

Retired Air Force Fire Chiefs' Network
QUARTERLY NETWORK NEWS



*Legendary Pioneers Who Reminisce About the Past
But Focus on the Future*

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Founded by Doug Courchene

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Another summer is here. Wow time does fly. I certainly look forward to some "lazy days of summer." However, as I look at my schedule of things I am committed to, it does not look very favorable for having much time at home. But, I will try to make the best of what I do get. Recent confrontations with family illnesses have kept Miss Evelyn and me away from home quite frequently. I am trusting that this will not be the normal for our summer. I want to thank all of you who contributed to this edition of the QNN. Without your efforts the QNN would be a blank piece of paper. I am basically the person that assembles your inputs and arranges them in the final product. Again, thank you. (Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders, CMSgt, USAF Retired, Sandy6T5@comcast.net)

TAPS



DAVID W. MORRIS
Dover, Delaware:
David W. Morris, 59,
died Sunday, May 2,
2010, at his home.
Born in West Grove,
Pa., he was the son of
the late David C.
Morris and Florence
Frist Morris. David

was a 1968 graduate of Oxford High School and later received a degree in fire science from Delaware Technical & Community College. He served as Assistant Fire Chief at Dover Air Force Base where he retired in 2007 after 34 years of service. Additionally, David served as Deputy Fire Chief during his assignment with the Delaware Air National Guard. For the past several years, he was Fire Marshal for West Conshohocken Borough and a member of the George Clay Fire Company, West Conshohocken. David was a life member of the Citizens Hose Company of Smyrna and played in the fire company band. He was an Eagle Scout, enjoyed model trains, was a NASCAR enthusiast and was a member of the Archer Epler Musketeer Drum & Bugle Corps. He is survived by his wife of eight years, Kimberley Wentzel Morris; three sons, Christopher Morris of Oxford, Michael Morris of Clayton and Thomas Morris of Drexel Hill; two stepchildren, Jessica Kelly of Havertown, Pa., and Kenneth Kelly of Drexel Hill; and a brother, Kenneth Morris of Rising Sun, Md. Memorial contributions in David's name may be made to a charity of your choice.

The men and women of the Air Force Base Fire and Emergency Services learned with great sorrow of the passing of retired Assistant Fire Chief for Fire Prevention, GS-10, Mr. David Morris, who passed in the early hours of Sunday, 2 May 2010. Dave culminated 45 years in Air Force Fire and Emergency Services retiring 28 June 2007. He served 34 years in Civil Service following four years active duty Air Force (Lackland Air Force Base, Texas; Francis E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming; Royal Air Force Alconbury, United Kingdom; Dover Air Force Base, Delaware) and seven

years with the Delaware ANG in Newcastle. While with the Delaware Air National Guard, he attained the rank of MSgt and duty position of Deputy Fire Chief. While at Dover Air Force Base, Dave served as Firefighter, Crew Chief, Assistant Fire Chief for Operations, Acting Fire Chief, and closed out his prestigious career as Assistant Fire Chief for Fire Prevention. A few major accomplishments that Dave will be best remembered for are:

- C-5 firefighting tactics and strategy plan.

- Dover Air Force Base Coordinator for the first Kent County, Delaware Local Emergency Operations Plan.

- Quality Control for Design and construction of our new fire station, opened in 2005. Dave often slept in a construction trailer ensuring he would be on site ensuring quality work by contactors during the 2-year construction phase.

- Provided oversight for specifications and the procurement process for our Rescue Vehicle.

- Exhaustive photo compilation of U.S. Military Fire Vehicles from the late 1800s to 2007.

- 29 years, 7 months service, 1,497 alarms, marching firefighter band member, and Assistant Chief Engineer as a volunteer with the Citizens Hose Company, Smyrna, DE.

- Bringing his 26-piece firefighter marching band to Dover AFB for Fire Prevention Week parades.

- Marching band music pouring out of Dave's office every morning from 0700 to 0750.

Dave will forever be missed by his Fire Protection family.

(Rodney Coleman, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, zoners4@comcast.net)

Editor's Note: *Dave Morris was a sound fire officer and consistently conducted himself in a professional manner. I was fortunate to have worked alongside Dave on a product assessment project prior to my retirement from the Air Force. He was certainly impressive in his ability to work with others in the accomplishment of a difficult task. I agree with Chief Coleman "Dave will forever be missed." (Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders CMSgt, USAF, Retired Sandy6T5@comcast.net)*

ERNEST DOUGLAS "ERNIE" RIVERS left us on May 13, 2010 while sitting in his car in the shade under a tree. Ernie Rivers was born on May 26, 1935, in Jacksonville, Florida. He served in the military for 23 years as a crash rescuer, firefighter and fire chief.



After retiring from the Air Force, he worked for the Housing Office at Yokota Air Base, Japan, for nearly 20 years as a housing inspector. Once retired from the Housing Office, he worked at Yokota Par 3 alongside his best friend, Eugene 'Mac' McDaniel. After working three years at Par 3, he decided to enjoy retired life by keeping occupied with things he loved: being with family and friends, living spiritually, practicing his religious beliefs, hanging out at Par 3, and most of all enjoying his brand new granddaughter. A memorial service was held on June 11, 2010, at the Main Chapel Yokota Air Base, Japan. (Eris Pitts, daughter of Ernest Rivers)

Editor's Note: *Although I never worked with Ernie while he was serving active duty in Air Force Fire Protection, I did get to know and work with him while I served as Fire Chief at Yokota Air Base, Japan. He contributed much to the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron and the Yokota community. I am sure he will be missed. (Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders CMSgt. USAF, Retired Sandy6T5@comcast.net)*

Genkidesuka! Chief Sanders and Evelyn-san; I give you sad news from Japan. Mr Heido Kobashi died two weeks ago (around 1 March 2010). The funeral service was limited to his family only. The cause of death was from diabetes-related cancer. I plan to notify Chief Bill Moore and other old friends. (Nishimura Keiichi, Japanese National Assistant Fire Chief keiichi.nishimura@yokota.af.mil)



**Mr Hideo Kobashi
Senior Japanese National
Assistant Fire Chief (Retired)
Yokota Air Base, Japan**

Sandy, just a few lines about Mr Kobashi. I first met him at Tachikawa Air Base, Japan, in January 1962. He worked along with other dispatchers in the main fire department dispatch center. As a young firefighter on my first assignment I don't really remember having much contact with Mr Kobashi during that tour. However I do remember very vividly his sincere desire and willingness to help young military firefighters find their way around Japan. He was always available to assist and even accompany us off base to various locations to view and experience the Japanese culture. He really helped me upon my marriage to a great Japanese lady; making appointments with the appropriate officials and helping cut through the red tape within the US Embassy. On my return to Japan in the early 1970s, Mr Kobashi was employed at Yokota Air Base as the Senior Japanese National Assistant Fire Chief having replaced Yonehara-san. He still maintained that same demeanor about himself to help individual firefighters grow not only as men but also in their career progression. He handled every job extremely well as he did all tasks in life. He was more than an assistant to me but a true friend who will be missed. William A. Moore, CMSgt, USAF, Retired (william.a.moore4@us.army.mil)

I remember him well. What a gentleman. (CMSgt Wayne Kee, CMSgt, USAF, Retired Wayne.M.Kee@nasa.gov)

Kobashi-san will be missed.
Stephen W. Lee Lt Col, USAF, Retired
(Stephen.W.Lee.ctr@tinker.af.mil)

Chief... Hey.. Good morning.... so very sorry to hear about Mr. Kobashi. He was a very nice man. Caron & I had a great time with him when he visited Luke AFB, even messing with him when he tried to pay for things (meals, drinks etc.) As our guest we would not let him pay for anything. He finally got back at us, by leaving money in a thank you card which we discovered after we saw him off at the airport. Certainly a memorable visit from a very nice man. Just the other day I was thinking about him and your retirement when I ran across pictures from the occasion. (Ronald Martin, Azfiredog@cox.net)

I knew Mr Kobashi also. I worked with him when I was stationed at Yokota. I remember him assisting me with some Operating Instructions (OIs as we used to call them) and checklist translations. He was very nice, kind, and respectable. (Freddie Thompson, Jr., CMSgt, USAF, Retired freddie.thompson@fe.navy.mil)

Chief, sorry to hear about your friend Mr Kobashi passing. You introduced me to him at your retirement. He was very impressive and appeared to be a very humble and kind person. (Benjamin Reese Benjamin.Reese@tinker.af.mil)

Sorry to hear about the death of Mr Kobashi. He was a superb individual. I remember after his retirement he would come and visit us in the department. He was a gentleman and was always willing to help our young firefighters. I am certain he will be missed. (Forest Johnson, Forest.Johnson@robins.af.mil)

Sandy, thank you for the information about Mr. Kobashi's passing. I am sorry to hear of his passing. (Richard Zumbahl, DAF CE Director, richard.zumbahl@brooks.af.mil)

Hoyd, While I did not work with Mr. Kobashi, please pass my condolences to his family. v/r, PATRICK A. SHEEHAN, CMSgt, USAF, AFSPC A7 CE MFM

Editor's Note: All of us at some time in our lives will use the term: "He was/is my Right-Hand Man". Mr Kobashi was that



and more to me while I served as Fire Chief at Yokota Air Base, Japan. When I learned of his passing I immediately

reminisced about the numerous times Mr Kobashi very kindly talked to me and offered a better way to get something accomplished or times when he provided me guidance to work a personnel issue concerning our Japanese National personnel. Mr Kobashi was the catalyst working to renew a Mutual Aid Agreement



with the City of Tokyo. As you might guess having an agreement with one of if not the largest Fire Departments in the world and working through

an agreement renewal were tremendous challenges. Many things within the agreement had gone dormant for several years. Additionally, the political aspects of the relationship between our departments was quite strained. It certainly was in the best interest of the United States Air Force to have a solid relationship with our host Nation and especially the Tokyo Fire Department. Through Mr Kobashi's leadership, we were able to "mend fences" and establish a strong relationship between our departments. Mr Kobashi had a great challenge on his hands attempting to make a "silk purse from a sow's ear." My being more country than Loretta Lynn, George Jones, or Ben Partin; having extremely limited knowledge of Japanese customs and tradition; and further handicapped by not being able to speak anything in the Japanese language made it a monumental task for him. However, this was not about me. Lots of time I would just sit or stand and look stupid while Mr Kobashi did all

the work. Then he would turn to me and say something that sounded like "di jo,"



which I later found out when translated into English roughly means "OK." Mr Kobashi brought our departments together. The agreement was revitalized and

implemented. Almost immediately, we were training together and sharing knowledge concerning tactics and strategies for high-rise firefighting. Yokota gained much from this because there were numerous high-rise military family housing facilities on base.

I might point out in the above photo that



Mr Kobashi is sitting at the right hand of the Tokyo Fire Chief--a place of honor and respect. What a great honor it was for me to serve with Mr Kobashi. He introduced me to many aspects of the Japanese culture and as a side note many friends were made in the process. What great lessons I learned by observing Mr Kobashi. He exhibited exceptional kindness, extreme courtesy, true compassion, generosity to a fault, and dedication to his work and



family. During Mr Kobashi's tenure at Yokota Air Base, there were untold numbers of military firefighters who served a tour of duty there. I believe Mr Kobashi had a positive impact on each of them. I was

fortunate to be there for Mr Kobashi's retirement from the Fire Service. What great service he provided the United States. As a young boy he took it upon



himself to learn to speak and write English When the war in the Pacific ended and General MacArthur became Governor there was a great need for translators. He was hired and began translating English documents

into Japanese and Japanese documents into English--thus beginning a long career of service with Americans. It would be easy for me to provide numerous anecdotes about his experiences and career with the Air Force. It is sufficient to say he served our nation (America) with dignity and honor for some 55 years. At his retirement he did not talk about himself but related much about those whom he worked with and the many American friends he had acquired during his life. Like Chief Bill Moore said "He was more than an assistant to me but a true friend." What a surprise and honor it was when Miss Evelyn and I learned Mr Kobashi had flown from Japan to Luke Air



Force Base, Arizona to attend my retirement from Federal Service. We will never forget Mr Hideo Kobashi. The regret I have is that he did not get to spend enough time

with his grandson playing baseball. (Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, Sandy6T5@comcast.net)

READERS' COMMENTS

Sandy, I have not talked to you for a while. Had a little trouble with my right hip, had to have a right hip replacement but doing alright so far, just takes time. Well Sandy, 40 years ago today I retired from the US Air

Force at Dover AFB, Delaware. My, how time has passed us by. In the last couple of years and most recently, I have lost quite a few old friends who have gone home to be with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: Ralph McHenry, Hugh Pike, Bob Barrow, and Rodney Winningham to name a few. I hope and pray all is well with you and your loved ones. Keep up the good work you have been doing. Charles "Chuck" Peters (cpeters5@comcast.net)

Chief Sanders, thank you for sending the newsletter by mail. I had forgot to put the "m" in my e-mail address so I did not receive it electronically. Well I went down to Luke AFB for Paul Maciel's retirement ceremony and party in February. They had a nice retirement for him and included his wife also. I thought that was very nice. I had a good visit with the military Fire Chief and the first sergeant. Chief Carl Bobizien was there as was Chief Messerschmitt. Both of them are doing well. It was a great visit with all the firefighters. I retired with 35 years of Fire service in 1991, and it really made me feel old when I found out Maciel was retiring with 35 years of Fire service also. He was one of our best rescue men and I was glad to see him get a great retirement ceremony and party. During my time in the fire service, I served on the Phoenix Metropolitan Area Valley Fire Chiefs Association and the West Side Chiefs Group. So, I became friends with Chief Alan Brunacini and Chief Kahn who is now Phoenix Fire Chief. I was just thinking the other day how I used to just pick up the phone and call Bruno and tell him I had a good military firefighter getting discharged looking for a job and I would send them down and they would be hired. That is impossible to do today. Recently there were some firefighter positions open in Mesa. Several thousand people showed up to take the test. Thanks for putting my article in the newsletter I have always wondered if Jim Hotel ever retired into that golf pro shop he had talked about years ago. Stay healthy and well and enjoy life, Thanks again for all your work with the newsletter. I really look forward to receiving it. (Hugh Shaw, shawwmranch@aol.com)

It's been a long time since I've had any involvement with a lot of old friends. I ran across your name looking for General

Ahearn and CMSgt Larry Daniels. They are my next email. I pray you're in good health and doing well. I've been the Chief Operation Officer of John Hagee Ministries in San Antonio TX for 19 years. My son Brandon just graduated from the Lackland NCO Academy as a distinguished graduate. He's a chaplain's assistant (TSgt) stationed at Wilford Hall. My wife Lana and I have 4 grandkids and are truly blessed. I'm hitting a golf ball occasionally and have a coast house in Port Aransas TX and fish often. Please send an email and tell me about all you have been doing. I would love to get the QNN publication. I definitely did not find your name on a wall; you have had a great career doing what you love. I have lots of respect (well deserved) for you in the firefighting business. I have been out of touch with the military for almost all my 20 years of retirement. I have stayed in San Antonio and been active in the home groups (bible study and fellowship) for almost 22 years with my church, Cornerstone. In 1991 I was asked to help in the TV ministry to develop a prayer and order line for calls coming in from around the nation. (Not unlike a service call desk, but with a different purpose!) The Lord has blessed the various departments I have been in charge of, and about 5 years ago Pastor Hagee put me in charge of the TV ministry and the COO (Chief Operations Officer). I travel often with Pastor Hagee and have enjoyed what I have been called to do. God has been good and met all our needs. Sounds like your kids are all doing fine. My son Brandon met his wife while stationed in Panama Canal and they have two kids, Joshua and Isabel. My daughter graduated from college at UT San Antonio and taught school for 5 years and has been working in the TV ministry for over 10 years. She and her husband Darren have two kids, Trevor and Ethan. Thank you for putting me on the publication list. I do have one other request, can I get Chief Moore's email address. We go back to my days at Yokota 70-73. (Terry Thompson, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, terry-t@sbeglobal.net)

Editor's Note: What a surprise it was to hear from CMSgt Terry Thompson. He was the best Civil Engineer Career Field Assignment guys we ever had during my tenure in the USAF. I am sure several of

you will remember him taking care of you and your folks' assignments. Great to hear from him and will make sure he is on the mailing list for the QNN. Welcome Terry! (Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, Sandy6T5@comcast.net)

Chief Sanders, Marvin Jarrell (Joe) thanking you for the message concerning your family. Especially happy your daughter is doing well. I thank God I'm doing as well as I am. I have a serious infection requiring an antibiotic procedure every two weeks. The procedure takes about 2 hours. Some of them are very painful. My blood pressure checks out in the 106-60 range. My pulse 60-68 and oxygen 95-98%! Therefore I am blessed in many ways. (Joseph M. Jarrell firechief6736@yahoo.com)

Chief, hope you and Miss Evelyn are doing well. I enjoy reading the QNN. There are lots of things going on with some fire folks I know. Jodi and I are doing well and have our hands full with three grandchildren. There are a lot of firefighters who miss your mentoring and friendship here at Luke. It's funny, I always will remember your words to me, "we are making memories," that is what the QNN newsletter is all about. We should cherish the memories we make, good or bad. Thanks for the work you do on the QNN. (Steve Kinkade, Stevejodi78@cox.net)

Hi Sandy, Hope this email finds you and yours well. It's been a long time. Saw the last QNN and as always, was impressed with your efforts and quality material. I have sent a check to your mailing address to help out. You may or may not know but Chief Joe Ybarra is retiring 31 Dec 10 with about 45 years of fire service. He is not much about fanfare but thought you might like to write a little something. Better yet, I will get something composed and email it to you. Could you then put it in the QNN? Thanks. (Robert Trowbridge, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, TrowbridgeRobert@aol.com)

Editor's Note: Bob... You are on! I will look for something from you for the January-March edition. Thanks for the offer of an article. I have known Chief Ybarra for many years. He made many great

contributions to Air Force Fire Protection. (Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, Sandy6T5@comcast.net)

Sandy – January - March... QNN edition par excellence! Something to consider for an article--Women in the Fire Service. We've never had a woman make Chief (I think Pam Todd retired as a senior and turned down chief due to an assignment). Pam was certainly on a fast track and Wendy Johnson (PhD) reached Master. Your thoughts? Early days in Air Force Fire Service most of the 3 stripes and above had a hook finger (coffee mug lock) and did not know how to operate a mower or shovel, at least the ones I worked for in the early years. But it changed over the years for the better. As Master Sergeants we buffed floors at Chanute there were no junior grades in the advanced courses. (George Hall, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, IFAC@COX.NET)

Editor's Note: George, I agree an article concerning the contributions women have made to Air Force Fire Protection would certainly be appropriate. I recall very vividly the resistance some had when the career field was opened to women. Additionally, I had the unenviable task of answering several Congressional Inquiries and participated in some investigations early on in the process. However, I personally believe it has been a good thing and am proud of the women firefighters I have had the opportunity to work with. I look forward to publishing the article you are going to do on the subject "Women In the Fire Service." Thanks. (Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, Sandy6T5@comcast.net)

Chief, how are you? I see you had a birthday not long ago, happy belated birthday! I am now retired from the Peoria, Arizona, Fire Department. I purchased a couple of years and retired early. Now, like you I am enjoying retirement. Additionally, my wife retired when school let out for the year. We now look forward to "Real Retirement." Thanks for the QNN. (George Weston, george1949@q.com)

Hi Sandy. How is everything going? I hope real fine. I just want to share some recent

information. I was selected as the 2010 Hall Of Fame Award recipient by my former high school (Omaha South High) Alumni Executive Board of Directors. The Award is based on my successes, achievements, and contributions to others since graduating in 1969. At one time, South High was the largest high school in the state of Nebraska with approximately 4,000 students in 1960s. (Robin Gullie, hulligulli@cox.net)

Editor's Note: Robin, I congratulate you on being selected for this award. It definitely says much about you. To be recognized for a Hall Of Fame Award by a school with such a large student body to compete against is AWESOME. A large portion of the readership of the QNN has known you for many years and realizes the Alumni Executive Board of Directors selected the right person. Again congratulations! (Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, Sandy6T5@comcast.net)

Another Great QNN, Thanks for all you do. Glad to hear that your family illness problems are finally getting better. Prayer and concerted effort by you and many of your friends have made this happen. We can all give GOD the glory. Mina & I are doing as well as can be expected concerning everything. If you get down to Panama City any time soon, give us a call and we will take you to lunch. (James R. Legg, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, leggman10@comcast.net)

Chief Sanders, this is Chief Joe Jarrell's granddaughter, Tanya. Chief Courchene has promoted me to Fire Commissioner. Chief Jarrell writes what he wants me to type so I am sending it along to you. "The recent QNN was very interesting. June 2nd was the Jarrell's 60th wedding anniversary. Our children secretly planned a party; however, I was unable to attend because I was hospitalized, I have never been pricked for blood so often and given so many antibiotics by IV. Chief, I am trying to locate MSgt William G. Carey. While I was assigned to headquarters 20th Air Force, Kadena Air Base, he was NCOIC. In 1958-59 I was assigned by him as NCOIC of Fire Prevention. Warrant Officer Carl Barker had rated it far below Air Force standards so I was expected to make improvements. MSgt Carey may have retired as an E-8 or

Chief (E-9). Will appreciate someone helping me locate or obtain information about him. Chief, I hope your family is well. As you know, your family is on our Texas Prayer Warriors' list. Blessings to you and your family.
(Joseph M. Jarrell & Fire Commissioner Tanya, firechief6736@yahoo.com)

Editor's Note: Joe, the word is out now. Hopefully someone will be able to provide you some information concerning MSgt William G. Carey. I would like to say congratulations on 60 years of marriage. In today's society that is a landmark accomplishment. Additionally, I would like to thank your granddaughter Tanya (the Fire Commissioner) for helping you with your e-mail to the QNN. (Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, Sandy6T5@comcast.net)

Sandy. Thanks again for including me on the QNN mailing. I am still working here at Hanscom in the Force Protection Program Office. Liz is 'holding down the fort in Crestview until I return. I do manage to get a TDY back to Eglin every 6 to 8 weeks which really helps out. Testing physical security technologies is very interesting work, but I really did enjoy my days working for and supporting USAF fire service (a true highlight of my working career). I was at Eareckson AFS (Shemya) 6 weeks ago testing a physical security installation and ran into 2 firefighters who live in the Panama City area. I sent them an email copy of the Jan-Mar QNN, and they enjoyed your articles. Both spent time in USAF fire protection and then got out and went into being contractors. Eareckson has converted to all contractors (no military or GS civilians) now, and there is a small group of firefighters. The Fire Chief is an ex Marine Fire Chief on the structural side. I sent Tom Vieth a get well card but haven't heard back from him. How is he doing? Liz says to say 'Hi' to both you and Evelyn and we pray that your doctor visits will slow down as the Lord heals you both. Thanks for undertaking the role of QNN Editor, senior writer, postman, etc. May the Lord continue to bless you and Evelyn today and each and every day.
(Wade H. Grimm, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, wade.grimm.ctr@hanscom.af.mil)

Sandy, how about a brief war story about an old fire chief? If you want to print it, feel free to edit as necessary--I didn't embellish too much. I was a TSgt and the Refrigeration Shop Foreman in Civil Engineering at Lajes Field in the Azores in 1979. One MSgt Chuck Risinger was the Lajes Fire Chief. And quite a swagger he presented when he went about his public relations duties. During the annual Combined Federal Campaign, Chuck made some pretty big predictions about contributions generated by the Fire Department. One thing led to another and soon there was a bet: if the Fire Department didn't beat the CE operations & Engineering Flights, he would publicly let the CE commander shave his (Chuck's) face with a fire axe in a broadcast televised live from the Armed Forces Radio and Television Station. I doubt anyone taped it, but what a sight it was. Chuck played the role well--the fire chief, humbled but still all pumped up with testosterone, standing over a bucket with the squadron commander wielding a well honed fire axe. As the lather dribbled and dropped into the bucket, the axe more or less scraped and pulled the hair from Chuck's face rather than cut it. I think the commander may have put some extra pressure on the blade--the bumps, welts and redness took nearly a week to heal. In the years following, whenever our paths crossed (we both ended up making CMSgt) I never let him forget that day.
(Ken E. Miller, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, Ken.miller.ctr@pentagon.af.mil)

Sandy. Thank you for the QNN. I hope all is well with you and the wife and daughter. I will get some stories to you for future editions of the QNN. I really appreciate the articles and all the fine comments that are contained in the QNN. It shows that those that left us will never be forgotten, and it certainly means a lot to the family members. I have been able to contact several of those I served with, such as Pete Semanick, Jim Legg, Dale Curtis, Jerry Ball, Duane Morgan not to mention some of them I served with on Choppers in the 60s--what a nice feeling to relive some great memories. Did not get a chance to go to the Pedro reunion but spoke with and e-mailed Len and will be staying in touch with him to

help out on the next one. Thanks again for an Outstanding Job. (Sonny Sonnenberg nsonnenberg1@cox.net)

PUBLISHING AND MAILING FUND



The QNN is privately funded by members' contributions. All donations are strictly voluntary as no membership fees are charged. Donations help pay postage and publishing costs, which include ink, paper, and maintenance of my old printer. Members have been extremely generous with contributions to financially support the QNN. Thank you for the funds you have contributed to keep this effort going. If you want to contribute by check please make it payable to "Hoyd O. Sanders, Jr., Editor QNN." If you want to send cash through the mail that is your call. The readership both by e-mail and hard copy through the United States Postal Service continues to grow. This is a good thing and I am happy to do this for those who want it. The contributors for this past quarter are: Dan Long (CMSgt, USAF, Retired), Ernest L. Lykins, Ted Taipalus, and Ken Klein. Before publishing and mailing this issue, we have \$1387.40 in the treasurer.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH DEPARTMENT

Chiefs & friends, the Air Force has come to the realization that mentorship programs are not just for the flying part of our community and a robust advertising campaign has ensued over the last 10 years to promote "MENTORSHIP" in all its various forms across the entire spectrum of the force. While this is a great initiative, it is not new or quite frankly very revealing for the Air Force Fire Protection community. The readers and addressees of the QNN are reflective of our tradition to mentor future fire protection leaders and pass on our traditions, experience, and values. Every quarter, when Sandy is not off on one mission or another, we receive the QNN in our email box. Some of you old

timers may think that it gets read by those of us still in service and reflect back upon the good times, smile at the stories, and agree silently with the writers as they impart wisdom upon us and then delete or file it away. And, you would be right. But that's not the end. In ANG, AFR, Air Force Contracted, Active Duty AF, AF Civilian, and yes civilian airport fire departments around the world, old guys like me are using this product as a mentoring tool for new generations of firefighters. We send them out with memos that include items for suggested reading. We use them in mentoring sessions with our Assistant Chiefs and NCOs. We discuss the articles in staff meetings and asked questions like "Why couldn't we do that today to fix this problem or that?". Chiefs....We are proud and honored to be part of a tradition founded and fostered by those who came before us. The names and faces that we see in this publication are our heroes. Every year we lose some of you, and our hearts sink for a moment but then we stick our chest out as we remember how "CHIEF" improved our life and made us better people. Mentorship, my friends, includes remembering the traditions of the past and honoring those who paved the way to our future. As I am fond of doing, I want to mention briefly just a few of the mentors that have acted and still act as guiding rods for me. I will not consume your time with tales of grandeur about these folks. It simply makes me feel good to put this down in writing. Like the most current and youngest mentor I have says "Ben, it's what you do." Chiefs: Terry Ford, TZ Sherrill, O.B. Kyle, Sandy Sanders, Bill Beyer, Mike Kern, Ben Palmerton, Randy Caratachea, Randy Moore, Art Hill, Charlie Kane, Mike Davis, Lew Everett, Dennis Sparks, Rod Coleman, Hugh Pike, Frank Cox, ; Col. Bob Montgomery, CMSgt Ben Reese, SMSgt Bill Reese, CMSgt Andrea Reese, Col. John Mogge, Lt Dan Rich, Lt Col Bill Todd, Col Diane Ordes, Dr. Loren Myree, Mrs. Evelyn Sanders, Mrs. Marge Sherrill, Amphon (Dim) Reese, and many others. I am getting old and can't remember names very well and there are a "gazillion" (to quote my grandson) others who deserve honorable mention. I guess what I am trying to convey here, in my overstated way, is that we have a great mentorship product in this

quarterly newsletter and a great tradition of mentorship that spans the generations that is not tied to formality or requirement. We just DO! Thank you all for your service and your ongoing mentorship. (Benjamin Reese, Benjamin.Reese@tinker.af.mil)

Editor's Note: What a good man Ben Reese is! My first encounter with Ben was in 1984 when I went to Clark Air Base, Republic of the Philippines as Fire Chief. I might add there were heel marks on the ramp at Tyndall AFB, Florida, where they dragged me out kicking and screaming and put me on an airplane to go to Clark. I had recently been part of an inspection team that visited Clark and things were not good. When I met Ben he was the logistics guy. Then I found out he was a cross trainee from supply. His tenure in supply did not last long. How does a cross trainee from supply working in fire protection supply learn anything about being a firefighter? Then I find that Ben had been asking the same question since he got there. He absolutely caught fire working to become a firefighter. He progressed as quickly as anyone I had ever seen. What a strong supporter I had in him. He helped turn the Fire Protection program at Clark around. He made tremendous contributions by providing sound NCOship to his subordinates. The Reese family has sacrificed much for our Air Force. CMSgt Ben Reese (Ben's Dad), CMSgt Andrea Reese and SMSgt Bill Reese (family members), and Ben himself are folks we can be proud of. (Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, Sandy6T5@comcast.net)

I want you to put into the next QNN a website that may be able to help those that are having trouble with their home mortgage or are in foreclosure. I work with a company called Money Management International (MMI). It a nonprofit organization offering its services FREE to those in home trouble. It is linked to the Treasury Department and they work to make homes affordable for many people in America to help them save their homes. The following website: MHA.gov will outline all the information. (Sonny Sonnenberg, nsonnenberg1@cox.net)

The Veterans Administration offers a benefit handbook entitled "Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors" which is available online. The handbook is published by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The handbook's chapters include such topics as VA pensions, home loans, medals and records, special veterans groups, and other federal benefits. The handbook can be viewed at www1.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp. You can view individual chapters or sections or you can download the entire document in pdf format.

(Wade H. Grimm, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, wade.grimm.ctr@hanscom.af.mil)

Sandy, in the May-June 2010 edition of my "DAV Magazine" page 34, "inquiries", I came across the following item which I thought you might wish to include in the next edition of the Quarterly Network News. "Searching for Dan Francis or Richard Mold stationed with me at Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany Fire Department between 1968 and 1971. AFSC was 57150. Please contact Bill Tauscher, 25 Spring Meadow Lane, Hampden, Massachusetts 01036-9702, Phone: (413) 566-1152. (William F. Ryan, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, chfchf2@comcast.net)

Chief, hope this finds you and Ms. Evelyn doing well and enjoying those grandsons! Thought I would send this to you and if you thought it worth anything could place it in the QNN, I believe it has merit but will leave it for your final decision since you usually make the final decision anyway. If you decide you would like to use it, please feel free to change any verbiage as I know you are a wordsmith, I would expect to see some red ink :)

LESSON LEARNED: I was fortunate enough in my career to work for some truly remarkable chiefs, such as Don Spitzer, Ralph McHenry, Bob Flanagan, and Hoyd Sanders. What an experience working for a group of individuals who were so devout in their belief in what they were doing and the trust they had in the people they led! You knew you were bound to learn a couple of things whether you wanted to or not. Some lessons though for me stuck out more than others, and I do my best to pass those

lessons on. Barksdale LA., 1993, I was an Engineer/Captain for Bob Flanagan's rescue crew riding with the likes of Buck Guillory and Pat Green. I was tasked one shift by Chief Flanagan with giving a Haz-Mat class since I had just graduated from Haz-Mat School hosted at Langley AFB, VA . I had everything set up but was asked by some personnel from the base hospital if I could help out teaching an EMT class. Being a senior ranking "Buck Sergeant," I thought I could make an educated decision on what would be best. So I decided against teaching Haz-Mat (Chief Flanagan's idea) and taught EMT instead (my idea). Well the shift went by with my class being finished. Shortly after dinner though Chief Flanagan decided we needed some A-10 egress training so off we went to show our prowess on extricating pilots from the Warthog! During this time Chief found out that the Haz-Mat class he directed to be given never happened. After all trucks were put in service Chief called us all together for our debrief as he always did giving kudos and pointers on ways to do things easier; after debriefing and before everyone went back to their vehicles though he asked me "King, how did that Haz-Mat class go"? I knew I was a dead man walking and everyone wanted to watch. In my best NCO voice I told him that I had not had a chance to give the class. He asked why and I wilted a little bit more. I explained that I was requested to help teach an impromptu EMT class which as you can surmise was not on Chief's radar as very important. To say Chief was annoyed with me would have been to say King Kong was a big monkey. Chief let me know what he thought about my decision-making abilities and how I should cultivate them while off duty. After I gave "his" Haz-Mat class, to say I was a whipped dog would be an understatement. Once we got back to Rescue Buck Guillory (Captain) looked at me with a smirk and stated "Man, King, I ain't ever seen the old man that mad, you really go all out in everything you do huh." I thanked him for raising my morale. We got back to the station, and I gave what could be said was one of the finest Haz-Mat classes ever given. When I completed though I had to go write out a training report (we still used paper and pen back then) which low and behold had to be filled out in the Assistant

Chief's office which Chief was currently sitting in. Now this is where the lesson comes in. I walked in the office, sat down behind the Station Captain's desk, and proceeded to fill out the AF 1085 Training Report waiting for another epic dressing down but none came! Chief did not say a word, just asked how the class went, and thanked me for taking care of it not even mentioning my lack of judgment on decision-making processes. Chief just went on like nothing had happened. What I learned that day from Chief Flanagan was it was OK to get irritated with your people (or in my situation, person), let them know how you feel, make sure they understand who makes the decisions and why, but once you were done let it go, no hard feelings, no grudges held. This became known as my "5-Minute Rule" which I used for the next 14 years of my career. I guess I just wanted Chief Flanagan to know what an impact he made on a young NCO and that impact is still felt today, thank you Chief.

(Rick King, MSgt, USAF, Retired, Firencrash@gmail.com)

A journey of a hundred pounds begins with one huge step. I'm privileged to work with a courageous man willing to go the extra mile in taking responsibility for his health, well-being, and most importantly his family. Ben Reese, like many of us at middle age and post-retirement, put on a few extra pounds. Those pounds added up to a point where Ben was not happy with himself or his current state of health. Ben undertook a tremendous step by having gastric bypass surgery. Some may think this was the "easy" way, but let me assure you... nothing about what Ben did was "easy." His journey began with a LOT of medical and psychological screening, followed by a strict pre-surgery diet of protein shakes and other low-cal items. Ben went under the knife and emerged a "new man." But to imagine that all one has to do is get your belly repiped to lose over 150 pounds is about as accurate as to think an oil change will overhaul a '66 Ford Pickup (not that Fords ever need overhauling mind you...). Ben dedicated himself to a tremendously regimented exercise program and diet restrictions. His progress was, in short, remarkable! Even his physician said Ben exceeded the standard! Ben has received

numerous compliments and is now a regular in the "Wildcatter Run," a monthly 5k conducted by our Wing. He not only completes the run but often passes Airmen 1/3 his age! I write this not to embarrass Ben but to praise him and hope that my fellow Chiefs out there will use Ben as an example. We are getting older We have been exposed to some pretty nasty stuff over our careers and have made it through one of the most dangerous career fields in the world. We owe it to ourselves, our brother and sister firefighters, and most importantly our families to be around for our retirement. I'm glad my friend Ben will be around for more years to come. Taking charge of his fitness and health made sure of that. Take care of yourselves and be around for those who love you. It's never too late. (CMSgt Terry Ford Terry.ford@tinker.af.mil)

PEDRO'S CORNER

Sandy, I don't have anything available for the Pedro Corner this time, but I'll prepare something for next edition. One quick historical note: The CALL SIGN PEDRO has been used in three conflicts. In Korea, as identified in the movie "Battle Taxi" Air Rescue Service (ARS) helicopters used PEDRO Able, PEDRO Baker and PEDRO Charlie in different Operation Elements (Detachments). Of course Vietnam and now "Down-Range" in Afghanistan HH60 Jay Hawks are again using the PEDRO CALL SIGN.
(Stephen P. Mock, hh43huskey@hotmail.com)

Sandy, thanks for your emails--enjoyed the QNN. Any help for obtaining new members for the Pedro Rescue Helicopter Association (PRHA) will be appreciated. As far as the application is concerned, it is located on the PRHA website--



pedroafrescue.org. A copy of the application for membership can be found there.
(John Christianson, johnlouc@msn.com)

Editor's Note: For those of you who spent some time flying HH-43s, and I might add there are not too many of us firefighters left who did, you might want to consider joining the Pedro Rescue Helicopter Association. There is a very reasonable membership fee. You will be able to get in touch with many of the crew members you flew with.

(Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders, CMSGT, USAF, Retired, Sandy6T5@comcast.net)

SICK CALL

Please keep Jim Deal, Tom Vieth, and Joe Jarrell in your thoughts and prayers.

EDITOR'S CORNER



As everyone has noticed I have gotten behind on publishing the QNN. I am just glad the year 2010 is over. The Sanders family has had one crisis after another since June 2010. However, on a brighter note it is now 2011, and I believe we are over the hard part and we can get back to some kind of normalcy. This edition is the April-June 2010, and I have the data for the July-September 2010 and much of the data for October-December. You should be seeing July-September real soon. Additionally, I am working to get the QNN editorial staff expanded to ensure someone is always available to publish the QNN on time every time. Anyone wanting to be involved please send me an e-mail and let me know what role you would like to be considered for. I will be sending out an e-mail soon outlining the new editorial staff structure. Thanks to everyone for bearing with me during this trying time for our family. God Bless each of you. (Hoyd "Sandy" Sanders, CMSgt, USAF, Retired, Sandy6T5@comcast.net)