

86TH FIGHTER-BOMBER GROUP ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2010 NEWSLETTER



Washington, DC 1980

31

2010 Milwaukee, WI

RELEASE OF THE PLANS FOR OUR 31ST REUNION

From the first reunion in 1980, members of the 86th FBG have been given the opportunity to participate in a bunch of memorable trips (31 after Milwaukee) around this country. Lots of thanks go to the many hosts involved in setting the stage at each location and exposing us to the uniqueness of each city chosen for our entertainment.

The steadfast motivators (Board of Directors) of all this activity have kept us focused on staying the course to preserve a legacy established 60 years ago. Moving in the direction of more participation by the children/grandchildren of our veterans, we have been successful two years in a row: Reunion Hosts Rick and Peggy Fitzpatrick last year in Houston, and Debbie and Randy Rose this year in Milwaukee.

The point of all these words is to encourage more attendance of descendants/relatives at Reunion 31. It has the makings of an eye-opener into a world of events stored in the minds of our veterans.

At the end of this newsletter, you will find the ARF (Activities Reservation Form) for the Milwaukee reunion. On the backside of the ARF, Debbie provided an excellent description of the two tours set up for Friday and Saturday. It is worth noticing that the costs are extremely reasonable.

Please take note of the deadline set for mailing your ARF to Debbie —**August 14**. It is important for planning purposes. If possible before mailing the ARF, it is good to make a copy of the ARF to keep for your reference.

PLANNING FOR MILWAUKEE REUNION

Location: Best Western Milwaukee Airport Hotel and Conference Center, 5105 S. Howell Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53207.

Dates: Wednesday, September 15 (early arrivals) to Sunday September 19, 2010.

Room Rates: \$69.00 plus 14% tax = \$79.09 per night, single or double (up to four people at no extra charge).

Hotel Reservation: Must be made by August 14.

Hotel Cancellation: If necessary, reservations can be cancelled up to 48 hours before your scheduled arrival date.

Telephone Number: (877) 461-8547 for making your hotel reservations. Inform the hotel that you are with the 86th Group.



86th FIGHTER-BOMBER GROUP ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER

June 2010

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Publisher – Martha M. Plowden

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Association Website: www.86fighterbombergroup.com

We as veterans of WWII are organized to perpetuate the history of our fight to retain our American freedoms, to meet once a year for a reunion with the purpose of maintaining close ties with the Association and our comrades, and to encourage the heirs of our veterans to join with us in a united effort to hold on to our legacy.



POTPOURRI

✂ In April, I received the following e-mail:

"Mr. Howard. My name is Doug Patteson, and I am one of the historians of the 324th FG. I would be interested in learning about how your organization has structured itself, and just as importantly, what you guys are doing to pass it on to the next generation. We are beginning to grapple with some of those questions and are hoping to learn from others. Thanks and I look forward to hearing back from you. /s/ Doug Patteson."

I, of course, gave him the requested information, but the interesting point to this is that other WW II associations are seeking ways to preserve themselves through second (and third) generation memberships.

✂ A mid-May e-mail from Sharon Hodges (shodges782@verizon.net) reads:

"My father, Bruce H. Fuller, was the Section Chief, Operations for the 525th Squadron. I am trying to find out exactly what duties he would have performed. Is there anyone who can help me with this? Thank you so much. /s/ Sharon Hodges"

NOTE: If anyone can help, please copy the Secretary on your message to her.

✂ Another mid-May message from Matt Postlewaite (digbum77@yahoo.com) states that he is the grandson of Lt. Leonard D. Milton (527 Pilot) and is writing a biography of his grandfather's life. Through family, many archives and websites (including that of the 86th FBG) he has located much useful information and photos. He is asking anyone in the Association who knew Lt. Milton if they remember anything about his service, i.e. stories, jokes, nicknames, favorite planes flown, etc. to add to the biography.

Please copy the Secretary if you communicate with Matt.

ATTENTION: Please advise the Secretary of any information you might have on the location and/or status (living/deceased) on these veterans:

BARR, Charles A. (527),
BOVA, Joseph Jr. (527),
BURCHETT, Stanley (525),
ERICKSON, Nils G. (526),
FLAKE, Barrett (525),
HAMERLEY, Bobbie (527),
HERZIK, John E. (526),
KNIGHT, Mildred (James E. 525),
MAULDEN, Clurin H. (GHQ),
MEYERS, Barbara (Arthur Snow 527),
SCHULTZ, Christena (Albert F. 527),
SMITH, Ellon B. (Willard A. 525),
SUNLEY, Ellen (John J. 525),
WHEAT, M.D., Myron (527),
YORK, Peggy (William E. 527).

✂ After almost 30 years of searching, we have reduced the number of comrades on our *Not Located* list to three:

Richard T. BRUNDIN (526 Pilot)
Clarence E. HASELRUDE (525 Medic)
J.T. THOMPSON (525 Aircraft Mechanic).

If anyone has any information on them, including Army Serial Number (ASN), please advise the Secretary.



IN MEMORIAM



BENNETT, Charles P. (525 Crew Chief) - Passed away 03/26/10 after a long battle with cancer, according to information from his son Charlie. "I'm very proud of him for not only being an outstanding father, but for his service with the 86th. Truly, you ARE the greatest generation."



Charles was an early Lifetime Member and attended nine reunions, the last in Minneapolis/St. Paul in 1995.

BRADFORD, Earl H. (525 Pilot) - Passed away 5/21/10 according to information from his old friend, Edward Fenner (526). No details given. Earl was a dues paying member who never attended a reunion.

CAPRIO, Russell R. (527 Armament) - Deceased 2009 according to Social Security Death Index (SSDI). Never attended a reunion and had been carried on our *Inactive Roster*.

DELL, Joseph M. (527 Pilot-POW) - Passed away April 28, 2010. Joe was a Life Member and attended five reunions with his wife Lilly (deceased). Shot down on his 43rd mission over Germany, he survived by hiding under leaves and in ditches until finally captured March 22, 1945. A US POW in Germany, he was forced to walk from Frankfurt, Germany to Salzburg, Austria (equivalent from Pittsburgh to New York City) to avoid being overtaken by the aggressing American troops, to Hof, Austria and into the Alps to Italy, and finally France where he was released when the war ended.



ELLIS, Mary (527) - Widow of Tom Ellis; deceased 2008 according to SSDI.

FASANO, Carmine N. (GHQ Dental Tech.) - Passed away 03/06/09 according to word from his nephew; no details given. Carmine was an early and strong supporter of the Association, having attended seven reunions, but none since Myrtle Beach in 1992.



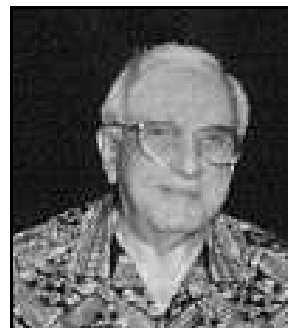
GENZ, William D. (526 Pilot) - Deceased 2009 according to SSDI. He was carried on our *Inactive Roster*.

HALE, J. Walker (527 Pilot-Opr. Ofcr.) - Deceased 2010 according to SSDI. He was carried on our *Inactive Roster*.

JOHNSON, Lois (527) - Widow of Verlon Johnson; deceased 2008 according to SSDI.

OLTMANN, Wilbert C. (GHQ Operations) - Deceased 2010 according to SSDI.

WOLSON, Jason L. (527 A-36 Pilot) - Deceased 2010 according to SSDI. He was a dues paying member who attended the Atlanta reunion in 1998.



Just a thought

The only difference between try and triumph is a little
"umph."

If you cut too many corners, you'll be going in circles.

SICK CALL**ROSTER MAINTENANCE**

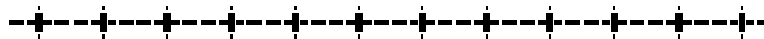
PYTEL, Stan (526 Pilot) – A late May e-mail from wife Corky reports that he fell onto hard pavement while returning a shopping cart to a supermarket. After hospitalization he was transferred to a facility for physical therapy and will require lots more of it before coming home. *"He isn't able to handle a telephone, but is in pretty good spirits and making progress with his arms and legs."* A subsequent message advises that Stan improves by the day; with assistance, he was able to transfer from bed to wheelchair and, momentarily, stand on his feet.

TEEPLE, Bob (527 Pilot-POW) – Daughter Bunny Sheffield, also in late May, advises that Teep is holding his own, most days happily doing home routines. *"As of last week, he is going for lunch or supper with Tobi who had hip replacement surgery and is at the rehab center again for a few weeks. We have Milwaukee on the calendar and keep it in our discussions. Hoping to see you then. /s/ Bunny"*

Data for this segment is intentionally omitted.



Data for ROSTER MAINTENANCE is intentionally omitted.



FINANCIAL REPORT—FIRST TWO QUARTERS 2010

BALANCE AT CLOSE OF 2009	\$4,365.25
<u>Receipts for First Two Quarters</u>	
Annual Dues (6 @ \$10.00)	\$60.00
Life Memberships (1 @ \$100.00)	\$100.00
Voluntary Contributions.....	\$200.00
	\$360.00
.....	\$4,725.25
<u>Disbursements for First Two Quarters</u>	
Postage and Printing	\$497.81
Phone (for 2009)	\$12.60
Office Supplies	\$91.76
Funeral Flowers/Memorial Donations.....	\$260.30
Bulk Mail Permit Renewal	\$185.00
Houston Reunion Expense (Incl Van Rental and Event Deposits).....	\$900.94
Group Picture Mailing	\$8.74
Bank Service Charges (\$9.00/month)	\$45.00
Milwaukee Reunion Hotel Deposit	\$100.00
Search Fees.....	\$37.35
	\$2,139.50
BALANCE AT CLOSE OF SECOND QUARTER	<u>\$2,585.75</u>

- Footnotes:
- \$10.00 Annual Dues; \$100 Lifetime (Cumulative); VC = Voluntary Contribution
 - Lifetime Membership: Edwin H. FENNER (526; LM-6059)
VC: Hubie BOUCHARD (525), Anna DiANTONIO (525) in memory of Joe DELL, Sue HURT (525) in memory of Gilbert T. HURT, Lester TERRY (525)
 - Don't forget, all contributions are tax deductible if you itemize deductions on your tax return.
 - Are you a Lifetime member? If you are, there is an LM followed by 4 numbers in the bracketed information following your name on the roster. If it's not there, contact the Secretary.

2010 Activities Reservation Form For Milwaukee

ANNUAL REUNION—86th FBG ASSOCIATION—SEPTEMBER 2010

Wednesday, September 15th - Arrival of the Early Birds

No. of-
Persons Total Cost

Thursday, September 16th – Registration

Registration Fee @ **\$25/person (Maximum of \$100)** _____>

	\$
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Hospitality Room open for visiting and exaggerated story telling.

2:00 pm – Board of Directors Meeting – subject to change depending on arrivals

4:00 pm – General Membership Meeting (Hospitality Room)

Friday, September 17th

9:00 am to 3:00 pm Tour #1 – “Gathering Place by the Water”

Refer to tour description on following page...includes transportation, guide, lunch, and cruise.

Walking will be at a minimum.

\$25 per person _____>

	\$
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Saturday, September 18th

10:00 am to 3:00 pm Tour #2 - “Milwaukee’s Best”

Refer to tour description on following page – includes transportation, guide, and lunch (Miss Katie’s Diner)

Minimal walking

\$18 per person _____>

	\$
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6:30 pm Banquet Dinner How Many? _____

Grilled Sirloin Steak @ \$30 _____

Stuffed Chicken Breast @ \$25 _____

Almond Crusted Tilapia @ \$25 _____

Vegetable Lasagna @ \$25 _____

Total Cost for Banquet _____>

\$

TOTAL RESERVATION COST _____>

\$

Make check payable to 86th FBG Assn and mail with this form to:

Debbie Rose, 1306 Fox River Dr., De Pere, WI 54115-2403

MAIL to Debbie Rose BEFORE AUGUST 14

ATTENDEE NAMES _____

ADDRESS: _____ **PHONE:** _____

E-MAIL: _____ **Estimated day & time of arrival:** _____

COMMENTS:

Tours for WWII 86th Fighter-Bomber Group Reunion Milwaukee

Guided by KBC TOUR COMPANY

Friday, September 17 – 9 am - 3 pm

Milwaukee City Tour – “Gathering Place by the Water”

This tour will give you a great overview of the city, showcasing the origin of its name – “gathering place by the waters.” We’ll take a drive along the Lake Michigan shoreline with the beautiful parks and the magnificent lakefront homes. Stopping at the War Memorial, we’ll get a great view of the Milwaukee Art Museum’s “wings” (opening at 10 am) representing a bird in flight over the lake. Then we’ll explore downtown and a variety of neighborhoods including Old World Third Street where we’ll have a “genuine Milwaukee” lunch of bratwurst and beer (or root beer). The afternoon will be spent relaxing aboard the Edelweiss (website: <http://www.edelweissboats.com> - Historic Milwaukee Sightseeing) as we sail through the city on the Milwaukee River and out on Lake Michigan enjoying unique views of the city and its skyline.

Includes transportation, guide, lunch, and cruise. \$25.00 per person

Saturday, September 18 – 9 am - 3 pm

Milwaukee’s Best

This tour will provide you with a good sense of how Milwaukee works and plays. We’ll drive by businesses that are proud to hail from Milwaukee, such as Miller Brewing and Harley-Davidson. We’ll visit Miller Park, home of the Milwaukee Brewers, before enjoying lunch at a classic Milwaukee diner near the Marquette University campus - Miss Katie’s Diner – visited and appreciated by Presidents and the former Chancellor of Germany.

After lunch, we will continue our tour, heading to the Waukesha Airport. The Warbird Chapter of the EAA has committed to recruiting several WWII era aircraft for the our review, and we should have the opportunity for “up close and personal” inspections and photos with aircraft that may have been with the young men in that time.

We will return to the hotel for a “debriefing session” in the hospitality room.

Includes transportation, guide, and lunch. \$18.00 per person

Saturday Night Banquet Dinner to be held on site at the Best Western



In 1944, Bing Crosby crooned:

“Cathedral bells were calling and our hearts sang on;
Was it the spell of Paris or the April dawn?
Who knows if we shall meet again,
But when the morning chimes ring sweet again,
I'll be seeing you in all the old familiar places...and when the night is new,
I'll be looking at the moon, But I'll be seeing you.”

We look forward to seeing you, and the wonderful connection all the veterans and their family members share, and to creating new memories together in Milwaukee.