



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

11 November 2020, Newsletter #1

Visit our website at: <http://www.315awaalumniassoc.com/>

You may view all back issues and more at this website.

Our current resources and the time element does not permit us to send the newsletter to all those listed on the membership roster. I will post the newsletter on this website twice monthly. Some have been asking to be placed on my preferred mailing list where you receive your own individual copy. I will be more than glad to do this. Send a message to my email address at ddoxford@aol.com and your copy will be assured.

Veterans Day 2020 today, 11 November 2020

Today is our Special Day and many of our grateful citizens will be thanking us for our service. We look forward to all the special news in the local media and the local Post and Courier newspaper today. In the October issue of the newsletter we made mention the 315th Alumni Float and parade in downtown Charleston will be cancelled this year because of the virus. There will be parades today in other parts of the country I'm sure. I will join my circle of GI buddies today at the Carolina Coffee Roasters in Summerville for a toast to our comrades that have gone on before us. We will render a slow salute to them.

Democracy is not a permanent form of government

Our country has been around 244 years. Those of my generation have enjoyed the freedoms that our government has provided for us and we have fought in the wars to keep us free and safe from all enemies foreign and domestic. At this time many of our citizens have a different perspective on what this should be. I served in the military and law enforcement for over fifty years and many of our Alumni members have served long and honorably as well.

Veteran of the Year CMSGT Lucia Greer//707th Squadron Flight Engineer

Another champion from the 315th Wing that is well deserved. A work alcoholic that was one of our best. The city of Florissant Missouri Veterans Commission hosted the Veteran of the Year ceremony on Sunday, November the 8th starting at 3:00 pm in this year's Veteran of the Year parade. Chief Master Sergeant Lucia Greer served 38 years in the U. S. Air Force. Lucia and I have been great friends for many years and we continue to share all our memories over the years on a regular basis. Congratulations to Chief Greer upon receiving this very prestigious award!!

Final Fly By

Colonel (ret) Craig Richard Smith, Pilot, 707th Airlift Squadron, flew west on 20 October 2020 at the age of 77. Craig is survived by his spouse Helen M. Smith. Craig's interests were family, pickle ball and bridge. Worked for and headed up the FAA in Atlanta.

Lt Colonel (ret) Albert G. Massa, Pilot, 701st Airlift Squadron, flew west on 21 March 2020. Albert is survived by his spouse Marlene E. Massa and they resided at Port St. Lucia, Florida, (772) 873-5539, albertmassa@comcast.net. Col Massa was buried with full military honors at Arlington National on 21 March 2020.

Chief Lorraine Sapp, 701st Squadron

I called Lorraine a few days ago and we had a rather long and enjoyable conversation. We got all caught up on all that's happening. Lorraine has served as our Treasurer of the Alumni association but now needs to give it up as her tax preparation business is taking up more of her time and we understand. Lorraine is an accountant and she prepared our tax for many

years until Breda's best friend and accounting professor prepared our tax for free in our home. I miss those days when we enjoyed many good times with her and Hank at their place after the tax was completed.

Keeping our Membership posted

At this time our country and the world around us is changing faster than we have ever seen in our life time. We make every effort to carry on with business as usual. The Alumni Association will carry on our business as we have for the past twenty six years. The board meetings will be the same but the social activities have been put on hold for the remainder of the year. Col Jim Roberts, our Alumni President, is looking at getting us back on track in January of 2021. Jim's looking at possibly having the Octoberfest in January and the quarterly Heritage Trust sponsored luncheon. We will continue to plan ahead as we have in the past but that may or may not happen. In the meantime I will continue to publish the newsletter twice each month to keep us updated and connected. Between Newsletters, I can always post short news bulletins as I have in the past.

The time is now 5:30 am. I will place this in a file and wait until everyone begins to rise and shine before sending it out. I see my newspaper on the driveway and it's time for a cup of java.

Enjoy this special Veterans Day with friends and family and we'll be talking.

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