



783rd Latrine O Gram

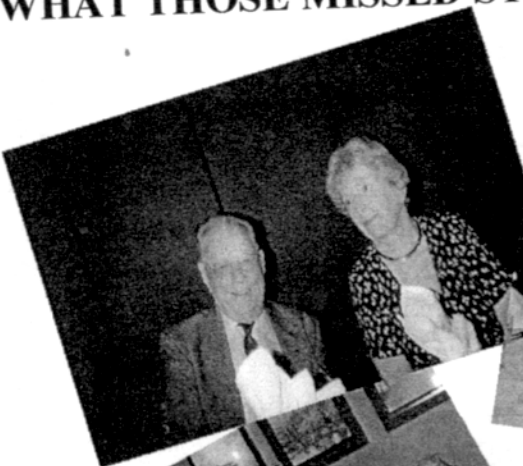
DECEMBER 2005

Fifteenth Air Force
55th Bombardment Wing

TUCSON TROOPS ASSEMBLE



WHAT THOSE MISSED STAYING HOME WATCHING THE BOOB TUBE





WHEN THE BUGLE BLEW AT TUCSON

'Mr Reunion' **Gene Kulezyk** followed by his faithful **Mary** along with son **David Kulezyk**; daughters **Karen Winek, Mary Scherer & Joyce Urban**; grand-daughters **Kyla Kuczyk & Sara Urban** with grandson '**Big Jake**' **Kulezyk** flying Tail Gunner came marching in--making a total of 9 family members having traveled all the way cross the USA from the Buffalo, NY area. They are walking, talking, living testimonials of *Quid Fit* loyalty & devotion....As usual '**Big Jim**' **Dulitz** accompanied by his dear & long time friend **Betty Rougeot** rolled in assisted by Jim's faithful son & daughter in law **Dan & Carol Dulitz**.... With 'Big Jim' requiring the help of a wheel chair brought on the realization of the surprises these 'Golden Years' hold in store.... The arrival of the walking, talking Pollock from Shamokin **Bo Bolinski** war stories & tales of 'Powville' life commenced & contined throughout the gathering.... Faithful reunion attendees **Leo & Becky Meyer** the son & daughter in law of our departed member *Jack Meyer* made their entrance with their usual enthusiasm participating in all of the events....**Bob Wills** in the company of his long time friend **Jo Fox**, who has attended all to the reunions beginning with Las Vegas made their entrance with Bob playing the part of Cecil B. DeMill filming most every detail on his new smart elick picture taking machine....the 'Keeper of the Squadron Coins' **Nancy Young** the daughter of *Weyland Feely* and her husband **Clarence** were early arrivals....with the arrival of the 'Den Mother' **Harriet Cohen** the widow of *Dave* all of the daughters quickly assembled and under the leadership of the 'Den Mother' disappeared on their usual jaunts....**Sheryl Cohen Barton** attending her first reunion proved like Mother like Daughter--one evening she organized a group of some 15 or 20 around the pool and had pizza, chicken wings, salad & soft drinks ordered in with the gathering lasting well into the evening making all of us 'Ole Has Beens' wishing we were young & had our strut once again....**Bob Haefner** the first of the original 17 crews to complete his 50 trips and the only one of the 17 to return all ten crew members back to the USA arrived with his charming daughters **Debby Mendoza & Julie Hernandez** making a grand addition to the other children....**Del & Irene Forsberg** were joined by Del's son **Dr Gary Forsberg** attending his first round up making for a great and interesting trio--needless to say when **Irene** put in her appearance all of the lady golfers knew their 'Goose was cooked'--the 'Queen of the Hustlers' would win all the money, marbles & chalk-and- she proceeded to do so....like always **Izzy Gerstner** the Engineer-Gunner on the *Norm Lund* crew

made his appearance and participated in all of the various events - and like an Arab folded his tent and took off back to Colorado with little notice....**Harold Walton** from the Paul Cella Crew accompanied by his long time & dear friend **Mary Fowler**, who have attended so many of of our 'get togethers' rolled in from New Hampshire & took part in all of the festivities particulary the gatherings of the rowdy gang down by poolside--all knowing **Harold** have no doubt he can hold his own in any 'jaw bone contest' will enjoy learning for the first time in his life he was left totally and completely 'slack jawed' with the arrival of **Denise Johnston** from Oxnard, CA the niece of **Sam Marie** when as a joke she was introduced as **Sam's** fiance-**Harold** took the bait hook, line & sinker being left with his lower jaw slowly flapping up & down but no sound forth coming.... **Joe Forbes** one of those among the eleven crews 'scragged' on their visits to Munich along with his vivacious wife **Shirley** were participants in the many events enjoying themselves while renewing their many friendships acquired as both Mini and Regular Reunion attendees....**Stan Pace** marched in looking as young as the day he reported to the Squadron at McCook, NE suggesting he used his General Dynamics 'Golden Parachute Loot' to purchase the Fountain of Youth. Unfortunately he didn't share it with his 'Toggle Jockey' **Bill Teller** whose wife **Freda** was worried over not bringing a sufficient supply of oxgen for him forcing his dropping out of the Golf Scramble and a early deaprture--their daughter **Sandra Teller Drake** was a welcomed addition among the many children & grandchildren attending. 'Poor Ole' **Cleo Jackson** the Engineer from Stan's Crew was in dire need of a shot from the fountain of youth requiring his lovely wife **Susanne** to push his wheel chair throughout their stay....**Dick Trimmingham**, who bought his ticket for POWville over Pardubice, Czechoslovakia while flying with Tom Clark, along with his 'Big Director' **Wanda** made all of the events plus collecting a lunch owed '**Trim**' by your writer-they are a great & interesting couple needing to attend more reunions....**Connie Maffey** the recent recipient of a 60 year delayed Distinguished Flying Cross along with his most interesting better half **Afra** enjoyed theirselves at all events along with their son Brigadier General **Tom Maffey**--by now having reported to 'Rag Headville' for duty--plus young **Brian Fitzpatrick** the son of *Tom Fitzpatrick* (deceased) presently a student for the Priesthood--a very impressive young man-upon reciving his collar could attend and be over whelmed with confessions of the many needed souls in attendance....**Floyd Coffield** still recovering from the Hurricane wiping out his Punta Gorda, Florida 'Snow Bird' pad but relieved his antique T Model Ford

had survived in spite of all the damage and he had rebuilt and looking forward to 'snow birding' there this coming winter....**Charlie 'Traveling Man' Payne** and his bride **Iris** blew in from Georgia and had a great time revisiting his old haunts around Tucson having been one of the regular cadre stationed at Davis Monthan when the Squadron was formed up and he was made Motor Pool Sgt....**Mike Magazzino** limped in on his new store bought knees finding it hard to surrender and allowed his loving bride **Sarah** to push him around on long jaunts in a wheel chair-as usual '**Mr Do It All**' had new Directories for everyone present-after having held all the various Squadron Officer jobs plus being a long time Director admitted it was difficult to yield to old age and relinquish the job held so long as keeper of the directory to young **Tom Tennille**-all owe the '**Italian Stallion**' a big vote of thanks for a job well done....another of the 'wheel chair brigade' **Bob 'Andy' Anderson** with his loving bride **Rosey** pushing & shoving him around enjoyed shaking hands and renewing old friendships and taking in all of the various events....**Murv Huston** a member of Andy's crew motored in from Michigan under the directions of his wife **Kay** and relieved **Rosey** in wheel chair pushing of his old Crew Commander '**Andy**'-having attended a majority of both regular and mini reunions **Murv & Kay** had a big time visiting with all the various folks....**Clarence & Nancy Feely Young**- the 'Keeper of the Squadron Coins' were early arrivals as usual-this time Clarence wasn't as anxious to head for the 'Cow Pasture' having recently under gone rotor cuff surgery as well as orthoscopic work on both knees plus receiving cortisone shots in his neck--and as usual when Nancy disappeared with the 'Den Mother' and her harem Clarence was left wondering what they were up to....your '**Director of this Tour**' along with his daughter **Lynda Marie Taylor** & his niece **Denise Johnston**, who flew in from California enjoyed a great visit, with **Denise** enjoying the collective group so much upon returning home mailed in a check for a Life Time membership....**Frank Goplen** the Co Pilot from the Greenwood Crew, who acquired his residency to the Barth POW R & R Club that day in July 1944 when 'scragged' over Munich, jetted in from the big metropolis of Zumbrota, Minnesota having been given his 'Liberty Card' by wife **Edith** recovering back home from acquiring a recent store bought knee....**Don 'Tent Thief' Kay**, who originated the idea of forming the Association and having reunions, arrived from Oregon and immediately the flak intensified and the fighter attacks increased to where there was an aerial war on each and every mission he flew & all the bombs fell on the

target area....**Carl Main**, who took up R & R at POWville when he along with all the others in **NO BODYS BABY** had their tail feathers flamed over Blechammer, under the guidance of his charming daughter **Pam Griffith** jetted in from the Buffalo, NY area and were seen having a great time at all of the events plus spending time exploring Tucson--at Savannah it was learned **Carl** had never revealed any of his WW II exploits & experiences to his family--your writer threatened him with Latrine Duty at the next reunion (this is mentioned since your writers name is on the Web site & almost monthly he receives requests from both children & grandchildren of deceased members who didn't bother to tell their families anything)--**Pam** reported she now has a large note book full of various details--great going **Carl**....**Steve Tuccio** the son of **Jim Tuccio** (deceased) along with grandson **Steven** journeyed out from New Jersey and enjoyed meeting many of the gang and participating in most of the events....**Carl Lind** the Navigator on **Norm Lund's** crew along with his bride **Carol** rolled in from Illinois and participated in all of the events....**Tom** the son of **Art Tennille & Ann** along with their dear friend **Mimmi Clark** lucked out with a non stop flite from Atlanta arrived and got into the spirit of renewing their many friendships acquired having begun attending reunions at the Dayton 1985 Reunion....**Wally & June Volkman** having become both regular & mini reunion regulars arrived from Illinois and immediately joined into all the affairs....one & all should remember before **Harry Fike** became President for many, many years & reunions he & **Lola** operated the PX doing an outstanding job selecting and stocking all kinds of items like, caps, golf shirts with the Squadron logo, sweater vests with the logo, watches and many other items too numerous to list-and when the reunion ended would pack & load their unsold goods for the return trip home and the next round up--upon being elected President they made them family affairs with all of the members of the **Fike Family** participating at not only the regular as well as the 3 Minis all scheduled in their home town of Davenport, IA where **Lola** & daughter **Cheryl** prepared gourmet buffets and served them as well as doing the event decorating at all reunions both regular & minis-while **Roger Amhof** would act as the friendly bar tender in the hospitality room running a well stocked bar serving up his famous Manhattan cocktails--and during all of the above described activities **Harry** would be constantly on the move with his clip board seeing to each & every detail making sure those attending enjoyed themselves--for this **Harry, Lola, Roger, Cheryl, Randy** & all of the Fike family members are owed a vote of thanks for their long term efforts.



BOBBY HAEFNER—WHO SET THE RECORD

Bobby & Frank Kara were the pilots on the 16th crew of the 17 originals to join the Squadron. With only 15 planes his & the Greenwood crew the 17th didn't rate planes and made the trip to Pantanella by Liberty Ship, Cattle Car & marching. When operations commenced and the tougher targets began taking their toll— the 16 & 17th crews stepped up and caught many double missions; by July were leading in number of missions. In the 3rd week of August Bob Haefner & Frank Kara were not only the first crew of the original 17 to complete 50 missions—but—were the only crew of the 17 to return all ten of their crew back to the USA. Quite a record. Bobby went on to prove this fete was no luck rising to an executive position with Atlantic Richfield Oil company. He was a great guy then-and-a great guy today.

THE KULCZYK FAMILY AT TUCSON 2005

Few if any outfits can boast of a better supporting member and family members than the 783rd with Gene & his great family. With their taking part over the years in the many reunions they have endeared themselves to the membership. Can you believe the 'Ole POW' has always called them & refers to each by the numerical number in which they were born? Thanks to the best half of that deal—Mary— giving them names at birth. Likewise, it wasn't until approximately a year or so back it was learned he had unselfishly placed an unknown injured fellow POW from the 8th Air Force in a wagon and pulled him in the snow & ice for 2 months of that cold winter of 1944-45 when they took the POWs out of their camps & marched them thru the snow & ice from barn to barn all winter. That was strictly ABOVE & BEYOND !



**BOB HAEFNER FLANKED L to R BY DAUGHTERS
JULIE HARNANDEZ & DEBBY MENDOZA**

DVD DISCS AVAILABLE

1983 COLORADO SPRINGS 1ST REUNION—held at AF Academy 40 years following WW II. Relive offenses of those members ordered to the Grog Bowl.

OVERSEAS & AF ACADEMY MEMORIAL—8 mm film shots of Pantanella; various missions; & dedication of Squadron Plaque at AF Academy Cemetery of Lost Brothers by Colonel Andrus & AF Academy Commandant of Cadets

1985 DAYTON REUNION—review once again the many POWs; the Ground Echelon & their contributions

STAN PACE SPEECH @ INDIAN WELLS COUNTRY CLUB—describing details of 'Friedrichshafen Slaughter; bailing out; German hospital treatment; & POWville life. Plus—what Wills describes as best war story.

OMAHA 2001 REUNION—review events of reunion plus good Group photo & many still shots of overseas

TUCSON 2005 REUNION—revisit where Squadron originated; reunion events narrative; shoot out at Tombstone OK Corral

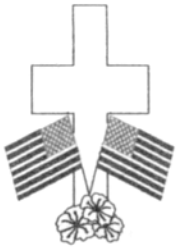
PRICES— 1 disc \$25 2 discs \$45 3 or more \$20 each

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO : 783RD BOMB SQUADRON ASS'N & MAIL TO:

Nancy Young; 3802 Fairhaven; Midland, TX 79707

IMPORTANT TO NOTE : As in the past with all of the prior tapes & discs sold — all monies received since the first at Dayton—have gone to the Squadron Treasury as a donation by Bob Wills. The costs of tapes, discs & postage—he paid.

At Tucson your Squadron Treasury was the beneficiary of \$300 from sales of above items. EXCELLENT GIFTS FOR YOUR CHILDREN & GRAND KIDS !



TAPS

IN MEMORY OF OUR EAGLES NEST FLITE MEMBERS

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE KNOWING THEY ARE NOT
FORGOTTEN**

DALE REEVES—who worked down on the line as a member of 'Big Pat' Spradley's crew lost his battle with a heart problem and filed his flite plan for Eagles Nest. This past year we had corresponded regarding his Defibrillator transplant. Both had so hoped it would serve him as well as ours has for these past 3 years. Following his service days he returned to his home state of Missouri and became a successful Painting Contractor specializing in Churches, Motels & Office buildings. His wife Marie of some 54 years preceeded him. Dale is survived by two Daughters Deanna Brown (Blair) & Ladonna Gosche (Mick); and 3 grandchildren. WE HAVE LOST ANOTHER OF THE BEST!

SICK CALL

JUNE FARAGE—the 'Boss Laydy' of Nyme Farage the 50 mission survivor from the NoBodys Baby Crew has endured her share of recent health problems as reported in the last LOG. Not being satisfied with the problems of Hip Replacement surgery and the many associated problems she managed to take a tumble that added to her already long list of problems. If that wasn't enough she next developed some clots in her lungs that had not only all the Medics but all of the family members on full alert and around the clock vigilant during her return to the hospital for treatment. The last report reveals she has over come her problems for the moment and once again in rehab attempting to regain her vigor & strut. Knowing 'Big Mama' you can bet your boots & spurs Nyme and the other family members in attendance are receiving detailed instructions by the minute. GET WELL 'OLE' FRIEND!



LEE 'OLD FOLKS' GILLESPIE—who flew as a Gunner on the Jim Dullitz crew along with the best half of that outfit Teeny his bride as well as his daughter Gail & her brother all four had their Delta Airline tickets purchased & their bags packed for Tucson when on the preceeding Friday Lee had to undergo emergency surgery for a detached retina canceling their plans. Worse the surgery necessitated implantation of the 'gas bubble'. For the education of the unfamiliar this means the patient must keep their chins level with their 'belly buttons' at all times for the next 14 days. This means lying & sleeping flat of your stomach (no side or back) or when attempting rising to eat or use the bathroom walking bent over or sitting in a chair bent over. For the skeptic give this a shot and see how long your back will allow doing so. Failing to observe keeping your chin level with the 'belly button' will cause pressure and blow a perfect operation. From personal experience having sustained a Macular Hole of the Retina and dealing with it during our surgery—we can tell you it is real 'Chinese Tortue'. Our sincerest sympathy to 'Ole Folks'—WE HOPE IT WORKED OUT SUCCESSFULLY!

MARY KULCZYK—the back bone of the Kulczyk clan spent Thanksgiving in the hospital suffering from pneumonia. During her confinement a spot on her lungs was discovered with once her condition improves further testing must be undertaken. Complicating the situation was Gene & son Danny Boy were confined to home ailing with the 'punies'. Like Aunt Dilly my 'ole black mammy' while growing up always said—when misery enters a household it doesn't know when to leave & always wears it's welcome out. With all of those loving daughters & grand daughters you can bet all of your money, marbles & chalk Mary will receive loving care. HURRY & GET WELL DEAR LADY!



THE CHIPS ARE ON THE TABLE

YOU CONTROL THE FUTURE

Many units similar to your Association are shutting down using old age attrition as an excuse. You will recall reading prior to Tucson a number of your leaders were advocating the same-- suggesting it was time to turn out the lites & disband. So, why shouldn't the 783rd? There is a simple answer--the majority of you 'Quid Fit Umbriagos' have never--and--will never fit a standard mold. Your record over these many years proves excelling at adapting & improvising has been your specialties. The first 'On the Hill' to have electric service to all the tents; the first to have permanent structures for the O & E Clubs not to mention leadership in the air etc. After our first gathering at Colorado Springs consider the large number attending Dayton and subsequent reunions compared to those of other units. Check and locate any similar units that have changed their By Laws allowing children to become voting members and hold elective office so the Association could be perpetuated for many years to come. Most of all--note the children have reacted and responded in such large numbers others accuse us of 'BSing' when describing this phenomenon. Nancy Feely Young a daughter has done & outstanding job as Treasurer bringing our records into the 21st century thru computerization. At Tucson a large group were assembled around the pool one evening aimless where they would dine and spend the evening. Sheryl Cohen Barton attending her first reunion sized up the situation and showing great organizational skill in less than 15 minutes had taken up a collection; ordered in a spread of pizza, chicken wings, salad etc; set up a bar and had a great party going that lasted late into the nite and probably became a memorable event to all participating. Like many organizations where the leadership is scattered the

With all the 'hullabalu' over it not being acceptable to exhibit the 10 commandments; or, one must substitute Holiday Greetings for Merry Christmas we are left confused. While flying our missions we thought we were insuring the right for each individual to choose his or her individual Higher Power as they understand him. Now to all the Dr Spock influenced 'Ambulance Chasers' & Judges that disagree & wish to control our thinking-I have a message! TO ONE & ALL!

members tend to follow without taking too much interest the 'Ole Outfit' has suffered some problems. The By Laws when examined clearly indicate it was intended the order of business would be four elective officers selected each two years at the reunion. In turn the President was charged to appoint a Committee Chairman with multi members to be responsible for each function such as Reunion Site Selection & Function etc. The idea being to involve as many members as possible to increase membership interest by participation. Plus, the elective officers could be held responsible and removed easily for non performance. Committee rule was discarded somewhere along the line & single individual rule substituted. Pages can be written pro & con on reunion attendance fluctuations that would serve no constructive purpose. Other than to say-the increase at Savannah would suggest the dead arose to attend. Your four new elected officers Secretary-Bob Wills; Treasurer-Nancy Feely Young; Vice President-Tom Tennille; & President-Sam Marie subscribe strongly to reverting to Committe Rule; recruiting children & 'Ole Folks' participation in all operational areas offers the best possibilites of achieveing long term results. You will note the officer make up is 2 children & 2 'Ole Folks'. To achieve the above goals cooperation of each and every member is needed. Your writer will continue shoveling the loads for your LOG. The need of photos, news of various happenings such as children & grandchildren achievements are badly needed. The quality of this rag sheet depends on what YOU members furnish. The next LOG will carry the Committee Chairmen & members names & future plans. Your constructive suggestions & recommendations to improve YOUR ASSOCIATION are welcomed & solicited. Your officers need YOUR HELP to perpetuate YOUR ASSOCIATION !

MERRY CHRISTMAS

HAPPY NEW YER

MAY 2006 BE THE BEST EVER FOR YOU & YOURS

SAM



783 BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION

SAM MARIE

13306 LOBELIA

SAN ANTONIO, TX 78232

(RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED)



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George Cross; 1600 W Marion Ave Apt 213; Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Walter Witt; 1055 Forest Hill Ave SE Apt 214; Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Mary Fowler; 290 Calef Hwy D-22; Epping, NH 03042
Sheryl Cohen Barton; 500Trasure Kay Apt 101; Ft Pierce, FL 34917
Gary Forsberg; 2600 Cherry Hill; Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
Lyle Forsberg; 235 N. Washington; Apopka, FL 32703
Denise Johnston; 5310 Beachcomber St; Oxnard CA 93035

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AREA CODE CHANGES

783RD OFFICERS

SAM MARIE-PRESIDENT
TOM TENNILLE- VICE PRESIDENT
NANCY YOUNG-TREASURER
BOB WILLS-SECRETARY



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