

THUNDER ROLLS



Spring 2005
Volume 9

Where Are We Now?

Brig Gen Weida Leads Air Force Academy Cadets

As a major, Johnny Weida flew the slot during the 1989-90 season. Today, he is a brigadier general and Commandant of Cadets and commander of the 34th Training Wing at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo.

General Weida commands and administers the 4,000-member cadet wing and 930 Air Force support people. His responsibilities include cadet military training and airmanship education, supervising cadet life activities and providing support to facilities and logistics.

A command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours, General Weida received his commission from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1978. His previous assignments have included commander of the 388th Fighter Wing at Hill AFB, Utah, and commander of the Squadron Officer College of the Air University at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

Thunder Rolls: What did you see as your first biggest challenge when you were selected to become Commandant of Cadets?

Brig Gen Johnny Weida: Our greatest challenge was to restore trust and confidence in the U.S. Air Force Academy with cadets, staff and faculty, Moms and Dads and Congress. We went about this task by taking a hard look at how we were training and educating our entire team. We tried to make sure everything we were doing at the AFA was focused and oriented on the operational Air Force. Lastly, but equally important, we needed to set up a robust assessment program to chart our progress. Bottom line: Our vision is to make the USAFA the nation's premier institution for producing leaders of character.

TR: How did your Thunderbird experience tie in as far as preparing you for your duties at USAFA?

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Brig Gen Johnny Weida, Commandant of Cadets and commander of the 34th Training Wing at the U.S. Air Force Academy, leads the "warrior run" during Basic Cadet Training. Weida flew the Thunderbird slot position during the 1989-90 season and was the team's operation officer during the 1990 season. (U.S. Air Force Photo)



Where Are We Now?

(continued from page 1)

JW: The Thunderbirds are our core values in action. My time on the team helped me understand how the Air Force's core values make accomplishing a demanding mission possible.

TR: How did your Thunderbird experiences prepare you for assignments that followed after leaving the team?

JW: My two-year experience on the team helped me see what was possible when you put a dedicated team of professionals together that is focused on the mission. When you first start with the team, you wonder if you will be able to hack it. When you see it is about the team, and not about you, it sets a way of looking at teamwork that has never left me to this day.

TR: What do you remember most about your two years on the team? Is there anything that stands out in your mind?

JW: There are so many great memories, it is hard to pick out one or two. Certainly meeting President Bush, Sr., was a great highlight. I have been fortunate enough to meet his son twice now since I have been at the AFA . . . two great men dedicated to making a difference.

TR: At graduation each year when you are sitting onstage, watching the hat toss as the Thunderbirds pass over, what thoughts are going through your head?

JW: To be honest, I am trying to make sure the flyover goes perfect. The Commandant has a key part in the timing of the flyover. So far, we are two-for-two on perfect openings!

TR: When this chapter of your life is over and you move on to something else, what do you want history to remember about Johnny Weida and his tenure as Commandant of Cadets?

JW: That I made a difference and made it better than when I found it.

TR: What would you tell someone about to finish their tour on the Thunderbirds about Air Force life after leaving the team?

JW: Simply, get over it! Don't make a career out of being a Thunderbird. Be thankful for the awesome opportunity and then go on and do great things.

TR: You are a life member of the Thunderbird Alumni Association. Why would you encourage members of the team to join the alumni association?

JW: There is no better team to be a part of! You were blessed by being part of something very special that few get to do. It is a great way to stay in touch.

– Al Eakle (1989-91)

Editor's note: *Thunder Rolls'* new feature, "Where Are We Now?," highlights the lives and careers of Thunderbird alumni. To submit interesting ideas for future feature stories, please contact Ken Hoffman, orca8489@aol.com or (850) 596-7126.

Cruisin' With the Patterakis-Led Teams

We all know how wonderful it is to attend the Thunderbird reunion in Las Vegas every two years. Has anyone thought about having "mini-reunions" with individual commander/leader-led teams?

Well, this concept appears to have begun in 1996 when the 1975-76 team held a "mini-reunion" in conjunction with the main reunion at Bally's. Several mini-reunions have evolved from that one.

Did you know in 2002 the same 1975-76 Chris Patterakis-led team held a four-day mini-reunion onboard the cruise ship *Carnival Celebration*? Additionally, in 2003, on the Wednesday before the Thunderbird reunion, the entire F-4 Phantom-era held a superb mini-reunion at a local lounge in Las Vegas.

These mini-reunions have produced some of the best camaraderie and team closeness one could ever imagine. Ever since the magnificent 2002 cruise reunion, the 1975-76 team has talked about doing it again, but this time they wanted a seven-day reunion cruise. So, after some arm-twisting, "Chief Thunderpurser" Scott Krantz was talked into organizing another cruise reunion.

On Sept. 25, 2004, the 1975-76 team, under the ever-watchful eye of Boss Patterakis, gathered in New Orleans, La., for what would be seven glorious days of food, fun, swimming, food, drinks, food, camaraderie, fellowship, food, sightseeing, food and many laughs together.

The reunion started with an evening cocktail party at the rooftop pool of the hotel. The next day, it was over to the port and the *Carnival Conquest* (the largest ship in Carnival's inventory). This ship has 22 bars and lounges and an enormous casino to keep everyone busy.

Our first port of call brought us to Montego Bay, Jamaica. What a wonderful port this was, as everyone took advantage of the many shopping and sightseeing opportunities there. After a few more days at sea, we docked at the port of Cozumel, Mexico. Lots of water activities and of course shopping consumed this daylong visit.

While sailing back to New Orleans, the team members discussed the possibility of doing a mini-reunion cruise again. This time the 1975-76 team is currently looking at a seven-day cruise to Alaska for their next adventure in the years ahead.

If other teams are looking to rekindle old friendships and bring former teammates closer together, you just might want to check out this form of mini-reunion. It has really worked for Boss Patterakis' teams.

– Scott Krantz (AGE 1972-76)



Highest Ideals

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen John P. Jumper presents the 2004 General and Mrs. Jerome F. O'Malley Award to Brig Gen and Mrs. Dana Atkins, vice commander of 7th Air Force, during recent ceremonies at the Pentagon. Atkins, former 35th Fighter Wing commander at Misawa AB, Japan, and his wife, Laura, were honored for their outstanding efforts while stationed in Japan. Atkins flew left wing on the Thunderbirds during the 1988-89 season. The O'Malley Award recognizes the wing commander and spouse whose contributions to the nation, the Air Force and the local community best exemplify the highest ideals and positive leadership of a military couple in a key Air Force position. O'Malley and his wife, Diane, were killed in a 1985 aircraft crash while en route to a Boy Scout fund-raising banquet in Scranton, Penn. O'Malley was commander of Tactical Air Command at the time of his death. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

From the Chairman

Dear Thunderbirds:

Happy New Year. I sincerely hope 2005 is full of happiness and prosperity for you and your families.

Your Thunderbird family finished up 2004 in grand style and is off to a good start in 2005. The entire Thunderbird Alumni Association board had the pleasure and privilege of attending the Fitzgerald Award Ceremony and airshow . . . and what a show it was! The Team, under Lt. Col. Mike Chandler's leadership, made us all very proud, both in the air and on the ground. The airshow was superb, and the Fitzgerald banquet was first-class in every way. The Team is doing great.

In addition to attending the Team events, your TBAA board took the opportunity to meet and assess our progress in 2004 and plot a course for 2005 and beyond. Colonel Chandler attended our meeting and gave us an excellent update on Team activities and his outlook for 2005. We elected Chuck Ramey to the board and reviewed our financial condition, among other things. Thanks to you, we are better off financially than at any time in our history. We also had an excellent brainstorming session where we asked ourselves hard questions such as:

- Are we satisfied with the TBAA as is or should it be better?
- What do we want the TBAA to look like in the year 2010?

Here are some of the ideas we came up with. In 2010 the TBAA should:

- Be providing more value to its active members;
- Have a higher percentage of eligible Thunderbirds as active members;
- Be financially sound with dependable revenue sources;
- Have a solid, mutually supportive and institutionalized relationship with the current Team;
- Be producing a tangible product, such as meaningful projects in support of the current Team;
- Have a viable charitable component that is actively engaged in meaningful charitable/educational activities;
- Have a state-of-the-art office and full-time staff; and
- Have a close working relationship with the city of Las Vegas and its leadership.

Of course, ideas are one thing, and bringing them to reality is another. We have a great association, and many who came before deserve great credit for getting us this far. However, in my judgment, if we are not getting better, we are dying, but by all of us working together, we can create the organization we all want. I would appreciate your ideas on how best to move our association forward and to guarantee that the TBAA remains viable and relevant forever.

Chris Allen and Dick Pfeiffer have volunteered to co-chair the Reunion Committee, and planning is well under way for a first-class event. Our emphasis this year is on having an event that is a bit more affordable, but still classy and fun, with lots of quality time just to be together. Please mark your calendars for Nov. 17-20, 2005, at the Las Vegas Hilton. You won't want to miss it.

In closing, let me ask you to support the Team and your TBAA at every opportunity. The 2005 airshow schedule is included in this *Thunder Rolls*; we all need to show our support by attending as many shows as possible. I am confident you will be pleased with what you see. Also, don't hesitate to contact me or other members of your board with any comments or suggestions you might have about the TBAA.

Warmest regards,
Dan Cherry (Commander/Leader 1977-78)



Alumni Award



Richard McSpadden (Commander/Leader 2002-03) has been presented the 2004 LeRoy Collins Distinguished Community College Alumni Award for Region 1, which includes the Florida Panhandle. Awards are presented annually to those community college graduates who display qualities of leadership, team building, outstanding communication skills, problem-solving abilities and a successful career. Although he had an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy, Boss McSpadden chose to attend Gulf Coast Community College, Panama City, Fla., before heading to a major university. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics from the University of Georgia and later a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Troy State University. He is now employed with Electronic Data Systems Corp., in Plano, Texas.

From "Boss" Chandler



When I took command of the U.S. Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron in February 2004, I knew this team was something special. However, I had no idea just how extraordinary until I saw it firsthand as the commander. This past year has flown by and been the highlight of my Air Force career.

We have worked extremely hard to uphold the standards and traditions that make the Thunderbirds the greatest demonstration team in the world. Some of the highlights from the past year are included below.

We began the year with a new music production. General Hal Hornburg, former commander of Air Combat Command, asked Mr. Ed Shipley, an Air Force Heritage Program pilot and television/music producer, to build a ground and airshow music ensemble that all audiences could relate to. The result was outstanding, and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

In addition to the new music, we also have a new communications trailer equipped with state-of-the-art components – from touch-screen computers, to wireless microphones and speakers, to cutting-edge radios and receivers. We are very excited to begin using this piece of equipment.

We also received great exposure from some of the media flights we provided. We flew professional skateboarder Tony Hawk – the No. 1 skateboarder in the world – making him an exceptional Air Force spokesman for our recruiting demographic. Additionally, the History Channel produced a story on the team called *Tactical to Practical*. We flew the host, Hunter Ellis, for the segment that aired in October. Deborah Norville, *Inside Edition's* host, received a flight while we were in Atlantic City, N.J. Her story, aired in September, provided superb coverage. During our annual show at Cheyenne Frontier Days, we flew country music singer Chris Cagel. He has since incorporated the footage of the flight into his show during the song *Chicks Dig It*. All of these opportunities have allowed us to showcase the Air Force in a unique manner.

As you can see, we are working hard to uphold the traditions of the past . . . but are also working to build a bright future. We have taken steps to ensure a successful future by hiring six new officers to the team for the 2005 season. We are lucky to have solid officers to take the Left Wing, Slot, Opposing Solo, Operations Officer, Executive Officer, and Public Affairs Officer positions.

In addition to the new officers on the team, Maj Gen Stephen Goldfein took command of the Air Warfare Center in October. He came from the Pentagon where he was Director, Operational Capability Requirements, Deputy Chief of Staff, Air and Space Operations.

During our 51st season, the Thunderbirds conducted 62 shows at 41 different locations, including the long-awaited PACAF Tour 2004, traveling to Guam, Korea and Japan. The Japan Air Self-Defense Force invited us to perform airshows at Hyakuri, Hamamatsu and Misawa airbases to commemorate the JASDF's 50th anniversary. This was an historic honor for the Thunderbird team. Unfortunately, the team was not able to perform one official demonstration in Japan due to the weather.

We continue to improve and make strides to ensure we are putting on the types of shows we are satisfied with. We appreciate the alumni support received at the show sites this past year and hope

we have made those who have seen us proud. As we look forward to celebrating our 52nd anniversary, know that we are continuing to build on the foundation you have established for us. "Smoke on ready now . . ."

– Lt Col Mike Chandler

2005 show schedules for the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, U.S. Navy Blue Angels and the Canadian Forces Snowbirds.



2005 Show Schedule

Thunderbirds

March 15	Indian Springs AFAF, NV
March 19-20	Luke AFB, AZ
April 2-3	Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ
April 9-10	MacDill AFB, FL
April 16	Laughlin AFB, TX
April 17	Holloman AFB, NM
April 23	Shaw AFB, SC
April 30-May 1	Fort Lauderdale, FL
May 7-8	Smyrna, TN
May 14-15	Langley AFB, VA
May 20-22	Andrews AFB, MD
May 28-29	Wantagh, NY
June 1	USAF Academy, CO
June 4	Peterson Field, CO
June 5	Malmstrom AFB, MT
June 11-12	Rochester, NY
June 18-19	La Crosse, WI
June 25-26	Davenport, IA
July 2	Tinker AFB, OK
July 3-4	Battle Creek, MI
July 9-10	Pittsburgh, PA
July 16-17	Dayton, OH

July 23-24 Terre Haute, IN
 July 27 Cheyenne, WY
 July 30-31 McChord AFB, WA
 Aug. 13-14 Abbotsford, BC
 Aug. 20-21 Chicago, IL
 Aug. 27-28 Westfield, MA
 Aug. 30-31 Atlantic City, NJ
 Sept. 3-5 Cleveland, OH
 Sept. 10-11 Portland, OR
 Sept. 16-17 Reno, NV
 Sept. 18 Mountain Home, ID
 Sept. 24-25 Fort Worth, TX
 Oct. 1-2 Salinas, CA
 Oct. 8-9 Little Rock, AR
 Oct. 15-16 Travis AFB, CA
 Oct. 22-23 NAS New Orleans, LA
 Oct. 26 La Aurora, Guatemala
 Oct. 29-30 Ilopango AFB, El Salvador
 Nov. 2 Acapulco, Mexico
 Nov. 5-6 Randolph AFB, TX
 Nov. 12-13 Nellis AFB, NV

Blue Angels

March 12 El Centro, CA
 March 19-20 Punta Gorda, FL
 April 2-3 Forth Worth, TX
 April 9-10 Corpus Christi, TX
 April 16-17 Wilmington, NC
 April 23-24 Vidalia, GA
 April 30 Charleston, SC
 May 7-8 Cherry Point, NC
 May 14-15 Barksdale AFB, LA

May 21-22 Dobbins ARB, GA
 May 24-25 USNA, Annapolis, MD
 May 28-29 NAS Willow Grove, PA
 June 4-5 McGuire AFB, NJ
 June 11-12 Janesville, WI
 June 18-19 North Kingston, RI
 June 25-26 Evansville, IN
 July 2-3 Pensacola Beach, FL
 July 9-10 Fargo, ND
 July 16-17 Milwaukee, WI
 July 23-24 Muskegon, MI
 July 30-31 Kalispell, MT
 Aug. 6-7 Seattle, WA
 Aug. 13-14 Grand Junction, CO
 Aug. 27-28 Greenfield, IN
 Sept. 3-4 NAS Patuxent River, MD
 Sept. 10-11 NAS Brunswick, ME
 Sept. 17-18 NAS Oceana, VA
 Sept. 24-25 Gainesville, FL
 Oct. 1-2 Millington, TN
 Oct. 8-9 San Francisco, CA
 Oct. 15-16 MCAS Miramar, CA
 Oct. 22-23 NAS Point Mugu, CA
 Oct. 29-30 Chattanooga, TN
 Nov. 5-6 Jacksonville Beach, FL
 Nov. 11-12 NAS Pensacola, FL

Snowbirds

May 14-15 Tyndall AFB, FL
 May 18 Wilmington, NC
 May 21-22 Dobbins ARB, GA
 May 25 TBD

May 28-29 Pope AFB, NC
 June 1 Thetford Mines, QC
 June 4-5 Leamington, ON
 June 11-12 Winnipeg, MB
 June 15 The Pas, MB
 June 19 Trenton, ON
 June 22 Oshawa, ON
 June 24-26 London, ON
 July 2-3 Bagotville, QC
 July 4 Battle Creek, MI
 July 9-10 Moose Jaw, SK
 July 23-24 Grande Prairie, SK
 July 27 Fort St. John, BC
 July 30-31 Lethbridge, AB
 Aug. 3 Westlock, AB
 Aug. 6-7 Comox, AB
 Aug. 9 Whiterock, BC
 Aug. 12-14 Abbotsford, BC
 Aug. 20-21 Saskatoon, SK
 Aug. 24 Thunder Bay, ON
 Aug. 27-28 St. Catharines, ON
 Aug. 31 Brantford, ON
 Sept. 3-5 Toronto, ON
 Sept. 10-11 Halifax, NS
 Sept. 17-18 Reno, NV
 Sept. 21 Ridgecrest, CA
 Sept. 24-25 Fort Worth, TX
 Sept. 28 Tucumcari, NM
 Oct. 1-2 Millington, TN
 Oct. 5 TBD
 Oct. 8-9 Houston, TX



Out of the Past

Boss Parish presents a Team litho to an official at the 1973 New Orleans airshow following one of the last shows in the F-4 Phantoms. From left to right, Thunderbird pilots are Roger Parish, Nels Running, Mike Blaisdell, Tim Roels, Kirk Brimmer, Doug Roach and Al McArtor. Absent is Gil Mook.

If you have a historical photo you would like included in "Out of the Past," send it to Ken Hoffman, orca8489@aol.com.

2005 Thunderbird Officers



In his second year with the Thunderbirds, Lt. Col. Michael Chandler is commander/leader. Chandler graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1986. He has logged more than 3,800 hours, with more than 3,400 of those in the A/OA-10, F-15C/D and F-16C/D. “Boss” Chandler calls Cedar Falls, Iowa, home and is married to the former Joni Campbell of Revere, Mass.

In his first season, Thunderbirds operations officer Maj. Jeremy Sloane flies the No. 7 aircraft. A native of Federal Way, Wash., Sloane entered the Air Force in 1992 from the U.S. Air Force Academy. A seasoned instructor pilot and flight examiner, Sloane has logged more than 1,700 flight hours, including 1,500 hours in the F-16B/C/D. Sloane is married to the former Lisa Kinman of Federal Way, Wash.



Maj. Rusty Keen, in his first season with the Thunderbirds, flies the No. 2. Earning a Master of Science Degree in Industrial Engineering Technology from Southwest Texas State University, Keen was commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1994. A native of Ledbetter, Texas, Keen has logged more than 2,000 hours as an Air Force pilot, with more than 1,000 hours in the F-16C/D.

Second-season Thunderbird pilot Maj. David Haworth flies the No. 8 aircraft as the team’s advance pilot and narrator. A 1995 U.S. Air Force Academy graduate, he has more than 1,500 hours in the A/OA-10 and F-16C/D aircraft. Haworth calls Orange, Texas, home and is married to the former Kathryn Morse of Standish, Maine.



Maj. Brian Burns, in his second year with the team, flies the No. 3. A 1993 U.S. Air Force Academy graduate, Burns has served as an F-16 flight examiner and instructor. He has more than 2,000 flying hours, with more than 1,700 hours in the F-16C/D. Burns calls Woodbridge, N.J., home and is married to the former Kathryn Dullack of San Juan Capistrano, Calif.

Maj. Henry Lau, in his second year on the Thunderbirds, is the team’s flight surgeon. He has logged more than 300 hours as an Air Force flight surgeon, with time in the F-16D and HH-60. Married to the former Kelly Jo Murphy of Clare, Mich., Lau calls Los Angeles, Calif., home.



Burleson, Texas, native Maj. Steve Horton flies the No. 4 slot – his first year on the team. He is a 1993 U.S. Air Force Academy graduate. Before his Thunderbird assignment, Horton was an F-16C instructor pilot and flight examiner at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. A senior pilot, he has logged more than 1,600 flying hours, with more than 1,300 of those being in the F-16C/D. Horton is married to the former Heather Krohn of Colorado Springs, Colo.

Capt. Todd Randolph is in his first year with the Thunderbirds as the team’s executive officer. Randolph enlisted in the Air Force in 1989 and received his commission in March 2000 through Officer Training School. Calling Baltimore, Md., home, Randolph is married to the former Penny Thompson of Upper Marlboro, Md.



Lead solo pilot in the No. 5 aircraft is Maj. Scottie Zamzow. In his second year with the Thunderbirds, he has logged more than 2,500 hours as an Air Force pilot, with more than 1,500 hours in the F-15E and F-16C/D. Zamzow earned a Bachelor’s from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1994. Married to the former Landra Van Geem of Wichita Falls, Texas, he calls Victoria, Texas, home.

A second-year Thunderbird, Maj. David Moreland is the team’s maintenance officer. Moreland graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy with a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1995. He calls Cleveland, Ohio, home and is married to the former Michelle Gerbing of Seattle, Wash.



Maj. Brian Farrar is in his first year as opposing solo. A graduate of Virginia Military Institute, he entered the Air Force in 1994. He has flown more than 1,600 hours in trainer and fighter aircraft, with more than 1,300 of those in F-15 and F-16 models. He is married to the former Katie Lee of Virginia Beach, Va.

Capt. Angela Johnson is in her first year with the Thunderbirds as public affairs officer. She is a 1997 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. A native of Kingsley, Mich., and a graduate of the Defense Information School at Fort Meade, Md., Johnson oversees the team’s publicity programs by directing specialists in public affairs, photography, graphic arts and broadcasting.



Gone But Not Forgotten

SSgt John A. Zblewski USAF (Retired)
(Electrical Support 1971-73)
Died February 9, 2005

SSgt Henry "Hank" K. Burgess III
(Quality Assurance 1984-87)
Died June 6, 2004
Widow: Donna Burgess



SSgt Henry "Hank" K. Burgess III

Reunion Quickly Approaching

Mark your calendars to join fellow Thunderbirds for the 2005 reunion and help the Nellis community celebrate the end of the team's historic 50th year calling Nellis Air Force Base home.

"The TBAA is working closely with Lt Col Chandler and the entire Nellis community to ensure the upcoming 2005 reunion underscores the strong partnerships between the team, Nellis Air Force Base and Las Vegas as a whole," said Dan Cherry (Commander/Leader 1977-78), TBAA chairman. "The reunion this November allows all Thunderbird alumni to help the current team mark the coming 50th anniversary of the squadron's relocation to Nellis in 1956. We also plan a special tribute to all Honorary Crew Chiefs and Honorary Thunderbirds, so you won't want to miss it."

The 2005 reunion will take place Thursday, Nov. 17, through Saturday, Nov. 19, with the Las Vegas Hilton serving as the headquarters hotel, hospitality center and Saturday evening banquet facility. This year's reunion theme of "Celebrating 50 Years at Nellis Air Force Base" is guiding reunion planning.

"We hope that this year's reunion will reflect all Thunderbirds' deep gratitude to Nellis Air Force Base and Las Vegas for 50 years of friendship and hospitality," said Chris Allen (Photo 1988-91), 2005 reunion co-chairman and TBAA board member. "The Thunderbirds, Nellis Air Force Base and the people of Las Vegas have been great partners since 1956, and we are pleased that this year's reunion will help commemorate this historic milestone."

Fellow TBAA board member Dick Pfeiffer (Aircraft Maintenance/Crew Chief 1975-76) will join Chris in chairing this year's reunion.

For more information on reunion plans or to volunteer to serve on the 2005 Reunion Committee or any one of the subcommittees (golf, banquet, etc.), contact Chris Allen at chrisallen@oldwestmuseum.org or (307) 778-1416.

Directory Corrections

The 2004 Thunderbird Alumni Association Membership Directory was mailed to "Active" members of the association in December. Two of our members were listed as "Gone" but are very much still kicking up the dust.

Everett Peckham (Crew Chief 1954-56) and Jack Scott (Electrician 1955-57) both send their best wishes to all.

We regret this mistake within the database and will print further corrections of this serious nature in *Thunder Rolls*.

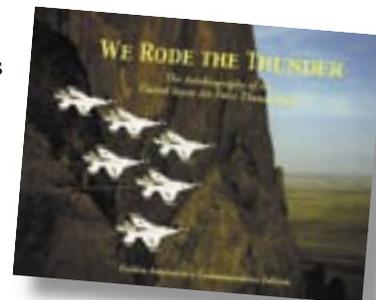
Our database of over 2,000 names is never 100 percent correct, nor will it ever be, due to daily changes that are not provided to the TBAA office. Each time a mailing goes out, the returned envelopes with forwarding addresses help, but it is our hope that each member will take a minute to send their new information to Doris Wilson at the TBAA office.

— Dick Pfeiffer

"We Rode the Thunder" Second Edition!

For those of you who told us you had a great story if we ever did a second or follow-on book, this is your chance. No, there isn't going to be a second edition anytime soon, but *Thunder Rolls* wants to share your story. Submittal deadline for the summer issue is May 15. For more information or details, contact: Ken Hoffman, (850) 230-8489, orca8489@aol.com.

We Rode the Thunder books (third printing) are now available from MT Publishing, <http://www.mtpublishing.com>, or call (888) 263-4702. (Discounts available for multiple copies.) The TBAA receives a percentage of sales.



Annual Dues

Notices for 2005 annual dues were mailed to the membership Jan. 3. If you did not receive yours or know of someone who did not, contact Doris Wilson at the TBAA office (702) 871-7197 or via e-mail at DoeWilson@aol.com.

Keep in mind that it is the association's policy that reunion invitations are sent to "Active" members only.

— Dick Pfeiffer, TBAA Treasurer

Thunder Rolls is published by the USAF Thunderbirds Alumni Association, Dan Cherry (C/L 1977-78), Brigadier General USAF (Ret), Chairman; Doe Wilson, Administrative Secretary. TBAA, 7661 Angel Crest Circle, Las Vegas, NV 89117; Phone (702) 871-7197; Fax (702) 871-9043; E-mail DoeWilson@aol.com; www.tbaa.org.

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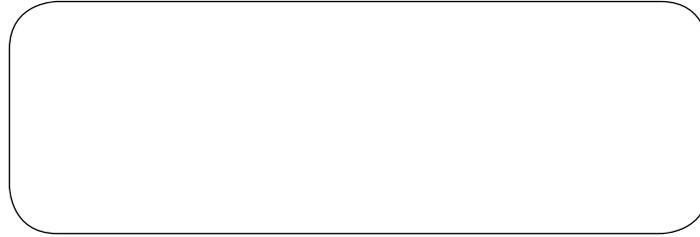
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THUNDERBOLLS

THE USAF THUNDERBIRDS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Recruiting - on a Small Scale

The 2004 U.S. Air Force Thunderbird pilots are joined by two mini-Thunderbirds F-16s during the March Air Reserve Base, Calif., airshow. The two pint-sized "aircraft" are used by U.S. Air Force recruiters and are often seen drumming up business by rolling around the flight line during base events.

(Courtesy Photo by Dennis Hall)

