



## *Missile, Space and Range Pioneers*

### **Past, Present and Future**

Today's Explorers Tomorrow's Pioneers

Premier Edition: October 21st, 2003

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### **Annual *Fall Gathering* to Honor Launch Operations & Range Personnel**

The 2003 Fall Gathering of the Pioneers will take place on Friday, 14 November, 7 p.m., at the Patrick AFB Officers Club. No reservations are necessary. The cost is \$10.00 per person, please pay at the door. Dress is "comfortable" which is coat and tie for most of the gentleman Pioneers with the ladies dressing up as much as they want!

This year's theme honors those thousands of men and women who have formerly or currently work in either Launch Operations or on the Range. Regarding that, we would be interested in hearing from you if you have an historical and/or amusing anecdote to share with your fellow Pioneers. Please email your "tale of the pioneers" to [zsifter@aol.com](mailto:zsifter@aol.com). Selected anecdotes will be chosen to repeat at our annual Gathering.

If you have questions regarding the event, please contact Don Beck via email: [zsifter@aol.com](mailto:zsifter@aol.com)

### **Emails and "Tales of the Pioneers"**

Please help us update our member data base by sending us your email address. Send to [zsifter@aol.com](mailto:zsifter@aol.com).

If you have a particularly good "pioneering" first person story/anecdote that you are willing to share with other Pioneers, we would love to hear from you. We are particularly interested in humorous and/or mission saving stories. We want to hear from support people as well as "mission critical" folks. Please limit the length of your tale(s). You may withhold names to protect the innocent as well as the guilty! Off color stories are OK as long as you are careful with the English language!

We are looking into the possibility of a Pioneer web site for posting your story. The very best anecdotes, as determined by our "panel of judges", may appear in future newsletters.

**Pioneers Background:** The Missile, Range and Space Pioneers, Inc. were incorporated on 2 November 1966 "To provide an opportunity for the people who were involved in the early missile, range, and space activities at Cape Canaveral (Cape Kennedy) to socialize and renew old acquaintances". The faces may change but the social nature of the Pioneers remains the same. There are approximately 1,200 missile, range and space workers, former workers, and advocates on the rolls of the Pioneers.

**Pioneer:** A person who goes before, preparing the way for others.

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## **Under Secretary USAF Speaks to Pioneers**

Major General Robert S. Dickman (USAF-Retired), Deputy for Military Space, Office of the Under Secretary of the Air Force, and former 45th Space Wing commander, spoke at the annual Spring Banquet meeting of the Missile, Space, and Range Pioneers at the Patrick Officers Club.

General Dickman directed his remarks at space policy and activity from when he was the 45th Space Wing commander. He addressed current issues regarding manned space access and payload lift requirements to ensure uninterrupted launch capability. Several Pioneers noted that General Dickman was one of the most informative and personable speakers ever to appear before the group.

In business matters, outgoing President Walt Yager, Lockheed Martin Company, announced election results for 2003-04. Don Beck, Civilian Military Community Relations Council, is incoming president and Jerry Johnson, AT&T Government Solutions, was elected vice president. Sig Biener and Lee Solid were elected secretary and treasurer. Newly elected directors were Howard Peckham and Jim Devitt.

Beck has announced that Patrick's Civilian Personnel Officer, Bob Daniel, is now the Pioneers' liaison with Patrick AFB. Beck stated that the Pioneers will aggressively seek new members noting that all who are currently involved in missile, space, or range activities as well as advocates of these endeavors are eligible for membership. The goal will be to involve members in expanding and strengthening the Pioneers, especially through committee involvement.

You may contact Beck and the Pioneers via [zsifter@aol.com](mailto:zsifter@aol.com).

From left: Bob Daniel; Maj. Gen. Robert Dickman (USAF-ret); and, Walt Yager. Daniel and Dickman became Life Members of the Missile, Space, and Range Pioneers at the Spring Banquet.



## **Membership Contest Open to All Pioneers - Even New Ones!**

We take this opportunity to announce that a Membership Drive/Contest begins effective with the Fall Gathering! Members who recruit the most new Life Members into the Missile, Space and Range Pioneers between the Fall Gathering, 14 November, and the Spring Banquet 2 May 2004 will win "valuable" merchandise/prizes.

To win the top prize, you must recruit a minimum of five (5) new members. A Life Membership costs a measly pittance of only \$60.00!

To assist you, we have printed a membership form on the next page and you may use this very first exciting newsletter as a recruiting tool!

At your request, we will also send you a membership form via the internet which will help you do your recruiting without ever leaving your computer!

The Top Five recruiters will be recognized at the Spring Banquet and be presented their prizes!

**Pioneers Seek New Members and Committee Workers!**

Volunteers are needed to help with the following: Web Site Development/Management. "Official" Pioneer Photographer. Anecdotes of your life and times in the MSRP world! "Official" Pioneer database (MS Access) keeper. New member recruiters. See contest announcement.