



AIR FORCE MATERIALS AND MANUFACTURING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (AFMMAA) NEWSLETTER

ELEVENTH EDITION

FALL 2009

RX DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



**Dr. Katherine A.
Stevens**



**Colonel Gary
Konnert**

RX Update by Deputy Director,
Colonel Gary Konnert.

Dear Colleagues and Alumni of RX. This has once again been an eventful and fast paced time for RX since the last newsletter. Following are the highlights on a few of the major activities and events in RX to keep you up to date.

Dr. Kathy Stevens assumed the Directorship not quite a year ago this past February. She hit the ground running providing both vision and direction with a vast wealth of technical knowledge and experience in RX. One of her first tasks was hosting a visit from the AFMC/CC, General Hoffman, in February who was thoroughly impressed with the caliber of work in RX. Following closely was a tour for the United States Air Force Chief of Staff, General Norton Schwartz, in April. General Schwartz received tours and briefs highlighting a broad spectrum of the Directorate including laser eye protection, electronic failure analysis, thermal protection, and engine rotor life extension. RX put their best foot forward and made a great positive impression.

Other visiting dignitaries to RX included SAF/FM, Dr. Jamie Morin, former astronaut Lieutenant General (ret) Tom Stafford, and the new AFRL/CV, Colonel Dan Morin. We also hosted visits at RX's Airbase Technologies Division at Tyndall AFB from General Hoffman and his vice-commander, Lieutenant General Terry Gabreski. We have had the opportunity to watch RX shine in front of every level of leadership from Air Force to AFRL.

On the technical side of the Directorate, we've had several highlights this year. In April Dr. Barry Farmer, our Chief Scientist, was recognized as a 2008 Presidential Rank Award winner in the Meritorious Senior Professional category for the Air Force. Dr. Loon-Seng Tan of RXB was recognized in October as an AFRL Fellow for his work in polymers and nanocarbon-based polymer composites. Finally, the Scientific Advisory Board conducted their biennial review of the RX technical program. Leadership felt the review went very well. RX strengths as a valued resource within DoD with creative staff, excellent facilities, and as an agile organization

(Continued on Page 2)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

On behalf of the new Alumni leadership team, I would like to extend greetings to all alumni and friends of the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate. We feel honored to be able to serve the Association and each of you as we seek to continue to grow the important relationships that we have developed over the years as members of the Materials and Manufacturing family; and to support the continued health and success of the Directorate.

As this is our first communication with you, I want to use the opportunity to describe the evolving focus of Alumni activities for next year, and ask for feedback from you with your ideas and ways that you might be able to help.

But first, I would like to acknowledge the outstanding efforts on behalf of the Association made by the past leadership team: President Jim Mattice, Vice President Warren Johnson, Treasurer Bob Denison, Secretary Dick Engman, Membership Tobey Cordell, Newsletter Tom Cooper, and Scholarship Bob Cochoy. This group made huge strides in many areas: establishing a steady operations tempo for the activities of the Association; championing efforts leading to a steady membership growth; and successfully becoming a part of the Combined Federal Campaign which has allowed current RX employees the opportunity to augment Association member contributions to assure a viable and valued scholarship program. My hat is off to each of you for these significant accomplishments.

(Continued on Page 2)

(RX Director's Message Continued)

responding to changing Air Force needs and funding realities seemed to be well recognized.

If you haven't had the opportunity to visit the RX complex at Wright-Patterson AFB lately, some physical changes have occurred. The lobby has a new look with modern, high tech styling creating a display area to highlight RX's work. Some of the main features include a large display wall screen plus display stands. The display wall provides viewing for briefings and to highlight scientific work. Exhibits at portable stations rotate periodically providing hands on examples of RX efforts. Smaller display screens located throughout the hallways provide updates on current events and award winners. Finally, collaboration spaces where people can meet, talk, and informally exchange ideas have been unveiled in both Building 651 and Building 654.

As you can see RX has been busy. Are there any other changes on the horizon? There are bound to be as General Bedke announced his pending retirement come mid February. With his retirement a new AFRL/CC, Major General Ellen Pawlikowski, has been named. As always there will be some change when a new leader takes the reins. However, during this time of change, I expect RX will step up and prove once again the quality of both its work and people.

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(President's Corner Continued)

I also want to thank key members of the past team for their willingness to continue in their leadership roles – Dick Engman, Tobey Cordell, Tom Cooper and Bob Cochoy.....all of whom are doing a good job in teaching us "rookies" the ropes. In watching them operate, I have certainly gained a much better understanding of the significant effort that they willingly provide for the benefit of the Association and each of us. I feel very indebted to each of them.

By now, most of you have noted that one of the new initiatives we have begun this year, championed by Vice President John Williamson, is to provide additional opportunities for Alumni to gather together in an informal setting for good fellowship. During the summer months, there were two opportunities to gather at Lofino Park in Beaver Creek as part of the free concerts offered there (one of which featured our own George Schmitt playing with the Kettering Civic Band). In the fall and winter months, we are gathering on a monthly basis at local restaurants for lunch. These events have proven to be a lot of fun and a great opportunity to visit with friends we see all too

infrequently. I encourage each of you, as your schedule allows, to join us. The luncheon schedule is announced well in advance via our e-mail distribution list. For those who live out of town, if there is ever a time when you will be in the area, please let us know and we will attempt to coordinate schedules. We would love to visit with you.

Beyond this activity, the Scholarship committee has met and awarded scholarships for three outstanding individuals who are children of RX employees. I continue to be thoroughly impressed by the quality and accomplishments of the young people who are submitted for consideration. John Williamson has completed a successful audit of our financial records. A committee has been formed to review the Association's current by-laws and propose required changes. Dick Engman prepared a message to remind RX employees of the opportunity to support the Alumni Scholarship program thru the CFC and Tobey Cordell and Tom Cooper did a great job in setting up and manning the AFMMAA booth at this year's CFC Kick-Off event. And plans are well underway for the Association to provide refreshments at the Awards Recognition Ceremony in RX the day prior to the Awards Luncheon.

We are also considering other initiatives for the coming year. We've met with Dr. Stevens to discuss how the Alumni Association might best support the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate. Two potential activities are under consideration. The first, which Dr. Stevens would like us to seriously consider, is to help strengthen how we describe and display, throughout the B651-B655 complex, those advances in materials and manufacturing technology that, over the years, have had a significant impact on the AF. I recently reviewed the impressive history display in the Cafetorium, and then "walked the halls." I came away with an impression that there is great potential to augment what currently exists to better communicate the great impact that RX and previous organizations has had over the years. In Dr. Steven's words...."we need to tell that story very well because if we don't, no one will." I believe there is real opportunity for the Alumni Association to work with RX toward developing displays that remind visitors....as well as new members of the RX family....of these major advances. In January – February, we will meet with those Alumni who express interest in supporting this initiative to develop ideas, and then meet with Dr. Stevens to lay out a way forward. Please let us know if you would like to be involved in this activity.

(Continued on Page 3)

(President's Corner Continued)

The second initiative, which is at the preliminary stage of discussion, is the potential of setting up an Alumni mentoring activity for interested RX employees.

We will try to have additional information on these initiatives at the upcoming January Alumni meeting to be held in conjunction with the AFRL/RX Awards Luncheon. In the meantime, if there are other ideas that you have for Alumni activities, please let us know as well.

On behalf of the entire Alumni leadership team, our warmest holiday wishes for you and yours. We hope to see you in January.

AFMMAA President
Gary Waggoner

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

The AFMMAA received 4 applications this year for our Alumni Association scholarship awards. In accordance with last year's change of the rules, all our applicants had a parent who was a government employee of RX.

The scholarship awards are now primarily funded through donations received during the annual CFC drive. Normally the association awards two \$1,000 scholarships per year. However, due to the generosity of those supporting the Association through last year's CFC and other special donations, the association was able to award three \$1000 scholarships this year to the following three individuals:

1st Chief Scientist's Scholarship – Julia Sizek (see photo). Julia is an Oakwood HS senior. Her GPA is 4.375/4.00, and she ranks first in her class of 170. Her list of accomplishments, community service, and work experience is amazing—covering 3 typewritten pages. These activities include National Merit Scholar, Patterson Award for Outstanding Achievement in Chemistry, Policy Debate Co-captain, Oakwood and Dayton Orchestra awards, Cross Country and Track awards, and employment at the high school. She intends to attend the University of Chicago and complete a B.S. in Chemistry or Environmental Policy. Her father is Howard Sizek in RXMP.

2nd Chief Scientist's Scholarship – Shuvro Roy. Shuvro is a Beavercreek HS senior. He has a 4.43/4.00 cumulative average, and ranks 27/645 in his class. Shuvro is an Eagle Scout, a National Merit Scholar, a Science Olympiad Winner, State speech and debate finalist, and Varsity Tennis letter winner and Captain of the team. Additionally, he has served as a volunteer at Miami Valley Hospital for the last 5 years. He has been accepted in the



Julia Sizek



Grace Stearns

Ohio State University Honors Program. He plans to pursue the OSU Early Admission Pathway Program to become a medical doctor. His father is Agit Roy in RXBT.

Alumni Association Scholarship – Grace Stearns (see photo). Grace was homeschooled through high school with classes supplemented by Cedarville University classes during her senior year. She is just completing her freshman year at Cedarville University. Her GPA at Cedarville is 3.90/4.00. Her list of accomplishments include National Merit Finalist, Cedarville Dean's list, Drama Club, Miami Valley Women's Center volunteer, and Band. She has worked in a dental office, Greene County Public Library, and at RX during this last summer. She intends to complete a B.S. in Chemistry at Cedarville and then pursue an advanced degree in veterinary-related research. Her father is Kermit Stearns in RXM.

The AFMMAA recognized these awardees and their families during the RX Director's Call in the Cafetorium on August 7, 2009. Checks were subsequently mailed directly to each student's university to help cover their expenses during the fall semester. The awardees will also be recognized at the annual RX Awards Luncheon currently scheduled for January 22, 2010.

Congratulations to this year's scholarship recipients!

NOTICE

In order to control our costs and optimize our service to RX and our members, we are considering only mailing Newsletters in the future to AFMMAA Members (Charter, Life and Annual). If you have not already done so, please take advantage of this opportunity to fill out the membership form (Page 7) and continue to enjoy our Spring and Fall Newsletters.

RX FAMILY SUFFERS LOSS OF TWO DISTINGUISHED PAST LEADERS

During the summer of 2009, the RX Family suffered the loss of two of its most dedicated and distinguished past leaders. On Friday 26 June 2009, Dr. Harris M. Burte, who retired in 1995 as the Laboratory Chief Scientist after a 42 year career in the Laboratory, died unexpectedly at the age of 81. Then, on Thursday 2 July 2009, Mr. Robert T. Schwartz died at age 92. "RT", as he was most widely known, retired in 1973 from his position as Deputy Director of the Laboratory after a career of 34 years. A brief summary of their careers is presented below.

Harris M. Burte was born in New York City on 14 November 1927. He attended New York University where he received his BS Degree in Chemical Engineering in 1946, followed by an MS Degree from MIT in 1947 and then his PhD from Princeton in 1950. He worked as a Research Engineer at the Textile Research Institute from 1947 through 1953 until he was called onto active duty as an officer in the US Air



Harris M. Burte

Force and was assigned to the Materials Laboratory where he served three years as a Lieutenant. He was a Project Engineer in Physical Metallurgy from 1953 until 1956 when he completed his military assignment and moved into the civilian position as Interdisciplinary Consultant until 1957. He then became Chief of the Advanced Metallurgical Studies Branch until 1960 when he moved to ASD and became Chief Engineer for Materials in the Systems Engineering Group. He then returned to the Materials Laboratory and assumed the position as Chief of the Metals and Ceramics Division where he stayed until his promotion to the position of Chief Scientist of the Laboratory in 1978. He is survived by his wife Miriam and three sons and their families.

Robert T. Schwartz was born in St. Louis, MO on 1 September 1916. He received a BS Degree in Chemical Engineering from Washington University, St. Louis in 1938 and an MS Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Ohio State University in 1948. He first joined one of the predecessors of the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate as a junior materials testing engineer in 1939 and, after a number of steady promotions, was assigned as

Chief, Organic Materials Branch in 1954. His outstanding success in this position resulted in his appointment in 1960 as Chief of the Nonmetallic Materials Division, responsible for all AF research on elastomers, structural and transparent plastics, adhesives, fluids and lubricants, fibrous materials, coatings and other nonmetallic materials. He was promoted to Materials Laboratory



Robert T. Schwartz

Deputy Director in 1972 and retired from that position in December 1973. The Robert T. Schwartz Engineering Achievement Award, which is presented annually to an outstanding RX Scientist or Engineer, was named in his honor. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Ruth E. Schwartz in 1991 and is survived by his current wife Meta Whitt and two sons and their families.

CURRENT RX WORKFORCE

The current size of the RX workforce includes the following as of 30 September 2009:

a) Civilian Employees	425
b) Military	89
c) On-site Contractors	<u>748</u>
Total	1262

This includes those at WPAFB, Tyndall AFB and other operating locations.

NEW AFRL TECHNICAL DIRECTORATES OSCs

<u>Former</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Directorate</u>
VA	RB	- Air Vehicles
DE	RD	- Directed Energy
HE	RH	- Human Effectiveness
IF	RI	- Information
VS	RV	- Space Vehicles
MN	RW	- Munitions
ML	RX	- Materials and Manufacturing
SN	RY	- Sensors
PR	RZ	- Propulsion
RO	RO	- Chief of Staff

Change effective as of October 1, 2007.

UPDATE ON “BASICALLY BRITISH”

In our last Newsletter (Spring 2009), there was an article about Dr. Terry Ronald, the former Materials Laboratory engineer who came from his native England in 1964 and spent thirty-five years working in the Laboratory before his retirement in 1999. He opened his “Basically British” shop in downtown Dayton at 502 E. Third Street in the Cannery building a couple of years ago. He has now opened a sit-down Tea Room by expanding on 1 September 2009 into space in the same building right next to his British shop. It was described in an article in the Dayton Daily News on Wednesday 2 September 2009.



Downtown Dayton Afternoon Tea Spot

Customers can now enjoy dozens of teas and different baked goods and pastries. In addition, the Newsletter article mentioned a multimillion dollar TV series that was being filmed in his shop, his Victorian home on Linden Avenue and various other locations in northern Kentucky and Cincinnati, as well as Dayton. It is music-based with characters that flee London for the Midwest U.S. in the hopes of starting over. Terry has informed us that a total of twenty-two 30 minute episodes have been filmed or are in progress for the show that should start appearing on TV sometime this Fall. Proctor and Gamble is now involved in sponsoring it. Be sure to watch it when it appears!

AFRL/RX SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM

AFRL/RX has developed an “intern program” replacing the “summer student program” which existed prior to 2008. The program was refined in 2009 based on student and supervisor feedback surveys. The goals of the program are to support basic and applied research to further the RX vision and mission by training students in appropriate research techniques and protocol OR to train them in appropriate business and management techniques

and protocols. It will also develop team building techniques and relationships, develop and enhance appropriate tools in transitioning from the scholastic environment to a professional environment and to share knowledge and experience with highly motivated, inquisitive young minds. In the 2009 program, approximately 75 interns participated at WPAFB, Tyndall AFB, Hill AFB, and Tinker AFB. The government summer students were split into teams of 6-7 each with a team make-up to mix different education levels/schools with each team being mentored by a member of the AFRL/RX Junior Force. The Team Mentor facilitated bi-weekly peer-to-peer meetings, with 5-minute presentations by each student on what they have been working on and discussions on what is working well, difficulties with problem solving and working relationships, etc. In the program this year, it was mostly S&E Interns working in the labs. However, there were also interns employed to provide administrative support, including three graphic artists to assist with building redesigns and SAB preparation, an international business student to assist with RX and XPPI International Office visits/administrative work, and students to assist with computer inventories. The principal 2009 activities also included:

- A Presentation Skills/Office Communication Course
- A guided tour of the AF Museum
- A “New Job, New Day” Workshop by Dr. David Herrelko
- Wright-Patt C-5 Flight Line Tour
- Myers-Briggs Type Indicator Workshop
- Industry Tour of the University of Dayton Research Institute/National Composites Center
- Summer Intern Open House, Poster Session, and AFRL/CA lunch with the interns
- Several “fun” lunchtime activities

Overall, the program addressed four important things. 1) provided meaningful employment during hard economic times, 2) promoted pursuit of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and business careers 3) recruitment of young people to government service and 4) lots of extra hands in the laboratory.

The information concerning the details of this outstanding program was provided by Kristine L. Webb, Human Resources Specialist, Management Operations Office (AFRL/RXR).

RECENT INFORMATION ABOUT AFMMAA MEMBERS

During the year, many of our members have provided comments for the AFMMAA website regarding their current activities and interests. Here are a few selected comments from the many we received.

Robert T. Ault, Shaker Heights, OH rta222@aol.com. Worked at Republic Steel Corp for 20 years as Research Metallurgist, Section Chief and Division Head of Metallurgical Division. Retired as Chief Metallurgist and Manager of Quality Assurance from Drop Dies and Forging Co, Cleveland, OH. Hobbies include swimming and bicycling. Cycled the Erie Canal from Buffalo to Albany in July of 2001.

Doris L. Butler, Dayton, OH, dorisbdb@aol.com, Working occasionally with H&R Block as a Client Service Coordinator, travel, active with church and Eastern Star Chapter.

Kathleen Falensky, kathyfalensky@prodigy.net, After a 15-year retirement, I returned to work as a support contractor currently assigned to C-130 AMP Contracts.

Dr. Thomas D. Fiorino, McLean, VA; TDFiorino@verizon.net, President & CEO of Advanced Product Transitions Corp (APT). ADT provides engineering & manufacturing technology services to the MDA, DCMA, and the Air Force (SMC).

David W. Fischer, Centerville, OH, dafisch@woh.rr.com, Actively involved in photography and gardening. Published two photo books.

Gordon H. Griffith, Big Canoe, GA, ghgriffith@tds.net, I remain busy as assistant scoutmaster, member of Chapel Choir and Handbell Choir, and current President of Big Canoe Garden Club.

Walter Griffith, Jr., Dayton, OH, griffith@woh.rr.com, We just returned from 2 weeks in Hawaii. Gayle and I had a great time. Hope to do Alaska in 2010.

James A. Hall, jhall26@cox.net. Retired from Honeywell Aerospace in 2007.

Brian Kosmal, Dayton, OH, bkosmal@earthlink.net, Splitting the year between Dayton and Savanna, GA., winters there, summers in Dayton. Did world cruise Jan-May 09 - see our blog-www.clydetraveljournal.blogspot.com.

Jack Latva, Centerville, OH, jdl608@woh.rr.com, Starter/Ranger at Rollandia Golf Course.

Dr. William L. Lehn, Dayton, OH, billbilt@siscom.net Building model airplanes. Still goes to the base 2 hrs/

week working for General Dynamics.

Kay March, Dayton, OH, placetogo7@aol.com, I like being busy and around people. Owned a business for 3 years. Worked at SPA as a fitness trainer, etc. I rented space by the Greene, I built the walls and did the construction, etc.; from cement floors to a tan salon owner for 2 years. Now may relax or may get a job?

Bobby and Charlotte McConnell, Bluff City, TN, charlandbobby@aol.com. Active in Sons of Confederate Veterans, Sons of America Revolution. Both active in church with leadership positions.

Paul M. Propp, pmpropp@sbcglobal.net, I am fine for an older fellow. I work out as serious as I can, maintain 2 homes and enjoy more than ever getting away to the mountain one and in part leaving behind a most troubled nation. Re. Historical College: I do hope most seriously that IR detector development starting in the early 70's found its way into proper recognition. For all those years and now it has been one of the most significant and consistent contributions ML has made to space technology. Tell Bob Denison I'm coming after him if it isn't there! Thank you all for keeping the Alumni alive.

Dr. Walter H. Reimann, reimco@verizon.net, Franktown, VA. Fully retired and traveling extensively. Still in good health.

Dr. Harold Rosenberg, Dayton, OH. Enjoying recent 2nd retirement (from the travel business) and becoming a great-grandfather for the 2nd time.

Robert Ruh, Kettering, OH, rruh4@woh.rr.com, I am involved with the Wright Flyer Monument Project. We appreciate the write up in the spring 2009 newsletter.

Paul Sampson, Xenia, OH, pgs@nextec-corp.com, President of NexTec Corp., an engineering service company (www.nextec-corp.com). I volunteer for Glenn Helen Park, also an avid hiker and mountain climber. I am off to Mt. Rainier in Feb 2010.

James M. Whitney, Beaver Creek, OH, jwhitney@woh.rr.com, Retired from UD Civil Engineering Dept in May 2006. Still teaching one graduate course a year as Professor Emeritus. Had by-pass surgery in July 08 and doing well. Have 8 grandchildren ages 4-21.

Carol A. Yarnall, Albuquerque, NM, C.Yarnall@comcast.net, Director of Supply Chain, Sandia National Lab since July 2008. Retired Air Force Colonel.

If you wish to share your recent activities or interest with others on the AFMMAA website, please send an email to Tom Cooper at tcooper@utcd Dayton.com, or Dick Engman at dkengman@msn.com.



**AIR FORCE MATERIALS & MANUFACTURING
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (AFMMAA)
MEMBERSHIP & DUES INFORMATION**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone -- Home: _____ Work: _____

E-mail: _____ Is E-mail new? _____

Check here if we CAN NOT release your information, i.e., address, e-mail, etc.

Year departed/retired from RX (ML): _____

Recent information about yourself (for the website): _____

In what areas would you like to support AFMMAA?

Your are invited to join (\$10/yr annual FY 2010 dues), become a Life Member (\$150) or make donations to the Alumni Association Scholarship Program by 31 Dec '09.

\$ _____ Alumni Association Scholarships (open to the children of AFRL/RX civilian and military employees who are pursuing a college degress in science and engineering fields related to the AF Science & Technology programs).

\$ _____ Chief Scientist Scholarship (open to students pursuing an accredited degree in a field of science, math, engineering or technology)

\$ _____ Annual Membership Dues (1 Oct '09 - 30 Sep '10) are \$10.

\$ _____ Life Membership is available for \$150 (one time fee).

\$ _____ *Total Amount Enclosed

***NOTE: Scholarship contributions and membership dues are tax deductible.**

Please submit by 31 Dec '09 to insure your deduction for 2009.

Membership Category:

_____ Annual (\$10.00/year)

_____ Lifetime (\$150.00 one time fee)

**Make check payable to: AFMMAA and return to the following address:
AFMMAA, P.O. Box 341413, Beavercreek, OH 45434-1413**

AFMMAA HOLDS MEMBERSHIP MEETING



June 2009 AFMMAA Meeting held at the Engineers Club in Dayton, Ohio

The AFMMAA held a Membership Meeting and Luncheon on June 4th at the Engineers Club of Dayton from 1130 to 1330 Hrs for the purpose of reviewing business activities and electing new Executive Board Officers. President Jim Mattice opened the meeting and introduced Dr. Kathy Stevens, the new AFRL/RX Director, who provided members with an excellent overview that addressed some of the challenges (programs supporting mission generation and sustainment for example) that AFRL and AFRL/RX are currently experiencing. After lunch the meeting resumed with Vice President Warren Johnson’s remarks about the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). This was the 4th consecutive year for AFMMAA participation in the Miami Valley CFC and we have collected approximately \$3000 to cover three \$1000 scholarships. All RX personnel CFC pledges to AFMMAA go for scholarships. The Secretary, Dick Engman, reported that the number of AFMMAA Life Memberships increased to 36 (up 22 since 2007) and since October ’06 twenty-three members have contributed \$2,540 for scholarships. Tobey Cordell, Membership Chairman, reported the AFMMAA has a data base of mailing addresses for 270 alumni. This figure now includes 12 Charter Members, 42 Life Members, and typically 60 members who pay annual dues. Scholarship Chairman, Dr. Bob Cochoy, reported four applications were received for the Scholarship Call and the winners have been selected (see page 3). They will be officially recognized at the 22 January 2010 AFRL/RX 57th Awards Luncheon.

The Officers Nominating Committee Chairman John Williamson reported the following candidates (*Incumbents) were nominated for the Board officer positions.

- President – Gary Waggoner
- Exec Vice President – John Williamson
- Membership – Tobey Cordell*
- Treasurer – Dennis Naughton
- Secretary – Dick Engman*

The above candidates were elected by member affirmation and will serve until June 2011. After being elected, Mr. Gary Waggoner said he was very thankful for the opportunity to serve as President and he accepted the challenge. He said that the AFMMAA was a wonderful organization helping RX in many ways and he intends to help it prosper and continue its mission.

Attached is a photograph of the 34 or 35 members in attendance at the June ’09 meeting.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Shown below are the photographs of several RX (then ML) engineers, scientists, and employees taken in the 60’s. How many do you recognize and remember?

For the answers, see page 12.



A



B



C



D



E



F

BACKGROUND ON CHARLES CLEARY FOR WHOM THE CLEARY AWARD WAS NAMED

Everyone who worked in the Materials Laboratory over the years is familiar with the Cleary Award, one of the first major Awards created to present to an outstanding Laboratory research worker each year. However, many of us are not familiar in detail with the person for whom the Award was named – Charles Cleary. At the request of Jim Mattice, AFMMAA Past-President, Charles Cleary's son, Jim, prepared a background summary on his father and sent it to Jim Mattice after their conversation about his Dad's life. His fascinating summary of his father's life is presented below.

Jim: I felt frustrated to have provided you with such a lame answer regarding your query as to what kind of a man our Dad was. He was a good man, for sure, but there is too much about him for me to distill into such a short time we had. I can concentrate a page of words into one topical sentence. Here's a bio as briefly as I can make it.

Born in Boston in 1891, he was the twelfth of thirteen surviving children. He attended English High School, America's first public school. He worked his way through Lowell Tech which, in those days, was a satellite of MIT. He was captain of both his baseball and his football team and a member of Skull and Bones. Following graduation, he went to Washington DC to work two plus years at the Bureau of Standards. In 1916, he joined the Army Signal Corps and received flight training in Belleville, IL, and to his great frustration, was made an instructor. He pushed to get sent over to France and was home on leave on November 11, 1918 when the war ended. From there he was shipped to Langley where he stayed until Spring of 1919, then transferred to McCook Field. Somehow he and Burlin "Doc" Johnson ("But I'm not a PhD" he would always say) got together and began the first Materials Lab with Doc working the Metallurgy and Dad the rest. Doc was a good administrative man, but Dad was the people person. I'm told he had a talent for motivating others to get excited about projects that needed to be done.

While at McCook, he met our Mother who worked on base as a draftsman and they were married in the summer of 1921. They had two children, both of whom died before they were much older than two. They had to wait seven years before their next child came along. Dad continued in the reserves during those years, played baseball on the base team every year, and liked to pitch horseshoes with his co-workers during the lunch hour in good weather. Around 1932 and 1933 he twice had to land his plane in emergency conditions. The first time he was able to get it

running again, but had to wait to be picked up as it wasn't flyable. The next year his engine caught on fire and he had to land in a cornfield, setting it on fire. He was helped by the farmer and they were able to put out the resultant fire, minimizing the crop damage.

Both times our Mother was driven to God-Knows-Where in Michigan not knowing what kind of shape he would be in when she got there. The second time she got to the crash location, she was elated to find him uninjured, but was really ticked off to find a burned out plane with her man chatting with the farmer, drinking beer and having a grand old time! She was ordinarily a quiet, reserved, woman but she let him know that, since he was now a father, he should consider himself to be grounded. And he did.

As 1939 arrived, he tried to go back on active duty but his untreated hypertension kept him from qualifying. There was no treatment for that in those days, so his diagnosis was ultimately a death sentence.

As far as his input with us when growing up, he kept a close eye on us while we were sick, not risking any further losses. He continued to attend Mass, serve at the chapel in area B on holy days and we all went to Church as a family. He saw to it that we went to parochial school and helped us with our homework and music lessons. In addition to his example, he instilled simplistic ideals e.g. honesty means doing the right thing even when no one is around and speaking the truth because "it simplifies your life and often people don't fully believe what you're saying anyway."

Three months prior to his death, he had a physical exam at the Lahey Clinic in Boston and was given the option of what was then experimental surgery - ligation of a carotid artery to prevent rupture of an aneurysm. The results could be death on the operating table or loss of being able to function on the job or at home due to consequences of a stroke, making him dependent on others. His actions on returning home indicated that he had made his choice.

That summer he paid off the loan on our home, bought himself the nicest suit he ever had and hung it up in the closet. He then made a list of his insurance policies, bank accounts, etc. to show our mother their financial situation and basically made peace with his life. Our mother really never appreciated what was happening until many years later.

For now, I'll skip the debacle about a political attempt to prosecute him in Federal Court because of the defective nylon parachutes. The conclusion after the Federal
(Continued on Page 10)

(Background on Charles Cleary for Whom the Cleary Award was Named Continued)

trial was that, thereafter, Air Force scientists have been considered the ultimate source of opinion.

Now you can see why I couldn't describe such a complex man in a couple of minutes. I do realize you're not one of his contemporaries, but I have always felt comfortable with the people at the Lab, the engineers and the research types remind me of home. Which is why I like to share in the ambience of Lab activities and meet people like you.

Thanks for responding. After you read and digest this information let me know what else about him you'd like to know.

Jim Cleary

HONORS AND AWARDS

RX employees have continued to receive significant honors and awards since the many reported in the last Newsletter. Among those recently receiving awards are the following:

- Dr. Loon-Seng Tan (AFRL/RXBN) – Selected as an AFRL Fellow. The Award was presented to Dr. Tan at the Fellows Award Banquet held at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, W-PAFB, Ohio on 29 September 2009.
- Dr. Reji John (AFRL/RXLMN) – Elected as a Fellow of ASM International. The Award was presented to Dr. John on 27 October 2009 at the ASM Awards Dinner in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Dr. Scott Russell (AFRL/RXMP) – Received one of the new B.E.S.T. Awards (bright, energetic, skilled, trail blazers) sponsored by Composites Manufacturing Magazine, the official magazine of the American Composites Manufacturing Association. One of only sixteen people singled out for recognition this summer.
- John C. Brausch (AFRL/RXSA) – Presented with the AFRL Senior Civilian Engineer Award of the 2009 AFMC Science, Engineering and Technical Management Awards. The Award was presented on 6 May 2009 at the Awards Banquet held at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
- Capt. Mark G. Heath (AFRL/RXPJ) – Presented with the Junior Military Scientist Award of the 2009 AFMC Science, Engineering and Technical Management Awards. This Award was also presented at the Awards Banquet held at Wright-Patterson AFB on 6 May 2009.

CFC KICKOFF

The AFMMAA recently participated in the 2009 Miami Valley Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Agency Fair/Kickoff event at the Ervin J. Nutter Center held on 7 October 2009 from 1100 to 1300. This event provided us the opportunity to meet directly with the Federal Workforce, especially employees of the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, and inform them of our services, programs and scholarships. Over 100 agencies were provided a table on which to set up displays, materials and favors. Tobey Cordell and Tom Cooper represented the AFMMAA. It is estimated that over 2000 members of the Federal and local government workforce attended. The 2009 CFC is now officially open. The description of the AFMMAA activities is contained in the CFC Booklet and our 5-digit organization number is 85464. All designated contributions will be applied to scholarships to be presented to children of both civilian and military personnel of AFRL/RX.



**CFC Agency Fair/
Kickoff Event**

AFRL/RX 57th Awards Luncheon Notice

The AFRL/RX 57th Awards Luncheon will be held on Friday, 22 January 2010 at the Hope Hotel and Conference Center at WPAFB, Ohio. Social hour starts at 11:00 a.m. and lunch will start at 12:00 noon. Theme for this year's luncheon is "Bring Science and Technology to Today's Fight and Tomorrow's Battle" and the guest speaker is Lt Gen (ret) Jack Hudson, former ASC Commander and PEO for Aircraft. Registration deadline is 15 January 2010. Those external to the RX organization can register at <http://www.ml.wpafb.af.mil/default.html>. Click on the 'Events' link on the left and then select the link in the middle of the page for the awards luncheon. Make your menu selection and pay via cash or check (payable to 'Materials Directorate Awards') at the door. There will be a brief AFMMAA meeting at 9:30 a.m. prior to the Awards Luncheon at the Hope Hotel.

In addition there will be a Recognition Ceremony at AFRL/RX, Bldg 653 Cafetorium on Thursday, 21 January 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

YOUR AFMMAA OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS



Gary Waggoner
President



John Williamson
Exec. Vice President



Dennis Naughton
Treasurer



Dick Engman
Secretary



Tobey Cordell
Membership



Tom Cooper
Newsletter Editor



Bob Cochoy
Scholarship

**AFMMAA CONTRIBUTORS
AND MEMBERSHIP**

Your scholarship contributions are a great aid and will hopefully continue! The AFMMAA scholarship contributions since 2002 have reached a high of \$10,337. Thank you! We now have 42 Life Members and encourage you to become a “Lifer” (\$150)! Approximately 60 alumni renew their membership on a yearly basis; however, many alumni have not become AFMMAA members. Tobey Cordell, our Membership Chairman, needs your help to encourage other alumni to join or become Life Members (\$150). Please help by providing your current email address and/or the emails of your alumni friends who are not members. Regular Members are reminded to please pay your \$10 annual dues for the current year of Oct '09 – Sep '10 by sending in the enclosed newsletter insert. Your scholarship contributions and membership dues are very essential to budget support and our annual scholarships in the areas of science and engineering for the children of AFRL/RX employees. A list of \$100 or more Scholarship Contributors, Charter Members and Life Members is shown to the right.

AFMMAA Contributors and Membership - 7 Dec 09		
Contributing Over \$100 to Scholarship Funds		
Wade Adams	Kenneth Kojola*	Paul Propp*
Walter W. Adams*	G. Edward Kuhl	George St. Pierre
Tom Cooper*	Alan Lovelace	Paul Sampson
Maj Gen T.L. Dake	Lou Ludike	Robert T. Schwartz
Bob Denison*	Rich Lusignea	Edwin L. Thomas
Dr. Ronald Eby	Bobby McConnell	Hardy Trolander
Barry Farmer	Charlotte McConnell	Gary Waggoner*
Thomas Fiorino	Julia Millhan	John Williamson*
Jacques Hemes	Zoe Dell Nutter	Bill Woody
Jim Huffman	Meir & Ruth Pachter	
Charter Members		
Wade Adams	Craig Hartley	Bob Rice
Bernard Chasman	Bill Kessler	Lynn Trainor
Tom Cooper	Jim Mattice	Ben Wilcox
Gary Denman	James Myers	John Williamson
Lifetime Members		
Mark Anderson	Rob Hull	Robert Schafrik
Phil Bouchard	Warren Johnson	George Schmitt
Charles E. Browning	Dave Judson	Don Shrader
Dennis Corbly	Bob Kincses	Jerry Sieron
Ken Elbaum	John Koenig	George Slenski
Dick Engman	Edward Kuhl	James Snide
Kathleen Falensky	Cole Litton	Katherine A. Stevens
Larry Fehrenbacher	Michael McCabe	Donald Tarazano
Thomas Fiorino	Dennis Naughton	Scott Theibert
David W. Fischer	Larry Parsons	Jon Tirpak
Harold Gegel	Bob Rapson	Gary Waggoner
Henry C. Graham	Terry Ronald	Roland Watts
Alten (Skip) Grandt	Vince Russo	Bill Woody
John Henderson	Paul Sampson	Carol Yarnall

*Multiple Contributions/Yrs.

AFMMAA
P.O. Box 341413
Bevercreek, OH 45434-1413

WHERE IS YOUR AFMMAA MEMBERSHIP CARD?

Do you still have your membership card? If you were a single year member, please look at the bottom of the card and see if there is an expiration date. If the expiration date reads 9/30/08, your dues are due for the current year. The annual dues are \$10.00, or a Lifetime Membership is available for \$150.00. If your dues lapse for one year, your membership will become inactive. Our records indicate there are still a number of members who have not paid their 2008-2009 membership dues. We don't want to lose a valuable resource to the Association – YOU!

Please give serious consideration to joining us. Enclosed is a form that can be returned to become an active member.

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

Answers for Page 8

A) Raymond Spain; B) Charlotte McConnell;
C) Don Schmidt; D) Gordon Griffith; E) Hyman Marcus;
and F) Dr. Howard Tanner.

LOSSES FROM THE RX (ML) FAMILY

We regret to inform you of the following losses from the RX Family that we have heard of since our last Newsletter. They include:

Robert Winn	15 January 2008
Gerhard F. L. Ehlers	7 February 2009
Steve Lyon	23 May 2009
Gene Miller	June 2009
Harris M. Burte	26 June 2009
R. T. Schwartz	2 July 2009
Herb Schwenker	8 July 2009
Wesley Crow	11 July 2009
Jack H. Ross	23 October 2009

If you know of any others and would care to share this information, please contact us.

Mark Your Calendar!
Friday, January 22, 2010
AFRL/RX 57th Awards Luncheon
To be held at the Hope Hotel and
Conference Center at WPAFB, Ohio.
See Announcement on Page 10.