



OSOTMG NEWS

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 1

DECEMBER 2015- JANUARY 2016

* **NEXT MEETING WILL BE FEBRUARY 2, 2016, SOCIALIZE AT 11 am, MEETING STARTS AT 11:45 AM AT TREA 39, 15821 CENTRETECH CIRCLE, AURORA, CO 80011. Please remember to RSVP for the Luncheon to Paul Turner 303-366-6770, cost is \$12.00. LUNCHEONS ARE NOW EVERY MONTH. CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO: [HTTP://WWW.OSOMG.ORG](http://www.osomg.org)** *

Important Frequently Used Phone Numbers

140th Phone #'s

Casualty Assist

720-847-6946

Family Support

720-847-9116

460th Phone #'s

RAO (Retired Activities
Office)

720-847-6693

Legal

720-847-6444

Other Phone #'s

CODMVA

303-343-1268

www.colorado.gov

Deputy Director

CODMVA

Mickey Hunt

720-250-1510

303-249-0146(c)

michael.hunt@

dmva.state.gov

TRICARE (UNITED

HEALTHCARE-WEST

1-877-988-9378

TRICARE for Life

1-866-773-0404

Social Security

1-800-772-1213

TREA 39

303-340-3939

COUGAR TALES:

www.140wg.ang.af

mil/cougartales.asp

DECEMBER 1, 2015 MINUTES

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag of The United States of America by DO Neary. The Invocation was prayed by Joe Broom.

Our guest speaker was LTC Mitch Neff 140 Maint GP/CC since February of 2015. He is from Ohio and has 23 years in the military. He briefed us on the 140 Wings' deployment Feb-May 2015 to Korea. Then the unit supported A-10s at Nellis AFB in Sep 2015. In Oct 2015 the 140 Wing conducted a 4 day internal inspection under the new self-inspection system reporting the results to the AF IG via the internet. Now in March of 2016 the 140 Wing will participate in "Combat Archer" at Tyndall AFB and will shoot missiles. In July 2016 the 140 Wing will deploy to Hungary and Slovenia and practice close air support with the Army for 3 weeks. Then in 2017 the 140 Wing will deploy to Korea as a part of the AEF (Air Expeditionary Force) with 3 ANG units, D.C., N.J and the COANG. Because of the deployments, there are no more "summer camps".

Joyce Saitta briefed on the status of the NGACO. Deb Wray, NGACO administrator, will be leaving in February 2016, and they will be hiring a new person in the near future. We need to talk about our folks joining the NGA-CO, EANGUS and NGAUS to facilitate battling (continued on page 2)

Committee Members:

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*Contribution Checks should be made payable to "OSOTMG" can be mailed to Paul Turner at 1945 Ensenada St., Aurora, CO 80011-5353.

DECEMBER 2015 MINUTES CONTINUED

for our Veterans benefits such as health care, 2 UTAs for each day of drill and to obtain Veteran's Status for Guardsman not in a warzone.

Chuck Hoffman briefed us on the status of the Air Heritage Museum. There will be a new shadow box for MajGen France from Carole France just left of the current display since he just passed. They are also going to remove the pictures of AGs and Chiefs from the display. Hangar 909's storage of historic items is being moved to different room with more space. All of the old trophies have been given away. The Link Trainer will be kept in the hangar storage. E-9ers club needs more folks to join the ranks of the current 300 people. CAMANA Club items are stored in Hangar 909.

COANG Christmas Party is the Dec 6 UTA at 0730 in Hangar 801.

Sick Call: Jan Love, Joe Broom, Bob Herbst (in rest home)

Birthdays present were Jack Darveau, DO Neary and Dewey Hicks.

There are surplus "Hats for Heroes" available.

We still are looking for "Howdy Duty" stories from BGen Mathias, BGen Neuens, and Col Mike Bertz.

Meeting closed and we will meet again on January 5, 2016.

DECEMBER 2015 ATTENDENCE *1ST TIMER

Paul Turner
Linda Turner
Golden Sherman
*Mitchell Neff
Bill Frazier
Tony Burczyk
Kenneth Forrest
Dan Heinz
Sy Harjes
DO Neary
Chuck Hoffman
Harry Wales
Bonnie Rought
Randy Rought
Joe Broom
Sonja Broom
Dale Bristol

Judy Pock
Joyce Saitta
Monroe Mathias

DATE BOOK 2015/2016February 2016

2nd- OSOTMG MEETING AND LUNCHEON

14th- Valentine's Day

15th- President's Day

March 2016

1st- OSOTMG MEETING AND LUNCHEON

27th- Easter Sunday

April 2016

5th- OSOTMG MEETING AND LUNCHEON

May 2016

3rd- OSOTMG MEETING AND LUNCHEON

8th- Mother's Day

30th- Memorial Day

June 2016

7th- OSOTMG MEETING AND LUNCHEON

19th- Father's Day

July 2016

4th- Independence Day

5th- OSOTMG MEETING AND LUNCHEON

Sick Call



Stan Minarsky
Jan Love
Bob Herbst

Taps



Larry Meis
Annie Gurrini (Angelo's Wife)

JANUARY 2016 ATTENDANCE *1ST TIMER

Paul Turner
Linda Turner
Bill Frazier
Jerry Smith
DO Neary
Geraldine Pawley
Kenneth Forrest
Gary Olson
Sy Harjes
Andy Andrews
Sue Andrews
Golden Sherman
Dewey Hicks
Harry Wales
Arlo Sorheim
Reed Lutz
Tony Burczyk

Dan Heinz
*John Hickey
Joyce Saitta
Monroe Mathias
Dale Bristol
Larry Mayo
* Ed Hauschild

FEBRUARY 2, 2016 LUNCHEON

The FEBRUARY meeting will be catered by Golden Sherman for \$12.00 per person. RSVP with your check or cash at the meeting OR mail your check made payable to "OSOTMG" and send it to Paul Turner, 1945 Ensenada St., Aurora, CO 80011-5353.

DECEMBER 2015

JOANN BARBER
BETTINA BLEDSOE
JON BRIDGMAN
ANGELA CAVENER
BOB CHERRY
JOHN CONROY
JACK DARVEAU
DONALD GOE
RUSS GOTTENBOR
DAVID HATCH
TERRY HATCHETT
NANCY HEINLE
DEWEY HICKS
LOIS HOOPS
BRYAN JORDAN
BEVERLY KALCITS
ESTRING KIDSTON
PEGGY KLAPP
CRAIG LAUFERT
YOLANDA LEGGETT
ANDY LOVE
KEN LOVE
DON LOVISONNE
KEN LUCERO
DEE MACLAUGLIN
BARBARA MALDONADO

MARGARET MCGAFFIN
JIM MIELKE
EVAN MITCHELL
DON NEARY
ROSEMARY PAOLILO
LARRY PETERS
MIKE POPOVICH
DIANE RICHARDS
SUSAN SCHNURSTEIN
GREG SHORT
DENNIS SIMPSON
BRENDA STEVENS
ROSE SUPRENANT
JOHN SWENSON
MARTHA ANN TAYLOR
WAYNE TAYLOR
FAYE WEICKUM
PEPPER WEIMER

Birthdays



SUZANNE ANDREWS
JOE ASHBY
BONNIE ASHER
RALPH BERNHARDT
BILL BLUMBERG
HAROLD BREWER
JOHN CHRISTOPHER
LINDA COBLE
CHARLOTTE FARMER
SMOKEY FIELDS
DAN GAY
DARRELL HANSON
KAY HARNKE
CHUCK HOFFMAN
BEN IRVIN
MAI JORDAN
KAREN KYRITZ
JOHN LE VAN
VERLENE LEE
REED LUTZ
JO MCDONALD
WILLIAM MCGAFFIN
RON MCHENRY
SANDY OVERFIELD
GERALDINE PAWLEY
ANNE NEUENS

JANUARY 2016

ELLEN NISHIKI
SHIRLEY PFISTER
DEB POPOVICH
TOM ROCHFORD
VAL RODEKOHR
HAZEL RUTTER
EVA SHREVE
DIANNA SEILER
HAL SMETHILLS
JERRY SMITH
CURT SQUIRE
CAROL SWANSON
JAMES TIPTON
DEB WRAY
JAMES WEICKUM
TAMSIN THISTLEHAWK-RANCK

JANUARY 5, 2016 MINUTES

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of The United States Of America by DO Neary. Paul said the Invocation.

Out guest speaker was Chief Ed Hauschild from the 140 Maint Grp-Ammo. He was born in Florida, grew up in Mexico and graduated from Overland High School in Aurora, Colorado. He is a Technician with the Equipment Maintenance Flight in Ammo and AGE. He will take over QA when Chief Greenwood retires. He briefed us about "Combat Archer" in Florida at Tyndall AFB in March 2016. The summer will be the deployment of the 140 WG to Slovenia and Hungary. Fall deployment will be Las Vegas, to Nellis AFB for training exercise. Then to PACAF to Japan(Korea) in Spring of 2017. Vermont ANG is getting the first F-35s and will be sending their F-16 Simulator to the COANG. The AGE shop will have a new building built in the next year. Chief Greenwood will be retiring in February 2016.

John Hickey was our "first-timer".

Chief Saitta briefed us on the NGACO State Conference and Military Ball at the Omini-Interlocken Hotel in Broomfield, Colorado from 29 April to 1 May 2016. The Retiree breakfast is slated to change from Saturday, 30 April as a breakfast to Friday 29 April and will be a Lunch at the hotel. More to follow, so be sure and check the website, NGACO.ORG for more details and to register. Legislative concerns are the possible cost for the current free Tricare For Life for retirees 65 and older who have Medicare Part "B". Also, the battle is on for retaining the current UTA pay of 4 days pay for two days of drill. So, join the NGACO, EANGUS AND NGAUS to help fight these battles and other concerns on the horizon.

Retirements for SMSgt Dave Thornburg at 140 CF, 1400, Saturday, 9 January, Bldg 700, Wing Auditorium; SMSgt Kevin Dorsey, 1230, Sunday, 10 January, 140 MXG, Hangar 801, and retirement ceremony for CMSgt Keith McNail, 1400, 10 January, 140 LRS, Bldg 340, VM Bay.

Sick Call: Stan Minarsky.

Taps: Annie Gurrinni, wife of Angelo (Security Police).

Birthdays present were Suzanne Andrews, Reed Lutz, Geraldine Pawley, and Jerry Smith.

We expect "Howdy Duty" articles from BGen Mathias, BGen Neuens, Col Bertz and James H. Harvey III, Lieutenant Colonel, USAF (RET) Tuskegee Airman and legendary aviator.

We closed and the next meeting will be on February 2, 2016 at TREA 39 location.

Interview with James H. Harvey III, Lieutenant Colonel, USAF (RET)
A Twist on Top Gun Conducted by Dewey Hicks Master Sergeant COANG (RET)

On 16 November 2015, I had the honor and privilege to interview Lieutenant Colonel James H. Harvey (USAF Retired), a Tuskegee Airman and legendary aviator. I was greeted at his home by a soft spoken gentleman with piercing eyes and a firm hand shake. He would neither brag nor complain. He reiterated facts that have been documented by many organizations over the years. The final results are a collaborative effort with my associates: Mrs. Barbara Wilcots, PhD. She was the overseer for accuracy of this article and its editor. Ronald Blackmon, an aviation enthusiast and longtime participant with Tuskegee Airmen events. Steve Shepard whose nephew Bill Shepard is Vice President of Education with the Commemorative Air Force and squadron leader of the CAF Red Tail Squadron. Bill is also a P-51 pilot. Captain H.T. Joyce USN (RET), military historian. Lieutenant Colonel Elwood Glaser COANG (RET) consultant.

Born 13 July 1923 in Montclair New Jersey, James H. Harvey III was drafted into the Army in April of 1943. He applied for Cadet Flight Training when he was stationed at Fort Meade, Maryland. He passed all tests with high scores but was assigned to the Army Air Corps Engineers to grade and bulldoze areas of the jungles in the South Pacific Theater in order to build airfields. Being a persistent individual, he reapplied for Cadet Flight Training and was accepted. Ten men took the exam for pilot training. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey was the only African American. Only two men passed the test, Lieutenant Colonel Harvey and one other gentleman. After basic training in Biloxi, Mississippi, he took his primary training at Moton Field (part of the Tuskegee Institute). From there, he was transferred back to the Tuskegee Army Air Field for Basic Training in the BT-13 and Advanced Training in the AT-6. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey graduated from the Flight School on 16 October 1944 as a Second Lieutenant.

Here at Buckley Air Force Base, we are all familiar with the 140th Tactical Fighter Wing winning the "World Champs" award by flying their A-7D's into history during the USAF inaugural Gunsmoke competition held at Nellis Air Force Base in September of 1981. We were Buckley Air National Guard Base back then. Hats and tee shirts were printed. Videos of Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Schultz and his team landing were shown at the CAMANA (Civilians, Air Force, Marines, Army, Navy, ANG) Club. There was a special pride of being a part of Team Buckley and the Colorado Air National Guard.

In 1986, the successful release of the movie Top Gun, led to a wide belief that the Top Gun competition was a Navy competition involving F-14 Tomcats. In fact, on 18 September 1947 the Army Air Forces became the United States Air Force. In May of 1949, the young Air Force decided to flex its muscles and hold the very "First Top Gun" weapons meet. The meet is alternatively called William Tell and Gunsmoke. The competition was between the three highest scoring fighter groups. It was held at Las Vegas Air Force Base (now Nellis Air Force Base). As part of the 332nd Fighter Group Weapons Team, Lieutenant Colonel James Harvey III flew the Republic P-47-N Thunderbolt in the competition. The P-47 was the workhorse of WWII. It had a radial engine and a weight of 10,000 lbs. or 5 tons when empty and close to 8 tons fully armed. Competitors flew the P-51 Mustangs and F-82 Twin Mustangs. Commander of the 332nd, Benjamin O. Davis, only the fourth African American to graduate from West Point at that time and a person driven to succeed in all aviation assignments during WWII, told his unit with a wry smile "if you lose, don't come back". Lieutenant Colonel Harvey informed me that any accolades should go to his Aircraft Maintenance Personnel. He commented that he would not have been in the competition without them. Lieutenant Colonel gives a lively description of the competition. "The competition consisted of skip bombing where you fly a few feet off the ground and release a bomb which lands flat and skips into the target. Each pilot had six bombs for skip bombing. Captain Temple, Lieutenant Stewart and I aced it, we scored six for six.

We had aerial targets as well as ground targets which we hit with our 50 caliber machine guns, mounted in the wings. Aerial gunnery was done at 12,000 feet and 20,000 feet. We performed dive bombing, rocket firing and panel strafing. Captain Temple was ahead on strafing. We were allotted a fixed amount of ammunition to complete the tasks. We were doing very well when a plane from another Fighter Group in the competition had to be replaced. When he returned, he put a barrage of bullets into the strafing panel." I asked Lieutenant Colonel Harvey about a rumor that had been floating around for years. Was the plane that was taken out of service replaced with a new plane and extra ammunition? Extra ammunition would have been against the rules. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey confirmed that this was a suspicion but refused to accuse anyone. It would not matter. 1st Lieutenant James H. Harvey III, 1st Lieutenant Harry Stewart, alternate pilot 1st Lieutenant Halbert Alexander, and Captain Alva Temple went on to win the first USAF Top Gun.

Because Black Aviators were not acknowledged in the 1940s, this major achievement was not recognized at the time. In its annual almanac, the Air Force Association magazine which educates the public about the critical role of air power in defense listed the 1949 winner of the meet as "Unknown". The trophy disappeared for 46 years. "Recognition was brought about by the unrelenting effort of Colonel William A. Campbell, Commander of the 332nd Fighter Group. "Lieutenant Colonel Harvey recalls. Zellie Orr, President of the Tuskegee Airmen chapter in Atlanta went on a mission to find the trophy. She was successful. In 1995 she found it in a storage area of the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. Once the information was presented to the Air Force, a change order was produced. The Air Force Association almanac now shows the winner of the 1949 weapons meet to be the 332nd Fighter Group.

Lieutenant Colonel Harvey has a long and distinguished career. His military service would take him to Korea where he would become the first Black Jet Fighter Pilot to fly missions over Korean Airspace. He flew 128 missions in support of the ground troops. In 1951, he was assigned as Assistant Operations Officer and Instrument Instructor Pilot of the 94th Fighter Interceptor Squadron of George Air Force Base, California. In 1955, he was assigned as Flying Safety Officer of the 27th NORAD Region, Norton Air Force Base, California. During this same year he received his rating of "Command Pilot". In 1956, he was assigned as Fighter Training Officer of NEAC Headquarters at Peppermill Air Force Base Newfoundland. In 1959, he was assigned as Assistant Group Operations Officer of the 1st Fighter Wing at Selfridge Air Force Base Michigan and subsequently assigned as Operations Officer of the 71st Fighter Interceptor Squadron flying F-102 aircraft at Selfridge Air Force Base Michigan. In 1961, he was assigned to Headquarters 30th NORAD Region, Truax Field Wisconsin as a Weapons Director Staff Officer and subsequently assigned as Battle Staff Training Officer for the Commanding General and his staff. He retired from the Air Force on 31 May 1965.

In 2012, Lieutenant Colonel James H. Harvey III was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Colorado Aviation Historical Society. Among the many symbols of success in his house is a key the city of Birmingham Alabama given in 2013. He also has a replica of the "First Top Gun" trophy which is in the center of all other awards and trophies. He did share that his loving wife, Pauline M. Harvey, passed in 2014. I asked him about his thoughts of flying all of the aircraft that he did. He responded, "Any pilot worth his salt would want to fly faster than he did the last time". In his autobiography he states "Attitude is the key in life. Keep a positive attitude and don't associate with people who have a negative attitude" By the end of the interview, I came to regard Lieutenant Colonel Harvey as an Officer and a Gentleman. He is a true warrior of the skies. A grateful nation thanks you and we render a salute of pride and thanks.

During his legendary career, he has flown the PT-49, BT-13, AT-6, P-40, P-47, P-51, F-80, F-86, T-33, F-89, F-94, and the F-102.

His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with 10 Oak Leaf

Clusters, Distinguished Unit Citation with 10 Oak Leaf Clusters, Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Army Occupation Medal (Japan), National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal with 2 Bronze Stars, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with 4 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Reserve Medal, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, and United Nations Service Medal.



U.S. Air Force Captain Alva Temple, 1st Lieutenant James Harvey, 1st Lieutenant Harry Stewart, and 1st Lieutenant Halbert Alexander with their 1949 Weapons Meet trophy in May 1949 at the Flamingo Hotel, Las Vegas Nevada.



P-47
on Run-
way and
Cockpit



A picture proudly hung on Lieutenant Colonel James H. Harvey III's wall



**Lieutenant Colonel James H. Harvey III
USAF (RET) “First Top Gun”**



2016 NGACO Conference/ CONG Military Ball
29 April - 01 May 2016
CONG Military Ball: 30 April 2016
OMNI INTERLOCKEN HOTEL- BROOMFIELD

➤ **29 April**

- Travel
- Social
- Air/Army Membership Discussions
- *Retiree Luncheon*

➤ **30 April**

- Silent Auction
- NGACO Roles and Goals
- Legislative Overview
- Guest Speakers
- NGACO Business Session #1
- Army/Air Legislative Break Outs
- Military Ball/ Casino Night

➤ **01 May**

- Silent Auction
- NGACO Business Session #2
- Travel

