



# *USAF MSC Association* **NEWSLETTER**

AUGUST 2002

## **President's Message**

### **Officers and other key contacts**

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Fellow Members:

I hope those of you with e-mail capability received your last Association Newsletter as well as this issue electronically. I received mine without a hitch and it was faster and it printed cleanly. In the long run it will save the Association postage costs. If you didn't get either issue via e-mail, contact Secretary Ken Mackie ([MSCAsso@prodigy.net](mailto:MSCAsso@prodigy.net)) with your correct e-mail address. Again, many thanks go to Art Small for making this goal a reality.

I am pleased to report that the Association made a financial contribution to support the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities of the Health Services Administration (HSA) course. Formerly known as the Basic Course in Medical Administration or the Basic Course in Medical Service Administration, this was the starting point for almost all MSC Association members. The special events were held on 16 & 17 August at Sheppard Air Force Base. Many members attended this course at Gunter AFB, Alabama before it was moved to Sheppard. I believe the Association's support of this celebration was most appropriate.

Corps Chief and board member Col Steve Meigs has graciously provided an update for this issue of the Newsletter. I appreciate Steve taking the time to write this, as I know how busy his duties keep him. I know our members appreciate knowing what's currently going on within Medical Service Corps.

We're having the usual hot and muggy August in Washington. Congress is on vacation and the President is clearing brush on his ranch in Texas. One of the significant military issues on the legislative agenda this year is the elimination of the disability offset (concurrent receipt) to military retired pay for all disabled retirees with at least 20 years of service. Both the House and Senate have language in their authorization bills to eliminate this offset. The Senate version

would eliminate it immediately and the House version would phase it in over 5 years. Although the Office of Management and Budget has threatened a Presidential veto, hopefully some relief is in sight in the near future. This is very good news for our retirees receiving disability pay as well as retired pay.

All military retirees should have received notification in the mail regarding the new Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program. The authorizing legislation was passed almost two years ago. Open season to purchase this insurance began July 1<sup>st</sup> and runs through December 2002. If you haven't taken a serious look at long-term care insurance, I encourage you to do so. There is a lot of good information about long-term care insurance on the Federal Long Term Care Website (<http://www.ltcfeds.com/>). If you don't have Internet access, you can call toll free at 1-800-LTC-FEDS (1-800-582-3337). They will mail you a comprehensive information package and application.

The Air Force has nominated Maj Gen George P. "Peach" Taylor for promotion to be the next AF Surgeon General to replace retiring Lt Gen P. K. Carlton, Jr. He previously served as Command Surgeon at USAFE and Air Combat Command. Relatively junior in rank, General Taylor just pinned on his second star on July 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. He should assume his new position in late September or early October.

We're just a little over a year away from our next reunion in Biloxi, Mississippi. The reunion will be held from September 26 to October 3, 2003. We hope to provide more information about the reunion in the next issue of the Newsletter. However it's not too early for members to mark their calendars and begin planning on attending. I hope to see you there!

Best wishes,

Steve Mirick

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## New Members

Lieutenant Colonel Lyndsay A. Stauffer is the Deputy Commander, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, 81st Medical Group, Keesler AFB, Mississippi. She received a Bachelors Degree in Mathematics in May 1976 from Douglass College, a division of Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey. She also holds an additional Bachelors Degree in Health Administration, and a Masters Degree in Business. Colonel Stauffer was a Distinguished Graduate of the Rutgers University Air Force ROTC program, was commissioned a second lieutenant in May 1976, and served four years as a Communications Officer. Colonel Stauffer left the Air Force in 1980. She returned to active duty in October 1988 and was commissioned a first lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps. Her various assignments included Resource Manager (Homestead AFB FL), Facility Manager, Medical Readiness Officer, and Squadron Section Commander (Misawa AB, Japan). She was selected to teach at the Health Services Administration course at Sheppard AFB and became the Course Supervisor in 1994. She then served as Deputy Chief, Medical Support division, Office of the Air Surgeon, Air National Guard Readiness Center, Andrews AFB MD. She assumed her present position in July 2001. Colonel Stauffer has three children – Sarah, who received her commission as a 2Lt from the United States Air Force Academy in May 2002, and two children still living at home, Alexandria, 7 and Jesse, 4.

Captain Dan Blake graduated from Andrews University, Michigan, and was directly commissioned into the Medical Service Corps in August 1992. His initial assignment was as Director, Patient Administration at Malmstrom AFB Clinic, Montana, where he also served as Director, Managed Care, Interim Logistics Flight Commander and TRICARE Flight Commander. He moved in June 1996 to Peterson AFB Clinic, Colorado, and was the TRICARE Flight Commander. In August, 1997, he went to Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Peterson AFB, Colorado, as Command TRICARE Officer/Health Benefits and Policy. During a hiatus from the Air Force between December 1998 and July 2000, Blake worked in civilian healthcare as the Network Liaison Coordinator for UnitedHEALTH NETWORK in Portland, Oregon. Returning to active duty in July 2000, he is the Business Operations & Beneficiary Support Flight Commander, Resource Management Officer, Medical Support Squadron Operations Officer, and Unit Public Affairs Representative at F.E. Warren AFB Clinic, Wyoming. Danny resides in Cheyenne, Wyoming, with his wife Taffy and baby daughter Emilie.

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Major Jerome "John" Hyzy served 7 years as an airman before graduating from the College of Santa Fe. He was commissioned as an MSC and completed Health Services Administration (HSA) in Class 91A. Duty assignments since then have taken him to K.I. Sawyer, Maxwell, Wright Patterson, and Scott Air Force Bases. He also did an Education With Industry (EWI) tour at BJC Health Systems in St. Louis with a practice management focus. He has had a wide variety of traditional medical administrative roles to include Readiness, Personnel and Administration, Patient Administration, Resource Management, Managed Care/TRICARE, Marketing, and Practice Management. He is currently the course developer/instructor/field consultant for the AFMS Group Practice Management Course in the "schoolhouse" at Sheppard AFB. John resides in Wichita Falls, Texas, with his wife, Julie, and two children.

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## New web site spotlights war on terror

By Linda D. Kozaryn

### American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, May 13, 2002 -- The U.S. Defense Department's unconventional war against terrorism has spawned an unconventional Web site to report news about that war: WWW. Defend America.mil.

The new site, which can also be found at Defend America.gov, offers the latest news, photographs, transcripts and other information about the U.S.-led global effort against terrorism. As Defend America's editor, David Jackson, put it: "If it has anything to do with the war, we're interested."

The Defense Department launched the site before Operation Enduring Freedom began last October. The goal was to inform the public, both in the U.S. and abroad, of what the U.S. was doing to combat global terrorism, according to Victoria Clarke, assistant secretary of defense for public affairs.

"We wanted people to know what our service members were doing at home and overseas," the Pentagon spokeswoman said. "Our goal is to help the public understand and appreciate how dedicated and committed our men and women in uniform really are."

Although Defend America has been available to the public for only seven months, it already boasts readers in more than 70 countries, and links to it can be found on Web sites all over the Internet, according to Jackson, a veteran newspaper and magazine journalist who was brought on board to edit Defend America.

Content on the site changes daily, Jackson said, and includes coverage of every Pentagon briefing by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and other top military officials.

A feature called "Americans Working Together" reports on the myriad ways Americans are working together to combat terrorism, while "Profile" spotlights individuals and the roles they play in the war effort. Archives of both features can be accessed on the site.

A daily feature titled "We Remember Their Sacrifice" pays tribute to each victim who died in last year's Sept. 11 attack on the Pentagon.

Military buffs have found the site to be a rich source of information on military aircraft and equipment. A section called "Database" offers technical information about a wide range of military systems and equipment, from the perennial M-16 rifle to the newest Predator aerial vehicle. Another section, "Backgrounder," offers information on subjects from Afghanistan to weather and its influence on warfare. The site also contains links to other U.S. government and military Web sites along with streaming audio and video news stories.

Probably the most popular feature, according to Jackson, has been Defend America's Photo Gallery archive, which offers photo essays by Joint Combat Camera and other military photographers that chronicle the progress of the war, from the Sept. 11 terrorists' attacks to the current campaign to help Afghanistan rebuild after years of civil war and unrest.

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## MSC Friends

I was diagnosed with esophageal cancer recently & have undergone one surgical procedure to repair an aneurism at the base of my brain. I will have fairly extensive surgery at MD Anderson in Houston which will involve removal of my voice box & reconstruction of my esophagus with a portion of my lower intestine. Some may want to help me along with prayers, etc.

Thanks,  
Al Strentzsch

UPDATE!

Al underwent a 14 hour surgery 9 AM until the plastic surgeon closed the final wound at 11 PM!

The surgeon said they got all of the primary tumor, but there were some residual pre-cancerous growths that they would go after aggressively with radiation. He will have radiation and chemo, about eight weeks of each.

# TAPS

We can only publish the information provided to us. In many instances all we know is that a friend has passed away.

Col Fred Ehardt

Capt John Quirk of Sioux Falls SD

LtCol Herman Marmelstein 16 Jul 2001

Maj Robert O. Granberry who passed away 29 March 2002.

Col Pat Grey's wife Joan recently passed away.

LtCol John E Curtis died in Canada

LtCol William H Newton died in Arkansas

Lt Col Francis X. Mike Nolan (USAF, RET), 84, died Wednesday 1 May 2002, at Mary Immaculate hospital, Hampton VA after a short illness. A native of Rockford IL he was a veteran of World War II and a Bronze Star recipient. He was a graduate of Georgetown University and was commissioned in the U.S. Air Force in 1952. He served in the Medical Service Corps until his retirement in 1975. Following his retirement Col. Nolan was an active community volunteer, serving as a docent and as a volunteer at the Langley Air Force Base hospital. He was a member of St. Joseph's Church in Hampton.

Col. Nolan is survived by his wife Yong S. Blue Nolan of Hampton.

Lt Col Hubert T. Short of Colorado Springs, Colorado died on 10 April 2002. He is survived by his wife Evelyn.

Col Ernest Hannah, died on 13 Jan 2002. He is survived by his wife Marian.

Col Jimmy C Brown

LtCol Mahlon P Clark 9 May 2002

LtCol Francis X. Nolan 1 May 2002

LtCol Howard F Phillips 30 May 2002

Col Raymond "Mac" McClean's wife Pat passed away 27 June 2002.

Col Robert W Martindale 11 June 2002

LtCol Joseph M Fuller 18 June 2002

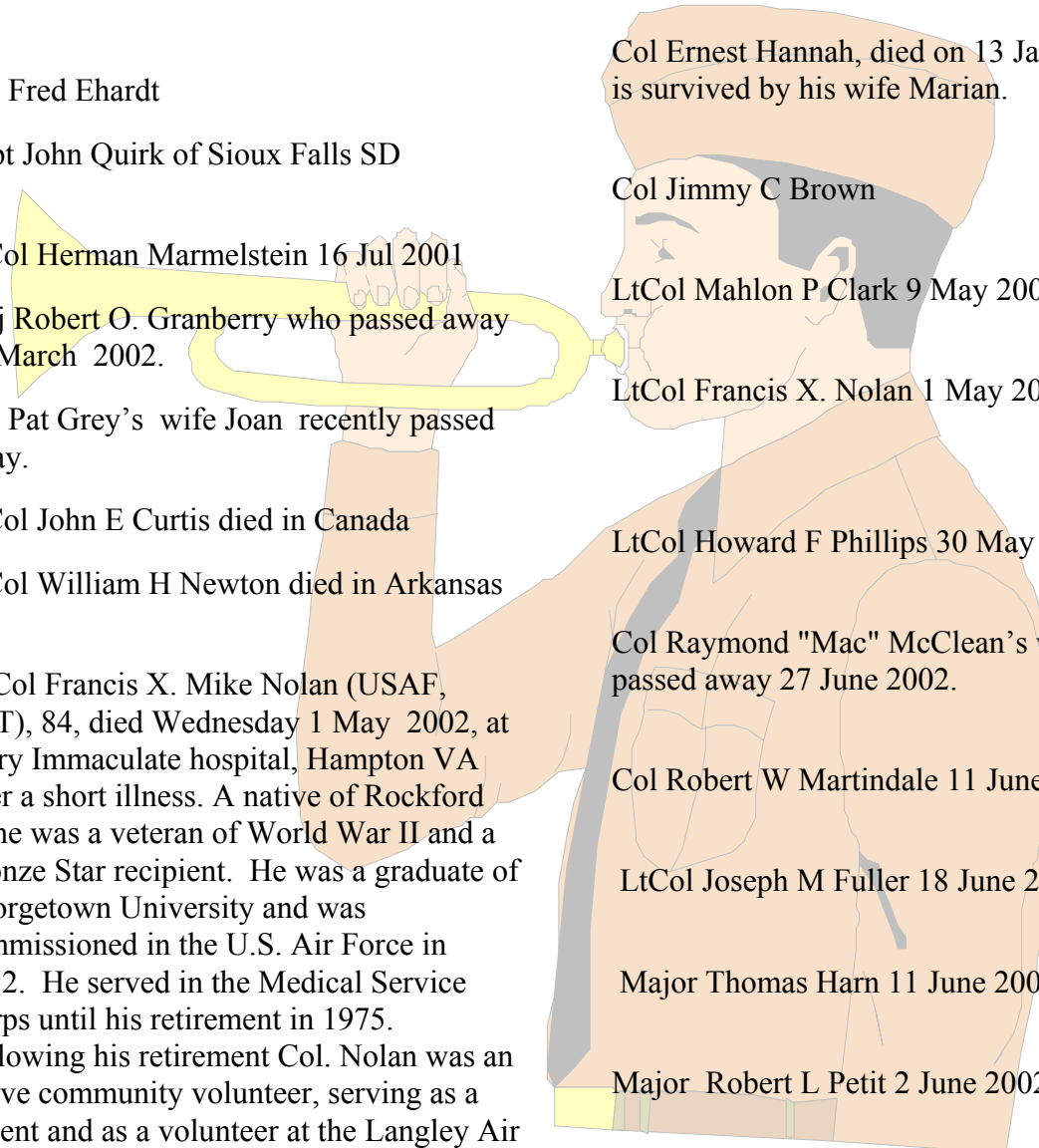
Major Thomas Harn 11 June 2002

Major Robert L Petit 2 June 2002.

Major John C Carden Palmetto GA

Major John R Gillis

Captain Frank H Tabor



## STILL SERVING!

Congratulations to Col. Fred Graves, USAF MSC (RET) LFACHE, on his recent election as Senior-vice-commander of the Military Order of the World Wars for the State of Florida.

The national organization established in the 1920's provides opportunities for officers of all uniformed services to participate in properly honoring "old glory" and fostering youth development by especially supporting rotc/jrotc and boy/girl scout achievement award programs, and conducting youth leadership conferences ranging from 3 to 4 days and/or one day seminars.

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Note from the editor:

When I received the above notice from Fred Graves, I thought that it was time that I included information on my Still Serving. As newsletter editor I had been reluctant to include any items about myself, but with Fred's Still Serving bit, here goes.

LtCol Arthur H. Small, USAF MSC (RET) LAFACHE, was promoted Col in the New York Guard Air Division.

The New York Guard is part of the State Defense Force authorized by the State Constitution. About six years ago it was decided that there should be an Air component. Col Small was approached by a fellow retiree and asked if he would be interested in helping form this new organization. It was like the Army Air Corps splitting off to become the USAF.

After serving as Director of Medical Services for two years Col Small relinquished this position to a newly recruited physician and was appointed Chief of Staff, the position he currently holds.

On September 11, 2001 many members of the Air Division were activated to perform duties in New York City and at New York Air National Guard Bases throughout the state. For two months our duty shifts were twelve hours. There are still a number of Air Division members on state active duty manning the ANG desk at the State Joint Operations Center.

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## MSC HISTORY

Our MSC Historian, Jimmy Sanders, IS APPEALING TO US ALL FOR MORE INFORMATION on MSCs and their accomplishments. In particular, information is needed about people (AND THEIR STORIES) in the following areas:

- a. MSC Commanders
- b. Medical Recruiters
- c. Hospital Administrators
- d. Wife accomplishments and their views
- e. Women MSCs
- d. Accomplishments after retirement (Like Colonel Billy Simmons was Director of the Mississippi Medicaid Program).

Jimmy wants your stories E-mailed, if possible, but will take anything--including documents! Send any historically beneficial photographs that will help add to the MSC story. Jimmy's mail address is: 10850 U.S. HWY 331, Montgomery, AL 36105. E-mail: [paradox@zebra.net](mailto:paradox@zebra.net). Telephone: 334-613-6851. Jimmy will also contact you if you like.

## Greetings from Colorado Springs!

I appreciate the opportunity to bring you an update from the active duty side and highlight a significant event in the life of our Corps. Let me begin with the big milestone. On 16-17 Aug 02 at Sheppard AFB, TX we celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Health Services Administration (HSA) course. It was a spectacular affair and first I'd like to congratulate Col Jeannie Kearney, Commander of the 882<sup>nd</sup> Medical Training Group and her staff for their highly successful efforts in sponsoring the events. In particular, I need to recognize Capt Sandra Keesee and Capt Jeff Henderson who did most of the heavy lifting in pulling the celebration together – the future of our Corps and Air Force is in great hands with dynamic young officers like these two training the MSCs of tomorrow. Both Jeff and Sandra are instructors at the HSA course.

The celebration began with a best ball golf tournament on Friday...the 90 participants were greeted with typical Texas weather – hot, humid and breezy...and despite some of the scores, a good time was had by all. The winners were a combined retiree and active duty team of Col(R) Bob Hauser, LtCol(R) Biff Hatton, Maj Pat Dawson and Capt Evyn Helber. Like all the events, the tournament was first class, thanks in large part to generous support from retired LtCol Ralph Riccardi (a former HSA instructor) and Omega Health Systems out of Tampa, Fl and Mr. Bev Foster and First Command in Wichita Falls, TX. Following the tournament, there was a catered Texas-style barbeque attended by approximately 150 where the awards for the tournament were presented and good fellowship was had until the early evening.

On Saturday, we were treated to an Open House at the HSA building. Refreshments were provided for the approximately 175 guests and memorabilia from past years was displayed. It was a great time for refreshing memories and swapping war stories about our HSA experiences. Saturday evening was the grand finale as we celebrated both the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the graduation of Class 02-C as the 162<sup>nd</sup> class to graduate from HSA. Attended by over 200, this was a time to reflect on 50 years of Excellence in training and education and congratulate Class 02-C on their successful completion of the course. Though 50 years has passed since the first class graduated in December 1952 and many things have changed in our world, one thing that has remained a constant in our family, is that we all begin with the Health Services Administration course...for 50 years, MSC officers have started their AF careers at Health Services Administration learning the basic skills and knowledge they would need to perform their duties as health care professionals. The curriculum has obviously changed over time, and that change continues today; and the instruction methods have kept pace with the newest techniques and approaches in academia. There have been other significant changes in the course over the years, even the name and location – first called the Basic Course in Medical Administration and located at Gunter AB in beautiful Montgomery, AL. The course moved from Gunter to Sheppard AFB in 1966...and if the students of today think the current course of 11 weeks seems long, the original course was 14 weeks and included a week long field exercise. The name of the course was changed from the Basic Course in Medical Administration to Health Services Administration in July 1969. Since its beginning through today, the course has trained and graduated approximately 5,306 MSC officers.

Quite a legacy indeed, as these officers have gone on to serve their country in times of peace and conflict to include the Korean War, in Viet Nam, during the Cold War, the Persian Gulf War, and continue serving today in Operation Enduring Freedom...providing critical service and support to sustain our fighting men and women, ensure their families receive the best quality health care possible, and also ensure our retirees, of all ages now, have access to top quality

health care services, no matter where they live. Whether we served in Korea in the 1950's, Viet Nam in the 60's, Japan in the 70's, California in the 80's, Saudi Arabia in the 90's, or Afghanistan today, the one thing we all share as MSCs is Health Services Administration ...it is our common bond and our shared beginning. No matter where we came from, or how we got here...the one thing we share is how we got started.

We were honored with the presence of many "alumni" at the celebration, with at least one class from 1975 to 2002 represented, plus we had class representatives from class 1956A, 1957A, 1961C, 1964A, 1964C, 1970B, 1970C, 1971D and 1972B. We were also privileged to have three past Corps Chiefs in our midst for the evening: Maj Gen (R) Michael Wyrick, Brig Gen (R) Peter Bellisario and Col Frank Rohrbough. Collectively the attendees traveled more than 80,000 miles to attend the weekend's events. All in all, a great occasion where we celebrated 50 years of excellence for what has gone on in the past and now look forward to the next 50 years for continued excellence in the future. As I mentioned, we also honored Class 02-C for their completion of HSA at the Dining Out...what a wonderful group of new officers we welcomed to the MSC family. They are bright, dedicated, hard working and clearly motivated...yet another bunch of reasons to be optimistic about the future.

In addition to Mr. Riccardi and Mr. Foster, we had several other sponsors for the celebration whose very kind donations made possible these events. Other friends of the 50<sup>th</sup> were the MSC Association, retired LtCol Bobby Bunker and Aperture Credentialing, Inc., retired Colonel Dave Baker in Memory of Wesley H. Baker and Humana Military Healthcare Services, HSA Class 02-B, HSA Class 02-C, 1stLt Bill Sorrells, the Andrews AFB MSCs, the USAFE MSCs, and Major Mike Schwartz, USAFR. On behalf of all the men and women of the Medical Service Corps, I'd like to very publicly thank all of our sponsors for their generosity and support.

I also wanted to mention that the Senior MSC Council and Associate Corps' Chiefs met at Sheppard just prior to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration to continue our work on the MSC Relook. We are making tremendous progress through this effort in evaluating key administrative processes, enhancing career development and personnel management and assessing Corps' requirements for the future. I'll cover some of the details of the Relook in a future newsletter, but I did want to mention that we have finalized our MSC recruitment briefing. This is a briefing we developed as a tool for those who have the opportunity to visit colleges, universities, ROTC detachments and the like and want to assist in an ongoing effort to attract the best and brightest for our Air Force. I want to say a special thanks to Gen Don Wagner, who mentored us through the development of this product to ensure it would be relevant and understandable by today's students. We are very proud of this briefing and if any of you are interested in a copy, just drop me an email at [stephen.meigs@peterson.af.mil](mailto:stephen.meigs@peterson.af.mil) and I'll have it on its way to you.

Thanks for your time and I'll look forward to sharing more from the active duty perspective in future newsletters.

Col Steve Meigs

Chief, Medical Service Corps

**USAF MSC Association, Inc.**

3225 Rivera Court

Fairfield CA 94533-7126

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL FORM**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Retirement (if retired), or date of retirement eligibility: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a **NEW** application or a **RENEWAL** (circle one)

Current status: Active Duty USAFR/ANG Retired

Dues Payment Plan: Annual - **\$20.00** Life - **See schedule below**

**Declaration:** I (agree) (do not agree) to my name, address, phone number, spouse's name and email address being released to other members of the USAF MSC Association.

(Signature of Applicant) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP DUES SCHEDULE**

(Payable in Four Quarterly Installments)

<u>Age in Years</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Over 85	Waived
81 - 85	\$60
76 - 80	\$80
71 - 75	\$200
66 - 70	\$250
61 - 65	\$295
56 - 60	\$335
51 - 55	\$360
50 & under	\$395

Send completed application **with dues payment** to Col Ken Mackie,

Association Secretary, address at top of page.

(Make check payable to: USAF MSC Association)