



ATFAR NEWS

ALL THAT FUN AFTER RETIREMENT

SUMMER 2020

ATFAR.ORG

Make sure you check out ATFAR's online presence: ATFAR.org

MEMBER DIRECTORY-

Please insure that we have your correct email address. You may check your email by visiting ATFAR.org and clicking on the member directory link. Let us know if it is not correct

ATFAR NEEDS YOUR STORIES

We want to keep the newsletter current and interesting. We would love to publish stories related to your time on the job or your life after ATF.

Submit your story to atfarsetup@gmail.com

ATFAR is a non profit 501(C)(3) organization committed to keeping retired ATF employees active, up to date and in touch with each other. Our motto says it all:

Fellowship based on a lifetime of service.

ATFAR
405 Bonaventure Road
St. Simons Island, GA
31522

Neta Rice
Executive Director

RENDEZVOUS 2020 is now in the history books. We had a great turnout at the King and Prince on St. Simons Island and the weather was perfect. Old friends and new acquaintances alike enjoyed the spring weather as they visited at the ATFAR hospitality house.

ATFAR members enjoyed a visit and tour of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), Watched a fantastic explosives demonstration put on by the ATF National Academy, lunched in the FLETC dining hall and attended a presentation by ATF National Academy Chief Kirk Howard.



ATFAR Members at the FLETC Welcome Center

We want to thank Al Verhey, Erma Branch and Annette King-solver for their tremendous job in keeping over fifty ATFAR members together, safe and well fed. I did hear someone mention that it was a lot like herding cats!

For more photos of RENDEZVOUS 2020 visit our website: ATFAR.org

RENDEZVOUS 2021: LEXINGTON KY!

This is one you don't want to miss! From the beautiful rolling hills of the Bluegrass state to the excitement and pulse of a Thoroughbred horse race Kentucky has it all. Tour the world famous Buffalo Trace Distillery and spend the day at Clairborne Farm (home of triple crown winner Secretariat) or relax at the Hilton Double Tree with friends and catch up from last year. You Do Not Want To Miss This Event!!

For more information visit ATFAR.org



If you know of great discounts or specialty programs that would benefit other ATFAR members let us know so we can put them here. Forward your info to us at: atfarsetup@gmail.com

USEFULL INFORMATION FOR YOU

We search high and low to find things that benefit ATFAR members. Here are a few:



Did you know that as a FEHB member you can get new hearing aids every three years

for no out of pocket expense? Contact a hearing professional at EARGO.com or call 855 743 6227. You will talk with a hearing specialist and be qualified over the phone. Your hearing aids will arrive via mail within days! We have several

members that have already received theirs and love them.

Note: ATFAR does not receive financial benefit from EARGO, we simply care about our members

A penny saved is a penny earned....
but **FREE STUFF...**
That's what I'm talking about!



How about 45% off Oakley Sun-glasses? Yes, you heard that right! As a former ATF employee you qualify as a "First Responder" through Oakley's "Standard Issue" program. Simply register with ID.me, provide proof of your prior employment with ATF and bang,

you are ready to receive your 45% off. You can also get 30% off of Reebok shoes and clothing, 25% off certain car rentals and many other great discounts.

ALL ATF Employees qualify as First Responders.

Note: ATFAR does not receive financial benefit from Oakley or ID.me we simply care about our members

Retired Public Safety Officer Pension Exclusion



When the taxpayer is an eligible "retired public safety officer", defined by the IRS as a "law enforcement officer, firefighter, chaplain, or member of a rescue squad or ambulance crew", they can elect to exclude up to \$3,000 of the distributions they receive from an eligible retirement plan from their taxable income. To be eligible for this exclusion, the funds must be used to pay for accident or health insurance premiums or the premiums associated with a long-term care contract

for the taxpayer, their spouse, or their dependents.

To learn more about this exclusion contact your tax preparer or conduct research on the subject at IRS.gov

Note: ATFAR does not offer tax advise or receive financial benefit from the IRS. We simply care about our members.

WOW! ATF's Basic Investigator School # 1



ATFAR is in the process of posting several ATF class photos to the ATFAR website. There are many photos so it will take some time. Check the website often to see our progress! ATFAR.org

Are you Current?

Did you know that less than 50% of our members are current on their dues?

ATFAR Members respond to Ariel Rios murderer's parole request.

On April 14, 2020 ATFAR sent an ACTION NEEDED email to all ATFAR members requesting they respond to the U.S. Probation and Parole board regarding a parole hearing by the murderer of ATF Special Agent Ariel Rios. To those of you that responded Thank You! We apologize for the late notice and perhaps this is the reason there were so few responses. A total of 94 emails

were received by the Parole board all of which were against parole being granted. A large percentage of the of letters submitted were by sent by ATFAR members. THANK YOU. We will make sure that when this comes up again we will provide members plenty of advance notice and hopefully we will get those numbers up!

My first day on the job.



Submit your First Day on the Job story to:
atfarsetup@gmail.com

“My first day on the job and my last day on the job both seem to run together, 30 years gone before you get your desk organized.”
Carlos Baixauli



I was in my best business suit, returning from testifying in court at Richmond, VA., to my POD at Norfolk, VA., when I had the urge to urinate. So I pulled off the road and parked behind a church and when I got out of the car I heard the noise of the “pressure burner.” When I looked over the edge of the hill I saw a black man operating a liquor still. I removed my suit jacket, raided the still, apprehended the defendant, inventoried and destroy the still and transported the defendant to Norfolk. At the time of his arrest, I noticed that he had been burned so badly that his arm had grown solidly to his side and I arranged with the Federal Judge, Walter Hoffman, to have the defendant sentenced to Federal Prison for the length of time necessary for the prison doctor to repair the defendant’s arm.

B.K. Uptagraft

Assistant Regional Director, North Atlantic Region

Retired 9-12-1982

I reported to the Raleigh (NC) POD on September 10, 1969, to begin my career as a Special Investigator with the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division (ATFD) of the Internal Revenue Service. After being introduced by the Area Supervisor (Criminal Enforcement had an Area Supervisor position at that time), Special Investigators Bill Walden and Tommy Stokes informed me that we were going to Wilkesboro. I had heard of Wilkesboro and Wilkes County as being the “moonshine capital,” so I was pretty excited about getting to work in Wilkes County my first day on the job. But, my excitement was lessened a bit when I was told that we were going there to pick up some desks for the office. The Wilkesboro POD was getting new office furniture and we were getting some of their old stuff. So, my first day as an ATF Special Investigator I moved desk and office equipment .

Johnny Binkley

Resident Agent in Charge, Greensboro NC

Retired 10-4-1994

ATFAR housekeeping...



Yes, the ATFAR annual dues are increasing. During the member meeting at the last RENDEZVOUS the members voted to increase the annual dues by \$5.00. This brings the annual dues to a total of

\$25.00. The ATFAR year runs from July 1 through June 31 each year. If you have not paid your dues already you may do so with a credit card on our website. www.atfar.org

Did you know...

The cost of mailing the ATFAR newsletter is going up and up and up. Also, if you move or have provided us the wrong address the ATFAR newsletter will be returned by the post office to ATFAR at a cost of \$1.00 each!



ATFAR Apparel

From Polo type shirts, to sweat shirts and long sleeve button down shirts, ball caps, jackets and more. The ATFAR store has over 41 items that you can purchase with the ATFAR logo.

From the ATFAR website click on the ATFAR Merchandise link. You will immediately see a coupon for the ATFAR store. Click the coupon and it will let you into the store. Coupon is applied to prices upon checkout. www.atfar.org



WWW.ATFAR.org

ATFAR's website is up and running and is keeping many members up to date on what is going on. We hope you will visit atfar.org and get your login credentials. On the website you stay up to date on ATFAR functions, pay your dues, view photographs submitted by other ATFAR members, register for the upcoming RENDEZVOUS, find books written by ATF employees, locate other ATFAR members

and much more. Soon we hope to have class photographs online from years of ATF training. It is our hope that one day we will be able to transition from mailing out the newsletter to only having a digital version. This will go a long way in keeping the membership dues low.

Visit the ATFAR website at: www.atfar.org



**FELLOWSHIP
BUILT ON A
LIFETIME OF
SERVICE**

**Do you know
someone that is a
former ATF
employee or a
family member of a
deceased employee
that is not a
member of ATFAR?
Please invite them
to become members
by using the "Join
ATFAR" link at our
website:
www.atfar.org .**

ATFAR History By Bill Wood, Chief ATF National Academy

In **1975**, ATFAR was founded by George Pettway, Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC), of the Florida District. Initially intended for retired Special Agents (i.e., 1811's) that had worked in the "Southeast Region" (AL; FL; GA; MS; NC; SC; and TN), Mr. Pettway served as the ATFAR Executive Director for several years.

[NOTE: Prior to becoming a Bureau, under the U.S. Treasury Department, ATF's "regional structure" encompassed about 60% of **all** Special Agents being assigned to the "Southeast Region" to combat illicit liquor (i.e., "moonshine") violations. Under the administration of President George W. Bush, following the infamous "9/11 attack," the Bureau of ATF was assigned to the U.S. Justice Department.]

John Westra, Special Agent in Charge (SAC), of the North Carolina District, was subsequently selected to succeed Mr. Pettway as the Executive Director of ATFAR. Mr. Westra served admirably for the next several years as the Bureau expanded into a "national organization."

In **1990**, Special Agent John Rice was selected to serve as the ATFAR Executive Director. Under Mr. Rice's leadership, ATFAR was expanded to include Special Agents; Regulatory Inspectors; Explosives specialists; Laboratory personnel; and all "administrative support" employees from all 50 states and U.S. territories. Mr. Rice also enhanced ATFAR's coordination with, and support of, Bureau Headquarters regarding mutual objectives.

In **2001** (and continuing to date), Juanita ("NETA") Rice has served as the ATFAR Executive Director. NETA is a retired ATF "training support employee" and the widow of John Rice. She was selected to the position following the untimely death of John. Under NETA's leadership, ATFAR membership has been expanded to include "surviving spouses" of ATF employees, and "Associates" who either worked for ATF at some time in the past, **or** who worked closely with ATF under other Federal, State or Local agencies. She has further "opened ATFAR" to sponsors who voluntarily desire to support ATFAR objectives with **no** reciprocal benefits.

ATFAR was formed (and still exists) to promote fellowship; social interaction; an avenue of communication; and assistance to "members in distress".

If you know of a former ATF employee or family member that is not a member of ATFAR tell them to visit www.atfar.org and click on the "Join ATFAR" link.

Dominick Polifrone and the Iceman



Former undercover operative Dominick Polifrone still remembers the terrifying feeling that he got when he looked into the face of notorious mob hitman and serial killer Richard Kuklinski, he said it felt like staring into the eyes of the devil, but he wouldn't let the hulking killer take his "soul."

In an episode of Fox Nation's "The Fuhrman Diaries," hosted by former LAPD detective and Fox News forensic and crime scene expert Mark Fuhrman, retired ATF special agent Dominick Polifrone opened up about his 18-month operation, inside of Kuklinski's crew that led to capture and arrest of "The Iceman." "One of the most fascinating parts about Richard Kuklinski is his nickname 'The Iceman,' said Fuhrman in the Fox Nation show. "About halfway through his contract killing career, he met another contract killer, kind of by happenstance, named Mr. Frosti.

"Mr. Frosti had an ice cream truck that he would use to get close to victims," explained Fuhrman. "He would actually put the victim sometimes in the freezer in the van to transport them to his commercial building, which had a big lockdown commercial freezer that he would use to freeze the body."

Mr. Frosti apparently taught Kuklinski how to dispose of bodies in a way that would throw law enforcement off his trail. Kuklinski employed these vile techniques to hide the murders that he was committing -- mostly for the DeCavalcante crime family in Newark, N.J. -- earning him the moniker "The Iceman." "But then Kuklinski started to get sloppy and police started closing in.

"There was no direct evidence to tie him with anything," said Polifrone, in reference to five homicides that police believed to be linked to Kuklinski. "They needed someone to meet with him to extract that information and pinpoint it to each murder, how it was done. And that was my role."

Continued next page



ATFAR CHALLENGE COINS

Beautiful High Gloss Gold Colored Challenge Coins
with ATFAR logo and ATF Retiree badge

2 coins for \$26.00 includes shipping via USPS

Priority Mail

www.atfar.org



Evil Personified.
ATF Special Agent
Dominick
Polifrone describes
Kuklinski as one of
the most evil hu-
man beings he had
ever met. “He
had no regard for
life,, his or any
that of any one
else.”

We hate to see you
go!

Don't let this be your
last newsletter!

We cannot afford to
send newsletters to
members that are not
current on their dues.

Pay your dues online
at atfar.org

Dominick Polifrone

Polifrone began hanging out at a store known to be frequented by Kuklinski, but the mob killer had gone underground as he drew the attention of law enforcement. After more than a year the phone in the store rang. It was Kuklinski and he wanted to meet Polifrone, who was disguised as Dominic Michael Provenzano, a fictitious local crook with an extensive rap sheet.

They met at a nearby Dunkin' Donuts and began a working relationship. Eventually, Kuklinski began to confide in "Dom." "He told me things -- how he murdered these people. And he's talking to me like we're talking about a football game," recalled Polifrone. "He was a cold-blooded, cold-hearted murderer. And if you want to talk about it and truthfully -- that was the walking devil. That was the devil that when you die, that's who you're going to meet. And he owned your soul. But I wouldn't give it to him."

Over a period of time, Polifrone would collect enough incriminating information to build a case, and it didn't come a moment too soon. "[The police] were really concerned about me because on the wire-taps, [Kuklinski] wanted to bring me to a location and wanted to murder me," said Polifrone. "He says, 'Make sure Dom has his hands on the steering wheel.' He says, 'Cause I'm going to kill him.'"

Kuklinski died in prison in 2006, but before his death, he admitted to killing over 200 people.

"This is evil personified. This is a guy that if you let him go unchecked, I'm sure by the time he's dead, he'd have killed several hundred people, more than 200, more than 300," concluded Fuhrman. "This guy is just doing stuff because he likes it. There is nothing that's driving him to this. He just likes killing people."

ATFAR thanks Dominick Polifrone for his service to our nation. Because of his fortitude and bravery our country is a safer place. ATF is and always has been a breeding ground for heroes like Dominick.

Read a good book lately?

Did you know there were over 50 books written by ATF employees available for your reading pleasure? Check them out at the ATFAR website, atfar.org

LET'S SUPPORT OUR ATF AUTHORS

THANK YOU



ATFAR would like to thank the wonderful folks at NineLine apparel for their very generous donations in support of ATFAR RENDEZVOUS 2020.

Thank You Mr. Joe Burkhart for your gracious assistance providing ATFAR a solar reflector / precipitation shield (tent) during RENDEZVOUS 2020. You, sir, are now and always have been a great friend to ATF.

Most importantly, **THANK YOU** to each and every ATFAR member. Without you ATFAR would not exist. Thank you for caring enough about your former work mates to stay involved. Thank You for keeping the ATF tradition of “Fellowship Based On A Lifetime Of Service” alive.

ATFAR = All That Fun After Retirement

A heartfelt Thank You goes out to U.S. Navy Seal Captain Eddie Gallagher and “Salty Frog Gear” for your generous donation in support of the ATFAR RENDEZVOUS 2020. Thank you sir, we have your six.



Thank You Carlos Baixauli. The ammo cans you purchased and modified with a great paint job and the ATFAR Logo were a hit! A great item for the daily raffle. Many dollars were raised due to your efforts. Thank you very much.

A very big THANK YOU goes out to Bill and Josie Wood and Neta Rice for the time, effort and stress involved in hosting the ATFAR 2020 RENDEZVOUS at the King and Prince on Saint Simons Island, Georgia. We know that you must have had mother nature working with you to provide the perfect weather in early March. Thank You.



**ANOTHER
GREAT
ROOKIE
STORY**



alamy stock photo

Thank you for all your stories. Keep them coming!

As a rookie S/A in Cleveland, Ohio in 1962, I, like most of us, did some UC work. One of my tasks led me to the Youngstown POD run by the iconic Duncan Craig. I made arrangements to buy 50 gal of NTPDS. Bet some of you have no idea what that is. Anyway, my violator was an 80 year old man who made his own whiskey. He and I made arrangements to meet on an isolated road at 2:00 am to finish the deal. I had a volunteer helper for the buy bust in wonderful Milton Kafoglis, who was a legend UC S/A. How lucky I was to have had exposure to such as Milt and Dunc. When we met with the violators at the prescribed spot we found we had two to deal with. Other than the 80 year old man, we also had a mountain of a man who was young and seemingly a potentially

dangerous man. It was pitch black. Milt and I had some quick whispers while transferring the whiskey from violator vehicle to ours. Since Milton was much senior to me, he called the shots. He volunteered to arrest the big guy, leaving the old geezer to me. As they sometimes do, our plan went awry. I happened to be in reaching distance of the big man and Milt was next to the old man. That's how the arrests had to go down. I reached around the big brute with my badge in one hand and a flashlight in the other. Shining the light on my badge and getting a good hold around the violator's body I announced that I was a federal officer and he was under arrest. Milton was doing the same thing with the old man. I was braced for the worst but I heard the old man being arrested by Milton say, "Well, I'll be a son-of-a-bitch." The big brute I had my arms around simply collapsed to the ground, holding his chest, yelling, "help me. I can't breathe." I believe he was afraid to tangle with my 160 pounds of dynamite and his 250 or so pounds. Duncan Craig's tenure went back to him being side by side with Eliot Ness on an infrequent basis and Milton, who was Greek and frequently passed for black, was able to effectively go where most of us couldn't. Yeah, I was lucky but these two were not the only mentors who helped me through my learning years. I am so grateful to them.

Edwin Easley

IT'S YOUR MONEY

WE WANT TO HELP

YOU HOLD ON TO

IT LONGER AND

ENJOY IT MORE!

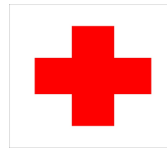
Where can I find the best CD rates?

So you have managed to put away a little extra cash and want to get the best return on your money. Where do you turn to get the best interest rate on your money? There are several online services that compare CD rates daily. A leader in the field is Bankrate.com. Bankrate offers listings including who is offering the best CD rates (updated daily), who has the best mortgage rates, who has the best credit card for your needs and many other useful features. Another great service is Nerdwallet.com.

Nerdwallet.com offers many of the same features but also includes Insurance and Travel information.

Don't forget to check your local credit unions. Often times your local credit union may be able to offer a higher rate of return based on their lower operating cost. Wherever you decide to do business just insure that your institution is covered by the FDIC or the NCUA. Both organizations offer coverage of up to \$250,000.00 per individual account.

Telemedicine, is it for you?



When you're feeling under the weather or have questions about your health, you usually schedule an appointment with your primary care physician. In after-hour situations, you may even head to an urgent care clinic. But as communication technology advances, your options for care are expanding. Through telemedicine services, you can receive medical advice anytime, anywhere, without leaving the comfort of your home.

The basics of telemedicine Since the 1950s, healthcare providers have been offering remote services. This allows patients to receive healthcare without leaving their home, office, dorm room, hotel, or beyond. Telemedicine first began on landline telephones. With the advancement of technology, telemedicine has grown to offer services in a variety of ways. This includes online portals managed by your personal physician, video software that allows for remote consultations, and apps managed by companies offering telemedicine services like Teledoc offered by Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Telemedicine allows you to discuss symptoms, medical issues, and more with a healthcare provider in realtime. Using telemedicine, you can receive a diagnosis, learn your treatment options, and get a prescription. In cases where it's necessary, healthcare providers can even monitor readings from medical devices remotely to keep an eye on your condition.

How does telemedicine work? Telemedicine isn't appropriate for emergency situations like heart attack or stroke, cuts or lacerations, or broken bones that require x-rays, splints, or casts. Anything that requires immediate, hands-on care should be handled in person. However, telemedicine is very useful for simple issues and follow-up consultations.

For instance, if you suspect that a cut may be infected, you can schedule a virtual consultation with your healthcare provider to discuss your symptoms. If you're on vacation and think you're coming down with strep throat, you can communicate with your primary care

physician. If you need a birth control medication, you can chat through your needs and get a same-day prescription. It's helpful for a variety of other health issues including psychotherapy and teledermatology, which offers consultations of moles, rashes, etc. Colds and flu, insect bites, sore throats, diarrhea, and pink eye are some other common issues addressed using telemedicine.

The benefits of telemedicine The need for more accessible healthcare is a driving force behind the growth of telemedicine. Whether a patient lives in a remote area or has a busy schedule that doesn't allow time to visit a physician, telemedicine can help improve a person's overall health and well-being.

But it can also help your financial health. Access to a telemedicine provider can reduce the need to visit the emergency room. According to a 2017 study, the average telemedicine visit costs \$79. The average doctor's visit is \$149 and the average trip to the emergency room is \$1,734. As the popularity of telemedicine grows, many health insurance plans are beginning to offer coverage for telemedicine visits. Some states have enacted laws that require health insurance plans to reimburse telemedicine visits at the same rate as in-person doctor visits. It's best to check with your specific plan's benefits before using telemedicine to understand your financial obligation. Medicaid may also offer reimbursement for telemedicine services as long as they meet all federal requirements and eligibility.

Give it a try. Telemedicine may be a viable option the next time you come down with a case of the sniffles or need a consultation about the use of a certain medication. Check if your current provider offers telemedicine services that are covered under your insurance plan.

For FEHP BC/CS subscribers, Blue Cross offers limited TeleDoc visits Co-pay free. Teledoc is a fast convenient way to see a physician without leaving home. Visits can be made telephonically or via video chat. *Adapted from an article by Gina Roberts Grey for*



As we are all aware spring of 2020 was not the normal spring we all look forward to. The Coronavirus kept us all locked down and unable to do the things we enjoy doing. As things gradually get back to normal we should probably expect to see a "new normal." ATFAR members

are encouraged to stay prepared as this virus is expected to make a comeback sometime in the fall. As things return to normal it may be a good idea to put an extra container of alcohol wipes or can of sanitizer spray in the cart while grocery shopping. We should all make it a point from this point forward to have a bottle of hand sanitizer in every vehicle we own and to use it after every contact with a public location. It may be a good idea to go ahead and purchase a few boxes of face mask just to have on hand in the event this thing rears its ugly head again. Yes,

changed the way we do things. Scientist will search for a vaccine and most likely develop one but what about Covid-20?

Stay vigilant, enlarge your personal space, practice extreme hygiene after exposure in public places and maintain a good supply of the goods you will need should this happen again.

Stay healthy ATFAR members! We look forward to practicing social distancing with you at RENDEZVOUS 2021 in Lexington KY!

How I am spending my Retirement

By George Dahl



**We want to know
what you are
doing in
retirement. Take
a few minutes and
send us an email
with your story!**

After a successful career with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms of eighteen years, I retired in Albuquerque, New Mexico. After being home for a while, I sought other adventures to occupy my time. I joined a volunteer fire department and served, in various capacities for 14 years. Once separated from the departments and New Mexico, and after moving to Arizona, I was reintroduced to the Hall of Flame, Museum of Firefighting. As an ATF Division Operations Officer in Phoenix, I became aware of the Hall of Flame and joined as a volunteer in 1993.

The Hall of Flame is the largest collection of fire fighting memorabilia in the world. Over 100 pieces of fire apparatus are displayed in four separate galleries in buildings located in Phoenix, Arizona. There are also boards of fire patches, a coterie of fire headgear from all over the world and dedicated exhibits to fallen heroes.

George F. Getz, Jr. founded the Hall of Flame in 1961. He organized the National Historical Fire Foundation as a 501(c)(3) non profit organization to promote the programs of a museum which he named the Hall of Flame. Mr. Getz began to collect fire apparatus after the Christmas 1955 present of a 1924 American LaFrance fire engine from his wife, Olive Atwater Getz.

The couple were fascinated by the rig, and Mr. Getz began to collect apparatus of all types



My 1959 Seagrave Pumper

from all over the world. Upon Mr. Getz' passing in 1992, Mr. Getz' son Bert, and his two sons Bert Jr. and George continued to serve as members of the NHFF board of trustees, with George serving as President.

In 1961 the collection was large enough for exhibit in a small museum in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, near the Getz summer home. A few years later, the Hall of Flame moved to Kenosha, Wisconsin, where it remained until 1970. In that year the Getz family moved to Scottsdale, Arizona, and Mr. Getz decided to move the Hall of Flame as well. In 1974 the Hall of Flame opened its present building in Phoenix's Papago Park, adjacent to the Phoenix Zoo and Phoenix Municipal Stadium.

The Hall has grown from its original single gallery to five exhibit galleries, the National Firefighting Hall of Heroes, the museum store, a theater, a restoration shop, a collection storage building, and administrative offices. The Hall's present size is 70,000 square feet, with 35,000 square feet of exhibit galleries. The collection has grown to over 130 wheeled pieces and thousands of smaller artifacts.

The galleries contain a wide variety of exhibits, including fire apparatus, artwork, uniforms and equipment, fire marks, alarm room equipment, and a large fire safety exhibit which includes a two-room safety house, a mini-theater, and many hands-on exhibits for children.

In 1998 the museum opened the National Firefighting Hall of Heroes. In this gallery we honor American firefighters who have received a national award for heroism, and we also recognize American firefighters who have died in the line of duty. The Hall of Flame Museum has a membership of over 400 individuals, fire departments, and companies, who receive a wide variety of benefits in exchange for their membership fees.

EXHIBITS

The first two galleries exhibit fire-fighting apparatus from 1725 to about 1875. The oldest, a 1725 Newsham is strictly a wash tub

and hand pump. Bucket brigades supplied water to the water reservoir. The stream was about the size and pressure of a garden hose. The Newsham and other hand pumpers are representative of the colonial era in America. Numerous hand drawn and horse drawn pieces of equipment grace Gallery One at the museum



1725 Newsham

ONE OF OUR NEWEST

Thanks to the City of New York and numerous volunteer fire agencies, the Hall of Flame received the donation of a Rescue Truck, a vehicle that served at the 9/11/2001 New York City tragedy. The unit is used as a backdrop for many events at the Hall, including a solemn 911 Ceremony. Retired FDNY (New York Firefighters) read the names of all 343 FDNY deaths at the World Trade Center.



A U.S. Air Force Crash Truck



A Crown Pumper from Orange, CA

I am very proud to be a Docent at the Museum. I give tours, work in our gift shop and author articles on antique fire apparatus. I have owned 22 antique rigs over the years and my son, Brian is currently a firefighter in Afghanistan.

George Dahl

Thank you for the great article George, very interesting and I bet exciting at times. Sounds like you are really enjoying your time in retirement. I certainly hope that some of our ATFAR members stop by and tour the Hall of Flame

High School Bombing 1971



My first case that didn't involve illicit whiskey was a high school bombing at the newly opened Ayden-Grifton High School, located in Pitt County, NC just south of Greenville, NC (Eastern NC).

During a period of racial unrest brought about by the death of a young black in police custody, 7 young African-Americans started a bombing campaign with dynamite stolen from a local explosives dealer. They attacked bridges in the area causing practically no damage.



However, on September 8, 1971, 4 of them placed 4 sticks of dynamite in a sink in the boys bathroom located adjacent to the school auditorium. The bomb was detonated by a cap and length of dynamite fuse. About a week later, Pitt County Deputy Sheriff Tommy Burney and myself were able to identify the 4 bombers and we arrested all 4 just prior to the FBI trying to horn in and take over the case.



The ringleader confessed and later received 40 years in the state penitentiary. As a result of this case, the RAC, Area Supervisor and SAC recommended for me to attend the US Army Hazardous Devices School at Redstone Arsenal, Al. Which I did in 1972.

Truly this was one of the highlights of my 32 years as a Special Agent. See the photos included.

Ed Garrison

Is there life after ATF?

Life rocks when your living room rolls!



**Bob and Marty Whitney's
40' Tiffin Motor Coach**

*If you would like to hear more
about Bob and Marty's travels
drop us a line at
atfarsetup@gmail.com*

YES! According to Bob and Marty Whitney. Robert V (RV) and Mary H (MH) sold their brick and mortar home after retirement and began living the life of full time RVers. *(With initials like RV and MH what else would you expect?)* Bob and Marty set out to see and experience the United States. Traveling back roads in their Tiffin Allegro 40 foot diesel Motor Coach the Whitney's arrive in comfort wherever they stop. Bob and Marty also tow a vehicle with them so once the huge Motor Coach is parked they can be free

to explore the local area and partake in local events. Bob and Marty do have a home base, they winter at a first class motor coach resort near central Florida where Marty teaches a weekly art class and Bob can often be found soaking up the sun and tweaking the motor coach to his liking. Bob and Marty have a blog site where you can keep up with their travels and experiences. You can follow RV and MH and enjoy their adventures by visiting their internet blog at the address below.

<https://rvandmh.blogspot.com/>

First Quarter New Members!

2020 has been a great year for ATFAR gaining new and returning members. We want to thank each and every one of you for joining / returning to ATFAR. We hope you will bring your friends into ATFAR as they near retirement, after all, who does not want to have ALL THAT FUN AFTER RETIREMENT!

NEW / REJOINING MEMBERS

Theresa Glasscock
Rosanne Russo
Lisa Shatzer
Vicki Robinson
Dave Adinolfi
Don York
Stanley Reaves
Jeff Stirling
Mary Tkacik
Doug Hughes
Katherine Masterson
Monique Randall
Gary Campbell
Victor Herbert
John Ryan
Eric Frey
Doug Krogh
Joel Thorpe
Dennis Flavin
Ollie Mier
Rick Samples
Daryl Dubose
Thomas Mullen
John Wells
Randal Beach
Ed Armstrong

Wayne Kilday
Joe Riehl
Jeffrey Buerstatte
Don Tisdale
Alan Kofman
Bob Whitney
Malcom Brady
Penny Strickin
Scott Adams
Jacqueline Elbaum
Mark Mutz
James Grady
Matthew May
George Dahl
Annette Kingsolver
Earl Nealy
Patrick Hand
Jerry Thompson
Edward Garrison
Barbara Holbrock
Rudy Hardy
Greg Hanisch

A Message from Neta

The SSI 2020 Rendezvous was fantastic! The King and Prince Hotel and Golf Resort was the ideal place for these very early dates. We had hesitated on such an early meeting but I am now so glad that we did it on these dates. Any later, because of the Corona Virus Pandemic, all the plans would have been canceled.

This year we had had a lot going on, raffle tickets, silent auction, etc. These additions to the hospitality room were fun and everyone seemed to enjoy them very much. So - start planning for some new items for 2021. Since our yearly "parties" are all about fellowship and the chance of visiting old friends and meeting new ones, all suggestions, recommendations and activities are appreciated.

Some of the members had to cancel this year due to illness or family emergencies but all vow to see us in Lexington. Stay safe, looking forward to seeing you at the next ATFAR Rendezvous!

With all the exciting things going on in ATFAR, now is an excellent time to get involved and let your voices be heard. You can post your ideas and suggestions on the ATFAR Facebook page or contact me or Jimm Langley at atfarsetup@gmail.com We all love hearing from you.

Until next time Neta



Little known facts about Elliott Ness

After Ness's success in Chicago, Ness landed a new job in December of 1935 as the investigator in charge of the Treasury Department's Alcoholic Tax Unit in northern Ohio. At age 32, he was the youngest in Cleveland history to claim that title. Mayor Harold Hitz Burton, who appointed Ness, sought to establish a safe environment in Cleveland, a city which had become overloaded with crime and corruption. Along with 34 agents under him, he began efforts to clean up the city and its crooked policemen. Conducting most of the investigating himself, Ness gathered evidence of the criminal activity of various police officers and took this information before a grand jury in October of 1936. Fifteen officials were brought to trial including a deputy inspector, two captains, two lieutenants and a

sergeant. Two hundred police officers were forced to turn in their resignations. Another of Ness's achievements was in traffic control. Cleveland was notorious at that time for being the second-worst American city in traffic-related deaths and injuries, with an average of 250 deaths each year. Ness established a court designed for the sole purpose of handling traffic cases. He also implemented the process of immediate examination of suspected drunk drivers, automatic arrest of those found intoxicated, harsh consequences for officers found adjusting tickets and an automobile inspection program. By 1938, deaths caused by traffic accidents fell to an average of 130 per year, and fell even further in 1939 to 115. Ness's efforts resulted in Cleveland receiving the title of "safest city in the USA" by the National Safety Council.

Dues Amnesty! Are you behind on your dues? No problem! Amnesty has been offered! Pay your dues now for the 2021 year and all is forgiven!

Executive Director
405 Bonaventure Road
St. Simons Island GA 31522
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit ORG
U.S. Postage
PAID
St. Simons Isl. GA 31522
Permit # 767

SAVE THAT WALK TO THE MAILBOX

No reason to get out in the cold or rain to get your copy of the ATFAR newsletter. It is available online at www.atfar.org. If you have not established your login link for the website please do so soon. We are hoping to keep our membership costs low and in today's ever rising costs that seems to be almost impossible. One thing we can do right away is to reduce our printing and mailing expenses. For ATFAR to produce a nice newsletter every six months costs about 1.00 per newsletter. By the time you add the postage and the fee's for returned newsletters the average cost is about \$2.50 per newsletter. Multiply that by 600 members = \$1500.00. Now do that twice a year and we are at \$3,000.00. We want to move to a digitized newsletter. It is faster, cheaper, easier to do in color and will support things such as links etc...

If you need to have your newsletter mailed to you please contact us by U.S. Mail to let us know.



Please mail your newsletter preference to the following:

ATFAR
405 Bonaventure Rd.
St. Simons Island, GA
31522