



AMMO Chiefs Association (ACA)

Shell and Flame"



Issue Number: 1

April 1, 2004

Welcome to the first edition of the AMMO Chiefs Association "Shell and Flame" newsletter. This newsletter is being sent to you to: 1. Bring you information about the ACA association, 2. Provide you with useful AMMO information about the associations events, and 3. Provide you the opportunity to become an active member in the association. The membership application is enclosed for your use. Additional membership information is provided further in the newsletter. This newsletter will be published at least quarterly, during the months of January, April, July, and October. Special editions will be provided every other year highlighting the ACA Reunion events.

Who are we?

We are the Ammo Chiefs Association a non-profit fraternal organization dedicated to the promotion of camaraderie among retired and active duty USAF Ammo Chiefs and certain select retired ammo troops. The ACA holds a worldwide reunion every other year. Our members work diligently throughout the year to raise funds for worthwhile charitable causes such as the Richard Gauvin Memorial Fund, the Enlisted Widows Foundation, and a Sunshine Committee to respond to members' time of distress. The ACA also contributes to the morale of active duty ammo troops through recognition and sports programs. The ACA sponsors awards programs for the Ammo School House Outstanding Performer, and the AFCOMAC Outstanding Performer. Ammo sports contributions include a traveling trophy given to the winners of the Worldwide Ammo Bowl and sponsoring funds to the South East Ammo Bowl. ACA has also contributed to cultural enterprises such as the RAF Welford Ammo Museum. We are Ammo, and proud of it!

A Message from Our President

The ACA is alive and well! Thanks to the past members of the board, committee chairs and committees, and the general membership. October 2003 celebrated the third year that we as an organization came together to enjoy another milestone in our successful existence. A new and innovative event called Ammo Awards Night, a social held in the reunion off year at Eglin was a great success. We celebrate those activities and persons that the ACA sponsors and those who have made outstanding contributions. It was also an opportunity for those folks who missed the past reunion to attend an ACA major function. Our reunions are held every other year and the next one will be 22-26 September 2004 at Hampton Roads, Virginia. We asked for comments as to where to have the 2004 reunion and Langley won out. John Matthews and the Virginia chapter will be putting things together and they have promised a grand time. So start planning now for this September event. We will get out the details in our next newsletter to be published in July 2004.

When we started the ACA, I outlined 10 points that if achieved would give the organization purpose, cohesiveness, and sustainment. Last year, I also outlined one additional concept for ACA growth and prosperity, which was the establishment of ACA Chapters. In my last years' state of the association message, I reported that we had achieved eight out of the ten original goals. I am proud to report that through the hard work of the BOD and especially Darrel Beasley, we have achieved the ninth goal, which is the establishment of a recognition program for the Outstanding Graduating Student at the Ammo School House and AFCOMAC. The

tenth goal is being worked by Rich McVey which is to establish an ammo man statue which will be prominently displayed at a suitable Ammo training location.

Through the hard work of the BOD, Committees, and members, and especially Rich McVey with the web site, I am proud to report that the ACA has sponsored or contributed to the following organizations or entities:

- The Rich Gauvin Memorial Fund.
- The USAF Enlisted Widows Village.
- The Southeast Ammo Bowl.
- The World Wide Ammo Bowl.
- The Ammo School House.
- The Air Force Combat Ammunition Course school.
- The Welford Ammo Museum

One of our biggest accomplishments of the year has been the coordinating and achievement of our first chapter, the Virginia Chapter. Thanks to the hard work by John Matthews, president ACA Virginia Chapter and his gang and our BOD Members at Eglin. Another great achievement has been the work in cleaning up our administrative act and revising our charter and by-laws. Thanks to Bill Poe, John Greer, Larry DiAmco, Don Hamilton, Rich McVey and the rest of the BOD.

Last, but certainly not least, we have had our second official election. The membership nominated and elected a new Board of Directors who chose amongst themselves who will take up the various officer and director at large positions. My fellow Ammo Chiefs, I present the ACA BOD for 2004:

President: Mark Madamba

Vice President: Rich McVey

Secretary John Greer

Treasurer Darrel Beasley

Orator Don Hamilton

Chief At Arms Tom Zima

Director at Large Bill Poe

Director at Large Joe Dominguze

Director at Large Jim Shelingoski



The officers assumed office on January 1, 2004. We are inheriting a non-profit fraternal organization that is financially sound with membership in excess of 100. We have immediately taken up the task of planning and coordinating with the Virginia Chapter for the 2004 ACA Reunion.

Let me now set a challenge to the membership. I would like members to consider finding another Ammo Chief nearby and start their ACA Chapter. It is not hard to do. We have all the administrative support for you. Follow John Matthews' lead and get something going so that when you come to the reunion, you can proudly shout that your chapter is present and accounted for!

The current BOD and I thank everyone for their great support. I especially thank the BOD, Committee chairmen and their committee people, and those that supported and contributed to the outstanding success that the ACA has achieved. May we have continued success in the future.

Respectfully and Always at Your Service, KYPD,

Mark Madamba, President





**2004 ACA Reunion
22 to 26 September 2004
Hampton Roads, Virginia
Tentative Schedule**



The ACA has graciously approved the Virginia Chapter the privilege of hosting the 2004 ACA Reunion. The following is a tentative schedule of events and happenings during this year's reunion. **Hotel reservations should be made as early as possible.** Contact the Holiday Inn directly at 1-800-842-9370 or 1-757-838-0200. Reservations can also be made by sending an e-mail to their reservation department at holiday-resev@worldnet.att.net or at their web site at www.hamptonva.holiday-inn.com. All Reservations **MUST** be made by August 25, 2004. Inform the receptionist that you are making reservations for the ACA Reunion to receive a discount.

22 Sep 2004 – Wednesday - Travel Day - Arrival

- Travel to Hampton Roads
- Check in to accommodations, Holiday Inn, Hampton Roads, VA; Sign-in; Get settled
- 1730– 1830: Holiday Inn Manager's Complimentary Open House (Atrium)
- 1830 – 2130: Opening Ceremony (Drinks, Light food, Hors d'oeuvres) (Social Hall)

23 Sep 2004 – Thursday – Events

- 0700 - 0900: Breakfast (One Free w/Rooms)
- Daily Options:
 - 0700 – 1300: Fishing Excursion
 - 1000 – 1600: Horse Racing; Shopping
 - 0900 – 1600: Aerospace Museum; IMAX Theater
- 0800 – 2400: Hospitality Room is Open
- Dinner: Fish Fry (1600 – 1900) or Local dining
- 1800 - until??: Stag AMMO at Hotel; Ladies Night Out

24 Sep 2004 – Friday – Events

- 0700 - 0900: Breakfast (One Free w/Rooms)
- Daily Options:
 - 0800 – 1600: Colonial Williamsburg; Shopping
 - 0900 – 1600: Battleship Tour; Navy/Shipyard Tour (Gary Good)
 - 0900 – 1600: Local River Cruises; Harbor Center; Shopping
- 0800 - 2400: Hospitality Room is Open
- Dinner: Local dining – Pay as you go.
- 2000 – 2130: ACA Membership Meeting (Meeting Hall)

25 Sep 2004 – Saturday – Events

- 0700 - 0900: Breakfast (One Free w/Rooms)
- Daily Options:
 - 0730 – 1400: Golf Tournament – Langley - Eaglewood
 - 0830 – 1530: Busch Gardens; Shopping
- 0800 – 1800: Hospitality Room is Open
- 1800 – 2000: Formal Dinner; Shell & Flare Award Ceremony; Closing Ceremony
- 2000 – 2400: Hospitality Room is Open

26 Sep 2004 – Sunday – Travel Day – Departure

- 0700 - 0900: Group Breakfast
- Check Out of Accommodations; Travel Home

The Trinket Shop



Available in Red, Blue, Gray, & White
One size fits all. \$10.00



ACA Coin \$6.00 With cover \$7.00





ORDER OF THE SHELL AND FLAME CEREMONY

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY: The *Order of the Shell & Flame* is patterned after the U.S. Air Force Order of the Sword program. The Order of the Sword is an ancient ceremony rich in tradition and is conducted by Air Force non-commissioned Officers (NCOs) to honor their greatest officer-warriors & civilian equivalents who have made significant contributions to the enlisted corps.

Gustav I, in recognition of military service, established the purely military Order of the Sword in 1522.

King **Gustav I** enjoined the noblemen commissioned by him to appoint officers to serve them. These people became the NCOs, as we know them today. These accountants, builders, craftsmen, teachers, scribes and other leaders were responsible for conducting the ordinary daily affairs of the kingdom. The system worked so well that it was incorporated into the army as a way to establish and maintain a cohesive, disciplined, well trained force for the protection of the lives and property of the kingdom. Thus the NCO Corps was born.

These ancient NCOs would, on occasion, honor a leader and pledge their loyalty by ceremoniously presenting him a sword. The sword stands as a symbol of the truth, justice, and power rightfully used. The ceremony became known as the "ORDER OF THE SWORD".

The Ammo Chiefs Association (ACA) is an organization of active & retired U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sergeants established to encourage and facilitate camaraderie and well being among all Ammo Chiefs. They also endeavor to provide useful services to the membership; promote the welfare of their



Chapter News

We had the opportunity and we took it!! The first ACA Chapter to be formed was at Langley AFB, Virginia on May 10, 2003. Approximately 15 area Chiefs from Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, and Washington, DC are on the rolls. Elected officers are John Matthews, President; Mike Gavin, Vice-President; and CMSgt. Mike Robertson, Secretary. Establishing a Chapter is easy, and with the help of the ACA BOD, is virtually painless. If you're thinking of starting a Chapter in your state, contact either the ACA BOD or the Virginia Chapter for assistance.



Other Chapters under consideration are in the Wright-Patterson AFB (Mr. Bill Campbell), Hill AFB, Utah (Mr. Dan Fri), and the West Coast areas (Mike Royslance). Chiefs in those surrounding areas should contact the area Chief for more information.

