



# OSOTMG NEWS

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2018- MARCH 2018

\* NEXT MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY MAY 2, 2018 SOCIALIZE AT 11 am, MEETING STARTS AT 11:45 AM AT TREA 39, 15821 CENTRETECH CIRCLE, AURORA, CO 80011. MEALS WILL BE CATERED BY GOLDEN SHERMAN. SO COME AND ENJOY REMINISCING WITH YOUR FRIENDS!! THE MEETINGS WILL CONTINUE ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH FOR THE FORSEEABLE FUTURE. \*

Important  
Frequently Used  
Phone Numbers

140th Phone #'s

Casualty Assist  
720-847-6946

Family Support  
720-847-9116

460th Phone #'s

RAO (Retired Activities  
Office)  
720-847-6693

Legal  
720-847-6444

Other Phone #'s

CODMVA  
303-343-1268  
[www.colorado.gov](http://www.colorado.gov)

Deputy Director  
CODMVA

Mickey Hunt  
720-250-1510  
303-249-0146(c)  
[michael.hunt@dmva.state.gov](mailto:michael.hunt@dmva.state.gov)

TRICARE (UNITED  
HEALTHCARE-WEST  
1-877-988-9378

TRICARE for Life  
1-866-773-0404

Social Security  
1-800-772-1213

TREA 39  
303-340-3939

COUGAR TALES;  
[www.140wg.af.mil/cougartales.asp](http://www.140wg.af.mil/cougartales.asp)

## FEBRUARY 7, 2018 MINUTES

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag of The United States of America by Paul and the Invocation by Joe.

Joyce Saitta briefed us about the Annual State NGACO Conference in Colorado Springs. It will be at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort April 27-29, 2018. There will be a Golf tournament, Motorcycle Ride, and Karaoke. Also, there is a free retiree luncheon on Friday. Another concern is the possible changes in Tricare for Life and possible costs involved. So, it is imperative that more folks sign up for membership and life membership in NGACO, EANGUS, and NGAUS.

We had 10 folks eating in January and we need at least 20 folks for the Luncheon program catered by Golden Sherman to continue, so come hungry.

There were no retirements for February 2018.

Birthdays present were Joe Broom, Ben Benedict and Rod Williams.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 7, 2018.

### Committee Members:

Jan Love

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\*Contribution Checks should be made payable to "OSOTMG" can be mailed to Paul Turner at 1945 Ensenada St., Aurora, CO 80011-5353.

## MARCH 7, 2018 MINUTES

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag of The United States by Paul with the Invocation by Joe.

Joyce briefed us about the Annual State NGACO Conference at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort in Colorado Springs April 27-29 2018. There will be a Golf Tournament, Motor-cycle Ride on Friday, Karaoke, Financial Advisor Seminar with all meals included for the entire conference. There will be a retiree Luncheon on Friday, also. More folks need to join NGACO, EANGUS AND NGAUS to lobby for keeping the 4 UTAs for the two day drill weekend. Joyce will be in Richmond VA for the Women's Veteran's Conference.

Thanks to Dewey's appeal for funds to support our retiree group, we have taken in \$1800 in additional funds for a balance of \$2600. More than 30 folks have contributed to this outreach. So, this will allow us to continue to print the newsletter at \$300 bi-monthly and help with the luncheon cost. Your generous support keeps our group going strong!!!

There was no retirements reported for March 2018.

Birthdays present was Sonja Broom.

Judy Pock talked about problems in her neighborhood with noise and a shooting incident. She then briefed us about Crayon Bag Drive for Children with over 3000 given out which is over 956 more than last year. OSOTMG was credited with 160 crayon bags at the RAO pharmacy location at Buckley AFB, 100 to the Base Fire Dept, 300 to Salvation Army. Judy's Crochet group knitted and crocheted over 3471 bags.

Next meeting will be April 4, 2018.

### FEBRUARY 7, 2018 ATTENDANCE \*1ST TIMER

Mark Covalt	Roderick Williams
Judy Pock	Monroe Mathias
Susan Schnurstein	Geraldine Pawley
Sonja Broom	Joyce Saitta
Joe Broom	Dan Gay
Sy Harjes	Tony Burczyk
Bonnie Rought	Sue Andrews
Glen Strein	Andy Andrews
Ben Benedict	
Angie Benedict	
Dale Bristol	
Paul Turner	
Linda Turner	
Art Bowens	
Dewey Hicks	

### MARCH 7, 2018 ATTENDANCE \*1ST TIMER

Dan Gay	Jerry Smith
Tony Burczyk	Joyce Saitta
Jack Darveau	Mike Schnurstein
Bill Frazien	Roderick Williams
Dewey Hicks	Bonnie Rought
Larry Sell	Reed Lutz
Ben Benedict	
Angie Benedict	
Dale Bristol	
Sonja Broom	
Joe Broom	
Paul Turner	
Linda Turner	
Robert Nessler	
Mark Covalt	
Judy Pock	
Bill Pelletier	

## Sick Call



Peggy Seiler  
Bill Pickens  
Terry Hatchett

Jan Love

## Taps



Ken McGill  
Ken Forrest  
Robert Hall

Bob Miller  
Anna Darveau (Jack's wife)  
Tim Dearing

### TRICARE CHANGE FOR FOLKS UNDER AGE 65

Due to recent changes to TRICARE that went into effect Jan. 1, members in the TRICARE West region who utilize TRICARE for their health insurance must update their insurance premium payment method with the new insurance provider, or face dis-enrollment. Health Net Federal Services replaced United Healthcare as the insurance provider for TRICARE West On Jan. 1, 2018. To update your insurance premium payment method, contact HNFS at 844-866-9378, or visit the TRICARE West website:

<https://www.tricare-west.com/>

### DATE BOOK 2018

#### May 2018

2nd- OSOTMG MEETING AND LUNCHEON

19th- Mother's Day

28th- Memorial Day

#### June 2018

6th- OSOTMG MEETING AND LUNCHEON

17th- Father's Day

#### July 2018

4th- Independence Day and

OSOTMG MEETING AND LUNCHEON?

#### August 2018

1st- OSOTMG MEETING AND LUNCHEON

#### September 2018

3rd- Labor Day

5th- OSOTMG MEETING AND LUNCHJEON

### FEBRUARY 2018

LINDA BADEN  
CHUCK BAUM  
BEN BENEDICT  
GARY BOHN  
PHYLLIS BROOKS  
JOE BROOM  
DOROTHY BRUENING  
LORENE CABALLER  
JANE CARDENAS  
IZZIE DE LA ROSA  
KARMA FIELDS  
LISA FRANZEN  
JAY GATES  
DOROTHY GOTTENBERG  
BONNIE HEINZ  
JOLENE HICKEY  
GLORIA HICKS  
CELESTE LAUFERT  
DEVERNE LEHMAN  
BARBARA LEIGH

DENISE LINN  
DONNA LUCERO  
LEONARD(VERN)  
MARSHALL  
ARVEY MASON  
RUTH MATHIAS  
MARY MCCLANAHAN  
SALLY MCFARLAND  
JEFFREY MILLER  
JIM PATSEY  
DIANNE SANFORD  
JEANNE SCHJODT  
GORDON TERROUS  
FRED WADE  
RODERICK WILLIAMS  
MASON WHITNEY



## Birthdays

GREGG ADLER  
RON AGUINEGA  
ANDY ANDREWS  
SHANNON BLASUS  
JUDY BRAUN  
SONJA BROOM  
MONA BURKETT  
JERRY CABLE  
JEAN CARDINAL  
MARLENE CHATMAN  
KARYN CLARK  
RUSS CRAMER  
PHIL ECKLUND  
MIKE EDWARDS  
LINDA GUERRINA  
MIKE HAINES  
SOMCHIT HALES  
MARY ANN HANSON  
KENT KAMLA  
MARCIA KROUPA  
GREG KRYSZAK  
CHERYL LUTZ  
THERESA MCNELLEY

### MARCH 2018

GORDON MITCHELL  
ELLEN MOORE  
MIKE PARADISE  
DICK PARKOS  
DAVID SANCHEZ  
BOB SANDER  
CECILIA SANFORD  
JEFF SCHJODT  
SUE SCHULTZ  
BILL SEILER  
KATHY SIMPSON  
SUSAN SMITH  
LARRY SUBERVI  
BRENDA TIPTON  
CHARLENE WADE  
CLIFF WAGNER  
MIRIAM WHITNEY

## HOWDY DUTY BY LARRY SELL (PART 3 OF 3)

I noticed comments on the website about Turkish Air Lines (Turk Hava Yoları-THY). I flew with them a couple of times while over there. They were using the old Fokkers twin turboprops. They would start the engines after you boarded, then taxi to the end of the runway and then take off with no run-up or checking of engines. We used to say that their motto was, "Fly and Die with THY." The aircraft usually had male Flight Attendants on board who would bring fruits and nuts as refreshments.

Before my wife came over, around 2100 hours I would pick up my laundry bag and walk to the dependent area of the base to wash my clothes. What fun that was! Usually on Friday or Saturday night I would catch the shuttle bus with my roommate to go to the NCO Club in downtown Izmir to eat a good meal. After a few drinks (sometimes too many) we would climb back on the bus for the trip back to the base. I remember a Turk where we would catch the bus, who had a small cart from which he sold shish kabob. I was always pretty fussy about what I ate, so never ordered food from him; but lot of guys sitting on the bus were drunk and would eat his shish kabob. One night when I was still sober, I watched him serve one of GIs, take the empty plate back, reach under his cart, pull out a filthy, dirty rag to wipe the plate clean, and then put it back on the stack of clean dishes! One Thanksgiving, frozen turkeys were brought in to the chow hall. Somehow the turkeys were not handled right and everyone got food poisoning. I was never so sick in my life! They had the hospital in Izmir full, plus beds in the hall of the base dispensary. It was years before I could eat turkey again, much less smell one. Usually food was good at the chow hall; I especially loved breakfast with good old S.O.S. My roommate used to get midnight chow passes, and, so as not to eat alone, he would wake me to go eat with him. I should have gained 100 pounds, but stayed my skinny self.

They always say you can remember where you were and what you were doing at times in history. My wife and I had gotten a baby-sitter for the kids and I loaded mama on back of my faithful Lambretta to go to the on base movie theater. We settled in for the evening movie, when, after a short period of time, the movie shut down, the lights came on and the Base Commander came onto the stage to inform us that President Kennedy had been shot in Dallas. I remember everyone looking at each other and wondering, "Are we going to be in full time war with Russia?" And we are pretty close to them! But I do remember how well liked and respected he was, as for a long time after that fatal day, I would be in another country and people, realizing I was an American, would come up to me to shake my hand and offer sympathy over the loss of our leader.

At the Enlisted Club, the belly dancer shows probably had the biggest turnout they ever had with all the sex starved GIs on base. This was before my wife came over and the guys I was rooming with wanted to go. I remember having to register at door for a drawing they were going to have later. I WON a bottle of Champagne which I hate the taste of so gave much of it away during the evening. I don't think they had the show to many nights as because, if I recall correctly, the Base Commanders wife got wind of it and the Commander cancelled the show on her threat! I always remember that the Turk who brought the girls looked like Peter Lorre!

Did you ever have times in your life when you felt important, just to have it come crashing down? I remember the time we came flying home after a trip somewhere, and upon landing and taxiing to the parking area we noticed a large crowd waiting for us. We shut down the engines and I opened the door to be asked by some person, "Where's Bob?" After further asking questions, we found out that Bob Hope was to bring one of his shows to Ciğli! Everyone thought our plane was carrying him. So our FAME was short lived.

My tour at Ciğli was one of best jobs I had in the Air Force. I traveled all over, all the time, and this was rough on my wife, who I finally moved on base so I could feel like she was secure, although we were never bothered while living in Izmir on Atatürk Caddesi, right on the waterfront. But by being on base, she had other dependent wives to visit with, and who could help her while I was gone. Before moving on base, I rented a place in Izmir. It was an addition on the back of a Turkish family's house. The landlord owned a furniture factory in Istanbul. He could speak no English but his wife had gone to college in Germany and was pretty fluent in English.

The place was on the waterfront about 2 blocks down from the Karşıyaka ferry landing. It was also pretty close to an embassy, but don't remember what country. We had a beautiful yard with fruit trees and the roses were fantastic! We had a veranda out of the second floor over a glassed-in porch. The whole courtyard was tiled. It was a furnished place as was typical in Turkey. We had to get a couple of power converters in order to use our appliances. (Turkey's power supply is 230 volts/50Hz, while American appliances use 120 volts/60Hz.)

We found out very soon after moving in that we had other tenants living with us (cockroaches). At night we would hear them running across the tiled kitchen floor - sounded like mice. Got lots of spray and had them much under control by time we moved to Ciğli. The landlord had a 60's model Mercury in a garage off an alley nearby and every Sunday the family had a Turkish driver take them out for a drive. The landlord's wife used to hit me up to get her stockings and cosmetics at the BX, which I did to keep on her good side. By this time I was flying pretty regular. I would come back to the base late at night and ride the base shuttle to Izmir, where I got off about 5 blocks from our apartment and would walk the rest of the way home. I was never bothered by anyone, although there were plenty of suspicious-looking people at that time of night. I really felt more secure there then in some of cities here in U.S.

I remember that we had kerosene stove in the living room and a couple of Aladdin heaters in other parts of the apartment for heating. (They were pretty popular back then.) Anyway, the first time I needed fuel for the heaters I took a 5 gallon can and went to a Turkish gas station close by. I told the attendant I needed to buy some kerosene. He shook his head and said, "Yoke, Gas." I said, "No, kerosene!" We argued back and forth until I finally realized that the Turkish word for "kerosene" was "Gaz". I remember we used a lot of Clorox to treat water and wash the fruits and vegetables we bought from local markets.

We had a laid-back life back then and I don't think we really missed TV that much during the 2 1/2 years over there. I did miss music though, as all the local stations played only Turkish music, which was nothing like "The Platters"! So we would go to the BX to buy record albums, which I have to this day. Because I was on Flying Status, I received Flight Pay, and, with all the flights I made to other places, getting Per Diem. We were living "The Good Life" for a lowly E-4. We would splurge and go to NCO Club to have a great meal, go to movies downtown, or take a taxi to see sights around Izmir. I remember one of other guys saying he never told his wife about getting Per Diem for trips. He said as far as she knew Per Diem was an Island in the South Pacific! I enjoyed the Turkish people as they really tried to make us welcome.

I think the main reason that a lot of us liked being stationed in Turkey was because we were in a small unit and everyone pretty well knew who everyone else was and where they worked. So we were like a big family instead of a small part of a BIG ORGANIZATION like many of the bases were in U.S. My wife even enjoyed the new experience of Military life. She hired a Turkish maid to help her with the chores of 2 small children. That worked well until the day the maid took our dirty clothes to the laundry room and returned minus some new kids clothes that my wife had just purchased at the BX.

So she fired her! One time when I was working at the hanger, my wife was ironing clothes in the kitchen of trailer in base housing, when she noticed kids who were playing on floor by her feet had collapsed almost unconscious. She felt dizzy too so carried the kids out, calling to neighbor for help. They phoned for an ambulance. It was determined the flue on the heater was plugged and Carbon Monoxide had built up. I often wondered why we never had problems with the hot water wall mounted units so prevalent in Turkey and Europe. They worked pretty good and it has been in the last decade that we are starting to see more of them being used in US.

After Ciğli started growing with more people, they started adding more conveniences. A small BX and Commissary, movie theater, post office, and church were added. It seemed like everything built for US troops, they built for the Turks on the base too. Probably some agreement we signed to have the base there. I remember one time when I was working at Base Supply. (I was sent over to the Turkish side of base to their supply warehouse.) When I walked into their brand new warehouse and looked around,

I saw that the place was filled with nothing but brand new shiny trash cans! More guys were bringing their cars over with them so was getting to be a busy place. I remember seeing my first 1964 Mustang convertible there, as some Officer had his brought over. One of the things I really missed was real ice cream, as all we had was re-constituted dry milk, and ice cream made from that was terrible. I can remember going to Athens and the crew would hurry to the main terminal because they had real ice cream there. I have to laugh when I recall how people in the terminal looked at those crazy Americans in flight clothing, standing around licking on ice cream cones.

Someone, in another story on this website, told of the slaughter house in Izmir not being there anymore. What a shame, as we used to look forward to passing by there on a hot day! (NOT!) Especially with the Turk Nationals on the bus smoking Yeni Harman cigarettes. Sometimes I can sit back and still smell the slaughter house and the cigarettes. I also remember the olive pits rotting in the sun. I never took my car with me to Turkey, even though I had a beautiful 1955 Chevy Bel-Air Hardtop back in the U.S. So, after about a year, I bought a Lambretta scooter to ride from housing to the flight line. It was a kick to ride, but I only went to Izmir twice on it, as it was taking your life in your hands to drive in Turkey. As I remember there were about 3 traffic lights in the whole town and most of the time none of Turks obeyed whatever light showed. Usually they just hit the horn and flashed their headlights and drove through. People on sidewalks would step off in front of you. Real hazard! One morning while riding the shuttle bus to base we came upon an accident. A Turkish farmer was driving his small tractor when somehow he fell off and the tractor ran over him, killing him. The authorities had cordoned off the area, and for the next 3 days we passed by the same spot and he was still lying there. Someone said he had to remain there until his next of kin came and identified his remains. Some of their laws were a lot different from what we were used to.

Lot of people on base knew I were flying and would give me a list of parts needed to keep their scooters running, as most of them also had Italian-made ones. So, I found a shop in Naples, close to the navy base, that sold parts, and would buy them for my friends. Most of GIs who brought cars over sold them to Turkish Nationals at a good profit when they left Turkey. Most cars then had high performance engines that required premium fuel or they ran poorly. So, many guys would go to the flight line to get some aircraft aviation gas to boost the octane. I often wondered what the poor Turk buyer did after he used up the gas in the tank and refueled with lower octane Turkish fuel! I sold the scooter to a fellow GI when I rotated to U.S. Many times I wished I had shipped it home in hold-baggage.

I am sure everyone who has ever traveled has picked up souvenirs to remind them of their travels and I am no different, but I am probably the only person that has been to Turkey that never brought a Camel Saddle back! They never appealed to me, so I got camel bells, hand painted plaques, Harem puzzle rings, jewelry, scarves, etc. But got to the point people knew when we were traveling around and would give me money to pick up this and that for them. So on such a trip to Athens, I was checking out the aircraft with an Instructor Flight Engineer. He told crew that we were going outside the gate of the Airport to buy some small statues that were replicas of famous Greek Gods. We made our purchases, stepped outside to start back to flight line, when we heard a Convair taking off. We stopped to admire it and then noticed from the tail number that it was OUR plane! We hurried to Base Ops to call our Base Ops in Cigli.

They radioed our plane and told them to turn around, go back to Athens to pick us up! Were they ever hot for getting reprimanded for leaving the crew behind. Anyway, in all my moves since Military Days, I lost the statues that I got for myself that time and one other time in Athens.

In later years in the Colorado Air National Guard we gained a C-131D, which was retired, and was placed on display at Ellsworth AFB in South Dakota. After I got out of AF active duty, I started at the Guard as a full-time Tech. I flew full-time for 4 ½ years on their C-54D; but my wife was tired of my living the good life and wanted me to quit flying, so I got a job running the engine and prop shop at Buckley AFB, which provided the manpower and hanger for the 4 T-29s stationed at Lowry AFB, which supported the AF Academy with Navigational Training. Lowry provided the aircrews. In later years Lowry gained two T-43s from Mather AFB,

California, which did the same mission for the Academy. After Lowry closed, Mather AFB, CA, received the support mission for the Academy and Mather lost all its T-29s to different Guard units across the States and received T-43s to replace them. They quickly found it was not cost effective to fly from California to Colorado Springs every day to take Cadets up for Navigational Training and then return to California. So, the Colorado Guard said, "Fine, give us 2 planes, train our aircrews to fly them and our ground crews will do the maintenance.

We will support the mission for you if you bring the aircraft back to Mather AFB for inspections and major maintenance, and you give us a replacement to fly until the work is completed." (Mather had 20 aircraft.) After a couple of years we wrangled 2 additional aircraft, refitted them with airline seats, with galleys in the rear of the planes, to haul VIPs all over the world. The Guard did a great job, money-wise, as we got most of the seats and other parts from the Bone-Yard at Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. The Guard also changed from Guard to Active Duty Guard and we had the unit, 200th Airlift, from the early 1980s to 1994, when everything was finally closed down. We flew all those years with no accidents or late take-offs, and we received the Air Force Organizational Award. Meanwhile Mather closed down with their T-43s moving to San Antonio, Texas, to take the Academy mission back.

(The T-43 was the military version of the Boeing 737). I was with that program for 14 years during which time we got 2 more T-43s which were set up for VIP trips. I retired from the Guard in 1984. There were only 4 of us civilians on the program and when the planes left the U.S on trips, one of us would go to provide maintenance, if needed. I saw a lot of central America, South America, and Europe again.)

I started out in the Guard as a Title 32 Civil Service in 1968. I was a full time technician which meant taking care of their planes, and once a month I did the Weekend Warrior thing, plus once a year I did a 2 week Summer Camp. Also, with Title 32 I had to belong to guard to keep my job; however around 1974 I was converted to a Title 5 (straight Civil Service which meant I could have quit the Guard part and worked strictly Civil Service). But by that time I had enough Military time built up I decided to stick it out for the Military pension, so I retired Military-wise in 1984 and continued on as a civilian until 1995. Larry Sell

T-29 Flying Classroom



C-131 Samaritan



C-54 Skymaster



C-47 Skytrain

C-47 Skytrain

T-43 Flying Bobcat

DIABETES, CHOLESTEROL DRUG PRICES CUT UNDER TRICARE PHARMACY PILOT

*Military.com* / 6 Feb 2018 / By Amy Bushatz

Take a daily drug for diabetes or high cholesterol? Your medication now could cost less or be free thanks to a new Tricare pilot program.

The Medication Adherence Pilot Program, ordered by Congress in 2016, started Feb. 1 and will run until 2023.

Under the program, Lantus Pens, a brand-name insulin shot used to manage diabetes, will be available for reduced cost. Rosuvastatin, the generic version of the cholesterol management drug Crestor, will be free.

About 136,000 beneficiaries will be included in the pilot, officials said. About 16,000 orders for Lantus Pens are placed monthly through Tricare at retail and mail order pharmacies, while about 40,000 orders of Rosuvastatin are filled, they said.

The change hits even as prices for all other medications go up. That includes, for the first time ever, a new, out-of-pocket fee for generic drugs received through the system's mail-order pharmacy.

In the past, those medications had been free.

Starting Feb. 1, they carry a \$7 fee for a 90-day supply. That means Rosuvastatin is now the only medication available by mail or at a retail pharmacy that carries no out-of-pocket cost.

Drugs received at a military treatment facility continue to be free. Before the pilot program, Lantus Pens cost \$28 for a 30-day supply at an in-network retail pharmacy, and \$24 for a 90-day supply through mail-order. Under the program, the drug will cost \$11 for a 30-day supply at a retail pharmacy and \$7 for the 90-day supply received by mail.

Rosuvastatin, which had cost \$11 for a 30-day supply at an in-network retail pharmacy or \$7 for a 90-day supply by mail order, will instead be free from both sources.

The pilot program is designed to test whether patients are more likely to follow their medication treatment plans when the required drugs are reduced in price or free, officials said.