



## August 2021 Newsletter



Fellow Nighthawks,

Look at these pictures. Do you remember any faces? Were you there? If so, I will bet you had a great time. Everyone did and we promise the April 2022 Reunion will be a fabulous gathering of friends. All that is needed is YOU!

There is still much work to be done, but you can rest assured the Board is working diligently getting all the details sorted out. Volunteers are being solicited to help with the many details that take place during the event, so if you are interested in helping out, please drop a note to Phil McDaniel at email: [philipwmcdaniel@gmail.com](mailto:philipwmcdaniel@gmail.com).

Several of our team will be meeting with the hotel/casino staff in November to finalize numerous details. You can REALLY help us out by registering sooner rather than later. There is no risk, yet you help us by providing a level of interest with which we can negotiate better facilities, rooms, prices, etc. for our event. All reservations are fully refundable up until 28 February 2022. It only takes a few minutes of your time, and your credit card of course ... but it would be a great help! The link for the sign-up is on the invitation at the bottom of this message. Do it now and you don't have to worry about forgetting.

Then contact your friends. Encourage them to do the same. You know how it works. "Hey Ace, are you going to the Stealth Reunion in April?" "Yeah, are you?" "If you do, I will!" We have over 1,100 names on our mailing

list. That is names, not necessarily current contact information. We continue to solicit your help in locating Nighthawk team members who may want to attend our F-117 anniversary tribute. You are the key to updating and expanding our contact list, and to reaching out to team members who may have never attended one of our events. We can't do it without your help...there are only nine of us, and many hundreds of you! So, please talk up this event. Anyone can send an email to [F117nighthawkfinder@gmail.com](mailto:F117nighthawkfinder@gmail.com) or go to the [www.f117sfa.org](http://www.f117sfa.org) website and contact us through the link there.

Feedback has been very encouraging, but we need the sign-ups. It is already September. Eight months and counting.

Our banquet guest speaker slate is absolutely stellar, two retired 4-star generals. Listen to General Joe Ralston talk about how a hand full of Majors changed the trajectory of modern air combat and hear General David Goldfein's retrospective on our F-117's long shadow and influence on the future of Air Power.

We are in the production phase of creating a never-to-be-forgotten visual slide show documenting much of the history of our lives in the Program. As with our last event in Las Vegas, your Board is soliciting digital photo files which capture our 40-some-year history. CINC Slideshow is Joe "Haiji" Skaja, and he would like to pass on the following message to you. "All SFA 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary attendees—it is not too late, so please send a photo or two that commemorates your time in the Stealth program. Include the picture(s) and a caption (if appropriate). Please send the information to my home email at [skajajandg@comcast.net](mailto:skajajandg@comcast.net) no later than 28 February 2022."

If you were present at Tonopah from 1985-1990, you will recognize photos taken by Flight Safety Officer and Bandit Jack Shaw, who developed FUBAR Films for the entertainment of Nighthawks from that era...he's generously sharing his photo archives.



In case you have missed them, YouTube has a rich archive of F-117 stories. Two notable examples:

Hal Farley talks about the First Flight (F-117A Top Secret Skunk Works 1st Flight, Lockheed Martin aviation engineering technology, Nighthawk, 4:56)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LrHaVH\\_KORw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LrHaVH_KORw)

Ben Rich (Skunk Works, 12:42)

<https://youtu.be/I9wAEjox2WI>



Interested in purchasing Nighthawk apparel? There are still opportunities available. We have partnered with an apparel embroidery company, ThreadLogic.com, so that SFA members can order shirts, hats, and bags, with the Association's logo. You can look at available items at their website address listed [below](https://sites.google.com/view/2022stealthfighteranniversary/home/sfa-merchandise). Prices begin at around \$20 for polo shirts or hats (plus shipping), and we have been very satisfied with the quality of the items received to date by Board members (Port Authority Core Classic Pique Polo shirt shown). For future reference, we will open just three, 2-week long, order windows between now and the reunion. The reason for the limitation is extra setup charges incurred for small order sizes. The windows will be 1-17 September 2021, 1-15 March 2022, and at the Las Vegas event, 20 April-4 May 2022. Order instructions for the September window are available in the 40<sup>th</sup> Tribute Registration website under the "SFA Merchandise" section. <https://sites.google.com/view/2022stealthfighteranniversary/home/sfa-merchandise>

Again, Summer Greetings to each and every one of you from your SFA officers and Board! Help us get the word out about our F-117A 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tribute in Las Vegas in April 2022, and it really is not too early to register for what promises to be a great event in Las Vegas. We hope to see you there!



**You and your guests are cordially invited to attend the F-117 Stealth Fighter 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tribute: "Short Life, Long Shadow," sponsored by the Stealth Fighter Association and Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company.**

**Join our guest speakers  
General (Ret) Joseph Ralston  
and  
General (Ret) David Goldfein  
at The Orleans Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada,  
22-24 April 2022.**

To visit the event website and to register, visit <https://sites.google.com/view/2022stealthfighteranniversary> or scan the QR code.



Please spread the word to others who share your Nighthawk experience.

Rick "Seldom" Wright  
President, Stealth Fighter Association