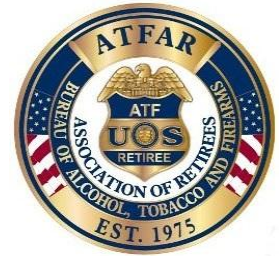


ATFAR Newsletter

January - 2018



“Fellowship built on a Lifetime of Service”

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ATFAR
405 Bonaventure Road
St. Simons Island, GA 31522

2019 ATFAR Smoky Mountains Rendezvous II



Gene's Message

We are returning to Pigeon Forge, TN, for the 2019 ATFAR Smoky Mountains Rendezvous II from April 29 – May 2, 2019. *(Gene just checked and we can stay another night - same price and check out on the 2nd)* **Country Cascades** in Pigeon Forge, TN, near Dollywood, restaurants, and malls. The hotel has been completely remodeled, has an indoor and outdoor pool, a spa, an exercise room and a game room. Top all that off with a deluxe continental breakfast, served 6:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. We have a great rate and a hotel staff that eager to serve us. They gave us everything we asked for at a very reasonable price.

There is so much to do and see in the area. In 2017 we voted to return to East Tennessee in 2019. We had a great time then with all of the construction going on. Let's make this the largest get-together ever. Make a point Invite former ATF people who have never attended, and your friends and neighbors who might enjoy it. We in Tennessee are very excited and ready to show off our beautiful state.

It seems like every month, sometimes more often, we have former co-workers and friends that pass. Some you may not have heard from in years and some you may have kept in touch with but haven't seen in while. I think most will agree the best thing about ATFAR Rendezvous is seeing old co-workers, sharing old war stories and seeing how all of them got old while you stayed young.

The Country Cascades, which was building a new addition in 2017 and water slide, has completely remodeled the section we occupied. The room rates for April 29 - May 1, 2019, are as follows: All rooms include free wifi, DVD, cable flat screen television, a refrigerator, coffee maker, and hair dryer. Regular two Queen size beds, or one King size bed with a rate of \$69.00 plus tax. Celebration suites are \$89.00 plus tax. You can view the site at: www.countrycascades.com.

Reservations: Must be made individually under the ATFAR group rate by calling **1-877-390-1133** stating you want the ATFAR group rate. Please make your reservations as soon as possible the regular rooms will go first **If you have to cancel 48 hours prior to you scheduled arrival your money will be refunded in full. We also have made arrangements for those who want to come stay Wednesday, can have the same rate. The regular rate is \$113 - \$139 so you know we got a great deal.**

Within two blocks of Country Cascades is the Gatlinburg – Pigeon Forge Trolley which is free and runs a regular route with various on and off stations throughout the area.



You all know what a great time we all have at every Rendezvous, so, if you haven't already made your reservation, do it NOW! Gene is in constant contact with the hotel and has all the current information. I know he has a lot of things planned and lots of things that you can do on your own. This location is awesome as far as so many places to go, places to eat, places to just enjoy. AND you know we will have a top of the line hospitality room that everyone spends some time at every day!

Don't just look out for yourself, call your friends and get them signed up too. They may even need a ride. Neta



Notes from the

ATFAR

Gang

Carleton, MI

Neta it was certainly a pleasure to visit with you, Bob & Pam Hammer and Linda Pannell at Pam's #1 Friday, after our daughters graduation from USMC boot camp. It was only a short trip by RV from Parris Island, SC down to Brunswick to visit and allowed me to pay our dues in person rather than relying upon the US postal service. Additionally, it was the first visit my daughter had ever made to Pam #1. My worry is that and after hearing story after story about activities her Mother and I participated in at Pam's from you, Bob and Linda, and viewing the pictures, and memorabilia to include certain items that have been displayed on the ceiling since our wedding reception, that she will attempt to duplicate the fun we've had at Pam's #1 for the past 28 years, not a good thing. Unfortunately times have changed.

As we discussed, Kris and I have not had the opportunity to attend any of the reunions. However we really want to attend next year's reunion in Pigeon Forge, TN, since Gene Rightmyer (My NAT Class Coordinator) knows how to host a great party. My only concern is that the last time I attended a function in Tennessee organized and hosted by Gene Rightmyer I ended up being interview by Internal Affairs. Hopefully now that we are all retired that experience won't be repeated.

John A. Griffith

Roanoke, VA

Just received the June Newsletter which reminded me of my dues payment. I never know whether I'm ahead or behind -- I don't even remember how much dues are per year. But, I've enclosed a contribution -- perhaps. It will keep the newsletter coming a bit longer. We are doing very well for two who are advanced in years (not old just advanced in years). Lucy just had her 82nd birthday and I turned 87 in May. We are still doing our usual at a slower pace by God's grace. Thanks for all that you do to keep us in touch. However, I don't see too many names i recognize, but enjoy reading it anyway. As always,

Bob Poland

Thousand Oaks, CA

Hope everything is well with you. Grace and I are still kicking, another year, another to pay the dues. Looking forward to the next newsletter.

Dan Smith

Millbrook, Al

We really wish we could come to the gatherings. Every year we think this is the one, but we're dealing with health issues and ongoing family obligations. So, it hasn't worked out in a very long time. The

newsletters are our line to old friends, and we enjoy getting them.

Jim Cooper

(Jim and Judy, we miss you so!!! Please try for Pigeon Forge).

Los Alamitos, CA

Are you getting tired of me writing all the time? Attended the California Gang Investigator's Association Conference this year and worked on staff there. I think is the 23rd one I have attended, except for the year I was out with chemo. I will keep doing these as long as I am able. That was in the first part of August 2018. The next week we had a CERT Basic Class and again I was the Safety Officer for all four days. On the final day we had an exercise where the students got to put into practice all they had learned in class and practical exercises. I was responsible for 60 class members, 30 volunteers for the exercise, 15, instructors and 15 staff people. After eight years in this position I have never had a reportable injury or any injury, maintained that record this year as well. Every time I think I am done, I get called back again. I don't know how to quit. Have a great day.

Fritz Campbell

(Never Fritz! I wish more of our people would send me their news. I love hearing from everyone and even love the phone calls. Neta)

Pleasanton, CA

Sorry to have to inform you that William H. Mallery passed away on June 3rd. I have dealt with OPM already and do not have a complaint. You are right-on about waiting four to six weeks to receive paperwork. It seemed like forever but the paperwork came in five weeks. I had been told previously that it takes so long. I was expecting to wait months for the

payments to be set up but was very surprised and pleased when I received a check for the month of July on July 15th. On Aug 1st, I started receiving my regular monthly payment. Bill died in the month of June so that payment had already been received. The only waiting time in my case, after paperwork, was for two weeks in July and when it came it was for the full amount. I called the gentleman I had been dealing with and thanked him. I told him my surprise and that I thought it would be longer. He said maybe in other departments but not this one. Included in the packet he sent me, was a one page form, RI25-51-CSRS Survivor Annuitant Express Pay Application. That was a blessing in itself. It was easy to fill out, not that four page thing I looked up on the computer. If you should want to contact him to answer some questions, Matt Smail, 724-794-2005, ext. 3908.

Mary Mallery

(Thank you Mary for your information and I am so pleased that you didn't have any major problems.)

Johnstown, PA

I hope all is well. As I mentioned in an earlier e-mail, for our 40th Wedding Anniversary celebration Donna and I decided to complete the Tour Du Mont Blanc (TMB) hiking circuit. We had a wonderful trip and wanted to share some of the details with you. The 105-mile TMB traditionally begins outside Chamonix, France, and encircles 400 summits and 40 glaciers, and travels through the Alpine regions of France, Italy and Switzerland. During our hike we really enjoyed all the views as well as hiking across the French/Italian, Italian/Swiss, and Swiss/French Borders.

Joe Brosky

(Thanks for the photos - they are great. Neta)

Valdosta, GA

It is amazing how I still raid (sic) stills when I am asleep dreaming. I recently raided a still and dreamed I got a superior performance award. Strange!

Elmer Painter

Moneta, VA

Thank you for the peanut butter - rice krispie recipe (Better late than never). I have made them twice and will do so for a Super Bowl party. Still trying to master the choco dip - mine don't look as good as yours - but they taste as good! Tip cut on fold and frame - you will have an original cross stitch by Deborah!

Don and Deborah Harris

(Deborah, thank you so much. I love cross stitch and yes, this one will be framed. I only did few on paper, years and years ago.)

Miami, FL

Peggy and I wanted to come to Biloxi, but we had a conflict. The young lady who grew up next door to us was graduating from medical school After being close friends with her parents, we felt we had to be there. We hope to be in Pigeon Forge next April.

George and Peggy Nowicki

Gainsville, GA

I know you work hard on providing us with the Newsletter and I want you to know just how much you hard work is appreciated! There are fewer and fewer names that I recognize anymore but I still enjoy reading about the reunions.

Ann Hughes

Annapolis, MD

Sorry I don't get to your gatherings. They are always far South, and I'm usually pursuing my avocation, visiting and studying colleges or Universities - about 150 so far, usually to the North. I'm not a fan of summer heat and humidity. But one of these day I may make it to the "Do".

Richard Kelly

Mukilteo, WA

Thank you again for the ATFAR Survivors Booklet. It has been a good reference. Bear passed away November 9th. My daughter has helped me through the weeks of paperwork. Your help has been invaluable. We are starting to see day light.

Char Keane

**ATF Friends and Family
Who Have Passed Into Memory**

Name	Date	Location	Name	Date	Location
Edward Crozier	11/2/18	Cedar Park, TX	Jeremy Langley	11/28/18	Detroit, MI
Ann Rawlins (wife of Rich Rawlins)	12/5/18	Circleville, OH	Karen Russell (wife of Mike)	11/30/18	Burleson, TX
Dick Flynn	11/27/18	Franklin Square, NY	Bill Ivey	12/18	Mobile, AL
Dave Gilbert	11/1/18	Somerset, KY	Dave Greer	8/30/18	Richmond Hills, GA
Linda Pannell	9/25/18	St. Simons, GA	Jackie Palmer	10/26/18	La Plata, MD
Carol Houghton (wife of Bob)	8/20/18	Griffin, GA	John Mellon	7/10/18	Chuckey, TN
Hugh O'Connor	7/22/18	Washington, DC	William Mallery	6/3/18	Pleasanton, CA
Thomas Keane	11/9/18	Mukilteo, WA	Charles May	11/28/18	Lodi, CA
Dorothy Boone (wife of Bill)	12/21/18	Nashville, TN			



The Equal COLA Act (H.R. 7165)



Congressman Gerry Connolly (D-VA) introduced legislation that would increase the amount of the Cost of Living Adjustment paid to some retired federal employees in certain cases.

The Equal COLA Act ([H.R. 7165](#)) aims to bring equity to the way the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) is determined under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). It would amend U.S. Code so that COLAs for retirees under the FERS system will be calculated the same way as COLAs for retirees under CSRS going forward.

Connolly says that the current process for determining COLAs under FERS is unfair. “Over time, we now realize that this two-tiered system fails to protect FERS retirees who are living on a fixed income,” Connolly said. “This legislation will rectify this unfair system and ensure these dedicated public servants are protected throughout their retirement.”

The COLA that was recently announced that will take effect in 2019 for retirees is an example of what Connolly takes issue with in his bill. The [2019 COLA was determined to be 2.8%](#), but federal retirees under FERS only get 2% in most cases.

Under FERS or for FERS Special benefits, if the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) is 2 percent or less, the COLA is equal to the CPI increase. But, if the CPI increase is more than 2 percent but no more than 3 percent, the COLA is 2 percent. If the CPI increase is more than 3 percent, the adjustment is 1 percent less than the CPI increase. The new amount is rounded down to the next whole dollar.

The table below illustrates this.

If the CPI is:	Then the COLA is:
$\leq 2\%$	COLA = CPI increase
$> 2\%$ and $\leq 3\%$	COLA = 2%
$> 3\%$	COLA = CPI - 1%

Retired federal employees under CSRS get the full COLA.

For additional details, see [2019 to Have Largest COLA Increase in 7 Years](#) and [How is the Annual COLA Different from an Annual Pay Raise?](#). Ian Smith is the author of this article and one of the co-founders of FedSmith.com. He enjoys writing about current topics that affect the federal workforce.

10 Tips to Help Protect Your Spouse

Ease the financial burden on your loved one after your death

by Leslie Milk, [AARP Bulletin](#)

Couples can ease the burden on the surviving partner by discussing key financial matters today. Here are steps to get your affairs in order:

- 1. Gather financial papers.** Store deeds, passports, insurance policies, estate documents and the latest statements from financial accounts in a fireproof box at home, where survivors can easily find them
- 2. Make a "must call" list.** Compile contact information for your accountant, lawyer and other financial professionals who need to be contacted when a spouse dies.
- 3. Share passwords.** Keep a master list of all usernames and [passwords](#) so your spouse can still have access after your death.
- 4. Update beneficiaries.** Make sure beneficiary designations for your pension, 401(k), IRA, brokerage accounts and life insurance proceeds still reflect your wishes.
- 5. Check credit cards.** Make sure your name is on the credit card account. In most states, when your spouse dies, you won't be [responsible for any debt on a card](#) that's not in your name. But you also won't be able to use it, and will have to reapply for credit in your own name.
- 6. Set up advance directives.** You both will need health care powers of attorney to designate the person you want to make [medical decisions](#) on your behalf if you are incapacitated. You'll also need to living will that spells out what measure you want the doctor to take to prolong your life.
- 7. Designate a money person.** Each of you will need a financial power of attorney so you can name a trusted person to take money decisions for you if you're unable to do so.
- 8. Review wills and trusts.** Do this every few years or when there's a significant change in your life, such as a sizable increase or decrease in your finances. If you don't have a will, get one.
- 9. Discuss funeral plans.** This can [save thousands of dollars](#) by letting the surviving spouse—who may need the money—know it's OK not to choose the most expensive funeral.
- 10. Learn how bills are paid.** Keep a list of how bills are paid so the survivor doesn't miss a payment or overdraw an account.

Leslie Milk is lifestyle editor for the monthly Washingtonian magazine.

Here is an article that I believe you all will like. I got it from Jay, who got it from Charlie and was written by Gene.

(That's Dobyns, Fuller and Rightmyer)

Thanks to all those who came before me who paved the way, taught me, encouraged and inspired me and for allowing me to touch your worlds.

Thanks to all those of my era for continuing what the Godfathers had started. Respect and admiration to all those still out there doing the things very few others want to, or can. Jay

Was going through some stuff and found Gene Rightmyer's History of the Untouchables. Sort of got to me so I thought I would share it again.

Bless you all.

The Untouchables

The Untouchables have been around for generations, let us hope in this time of "political correctness," we will continue to have Untouchables. The Untouchables are the warriors in undercover operations. They are the few who can play a dangerous game, against dangerous people, by the rules both legal and the bad guys' and win.

We learned from either our training and/or the "school of hard knocks". Not everyone who was trained could or would do what we have done. We believed we were the best there ever was, however we don't get jealous of our brother's success. In fact we relish it and try to achieve that success or make bigger cases. We share our knowledge among our peers and look at it as a compliment when asked for our opinion or advice.

We knew, there was no illicit organization we could not catch if given the time and resources. Realizing that undercover operations are time consuming, tie up manpower and fiscal resources but too many times a manager has pulled the plug just when things were about to get interesting.

One of our toughest problems for us is coming out of role. We know that, sooner or later, with the help of other Untouchables we will come back to the real world. The problem was we enjoyed the roles we played and from time to time we will slide back into them. If you are present when that occurs, sit back and enjoy the ride because you will be amazed.

We have walked into rooms and the wire, we are wearing, sets off every light on a police scanner. We have worn nagras in the small of our backs and a kel up the front and talked your way out of a pat down from a scum bag. We have had burned skin from a transmitter.

We have had more road blocks thrown in our way from management than from the Bad Guys and still made the case.

We have screwed up, or had some bad luck, while in role but were able to think on our feet to save our ass, stay in role and continue in role.

We have had several heated discussions with our bosses. We have walked out of meetings saying such as, "If you know how to do this and you can do it then you don't need me."

You won't see our names in any history books but stories will and have been told about each of us.

Don't ask questions about us, just hang around and have a couple of drinks and you hear about us. It may and may not be the truth at least not the whole truth. But they are fun stories to hear no matter how many times they are told. Some people may place you in their stories, even though you weren't there, to add credibility to their adventure. When asked, you don't bother to deny whatever it was you were alleged to have done, if it was crazy, stupid, crude or whatever. Hell it was a good story and you are sure some of it was true.

We're not easily offended, we don't whine about our lot in life, we don't bitch about our friends, and we mostly like Jimmy Buffett, Hank Williams, ZZ Top, Leonard Skynyrd, The Boss, Bob Seger and classic rock and roll. We know all the words and verses to Don McClean's "Bye Bye American Pie" and we will sing it several times in one night. We strongly suggest if you are present to either sing along or shut up.

To be completely honest we won't attempt to do some of the things we have done in the past.

We've all done stupid things and by the grace of God, we got through them and if the truth be known you will probably do something in the future that by some people's standards will be classified as stupid, at least ill mature.

We come in all sizes, shapes, gender and race. We're not pretty, however you may think we are God's gift to opposite sex. We'll never be confused with any FBI Agent. We drive classic cars, trucks and jeeps and motorcycles. We sweat, pass gas, we're crude and rude and these are our good points.

We know that alcohol is not necessary for us to have a good time but what the hell we drink anyway. We have thrown up after more drinks than we should have and rinsed our mouth out with whatever was available. Then you decide that drink tasted pretty good and continued on.

Internal Affairs knows your name, favorite watering hole, home address, your habits and most of your friends.

We have brothers and sisters, who have passed either by the hands of some scumball or by natural means, they are and will never be forgotten as long as one us lives.

Charlie

(Never take the one's you really love for granted and do not just tell them you love them, tell them WHY you love them and how much you would miss them if they were not here.

You are not truly BLESSED until you share your BLESSINGS!)

Welcome to our newest members!

HELLO

my name is

Walt Kudron
Cranford, NJ

HELLO

my name is

Mariam Metius
Wilmington, NC

HELLO

my name is

Michael Lewis
Mint Hill, NC

HELLO

my name is

Teresa Cole
Tucker, GA

HELLO

my name is

Matthew White
Fernandina Beach, FL

HELLO

my name is

Jacqueline ElBaum
New York, NY

HELLO

my name is

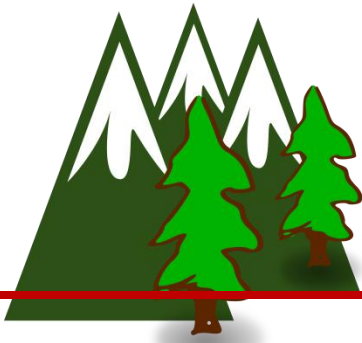
James Black
Scottsdale, AZ

HELLO

my name is

Scott Perala
Summerville, SC

Hope to see you all at the Pigeon Forge **Rendezvous**



ATFAR RENDEZVOUS

2019 ATFAR
April 28 – May 2, 2019
Pigeon Forge, TN

The Registration Fee of **\$65.00** per person includes Hospitality Room and Dinner

Attendee Names: _____

Email Address _____

Bringing Friends?: _____

Tuesday Night Dinner - April 30, 2019
Corkey's Ribs and BBQ
With ALL the trimmings!



Golf Number of Players _____

Course will be determined later.
Rest assured the price will be reasonable.

Group Rates Of Shows / Events

Gene and Gang are checking out prices for some of the local shows and activities. Some offer good discounts if a certain number of people sign up. This information (and much more) will be available at the Registration Desk upon arrival.

Complete the Registration Form with check and put in the mail today!
Send your form with check to:

Gene Rightmyer
117 Inata Circle
Loudon, TN 37774

Any questions contact Gene at:
Cell phone: 865 679-4411
Email address: grightmyer@charter.net

Also, Please make sure your contact information is on your form to Gene. Phone and Email!



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