

From: Garrett Moore <garrettmoore@verizon.net>
Subject: Geodetic Survey Squadron/Group, Newsletter #74, June 2018, Distribution 8
Date: June 12, 2018 at 6:42:11 PM MDT
To: "Garrett R. Moore" <garrettmoore@verizon.net>

Greetings, Fellow Veterans of the Geodetic Survey Squadron and Geodetic Survey Group!

And Happy Flag Day! I know---it's a day early for Flag Day, but I'm about to hit the road again and wanted to get this news out ASAP. We are heading to New England to visit kin and friends and to get in some seaside air!

You might be interested to know that the Stars and Stripes originated as a result of a resolution adopted by the Marine Committee of the Second Continental Congress at Philadelphia on June 14, 1777. The resolution read: "*Resolved, that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation.*" However, the resolution was less clear about the shape and placement of the stars, so early flags were not consistent in appearance. All that has long since been resolved. An additional five-pointed star has been added for each new state admitted to the union. Hawaii became the fiftieth state to be added in 1959 giving our current flag 50 stars.

Coincidentally, Flag Day is also the 243rd birthday of the US Army----*HOO-aaahhhh!*

Not to diminish the achievements of the USAF, but remember, it was the Army Air Force before becoming a separate service in 1947!

Reunion News:

Our next triennial reunion in Cheyenne is approaching fast! I received some startling news recently, thanks to **Rick "Scouter" Eckhardt** (Data Reduction, FEW, 1981-82). Says Rick:

"The Radisson has changed hands again, and is now *Red Lion Hotel & Conference Center.*"

We had just become accustomed to *not* calling it the Holiday Inn anymore, now it's no longer the Radisson! I was also somewhat annoyed with the reservation service, but finally got my room reserved. We plan to arrive a day or two early and leave a day or two after the reunion, just to take care of reunion business and unwind a bit afterward.

After a nervous check with **Jack Studley** (Gravity, FEW, 1971-75), our point man

in Cheyenne, to make sure that our contract with the Radisson would still be honored for the reunion, I can assure you that we remain locked in for the weekend of August 3, 4 & 5, 2018, and we will have the same events as the previous several reunions at that location. Says Jack:

“...You are correct, the Radisson is now the Red Lion.

Our contract remains in place and in good order.

Judy is still our point of contact.

Phone numbers and registration requirements remain the same...”

Thanks, Jack, for checking on this!

The hotel has reserved a block of rooms at a special conference rate for our veterans: \$91 per night.

To make reservations call:

Red Lion Hotel and Conference Center

204 West Fox Farm Rd

Cheyenne WY 82007

Hotel phone: 307-638-4466

If you plan to attend, I highly recommend making your reservations now!

IMPORTANT: When making reservations, be sure to refer to: “GEODETIC” or “Event #1006” to obtain the special conference rate! PLEASE NOTE: The Red Lion also has special rates for military and first responders, so make your reservations using the best deal available to you!

How to Reserve Reunion Meals and Events:

Reserve your selected meals and activities and pay me for them by check *BEFORE* the reunion. (Cost for each meal and activity is shown below.) **Send me a snail-mail note** identifying your selected meals and activities, how many of each (if you are bringing one or more guests), and include payment with a check for the total amount. Feel free to copy, paste and print the following template to accompany your check.

DATE:

SUBJECT: 2018 GSS/GSG Reunion Event Reservations

YOUR NAME :

NAME(S) OF YOUR GUEST(S):

ADDRESS:

PHONE (in case of a problem):

The Friday evening 'Meet & Greet' is pay-as-you-go for drinks; the hotel will provide free snacks of a savory mix of pretzels cheese crackers, almonds, poppy seed crackers, melba toast and herb crackers, plus tortilla chips, salsa and popcorn.

#__ BUFFET LUNCHEES @ \$26.00 per person): \$ _____

#__ WINE & CHEESE SOCIAL @ \$5.00 per person: \$ _____

#__ BREAKFAST BUFFETS @ \$19.00 per person: \$ _____

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR TOTAL AMOUNT: \$ _____

Mail your meal/activity reservations and payment (check only) to:

Garrett Moore

6406 Stonehaven Ct

Clifton, VA 20124

Please reserve your room and meals well in advance of the reunion (**recommending no later than 10 July**) so that the hotel has an accurate count of how many attendees to expect and how many meals to prepare. ***Pay ME for meals, not the hotel! Pay by check only!*** I will settle with the hotel at the end of the reunion. ***If you try to pay at the door during the reunion, you may be out of luck or the hotel may add a hefty surcharge!***

Here's a repeat summary of the reunion information:

- Red Lion has blocked rooms for the reunion at the special rate of \$91 per night plus tax. (It may be possible to get a better rate as a military veteran or first responder—just ask when you make your reservation.) Remember to say you are with the Geodetic Survey reunion or “event #1006.”

- Agenda (so far):
 - Friday – August 3rd: **Meet and Greet** from 6:00 pm-11:00 pm (**cash bar**), free snacks provided by the Hotel. (Room location to be announced in the lobby.)
 - Saturday - August 4th: **Two-Entrée Buffet lunch** from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm - **\$26 per person**, including tax and tip. (Room location to be announced in the lobby.) Recognition and awards to be presented. Afternoon tours on your own.
 - Saturday Evening - Aug 4th: **Wine and Cheese Social - \$5 per person**, the Rawhide Room hospitality suite. (Time to be announced later.) We also request that those attending bring a bottle of wine or other favorite beverage. Cheese and other snacks will be provided.
 - Sunday - Aug 5th: **Farewell Breakfast Buffet** from 10 am until 1 pm - **\$19 per person**, including tax and tip. (Room location to be announced in the lobby.)

- Lunch menu on Saturday, Aug 4, 2018 - 11:00 am

Mixed garden salad with three dressings

Brown Sugar Rock Mustard Salmon

Beef Tips and Noodles

Oven Roasted Potatoes

Fresh Vegetables Medley

Rolls & Butter

Assorted Dessert Bar

Beverages: Coffee, Ice Tea and Water

- Breakfast Buffet, Sunday, August 5, 2018 - 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Fresh Seasonal Fruit Display with Cinnamon Yogurt

Assortment of Muffins, Breads and Pastries

Freshly Scrambled Eggs

Hickory Smoked Bacon and Sage Sausage

Country Potatoes

Buttermilk Biscuits & Country Gravy

Orange, Apple & Cranberry Juice

Fresh Brewed Coffee

Assortment of Hot Herbal Teas

NOTE: In the past, the hotel has accommodated the special dietary needs of our veterans. If you are a vegan or vegetarian, have food allergies or other special dietary needs, be sure to make that known to the kitchen ahead of time when you arrive. There will be no difference in the pricing for special meals.

On Saturday afternoon after the lunch buffet, plan to take in Cheyenne's other local delights on your own or with small groups of old friends, you can get a good idea of some options here: <http://www.cheyenne.org/things-to-do/>.

For Campers and RVers

For those of you coming to the reunion by camper or recreational vehicle (RV) or otherwise planning *not* to stay at the Red Lion Hotel and Conference Center, here is some information about campgrounds in the vicinity:

- Crow Creek Fam Camp on FEW - 307-773-3874

<http://www.rvparkreviews.com/regions/wyoming/f-e-warren-afb/crow-creek-famcamp-military-camping-only>

- Terry Bison Ranch, south on I-25 - 307-634-4171

<http://www.rvreview.net/rvparks/terry-bison-ranch.html>

- Restway Travel Park, east on Hwy 30 (4212 Whitney Road) - 800-443-2751

<http://restwaytravelpark.weebly.com>

Here's another link that lists and rates campgrounds in the Cheyenne vicinity:

<http://www.rvparkreviews.com/regions/wyoming/cheyenne>

Update on the GSS/GSG Commemorative Coins:

Thanks to **Dick Winslow** (Stellar Camera, FEW, 1966-70), our Webmaster, artwork for the final design of our commemorative coins and pendants is now available for you to see on our GSS/GSG website! Dick has placed a link prominently on the homepage that will take you to the coin images or you can click here: <http://geodeticsurvey.mysite.com/PhotoPages/2018Coins.html>.

Please review the four designs at our website and make your selection.

The molds have been cut and the coins are already in production. They should be available for shipping by the end of this month. For this initial run, we will mint only 45 of each coin design and five more of each for the pendant or key fob design. This latter design includes a fused bezel and loop to convert the coin to a neck pendant, key fob or other hanging decoration.

The cost for each coin is \$7.00 plus shipping and handling

The cost for each pendant is \$9.00 plus shipping and handling

How To Order Your Coin(s)

To order your coins, please send me **a snail-mail note** (no e-mail, please) using the template below. Feel free to copy and paste the following into your note:

DATE:

YOUR NAME:

SHIPPING ADDRESS:

#__ COINS (without bezel) @ \$7.00 each:\$ ____

#__ PENDANT (with bezel) @ \$9.00 each:\$ ____

S & H PER ORDER (up to four items): \$ **6.00**

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR THIS ORDER: \$ ____

NOTE: Treat orders for more than four items as an additional order requiring another \$6.00 shipping and handling fee. Please enclose a check or money order with your order for the total amount and mail it to:

Garrett R. Moore

6406 Stonehaven Ct

Clifton, VA 20124

As soon as I have delivery of the coins and pendants, I should be able to turn around your order within a day or two after receiving it, and you should expect to receive your items roughly one business week from the time you mail it to me. Coins will be enclosed in sealed plastic bags and mailed in bubble-wrap padded envelopes.

NOTE: The coins will not be available for sale or pick-up during the reunion. My plan is to distribute all ordered coins by mail order only until sold out, hopefully BEFORE the reunion! The good news is that if there is sufficient demand, I can reorder as many more of each coin or pendant as needed, including the original sold-out design offered in 2015! However, reorders will have to wait until after I return home from the reunion and post-reunion road trip.

Update on GSS/GSG History Projects:

In the May newsletter I mentioned that I had sent **Myke Weiskopf** of station KCRW 89.9, Santa Monica, the story and photos of the two-year photo calibration survey that took place in the Southwest and other US locations in 1965-67. As you may recall, Myke stumbled on one such calibration pad deteriorating in the Mojave Desert and spotted our 1381st GSS survey disk in the pad. That eventually led him to our website and to me. Myke plans to follow up the information I sent him with interviews of the original crew and a possible broadcast on his station in the future. Meanwhile, **Dick Winslow**, our Webmaster, has also posted the document in the “Memento Documents” section of our website. You may view it here: <http://geodeticsurvey.mysite.com/Documents/Calibration%20Surveys%20Final%20Draft.pdf>

In the May newsletter I also mentioned that **Brodie Thompson** (Survey, FEW, 1991-93), currently working with NGA in St Louis, has asked if we have a list of all the GSS/GSG commanders. We did not have such a list at the ready, but a number of you responded quickly with some names and even some photos. Says **Rick Rogers** (Survey & Sat Tri; FEW & Det 4, 1972-79):

“Regarding commanders and First Sgts: LTC **Robert Furry** was commander between LTC **Holloway** and Col **Heiniger**. First Sgts, while I was there, were MSgt **Harry Speltz**, SMSgt **Sherrill (Pete) Peters** and SMSgt **John Walker**. Great 1st shirts all. Given the type of unit we had we needed great First Sgts. SMSgt **Gerry Weber** was acting First Sgt for a while, as there was a gap between Speltz and Peters. Gerry was superintendent of the Geodetic Branch after Chief Sells retired. He had come from Malmstrom when Det 2

closed.”

Joe Kinnan (Gravity, FEW, 1968-70; GSS Commander, FEW, 1986-88) also had some input and even sent a photo from his time as GSS Commander. Says Joe:

“...I've tried to enclose a photo of when I was the GSS Commander (1986-88); I retired in 1988. I replaced **Fritz Frieauf**. I also had the Gravity Division from June 1968 to January 1970...then I departed for Squadron Officer School). Colonel **Holway** was the Commander when I was there in 1969. I think he replaced Col. **Marty Selinfreund**. Bless u...Joe”

Joe Zebrowski (Survey team chief and section chief, inertial, gyro, gravity, and conventional surveys, FEW, 1985-89; Operations Officer and then Commander, Det 1, Vandenberg, 1986-89) also provided his input and a photo of himself as a Det 1 commander. Says Joe:

“...Regarding former GSS/GSG Commanders, Colonel **Clifford Herron** was commander during the last year or so that I was with the squadron/group. I left in Dec 1989. He was an interesting fellow. I recall him saying that he started his career as an enlisted man in 1955 and had almost his entire career in Sigint. I was commander of Det 1 from 1986 - 1989. Attached is a photo of me at around that time (I wish I had an action photo! May be Bob Tyszka will find one). I was superseded by Capt **Bob Philips**...”

Here are the names we have come up with for Commanders in approximate chronological order. We have only a few definite dates and only two photos, so far. We still need lots more input on First Sergeants and Detachment Commanders.

Hq Commanders:

Harry “Pete” Peterson, 1959-? - the first Hq commander in Orlando,

Russel Greenlees, ??

Martin Selenfreund, 1966-69? the first Hq commander after the move to Cheyenne in 1965

Orlando Holway III, 1969-73? - the first Hq commander after the transition to DMA in 1972

Robert Furry

Keith Heiniger

Larry Beers

Gordon Barnes, 1975-??

Lyn Sheldon

Fritz Frieauf,

Joe Kinnan, 1986-88

Clifford Herron, 1989-??

ACTION ITEM: I'm appealing for help, especially from surviving spouses or family members, and any civilian or military veterans of the Squadron/Group, who had a long history working in the orderly room or who managed the Squadron's scrap book, to come forward with a list of commanders, and if possible, their dates of service as commander, and photos, if available. As an extra, a list of GSS/GSG First Sergeants and Detachment Commanders and their photos would also be nice to have for the record.

Messages from the Field:

Bob Tyszka (Survey, FEW, 1983-86; NGA Support team, Edwards Range, 1992-2017) had requested help from the newsletter audience for information on a GSS survey disk labeled TATUM 1970, which had been photographed by a friend. Says Bob:

“Garrett, A friend of mine from Cheyenne now lives in Hoquiam, WA. We were in the Cheyenne Camera Club together. I got an email from him today. He is working on updating info on some slides in his collection. He was asking about a USAF Geodetic Survey Mark, TATUM 1970. All of the old records were moved to St. Louis and lost, along with the Arc of the Covenant.;-). Does anyone remember that station and can give a brief location or find it in Google Earth? Thanks; Bob T.”

Gordon Barnes (Acting Commander and Deputy for Ops, FEW, 1975-78) had a most intriguing reply to Bob's request, and so far, his is the *only* response. Says Gordon:

“...When I got into the MC&G business in 1966, fresh out of The Ohio State University, I was assigned to the 1370th Photomapping Wing. At that time **Col Theodore P. “Ted” Tatum** was its newly named Wing Commander. He was a character, and reminded me of a young Ernest Hemmingway. He was very proud of his physical prowess and was an avid hunter and fisherman. He came to the

1370th with a very impressive record in Air Rescue...It was a custom at that time for the Wing to have survey disks stamped with the name of Commanders, and others deserving of special recognition, and the disks then presented to the individual upon retiring, leaving the Wing, etc. Ted Tatum was a very popular Commander with his troops, and my guess is that what the guy has is a picture of the disk given to Tatum at his retirement from the Air Force. My memory says Ted commanded the Wing from 1966-1970 and then retired, so the 1970 date would be right. Ted was also a very demanding individual and it would be no surprise if he asked that an actual, project oriented trig station to be named for him. In that case the station could be anywhere in the world, but given the date probably in Canada or Alaska, if placed by the Wing, or anywhere, if placed by the Survey Squadron. As stated, my guess is the disk was never used as a station monument. Hope this helps. I would be interested in whatever else you hear on this!"

For context, recall that the 1370th Photo-Mapping Wing was the parent organization of our Squadron and several other sister squadrons involved in aerial geopositioning prior to DMA during the 1960s. I forwarded Gordon's reply to Bob. (Bob, to resolve this, It would be helpful to know whether your friend's photo of TATUM 1970 was taken as an actually installed ground station or as a presentation item.)

Anyone else, especially, anyone currently in the St Louis NGA office, where geodetic station records may still exist, please feel free to respond with regard to GSS Station TATUM, 1970!

By the way, **Dick Winslow**, has posted onto our website numerous photos that Bob sent us of GSS activities taken by Bob in the 1980s during his assignment at FEW. You may see them

here: http://geodeticsurvey.mysite.com/images/tyszka/tyszka_index.html

Dick has also finished loading some additional history and photos to our website furnished by **Allan Walcker**. Allan served with some of the Squadron's early predecessors in the late 1940s and 1950s. You may view Allan's contributions to our website

here: <http://geodeticsurvey.mysite.com/Documents/HIRAN/HIRAN.html>

Thanks, Bob and Allan, for your contribution to our heritage!

Gains and Losses:

We were saddened to learn that CMSgt **Bill Jolly** passed away last March. We thank **Jim Rolan** (Data Reduction, Orlando, 1961-64) for sending us this news. Says Jim:

“Garrett - While doing a recent web search I came across the obit for a 1381st veteran Bill Jolly (full name: Billy Ray Jolly). The obit indicates he passed away March 2, 2016. Bill's name is not listed on the squadron web site, but he was my supervisor in the Data Control unit of the Data Reduction Division in the early-to-mid 1960's. He was also a great personal friend and mentor during my time in Orlando. According to the obit, Bill continued his Air Force career from there retiring as a Chief Master Sargent after 32 years service. Best, Jim”

You may read Bill's obituary

here: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/montgomery-al/billy-jolly-6828433>

May he rest in peace...

Dick Winslow has posted Bill's obituary to our list of deceased GSS/GSG veterans.

We are pleased to add two more veterans to our online roster:

Michael Hayden (Logistics, FEW, 1976-93; NGA/St Louis, 1993-2006)

Michael has long experience in maintaining and repairing much of the technical equipment used by the Squadron/Group, including all the optical instruments, the Gravity Elevation Module (GEM), and was a GEM Party Chief on the Italian Gravity Project.

Michael Mattei (Ops/Survey Team Lead, FEW, 1982-85)

Mike adds:

“After GSS, went to DC, worked at DMA/HTC from 1985 to 1990. When the career field was merged with Intel in 1988, went into Targeting. Had a successful AF career, in several command positions, finally retiring as an O-6 at Langley AFB in 2007. Thanks,

Mike”

The following veterans also updated their contact information on our website:

Jim Blackburn (Survey, FEW, 1969 and 1972-75; Det 3 Commander, Grand Forks, 1970-72), **Kim Conner** (Personnel, FEW, 1986-90) and **Leo Knoblauch** (Survey, FEW, 1981-82; Det 1, Vandenberg, 1982-91).

Your Contact Information:

Follow the example of the folks mentioned above and please send me your

contact information or your updates, including a brief profile of your time with the Squadron or Group; i.e., what office or detachment you worked in and what you did. That's the only price of admission to what I call our GSS/GSG online Hall of Fame.

How do you know whether or not you have or have sent me *all* of your contact information? Please click this link <http://geodeticsurvey.mysite.com> and check the roster on our homepage. The home page has the alphabetical list of everyone who has sent his or her contact information.

If your name is not listed there, but you are reading this newsletter, then you are among those who have not yet sent me your *full* contact info and profile; i.e., all I have is your e-mail address. Please close the gap by sending me the rest of your contact information (or updates to your existing profile) using the format below. Just send me a separate e-mail with your:

NAME:

ADDRESS: (Include street or mailbox #, city, state and zip code)

PHONE:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

MILITARY or CIVILIAN: (Answer "both" if you served the unit in both capacities)

HIGHEST RANK or POSITION in GSS/GSG:

START/END DATES OF SERVICE IN GSS/GSG: (List all dates, if you had more than one assignment to the GSS/GSG)

BASE ASSIGNED TO: (Orlando, FEW, or Detachment location and dates)

ORGANIZATIONAL ELEMENT: (i.e., where you worked: Admin, Astro, Computing, Data Reduction, Gravity, Inertial, Logistics, Operations, Orderly Room, Sat Tri, Stellar Camera, Survey, etc.)

OTHER: (Whatever else you want to share here about your time in the Squadron/Group or what you have been up to since then.)

Dick Winslow, our Webmaster, will contact you with your user name and password when he loads your info onto our GSS/GSG website. Only other Squadron veterans with user names and passwords will be able to see your profile or contact information, and you will be able to read theirs, when you log in with your user name and password.

In addition to the roster of all who have sent us their contact information, the homepage tells you what's new, what's coming, and has links to the list of our deceased veterans, photos and documents submitted by our members and lots of other interesting information, including links to "kindred organizations," such as the AF Photomapping Association < <http://www.1370th.org> >, the Defense Mapping School Staff & Faculty Alumni < <http://belvoirdms.org/index.html>>, and the NGA Alumni Associations, East < <http://www.ngaalumni.org/1.html> > and West < <http://ngaawest.org>>.

There's also an archive of old newsletters in case you missed any. Please also send us your own photos of your time in the Squadron/Group. Send us your best, preferably in digitized form, annotated with the names of everyone in the photo and when and where the photo was taken.

If your name is already on our online roster, please log in to check your own profile and see if it's still current. If not, please send me your updates! If you have forgotten your user name and/or password, contact our Webmaster Dick Winslow <diskwy@gmail.com> to remind you or to reset it for you.

Final Notes:

That's all for this newsletter.

If you have a flag, be sure to display it for Flag Day on June 14th. Each year on this occasion I like to hang a brand new flag from the mast on my front porch. By the way, if your flag is so tattered and weather-beaten that it is no longer suitable to serve its symbolic purpose, it should be destroyed, *preferably by burning!* If burning a flag makes you queasy, your local chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, local military base, and possibly your local fire and rescue/first responder organization regularly conduct dignified flag-burning ceremonies.

If you are on Facebook, I invite you to "friend" me there. Find me at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100009342009837>

There is also a Facebook page for the Squadron/Group at <https://www.facebook.com/1381GeodeticSurveySquadron/>

Garrett

Field Survey Branch & Astronomic Positioning Branch

GSS/Cheyenne

April 1967 - May 1970 and January - December 1972

Nothing makes the Earth seem so spacious as to have friends at a distance—they make the latitudes and longitudes. – Henry David Thoreau, Surveyor and Philosopher