



September Edition 1992

Lake Barkley, Cadiz, KY

Plan Now - Reno In 1993

I know we will have a great time. If you have not made a reunion you have missed some good fellowship. The locations each time will not please everyone but please come and give your suggestions. This can be done at a meeting, around the pool or the mixers. I know a lot of people would like to meet somewhere in the northeast.

Our crew had our reunion this fall at Cape Cod. We met at the home of Ed and Jean Pereira in East Providence, Rhode Island. They had made the arrangements for our four day stay at the Red Jacket Inn which we uses as a base for trips each day. The first evening Ed and Jean had a scrumptious New England seafood dinner under a tent in their yard. It was out of this world; lobster, clams, fish and a wonderful Portugese soup. From our base at the Inn we made excursions up and down the cape and surrounding areas. Princeton, Hyannis, Martha's Vineyard and Plymouth Rock. Those attending were: George and Doris Josten from Indianapolis (Greenfield) Indiana, Jim and Mary Lawton - Baltimore, Maryland, Doyle and Verna Mayo - Forgan, Oklahoma, Mayme Harp - Livermore, California, Rena Lucy - San Francisco, California, Joe and "Nunnie" Bastin and our hosts and guide Ed and Jean Pereira - East Providence.

We missed Bill and Helen Bolin who were on a Mediterranean Cruise celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. Why do people celebrating their 50th anniversary look so much younger than they did twenty or thirty years ago.

This reminds me that I received a note from Wooding Browning saying that he and Cathy will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on January 17th. They live in San Antonia, Texas, 211 Salesbury Drive.

August 30, 1992

Dear "Mr. Secretary" Bastin,

Finally, getting around to "writing" instead of "calling" and besides I'm never home.

It's been a hectic year for us and now I had my last "hurrah" as the State Commander for the ITALIAN AMERICAN WARE VETERANS I hope to get back to normalcy. I still will be involved with "veteran activities" but with less responsibilities.

Returned from a national convention in Atlantic City of us "ITAM-ers", a 3 day affair. Got back late last night and had to go to a funeral this morning, and this Saturday will be heading for our Alaska cruise, a 10 day trip. Poor scheduling??, and there was a couple of other side trip we did. We are hoping to see "Doc" Kimball when we stay overnight in Seattle. I did tell him I was due for a "short-arm" inspection.

While in Atlantic City, our "Goomba" George Budzeika came down from Brooklyn to spend some time with us - we have been steady friends since we met in McCook. George is a 783rd member, worked as a parachute-rigger under Mort Cohn. George says he and his wife Millie will make one of our reunions yet, but we got to move further to the east coast.

We also got invited to breakfast by friends we met in Florida to their home on the island of Brigatine, just outside of Atlantic City. Joe have you heard about it? We were impressed by its cleanliness.

Attached is an article about my state convention held in June which may help you with putting something in the L.O.G. you'll have to recap this with your expertise. If at all possible please return the pictures, thanks.

Also enclosed is pictures of Harold Winters and I. We took one of those "side-trips" to visit the Winters (Harold and Helen) in Columbus, Ohio - a 2 1/2 hour drive. Harold was the capable flight-engineer for Paul Cella's crew. Harold serves as usher for the Columbus Clippers baseball club, a farm club for the NY Yankees.(and he gets "tips" too). Helen also works at the souvenir stand. A very friendly couple with a great family. We also spend some time with them at the 'AMERI-FLORAL" exhibition in Columbus. Harold's hobby is fixing lawn mowers.

I suppose you recently have been up to Cape Cod for your crew's little reunion, for I tried to call Mayme Harp but got the "answering machine". I was wondering if she did get to go. She had sent me a VCR tape which J.T. had taken with his cam-corder on our trip back to Pantannella. I'll bring it to Reno. If you get to talk to her, tell her we will write/call when we get back. I talked to Al Honey out in Oakland and gave him the same info. He does keep in touch with her. Al is awaiting a "nose-job" when the VA is ready.

Sending you mailing labels for the newsletter under a separate mailing. Also enclosed are 2 checks for L.O.G. expenses: 1 to reconcile the expense for the previous newsletters and the advancement for the September issue.

We do hope you both are doing well. We were sorry that we couldn't see you after ou house'boat trip, but we'll keep on trying since you and Nunny are on our "side-trips" list.

Sincerely,
Mike and Sarah Magazzino
783rd "Volunteer Treasurer"

REMEMBER



USO show on the hill. The road was below between the two hills.

As I looked at this picture, I remember our tent was up the hill and to the right of where this picture was taken. We had to pass several "relief tubes" or "ground mortars" that were stuck in the ground. The "five holer" was about 50 yards behind our tent. We could tell if the wind was in the right direction and it needed lime. I wonder what it would have been like today if we had women in our unit? Would the relief tubes on the planes have tow different types of funnels? Only kidding.



Doyle Mayo, Ira (Al) Altizer and Joe Bastin Resting between missions? Three 500 lb. bombs, the three on the bottom, although Doyle and I almost weigh that much now. Notice one of our better hardstands. I think the legs next to the plane belonged to the ground crew chief - "Pops" (name not remembered). He was at least thirty five years old so we nineteen year olds called him "Pops".

I use to go down to the flight line and help Pops and his ground crew work on Blue L or whatever. I loved airplanes and read all the manuals as I did the work. I passed the exam and had my spec number changed from 311 Gunner to 748 Gunner Engineer. George, why didn't I get put in for the extra stripe when we finished? I kept thinking I would get a surprise soon for my efforts. That will give you something to think about.

I'm glad that I had my little "Brownie" camera and only wish that I had taken more pictures. After the six or seventh mission I quit writing in my diary and stopped taking pictures. Al and I started drinking our double shots after the missions when we went to S2. Thank goodness I never did smoke my cigarette rations. I gave the 4 cigarettes that were in our wonderful C rations to the fellows on the crew that smoked and traded my PX supply to the Italians (not Mike) for eggs. I hard boiled the eggs in my steel helmet, got salt and pepper from out beautiful dining room (Ah, Oh, Col. Andrus) and had between meal snacks. Instead of lung cancer high cholesterol will probably get me.

In the next Latrine-O-Gram I will tell how I almost had to pay a Statement of Charges for a B-24 at Tunis.

Please send some notes and snap shots of the flight line, mess hall, or whatever and I will return them. Also personal experiences and information on anyone who is ill, departed, or anything that we would all like to know about.

NOTES

Helen Leslie the Baron's sister called to advise he is suffering from a severe sinking spell with the hope of recovery very poor. In the event you wish to drop him a line use the following:

Alexander S. Baronoski (Patient)
c/o V. A. Medical Center
North Hartland Road
White River Junction, VT 05001

Elba Rutledge wrote that Orbin, her husband, had a heart attack. He has three blocked arteries, he is taking medication and is doing well. He was on Golden Nathan Jones' crew. He sends his love to the 783rd and hopes to see everyone at the next reunion.



783rd

I think this is one of the reasons I still have a problem sleeping.

July 12, 1992

Hi Joe:

Ralph (Smitty) Smith located some possible new members. One is Francis Jackovich who was on Bill Nelson's crew originally, but circumstances were such that he was pulled from the crew before the crew went overseas and he ended up in England and he flew with the 8th. Never-the-less he had been a member of the original 783rd and he should be invited to join the Ass'n. I sent him a welcome letter and by now you may have already received the History form back from him. Let me know if you did.

Next Smitty located "Mrs. Barb Hammond" who is the daughter of Bill Nelson, one of the pilots of the original 17 crews that went overseas. Mrs. Hammond said that her father just passed away this past August (1991) apparently from Parkinson's disease! I will write to Mrs. Hammond and invite her and her family to join as "N.O.K." members in the 783rd.

Here are the addresses for the two mentioned:

Francis V. Jackovich (Bombardier on Bill Nelsons crew).
31 Ferguson Avenue, Port Jervis, NY 12771 (No phone listed).

Mrs. Barb Hammond (Daughter of Bill Nelson).
E. 1138 Riverbend Lane, Wacupaca, WI 54981 (No phone listed).

That's it for now Joe, Peg and I send our best to you and Norma. Take care and QUID FIT!!

As Ever,

Jim McCloskey



Harold Winters and Mike Magazzine



Brig. General, Tony Trifilette,
Mike and Sarah Magazzine



JOE BASTIN
6800 BLUE SPRINGS RD.
RIMCREST SUB.
CADIZ, KY. 42211



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Fellows and gals lets all try to get to Reno.

We hope to see the Baron and Orbin. We send them our best.

Officers 783rd 1992-1993:

President - Andy Anderson - 5100 John Ryan Blvd. Apt. 714
San Antonio, TX 78245

Vice Pres - Ralph Smith - 83 King Street
Scarborough, ME 67074

Treasurer - Mike Magazzino - 24023 East Oakland Drive
Bay Valley, OH 44140

Send Dues Here.

Secretary - Joe Bastin - 6800 Blue Spring Road
Cadiz, KY 42211.

Quid Fit.