

86TH FIGHTER-BOMBER GROUP ASSOCIATION

MAY 2006 NEWSLETTER



GET YOURSELF READY FOR OKLAHOMA CITY



"The state flag is symbolic. The tan center is an Osage warrior's buckskin shield, representing defensive or protective warfare. Across the shield runs the red man's Calumet (Peace Pipe) crossed with the white man's peace symbol, the olive branch. The small crosses are Indian stars and represent lofty ideals. The blue field (background) represents the blue skies of Oklahoma."



Listen up now! It is time to think seriously about coming to our Oklahoma City "bash." That means, do something constructive about it, like making your airline reservations if that is going to be your means of transportation, or hoping that gasoline prices come down by October if you prefer to drive.

Official dates for the reunion are Thursday, October 26, through Saturday, October 28, although many will be arriving on Wednesday, October 25. We will be staying at the Biltmore Hotel, 401 South Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK 73108. At "Oklahoma's Finest" Jesse FITZPATRICK has negotiated an attractive room rate of \$62.00 plus tax.

Reservations should be made at (800) 522-6620. and you must guarantee late arrival (after 6:00 pm) by making payment for the first night with a check or credit card. If you have a need to cancel

your reservation, be sure to notify the hotel by 3:00 pm on the day of your scheduled arrival to secure a cancellation refund. Cutoff date for reservations is October 12; after that date, a room cannot be guaranteed.

Prez Glen MARGERUM and your Board of Directors have lined up an interesting seated, not walking, set of activities. Refer to the Activities Reservation Form (ARF) in this newsletter. You will be pleased to know that our estimable Hospitality Room hosts, Pauline and Hubie BOUCHARD, will be on hand to ensure that their domain is well provisioned, and to see that everyone's food and drink requirements are met.

So, that's the lineup. Get on the horn to the Biltmore and make your reservations; then complete your ARF and send it with your check to the Secretary.

86th Fighter-Bomber Group Association

NEWSLETTER

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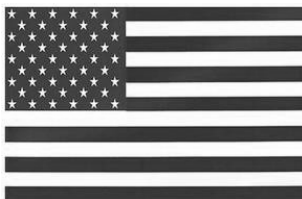
ELECTED OFFICERS — BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

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Members-at-Large: Three-year term – Carl Baranek, Louis DeLuca, and Jesse Fitzpatrick
Two-year term – Audrey Brown, Sid Howard, Glen Margerum
One-year term – Don Collins, Ed Hill, and John Senneff

Website: www.86fighterbombergroup.com

Sick Call

WALSH, Bob (527) - Edna phoned in early March to advise that Bob was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease about three years ago, and has "gone downhill" since last September. Bob, one of our original A-36 pilots at Key Field in Meridian, MS, was credited with having come up with the name *Invaders* for that aircraft. He and his first wife June (now deceased) were early and strong supporters of the Association. They hosted our highly successful 1987 reunion in Seattle; however, he and Edna have not been able to attend a reunion since Tucson in 2001.

(Information intentionally omitted)

Roster Maintenance

(Information intentionally omitted)

As of May 2006, we have 309 listings on our Active Roster. Four of these are second addresses for the same persons, leaving a total of 305 that breaks down as follows: 189 Veterans; 80 Widows; 36 Family members, Guests & Mail Only. Draw your own conclusions from these numbers in thinking about the future of your organization.

On March 13 Betty COOKE sent a very generous check "to help with the postage, etc., in memory of Glenn." She writes that there are very few names that she recognizes anymore but still enjoys hearing about the group's activities. "I'm blessed with fairly good health and enjoy staying busy." *Why not consider joining us in Oklahoma City this Fall, Betty?*

A February letter from Carl CROW (527) reports a new area code and says: "I want to say how glad we are to get all the news about the group and mostly about the squadron. The sad news gets to me but I'm glad to get it anyway. I know this has been a lot of hard work for you over the years and I salute you for a job well done. Keep 'em flying! I'm 86, kinda wobbly but still on my feet."

An email message from Sue Nelle HURT on receipt of the Newsletter dedicated to her husband Gil "Hollerifur" HURT: "I wanted to call you about the newsletter, but I knew I wouldn't be able to talk. The tears started rolling as soon as I unfolded it. I can't even begin to express what that means to us. I can hardly wait for the children to read it. We both know how much he loved his involvement with you guys and the 86th. It was truly the highlight of his retirement years. And you were able to impart that in your wonderful article. Thanks from the bottom of our hearts!"

While browsing through Bill JAYNE'S Group Headquarters Newsletters, I came across this from his 11/30/88 report: "MRS. PEARL E. BERRY: All who attended the Dayton Group Memorial dedication and the Saratoga Reunion remember this Elegant Lady (89 years young) – mother of the late Capt. George Hill (527th Casualty, Italy). I mailed our July 19th Newsletter to Mrs. Berry and received a reply from her. Here is a little of what she wrote:

***** That beautiful, precious plaque – my friend in the V.A. Hospital here thinks it made me a "Celebrity" but I think it makes me a "Member" of a very Special Group of Great Men and Girls. I used to think that George had something Special to offer his outfit. Now I know his outfit had something Special to offer him – Themselves. ***** It was an unforgettable, great experience to be there for the Memorial and the Reunion."

In a letter from Irl GUARD (see Roster Maintenance), he recalls that one hundred April 1942 graduates of Sheppard Field A.M. School were sent to Santa Monica, CA to study the A-20 manufactured by Douglas Aircraft. In May we were transferred to Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma City, OK as the first additions to the cadre that had formed the 86th in February. He was among those assigned to the 526th (then 310th) Squadron, and Ira is wondering if any of the other six guys with him are still alive and kicking. If any of you are, you can reach him in Santa Cruz, CA at the listed address/phone.

In a conversation with Lyndal and Clarcie HARRIS this month, Lyndal reported he had just finished cutting up the many oak trees knocked down in his yard (Diboll, TX) by Katrina; the largest one was 36 inches across. Clarcie has had several health problems this past year, but is focused on coming to OKCity (their last reunion was Dayton). They will be driving (even made a 250-mile test drive to checkout their stamina), no flying for them.

Sad News Department

BOVA, Marie (527) - Joseph's wife predeceased him on 04/18/87 according to their son, Joseph Jr. Joseph, a Lifetime Member, died 03/07/04 (previously reported).

DORRIS, Harry W. "Doc" (526 Pilot/Squadron C.O.) - Mail was returned by the Post Office as "Undeliverable," and a search of the Social Security Death Index uncovered the fact that he passed away 10/23/05. "Doc" stayed in the service after the war and became an Ace in Korea. He was a Lifetime Member and attended the San Antonio reunion where he treated all present members of the 526th to dinner.

GROSS, Jack B. (Group Executive Officer) - He passed away 03/23/06 at age 94 as printed in the Air Force Magazine (May 2006 issue). Poor health prevented his reunion attendance, but he was a Lifetime Member and generous supporter of our Association. The magazine article contains a picture of Jack and describes him as "one of the (AFAs) most influential early leaders and benefactors."



IMMEKUS, Joseph F. (527 Engineering) - Reports from the V.A. show a deceased date of 02/11/06. Several years ago, Joe was reported by Al BURGOON to be a patient in a treatment center for Alzheimer's disease. He is on our Active roster and has, apparently, been receiving our newsletters. Al discovered that Joe is buried at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio in Section 33 #154 for those wanting to visit.

KASTNER, George W. "Tink" (527 Pilot, Operations Officer) - Passed away on 04/01/06 following a fall. The Association sent flowers to the funeral, attended by an overflow crowd that came to pay their respects to a man who contributed much to the community where he was born and lived his entire life. George and Thelma were stalwarts of the Association almost from the beginning of our existence. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Thelma and the family at this difficult time. Tink was a member of the Board of Directors for several "tours," serving as President on two occasions. An early Lifetime Member, he and Thelma attended 20 reunions, the last in Branson. The 1994 reunion in Fresno was beautifully hosted by them. He and his many-times-told war and other stories will be sorely missed.



LOFQUIST, Albert P. (527 North American Rep.) - Deceased 04/09/06 as reported by Glen MARGERUM. No details are known at this time. Al was a representative for North American Aviation, manufacturers of the A-36. He led the team that reassembled the planes in Morocco, North Africa, after they were shipped across the Atlantic...he flew the first one. He was voted a full member by the squadron, was a Lifetime Member, and attended two reunions.

I recently discovered a 526th Squadron roster containing Army serial numbers for a lot of our people we had been carrying on our Not Located (or Missing) List. My contact at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis has, I regret to advise, notified me of the deaths of the following comrades on the indicated dates:

ALLIHAN, Hans (Aircraft Mech.) - 03/04/73
 CAPUTO, Frank A, (Transport.) - 12/10/69
 CODER, Donald M. (Commun.) - 07/06/68
 GORDON, Duncan M. (Armament) - 09/03/58
 GRICE, Earl H. (Pappy) (Commun.) - 12/01/47
 HAMILTON, Edward (NMI) (Aircraft Mech.) - 01/19/95
 HARMAN, Hobart A. (Armament) - 04/07/83
 HARRIS, Edward W. (Aircraft Mech.) - 06/08/58
 HEMMER, Lincoln L. (Armament) - 03/29/69
 HETTERICH, Charles O. (Sheet Metal Worker) - 02/01/99
 HINTZ, Elmer A.E. (Ordnance) - 02/28/69
 HUTCHINS, Sanborn B. (Pilot) - 08/23/90
 JAMES, Arthur E. (Pilot) - 03/14/00
 JAMES, George T. (Refueling) - 03/01/81
 JAMES, Leonard B. - 09/05/82
 JONES, Alvin W. (Pilot) - 10/07/69
 JOURNELL, Robert S. (Pilot) - 09/11/78
 KNEZEVICH, Marko L. (Orderly Room) - 06/28/85
 KROUT, Raymond J. (Armament) - 04/03/74
 LANE, Joe V. (Pilot) - 01/17/98
 LENNON, Paul A. (Armament) - 07/15/01
 LUNDQUIST, Earl P. (Armament) - 09/11/85
 MASINGALE, Ed (NMI) (Ordnance) - 10/11/86
 MCCARTHY, Joseph R. (Armament) - 09/24/83
 MACQUARRIE, Jesse R. (Elec. Spec.) - 08/19/93
 MILLER, Edwin F. (Commun.) - 07/04/79
 RIPOLI, Alfred (NMI) (Clerk) - 09/11/52
 SCOTT, James E. (Transport.) - 02/21/81
 SLEGER, George (NMI) (Aaft Mech.) - 02/25/03
 SPINAR, Milos (NMI) (Ordnance) - 02/23/65
 STADLER, Howard P. (Commun.) - 11/23/86
 UTOFT, Harold - 12/15/75
 VANCE, Luther P. (Commun.) - 09/02/87
 YOUNG, Roy E. (Transp.) - 10/26/77

In the 525th Squadron:
 JOHNSON, Arthur W. (Refueling) - 03/05/98

We have learned from the National Personnel Records Center, and other sources noted, of the deaths of these comrades carried on our Inactive Roster:

BOWMAN, John F. (525 Armament) – 01/11/06 from his wife Jean

CHESSEY, Juel W. (Bill) (527 Engrg.) – 02/19/05)

FRIED, Joe O. (525 Ordnance) – 08/04/05 from a family member

KLASS, Laurence (NMI) (526 Pilot) – 12/22/00

PERU, Orrell A. (527 Sheet Metal Worker) – 02/23/95. Attended Seattle reunion.

STEINBERG, Archie (NMI) (526) – 04/03/05

STEWART, H. R. (525 Crew Chief) - 01/21/06

STEWART, Frederick E. (525 Engrg.) – 09/04/05 from his son-in-law

TOWNSEND, Clifford (526 Engr.) - 04/30/05 Attended two reunions.

YOSKOWITZ, Leon J. (527 Medic) – 11/08/73. Leon received the Soldier's Medal for bravery rescuing a pilot from his plane during a runway crash and fire at Korba in North Africa in July 1943.

Late News

Cliff KARRELS (525 Pilot) has informed us that his wife Geri passed away 05/13/06. She had been in declining health.



ATTENTION EVERYONE

Up-to-date Active and Inactive rosters, Deceased and Missing lists are included with this newsletter. Army Serial Numbers (ASNs), which are so vital in locating veterans, are shown in the second column of the Missing list. In the Inactive roster, the ASN follows the veteran's name. Those for whom we **do not have ASNs** on the Inactive roster are identified below.

We are challenging you to dig through your own, your husband's, or your dad's World War II memorabilia for rosters, travel orders, promotion lists, medals awarded, or any papers that show ASNs for any of these veterans for whom we lack this data. Those you turn up, and we hope there are many, should be sent to the Secretary (Sid Howard). Come on, good people, rise to the challenge just like you did with our appeal for donations earlier this year.

ANDERSON, Clarence A. (525)
 FISCHER, Edward (525)
 HALL, Lawrence K., Jr. (525)
 HAYNES, Stanley B. (525)
 HEMBREY, Jesse T (525)
 JACKSON, Loren H. (525)
 KRECKLER, Richard A. (525)
 MOBLEY, Carl T. (525)
 O'HARA, Raymond (525)
 SCHREYER, Warren C. (525)
 SHAFFNER, George E. (525)
 SIMONELLI, Albert C. (525)
 TARTAGLIA, Paul J. (525)
 WESTALL, James C. (525)

CALABRO, Tony (526)
 GENZ, William (526)
 HUDZINSKI, Sy (526)
 JOHNSTON, Lawrence L. (526)
 KAUFFMAN, Earl G. (526)
 KNAACK, Donald B. (526)
 SHIPWAY, Timothy E. (526)
 SMITH, Edward A. (526)
 WEBB, Byron E. (526)
 WELP, Ronald W. (526)
 BOONE, James D. (527)
 BRESLAUER, Norman S. (527)
 BURNS, Richard J. (527)
 COGGINS, Fred W. (527)

DeSTEVEN, Perry J. (527)
 DOTSON, William L.. (527)
 GERDES, Harry F., Jr. (527)
 GUYTON, Thomas B. (527)
 HUNTER, John D. (527)
 NORTON, Glen T. (527)
 PLOTT, Roy G., Sr. (527)
 BELL, Richard (GHQ)
 BUCKNER John H. (GHQ)
 CLARK, Jerry T. (GHQ)
 KORBEIN, Wilbur O. (GHQ)
 KRUCK. Charles W. (GHQ)
 OLTMANN, Wilbert C. (GHQ)
 TUCKER, Merrill (GHQ)

Trivia About OKCity You Might Not Know

Oklahoma City lays claim to having the nation's second lowest cost of living among major U.S. cities.

The U.S. Government opened part of OK to white settlement in 1889 which began the OK land rushes. When the territory where OKCity would be built was officially opened, more than 50,000 homesteaders gathered at the boundaries. Some people snuck in during the night before to stake out prime land early, hiding from the army patrols. These were known as "Sooners."

Oklahoma City is one of only two capital cities with their state name as part of the city name. The other is Indianapolis, IN.

Oklahoma City is the second largest city in the nation still in compliance with the Clean Air Act (after Jacksonville, Florida). (A Health Note for reunion attendees!)

At Tinker AFB, the historic Building 3001, where reunion attendees will have a tram tour of the Air Maintenance Facility, covers 62 acres.

FINANCIAL REPORT FIRST QUARTER 2006

BALANCE AT CLOSE OF PREVIOUS QUARTER (123105)		\$8,688.63
Receipts for Quarter		
Annual Dues (2 @ \$10.00)	\$20.00	
Voluntary Contributions	\$40.00	
Minneapolis/St. Paul Surplus	\$396.35	
Bank Interest	<u>\$17.07</u>	
	\$473.42	
		\$9,162.05
Disbursements for Quarter		
Phone	\$59.24	
Printing and Postage	\$348.92	
Computer Supplies	\$53.85	
Office Supplies	<u>\$42.00</u>	
	\$504.01	
BALANCE AT CLOSE OF QUARTER (033106)		<u>\$8,658.04</u>

FOOTNOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT

- \$10 Annual Dues, \$100 Lifetime (Cumulative).
- Make checks payable to **86th FBG Assoc.**
- Dues payers since last Newsletter:
Betty COOKE (527) VC in memory of husband Glenn, Frank DEKA (526) dues,
Edwin FENNER (526) dues, James ROBY (525) dues,
Laretta SETTERLUND (526) VC in memory of husband Bob
- VC = Voluntary Contribution.
- DON'T FORGET, ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE IF YOU ITEMIZE DEDUCTIONS ON YOUR TAX RETURN.

2006 ACTIVITIES RESERVATION FORM FOR OKCITY



Mail to Sid Howard before September 20

WELCOME TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Wednesday and Thursday, October 25 & 26

Check-in
 Registration Fee @ \$25 per person (Maximum fee of \$100)

NO. OF
 PERSONS

TOTAL COST

Thursday and Friday, October 26 & 27

Bus tours of OKCity and Tinker AFB @ \$28 per person

Thursday 1:30 to 4:30 pm — Guided City tour of Brick Town, canals, water taxies, sculptures, ball park, historic churches homes, memorial of 1995 bombed Federal Building, and new golden-dome State Capitol. (Rest break included.)

WALKING IS KEPT AT AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM FOR BOTH TOURS.

Friday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm — Guided military tour of Tinker AFB and its operating AWAC/E-3 planes, plus an interior tram tour of the enormous Building 3001 Air Maintenance Facility, **ending with our lunch in their club.**

Saturday, October 28

Leisure time & shopping nearby
 11:00 am Meeting of Association Directors
 4:00 pm Group Photos
 6:00 pm Banquet Dinner @ \$26 per person

Indicate choice and number: London Broil _____

Chicken Breast _____

Total for banquet

TOTAL RESERVATION COST

**Make check payable to 86th FBG Assn, and mail it with this form to
 Sid Howard, 211 Brownstone Dr, La Habra, CA 90631-7397**

ATTENDEE NAMES: _____

ADDRESS: _____ **PHONE:** _____

COMMENTS: