

A Word from Willie

Society of Wild Weasels Newsletter

March 2026



CINCWW's Corner

Fellow Weasels,

As we go to print the War with Iran is a little over 2 weeks long and I know that all of us have our current military in our thoughts and prayers! For those carrying out the Weasel mission protecting other aircraft, we are extremely proud of your skill, professionalism and please keep hunting! It has been a bad year to invest in Russian and Chinese equipment so many thanks to the F-16 and F-35 Pilots, Maintainers, and Intel greets that showed us what Weasels can still do!

The reunion is going well and our project officer from 33rd FW is Major Peter "Latch" Magness who is transitioning from the F-16 and knows a bit or two about the Weasel mission. He is also son of Col (Ret) Matt Magness, a former AFOTEC A-3 and Vice Commander who tested the hell out of the F-35 under his watch. Matt and Latch will be on the new guy list next article, and we are proud to have both in the Wild Weasel Society. Annex A has the updated Reunion on our website hand out and it is still a work in progress. We are putting together the SWAG bags right now so if you have a good idea, please let us know at

WildWeaselReports@gmail.com. We will present three grants during the reunion. 2 to the 33rd Wing top instructors and one to the top instructor at the EWO school.

General Horner will speak at the banquet. Mike “Kad” Kadlubowski did a great job during our visit to the 35 Cadet Squadron in Feb where I gave the Wild Weasel Briefing and we have now presented the graduating seniors of the 35 Cadet Squadron with Wild Weasel shirts. Hats off to Major Isabel Klingshirn who has mentored and supported these young cadets! We have also taken care of her staff with Wild Weasel T shirts. In keeping with our support, JohnBoy Walton presented two awardees from the 20th Fighter Wing with grants in honor of Leo Thorsness, and we appreciate his hard work as the Shaw liaison. Uke Uken and Muskrat McNeese continue to support Luke graduations. Dan Debree worked with Kaylynn Sawyer on a Wild Weasel presentation for the Shaw Air Show which has moved to the fall. We will post It in the museum when it is finished. Thunder Thornton is continuing his liaison and mentorship at Eglin and we appreciate his hard work!

Lastly if you hear of anything we can do for our Weasel Airmen killing SAMs and making the world a safer, please let us know! God Bless them!

Very Respectfully

Budman Redmond

Society of Wild Weasels Chief in Charge

YGBSM

REUNION NEWS
14-17 May 2026



We have sent out the registration every two weeks for everyone and it seems to be coming together quite well. As mentioned earlier we are putting together the SWAG Bags for arrival so if you have any ideas let us know.

We have filled the hotel and they checked with their sister hotel which is full but recommend the following close by:

Holiday Inn Resort
Hilton Garden Inn
Beal House

For those not attending we are working to live stream the banquet. More to follow.

Please make sure you have your banquet menu in place. We intend to close that out by 20 April

Col (Ret) Karl Eschmann will speak on the Linebacker operations following the annual meeting on Saturday 16 May. This is a great brief.

Kevin Hale has designed a great 35th Anniversary coin which you can sign up for on our web site. <https://wildweasels.org/desert-storm-memorial-coin-sign-up/>

Here are the proofs:

FRONT



BACK



SIZE:D=1.75"

For up to date information on the reunion go to:
<https://wildweasels.org/>

Weasel Medical

Updates on MACH – Military Aviator Coalition for Health
WfW 18 Mar 2026 – John “Sleet” Sletten, General Secretary

I try to sit in on the monthly MACH meetings to backup Budman. In early March, Aztec (Vince Alcazar – MACH lead) provided a very technical response to Budman’s query as to why Desert Storm I and earlier aviators (pre-1990) are not being included in ACES. Very short answer is that not enough data was collected by the medical communities (military, VA, civilian) back then to tightly correlate disease with potential causal/workplace environments.

[I expect his email response will/can be posted in the SoWW Medical page. <https://wildweasels.org/medical/>]

During the Zoom meeting on 11 Mar, Dr. Danni Elbers, Aarti Venka and Mikisha Patel from the PROMETHEUS study presented their software development project to collect, collate, reduce and analyze data from a myriad of cancer study databases over the last 35+ years. They are affiliated with the Murtha Cancer Center at Walter Reed Bethesda National Military Medical Center, VA. Essentially, the software collates diseases, type exposure, cancer stage, etc. and places it into a “Workspace” for analysis - trying to help correlate disease cause and effect. MC2DP software uses AI to assist analyses with these large database manipulations. Currently much data comes from the NPOP – National Precision Oncology Program. Links have not been developed [yet] with other studies. More can be found at <https://mc2dp.data-commons.org/> and [Prometheus Retreat 2025: A Step Forward in Collaborative Cancer Research — Open Commons Consortium](#)

There is a new MACH Briefing out that describes the 501(c)3 organizational structure. One of the items discussed was Mission Areas. The MACH Board is looking for volunteers to lead these mission areas. With 501(c)3 status, MACH will be looking for individual and corporate donations to support each mission area, the amount of which will need to be defined and tracked. AWCF funded this year’s IT support. More can be found at the MACH Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MACHCoalition1/>

Weasel Happenings

Air Force Academy Visit to the 35 Cadet Squadron

Kad, Dutch Schultze and I traveled to the Academy and the 35 CS to have lunch with, talk to the cadets, and give them a grant for graduation shirts. It was a great time and the staff pointed out the legacy room, the fridge and other things the Society has helped with over the years. Great job by Kad and Dutch letting the cadets know they are Wild Weasels first and foremost and they have a legacy to honor! The bar is looking good!





The Shaw Air Show which would have occurred at the end of March is canceled but I want to call out Dan DeBree our interim historian who worked on a great slide show with Kaylyn Sawyer who is the 20th FW Historian and a Society member for the last two years. We will post the slide in the museum soon.

20th Fighter Wing Leo Thorsness award winners from Shaw were selected and provided with a \$1000 and \$500 dollar grant. Col (Ret) JohnBoy Walton sat on the board and presented the plaques to the winners.



SSGT Tapia-Cabellero



SRA Motley

Great Job and a super well-done!

Standing with one of the best wartime squadron commanders I know is Dave “Raider Gherman” 20th OG who is the proud owner of Wild Weasel Society #3000!

Air Warrior Courage Foundation Update (AWCF)

The Air Warrior Courage Foundation works with Active Duty, Wounded Warriors, Veterans and families to provide capability when the government has no. The AWCF website is at

[Air Warrior Courage – Where Camaraderie and Caring Continue](#)

The AWCF supports a full range of things for veterans. One of the unique areas is supporting dependents of aviators who were lost in accidents flying. Over the course of AWCF history 203 dependents have had a 529 education account seeded and they currently manage 87 active accounts for dependents. Here is a list of some of the working things AWCF has done since 1 Feb:

- (1) 50 grants for Dependent therapy of Active-Duty personnel with special needs
- (2) 15 ROTC students identified by need or performance for grants
- (3) Wounded Warrior support to the Army/Navy/Air Force/Marines
- (4) Individual support for veterans with flood damage, fires, medical equipment not covered
- (5) One way ticket to spouse of one of the F-15E pilots shot down to go to Germany for husband's surgery
- (6) Seeding 529 education accounts for dependents of the lost KC-135 (this is a work in progress but it will happen)
- (7) Seeding 529 education account for the ODU Army Lt Col dependent (this is a work in progress but it will happen)
- (8) Supported 6 Jr ROTC units with equipment and such for their units
- (9) Supported the Oklahoma First Capital Hall of Honor in recognizing Veterans.
- (10) Teamed with Restoration Ranch to support Veteran therapy and training
- (11) Teamed with the Tuskegee Airmen to support STEM Camps
- (12) Shiloh Adventure Course: AWCF supports funding for five JROTC programs at the Shiloh Adventures course which provides teambuilding, adventure and confidence training activities in an immersive environment. Students are challenged with creative, critical and adventure team activities which builds their confidence, trust and problem-solving skills.

On 4th and 5th of May the AWCF will sponsor a charity golf event at Daytona Beach “Legends of the LGPA” and if you want to golf or come out and have a cold one please do!

Fallen Wild Weasels

Everett Lyle Clason, WW #1224, Pilot, F-4C, 31 Aug 2025

Garry Andrew Dudley, WW #1592, Pilot, F-4G, 1Dec 2025

Our Condolences to their families, friends, and brothers in arms. Hand Salute! Rest in Peace!

Membership Update

New Members

We welcome the following new members:

David “Loogie” Lujan, WW #2745, Pilot, F-16

Joshua Redmond, WW #2801, Intel

Ryan Mahoney, WW #2930, Intel

William McCullough, WW #2931, Intel

Ethan Bergman, WW #2932, Intel

Ryan Brennan, WW #2933, Intel

Adel Tabbouche, WW #2934, Intel

Alicia Bell, WW #2935, Intel

Jesse Pringle, WW #2936, Intel

Jeffrey Belser, WW #2937, Intel

Ilya Poklad, WW #2938, Intel

Jacob Caraway, WW #2939, Intel

Silvia Espinoza, WW #2940, Intel

Natalie Show, WW #2941, Intel

Giovanna Giaimo, WW #2942, Intel

Dane “Raider” Gehrmann, WW #3000, Pilot

Corrected WW # Assignments:

Patrick “Turf” Haugen, WW #2943

Vincent “Baldanolf” Wisniewski, WW #2944

Jay “Bait” Baugh, WW #2945

Matthew Spotts, WW #2946, Honorary Member

John Kadlubowski, WW #2947

John Piowaty, WW #2948

Surviving Family Members

If you know of family members who qualify, have them contact us at: LABudF4G@gmail.com

L.A. Bud

Weasel Watch



F-4G



F-16CJ

I have been working with the Bremont Watch Military Special Projects Team to create an F-4G Wild Weasel watch, and have confirmed that the F-16CJ Wild Weasel watch is currently available to order.

- For the F-4G watch, Bremont needs only 13 more orders to move ahead. All you need to reserve your beautiful time piece is an \$800 deposit paid online, by phone, or bank transfer. The lead time from a project going 'live', to having all the watches assembled, tested, engraved, QCed and ready to ship is about 22-26 weeks. The remaining balance would be collected just before the watches are ready to ship.
- F-16CJ watches can be ordered now with receipt in 8-10 weeks.
- The Watch is the ALTITUDE MB METEOR
 - <https://us.bremont.com/products/alt42-mt-ti-bk-bk-l-s> .
- The Watch is **\$3,700** (including duties and shipping within the US) to aircrew. Bremont subsidizes a portion of the cost from the \$5,300 retail price as a tribute to the military.

This is your opportunity to pass on a bit of your place in history to your progeny. Someday soon you too can be on the internet sporting a time piece like the world's military leaders below.

<https://www.watchesofespionage.com/blogs/woe-dispatch/watches-operation-epic-fury-iran-bombing>

Contact me at blackburnmanor@mac.com and I will email you the official poster and order form.

Pinky

WW #1911

Robert Blackburn, Jr.

blackburnmanor@mac.com

Great Current News on the WW Mission Links:

(click for web link)

[The U.S. Military's F-35B Stealth Fighter Made Venezuela Pay a Big Price - 19FortyFive](#)

[Why has Iran's air defence network failed so badly? - Army Technology](#)

2026 Funding

Available balance

• Ending balance as of Mar 17 26	\$73,088.47
• Current Posted Balance	\$73,088.47
• Pending withdrawals/debits	\$0.00
• Pending deposits/credits	\$0.00
• Available balance	\$73,088.47

Why the Wild Weasel Society Would Benefit from Your Charitable IRA Distribution

If you are 73 or older, the IRS requires you to take annual minimum distributions (RMDs) from your IRA. For many retirees, those distributions increase taxable income—even if the funds are not needed for daily expenses. Fortunately, there is a smart way to both reduce your tax burden and support causes you care about: a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

A QCD allows you to transfer up to \$100,000 per year directly from your IRA to a qualified nonprofit such as the Wild Weasel Society. The amount given counts toward your required minimum distribution but is excluded from your taxable income. That means you can satisfy the IRS requirement, lower your taxes, and make a meaningful impact at the same time. The Society will use that for grants, support to Weasels in need and other areas. You can earmark your funds for education if you want.

For the Wild Weasel Society, gifts made through QCDs provide essential support for honoring the legacy of Wild Weasel aviators, preserving history, and sustaining educational programs for future generations. Regular IRA contributions from members and friends create a reliable stream of funding, ensuring the Society can carry out its mission without interruption.

By designating your RMD as a charitable gift, you not only receive a tangible tax benefit—you also strengthen the Wild Weasel community and keep its stories and values alive.

Link for Wild Weasel Give Direct

<https://donate.givedirect.org/?cid=15484&n=386259>

Or, please send a check to:

Society of Wild Weasels

P.O. Box 877

Silver Spring, MD 20918

Another great charity is the Air Warrior Courage Foundation; here is their link:

[Donations – Air Warrior Courage](#)

Both organizations will write you a letter receipt for the IRS.

Another great idea is to designate your birthday on Facebook for donations.

Victor and Budman

If you have feedback, please drop us a line at WildWeaselReports@gmail.com

[Society of Wild Weasels, P.O. Box 877, Silver Spring, MD 20918](#)

wild-weasels-board@googlegroups.com