

A Word from Willie

Society of Wild Weasels Newsletter

June 2026



CINCWW's Corner

Fellow Weasels,

The Reunion was a great time! Thanks to Thunder, Sleet, Peaches, Victor and Bearly who made this possible! Pappy Parent did a great job on the banquet benediction and we were moved. I am so proud of Hollywood Hanton who led the Friday luncheon and our respect for those who have passed since the last reunion. Hollywood thanks for doing this and taking on the codification of our awards & grants! Gen Horner did a great job as our Banquet Guest speaker and Dan Debree provided a quick history of the Wild Weasels so thanks to both!

The bus ride on Friday was an adventure but like good Weasels, we got er done! We can work on that 5% disability increase with the VA because of the bus ride when you are ready! We owe a big thank you to our host, the mighty 33rd Fighter Wing and their superb project officer Major Latch Magness who did a great job and is now a Wild Weasel Society member in good standing. We have been lucky enough to work with Col Zeke Skalicky who just became Brig Gen (sel) Zeke Skalicky over two reunions, and it has been our honor! He epitomizes the great leader we need today molding and supporting our young military! I would be remiss if I didn't mention Col Hail Cisar and his work behind the scenes! The Wing supported us on approving

two long term official Air Force volunteer lifetime awards, but we are holding off announcing them until next issue so we can surprise those deserving Americans! In addition, Thunder Thornton (our Eglin Liaison) set us up with a 96th Test Wing Climatic lab visit and we commend the 96 TW Executive Director Mr. Michael Contratto who organized a great visit!

What business did we conduct at the reunion? Sleet led the effort to review the last 24 months and get a view of where we are making progress in the right direction. Good feedback on this and I appreciate the critiques, we all learn from them! Then we discussed a lot of things we want to do in the next 24 months. Great discussions and we have captured those below. We approved new board members such as Peaches as our Vice, Trash DeBree as our historian and JJ Jerakis as our Comm Director. We also added some new members leading some efforts such as Jim “EF” Hundley as our Engineer liaison, Julie Kadlowbowski as our intel liaison and Josh Redmond as IT Director. I would like to commend these people on their ideas so expect a new website, new Virtual Museum and new members drive ASAP. We will be posting an Engineer drive this next week on the Society Webpage and it will grant Engineers 18 months free if they worked on any HARM, any SEAD munition, any Weasel RWR system or airframe. Our engineers have been our lifesavers from the F-100 through the F-35 and we need more of these patriots in the Society.

One of the ideas the board is working on is the Bill Hickey award presentation to a deserving engineer. We will keep you posted on that but the idea is to provide a fall grant of \$500. Besides that we gave the following grants to the EWO school Top Instructor, EWO school snack bar, 58th Fighter Squadron and 60 Fighter Squadron Top Instructors. See below for their pictures.

We are very proud to announce Sleet Sletten as our WWOTY for 2025 and LABud Allen as our WWOTY for 2026. They both did a great job in supporting the Society and deserve all the credit for the great ideas they have implemented. The Board also picked two well-deserving Society members for Lifetime Achievement in Gen (Ret) Chuck Horner and Stan “Kosher Bear Goldstein.” They join Al Lamb as our lifetime achievement awardees. Thanks to all for your service and support!

Lastly, we have put the link to the Reunion Web Link on the main page: [Wild Weasels Reunion](#)

Please upload your photos on the website or send them to WildWeaselsreports@gmail.com. Go to the Wild Weasel Society homepage and it will take you to the website for reunion pictures.

VR

Budman Redmond

Society of Wild Weasels Chief in Charge

YGBSM

One of the big things is the annual report on what we have focused on for 2024-2026 and then what we hope to focus on in 2026-2028

Focus of Effort - in the past - 2024-2026

- Original Member of MACH Coalition to get the VA study for fixed Wing Cancer
- Provided grants and Top Gun support to Shaw, USAFA, Luke, Eglin & EWO school
- Reduced yearly expenses where they are covered by store profits
- Continuing unit integration through liaison officers (Hats off to Muskrat McNeese, Uke Uken, Kad Kadlubowski, Thunder Thornton, JohnBoy Walton)
- Adding over 64 new members and returning 20 to the fold
- Providing recognition of our members who have flown west and increasing family members
- Publishing the Word from Willie Quarterly
- Updating the webpages and museum
- Added to the Legacy room at the AF Academy and the WW section of the River Rats museum
- Teamed with River Rats and Air Warrior Courage foundation on key issues
- Supported 2 interns and built a cancer page for expertise on medical issues (big thank you to Quack Bear)

Focus of Effort - in the future - 2026-2028

- Lead MACH Coalition on our #1 issue High-G RSI study by VA
- Continue to work with MACH Coalition on radar and ECM hazards to include the F-35
- 100% Sign up for the PACT Act (lead turn process and help family members) assemble experts on Zoom call in July
- Continue membership drive of regular and expired members through emails/mail (last accomplished in 22)
- Continue to work with Eglin, Luke, Shaw, AF Academy and add Weapons School, Vermont Guard, Mountain Home Growlers
- Revamp history, museum and member sections of the website
- Continue to recognize key events like the 50th Anniversary of Linebacker II and the 35th Anniversary of DESERT STORM

Are we on the right track? Please provide feedback

THIS PAST REUNION NEWS
May 2026



Party Suit Ready!

Weasels & Patriots Forever



I would go to war with these guys again right now! God Bless em

To post your pictures or see others' pictures go to:

[Wild Weasels Reunion](https://wildweasels.org/)

You can also

- 1) Go to the Wild Weasel Website - <https://wildweasels.org/>
- 2) You must sign in
- 3) Look in the upper right for "Reunion Photo Upload - Click here to view or add reunion photos"

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"

Weasel Medical

Update on Military Aviator Coalition for Health (MACH) – June 2026

I usually sit in on the MACH TEAMS meeting the second Wednesday of each month. Highlights from the meeting on 10 June include the release of the 2025 Annual Report and the first tri-annual financial report. These are to comply with 501c3 reporting requirements. Vince “Aztec” Alcazar provided MACH’s 32-page “*Active Duty Military & Veteran Flyer Cancer Incidence: A Synoptic Analysis, A Synthesis of the Defense Health Agency 2023 & 2024 Aviator Studies*” to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) ACES Study Group as a summary of where we’ve been and where we want to go as they begin the ACES Study. The last and maybe most important section is Improved Outcome Strategy (IOS) that states we not only want to find cancers’ causalities, but in the long run to improve aircrew screening to improve early detection and reduce the number of people dying from these cancers. To that end, NASEM is requesting your input to the ACES Study by reviewing their intro at <https://www.nationalacademies.org/projects/HMD-BPH-25-04> and responding to their *Aviator Cancer Examination Study Call for Perspectives* at <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8858768/Call-for-Perspectives-Official-Template-2026>.

SEE NEXT PAGE>>>>

Aviator Cancer Examination Study Call for Perspectives

Call for Perspective: Aviator Cancer Examination Study

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine are seeking perspectives and information for a [new study](#) on individuals who began serving in the military 1990 or later and served active duty in the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps as aircrew on fixed-wing aircraft, including as a pilot, navigator, weapons systems operator, aircraft systems operator, or any other crew member who regularly flew in a fixed-wing aircraft. Specifically, the committee will examine the types of exposures experienced by fixed-wing aircraft aircrew and review scientific evidence on whether those exposures may be linked to various cancers. The committee will also assess available data on cancer rates, illness, and deaths among veterans who served during the specified timeframe.

National Academies staff are collecting suggestions for potential public session speakers, written information, or peer reviewers for any publications resulting from the activity.

NOTE: Please be advised that responses may be shared with the Committee, and all submissions from outside the committee are made available in our public access file in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Section 15. This means that any information shared may be requested later by other members of the public. As these responses will be made publicly available, we ask that you refrain from including sensitive personal information (such as Social Security numbers or detailed health data). All responses are optional. We value all submissions and greatly appreciate the time taken to provide feedback and additional information for this study!

In accordance with the [National Academies' privacy policy](#), your participation is voluntary. In accordance with the National Academies' obligations under the [Federal Advisory Committee Act, Section 15](#), any comments you provide will become part of the public record of this consensus study.

1. Name *

2. Email address *

3. Would you like to suggest a potential speaker or organization to address the committee during a public session?

☐ No

☐ Yes - Write In (Required) *

4. Are there specific cancers or exposures associated with military occupations of fixed-wing aircraft crew, including relating to chemicals, compounds, agents, and other phenomena that you would like to ensure that the committee considers?

☐ No

☐ Yes - Write In (Required) *

5. Over the course of this study, the committee will hold public sessions at up to 3 locations outside Washington, DC. Please suggest a location the committee should visit and why it should choose that location. For example, the committee plans to hold a session at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base where they can hear from aircrew members, toxicologists, and medical experts working at the base.

6. Would you like to serve, or suggest another person to serve, as a peer reviewer of the committee's consensus report?

☐ No

☐ Yes - Write In (Required) *

7. Is there any additional information or perspective you would like to provide at this time?

Submit

CAREFULLY READ THE INTRODUCTION AND NOTE! Note the Study Group begins with 1990. The NASEM ACES Study Group's first public hearing is being held on 7 July 2026 in Washington, DC and Aztec is concerned ***this website may be pulled at any time and requests your inputs ASAP*** and provided some detailed instructions Items 1 & 2 - the red bracket bar is where you type your name + email address.

Item 3 - the red arrow is where you tell NASEM who you suggest as a speaker to address the NASEM ACES Study Group in its first and likely only public session here in Washington, D.C. (day/date TBA).

Item 4 - if you have something to say about which cancers NASEM studies you can type those responses in this box.

Item 6 - the box with no arrow is where you are free to suggest who you think ought to be a peer reviewer of the Study Group's draft study document when that draft is ready in late 2027 or early 2028.

Items 5 & 7 - the two green arrows are text boxes where you are free to enter your views.

A word about the upper green arrow (5): read this closely. NASEM is asking you for your ideas as to where the Study Group should travel to in the field and fleet to take public comment. The Study Group's travel budget and time are limited.

The last input field (7) asks for your Perspectives. While "Perspectives" really isn't defined, suggest if you, your family or fellow [study group] aviators have any

thoughts on where the ACES Study should go, cancer experiences (positive or negative) dealing with the VA, military medical and/or civilian doctors, cancer screening protocols or other factors that this would be a good time and place for your input. Inputs may be publicly accessible, so no personally identifiable information (PII).

Also newsworthy for those who have/had a second career with the airlines is that NASEM just released a commercial aviation study and announced a webinar to be held 29 June from 1200 to 1330 EDT: Public Briefing for the Report on *Assessing Radiation Exposure, Health Outcomes, and Mitigation Strategies for Flight Crewmembers*. Links and a 223-page pdf can be downloaded from their website: [Assessing Radiation Exposure, Health Outcomes, and Mitigation Strategies for Flight Crewmembers](#).

Aztec provided a one-page summary:

Assessing Radiation Exposure, Health Outcomes, and Mitigation Strategies for Flight Crewmembers (NASEM, 2026)

- **Synopsis:** Frames cosmic ionizing radiation as a routine occupational exposure for U.S. commercial flight crew; concludes annual doses are usually below existing worker limits, but cumulative career dose warrants monitoring, worker education, and formal safety management.
- **Summary:** The committee's core message is that radiation exposure in aviation deserves treatment as an occupational hazard, even though the evidence linking current exposure estimates to specific health outcomes remains limited and uncertain.
- 1. Introduction:** Defines scope around U.S. Part 121 commercial flight crew, natural cosmic radiation only, human-health outcomes only, and excludes military aviation, onboard nuclear accident scenarios, aircraft electronics, and UV-driven melanoma questions.
- 2. Evidence Base and Information Gathering:** Finds a regulatory asymmetry: commercial flight crew are occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation, yet they lack the enforceable dose tracking, dose limits, and worker-protection architecture applied in other radiation-exposed occupations.
- 3. Assessment of Epidemiologic Literature:** Judges the epidemiologic record as mixed and underpowered: female flight crew show elevated breast-cancer risk, but causation remains uncertain; evidence for most other cancers and reproductive outcomes is inconclusive because dose reconstruction and cohort design remain limited.
- 4. Evaluation of Computational Models:** Finds current models useful for routine galactic cosmic radiation conditions, but less certain during solar energetic particle events; route, altitude, latitude, solar cycle, and storm conditions materially affect dose estimates, and the report calls for stronger validation and coordinated measurement campaigns.
- 5. Epidemiologic Approaches to Understand Risks:** Argues that informative research is feasible, but only if exposure characterization improves; recommends centralized dose tracking, linkage to health outcomes, and carefully designed multi-cohort or pooled studies to overcome low-dose and low-power limitations.
- 6. Managing and Communicating Radiation Risk for Commercial Flight Crew:** Makes the

operational turn of the report: airlines should move from ad hoc individual self-tracking to structured radiation safety programs with training, clearer risk communication, practical dose tools, and particular accommodation for pregnant crewmembers.

7. The Way Forward: Recommends FAA-led action in phases: first recognize ionizing radiation as an occupational exposure requiring oversight, then require airline radiation safety programs, improve dose-estimation tools and model validation, and build a national dose-tracking and research infrastructure.

If you don't find a copy of anything referenced, email me at jgisaacson@sbcglobal.net and I'll forward a copy.

A lot is going on – High-G RSI is next on the table.

John “Sleet” Sletten
General Secretary

<https://wildweasels.org/medical/>]

<https://www.facebook.com/MACHCoalition1/>

<https://milaviator.org/>

<https://www.nationalacademies.org/projects/HMD-BPH-25-04>

Weasel Happenings

Grants Provided to 33 FW

58th Fighter Squadron Top Instructor

Capt Nate “Tazer” Palmer



Tazer!!!!

60th Fighter Squadron Top Instructor

Major Glenn “Shagi” Glinsk



Shagi!!

Grants Provided to EWO school

\$200 Grant for the snack bar

Top EWO Instructor

Capt Frauenhofer



JINX

Thank you from Paul N. Kloppenborg, author of several airplane/aircrew history books

To Budman, Larry and the Wild Weasels;

Thanks so much for your assistance in my project and adding your signatures to my books... they mean a great deal to me!

As you know, I'm writing an aviation book that will be a collection of short stories, and I plan to produce 5 original books. At the end of each story, I'll include an original signature by the person or group who is represented in the story. I was hoping to get 5 sheets that were signed by the "weasels" who attended your recent reunion, but I screwed up somehow, and missed that opportunity. Maybe in the future, we can make that happen.

Another couple of ideas that I had for the book were:

- 1) To have an early member of your "Vietnam Era" group, write a short story about what it was like in the early days. The great idea of: "you be the bait and I'll kill the site" and the response: "You've Got To Be Shi*ing Me" is precious! When I read about the "concept", and it's initial "response", I knew your group had to be included in my book.
- 2) To have a "Gulf War" combatant write a short story about that campaign, adding insights that would make for good reading and let people understand: just what your group does.
- 3) Budman talked of the foundation for wounded aviators; if someone wanted to add their story to my book, I think the world should hear that story too. Take it time from their initial demise, the immediate aftermath and the trials they face every day. I'm hoping that this might bring awareness to the foundation and possibly add to your donor list.

Budman talked of a program that would allow each person to talk and have AI transcribe it into Word. I would ask each of these people to sign their signatures 5 times each, so I could put one in each of the original 5 books. In the future, I hope to publish my book, but I have a lot of work to do before that can happen.

I started this project back in 1986, and have been collecting signatures ever since. It was always going to be my "retirement project" and now its time has come. So thank you from the bottom of my heart for adding your input.

In closing. I'm currently looking for contact information for either or both: If anyone can help me reach them, it would be greatly appreciated. Back in the mid 90's: Lt. Steve Gozzo (possibly in Annapolis, Md. area) and Lt. Denny Hafer, (both were pilots in Desert Storm), helped me and I would like to get their signatures for my book. My wish is that the book (5 books), will be the

largest collection of aviators signatures ever assembled, thanks for helping me make that dream come true.

Sincerely...Paul N. Kloppenborg

(If you want to add your story to his collections please contact Budman (budmanrocketsnow@gmail.com) and he'll put you in touch.

Fallen Wild Weasels

If this gets to you in time...

Hey guys can you please relay Dave “Curdog” Curdy’s service info to all the Weasels who knew him? Here are the local service details:

June 30, at 10am

Woodmen Valley Stone Chapel

Rockrimmon Campus

290 E Woodmen Road

Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Reception to follow address of home given out at the service.

Fallen Wild Weasels

Maurice Karl Stark, WW #2275, EWO, F-4G, 9 Apr 2026

Gordon Evans Lewis, WW #274, Pilot, F-105, A-10, F-16, 26 Apr 2026

David George Curdy, WW #1533, Pilot, F-4G, F-15E, 10 Jun 2026

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

Membership Update

New Members

Matthew Magness, WW # 2943,

Thomas Hornish, WW # 2944,

Dr. Phillip Camp Jr., WW #2945, Flight Surgeon, F-35/F-16

Cal “Karma” Tinkey, WW #2946, Pilot, F-16

Edward Glinski, WW #2948

Nate Palmer, WW #2949

Nathan “Mace” Heguy, WW #2950

Craig White, WW #3001

Corrected WW # Assignments:

Patrick “Turf” Haugen, WW #2748

Vincent “Baldanolf” Wisniewski, WW #2749

Jay “Bait” Baugh, WW #2747

Matthew Spotts, WW #2746, Honorary Member

John Piowaty, WW #2999

Surviving Family Members

If you know of family members who qualify, have them contact us at:

LABudF4G@gmail.com

Weasel Watch



F-4G



F-16CJ

I have been working with the Bremont Watch Military Special Projects Team to create a Wild Weasel watch.

- For the F-4G watch, Bremont needs only **6** more orders to move ahead. All you need to reserve your beautiful time piece is an \$800 deposit.
- F-16CJ watches can be ordered now.
- 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.

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)

Interview with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs - Gen Caine.

The newly posted interview from “Afterburner Podcast” is from Nov ‘24



Interviews with WW F-16 pilots from the 20th Fighter Wing at Shaw AFB.

Link to upcoming interviews about Operation Hammer

<https://www.lowdownnews.us/p/operation-midnight-hammer>

First WW Tailflash on F-35s

<https://theaviationist.com/2026/06/19/first-f-35a-ww-tail-flash/>

2026 Funding

Available balance

• Ending balance as of June 11 26	\$55,082.58
• Current Posted Balance	\$55,082.58
• Pending withdrawals/debits	\$0.00
• Pending deposits/credits	\$0.00
• Available balance	\$55,082.58

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. You can earmark your funds for education if you want.

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](#)
