

6918<sup>th</sup> RSM / SS

## Summer 2016 Newsletter



Happy summer to the 6918<sup>th</sup> gang! We hope you're enjoying the warmer weather and all that it brings. Your oversight crew is doing well overall, with Bill Mink requiring a newer pacemaker model, done successfully. He says he feels like he's 10 years younger! Dave had minor shoulder surgery to remove a bone spur, but the doc reported no other tears or damage, so he's healing nicely too. Stan's a busy camper, what with overseeing 2 estates, doing some woodworking (or making sawdust, as he calls it), as well as his own health challenges, he's busier than he'd like to be, now for longer than he expected. Bob and Carol are doing gangbusters!

Speaking of Bill Mink, we've been in the process recently of transitioning our treasurer duties and recordkeeping from him to Carol Farr, which is now nearly complete. Bill decided it was time for his retirement from active organizing/accounting/etc., so Carol has picked up that work as the corporate treasurer. That means that check payments for merchandise and registrations will now come to her. We appreciate the years of service we got from Bill Mink, and thank him sincerely for his efforts. Good for us that he'll remain on our board of directors and plans to attend future reunions.

How many of you have recently stopped by to visit our [www.6918thhakata.com](http://www.6918thhakata.com) web site?? Any that did over the past couple of weeks probably got a surprise—the public web site has been totally refurbished and updated with a more modern and device (computer, phone or tablet) friendly format. We decided it was time to make some changes, given the challenge we had with getting new things posted to the site in a timely way—so we finally opted to contract a professional webmaster for the site. It made SUCH a difference and we've already added a number of new photos and updates to the refurbished site. Please go there and spend some time poking around. See the flight photo galleries. Visit the theaters. See the memorials. Enjoy the history and relive the reunions you may have attended via the photos posted there.

Other notable updates allow you to enjoy more fully our BX with updated instructions for payments. Coming soon, we expect to add PayPal service to the BX, allowing you to make merchandise (or other) payments directly on the site—we'll let you know when this service will start. We also updated the USAFSS sites area and links to other Security Service related units.

Also a change involving the web site, this and future newsletters will be sent out to you directly from the web site, using an e-mail service we added called Mail Chimp, which allows us free e-mailing, using a format easily opened and viewed by any device, and with extra hands/help/guidance from our own webmaster. You can also sign-up or update your e-mail address for newsletters on the site now!

Overall, please look it over at some length, and let us know what you think. If you don't see something you'd like—tell us. If you don't see Airman Fred's photo—send it to us so we can include it for you! If you have additional photos you'd like to see posted there—all you have to do is let us know & we'll try to make it happen! So, go poke around—you can do no harm—and we think you'll enjoy spending time there! (Which, of course, is the idea!!)

One of the things that makes us very proud is when we get photos and news items from our members who have planned and executed their own 'mini' reunion with other 6918<sup>th</sup> friends. In March of 2016, just such a gathering happened, and here are the details:

Some of us are planning a "mini-reunion" over burgers and beer at Logan's Roadhouse in San Antonio at 11:30am on Wednesday, March 2nd, and if you're in the area we would love to have you join us for a couple of hours. Logan's is located at 12477 W IH-10, between Heubner and DeZavala, and they have a party room where we can gather -- away from the normal lunch crowd.

If you can join us, please drop Rass an email at [rasstus1@gmail.com](mailto:rasstus1@gmail.com) so we can have a ballpark number for the restaurant. I'm looking forward to seeing some of you there.



Around the table from lower left-hand corner: John Lieberman, Dave Naab, Dennis "Rass" Rassmussen, Ken Belcher, Gil Cadena, Rod Teuscher, Paul Culp, Billy Mayo, and Bob Hale.



Bill Francis (on the right) dropped by Logan's Roadhouse towards the end of the luncheon. It was great seeing this fellow C-flyer after many years (49), and was surprised to learn he's lived in the San Antonio area several times during that time. Flight groups attending: A, C, D and Days.

The 6918<sup>th</sup> Corporation has been a 501(c)(19) corporation since late 2012. Currently, as of our 2015 meeting, the board of directors was expanded to 7 members (from 4). Current board members are: Dave Bethard, Chairman, Bob Farr, Vice-Chair, and board members William Spencer, Fred Barnes, Bill Mink, Stan Freymuth, and Wayne Graczyk. The corporate officers are currently Bethard, President; Bob Farr, Vice President; Stan Freymuth, Secretary; and Carol Farr, Treasurer. Several committees are operating currently also, one being the Membership Committee, another the Reunion City Selection committee, another being the Website Management, another the Reunion Events Oversight (to be activated upon completion of the city selection committee work), as well as the Contributions Search Committee. You'll be pleased to know that all are operational and staffed currently.

I spoke by phone a few days ago with Don Dickson who heads the Reunion City Selection committee. Don had his own cardiac issues recently, however, he is recovering nicely. The committee is using Armed Forces Reunions (AFR) to assist with city selection and overall management of the selection process, and has chosen Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the city choice for a 2017 reunion! Site visits, final hotel selections and evaluations are still underway, however, perhaps by mid-July we'll have some final details about where and when to share with you!

It's not too soon to begin thinking and planning for donating raffle items for the 2017 reunion fund raising efforts. Linda Freymuth is already at work making some beautiful patriotic needle point items for framing and raffling. The raffles and silent auctions were a highlight from our 2015 reunion, as you'll see if you watch the '[2015 Winners All](#)' video on-line in the Brady Theater. If you know of something you'd like to offer—contact Carol Farr!

Are you seeing items of interest to you? Do you have items you want to share with our members? What can we add to make the newsletter better for you?? Please tell us!!

As previously mentioned, the 6918<sup>th</sup> is now a 501(c)(19) corporation and can accept your tax deductible contributions in any amount. Your help and support are appreciated!

Send us your topics for the next newsletter! As soon as we have final arrangement details for the 2017 reunion, we'll send out a **6918<sup>th</sup> News Squawk** for you, to bring you up to date!

Until then....thanks to Carol for her help putting this together, and to Nadine for helping to get it out.

The Gang.....