



Volume 15, Number 3

# TAC MISSILEERS

## NEWSLETTER

“Serving the mace and matador missile crews and all support personnel who fought and won the cold war”



Fall 2013

Keep in touch with the Organization and stay on top of the latest goings-on by visiting your web site often at [www.TacMissileers.org](http://www.TacMissileers.org).

### Notes from Joe Perkins and Bill Simpson

The San Antonio reunion was truly a team effort and I commend the team for their hard work. I also would like to thank all the Missileer members that participated in this years reunion making it a great success. I wish to welcome aboard our new Secretary and personal friend, Dave DeRain ([k8esq@sbcglobal.net](mailto:k8esq@sbcglobal.net)) I know he will be a great and energetic member to the team. I hope the members will be thinking about the next one in Boston in 2015. I am now in contact with people about accommodations for the next reunion will know more next year.

#### Joe Perkins

Hello to everyone in our TAC Missileer family. Another reunion is behind us and I have to say this was one of the best. Being situated right on the Riverwalk gave us the opportunity to get out and enjoy many destinations. I arrived a few days early and the place was wall to wall people. The Riverwalk was so crowded I expected to see someone falling into the water. With no guardrails it looked scary. But after the Labor Day weekend was over the place cleared out and for the most part we had the hotel to ourselves. The bar area was just perfect for sitting around with old friends telling all those old stories again. First I want to thank Max and Russ for all the work they did to get it all organized. The BBQ at the ranch was especially special. Good food, good music and great friends made for a super evening. The storm that passed through just added to the experi-

ence. The tour to the “new” Lackland was also great except I couldn’t identify a thing from my basic training days. I spent three months at the Medina Annex in 1972 and that place has changed 100%. Let’s see---that has only been 41 years. Time moves on. The tour got off to a rough start when our lead bus driver took down a no parking sign using the bus windshield. As the tour progressed the windshield cracks were spreading out. I know the driver was not looking forward to returning to his office.

While it is premature to talk about reunion 2015 I’m already thinking about our visit to Beantown. There is so much history in that area I’m sure we will find plenty of things to do. The reunion 2015 survey you completed in San Antonio will be used in planning the Boston get together. The question about free time versus organized tours ended in almost an even split. There were strong feelings on both sides. I would like to come up with a shopping list of available tours and let the membership vote for the most popular. I want to thank everyone for their support by attending the reunions.

Now we shift our thoughts to the upcoming holidays to close out 2013. I wish everyone a safe and healthy holiday season. **Also congratulations to Dave DeRain as our new TAC Missileer Secretary.**

#### Bill

### TAC Missileers Reunion San Antonio, TX – September 6, 2013 17:15 Hours

The 2013 business meeting was called to order by **Bill Simpson** (TAC Missileers President) at 1715 hours. **Tony Valovich** (TAC Missileers Chaplain) led the group in a moment of silent prayer followed by the invocation. Bill then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Bill welcomed attendees to San Antonio and introduced the TAC Missileers Officers starting with **Joe Perkins** (Executive Director), **Max Butler** (Treasurer / Membership Director), **Art Gust** (Historian), **Russ Reston** (Secretary / Webmaster) and **Bob Bolton** (Newsletter Editor).

**Russ Reston** (Secretary) gave a “shout out” to **Max Butler** for playing the key role in the organization’s day-to-day activities, as well as the reunion planning and coordination. Russ then read the minutes from the 2011 Reunion in San Diego. They were accepted as read.

**Max Butler** (Treasurer), gave a brief overview of the organization’s financial status, advising there is a current balance of approximately \$25,000, before payment of expenses to Pat O’Brien’s for the evening’s buffet (approximately \$5,000).

**Art Gust** (Historian) advised that the memorabilia area would be open until approximately 2000 hours and that any materials left after then would be donated to the Museum of the Air Force in Dayton.

**Bob Bolton** (Newsletter Editor) reminded attendees that he is always looking for content for the Newsletter. Input is much appreciated. While photos may be better suited for the website, text and stories make the newsletters interesting and informative. Please send your newsletter input to Bob.

#### Discussion Items: Old Business:

- **Website password:** Russ reiterated that its intent was to encourage TAC Missileers membership, by allowing newsletter access and website subscription to active members only. Russ reminded the group that the current password is (*not shown*) and it is the same password for all members. The group’s consensus was to continue password use to limit newsletter access.
- **Alaskan MM1:** Bill advised the group that an MM1 is for sale (\$50,000) in Alaska and asked if there was any interest in obtaining it for restoration. Joe suggested that \$50,000 is probably “over our head.” Attendees agreed. A motion was made, seconded and approved. No action will be taken to obtain the MM1.
- **Mt. Soledad Plaque:** At the 2011 meeting, **David Coddington** had suggested placing a TAC Missileers plaque on Mt. Soledad (San Diego). Russ recommended that no action be taken. A motion was made, seconded and approved. No action will be taken to place a plaque on Mt. Soledad.

#### New Business:

- **Website:** Approximately 6 months ago, Russ advised the Officers that he planned to step down as webmaster and asked them to find a replacement. The search was unsuccessful. As an alternative, Russ advised that he was willing to continue on as webmaster if the organization would make a small monthly contribution (\$30) to the charity of his choice. **Max** presented **Russ’** proposal to the membership. Much discussion ensued. Some members felt the any contribution should be made only to a military related charity. Russ responded that the charity had to be to the one of his choice. As an alternative, it was suggested that Russ be paid \$30 / month to be used however he wishes. The suggestion was amended to \$360 / year. A motion was proposed and seconded. Russ will receive \$360 / year for webmaster services, to be used however he wishes.
- **Election of Officers:** The floor was opened to nomination of Offices. All Officers, except Russ, advised that they were willing to continue serving in their current position. Russ advised, regrettably, that he would not be standing for re-election. **Larry Idleman** nominated **David DeRain** to become Secretary. **Ray Lischka** seconded the nomination. Joe, Bill, Max, Bob and Art were re-elected in their current positions and **David DeRain** was elected Secretary, replacing Russ.
- **2015 Reunion:** Bill reviewed the results of the survey that was included in the Reunion welcome packages. (There were 47 respondents.)
  - 83% indicated they planned to attend the 2015 Reunion. The remaining 13% were unsure.
  - 81% would like to see more tours offered.
  - 53% would like to see the Reunion held in a permanent location.
  - 44 locations were nominated for the 2015 Reunion (each survey form allowed 3 locations to be nominated). The top 5 were: Denver – 41 votes, Orlando – 42 votes, Boston – 34 votes and Washington, DC – 26 votes

**Gary Colsch** proposed that 2015 location be decided by a vote of the top 3 (Denver, Orlando and Boston). His proposal was seconded and approved. Result of the subsequent vote was: Boston – 34 votes; Denver – 32 votes and Orlando – 24 votes. **The 2015 Reunion will be held in Boston.**

Curtis McKee stated that at an earlier Reunion (?), it was decided that Embassy Suites would be used for all future reunions. The Officers advised that Embassy Suites would be considered for the 2015 Reunion.

**Tony Valovich** gave the closing prayer.

**Ray Lischka** led the attendees a in a round of applause for the Officers and all their efforts.

The meeting adjourned at 18:00 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

**Russ Reston** Outgoing TAC Missileers Secretary *ps – I’d like to say thanks to everyone for their support during the last 4 years that I have served as TAC Missileers Secretary! It has been a pleasure and I have enjoyed interfacing with y’all. Regrettably, for personal reasons, I am unable to continue my role as your Secretary. My regards and best wishes to all.* **Russ**

TACMISSILEER CORP. FINANCIAL REPORT		
1/1/13-10/1.13		
Balance -----1/1/13 -----	\$26,830.63	
Due's taken in 2013 -----	\$2,445.00	
Sales--Patches, Hats, Badges -----	\$634.00	
Reunion Monies taken in -----	\$14,470.00	
	Total-----	\$44,379.63
Expense:		
Reunion Banquet---Cibolo--	\$12,110.00	
Pat O Bryans -----	\$5,040.00	
Newsletter Printing -----	\$381.25	
Postage -----	\$90.00	
Web-site fee--1 yr. (Russ) -----	\$360.00	
B.Simpson--(Flag & Printing) ----	\$55.38	
S.W. Grafix (Patches) -----	\$362.50	
Aeroemblem-(Patches)-----	\$507.50	
F. Blackman--(Missile Badges-)	\$340.15	
TOTAL -----	\$19,246.78	
		\$44,379.63
TOTAL EXPENSE-----	\$19,246.78	
		-----
BALANCE----- 10/10/13 -----	\$25,132.85	

**Welcoming New TAC Missileers Members**

Membership Director Max Butler informed us that the following Matador and Mace Missileers have been added to our membership, welcome aboard!

**Harold Connell...** Bitburg, 71st 1964 -1967

**Robert Sims...** Sembach, 822nd TMS

**Daniel Tissier...**Patrick & Bitburg, 1st PBS 1954-1956

**James Weeks...** Kadena, 873rd 1962 - 1963

**Albert J Mac Elrath...** Hahn 1954 - 1957

I want to personally acknowledge the wonderful gift that **Sid Segler** presented to each TAC Missileer Officer following the business meeting in San Antonio.

It is a small piece of TM76A Mace Missile History consisting of a magnifying glass (lens). Inscription read "This magnifying glass" is a part of the ATRAN guidance system of the TM76A Mace Tactical Missile. It was part of the video converter which was used to compare actual terrain over which the missile was flying to the 35mm film strip representing the terrain over which it was programmed to fly. This lens was one of two which focused the rotating light source through another camera lens through the film for comparison.

Bob Bolton

**From the new Secretary**

First of all I would like to thank everyone for their enthusiast support after finding a "sucker" to run for the job of Secretary.

For those of you that don't know this guy that got *elected* (and I use the term loosely) to the job of Secretary, here is my life's history in a sentence or two:

I grew up in Detroit and while I did work for Chrysler, my main hobby and passion in life is ham radio which I have been involved in since 1957. I joined the Air Force in 1962 and went through Lackland, Lowry, and Orlando. From there I arrived at Hahn AFB Germany in late 1963 where I worked in the Test & Repair shop until early 1966. I re-enlisted in Germany and retrained into PMEL back at Lowry. Then it was on to Loring AFB Maine (a lovely place!) and L.G. Hanscom Field just outside Boston where I left the Air Force in 1969. We moved back to the Detroit area and in 2004 I retired from Chrysler Corp. as a Sr. Electronics Engineer. The Air Force gave me the travel bug and we have been back to Hahn twice, been on several cruises, and I have been in all 50 States of the US. I have my wife Claudia, a daughter Cindy, and a son Eric.

After I left Germany, I remained in contact with two of the guys that I worked with over there, Mark Johnson and John Ball. John disappeared some six or eight years later. Then many years later came a notice of the Reunion in Las Vegas where I became reacquainted with some old friends, made some new friends, and met up with a bunch of ham radio enthusiasts who were stationed at Sembach. They had been meeting on the radio every Sunday night for years after leaving Germany, so I joined them and we meet every Sunday on 14.343 at 2300Z and discuss any number of things. Any other ham radio operators out there are more than welcome to join us.

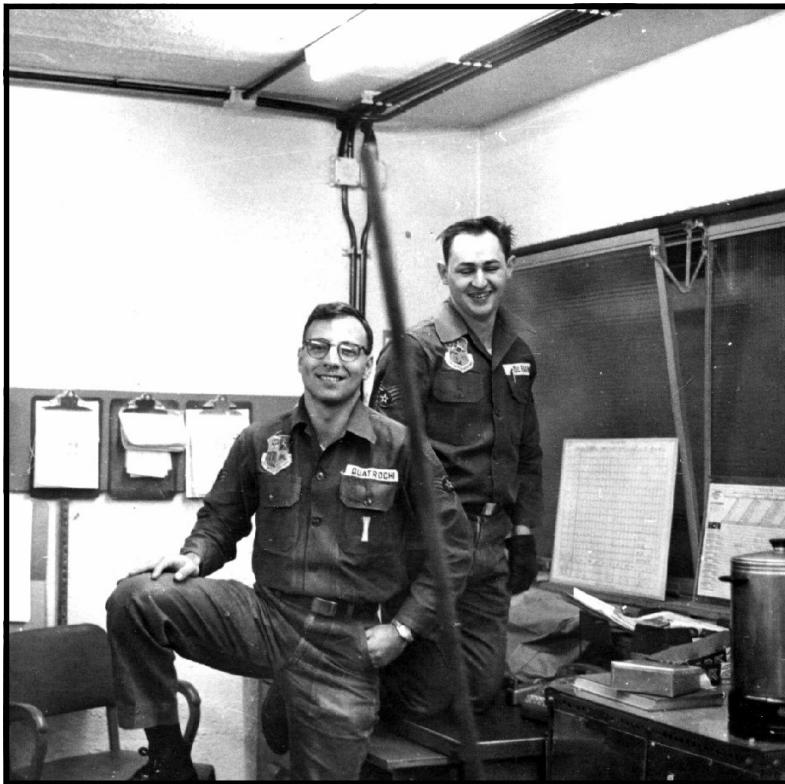
At every reunion, this year being no exception, I have met one or two first time attendees who were friends or acquaintances from Hahn or Lowry. So I am thankful for having these reunions and all who attend for bringing back so many great memories (and some more humorous than great) of the times we had in Germany.

On a sad note, one of the great guys that the reunions had brought me back in contact with was **Carmen Quatrochi**. He and I worked together in the Test & Repair Shop at Hahn. Carmen lost his battle with cancer shortly after this year's reunion which he was unable to attend. Carmen and his wife Natalie lived off base at Hahn and a finer person would be hard to find. I know that the married first term airmen had a tough time financially, but Carmen and Natalie had a good time there, and in the shop Carmen was a guy you knew would get the job done. He will be sorely missed by all his friends and family. (See Photo On Back Page, ed.)

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Boston in 2015.

**Dave DeRain K8ESQ**

**TAC MISSILEERS CORP  
MAX BUTLER  
5625 Pearl Dr.  
Suite "F" Box 120  
Evansville, IN 47712**



**Carmen Quatrochi and Dave DeRain. See Dave's letter on page 3**