



# 1<sup>st</sup> Fighter Association Quarterly Update

1<sup>st</sup> Qtr 2020 - 26 January

Fellow Association members, I appreciate your patience with my lack of timely updates. Unfortunately, I lost my Dad on 30 September and then my Mom passed on 2 December. So I've been focused on family matters. I intend to be better at sending quarterly updates going forward.

## Reunion 17-19 October:

We had a record turnout for our bi-annual reunion in Hampton. Over 65 attendees enjoyed lots of camaraderie during social events and at the hotel's hospitality suite; received informative, timely briefings; saw an F-22 static display; and spent quality time with many amazing 1FW Airmen. We concluded the reunion with a wonderful dinner highlighted by Goldy Goldenbaum sharing his incredible 75<sup>th</sup> D-Day Anniversary adventures. We elected our 2019-2021 officers:

President	Rich Shook (Incumbent)
Vice President	Jeff Leeper (Incumbent)
Secretary Treasurer	Steve Gress (Incumbent)
President Emeritus	Pete Marty (Incumbent)
27 <sup>th</sup> Association President	Steve Olds (Incumbent)
71 <sup>st</sup> Association President	Rod Zastrow (New)
94 <sup>th</sup> Association President	Bill Roberts (New)

## Upcoming Events

The 1st FW Annual Awards Banquet will be held 7 Feb at the Historic Post Office in downtown Hampton. We purchased and will award five stained-glass plaques to the annual "Expeditionary" category winners. I will represent the Association and present our unique plaques. Also, Buick Olds is working on logistics for off-year reunion 17-20 Sep in Las Vegas - 27<sup>th</sup> hosting.

## 1FW Customized SwissPL Watch Opportunity

I've been contacted by Alldron Knewitz, Owner/Designer of the SwissPL Watch Company to gauge our interest in ordering a personalized version of his watch. **Each 1FW-branded watch is tailored to the owner featuring their name with rank and callsign, squadron patch, flight hours, wings, deployments, etc.** He will give the Association a 25% commission on each watch sold. So I guess this offer could also be viewed as an Association fundraiser.

The "base model" is about \$1000. Your final cost depends on which of several options (self-wind, back casing personalization, etc.) you desire.

Here is a link to his proposed design for our group and any active 1FW members:

<https://swisspl.com/customization/usaf-1st-fighter-wing/>

Since not every member is a former pilot, I'm checking with him to see if options exist for other badges (like maintenance) or an F-15C silhouette/picture in lieu the pilot wings.

**\*\* Please call/email me if you are interested in ordering one of these customized watches.\*\***

**Our History** - WWII article on a former Ironman: <https://www.dpaa.mil/News-Stories/News-Releases/PressReleaseArticleView/Article/2039746/pilot-accounted-for-from-world-war-ii-twedt-l/>

Best regards,

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President, 1st Fighter Association