



# OSOTMG NEWS



VOLUME 16 ISSUE 2

JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2023

**NEXT IN PERSON MEETING IS DECEMBER 6, 2023, 1100 AT TREA 39, 15821 E CENTRE TECH CIRCLE, AURORA, CO. COME AT 1030 TO SOCIALIZE. WE INTEND TO ALSO INTEGRATE A ZOOM CONNECTION FOR THOSE FOLKS WHO CANNOT BE THERE IN PERSON. CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR ZOOM REQUIREMENTS OR OUR "OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN GANG" FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE INFO.**

### IMPORTANT Frequently Used Phone Numbers

**TRICARE PRIME WEST**  
844-866-9378; **EAST** 1-800-444-5445  
**TRICARE for Life(65 and older)**  
1-866-773-0404

**BUCKLEY PHARMACY**  
**REFILL** 720-847-7455;  
**EXPRESS SCRIPTS**  
**PHARMACY** 1-800-282-2881

**Social Security**  
1-800-772-1213

**VA BENEFITS INFO 24 HRS** 720-857-5000;  
**ROCKY MTN REGIONAL VA** 303-399-8020

**DMVA ARCHIVES(for ANG records)**720-250-1560

**ARPC(for all records requests)** 1-800-525-0102

**COANG ID CARDS** 720-847-9296

**BUCKLEY SPACE FORCE LEGAL** 720-847-644 op-tion 2

**RETIREES ACTIVITIES OFFICE**  
720-847-6693

**TREA 39-** 303-340-3939

### Committee Members:

**Jan Love**

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**Paul and Linda Turner**

paullinda@comcast.net

Cell-303-910-3276

**Bonnie Rought**

**Dan Gay**

Daniel.gay0954@gmail.com

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**Dewey Hicks**

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### JUNE 7, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag of The United States followed by the Invocation.

Our Guest speaker is CMSgt Phil Wagner, 233rd Space Group, Greeley, CO. He has been with the COANG since 1999 after serving 4 years in the USAF. He has been to Korea and the Middle East. The 233rd space Group has the 138 space warning squadron in hangar 140 at Peterson AFB. The 138th has been to CENTCOM and AFRICOM and is getting ready to deploy again to AFRICOM IN October with 17 people supporting counter insurgency in the continent of Africa. They are communications jammers like Electronics Warfare folks. The 233rd space squadron in Greeley is a multiple truck based missile warning squadron that works with NORAD along with the Buckley Space Missile people. The 233rd Space Group is the only Guard based mobile group in the nation. The concern is the integration of this unit in the Space Force as a Space National Guard Unit is still being debated by congress. As a enlisted vice president of NGACO, he is involved in legislative action for recapitilization of 140 Wing aircraft and the creation of the Space National Guard back in May. He has two goals, one to create a networking capability for Guardsmen with corporate sponsors, and two to help the Guardsmen participate in NGACO activities.

Joyce briefed us about the NGACO. Write to your representatives about the Space Guard situation and our aircraft upgrade situation by personal handwritten letter not text or email. The 2024 NGACO state conference is on this side of the mountains.

Birthdays present: Jan Love and Paul Turner.

Taps: Donald Willete, Leo Seeba, Chuck Grube; Sick Call: Bill Seiler, Mike Bertz, DO Neary, Laura Schoenfeld.

Closed and next meeting WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 2023.

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

JULY 5, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting opened with The Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag of The United States of America followed by the invocation.

Our guest is Jeremiah Tucker, COL, 140 Wing/CC/COANG (Weeds). He is a 24 year fighter pilot at Buckley. His dad was pilot Col Richard Tucker and when he was just 5 yrs old running around the base at that time his dad was a pilot. His dad retired as OG and was on state staff for a while. He graduated from Ponderosa H.S.; went to CU; was hired in 1999 and finished pilot training in 2001. He flew as a lieutenant in the Iraq war for Night one in 2003 for multiple deployments; worked at NORAD; was a 120th squadron commander; worked in D.C.; graduated from DU with a Masters in International Studies; wrote strategies IN D.C. for the AF and ANG for 2 yrs; Naval War college; commander Air Force Test Center in Tucson for 18 months where we build and test the cool gadgets on our jets; and his last assignment was senior advisor for Gen Lowe in the Pentagon. He is now sponsored by ANG as the 140 Wing Commander for about 2 1/2 years. We have two missions, the Space Mission and the Flying Mission. The Space Mission in Greeley is a doomsday mission when nuclear missiles are flying, the units trucks deploy to austere remote locations to continue monitoring missile launches. The equipment was built by the Navy in the 1960s and looks like submarine equipment. They are in the process of converting to SU-E2 upgrades. There is no plan from the White House to have a Space National Guard at this time. The plan is to have Congress authorize a Space National Guard in the next two years. We need to advocate with our representatives for a Space National Guard. The fighters are reaching the end of their life cycle as block 30s with current equipment they are equivalent to the block 70s flown by the UAE. We could replace the F-16 with F-35A or F-15EX with a preference for the F-35A once congress allocates the funds with a conversion announcement in 2026 and in service by 2028. Our sunset date for the Block 30s is 2028 to 2030. As other units receive F-35As, we will receive their lower time F-16s and our high time F-16s will go to the boneyard. Our jets have the latest ESA radar exactly like the F-35As, so we are updated with the latest technology. So, all F-16s have exact component replaceability to new equipment, so the aircraft can stay up with the latest updates. We have 3 jets in Keflavik Iceland on their way back from Germany "Air Defender" NATO Exercise. This was the largest NATO exercise since WWII with 100 ANG planes air bridge with tankers and 100,000 troops for three weeks with almost all ANG and with little participation by the USAF. It was designed to show Russia and others of our rapid AGILE deployment capability. We can then send 6 jets at a time to various airports throughout Europe and from Estonia to Croatia to make targeting our assets harder than in WWII. This has motivated Germany to spend 40 Billion dollars to buy two squadrons of F-35s to be more relevant next door to Russia. We are on a 2 year rotation to the Middle East deploying again in late spring 2024 with 300 folks for 3 months rainbowing with D.C and Atlantic City to deter IRANs saber rattling. The COANG has 1650 folks allocated with 1619 on board, 35% fulltime and 65% parttime. No more AGR conversions. We are currently training 40 F-16 USAF Maintainers and 5 USAF F-16 Pilots at Buckley because of our high level of experience. This demonstrates that the ANG can convert to a new aircraft faster than the USAF and should be the first priority in receiving new aircraft. The ANG is about half of the USAF military of for \$11 billion and 101,000 troops, the USAF is \$250 billion for 250,000 troops and 200,00 civilians. (See Page3)

JUNE 7, 2023 ATTENDANCE \*1ST TIMER

Paul Turner	Shirley Pfister
Linda Turner	Joe Ashby
Dewey Hicks	*Chief Phil Wagner
David Bell	
Dan Gay	
Dan Heinz	
Jan Love	
Philip Wagner	
Robert Nessler Sr	
Art Bowens	
Joyce Saitta	
Anna Kobashigawa	
Cliff Wagner	
Bonnie Rought	
Joe Butkovich	

JULY 5, 2023 ATTENDANCE \*1ST TIMER

Linda Turner	Joe Ashby
Paul Turner	
Sue Andrews	
John Kirkpatrick	
Bonnie Rought	
Randy Rought	
Joyce Saitta	
David Bell	
*COL Jeremiah Tucker	
Robert Nessler Sr	
Jerry Kelsey	
Anna Kobashigawa	
Shirley Pfister	
Alan Buck	

AUGUST 2, 2023 ATTENDANCE \*1ST TIMER

Sue Andrews  
 Jan Love  
 Dewey Hicks  
 Paul Turner  
 Linda Turner  
 Art Bowens  
 \*SMS Melissa Miedgenski  
 Jeff Sanford  
 Joyce Saitta  
 Robert Nessler Sr  
 Dan Heinz  
 Bonnie Rought  
 Shirley Pfister  
 Joe Butkovich  
 Joe Ashby

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023 ATTENDANCE \*1ST TIMER

Dan Gay  
 Sue Andrews  
 Robert Nessler Sr  
 Dewey Hicks  
 David Bell  
 Jan Love  
 Art Bowens  
 Paul Turner  
 Linda Turner  
 Dan Heinz  
 Bonnie Rought  
 Jerry Kelsey  
 Bill Pelletier  
 Joe Butkovich  
 \*Clarissa Leigh  
 Shirley Pfister  
 Joe Ashby

(cont from page 2) In the near future, the cost of medical care in the Active Duty USAF will exceed the cost of operating the military in the USAF. So, contact your representatives in the congress about the urgency of aircraft conversion and creating a Space National Guard to save the taxpayers a lot of money using the ANG more effectively than the Active Duty USAF.

Joyce brief us about the NGACO. The NGACO State conference in 2024 will be the last weekend of April 2024 in the Front Range. We are working on having the State fund higher education for dependents.

Sick Call: Bill Seiler; Taps: Chaplain Vic Hoops.

Dave Bell briefed us about the Wings Museum working on displaying a 4 foot piece of an F-80 piloted by Maj Dobson that fatally crashed in 1954 in a farmers field in Nebraska that was found recently.

Jerry Kelsey briefed us about the Retiree Appreciation Day on Sept 9th, 0800-1400 at the Leadership Development Center with an opening ceremony in front of the Delta 4 headquarters. There will be several speakers and You must have a government ID to enter the base.

BGen Clellan has Luncheon a 7 July 1100-1330 at Revere St Headquarters for all personnel with several briefings and meet and greet.

Next Meeting is Wednesday August 2, 2023, 1100 at TREA 39.

### AUGUST 2, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting opened with The Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag of The United States of America followed by the invocation.

Our guest speaker is SMSgt Melissa Miedgenski 140 Wing Weapons Safety Manager. She joined the USAF in 2002 and was on active duty for 10 years. She was stationed in Germany, Hill AFB, Korea and Diego Garcia. She separated in the reserves to Tyndall, Dyess and Shepard teaching ammo there and then joined the ANG for a total of 21 years. She worked on F-16s A-10s, F-22s and a bomber unit. She joined the COANG four years ago. She actively participate with Jordanians in the FTP program about ammo safety concerns. The 233rd is conducting field training in Nebraska at this time. The 140 SFS will participate with 165 SFS in Georgia on an exercise on 4 July. COANG CE is participating in an exercise in Yokota AB Japan at this time. There is currently night flying of the F-16s. The NGAUS National conference in the end of August. The 140 LRS Golf tournament is 14 August.

CMSGT Buckner is retiring on Saturday August 5, 1500 Hanger 801 and SMSgt Henderson is retiring Sunday August 6th.

Joyce briefed us about the EANGUS conference is 12 August. The NGACO State Conference will be the last weekend in April 2024 at the Marriott in Westminster. Check the NGACO.ORG website for more information. Again we are working on getting state funding for scholarships for dependents of those enlisting for 6 years. (see page 4)

(continuer from page 3) Ortegas visited Bill Seiler in San Antonio and lifted his spirits. Tony Burczyk voluntarily moved to a hospice facility. TREA39 needs help in moving to the new facility at Buckley and Iliff.

Jay Gates is having a gathering this month, everyone is invited.

Next meeting is at TREA 39 September 6, 2023 at 1100.

### SEPTEMBER 6, 2023 MINUTES

The meeting opened with The Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag of The United States of America followed by the invocation.

Our guest is Maj Charissa Leigh, 140 LRS/CC since last October last year. SMSgt Leslie Jones is the Senior Enlisted Advisor for the 140 LRS. This drill Tsgt Deb Turner is retiring and Virginia Howard (Title 5) director of psychological health is leaving a position at the VA. We are getting ready for Checkered Flag in October for 3 weeks at Tyndall AFB with 100 folks and several jets to practice for next years AEF cycle downrange. The 138 Space Warning Squadron is tasked for deployment next month. The 140 MSG is focusing on wartime deployment skills in 2024 for deployment in 2025. The units are individually deploying to our partners in Slovenia, Jordan and other NATO partners.

Cherokee Trail High School is having a National Guard demonstration with military equipment, and flyovers on September 9th.

The Retiree Appreciation is at the Leadership Development Center from 0830-1330 on September 9th.

On September 16, the Clyde Seiler Chapter 21 is celebrating their 50th Anniversary. Jan, Paul and Ortegas are attending.

DO Neary is located in a assisted care facility for the last two years. You can visit him if you contact his daughter, Shelley.

Sick Call: Bill Seiler

Taps: Tony Burczyk

Next meeting is October 4, 2023, 1100 at TREA 39.



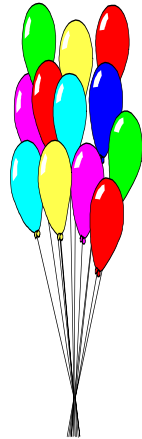
# Birthdays

## JUNE 2023

Jan Allen  
Mike Bertz  
Jodie Brice  
Jeanne Brown  
Pat Brown  
Chris Chaney  
Dave Chatman  
Vernon Clark  
Ben Fagen  
Robin Foss  
Carole France  
John Frary  
Curtis Gress  
Flick Guerinna  
Jerry Kelsey  
Jan Love  
Virginia Love  
Thomas B Markus  
Joyce Mason  
Ann McCauley  
Pat McHenry  
Stanley Minarsky  
Richard Oelker  
Ray Panaguiton  
Joan Pickens  
William Pickens  
Kathy Sander  
Dale Seiler  
Tom Schultz  
Allan Skarie  
Bob Stack  
Ben Steffey  
Bill Swedell  
David Thistlehawk  
Jim Thurmond  
Paul Turner  
Alma Vandeest

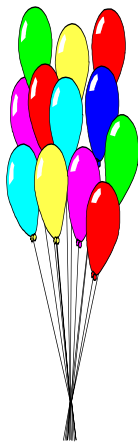
## JULY 2023

Larry Asher  
Gill Thompson  
Elton Baggett  
George Blackwell  
Buck Buckingham  
Deb Burlace  
Terry Burns  
Ronald Campbell  
Pat Christopher  
Randy Dolan  
Chris Faber  
Dick Farmer  
Dennis Fitzgerald  
Cathy Forrest  
Marilyn Fouts  
George Franzen  
Thomas Gunning  
John Hadley  
Joe Harnke  
Trish Housley  
David Knipprath  
Darrell Koenig  
Larry Lantz  
Sam Lovell  
Marvin McCash  
Russ McFarland  
Gary Meis  
Lynette Meis  
Carol Mielke  
Bill Miller  
Mary Lou Misken  
Thomas Moermond  
Don Pipkin  
John Pittman  
Becky Price  
Michael Rowan  
Mike Schunerstein  
Jane Schomber  
Vivian Schultz  
Larry Sell  
Tony Skarie  
Bobbie Terroux  
Gill Thompson  
Eileen Triolo  
Stephen Upton  
Harold Zimmerman



## AUGUST 2023

Cindy Baggett  
Ginny Barcroft  
Bill Bates  
Tom Burlace  
Brenda Burns  
Nadine Caldwell  
Larry Cavener  
Maria Clark  
Kevin Corns  
Michael Dodd  
Tammy Dudley  
Wendall Elmore  
Eileen Fagen  
Karen Fisher  
Steve Flanagan  
Danny Fouts  
Paula Greene  
Sue Ann Hatch  
Myrt Herbst  
Larry Housley  
Pauline Jaouen  
Tony Lucero  
Lynn Miller  
Barbara Jean Minarsky  
Eric Moffitt  
John Mullin  
Joe O'Neil  
Thomas Ortega  
Greg Parker  
Diana Parkos  
John Paul  
Rona Pierce  
John Prentiss  
Dinah Rodgers  
Jim Sandman  
June Sheehan  
Golden Sherman  
Ron Silvrants  
Gloria Swenson  
Terry Thompson  
Peter Triolo  
Orlando Valdez



## SEPT 2023

Ruth Allen  
Judy Ashby  
Ray Beckage  
Kathy Blackwell  
Theresa Blumberg  
Anita Brown  
Ray Carter  
Larry Catlin  
Cindy Disney  
Alvin Dorsey  
Robin Ecklund  
Ken Elliott  
Judy Gay  
Dee Hawkins  
Dannie Heinz  
Vanessa Irvin  
Irwin Kalcits  
Cathy Kenworthy  
Robert Kenworthy  
Dave Kidston  
Steven Linn  
Larry Mathay  
Connie Moos  
Patty Navarette  
Natalia North  
Bill Neuens  
Chris Perkins  
Michael Pfister  
Cindy Rochford  
Bonnie Rought  
Terri Schmied  
Sabrina Taylor  
Bill Thomas  
Pete Triolo  
Beatrice VanDeest  
Helen Vitale  
Ellen Williams

## Sick Call



## Taps



Bill Pickens  
Tom Ortega  
John Flowers  
Linda Parker  
Mike Bertz  
Laura Schoenfeld  
DO Neary

William-Bill (Rocky) Seiler  
Mark Lee  
Chuck Whitely  
Pete Archer  
Tony Burczyk  
Jeff Grube  
Ray Church  
Dan Candelaria  
Frank Dunn

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2023/2024

November: 1st OSOTMG MEETING  
10th USMC Birthday(1775)  
12th Veterans Day  
23rd Thanksgiving

December: 6th OSOTMG MEETING  
7th Pearl Harbor Day(1941)  
8th U.S. Declared War On Japan(1941)  
25th Christmas Day  
31st Official End of WWII(1946)

January 24: 1st New Years Day  
3rd OSOTMG MEETING  
15th Martin Luther King Jr Day  
23rd Colorado National Guard Bday(1860)



*Interview with D.O. Neary, Colonel (Ret) Re: F-100 and A7D BY DEWEY HICKS*

The day 18 October 2012 Wings Over The Rockies with Dewey Hicks and Don Neary getting a recording of two aircraft that the Colorado Guard had flown. One is the F-100 Super Saber and the other is the A-7 Corsair II as it is known. Just a little background information on the F-100. Colorado Guard got the F-100C around the 1960s and it was the first supersonic airplane ever made straight and level I should say by the Air Force. The Colorado Guard got those in 1960 and we flew those until about 1973 to 1974 timeframe when the A-7 Corsair was our next airplane. A little indication of the F-100C, it was the 120<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron's first supersonic aircraft. We served in Vietnam with the F-100 from May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1968 thru April 13, 1969 in the ground troop support role delivering 20 mil cannon fire, rockets, cluster bombs, napalm, 500 and 750 pound bombs. The tail letters VS designate the 120 Tactical Fighter Squadron under the 35<sup>th</sup> Tactical Fighter Wing at Phan Rang Air Base of the Republic of Vietnam. Aircraft dubbed 897 depicted in the photograph at our display at Wings was lost and its pilot Major Clyde Seiler was killed in action 27<sup>th</sup> of March 1969 in South Vietnam. It might be of interest that the airplane came into my life in 1958 in Misawa Japan in the 416<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron and I stayed in that Fighter Squadron until I went back to California in 1962 or something like that at George Air Force Base in Victorville to the 31<sup>st</sup> Tac Fighter Wing and the 31<sup>st</sup> Tac Fighter Wing was comprised of the 306<sup>th</sup>, 307<sup>th</sup>, 308<sup>th</sup>, and 309<sup>th</sup> Tac Fighter Squadrons. The 31<sup>st</sup> Wing was told to move from George Air Force Base in 1962 to Homestead Air Force Base in Florida. I was with the 306<sup>th</sup> Squadron and I had flown the airplane for three or four years. We were sitting alert in various places in the Far East. One was Kunsan Korea, one was Osan Korea and then when the 31<sup>st</sup> Wing was to move to Homestead, the 306<sup>th</sup> Squadron was tasked to sit nuclear alert at Kadena Airbase in Okinawa. That is where I was in June, July, and August timeframe.

When I got back to George Air Force Base all the three squadrons besides the 306<sup>th</sup> were already at Homestead. We moved to Homestead. I drove the family cross country to Homestead and got there in about August of 1962. The reason this is important because little did I know why the whole Wing was moved to Florida until I went to Intelligence and found out there was a big map of Cuba on the Intelligence wall. It's interesting today that when I was sitting was sitting at Homestead in an F-100 with another 100 F-100 pilots to go bomb Cuba and that was under the direction of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Exec Committee in Washington D.C. to figure out how we were going to deal with the Cuban missile crises. That turned out just fine after about the 27<sup>th</sup> of October when things finally settled down. That was all settled because of a decision not to invade Cuba with Kennedy and Khrushchev, to not do that, but in turn, to pull the Jupiter missiles out of Turkey. The United States had missiles in Turkey. Also, we set up a blockade or quarantine around the island of Cuba meaning the Navy was watching all of the Soviet ships that had left about three months before to go into Cuba to deliver intermediate and long range ballistic missiles to Cuba. If it had not been for the U-2 to find out for sure that was what Khrushchev was doing building a nuclear capability on Cuba, and stop that with a quarantine, we probably all wouldn't have been here because of the nature of the missions that were probably going to be flown at that time. Those missiles could have reached everything in the United States of America except for probably around Seattle and Oregon.

Anyway, back to 62, when I finally got out of the Air Force. In 65, I joined the Colorado Air National Guard about November, and worked until 1988 when I retired. Spent the year in Vietnam with the 120<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron most of the pilots flew around 240 missions in Vietnam and we were there a year. I got back and was the Ops Officer of the Squadron and then ended up the Assistant Director of Ops, a Vice Wing Commander, Air Commander, and then ended up as Chief of Staff, and then the guy, what does he do?, he's the Inspector General it's part of the job. But anyway I retired in 88 and I had my son on my wing on the last flight Gregg Neary who is a retired Navy Captain, Andy Love was on my flight, Bob Villa was on my flight, and Tom Imra was on my flight. I tried to run them out of gas because I didn't want to land. Andy always comes up to me and says "you almost ran me out of gas". And I say you didn't run out of gas, you landed - get off my back. Anyway, it was a great career in the F-100 and I did fly that for 15 years and have about 3,300 hours in total about 6,000 hours of fighter time including the A-7. What we are talking about now is the A-7 Corsair. That came to the Colorado Guard about the February, March, April timeframe of 1974. We were getting those airplanes from different units. One of the ways we got those airplanes was directly from LTV Ling-Temco Vought. They were making those planes down in Dallas. They flew a brand new plane up to Buckley. It had about an hour, hour 15 minutes on it. The tail number was 996. That became General France's airplane. And that 996 just happens to be sitting in front of the Colorado Guard exhibit at the Wings Over The Rockies with General France's name on it and Mike Valient's name I believe is on it. The A-7 was a whole different machine than the F-100 from a standpoint of electronics capability, the bombing capability, and just for a pilot who had flown the F-100 for all those years. It was pretty much hands on stuff, no computers, so the A-7 was a dramatic change for us old guys who were getting into the computer business. A little narrative on the A-7 - most of us checked out at Myrtle Beach South Carolina which I did and after I got back then we'd check out pilots at Buckley. We're talking in 1974, 1975 timeframe We flew that airplane for a few years around Buckley.



And we deployed to Merzifon Turkey, and we deployed to Gilze-Rijen Airbase in Holland with that airplane. The other thing that's important about the A-7 is it was good electronically, and computer wise it had a neat nav system and a neat bomb system.

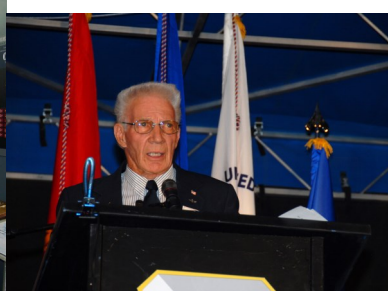
And so in 1981, the Colorado Guard went to Nellis Air Force Base. In the competition there with all Air Force units from Europe and PACAF, won the world wide gunnery competition for the Colorado Guard in 1981 at Nellis Air Force Base. We just had a Gunsmoke reunion the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary I believe it was just a while back here at the Wings with all those pilots that flew in the Gunsmoke competition in 1981. One other interesting story from my standpoint is when I was checked out at Myrtle Beach, I was told to put the aiming symbol on the target, have all the computers set up, and then when you are ready to drop the bomb, you just push this little button on the stick and then you pull off and I pulled up on downwind leg. I told the range officer that I don't think got a spot he said yeah you've got a spot. When I looked down a little bit later than that, there was a puff of smoke coming right out of the bulls eye and I thought oh my gosh that's my first bomb and it's a bulls eye in an A-7. This is hard to believe the tail number is 055 and that airplane 055 is sitting at Montrose Airport right now and every time I drive by there, me and that airplane have a special relationship because the next three bombs that I dropped with 055 at Myrtle Beach on my first mission were what we call bulls eyes or shacks as well so on my first mission in an A-7 named 055 I dropped four bulls eyes and when I got back on the ground I thought I don't know what I was doing, but I must have been doing something right. The other thing is that it just happens when I finished my training at Myrtle Beach that 055 is the tail number that I was supposed to bring back to Buckley.

And Mo Etter, one of my crew chiefs, Master Sergeant, said give this thing a good check before you take it to Buckley. So I took it to the end of the runway I did a test top run on it and everything checked out good. I break released I had a line speed check at the 1000 and 1500 foot marker and it hit that air speed right on that line speed and went another 2000 feet and hit the line speed right there so I'm ready to take off. And all of a sudden it felt to me like the airplane wasn't accelerating and the air speed stuck at 150 knots and I looked at the end of the runway and I said I ain't going to get airborne I aborted the takeoff put the tail hook down hit the back twelve barrier on the far end of the runway and that was a successful move I decided if I miss the barriers I'm going to eject on the runway or after takeoff. When Mo Etter came up to me after we got a tug tow in from the armory he said there is a whole bunch of metal in the tail pipe. I said what does that mean? He said I think that the engine burned up on you. And sure enough that's what it was. We later got 055. It was one of the aircraft flown at Gunsmoke 81 because it had a fantastic computer system and bombing system. And that's my personal story about 055 and Don Neary. DEWEY HICKS EDITOR



A-7D HOMECOMING WITH DAUGHTER SHELLEY

PAUL AND DEWEY VISIT DO 19 SEP 2023



AIR HERITAGE COMMITTEE RECOGNITION AT WINGS MUSEUM BY MAJ GEN EDWARDS, COLORADO ADJUTANT GENERAL 2003

CO AVIATION HALL OF FAME INDUCTION 2008

2006 OSOTMG CHRISTMAS PARTY