

General Membership Breakfast (continued)

Bruce Deffler donated some United Airlines 15% discount coupons to the Association. The members agreed to give some of the coupons to John Nederhoed to present to the AFTAC active duty quarterly award winners.

On the Web

Bill Harris, our Webmaster maintains The AAACO website at: www.aftacco.org. Check it out!

MAIL

From Bill Schmied:

Mary Welch writes: "Heart-broken to read about the loss of Ben in your latest newsletter. I moved to the mid-West in November, and had not gotten the news until the Newsletter reached me at the end of February. He will be missed. Dues for the next two years are included."

(Mary now lives in Rapid City, South Dakota. I would have to say that's part of the real West and not too far from Denver. Welcome and hope you can make it down here for our picnic in June.)

Fellow AFTACers:

Greetings from Booger Woods (a.k.a. Corsicana), Texas. We sure do miss Denver but we are really enjoying things like less people, less traffic, and less noise. We are still renting in town while our retirement home is built out on Lake Richland Chambers. The lake is over 44,000 acres of water with a 300-mile shoreline and is still in the early stages of development. Lot preparation is going slow but we hope to be in by the end of August. We are tentatively planning a trip back to Denver in June to include the AFTAC picnic.

Ya'll come and see us, hear. We'll treat you so many ways, you're bound to like one of them.

Dick & Gayla Platt

From the Florida Post-Monitor

John & Chris Horsch, editors:

Ben is gone, he will be sorely missed. The alumni association, and in particular the Colorado chapter, had no greater friend. He was instrumental in its beginning and its upkeep.

We worked with Ben at headquarters and replaced him at the 1157th but we really got to know him and Ginger in our common work with the alumni association. He would go to any extent to help in any alumni endeavor and proved it over and over again.

Ben knew how to work, and he knew how to play-although in his later days it was almost work for him to play. Chris and I talked with him at the last reunion (Colorado, '01) - he poured his heart into that reunion and was so proud to have been selected as the 'Alumni of the Year 2000' and it meant so much to him that the AFT AC Commander personally presented him the award. Even then, we, and Bill Schmied had to reassure him he was not taking too much of the spotlight away from the other chapter members who had also worked very hard to make the reunion a success-that's the kind of guy he was. Uncomfortable being recognized but so appreciative of this honor.

We'll bet that right now Ben is snooping around his new locale, finding all the other AFTACer's he can, and trying to organize an '03 reunion that will be truly 'out of this world.'

From the West Coast Chapter - The Depot Fallout

Dale Klug

West Coast Chapter Spring Get-together - Garden Party Our next event will be a Garden Party to be held at Pavik's (9371 Troy Way, Granite Bay, CA) at 4:00 P.M. on 18 May. We'll test the golf and horseshoe skills of those who want to participate. Left and right handed golf clubs and golf balls available-only have to hit it 68 yards. We will cook hamburgers, hot dogs and have drinks available. Everyone, including anyone from the Colorado Chapter who will be in the area, is invited, members and nonmembers. We are asking for notification by 14 May so we know approximately how many people to plan for. E-mail Dale Klug klugdale@juno.com or call Al Pavik at 916-797-1472.

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