



*315th Airlift Wing Alumni Association
315th Airlift Wing Excellence over the Years
Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina*

14 August 20219

This is a corrected copy of the newsletter dated 6 August 2019

Visit our website to view all back issues of the newsletter and more at
<http://www.315awaalumniassoc.com/>

25th Anniversary Celebration of the 315th Airlift Wing Alumni Association
&
50th Anniversary Celebration of the 315th Military Airlift Wing

Friday, 18 October, Saturday 19 October, Sunday 20 October

We are in the planning stages for this very important celebration. The Alumni Board has held several planning sessions already and here's what we have come up with so far:

- 1 – Golf tournament on Friday morning for those who wish to play. Details will follow.
- 2 – Friday night at the Charleston Club (formerly the NCO club) from 6-9 pm for dinner/socializing. We will need to know the number planning to attend so arrangements can be set up.
- 3 – Saturday morning no formal events planned. Party at Barry Strauss's home that evening. There's an attachment to this newsletter from Jim Roberts explaining the weekend festivities.

The 315th Airlift Wing has no plans at this time for a 50th celebration. I checked this out with the Public Affairs Officer Major Wayne Capps on a recent visit to his office. After a 50 year passage of time there are new technologies in the work place and the social interaction is very different from anything we remember. The last anniversary celebration was 10 years ago, the 40th. There was no 45th celebration because of mission requirements.

I will be sending this newsletter out by email message to almost everyone on the current and the old membership rosters. I will be calling many others by telephone. Many email addresses will be long and cumbersome to type and numerous rejection notices will be coming back but it will be worth all the time and energy. I can do this only once. This newsletter will also be posted on our website at <http://www.315awaalumniassoc.com/> by our webmaster Chief Tom Clemmons and it will be posted by Tommy Peters (701AS/FE) on all the 315th web pages that our 315th Wing retired members have established on Facebook. I will post brief messages on many of the most frequently used social media networks.

Saturday evening around 5:00 or 6:00 pm the Alumni Association will have a get together combined with the 300th Airlift Squadron's October Fest at the home of Lt Colonel Barry Strauss, 4980 Lambs Road, located directly across from the base. If you're coming out of the Dorchester gate, you turn left, then turn right onto Lambs Road and Barry's place is on the right. There may be no street parking left around Barry's so we will be running a shuttle. Barry has been providing the venue for this celebration during the month of October for the past 25 years. Many of us have enjoyed this festivity numerous times over the years and there's always a very large attendance. A big bonfire will be going fueled by wooden pallets, a large variety of great food from the grill, a large variety of beer, the best friends you will ever meet and the best war stories you will ever hear. Many of our great lady friends will be attending as always. Come on out and join the party! You don't want to miss this!

Final Fly-Bye

SMSgt George H. Martin, Flight Engineer of the 701st & 300th AS, passed on 15 June 2019 at his home in Pacifica, CA. He is survived by his spouse Sandra Lynn. I will get back with more information on George in the next newsletter. All of us who knew George know that he was a great story teller and historian. George has provided more historical information than anyone in our 25 year history of the Alumni Association. George was single many years and enjoyed a great social life. I will miss all those inspiring stories and I will miss a really great friend.

Forever aloft on silvery swept back wings

CMSgt Alfred Clary Sprouse, 38th APS, passed on 5 Dec 2018 at the age of 74 in his home. Clary is survived by his spouse of 33 years, Martha Wade Horne Sprouse. Chief Sprouse served in Vietnam, Desert Storm and Desert Shield and retired with over 33 years of highly distinguished military service.

Laura Caryle, Personnel Specialist assigned to CBPO passed recently. Her late spouse was Eddie Caryle and he was an Officer on active duty in the 437th Wing. Laura worked for Captain Alec Sawyer, Personnel Officer. Alec's a retired Colonel and an active member of the 315th Alumni Association.

100% Disabled Veterans now Eligible for Space A Flights

When congress signed the National Defense Authorization Act in 2018, 100-percent service connected disabled veterans became eligible for space available travel, better known as "space A" or military hops. Air Mobility Command (AMC) maintains an extensive network of flights throughout the Continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, Guam and the American Samoa.

SMSG Ray Ardis, Alumni Board member, past Newsletter Editor & Vice President

315th AW Alumni Association Membership

Many of you are past due on your membership and we understand. If you haven't heard from us for a long time, please check with our Membership Chairman & Secretary Linda Skillman. Linda can be reached at: Linda.Skillman@outlook.com or (843) 553-5045, mailing address 315th Airlift Wing Alumni Association, 7033 North Kenwood Drive, Charleston SC 29406.

Dues are \$5 per year -- \$12 for 3 years -- \$24 for 6 years

Upcoming Events

The Heritage Trust Sponsored Luncheons and Alumni Board meetings will be held at the following times:

Friday, 13 Sept, 11:00 AM luncheon at the Charleston Club, 09:00 AM Board meeting

Friday, 6 Dec, 11:00 AM Christmas Luncheon at Charleston Club, 09:00 AM Board meeting

Very soon I will be heading up to my home town of Valdese NC (near Hickory & Ashville) to host my 64th High School reunion, class of 1955. I have sent newsletters out to everyone and almost half my graduating class of 70 will be attending. This reminds me very much of us in the 315th Alumni, as many of us are in that same age bracket and we're still kicking! Looking forward to some good vacation time in the mountains and then publishing the next issue of the newsletter upon my return. There will be lots of good information coming your way.

Del Oxford, Communications & Historian ddoxford@aol.com 1 attachment

BREAKING NEWS.....BREAKING NEWS.....BREAKING NEWS

Another politician has changed his mind on an important issue and the 315 Alumni Association reunion date has been changed as well. **18-20 October is the correct weekend**

Greetings to all the 315 Alumni and Associate Members.

Last year it was brought to the Alumni Board that 2019 is the 25th Anniversary of the Alumni Association and the 50th Anniversary of the Wing. After months of discussions it was agreed to pursue a potential reunion, and you must know that this is the most laid back reunion plan in the history of reunions. We just really wanted the opportunity to get old friends together. The 300th AS hosts an event at the home of Lt Col Barry Strauss. This party, aka, October Fest has been an annual staple for many in the 315 AW and older Alums. We asked the 300th AS planners if we could join the celebration this year, and they graciously allowed that we horn in on their party. The problems came when the Wing UTA dates and the party dates did not match. Suffice it to say that communications broke down, and both dates were being sent out to the community. Most of you are like members on the board, you don't plan two days ahead, let alone two or three months; however, some folks may have considered the bottom line is that we plan on having a get together that weekend.

The reunion plan is as follows:

Friday: Golf for those who would like to play. We plan on having a room at The Club from 6-9 pm for dinner/socializing.

Saturday: No formal events planned during the day, however, we can schedule aircraft tours if requested. Party at Barry's that evening.

Sunday: You are on your own.

As you can see, when I said laid back, I meant it. We have recommended \$15 for the party at Barry's to defray the burger/dogs/ and beer costs. A lot of folks bring a covered dish. What we need is a guess on how many of you 'all plan on coming, and what you might need from us. I will be putting this out on the web sites and ask that you pass it around through your own social media.

Jim Roberts
315 Alumni Association Board President