The cost has gone up from $1.52. When trying to contact you for new information and we find your phone is no longer in service and you also have a bad email address, **YOU WILL BE PLACED ON THE LOST LOAD LISTING.**

LOST LOADS (10): 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:

***Branski, John L.**	Tacoma, WA	Nov 2011
***Downey, Daniel**	Abilene, TX	Jul 2012
***Haak, Scott**	Belleville, IL	Nov 2016
***Knight, Josh**	Fort Mill, SC	Nov 2016
***Kubik, Donald B.**	Warner Robins, GA	Mar 2016
***Langenstein, Jack L.**	Summerville, SC	Jul 2014
***Lewis, James**	Palmdale, CA	Jul 2016
***Piasecki, Michael L.**	Lake City, FL	Jul 2016
***Strader, Tony E.**	APO AE	Nov 2011
***Terrell, David L.**	APO AE	Nov 2015

A big **THANK YOU** to Lifetime Member **Michael M. Welch** for the information that LOST LOAD Chris L. Gray (also a TC/TAA member), was deceased. Also **THANK YOU** to Lifetime Member **Kent Brown** for finding LOST LOAD Robert B. Burnett.

DECEASED LOADMASTERS: If you suspect or know that a PLA member or a non-member Loadmaster has passed, please contact the secretary, buildsmall2@mac.com and the necessary action will be taken.

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**), *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.

THANK YOU: A gigantic thank you to **Lifetime Member Harry P. McCommons** for information on the son of **Vurley D. (VD) Owens (6/22/16),** Condolence Letter and Scholarship Permission Letter sent and returned and to **Member Bobby Dalton** for finding and contacting the daughter of **Robert C. Rodermeyer.** NOK has not contacted me yet.

HAVE YOU LOST CONTACT WITH A FRIEND? This will be a new column in "The Loader." If your looking for a friend you have lost contact with, please provide the necessary information to the Professional Loadmaster Association Secretary at buildsmall2@mac.com, **OR** thru the website. If you have any information on the missing individuals please contact me.

20th Anniversary PLA Coin

20th Anniversary PLA Coin - If you didn't attend the 2017 Gathering of Loads convention this year, we still have anniversary coins available. Please contact me Kent Brown at heyload@comcast.net and I will let you know where to send the money. I will be able to ship several coins for $3.00 and the cost of the coin is $10.00.

East Coast Vice President

Kent Brown, East-Coast Vice President - Another GoL has come and gone. The Gathering of Loads (GoL) convention in September 2017 has been over for more than a month now. It was a great celebration of our organization's 20th year. I know the Rock Chapter worked to have interesting briefings, but that auditorium was not full of Loadmasters to hear them. If you registered and attended the GoL you may have seen that 189 people had registered to attend. That number was misleading as that was really the number of attendees for Saturday nights banquet. That is all well and good, but I bet at least 100 of those would have been Loadmasters. I think the only time I saw 100 Loads was at the ice breaker on Wednesday night. I have spoken of this before, but I think it needs repeating again. The Rock chapter put a lot of time and thought into getting the guest speakers. I will admit as a retiree myself learning about Command Chiefs was dull! This was somewhat balanced by having guests talk about experiences as Loadmasters. 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. 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. 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 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 0900 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 events. I hope this will raise awareness on what goes into having a great GoL. It is the host chapter's effort and the Loadmasters who attend that make the GoL. I hope that more of you will consider joining us in Seattle in 2019 and support the efforts of the Northwest Chapter. Northwest Chapter members, please reach out to not only The Rock chapter in your planning of the next GoL, but reach out to others who have experience on putting a GoL together. Myself, Bill Weeper, and others from the Trailblazer & Gateway chapters. I would be glad to impart my knowledge and I'm sure others would also.

Treasurer Report

Chris Dockery, Treasurer - As of October 18, 2017 The Professional Loadmaster Association has a total of $304.85 in checking and $34,434.43 in savings. Total Assets $34,739.28.

"The Loader" Editor

Bill Weeper, "The Loader" Editor - Thank you to all the chapters who submitted articles and photographs for "The Loader." Kent Brown still has some 20th Anniversary Challenge Coins for those of you that didn't get to make it to the 2017 Gathering of Loads convention. There still are some 20th Anniversary T-Shirts for sale, please contact "The Rock" Chapter if you would like to purchase one or more. Continuing the civilian Loadmaster series, Karl Hinkamp and Dave Bell wrote another fine article about "The Airline Professional Loadmaster: DOORS and FLOORS. We would like to thank our long-time sponsor, Larry Crain, for advertising the "Loadmaster Toolkit" again in this issue of "The Loader." For those of you who know anyone who would like to advertise in "The Loader" please have them get in touch with me at weeperjr@satx.rr.com. 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. As a last note please take a look at http://www.cafepress.com/loadmasters and https://plaload.qbstores.com/all_products.html?OC=SF7606 on the PLA main webpage for new PLA merchandise. Kathy Disney established the Cafe Press site and Kent Brown established the Liberty Chapter store. Once you are at the PLA main webpage you can click on either of the two links at the bottom of the page to bring you to the merchandise sites.

Webmaster

Updated PLA Webpage Design

Andrew Lloyd, Webmaster -"First of all, I'd like to introduce myself as the new webmaster for the PLA. I started my career in the 8th Airlift Squadron at McChord AFB in 2006 as a C-17 Loadmaster. In 2010 I transitioned to the Reserve, joining the 97th AS at McChord. Since graduating from Pacific Lutheran University in 2014, I have been working as a software developer in my civilian career supporting several government contracts under the Navy and the Army. I can be reached at andrew85.lloyd@gmail.com. Thanks to Ryan Lockhart for all the work he has done to support the Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA) and building a great website. I will continue the work he has done and will try to maintain the high-quality product he has created. Also, I'd like to remind you that past issues of "The Loader" are available on the PLA website for download. As the website continues to evolve please send your information, comments, or concerns to my email. We are actively looking for content to display on the website, so please send us photos or reports on what your chapter is doing, and I'll gladly highlight it.

Bill Cannon Bench Update

CMSgt Bill Cannon Bench next to PLA monument

Bill Cannon Bench Update - The Bill Cannon bench has been placed next to the Professional Loadmaster Association monument at the National Museum of the U. S. Air Force. The bench was made by Dodd's Monument of Dayton OH. The final step is to dedicate the bench at a date and time to be determined. If anyone would like to make a donation to help cover the cost of the bench, please send a check made out to the the PROFESSIONAL LOADMASTER ASSOCIATION at P.O. Box 4351, Tacoma, WA 98438-0351.

Bill Cannon Street Renaming Update

5th Street NE on Joint Base Lewis McChord - McChord Field WA renamed CMSgt William M. Cannon Boulevard on August 19, 2017

Senior Airman Jacob Jimenez, 62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs, Published August 23, 2017 - A rare honor was bestowed on a prior McChord Airman and his family during a street renaming ceremony August 19, 2017 at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. The ceremony unveiled McChord Field's newly renamed street CMSgt. William M. Cannon Boulevard, previously 5th Street Northeast on Heritage Hill. The late Cannon was a retired McChord Loadmaster who was a Distinguished Flying Cross recipient and made immense contributions to the Loadmaster community and the development of the C-17 Globemaster III. "CMSgt Bill Cannon was a seasoned aviator, gifted leader and the 'father of the C-17 Loadmaster,'" said Col. Reba Sonkiss, 62nd Airlift Wing commander. "This street, now to be called CMSgt William M. Cannon Boulevard, recognizes the contributions of a man who dedicated his entire life and career in service to our great nation and our Air Force." Serving more than 30 years in the Air Force, Cannon held more than 16,600 flying hours in the C-54, C-24, C-130 and C-141 aircraft, Sonkiss noted. He also served in Vietnam where he earned the Distinguished Flying Cross. "When you think back to the incredible history of airlift here at McChord it really puts into perspective the accomplishments and contributions of incredible Airmen like Chief Cannon," said Sonkiss. "We can only hope to make him proud in the future as we set out on our own paths." After retiring as the Chief Loadmaster at McChord, Cannon was the Chief Loadmaster of the C-17 flight test program. He also founded the Airlift Tanker Association and the Professional Loadmaster Association. "Chief Cannon was a great leader, an inspiration to look up to and his dedication to service and others was beyond reproach," said Dan Watson, friend of Cannon. "He was an amazing man and the renaming of the street is befitting of his service to all Loadmasters past, present and future." CMSgt William M. Cannon Boulevard joins those of the distinguished streets and buildings on McChord Field named after Airmen who've made great contributions to the Air Force. "Chief Cannon left behind an undeniable legacy of service and excellence that paved the way for our current mobility Air Force," said Sonkiss. "This renaming honors the trail that he blazed for the C-17 community, the 62nd Airlift Wing, and the United States Air Force." http://www.mcchord.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1287747/mcchord-leadership-honor-loadmaster-legend/

Bill Cannon Street Renaming Welcome Speech

Colonel Rebecca J. Sonkiss, 62 AW/CCX, August 19, 2017 – 62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office McChord Field, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA. CMSgt William M. Cannon Boulevard Dedication Ceremony Welcome Speech. In attendance: Host - Col Rebecca J. Sonkiss, Joint Base CC - Col Nicole Lucas, 62 OG/CC - Col Mark Fuhrmann, 62 AW CCC - CMSgt Jeffrey Sandusky, 627 ABG/CC - Col William Percival, Joint Base CSM - CSM Richard Mulryan, Joint Base Senior Enlisted Advisor - CMSgt Nicholas Hollinger, Previous 62 AW/CC - Major General (Ret) Donald Brown, Medal of Honor Recipient - Col (Ret) Joe Jackson, Senator Cantwell's Rep - Mr. Will Willis, State Rep, 28th District - Mr. Dick Muri, Lakewood Council/62 OG Honorary CC - Mrs. Mary Moss, Marion Cannon and her children: Lillian, Kathleen, Anna, Michael, Cade. Sequence of Events: Opening Narration, Arrival of Official Party, National Anthem (Ms. Holly Diaz), Invocation (Lt Col Synder), Welcome Remarks (Col Sonkiss), Chief Cannon Bio/DFC, Mr. Watson's Remarks, Formal Street Dedication (Unveiling), and Reception. Good Morning! It is my distinct honor to preside over this very special event today. First off, I want to welcome the family of Chief Bill Cannon, we are extremely grateful that all of you are here today. Marion thank you for all the love and support you provided Bill over the years that allowed him to contribute so much to this base and our Air Force. Lillian, Kathleen, Anna, Michael, and Cade…today is a very special day, and I appreciate you being here. I know your father spent much time away from his family over his career but please know that your sacrifices as well as his contributions do not go unnoticed. Col Lucas, Representative Muri, Mr. Willis, General Brown, and Col Jackson…your presence here is also greatly appreciated. Thank you to all commanders, chiefs, joint partners, community members, distinguished guests, family and friends, and the airmen of Team McChord and the 62d Airlift Wing. I know it has been a busy few weeks for us here as we concluded Exercise Mobility Guardian, but I want to welcome and thank all of you for taking time out of your weekend to be here today for this very special event. Today we celebrate an exceptional individual who contributed so much not only to rich history of the C-17 and McChord Field, but also to the Air Force. CMSgt Bill Cannon was a seasoned aviator, gifted leader, and the "Father of the C-17 Loadmaster." This street, now to be called CMSgt William M. Cannon Boulevard, recognizes the contributions of a man who dedicated his entire

life and career in service to our great nation and our Air Force. McChord Field has a rich and dynamic history as a strategic location for the Air Force and our Nation and today we have a rare opportunity to add another page to that history. This week marked 70 years since the 62d Troop Carrier Wing was activated here on McChord Field. As the last continental stop in three "Great Circle" air routes from the US to Japan, this base was the gateway to Alaska and Asia. Less than year after its activation, the 62d flew sorties as part of the Berlin Airlift, airdropping vital food and supplies to the city to counter the Soviet blockade. From these early days flying the C-82 Packet, to the skies above Korea in the C-124 Globemaster II behind you, affectionately known as "Old Shaky," the 62d has been involved in nearly every major air mobility campaign around the world. Next, the long serving C-141 Starlifter was brought into service and was the backbone of our military's airlift throughout the Vietnam War and Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Ultimately the current and capable C-17 Globemaster III was brought online and presently executes a facet of the Air Mobility mission on every continent in the world. As we sit here, Air Mobility Command currently launches an aircraft every 2.8 minutes somewhere around the world and the men and women of Team McChord provide over 40% of that strategic combat airlift capability, a statistic that I am particularly proud of. Honoring our heritage and learning from our history are crucial to strengthening the future of our Air Force. The aircraft sitting behind you celebrate our past and inspire our future. Names like Spaatz, Lemay, Levitow, Wright, Barnes, and Jackson adorn the streets and buildings of Air Force installations to honor those who have contributed so much to our Service and our great Nation. Today we can add Cannon to that list of elite Airmen. When you think back to the incredible history of airlift here at McChord it really puts into perspective the accomplishments and contributions of incredible Airmen like Chief Cannon. We can only hope to make him proud in the future as we set out on our own paths. Chief Cannon's illustrious career spanned multiple decades allowing him fly on multiple aircraft including both parked behind you, the C-124 Globemaster II and C-141 Starlifter…in addition to the C-54 Skymaster and C-130 Hercules. While stationed here at McChord he was the Chief Loadmaster on both the C-141 and the C-130 aicraft. All-in-all Chief Cannon amassed an incredible 16,600 flight hours, 358 of those in combat, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his aerial achievement during a combat airdrop in Vietnam. Even after he retired from 30 years on active duty, Chief Cannon devoted his life towards improving the airlift capabilities of the United States. As a "Project Loadmaster" for the upcoming C-17 Globemaster III, he utilized his vast experience to work alongside design engineers and develop the C-17's cargo compartment. He ultimately became the Chief Loadmaster of the C-17 program and was a crewmember on the maiden flight of the first production model. He devoted 11 years of his life after active duty to the C-17 test and development program and it is safe to say that without such an experienced, dedicated, and selfless individual leading the design of this aircraft, it would not be the capable backbone of our strategic airlift fleet that it is today. Chief Cannon was the "Father of the C-17 Loadmaster" and his impact on the Loadmaster corps both before and after retirement are truly the greatest of his accomplishments. CMSgt Cannon left behind an undeniable legacy of service and excellence that paved the way for our current Mobility Air Force. As author Ralph Waldo Emerson said "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." That is exactly what Bill Cannon accomplished, and this naming honors the trail that he blazed for the C-17 community, the 62d Airlift Wing, and the United States Air Force. Thank you.

Alamo Chapter

Bill Weeper, Alamo Chapter Member - Buenos Dias from San Antonio and the Alamo Chapter. The chapter monthly meetings are now rotating between the Texas Air Museum, the Basic Loadmaster School and the 68th Airlift Squadron in an effort make it easier for Loadmasters to attend our meetings. On October 13, 2017 our chapter sponsored a hospitality room for the 68th Airlift Squadron reunion. Our chapter provided food and refreshments.

Al Campos, Andy Vaquera, Howard Berg, Ray Snedegar, Bill Weeper at 68th AS Reunion Hospitality Room October 13, 2017

Ray Snedegar flew in to attend the reunion along with Operation Babylift nurse and children who survived the crash of C-5A 80218 out of Saigon on April 4, 1975.

Andy Vaquera with Regina Aune, Aryn Lockhart and Carrie (Ngoc Anh) Briggs and Ray Snedegar at 68th AS Reunion

Regina Aune, Aryn Lockhart and Carrie (Ngoc Anh) Briggs and Ray Snedegar autographed quite a few of Regina and Aryn's book "Operation Babylift: Mission Accomplished, A Memoir

of Hope and Healing." You can purchase a copy of this book through Blueline Publishing at: http://bluelinepublishingllc.com/product/operation-babylift-mission-accomplished-a-memoir-of-hope-and-healing-by-regina-aune-aryn-lockhart/. A Loadmaster group photograph (which included Alamo Chapter members) was taken during the reunion.

Loadmasters from the 68th AS at October 14, 2017 reunion

Andy Vaquera is our President/Treasurer, Jerry Zuniga is Vice President and David Molinar is our Secretary. Andy Vaquera or David Molinar will send out notice for the upcoming meetings or events 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.

Big Country Chapter

Bennie Lopez, Big Country Chapter - Chapter officers are: President, Juan Levario, (325) 670-0411; Vice President, Trevor M. Smith, golfload@yahoo.com, (253) 330-7888; Vice President, John T. Beal; Treasurer, Robert Staples, staf1134@aol.com, (325) 673-1249; Secretary, Gary N. Vancleave. Any chapter email correspondence should be sent to Trevor Smith. The chapter will meet on the third Thursday of the month at 1100 at the Abilene VFW Post 6873 by Dyess AFB.

Gateway Chapter

Matt Thompson, Gateway Chapter President - The Gateway Chapter held elections in June with the following results: President, Matt Thompson, matthew.thompson.11@us.af.mil, 618-229-3595; Vice President, Jeff "JDub" Witherly, jeffrey.witherly@us.af.mil, 618-229-3657; Secretary, Kim Fabian, kim.fabian.1@us.af.mil, 618-229-0559; Treasurer, Doug Kuhn, douglas.kuhn.1@us.af.mil, 618-256-8052. We are again manning the Professional Loadmaster Association booth at the Airlift Tanker Association convention October 26 to October 29, 2017 at the Orlando World Center Marriott. Hope to see you there.

Golden West Chapter

Steve Clark, Golden West Chapter President - Greetings from the Golden West Chapter on the West Coast. Kudos to a very successful Gathering of Loads in Little Rock AR. A big round of thanks to The Rock Chapter volunteers. Great hospitality and Esprit de Corps from all. Great to see fellow Loads from back in the day and active serving Loads! This event shows that we have grown and will be viable well in to the future for the benefit of the Loadmaster career field "Past - Present - Future!" Steve Collins, Jim Bardaro, Mike Welch and myself represented the Golden West Chapter.

A bunch of Norton dudes - Kyle Disney, Bob Humphress, Steve Clark, Jim Bardaro, Steve Collins, and Marc Calcaterra at 2017 Gathering of Loads convention

Most important to me, was to convey my sincere recognition for community service from retired, former and active Loads to be included in awards program.

Steve Clark (2nd from right) and some of the kids he has sponsored from Aviation Summer Camp

For our Chapter going into Fall/Winter months we will have activities for the holidays, an airshow at Norton (SBD) October 21st and 22nd, a food collection drive, and American Legion Post 421 activities. Please contact me if you are available to participate at steve.clark38@yahoo.com. Our goal each quarter is to sign up new members, so spread the word. We meet the second Saturday of each month at the Pepper Steak Diner, 26589 Highland Ave, Highland CA. Meeting time is at 1000Hrs. Load Clear!

Liberty Chapter

Michael Kent, Liberty Chapter President - Hello from Exit 7. Greetings from the Liberty Chapter! My name is Mike Kent (michael_knt@yahoo.com) and I am the chapter President. Bill Davies is our Secretary (spectregunner@verizon.net) and Kent Brown (heyload@comcast.net) is our Treasurer and the East Coast Vice President. The Liberty Chapter is 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 about 2 miles from the main gate of the base. We had our summer picnic in July. J.P. and Barb Salisbury hosted it again this year. The main courses came from a local barbecue restaurant and chapter members brought a side dish or dessert. The chapter also provided most of the beverages. We had great weather for the event. We had a corn hole game set up and some heated competition. We had a few members that we had not seen in a while. It was good to see some old friends. One in particular I would like to mention is Shem Miller. Shem has been involved with our chapter since it started. He has been sick lately and has not been able to come to many events. He was able to come this day and have some food and swap some old stories We had four chapter members attend the GoL in September. This was a great event and the Rock Chapter did an outstanding job putting it together. I hope that the GoL's keep getting bigger and better. I encourage new and old members to attend. It is a great mixture of business and fun. We will always need participation in these types of events if we want this organization to grow and keep moving forward. There were a lot of good ideas about how to improve the organization. We were back at the C-141 Memorial for another clean-up on the sixth of October. They recently finished painting it. We got help from Loadmasters of the Active Duty 6th AS. They sent several people out for three hours. We were able to get a lot done. We have started to clean all the bricks in the walkway and also the Memorial Bricks. We tried several cleaning methods but we have not found one that completely works. We will be heading back a few more times over the fall to try and clean the bricks. Kent Brown has been in touch with a former C-141 Pilot who is an ROTC instructor. He is offering help from his students the next time we do this event.

Liberty Chapter members during October 2017 clean-up at the C-141 Memorial

We have a day trip planned to the AMC Museum at Dover AFB on the 21st of October. They will have most of the aircraft open for viewing. We have made this trip many times before and always enjoy the day.

Northwest Chapter

Victor Fredlund, Northwest Chapter Vice-President – Due to reassignment of Charles Patterson and his wife Jennifer the chapter had elections on September 9, 2017. The newly elected chapter officers are: President: Tranquilno Herrera, 707-334-5233, tranq.herrera@gmail.com; Secretary: Eric Thomas, e.thomas707@gmail.com; Treasurer: Daniel Giusti, 845-392-6598, giustid4@gmail.com. This election is intended to not only fill vacated positions for the remainder the current term, but will suffice for the upcoming term of two years to include 2018 and 2019; Exception, Vice President position will be voted on during November 2017 meeting. We will forward the results of that action when it occurs.

Parker-Aguillon-Payne Chapter

Mark E. Raymond, Parker-Aguillon-Payne Chapter President - We had a great summer volunteering at Sonoma Raceway, for NASCAR, NHRA, and the INDYCAR races. This is our chapters' opportunity to raise money for our annual scholarship and Christmas party. We always appreciate those that volunteer their time at the raceway but always could use more help. Our chapter members are the ones that receive the benefits from all the hours our volunteers put in at the raceway. We are in the process of planning our annual Christmas Party at the Travis Heritage Center (Museum). It will again be catered by the club system on base and celebrated on: December 15, 2017, at 1800 hrs, Travis Heritage Center, Cost: $15.00 per person. I truly enjoyed the 20th Anniversary of the Professional Loadmaster Association at Little Rock this last September. The Rock Chapter did a great job and was attended by the most ever. I do know what it takes to plan and host a Gathering and The Rock Chapter put together a very fun and informative event. As I always do in this newsletter a want to thank all those loyal members that have continued to support our local chapter since 1998. A great tribute to those members that 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@kc10ts.com.

P-A-P Chapter members at 2017 Gathering of Loads convention

Southeast Chapter/Low Country Chapter

Everett Smith at Charleston AFB, wants to get the Southeast Chapter (Low Country Chapter) up and running again. He needs any information on the old chapter. Please reach out to him if you have the books last held for the chapter or know who does. His contact info is sid.smith224@gmail.com or he can also be reached by phone at 219-902-1135 (cell) or 843-943-2648 (office).

The Rock Chapter

Dave Hoffer, The Rock Chapter President - Greetings from The Rock Chapter! We are very honored to have hosted the successful 20th Anniversary Gathering of Loads. The conference consisted of over 200 active duty, retired, guard, and reserve Loadmasters from all over the U.S. I would also like to take the time to thank everyone who made this event possible, Little Rock Marriot, all sponsors, Toneyville VFW, The Rock chapter members, and the PLA President Kathy Disney. Additionally, a special thanks to General Norton Schwartz for being able to make the event and for your words of wisdom. To the Northwest Chapter, good luck on the next Gathering of Loads! UPCOMMING - The Rock chapter will be conducting another golf tournament in the spring. The tournament will contain raffles, cash prizes for first place and longest drive winners, as well as food and drinks. Keep an eye out on our local PLA website for additional information and other upcoming events; www.therockpla.squarespace.com. Furthermore, in efforts to build our chapter we encourage all active duty, guard, reserve, and retired Loadmasters to come out and join us! We hold meetings on the first Friday of each month at the Toneyville VFW. If you have any additional questions or concerns please feel free to contact David Hoffer at 501-247-9324 or david.hoffer@us.af.mil.

The Rock Chapter members at the 2017 Gathering Of Loads convention

The First State Chapter

Chris Koch, Interim First State Chapter President - To all who were unable to make it, or in the case of the Charleston folks had to go back thanks to a hurricane, what a great time was had. Big time thanks to The Rock Chapter and all the sponsors they had, GREAT job every night, and the hospitality room was amazing. As for the speakers and general membership meetings it felt as if we are getting a strong base of information to take back to the chapters as well as some ideas of how to move the PLA into the next chapter. We had one of the most incredible key note speakers I have had the pleasure of speaking with, and yes, he sure did give out a bunch of love to the C-130 world, and I do mean a lot! We sent the Airlift Tanker Association community off with funds to push out who we are and what we do, and planted the seeds to continue that year after year. We set the location of the next Gathering of Loads convention for 2019, CMSgt Mills I am sure will take the bar from The Rock Chapter and lift it higher, I for one am looking forward to that. On other news the First State Chapter, Dover and the surrounding area are wanting to get the chapter back together so any and all Loadmasters in the area we want you! We want to bring the active duty, reserves, and retirees together and make this one of the best Chapters in PLA. Our goal is to share the old stories with the new generation. They are busy and it would be great to have them hear that this is the hard, yet cool part of being Loadmasters. The big challenge will be how to answer the "what is in it for me," that is not just said by the new guys, but the retirees as well, so bring on the ideas and let's make this happen. That being said Dover Loadmasters as well as most of AMC have been working like crazy the last few months bringing food, water, building supplies, and people to the areas hit hardest by the hurricanes this year. I have seen every base's tails on the road, and had some very cool flightline reunions. To all let's get the word out, let's make this year the year of growth. And to all still flying, be safe.

Trailblazer Chapter

Dan Denman, Trailblazer Chapter President - The Trailblazer Chapter just had a big changeover in leadership so we are still getting our chapter plan together for next year. Our new chapter officers are: President: Dan Denman: (360) 265-3712, danieldenman@hotmail.com; VP: Norm Metz: (907) 223-1985, Norman.metz4@yahoo.com; Secretary: Ken Common: (843) 860-5207, Kcload7@yahoo.com; Treasurer: Danni Armstrong: (512) 983-6093, Danarmstrong5493@outlook.com.

Dave Bell & Karl Hinkamp, The Airline Professional Loadmaster: DOORS and FLOORS - A large aircraft eases into the parking spot and blocks in. The pilots shut off the engines, the whining of the turbines wind down and the ground crew approaches the plane with tasks to accomplish. The visor pops open and slowly climbs to the full open position to reveal a vast space ready to receive a load of cargo. If you are Airman Snuffy assigned to one of our outstanding USAF Airlift Squadrons, you are likely visualizing the Lockheed C-5 Galaxy (Antonov An-124 for you commies). If you work in the commercial air transportation industry, you might visualize a Boeing 747 Freighter. Beyond the visor however, the similarity ends. Not all B-747s are "nose loaders." Most 747s are loaded through a cargo door on the left side of the fuselage, aft of the wing. However on the 737, 757, 767 and 777 freighters, the cargo door is forward of the wing and opens upwards from the "main" deck. The doors are not opened until the plane blocks in, therefore there are no engine running offloads in the commercial airline world. [A notable exception being the Flying Tigers DC-8 engine running offloads at Phnom Penh during the 1975 "rice lift"[1].] There are also cargo doors for the "lower" deck (belly) compartments. The lower deck and main deck cargo doors for the above aircraft are typically electrically operated and may also have wind restrictions. The vast majority of commercial freighter aircraft are converted passenger planes whose floors are weak when compared to military cargo aircraft. While older cargo planes and military derivatives may have tie-down rings in the floor, modern commercial freighters have no tie-down rings; therefore floor-loading cargo is typically not an option. Most commercial cargo is carried in Unit Load Devices (ULD) such as an igloo-style enclosed container or pallet/net combination (see The Loader, Vol 20 Issue 1/March 2017). ULD's are rolled into the aircraft on the aircraft rollers and secured by the Cargo Loading System consisting of the rollers, locks and rails. Any cargo not restrained within a ULD container or pallet/net combination is considered "Special Cargo" and requires approved special loading and tiedown procedures before it can be loaded. Palletized cargo without the use of a net is also considered Special Cargo because the cargo requires supplemental restraint. Unlike USAF cargo aircraft that utilize both straps and chains to restrain cargo, only straps can be used on commercial aircraft. The issue of inadequate tie-down and tie-down points were key factors of the 2013 National Airlines 747 crash in Afghanistan (see http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x5a-js59). The 747 was a converted passenger aircraft carrying extremely heavy pieces of rolling stock on military pallets. These heavy pieces of Special Cargo were inadequately secured to the floor seat tracks with straps. During takeoff roll and climbout, these straps failed causing all but one of the five pieces of rolling stock to shift aft, taking out vital aircraft controls which no longer could compensate for the CG change. So, as you can see, the cargo loading systems on commercial cargo aircraft are designed primarily to carry ULDs that can be easily moved and locked into place without the use of supplemental restraint. Whereas military cargo aircraft floors are designed to load and restrain virtually all types of cargo. [[1] Larry Partridge, FLYING TIGERS OVER CAMBODIA, 2001, Larry Partridge, McFarland and Company, North Carolina and London, pp12-13.]

2017 A/TA Convention

Matt Thompson, Gateway Chapter President: Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA) report from A/TA 2017 Orlando, FL - This year's Airlift and Tanker Association (A/TA) Symposium, held at the Marriott World Center, Orlando Florida (October 26 - 29, 2017), marked another successful year for the PLA exhibit booth. Presenting an exhibit booth in the Air Mobility Technology Exposition presented a unique opportunity to fulfill our mission to "preserve, unite, and promote the professionals in the Loadmaster career field" to a wide variety of attendees from across the Department of Defense, the aerospace industry and allied nations. During this year's Technology Exposition, the team of PLA members representing the organization concentrated on raising awareness of the PLA, focusing on the opportunities for professional development, networking and support. The Distinguished Visitor Exhibit Tour provided an opportunity to discuss our organization with mobility leaders and industry partners. Air Force General Officers, Colonels and Chiefs stopped in to see the booth, grab some PLA Koozies/ PLA Stickers and chat about our organization. We also had many past and present Loadmasters stop-in and share stories fulfilling our motto, "Yesterday…Today…Tomorrow"! This opportunity would not have been possible without the support from CMSgt (Retired) Mark Smith and the Tanker/Airlift Association. Special thanks to SMSgt Jeff "J-Dub" Witherly, SMSgt Doug Kuhn, SMSgt Mike Seaton, MSgt Mike Morris and MSgt Brandon Lenz, from the Gateway Chapter and TSgt Paul Garcia, from the Parker-Aguillon-Payne Chapter for their help in making the PLA exhibit booth a tremendous success. For more information on the A/TA Air Mobility Symposium and Technology Exposition you can visit, www.atalink.org. Additional photos and information from this year's event can be found on the PLA and PLA – Gateway Chapter Facebook page. Next year's symposium will be held in Dallas, TX at the Gaylord Texan Resort, from October 25 – 28, 2018.

PLA members at the 2017 A/TA convention

413th Flight Test Squadron
20TH ANNIVERSARY
20
PROFESSIONAL
LOADMASTER
ASSOCIATION
SMSgt Jason "Jaybo" Buttke
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20TH ANNIVERSARY
20
PROFESSIONAL
LOADMASTER
ASSOCIATION
Little Rock, Arkansas
20TH ANNIVERSARY
20
PROFESSIONAL
LOADMASTER
ASSOCIATION

MARRIOTT
LITTLE ROCK

Links

Professional Loadmaster Association:
www.loadmasters.com

Troop Carrier/Tactical Airlift Association:
http://www.troopcarrier.org/

Troop Carrier/Tactical Airlift Association (TC/TAA) Reunion: October 11 – 14, 2018 at the Holiday Inn Dayton Fairborn OH. This will be a special Reunion as the Association will be donating a Memorial to the U.S. Air Force Museum on October 12, 2018.

Airlift Tanker Association:
http://www.atalink.org/content/

FACEBOOK LINKS

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

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

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

Big Country Chapter:
https://www.facebook.com/BigCountryPLA

Denali Chapter:
https://www.facebook.com/Denali.Pla

Gateway Chapter:
https://www.facebook.com/GatewayPLA/

Liberty Chapter:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/122389717788338/

Northwest Chapter:
https://www.facebook.com/PLANorthwestchapter

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

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

is becoming the

Low Country Chapter:
https://www.facebook.com/LowCountryPLA/

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

The Rock Chapter:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/therockpla/

Trailblazers Chapter:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/platrailblazer/

Aircraft Loadmasters:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/2324368340/?fref=nf

Basic Loadmaster Course:
https://www.facebook.com/Basic-Loadmaster-Course-BLM-106703039372617/

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

VIDEO LINKS

Basic Loadmaster Course Grad Video II
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IgqEYPS_PlE

SSgt. Nathan Porter, Loadmaster
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4CJ3l5ZyN1Q

What is an Aircraft Loadmaster
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6r4Q_xZJ4ts

Fort Benning Personnel Airdrop Training on a C-17
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5LuUU2p-gs&feature=youtu.be

C-17 Loadmasters with the 816th EAS move cargo in the AOR
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCDIh7TLhWY

MC-130 Talon II Loadmaster
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OcKsagqmDBY

57th AS Reunion - Loadmasters

57th AS 2017 Reunion, Midwest City OK, October 18 - 22, 2017 - Loadmaster Attendees - L-R, Curt Greca, Mike Welch, Larry Giles, Kent Grady Woosley, Dave Hartford, Bill Scalf, John Burkhardt, Steve Spotts, Chuck Avery

2017 PLA Membership Roster

PLA members whose names are in **RED** are missing an E-MAIL ADDRESS, and/ or PHONE NUMBER in the National Secretary's database. Please contact John Moore the to update your information.
** Life Members

Absher, Dean C. **
Absher, Patrick T. **
Adams, Kevin **
Akins, Charles E. **
Albright, Reynold L. **
Alexander, Jayne
Allard, Henry
Allen, Bill **
Allen, John L. **
Allison, Larry S. **
Andersen, Brian **
Anderson, Jason **
Anderson, Kyle
Anderon, Michael D.
Annas, Robert **
Antoline, Robert M. **
Armstrong, Danni
Armstrong, Scott P. **
Arnett, Gary L.
Askew, Wes **
Aubrey, Arnold L. **
Aust, James H. **
Avery, Aaron **
Avery, Charles J. **
Baade, Walter A. **
Baarda, James J. **
Baechle, Michael S.
Bailey, Kasimi **
Bailey, Stu **
Baird, Jerry L. **
Baitsholts, Trevor **
Baker, Bodie L. **
Baker, Christopher M. **
Baker, William
Ballard, Elisa **
Bann, Raymond L. **
Bardaro, James D. **
Barnes, Ted **
Barnett, Ernest W. **
Barney, Robert W.
Barnum, Michael T.
Barrett, Nicholas **
Barry, Cody
Bartlemus, Jeffrey D. **
Bartley, David **
Barto, Larry, Jr. **
Barton, Bobby
Barton, Steve **
Bass, Richard V. **
Bastiansen, Erik **
Battle, Johnnie **
Baulkman, Joseph Jr. **
Beal, John T.
Beck, Timothy J. **
Becker, Charles F. **
Beebe, Alan E. **
Beegle, Malcolm C. **
Beese, Alfred **
Begley, Jeff **
Bell, Dave **
Beland, Mark E. **
Bemis, Ralph T.
Benavides, Francisco
Bennet, Kyle
Bennett, Richard L. **
Berg, Howard V. **
Bernard, Christooher
Bertino, Kurt L. **
Bertolozzi, Cole
Bertsch, Robert J. **
Bighorn, Keith
Billman, Tim **
Birchman, David J. **
Birney, William J.
Blair, Timothy A. **
Block, Thomas H. **
Blocker, Thomas M.
Boedecker, Willard R.
Boehm, Ryan M.
Bond, Wade L. **
Booker, Frederick Jr. **
Bostock, William **
Bouchard, Michael R. **
Bourdlais, Laura
Bowen, Francis C.
Bowen, Kenneth E.
Brady, William **
Branski, John L. **
Brasch, Eric M. **
Brech, Brian A. **
Bridgeman, Brian K. **
Bridgestock, Alan N.
Brisco, Gary R. **
Brockman, Jimmie C. **
Broderick, Paul J. **
Brown, Anne **
Brown, Charlie D. **
Brown, Daniel K. **
Brown, David L.
Brown, Jason **
Brown, Joseph B. **
Brown, Kent **
Browne, Reggie
Brucker, Brian **
Brudi, Gary W.
Brumfield, Shawn E. **
Brunkow, Bruce **
Bryson, Sterling L. **
Buckley, Paul W. **
Bucy, Dustin **
Budlong, Frederick W.
Bullock, Walter A. **
Burdette, Jessie L. **
Burkhardt, John R. **
Burnett, Robert B. **
Byrns, Walter N. **
Calcaterra, Marc A. **
Call, Donald H.
Callahan, Patrick J. **
Callahan, Robert **
Campeau, Ronald A., Jr. **
Campos, Alberto
Caniete, Ted A. **
Cann, Charles D. Sr. **
Cannon, Mike **
Capone, Alberto **
Carden, James A. **
Carey, Bryan R. **
Carey, Hugh F. **
Cargill, Ronald **
Carman, Joseph D.
Carmody, Edward R. **
Carpenter, John E.
Carrion, Thomas **
Carroll, William A. **
Carson, Christopher **
Carter, Barry D. **
Carter, Drew
Carter, Kinberly L.
Cary, Sheldon **
Caskey, Ferrell M. Jr. **
Cassidy, Harry T.
Castanedo, Paul A. **
Castle, Nathen
Cato, Roger D. **
Catron, Charles E.
Cawthon, Michael E. **
Cawthon, Richard E. **
Chamberlain, Sam R. Jr. **
Chandler, Robert D. **
Chapa, Rafael
Chase, Michael
Chastain, Keith
Chewning, Brian L. **
Christopher, Lloyd F.
Christopher, Orial
Clark, Cecil D. **
Clark, Stephen M.
Clark, Willis **
Claudio, Juan **
Clay, Christopher S. **
Clements, Jordon
Clever, Ted L. Jr. **
Clever, Theodore III **
Clifford, Carroll J.
Cobb, James A. **
Colello, Joseph F. **
Coleman, Colin P.
Coles, John C. **
Collins, Stephen **
Conn, Thomas
Cooper, Brian E. **
Cooper,Steve A. **
Cosgrove, Robert J. **
Costa, Frank
Costella, Brandon
Cox, Craig E. **
Crawford, Kurtis
Crenshaw, Reginald **
Cribbs, Jerry S.
Croft, George R.
Cromwell, James
Crowe, Nick B.
Cruz, Hermilo Jr. **
Culver, Randall S. **
Cumberland, Michael **
Cummings, Christopher
Currie, Samuel L. **
Czech, Edward W. Jr.
Czeizinger, Rudoloph E **
Daigle, Brian
Daigle, Joshua
Dalton, Bobby
Dambach, Robert T.
Daniel, Dianne RS. **
Daniel, Jeffery L. **
Darden, Jerome D. **
Daugherty, Allen D.
Davenport, Justin **
Davies, William L.
Davis, Michael D. **
De Haas, Bob **
De Haas, Monika L. **
DeHart, Charles J. **
Deibert, Jack **
Delarosa, Rene' **
Del Costillo, Tiffany
Denk, Michael **
Denman, Daniel R. **
Denny, Joshua
DeRosa, Sara
Devincenzo, Donald D. **
Dickerson, Cecil
Dickinson, Elijah
DiMarco, Chelsea K.

2017 PLA Membership Roster

Disney, Kathleen S. **
Disney, Kyle S. **
Dockery, Christopher L.
Doherty, Randall J. **
Domaszewicz, Chester **
Downey, Daniel **
Drew, John B. lV
Driscoll, Timothy E. **
Druding, Michael R. **
Drury, Gregg **
DuBose, William **
Duncan, Brad **
Dunkelberger, Michael **
Dunn, Eddie E.
Dunn, Ronald L. **
Dunphy, Jerry **
Duran, Herb **
Dureitz, Arthur A. **
Durieux Mendoza, Delmarie A. **
Dusenbery, Robert
Dwyer, Michael **
Dykens, Kristina
Dykes, Michael L. **
Dzwonkus, Thomas V.
Ebner, Mike **
Eckberg, Karl R.
Edvalds, Harold A. **
Edwards, Bradley
Edwards, Jern L. **
Edwards, William C. **
Egan, Patrick J.
Ehlers, Gary R.
Eichenberg, John B.
Ejermann, Stefan
Ellerman, Ryan D. **
Ellison, Glenn Jr.
Emerson, Warren R.
Engelker, James P.
English, Michael C. **
Erickson, Lucas **
Ernzen, Kenneth M. **
Escamilla, Gabriel **
Esqueda, Nelson
Fabian, Kim **
Fabiani, Marie **
Faris, George **
Farley, Patrick R. **
Farmintino, Brian
Farrugla, Matthew
Fasano, Vincent
Faul, Hurley L.
Faynik, Robert J. **
Fennessy, Greg
Fields, Thomas E. Jr. **
Fincher, Marion D. **
Finkenberg, Richard
Fischer, Pete
Fish, Charles R. **
Fisher, Parnell G.
Flannery, Ray **
Fleming, Tammy R. **
Flom, Kent R. **
Flores, Alfonso A.
Flores, Guadalupe
Flores, Michael J.
Flori, Robert E. **
Foster, Dale
Foulois, Kevin G. **
Franken, Brad **
Franklin, Dustin
Fredlund, Victor **
Fredrick, Samuel A. **
French, James T.
Friedrich, William R. **
Fujimoto, Karen **
Fullmer, Christopher
Gainey, Maxie **
Gagnon, Maurice J.
Gallo, John B. **
Gamache, Francis J. Jr. **
Gamache, Marie **
Garcia, Paul **
Gardiner, Douglas E. **
Garrison, William F. **
Garza, Ricardo J. Sr.
Garza, Roberto G.
Gast, Stephen E.
Gershon, Nathan
Getz, William J.
Gewinner, Ryan
Ghent, William **
Giandre, Lawrence R. **
Gildea, Stephen R.
Guish, Daniel
Goade, Michael K. **
Gochenour, Roy **
Goode, William C.
Gorden, Sam W. **
Gordon, Michael **
Gornay, Edmund M. **
Grant, David
Grant, Douglas **
Green, Dewey
Green, William D.
Green, William H. **
Greene, Bernard A.
Griesinger, Nathan **
Grieve, David D. **
Griffith, Lester
Grimes, Andrew H.
Grothe, Allen W. **
Grothe, Arlo **
Grove, James C. Jr.
Guetschow, James
Gunn, Kelsey D. **
Gustafson, Lance P. **
Gustafson, Thomas L. **
Gutierrez, Adolfo Jr.
Gutierrez, Gerardo J.
Gutierrez, Jose R.
Gutierrez, Trinidad
Haak, Scott **
Hader, James A. Jr. **
Hafer, Paul J. **
Hales, Billy R. Sr.**
Hall, Larry E. **
Hall, Peter **
Hall Randy L. **
Hambleton, Leigh **
Hamblin, Michael **
Hamill, Melvin **
Hamilton, William D. Jr. **
Hansen, Andrew
Hanson, Alfred E. **
Harmon, Clifton **
Harmon William
Harper, David **
Harris, Philip G.
Harris, Raymond E. **
Harrison, Mark **
Hart, Rawnald **
Hartford, David **
Hartsell, Kenneth
Harvell, Paul J. **
Harvell, Paul J. **
Harvey, Robert L. **
Hassell, Bienvenido V. **
Hatmaker, Hugh D.
Hauf, Richard
Hawkins, Dominique
Hawkins, Erith A. ll **
Hayes, John F. **
Hays, Robert H. **
Hebert, Ted W. **
Hedspeth, Randy A. **
Heffner, Charles V. **
Heflin, Mark **
Heiker, Erik **
Heinen, Gordon J. **
Heinen, Zachary
Hennion, Christopher P. **
Henrichsen, Adam
Henry, Jim **
Henson, William W. **
Herman, Michael **
Hernandez, Kyle
Hernandez, Nonito
Herrera, Tranquiline
Herrick, Wesley F. Jr. **
Higuera, Candido R.
Hilgart, Fred **
Hilton, James A. **
Hilton, Terry D. **
Hinkamp, Karl J. **
Hinojosa, Gerald L. **
Hippensteel, Russell **
Hoffer, David
Holloway, Sharon L. **
Holman, Michael E. **
Holmes, Matthew T. **
Holmes, Reginald
Holmes, Thomas
Holston, Lewis J. Jr. **
Hondel, Steve **
Hoots, Andrew **
Horton, Nathan R. **
Horwedel, Allen G. **
Hovis, Dennis L.
Howard, John E. **
Howell, Dillon
Hoyle, Marc A. **
Hudson, Keith
Huelsenbeck, Mike
Huerta, Jesus **
Huffman, William D. Jr. **
Humes, Charles N.
Humphress, Robert L.
Humphrey, Richard K. **
Iopolito, Mark R. **
Irizarry, Juan
Island, James W. **
Ivars, Richard **
Ivy, Charles L. **
Jackson, Casey
Jackson, Charles T lll **
Jackson, Mike S.
Jackson, Willie
Jantz, Matthew D. **
Jaquez, Jake **
Johnson, Brian **
Johnson, Craig E. **
Johnson, Craig S. **
Johnson, Daniel L. **
Johnson, Park E. II **
Johnson, Stephen K. **
Johnson, Steve A. **
Jones, Cassy
Jones, Darryl F. **
Jones Edward D. Jr.
Jones, Jessie C. **
Jones, Michael O. **
Jones, Wilfred
Jordan, Lance **
Joy, James B. **

2017 PLA Membership Roster

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Karns, John
Kaupa, Eric
Keefauver, Delbert R.
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Kelly, Al **
Kelly, Teddy
Kenny, Thomas A **
Kent, Chad **
Kent, Michael L. **
Kern, Tim **
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King, James
King, Jeanette **
King, John **
Kinnan, Ricky L. **
Kitchen, Mark **
Kirnan, Sinead
Klemp, John A. **
Klindt, Milbum R. **
Knight, Josh **
Knight, Lloyd **
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Kolasa, Cale **
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Koon, Tom **
Koula, Thomas R. **
Krolak, Donald M. **
Kubik, Donald G. **
Kucala, Aloysius
Kuhn, Douglas **
Kuhns, Eric W. **
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Kunkel, Jason S. **
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Lau, Gordon R. **
Laub, Douglas J. **
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Lawrence, Lori **
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Lee, Jacob **
Lee, Randolph
Leet, Robert N. Jr. **
Lemons, Chris **
Leonard, Jeffrey A. **
Leonard, Richard J.
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Lewis, Benjamin **
Lewis, James **
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Leyva, Hector **
Lia, Vebjorn **
Lickey, Duncan B. **
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Llaneza, Lloyd
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Long, Gregory M.
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Lusk, Steven R. **
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Marquez, Mitchel
Marshall, John S. **
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Martin, Michael D.
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Mills, Scott A. **
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Norwood, George W. **
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Paradis, Wilfred B. **
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Patton, Christopher S.
Patton, Elizabeth
Paumier, Daniel F. **
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Penny, William T.
Pennypacker, Stephen

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Pitcher, Bryon E. **
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Platt, Douglas G.
Ponto, Andy **
Potts, Rev. Dr. Robert A.
Poulsen, Virgil A. **
Porter, John J.
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Puerner, David A. **
Pyeatt, Tim **
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Radovich, George A. **
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Rasar, Douglas B. **
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Ratzlaff, Patrick D. **
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Raymond, Mark E. **
Redeye, Stanley M. **
Reed, Scott
Reede, Herman **
Regan, Kenneth E. **
Reid, James C.
Reid, John
Reinhart, Butch
Renaud-Williams, Karen **
Renneckar, Edward E. **
Reyes, Robert **
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Reynolds, Michael C. **
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Richardson, Jesse **
Richardson, Lonnie D. **
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Ricks, Rick **
Rigsby, George B.
Rion, Gregory E.
Ritchie, Jessie **
Roberts, Adam
Roberts, Jack T. **
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Roberts, Roger F. **
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Rollis, Regina C. **
Romero, Stephen T.
Rood, Harold D. **
Rorie, James T. **
Roscoe, Keith **
Rose, Ray
Rose, Wayne
Rost, James P.
Ruch, Monte L. **
Rud, Richie **
Russell, Richard E. **
Russell, Robert **
Russell, Robert W. Jr. **
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Rutter, Jeffrey S. **
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Salts, Glen E. **
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Samuels, Aubrey C. **
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Sanchez, Arthur C. **
Sanders, Duke E. **
Sauceda, Abelino **
Saucier, David W. **
Saucier, Thomas **
Savage, William **
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Schade, Steven M. **
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Scheidt, Peter
Schenberg, John **
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Schueller, Michael R.
Schultz, Stan **
Schultz, Steven
Schwab, Charles
Schwartz, John C. **
Scott, Bob **
Secrest, Glenn E. **
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See, Michael A. **
Seefried, Jerome J.
Self, Matthew D. **
Sell, Leonard M. **
Sellers, Carl R. **
Settle, Mark W. **
Sewell, Jimmie **
Shadoff, James A. **
Shank, William W. **
Sharp, Ronald W.
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Shaw, William H.
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Simpson, Harold Jr. **
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Skvarna, Edward B. **
Slocum, Jerry **
Smarr, Joseph **
Smart, Grant
Smart, Everett S.
Smith, Dennis E. **
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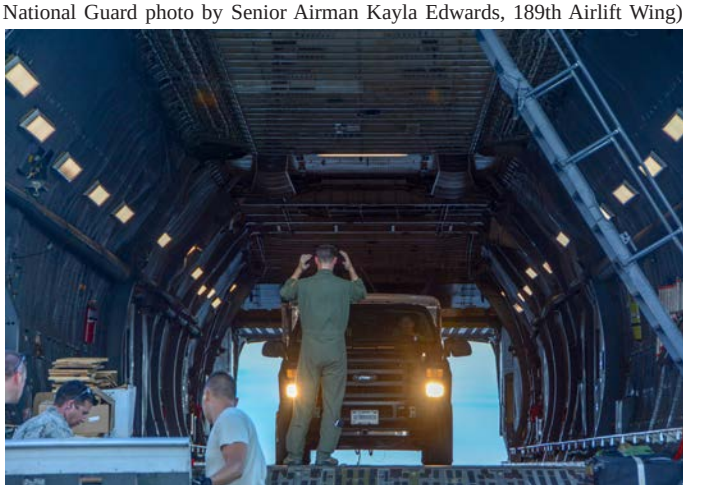
Smith, Michael
Smith, Rika **
Smith, TV
Smith, Terry W. **
Smith, Thomas B. **
Smith, Trevor M. **
Snedegar, Raymond F.
Snook, Robert E. **
Snyder, Courtney
Sokgobenzon, Dmitri **
Sortomme, Levi
Soto, John **
South, Danny
Spaeth, Leon S. **
Spainhower, Wesley N.
Spangler, Michael D. **
Spanos, Johnny M. **
Speer, Gary D. **
Spillane, John T.
Spotts, Stephen R. **
Sprenger, Mark R. **
Springer, Alfred **
Stalvey, Thomas
Stamm, Robert M. **
Stanford, John V. Jr. **
Stanley, Michael C. **
Stanton, Katherine
Staples, Robert E. **
Staples, Robert H.
Steed, A. E. Jr. **
Stefanowicz, Ryan
Stewart, Josh Dr. PHD **
Stiff, Shannon M. **
Stollenwerck, Andre D. **
Stone, John **
Storey, Arwin A.
Stout, Gary B. **
Strader, Tony E. **
Stratman, Amy B. **
Stratton, Bradley A. **
Stratton, Richard W. **
Strong, Kenneth C. **
Strouse, Richard A. **
Stroz, Douglas H. **
Stubler, Michael
Stueven, Scott A. **
Sturgill, Larry D. **
Suenaga, Robert **
Sugai, Raymond K. **
Sullivan, Pennie J. **
Summ, Brian **
Sutherland, Paul J. **
Suvatne, Arne **
Swaim, Scott R. **
Swaney, Charlie B.
Swanson, Norman C. **
Swanson, Ted **
Sweger, Kirk D.
Swezey, Arthur V.
Taff, Brendan G. **
Taillon, Walter N. **
Talas, Eugene
Tarrance, Donald **
Tascione, Lon E.
Taylor, Roy L. **
Taylor, Scott E. **
Taylor, William H.
Tellers, David J. **
Terrell, David L. **
Terrell, Timothy H. **
Terry, Ernest L. III **
Thigpen, Randy **
Thomas, David **
Thomas, Eric
Thomerson, Dustin
Thompson, Chad **
Thompson, Daniel P. **
Thompson, Kenneth F.
Thompson, Matthew E. **
Thompson, Ronald H.
Tichawa, Todd M. **

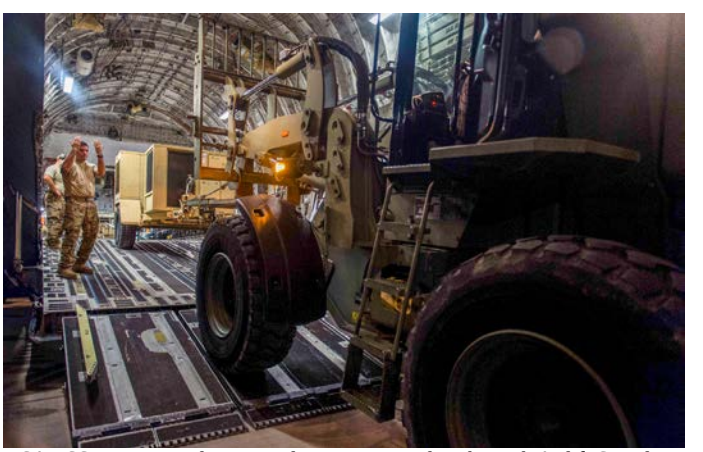
Tinsman, Matthew
Tkach, Stephen **
Tocknell, Fred J. **
Topouzoglou, Terry **
Torgerson, Daniel K. **
Tosh, John D.
Traynham, Quentin L. **
Traynor, James J.
Trowbridge, Paul L. **
Turley, Larry D. **
Turley, Peter K. **
Turnquist, Raymond J.
Underwood, Darold L.
Vaillancourt, Fred **
Van Beuge, Douglas C.
Van Cleave, Gary B.
VanDenBergh, Don **
Van Winkle, Carl
Vaquera, Andres Jr. **
Vaughn, Darrell E.
Vazquez, Roy **
Vearrier, Lee
Ventres, Peter J. Jr.
Verbiski, Gregory A. **
Vickery, Phillip G.
Viel, Harry B. Jr. **
Vieria, Lucille J.
Viguers, Robert S. lll **
Vinson, Don **
Viventi, Tony **
Volkmann, Frederick lll **
VonBonin, Stephen T. **
Vujovich, John E. **
Wadzinski, Richard J. Jr. * **
Wagner, Alan L. **
Walenski, Adam
Walker, Renee
Walter, Alex J. **
Walters, Rob **
Wangelin, James W. **
Ward, Joe S. **
Wares, Levi P. **
Warner Michael V. **
Warrings, Carl S. **
Washington, Bettena
Weaver, Tyler
Weber, Michael **
Weeper, William H. Jr. **
Welch, John D. **
Welch, Michael M. **
Wellbrock, William B. **
Wells, Billie G.
Werner, Thomas O. **
Wesley, John M. **
West, Monty II **
Westhead, James W. Jr.**
Wetzel, Wim M.
Wheeler, David **
White, Jeremy **
White, Lucas J. **
White, Roscoe L. **
Whitney, David M. **
Whittington, George E. **
Wickliff, David L. **
Wien, Philip W. **
Wightman, William A.
Wike, Christopher **
Wilberg, Joshua **
Wiley, James C.
Wilkerson, Ray H. Jr. **
Wilkins, Eric R. **
Willey, Richard A. **
Williams, Daniel A. **
Williams, Eddie S. **
Williams, Liana
Williams, Sharon
Williams, Timothy A.
Wilson, Charles R. Jr. **
Wilson, Gerald J.
Wilson, Jeffrey D. **
Wilson, Thomas C. **
Wilson, Wilbur A. **
Winn, Richard B. **
Wiscavage, Charles P.
Wisley, Jeffery A. **
Witherly, Jeffrey
Withers, Thomas B. **
Witucki, John A. **
Wolff, Melverne D.
Wolfley, William H. **
Wolford, Terry L.
Wolski, Jeremy
Wood, Kenneth F. Jr. **
Wright, Mchael L.
Wright Muriel E. **
Wright, Terry L. Sr. **
Wright Terry J. Jr. **
Wyche, John W. Sr.
Wyman, Robert D. **
Wynn, Gary F. **
Wysong, Michael H.
Wyttenbach, James **
Yeary, William **
York, Alisha
Young, Alan
Young, Frank J.
Young, George W. Jr. **
Zachary, Niki **
Zalucki, Anthony F. **
Zeringue, Sean
Zisa, Rosario F. **
Zukoski, Paul C. **

Hurricane Irma Relief Efforts

MSgt Adam Palmer, a Loadmaster assigned to the 154th Training Squadron at Little Rock Air Force Base, AK., guides a K-loader stacked with pallets of water onto a waiting C-130H on September 12, 2017, at the 172nd Airlift Wing, near Jackson, MS. The pallets of bottled water are slated to be delivered to Florida residents affected by the devastaton of Hurricane Irma. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Kayla Edwards, 189th Airlift Wing)



A Westover C-5 Loadmaster directs the unloading of a Contingency Response vehicle September 13, 2017 on the flightline at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Florida. Westover's Airmen have been supporting the ongoing Hurricane Irma relief efforts that are staged out of Homestead ARB. (USAF photo by Amn Hanna Smith, 439th Airlift Wing/Public Affairs)



USAF SSgt Justin Jordan, a Loadmaster assigned to the 14th Airlift Squadron, guides cargo onto a C-17 Globemaster III before conducting a mission in response to Hurricane Irma at Pope Field, N.C., Sept. 14, 2017. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Nicholas Dutton, 1st Combat Camera Squadron)

$cholarship Information & PLA Merchandise

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. Current college or vocational/technical students may apply to complete their educational endeavor. 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. Applications, located on the PLA website, may be applied for through Jim Engelker at engelkerj@gmail.com.

Timeline for Scholarships: Submission of all scholarship applications is due by the close of business on April 1st Mountain Daylight Time of the year that scholarship announcement is made. Due April 2018 – selection May 2018. 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.

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.

When completing your PLA application you will need to know the PLA membership # and date. Please contact John Moore at buildsmall2@mac.com to obtain this information."

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BE A POSSIBLE WINNER.
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APPLICATION DUE APRIL 1, 2018
GET APPLICATION AT: WWW.LOADMASTERS.COM
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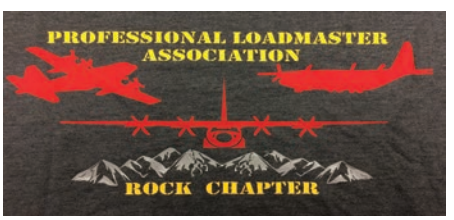
Liberty Chapter Loadmaster Coins
Mailed for $10 each plus priority shipping of $5.80. Thirty in one box for that shipping cost. If chapters want more than 30, sold for $9 each with shipping included. Cheaper alternative is to ship up to three, for $4.00 shipping first class mail. Send a check made out 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: 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: buildsmall2@mac.com



The Rock Chapter Tee Shirts - $25.00 per tee shirt, shipping included. Send a check to: Rock Chapter PLA, P.O. Box 1113, Jacksonville, AR, 72078 or call (501) 533-5873 for a PayPal invoice & payment. Available sizes include Small-2XL

Senior Airman Michael Shane Carpenter Memorial Bridge

Family and friends get a look at the sign designating the bridge on Sevierville Road Maryville TN as Senior Airman Michael Shane Carpenter Memorial Bridge. His parents Kyle Carpenter and Vickie Wade, are in front.

Senior Airman Michael Shane Carpenter

SrA Michael Shane Carpenter, Honoring one of our own: Bridge named for Maryville Airman – By Melanie Tucker, reprinted with permission from The Daily Times, August 25, 2017. Family and friends get a look at the sign designating the bridge on Sevierville Road as Senior Airman Michael Shane Carpenter Memorial Bridge. His parents, Kyle Carpenter and Vickie Wade, are in front. Michael Shane Carpenter was a lover of the outdoors, hiking, fishing, camping and hunting around East Tennessee with his dad. He was born Jan. 14, 1971, and attended Forest Hill and then Montvale Elementary, graduating from Heritage High School in 1989. While at Heritage, Carpenter joined the ROTC and was a member all four years. It seemed he joined the U.S. Air Force just days after graduation, or maybe it was a week or two later, said his mom, Vickie Wade. He had friends who did the same. They couldn't wait to begin their service. His training was at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas. But on April 28, 1992, Carpenter was killed when the aircraft of which he was a crewmember crashed into Blewett Falls Lake in North Carolina during a covert training mission. At the time of his death, he was a Loadmaster assigned to the 317th Airlift Wing's 40th Airlift Squadron at Pope Air Force Base. That was 25 years ago. Carpenter was only 21. On Saturday, Wade, along with many family members, friends and comrades of Carpenter, gathered in Maryville to honor this fallen hero. A bridge across Little River on Sevierville Road is now the Senior Airman Michael Shane Carpenter Memorial Bridge. This all came to be after Nathan Weinbaum, service officer for the Department of Veterans Affairs in Blount County, began talking with Wade about how to honor her son. That's when he went to the Veterans Affairs Committee and the County Commission to ask them to consider the resolution for the naming of the bridge. Back in November 2016, they did just that. Then it was the Tennessee General Assembly's turn to pass an amendment. They did so on May 4, 2017. "It was fantastic," Wade said of the dedication ceremony. "It was also overwhelming. I met so many people. Shane had several of his tactical wing members who came." Carpenter's dad, Kyle Carpenter was present, as were some of Shane Carpenter's friends from high school. Many stood beneath the bridge's new sign on Sevierville Road as it was unveiled. Wade said it doesn't feel like it's been 25 years since she lost her son. She will always remember him as a strong Christian man who never complained about hard work. "He just did as he was told," she said. "He was a fantastic son." A proper way to honor a hero. Weinbaum said he met Wade back in 2016 and they talked in depth about what could be done to honor her son. A few weeks later, Weinbaum said he was driving over that bridge on Sevierville Road and felt that naming it after Carpenter was an appropriate thing to do. "I asked his mother and she said she lives very close to the bridge and was very appreciative for it to be considered," he said. "I approached my Veterans Committee and they approved, too." Wade lives about a fourth-mile from the bridge. She said Little River is where her family has spent time over the years, including Shane. It hurts this mom that she was never given any details about Shane's death. Because it was a secret mission, there was never any explanation, Wade said. But meeting his Air Force comrades and being with family and friends made this dedication ceremony special and a day she will always treasure. There were nine members of Carpenter's tactical unit who came for this bridge dedication. Kevin Gabor gave the moving speech on behalf of the crew. Carpenter's best friends from high school were Lee Dailey and Kevin Norton, Wade said. Norton is still in the Air Force. With a sign on this bridge that hundreds of motorists cross every day, Senior Airman Michael Shane Carpenter's name won't be forgotten. "There were a lot of people there on Saturday," Wade said. "Even though it's been 25 years, people will never forget Shane." He is buried in Carpenters Campground United Methodist Cemetery in Blount County, alongside his brother. Wade loves that his name and rank weren't shortened for this bridge naming. It's the Senior Airman Michael Shane Carpenter Memorial Bridge. "I think it's beautiful," she said. Not a day goes by that his mom doesn't think of him.

In Memoriam

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

***Kenneth Thomas Abbott**, 73, of Beaumont, died Wednesday, July 12, 2017. He was born on March 1, 1944, in Palm Springs, California, to Neomia May Niskern Abbott and Everett William Abbott II, and was a United States Air Force veteran. Kenneth spent twenty-five years in the military. He was a Master Sergeant and a Loadmaster. He served in the Vietnam War and many areas in the United States on C-130 Cargo Airplanes. Kenneth continued his love of aircraft in various places all over the world, including Saudi Arabia. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Troop Carriers, Disabled Vets, Loadmasters, and China Post. Kenneth is sorely missed and survived by his wife, Patricia; children, Angel, Kenneth, Robert, Lonnie, James, Michael, America, Alice, and their spouses; twelve grandchildren; six great-grandchildren, and his brother, Everett III. A private family committal will be held at Broussard's Crematorium, in Beaumont. The interment of his urn will be held 9:45 a.m., Friday, July 21, 2017, at Houston National Cemetery, 10410 Veterans Memorial Drive, Houston, Texas 77038. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the organization of one's choice. http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/beaumontenterprise/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=186136582.

***James Reynolds Bomberger**, MSgt USAF(Ret), of Tustin, Michigan passed away on Monday, September 25, 2017 at his home with family by side. He was 83. Jim was born on November 18, 1933, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania to Reynolds C. and Minetta E. (Schreck) Bomberger. In 1954 James entered into marriage with the former Carole Wagoner of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in San Antonio, Texas. Jim answered the call of duty proudly serving with the United State Air Force, during the Korean War conflict and the Vietnam War. He retired as, Staff Loadmaster, Headquarters Military Airlift Command after 23 years of faithful service. Over the last 21 years of that service he gained over 13,000 flying hours experience on the C-124, C-141, and C-5 aircraft flying to 35 foreign countries. Fourteen of the twenty-one years associated directly with the DOD/AEC nuclear airlift program. He was awarded the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal and MAC Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Nuclear Safety for improvements on the C-141 Nuclear Airlift Program. The day after his Air Force retirement Jim began his career with AAR Brooks and Perkins where he distinguished himself as Director Military Marketing. Jim relocated to Cadillac in 1981 and became an instrumental part of AAR Mobility Systems; retiring from there as VP of Military Sales and Marketing following a 33-year career. He continued to do some consulting for AAR. Jim was an active part of the D.A.V., the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the 40&8, KWV, the Eagles and Elks Lodge, and served as past Commander for the American Legion and AMVETS. He was the driving force behind the 2011 American Veterans Traveling Wall Tribute in Cadillac and was presented a Key to the City from the Mayor. Jim is a Lifetime member and one of the Founding Fathers of the P.L.A. (Professional Loadmaster Association), lifetime member of the A/TA (Airlift Tanker Association) and enjoyed the outdoors spending time hunting and fishing and horseback riding. Jim trained, hunted, showed, and raised Chesapeake Bay Retrievers; a hobby both Jim, Carole and the family could enjoy together. He also enjoyed boating and water and snow skiing and was one of the first to barefoot water-ski. Jim will be deeply missed by a grateful nation, community and family. Jim is survived by his wife of 63 years, Carole Bomberger of Tustin; his daughters, Jackie (Jeff) Drake and Donna (Sam) Wille; seven grandchildren, Amy Lynn (Carlo) Arini, Ryan James (Brandi) Bomberger, Nicole (Patrick) Shields, Erin (Charles) Gabbert, Jason Wille, Amber (Jason Gniposky) Drake, and Jeffery Drake; great-grandchildren, Bella Arini, Mia Arini, Madison Gabbert, Charlie Gabbert, Wyatt Gniposky, with another baby Bomberger expected in December; his sister, Anne (Robert) Sherman; two nieces, Kelly and Amy; as well as many other loving family members and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, and his son, Reynolds "Ren" Charles Bomberger. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 11 am, at the Hitesman-Holdship Funeral Home with visitation one hour prior and refreshments and appetizers to follow at the Amvets Post 110 in Cadillac. Interment will be at the Sherman Township Cemetery at a later date. Memorial contributions may be directed to Munson Cadillac Hospice. http://www.holdshipfuneralhomes.com/notices/MSGTRetJames-Bomberger.

***Charles D. Jones** was born July 22, 1948 to the late Charles and Louise (Nixon) Jones. He went home to be with the Lord August 7, 2017. He attended George Westinghouse High School from 9th to 12th grade (graduated in 1966). He went into the US Air Force in November 1966 until he retired in July 1987. Charles was preceded in death by his parents, Charles Jones and Margaret Louise Lawson. He is survived by his wife, June Jones of nine years; son, Jason Perez; daughter and son-in-law, Jennifer and James Prothro of Vacaville; daughter and son-in-law, Amanda and Charles Cooper of Sacramento; daughter, Marcia Miles of Pittsburgh, PA; brothers, Reginald Jones, Lawrence Jones, Lawrence Lindberg, James Lawson and sister, Jacquline Jones; 20 grandchildren and five great grandchildren and many loving friends. Charles was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Vacaville. He was on the Executive Board for Bill's Kids Foundation (working with and for handicapped kids). He did ministry work with others fighting cancer, praying with and for, letting them use him as a sounding board and doing whatever he could to keep their spirits up. After fighting cancer for 16 years he passed away peacefully in his sleep. Services will be Friday, August 18th, at First Baptist Church of Vacaville, at noon. Burial will be at 3 p.m., at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, Dixon.

Randolph T. Turck passed away on March 18, 2017 of Voorhees, Age 85. Survived by loving wife Lorraine (nee Kennedy). Beloved father of Joseph of Pennsville, Linda Miller of Haddon Heights, Kathleen Reiff of Beach Haven and the late Phyllis Turck. Also Survived by his Brother Joseph of Homassassa FL. Devoted Grandfather of five grandchildren and one great grandchild. He was retired from the New Jersey Bell Telephone Company and the United States Air Force. He was a member of the Alpha Gun Club and was a life member of the V.F.W., having served in the Korean, Vietnam, Panama, and Desert Storm Wars. Randolph was also an avid golfer. Friends and Family are invited to a viewing on Thursday March 23, 2017 from 9 to 10:45 AM at Danks-Hinski Funeral Home, 125 N. White Horse Pike, at Stone Rd. Lindenwold NJ. Mass of Christian Burial following immediately after at Lady Guadalupe Parish at St. Lawrence Campus at 11 AM. Interment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery. In Lieu of Flowers Please Donate to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation, 59 Saratoga Rd, Stratford, NJ 08084. Condolences at www.dankshinskifuneralhome.com.

OLDER OBITUARIES

***Chris Lane Gray**, age 61, was born in Dermott on January 24, 1951, and went to be with the Lord June 30, 2012. He joined the Air Force in 1969 during the Vietnam War and served as a Loadmaster on the C-130 aircraft. During his 20 years in the Air Force, he earned various awards including two Air Force Commendation Medals and two Air Medals. He retired as a Master Sergeant in 1989 and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Arkansas at Monticello. He was preceded in death by his younger brother Jay Lynn Gray of Arkansas City. He is survived by his parents Darrell and Joyce Gray of Monticello; a sister Katha Gray of Little Rock; a brother Andy Gray and his wife Tammy Gray of North Little Rock; one nephew Neal; five nieces Katie, Kristie, Kyrstin, Katrina and Sydney; three great nephews Korey, Korbin and Kingston; and two great nieces, Kaitlynn and Avery. He will be missed by all that knew and loved him. (Added information from TC/TAA Airlifter July 2012): Chris started out at Charleston AFB, SC in the 41st MAS, then went to 8th Aerial Port Squadron in Vietnam and from there to CCK. The rest of his flying career was spent in C-130s at Dyess and Little Rock and with the 5th Aerial Port Squadron in Europe. A lot of our members served with him at one time or other. After flying for about 12 years, Chris had to cross-train due to medical conditions. During his final years Chris suffered from Chrone's Disease, which caused him a lot of pain and prevented him from traveling. He will be greatly missed.

***Dennis H. Goeken**, September 23, 1942 - May 25, 2017, (Editiors Note: In the July 2017 issue of "The Loader" a link to the Diginity Memorial funeral home was put in the "In Memorium" section for Dennis. No obituary was written at that time but since then JP Salisbury wrote one). CMSgt (Ret) Dennis H. Goeken, of Chuluota, Florida died Thursday, May 25, 2017. He is survived by his lovely wife, Barbara. Born September 23, 1942, in Illinois, Dennis joined the United States Air Force in 1964. He served tours in the 35th TAS, Naha Air Base, Okinawa; Hunter AFB, Georgia; 31st MAS, Dover AFB, Delaware; and the 30th MAS, 21st AF, 6th MAS, and 438th MAW, at McGuire AFB, New Jersey. Dennis flew as a Loadmaster on the C-130A Hercules, C-124 Globemaster II, and the C-141A/B Starlifter. Dennis was a true professional, helping all crewmembers, especially Loadmasters. He was a mentor to many, long before the Air Force mandate. Dennis had many passions in life. He was an avid fisherman, spending many annual trips to Canada fishing for walleye and northern pike. He loved to hunt and belonged to a club in Georgia where he was very successful hunting white tail deer and turkey. He loved cars and he joined a Corvette club in Florida where he could be around like-minded enthusiasts. Chief Goeken retired after serving 25 years in the USAF. His impact on the young (and old) lives he touched throughout his career remain today. http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Dennis-Goeken&lc=9831&pid=185656129&uuid=99d3fd00-636b-4a8b-be6a-07524dff74c3.

NON–PLA MEMBERS

Kevin Kimball - https://www.afterlife.co/us/obituary-warner-robins-kevin-kimball-4714561

Michael A. Coady - http://lacrossetribune.com/lifestyles/announcements/obituaries/michael-arthur-coady/article_1a0144f3-3e5e-5ee4-8694-39f735ef98e1.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=user-share

Mark Hatcher - He was a Loadmaster in the 20th MAS and ALCE guy at Charleston as well as other places and flew C-141's then C-130's in England and MC-130's in Florida. No obituary available. Information from October 3, 2017 on Aircraft Loadmasters (USAF) Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/2324368340.

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