



Alumni Association News Letter

Jan 2010

The Installer

**** EST. PAY DATE:** AS SOON AS YOU TURN 60!**

****Dates are subject to change** so quit whining**

Upcoming UTA's for 2010

6 – 7 Feb 2010

6 – 7 Mar 2010

Web Site: <http://216thalumni.org/>

Photo Library: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/216eisaa>

216TH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

10110 Scotch Pine Rd
Klamath Falls, OR 97603
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Alumni Association Notes

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

HISTORY PROJECT: I have been trying to put together a complete roster of 216th personnel as far back as I can go. So far I'm back to 1971. I used a recall roster from 1971, drill bulletins and quarterly historical reports. I have a pretty good list but there are still several holes. If anyone has recall rosters, alpha rosters or news letters it would help a great deal. The project data is actually easier than the roster. The project data was captured pretty well in our history files. **I still need detailed input from our members.** Any pictures or documents that you have will greatly assist me in compiling a complete and accurate history of the 216th. We have posted a couple of history documents on the "History Project" page of the web site; (1975 and 1996). We should be posting several more years soon. We have done the research for several more years and just need to put the documents together and post them. Check them out and let us know if you catch any errors or have more input for that year. When I get out to California this summer I will go to the California History Museum and do more research in our history files. Remember we dropped off a lot of files there and they said that the files would still be available to us for research.

NEWS LETTERS: We need input for the news letters as well. Anything you would like to contribute would be appreciated. Tell us what you have been up to in the past year.

WEB SITE: We added a page to the web site. "PROJECTS AND NEWS ARTICLES" We put a couple of projects in there and there are more to come. If you have details or photographs from any projects that you would like posted please send them to Ben or myself.

REUNION: We definitely plan to have a reunion this year. I would tentatively like to plan on August. The location is still to be determined. I'm thinking we don't need to do a formal dinner. If we just have snacks and drinks and cut out most of the speeches etc we might actually get to visit with each other a little.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: Our paid membership is going the wrong way, **Down!** Thus far we have identified 95 216EIS alumnus who are on our distribution roster. Of those, the paid membership statistics since our inception in 2007 is as follows; 2007-2008 = 50, 2008-2009 = 41, and 2009-2010 = 25. The proceeds from the dues are used to sustain the Web Site and Photo Library. In addition, the funds are used to produce and mail the yearly calendar that we send to paid members. Other events are being considered, but there again we need the funds to support them. If your not a dues paying member, please consider supporting the Alumni Association.

Jack Davis, CMSGT retired
216th Alumni Association

News from LTC Jody Finnefrock

Hello 216th EIS Alumni members. Lots of exciting news for 2010. I would like to thank Ben Quen and Jack Davis for sending us a special EI calendar with many pictures from years gone by. It was like getting a surprise Christmas gift in the mail. It cheered me up since my only son Chad, age 20, is currently serving in Afghanistan as a combat medic, Army Ranger. He couldn't disclose the exact date of departure (sometime after Thanksgiving 2009) and when he will return from combat duty (estimated 3-6 months). For those of you who have friends or loved ones serving in uniform, keep the faith and prayers going daily for their safe return.



Specialist Chad K. Agustin
(promoted recently, old rank in picture)

After 30 years in uniform, I plan to retire on 1 March 2011 which will solidify 20 AGR years, and 8 traditional ones. Unfortunately, my two years in the ROTC program will not count for retirement. I first joined the service in February 1981 as a food service specialist at the 121st Fighter Wing, Rickenbacker ANGB in Columbus, Ohio. I worked my way up to First Cook, Buck Sergeant rank. In 1984, I was offered a technical scholarship at Ohio University in computer systems. After being commissioned a Second Lieutenant in June 1986, I spent the next nine years on active duty before joining the 216th EIS in 1996. After four years as a traditional member, Cable, Logistics OIC, I became the Detachment Commander in 2000 and the last 216th EIS Commander in February 2007. As many of you remember, two months later, I was diagnosed with stage 4 Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. I underwent six chemotherapy treatments and had a complete response. I elected to have two years of Rituxan maintenance therapy which ended in November. I am currently drug and cancer free! Awaiting the results of an MRI to find out what is causing the ringing in my right ear and hearing loss. I'm looking forward to cycling, sailing, and spending time with friends and family. My retirement dinner will be held UTA Saturday, 6 November 2010, in Sacramento.

LTCOL Jody Finnefrock



Retirement of MSgt Kenneth Said

Of special note, Master Sergeant Kenneth Said is turning 60 in two months. There will be a retirement luncheon for Kenny at North Highlands on Saturday, 6 March 2010 (UTA). Hope to see 216th EIS retirees there if you're in the local area. As we get more information we'll be sending it out on e-mail distribution.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Some of you probably already know that when the 216th closed we had a few troops that decided to stay in EI. They transferred to the 214th in Louisiana. I emailed Mike Smuin and got an update on them to see how they are all doing.



Mike was promoted to Senior Master Sergeant and is now the Wire Superintendant at the 214th. He said that since going to the 214th they haven't been on many projects but they did get called up to provide security in a couple of small towns in Louisiana after hurricane Gustav back in August of 2008.

Mike has nearly 24 years of service now.

SMSGT Mike Smuin



Ramon has moved to New Orleans. I think that may be where he was from originally. He is currently in Afghanistan working as a contractor. He is in his third month of a one year tour.

SSGT Ramon Arceneau



Jeremy was promoted to Master Sergeant and is getting close to 20 years of service. Mike thinks that Jeremy may call it quits after 20. I haven't spoken to Jeremy about that, but I'm sure the commute to Louisiana for drills is tough.

MSGT Jeremy Duree



Mike says that Dan is moving into Engineering at the 214th. Master stripes are hard to come by and Dan is hoping to make Master Sergeant in the Engineering shop. We tried to figure out a way to promote Dan before the 216th closed but we just ran out of time and opportunities to make it happen.

TSGT Dan Taylor