



AMTA SEMI-ANNUAL NEWS

Volume 1 Issue 4

January thru June 2006

From the AMTA President.....

Just 80 days from July 1, 2006 we will have the next AMTA Reunion in Omaha, Nebraska (Headquarters for the AMTA 2006 Reunion is the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites in Council Bluffs). Many good friends reside in the Omaha area. We encourage everyone to sign up and attend the reunion as it is a great time for everyone. Hopefully those with email access will pass the word to those who may not have access to the internet. You DO NOT have to be an AMTA member to attend the reunion. You must be a maintenance technician who has flown recon missions and performed maintenance, past or present on U.S. Air Force aircraft. This includes AMTs, IMTs, ASEs and others who meet the criteria as established in the AMTA Bylaws. You may come as a guest of a member or associate member.

The AMTA presently has 114 active members, 96 of those are CHARTER MEMBERS, and six associate members. This association is a huge success and it can be attributed to the members who support the AMTA in every way. During the past few months as the AMTA President I have considered it a privilege to work with the AMTA board members. They give strong effort and support continuously for the AMTA, and they make the

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2006 AMTA Reunion Omaha, NE... Hotel is Holiday Inn, Council Bluffs...

The Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites are attached to the Ameristar Casino. The Holiday Inn has 190 guest rooms decorated in the turn of the century Victorian motif. The hotel overlooks the Missouri River. The hotel offers an indoor swimming pool, Jacuzzi, sauna and a state-of-the-art fitness center. A complimentary continental breakfast is served in the Kanesville Club room.

The hotel offers a high tech business center; fully equipped with Internet, fax machine, printer, copy machine and a word processor.

The Ameristar Casino has 1441 slot machines and 50 gaming tables. They have several small club areas and some of have live bands in the evening. They have several food establishments in the lobby area one of which served a noon buffet for \$9.99 each when we were there.

For anyone with an RV, if you are staying at the hotel they have several areas where you can park your rig. The hotel does not provide areas with hook-ups.

Two RV parks are within several miles of the hotel. Lake Manawa State Park has restrooms, showers; dump station, 20/30-amp service, paved roads and a 14-day maximum stay. No reservations are required and rates are \$11 to \$16 per day. Spaces are close together but nice.

For directions to Lake Manawa State Park contact Jim Hargrove, jim@amtassociation.org.

Another RV park is located on the other side of the river at the NP Dodge Park. It has restrooms, showers, dump station, 46 30-amp sites maximum 14-day stay, with no advanced reservations required. Rates are \$12.50 per



The Ameristar Casino looks like it may be the hot spot for the 2006 AMTA reunion...

day. Grassy areas separate the spaces; and have many trees and shady areas. They have walking paths and the park appears to be clean and well maintained.

For directions to NP Dodge Park contact Jim Hargrove, jim@amtassociation.org Several area attractions are near the hotel for those interested.

You have the Old Market in Omaha, it's about three miles away and you can get more information about it at www.omahaoldmarket.com

The Henry Doorly Zoo is across the river. It has an IMAX theater and is one of the best zoos that I have attended. For more information see www.omahazoo.com

If you're a railroad buff the Union Pacific has a museum on the Omaha side of the river and a Rails West Railroad Museum in Council Bluffs. I have no additional information on these museums.

For more information on the SAC Museum www.SACMuseum.org

I was there about three years ago and it's worth the visit, I can't wait to go again.

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Airborne Maintenance Technicians, 890 Names! Please Help Find Them!!



(Continued from page 1)

president's job a pleasure. They are constantly working and seeking ways to improve and grow the Association. One board member has spent numerous hours contacting AMTs and other potential members all over the United States. It is great to work with good people who are great friends.

The AMTA will be two years old June 24, 2006 and what has been accomplished over the past two years is nothing short of a miracle. The AMTA, with 100 plus members, has provided many blessings to many people within our Air Force family. The AMTA donated almost \$5000 to Air Force people in need during the year 2005. Keesler AFB Hurricane Katrina victims received \$1700 from the AMTA. A fellow AMT who had a crisis received \$2700 plus from AMTA generous members. Many AMTA members have donated extra money to help with AMTA charitable donations. The AMTA in 2006 donated \$500 to the Air Force Enlisted Widows Home in Shalimar, Florida. The members chose this charity as an ongoing donation and the vote was unanimous. The AMTA is a Texas not-for-profit organization that promotes fellowship and supports charitable organizations within the Air Force family. Money donated through the AMTA is 100% tax deductible.

Thanks again for your support of the

AMTA. We look forward to seeing many of you in September for the 2006 reunion. Pass on to everyone who flies recon and performs maintenance that they are eligible to attend the reunion. God bless each of you.

*Johnnie Estes
AMTA President*

(Continued from page 1)

Here are a couple of more websites to get information on the hotel and the casino.

Holiday Inn

www.ICHOTELSGROUP.com/h/d/hi/l/en/hd/cbfrb?hcform=

Ameristar

www.AMERISTARCASINOS.com/council/index.asp

*Jim Hargrove
AMTA Newsletter Editor*

MAP TO HOTEL (copy and paste)

<http://www.amtassociation.org/MaptoHotel2.pdf>



Airborne Maintenance Technician Association

3818 Sage
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78247

Congratulations!! Dr. Glenn Hurst!!

One of our very own AMTs who is also one of the founders of the AMTA has done well with his son, Doctor Glenn Hurst. Dr. Hurst, son of John and Bonnie Hurst of Plattsmouth, Nebraska graduated May 6, 2006 from the University of Nebraska School of Medicine in Omaha with a doctor of medicine (MD) degree. Dr. Glenn Hurst has started his residency in Family Medicine and plans to practice in western rural Nebraska following completion of his residency.

Today for any young man or woman to graduate from college is an accomplishment, but Dr. Glenn Hurst's accomplishments go beyond that. Everyone with the AMTA wants to say congratulations to Dr. Hurst and wish him the very best in the years to come. We are proud of you!!

*By: Jim Hargrove
AMTA Semi-Annual News Editor*

From the AMTA Secretary...

The next AMTA reunion is moving ever closer. I solicit all AMTs to try to join us.

The Omaha area likely brings back many memories for a lot of people. As in the past, we will have a silent auction during the reunion. The items going up for bid have yet to be finalized, but some will be similar to those in the past two auctions. The guys in the Omaha area have got things lined up pretty well. The reunion schedule will leave ample time for people to go and revisit some of their old haunts and see how Omaha has changed. I am looking forward to seeing many old friends and some newer ones at the reunion.

*Mike McLaughlin
AMTA Secretary*

From the AMTA VSO...



John L. Hurst, VSO

The following items are provided as this issue of the AMTA Newsletter's helpful information to keep you aware of issues important to veterans, and our loved ones.

For Your Health

As a Veterans Service Officer (VSO) I meet a lot of veterans and family members who ask me what the VA will do to help with their overweight problems. The following program is designed to solve the overweight problem and even help those with diabetes. Since none of us AMTs are getting any younger, I say "It's Time For Us To MOVE."

VA recently announced the launch of a national campaign to let veterans and their families tailor their diets and exercise programs into a healthful lifestyle. The new health care assessment is part of a campaign called MOVE -Managing Obesity/Overweight for Veterans Everywhere. This is part of the Healthier US Veterans program to reduce obesity and diabetes, a disease often associated with being overweight. Members receive a custom report with health information and instructions for follow up with the staff of a VA medical center.

People not enrolled in VA's health care program can log into www.move.va.gov/move23 and answer 23 questions. They will receive an individualized report giving them suggestions about making changes in their eating and physical activity and referring them to materials on the Web site.

VA medical centers nationwide are starting an aggressive effort to counsel and follow up with patients who express interest in managing their weight.

VA estimates 70 percent of its patients

are overweight, compared to 64 percent of the U.S. population.

Diabetes also affects a greater percentage of veterans in VA's health care than in the U.S. general population.

Identity Theft

I am sure you have seen or heard about the big veterans information screw up by a VA employee that allowed information on about 26 million veterans to be stolen. It is possible this ID information could help someone to access our bank or credit card accounts, or to otherwise tap our funds or credit.

The VA's IG has instituted an investigation into the cause and correction of the situation, and Congress has gotten into the picture. The only useful advice that has come down so far, is to keep a close eye on our bank and credit card statements, and to take immediate action to contact both the account holders, VA. and law enforcement authorities if you find unauthorized activity on these accounts.

*John Hurst
AMTA VSO*



Ballroom at the hotel.



Ballroom at the hotel.

Just for the fun of it ...

M B E S D N A S K C I H C B M O C
O I T E Y E A R B A C U N I E P T
B A S T L G N A N A D L I G H T S
L C H A C W A A A O B E R L I N S
B K E N W N D L R M M O N H O E A
U B M S I A A N N H A R M A C P R
R E Y O A K K E E O I I T A E I B
N I A N A H K K M W G H R E H T S
I E A N S O S C A I E A L N L A A
N R B H R N W A A N I E O E I R N
G O I U T P F N N L A I C G V O A
C C Y T L H H A I A L I O R N K N
A O T E N A R A R K N N O O U R T
N R M T O N H I A I I G B T S U O
D O R R S O E R N L V E E A R B N
Y N U U L M I L D E N H A L L Q I
E I C F E L M L R A T I I Y O S O
R C R K I Y M I R D B C F F O I I
Y D N N E V A H R E M E R B S R C
G S R A C O I T I I L L O O O R T
X I S R E Y N E T D A T S M R A D
A L F F Y L N E K C U R B I E W Z

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. San Antonio | 14. Berlin |
| 2. Mildenhall | 15. Frankfurt |
| 3. Udom | 16. Korat |
| 4. Eielson | 17. Saigon |
| 5. Cam Rahn | 18. Rheim-Main |
| 6. Omaha | 19. Tan Son Nhut |
| 7. Athens | 20. Bremerhaven |
| 8. Shemya | 21. Wakkanai |
| 9. Darmstadt | 22. Kadena |
| 10. Da Nang | 23. Nakhon Phanom |
| 11. Chicksands | 24. Zweibrucken |
| 12. San Angelo | 25. Adana |
| 13. Iraklion | 26. Misawa |

See Answers on Page 4.

From the AMTA Treasurer...

The AMT Association donated \$500 to the Air Force Enlisted Village in Florida. The enlisted wives home is the charity selected for our donations.

The AMTA received a very nice thank you card from the Air Force Enlisted Widows Village..

*John Shaffer
AMTA Treasurer*

AMTA Board of Directors:

- Johnnie Estes - President and Director
- Del Jolly - Vice-Pres and Director
- Mike McLaughlin - Secretary and Director
- John Shaffer - Treasurer and Director
- Bill Wilson - Director
- Mervin Gross - Director
- Jim Hargrove - Newsletter and Director

Official AMTA Yahoo Group:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AMTAssociation/>

AMTA Website:
www.amtassociation.org

From the Chaplain

Dear friends of the Airborne Maintenance Technician Association I regret that I do not have more time to provide you more information on the excitement and some of the things not so exciting that have been occurring in our life and around the AMTA since the last newsletter. As always Mary and I feel extremely blessed and we feel this way in large part due to our many friends within the AMTA and our church here in Knoxville. We are both excited and looking forward to another outstanding reunion and a lot of fun in September when we travel to Omaha. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

A few months ago some of us, I and the AMTA Board of Directors decided we wanted to do something for one of our fellow AMTs who has been a member since the AMTA first started, but he is battling the terrible disease of cancer and had decided to discontinue his membership. We talked about it and decided we would put our pennies together and bring him a lifetime membership to fruition. I traveled to his home in North Carolina and delivered the membership card and certificate. It was accepted with a great deal of appreciation.

God bless each and every one of you and please travel safely always, but especially during your trip to Omaha in September

*Jeff Knisley
 AMTA Chaplin*



Guest Room

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites....



Headquarters for 2006 AMTA Reunion



One of several eating areas in the Ameristar Casino next door.



Lobby of the Holiday Inn



AMTA Semi-Annual Newsletter Staff:

Editor: Jim Hargrove

Publisher: Jim Hargrove

"It's your newsletter for use to communicate with other members."

Just for the fun of it

Answers to Puzzle

Puzzle Something About the AMTA

M B E S D N A S K C I H C B M O C
 O I T E Y E A R B A C U N I E P T
 B A S T L G N A N A D L I G H T S
 L C H A C W A A L O B E R L I N S
 B K E N W N D L R M M O N H O E A
 U B M S I A A N N H A R M A C P R
 R E Y O A K K E E O I I T A E I B
 N I A N A H K K M W G H R E H T S
 I E V N S O S C A I E A L N L A A
 N R B H R N W A A N E E O E I R N
 G O I U T P F N N L A I C G V O A
 C C Y T L H H A I A L I O B N K N
 A O T E N A R A R K N N O O U R T
 N R M T O N H I A I I G B T S U O
 D O R R S O E R N L V E E A R B N
 Y N U U L M I N D E N H A L L A I
 E I C F E L M L R A T I I Y O S O
 R C R K I Y M I R D B C F O I I
 Y D N N E V A H R E M E R B S R C
 G S R A C O I T I R L I O O M R T
 X I S R E Y N E T D A T S M R A D
 D L F F Y L N E K C U R B I E W Z

In the social order in which one person is officially subordinate to another, the superior if he is a gentleman never thinks of it, and the subordinate if he is a gentleman, never forgets it.

Author Unknown