



## *Alumni Association News Letter*

Oct 09

# The Installer

**\*\* EST. PAY DATE:\*\* AS SOON AS YOU TURN 60!**

**\*\*Dates are subject to change\*\* so quit whining**

Upcoming UTA's for 2009

7 - 8 Nov 2009

5 - 6 Dec 2009

**216<sup>TH</sup> ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

10110 Scotch Pine Rd  
Klamath Falls, OR 97603  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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## Alumni Association Notes

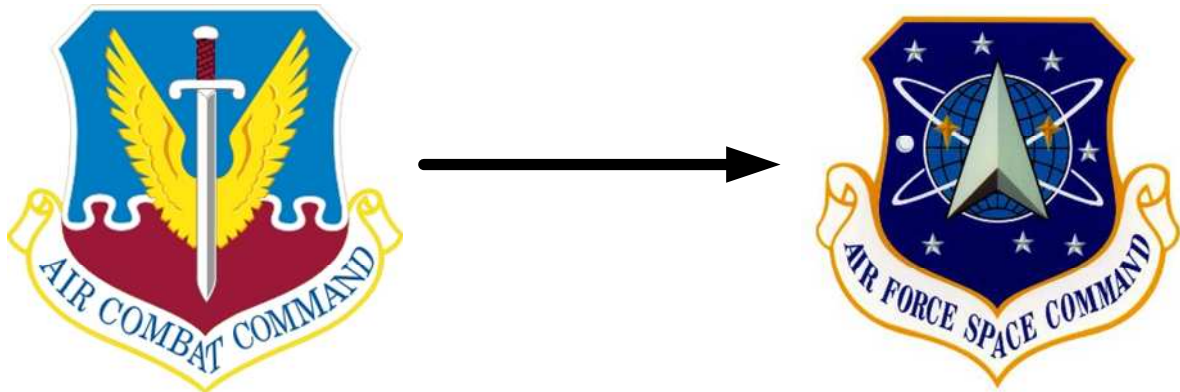
Hello again all. As of publication of this Newsletter, we added a few “life members” to our membership. Lt Col Finnefrock, SMSGT Ron Prince, SMSGT retired Terry Nelson and MSGT retired Doug Howd. We really appreciate your commitment to the Alumni Association! Don’t forget you can still be a year to year dues paying member.

I don’t really have a lot of news to report. I still hear about a lot of changes in the EI community. Many of the folks we worked with from other units have retired or moved on the new jobs. I have only been retired for a little over a year and most of the folks at the Guard Bureau we worked with have also moved on or retired. I saw an announcement the other day where they hired a civilian STEM-C at NGB. They hired retired Chief Ed Diehl from the 211 EIS. He was the STEM at the 211<sup>th</sup>

**MAJCOM Changes:** Recently we were notified of the following change;

“Effective 1 October 09, the gaining command for the following units will change from Air Combat Command to Air Force Space Command.”

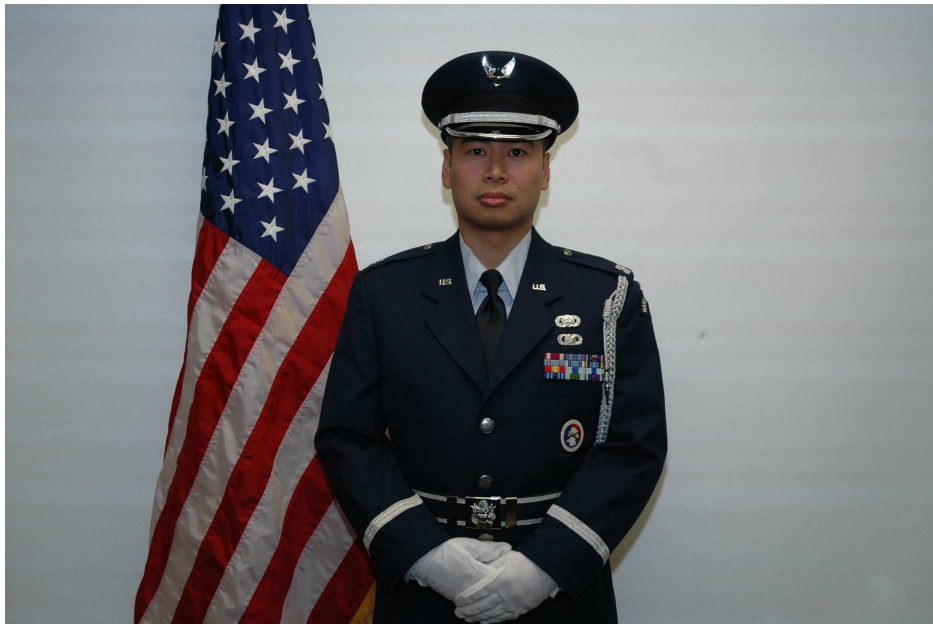
The effective units are all remaining E&I, and Combat Command units. You can draw your own conclusion if that was a bad or good move. But I’m sure we can all agree that E&I as we once knew it will have to remain a memory. Even more reason to keep organizations like this Alumni Association alive!



**TDY News:** SMS Quen was provided the following concerning TDYs. Somewhere around the end of this month (October), MSgt Steve Repetto will be deploying for a 6 month deployment to an undisclosed location, and it's not Iraq. We hope to get a update as to where Steve is as soon as he can relay that information. Where ever it may be, please keep Steve in your thoughts and prayers. BTW, where ever he is the 216EIS flag will be with him to continue our legacy.



In addition, SMS Quen learned that Maj. Ray Dejesus will also be deploying before the end of the year. There again, more information will be shared as the time grows closer.



As you can see, troops of the 216EIS continue to serve our country, and for some it may be in 'harms way'.



## WEDDING BELLS

The weekend of October 10, MSgt Bill Foster (shown below) proposed to his girlfriend Nicky. As stated in Bill's own words, "I wanted to make sure that it was memorable weekend. The evening of her arrival we took a very romantic walk on the San Antonio river walk. It is a very nice place to walk and for that matter a very nice place to propose marriage. As we stood near a waterfall that I had studied the week before I professed my love, got down on one knee and asked Nicky to marry me. She accepted my proposal and the ring fit fine. The weekend turned out to be exceptional!"



**REUNION:** We talked a little about a reunion last year but we didn't pull it off. Maybe we should do that every two years instead of every year? I didn't get a lot of feedback or ideas about a reunion but I bet if we just go ahead and plan one people will come. Last year was a rough year for us and we had to cancel vacation plans. If all goes well this year Dana and I should be able to spend a couple of months in California. That will allow me time to work on a reunion. More later on this subject.

Please let me hear from you if you have any news that you would like to put in the newsletter or on the web site. And, as always we are looking for historical photos or documents.

Please send anything you have to Ben or myself: My email is: [jack.davis@des.us.com](mailto:jack.davis@des.us.com)  
I check this email most often.

Jack Davis, CMSGT retired  
216<sup>th</sup> Alumni Association

**Another Quen joins the ranks of the “Top Three” as told by SMS Benjamin Quen.**

You who are now or have been a member of the ‘Top Three’, do you recall when you made E7? It probably went something like this. It was during a formation or commanders call and your name was called to post in front of the squadron. Someone read the order, and you were given your stripes and maybe a ‘Top Three’ coin. The other ‘Top Three’ members lined up and shook your hand and then it was back to work.

Well that’s not the way it is done in the Navy. Last month, the Chief’s in my son’s command invited me to participate in the events leading up to the pinning of the Chief’s anchor on my son. Marshall is stationed at Kings Bay Naval Base, GA and is serving aboard the Trident Submarine USS Rhode Island and is assigned to the torpedo division. Six months prior to the pinning ceremony, the selectee is mentored by a Chief on what it takes to be a Chief, and the responsibilities which they are about to assume. The final event is referred to as ‘Transition Night’. While I can’t give you the details I can tell you that it was full of tradition, and profound meanings. From 1330 of day one until around 0730 of day two they participated in several physical and mentally challenging events which started with a reflective message for consideration. When ‘Transition Night’ was completed the new Chief’s were tired, wet, and muddy. The last thing they did was an individual march through the pit up to their commander where they requested to be a Chief. Every one of them had tears in their eyes as they reached that moment. After getting cleaned up and dressed, we were back to the Goat Locker (our SNCO Club) for the pinning ceremony. Below are a couple of pictures of the ceremony.



Receiving his Chief cover (2<sup>nd</sup> from right)



Myself and Monica (wife) pinning.



Monica, Marshall, Me, Karen

**RETIREMENT:** I'm sure some of you remember Chief Richard Primrose. He was the EI FAM (Functional Area Manager) at NGB for several years. He was the driving force at NGB on many large projects that our unit worked on the last few years that we were in Hayward. Many of you worked on these projects but may not have known how hard Chief Primrose worked behind the scenes to make it happen. He is a good friend and I had the pleasure of working with him on several of those projects. It would take an entire news letter to list all the other good things that Chief Primrose did for the EI Community. Best of luck Chief! Chief Primrose will retire at a ceremony at NGB on 19 October, 2009.

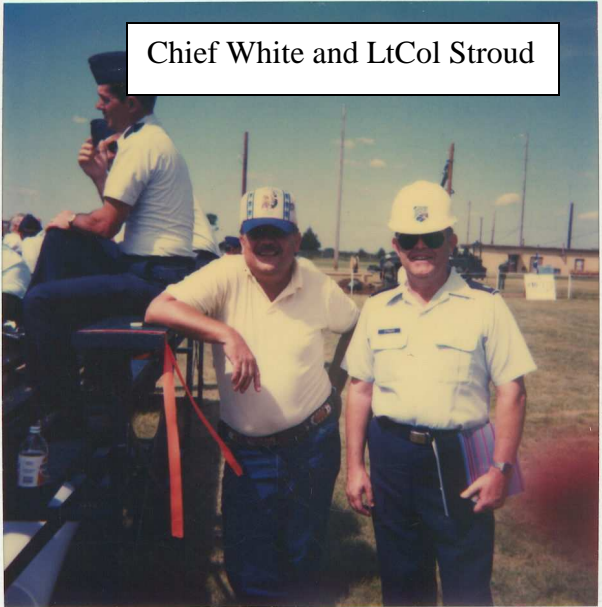
I can't believe that after all the years of working with Chief Primrose that this is the only picture of him that I can find on my computer. That's him on the right peeking over the windshield of a golf cart. He, Mike Smuin, Danny Martelotta (212 EIS) and I had a great day on the golf course at Turtle Bay in Hawaii. We were on the Cable Pipeline project..... I know, somebody had to do it.

Jack Davis, CMSGT retired



## 1987 EI SHOOTOUT

Chief White and LtCol Stroud



### 216th EIS (ANG)

\*MSgt Michael E. Robinson  
MSgt Terrence W. Nelson  
TSgt Irvin F. Clark  
TSgt Douglas E. Howd  
TSgt James L. Kilcoin ✓  
TSgt Jaime Valenzuela  
SSgt Howard J. Decker  
Sgt Stephen D. Craig *CPR*  
Sgt Benedict A. Valente ✓  
Sgt Raymond R. Vidicki  
SrA Thomas L. Alexander  
SrA Roderick W. Mitchell



PACKING CARGO FOR TEAM SPIRIT 1987

