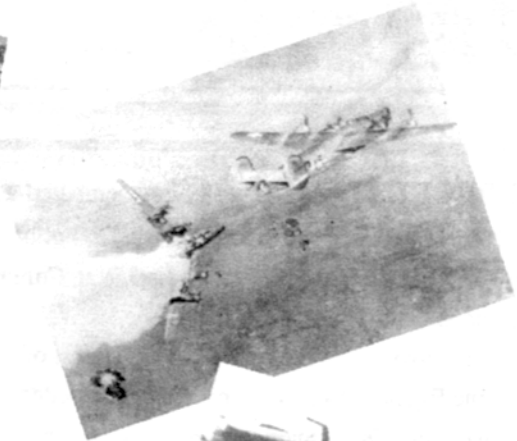




783rd Latrine O Gram

JUNE 2005

Fifteenth Air Force
55th Bombardment Wing

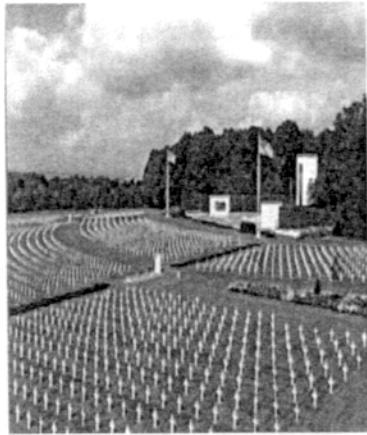


REPORT



UNCLE SAM WANTS YOU AT TUCSON !

NO EXCUSES
ACCEPTED !



Our Sympathy & Condolences

**To Family Members & Loved Ones
of our Magnificent Squadron Members**

who have passed on

They Will Not Be Forgotten

A GRATEFUL 783RD BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION

ORBIN RUTLEDGE-will be remembered as a Gunner on the Golden Jones Crew born 11-3-23 passed away January 11, 2005 as a victim of the dreaded Big C. Following his retirement from the Air Force after serving in WW II, Korea & Viet Nam he became a teacher & counselor at Congress Junior High School in Denton, TX. He was a member of Asbury Methodist Church; a member of of the VFW; and a past commander of the DAV. He is survived by his wife Elba Mitchell Rutledge; two daughters, Patricia Mae Dienst of Lakin, KS and Donna Kaye Lay of Humble, TX; two sisters, Fetnah Kaylor & Joline Buehler; two brothers, Wayne Rutledge & Hobart Rutledge; and four grandchildren. Accompanied by his wife Elba they were faithful reunion attendees taking a great interest in Squadron affairs and functions.

WE HAVE LOST ANOTHER OF THE BEST!

JAMES B. STEEN-will be remembered as a 50 mission Bombardier on the Ellis Crew one of the 17 originals that trained at McCook, NE and made the trip over to North Africa and on to Pantanella, Italy to begin bombing operations against the Nazis. Jim was born 12-17-1917 in Florence, MS to Reverend J. W. & Maggie Steen & passed away 1-25-05 at the age of 87. His daughter Virginia Miller advised he suffered terribly from advanced Parkinson's Disease and other ailments in the end being bedridden with limited speaking ability. He graduated from Hinds Junior college in 1939 and Mississippi State University, 1948. He served in the US Army 1942-43 and was seperated to enter the US Army Air Corps being discharged in June 1945. Following his graduation from college he joined the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers as a Civil Engineer retiring as Chief of Construction with the Lower Mississippi Valley of the Mississippi River Commission in 1976. In his retirement years he and his wife enjoyed travel trailering. From written tributes forwarded he was the acknowledged neighborhood chief of construction advisor and leader on most projects undertaken. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Segrest Steen; three daughters, Virginia Miller (Robert), Diana Jaeger (Niles), & Deborah Estes (George); 5 grandchildren, Vicki Sartin, Elizabeth Van Egmond, David Estes, Sarah Diana Estes & Alexander Burkett Jaeger; two great-grandchildren, Christopher & Kaylan Sartin; one sister, Lois Jordan; two brothers, John N. Steen & William C. Steen; sister-in-law, Chris Steen; brothers-in-law, Stan Rutherford & Jim Skardon; and numerous nieces & nephews.

WE HAVE LOST ANOTHER OF THE BEST!

OF INTEREST-The original Bombardier Section of the Squadron consisted of the Squadron Bombardier, Captain Johnny Knaus and the 17 original Crew Bombardiers. With the recent passing of Colonel Johnny Knaus & now Jim Steen this leaves only 5 known still living-Woody Browning (Cofield Crew), Bo Bolinski (Allen-Stewart Crew), Nyme Farage (Bates Crew), Ralph Smith(Swanzy Crew) & Sam Marie (Greenwood Crew). Brothers & sisters this tells one & all it is later than you think. Best all of you make plans to attend the Tucson 'Round Up' before it is too late. SUN DOWN MAY BE SOONER THAN EXPECTED !!!



PILLS, IMPLANTS & USED PARTS DEPARTMENT

CLARENCE YOUNG—the husband of Nancy Feely Young our 'coin counter' & the son-in-law of Weyland Feely the 50 mission Gunner on the Heim Crew living in Midland, TX was referred to San Antonio for reconstructive surgery of his right shoulder. We were at the 'Butcher Shop' to offer moral support & encouragement prior to his being wheeled off and allowed to visit with him in the recovery room afterwards. Upon

awakening he advised if the other fellow he fought with felt as beat up and had as many scars it must have been some kind of a battle. The side of his face looked as if someone had 'busted' him with a 2 X 4. As usual someone got carried away with the program and had tightened a mask much too tight. Consequently, he had a bruised and discolored area the size of a tortilla. When you start patching rotator cuffs; removing large bone spurs along with numerous large sized calcium deposits he can look forward to a long time rehab program before returning to the golf course not to mention learning whether it was a success or not. With Harry Fike expounding at each and every opportunity on religion and Floyd Coffield praying at all the meetings all will have an opportunity to see how they practice what they preach when it comes to having sympathy and giving strokes to Bo Bolinki's team golf captain.

DOE EINECKER—the much better half of Joe Einecker, who worked with the Electrical Gang down on the line, and since Dayton has been such a faithful reunion attendee always doing such an outstanding job of assembling and directing the golf scrambles continues to wage a determined battle with Big C proving to be tougher than a 'Junk Yard Guard Dog'. The poor soul for years in addition to existing with the likes of Joe has been ravaged by Big C. During this time various debilitating operations and treatments have ravaged her body not to mention Joe backing the car over her. Presently, she must undergo weekly chemo treatments. With her Grand Daughter planning a coming wedding she is determined to travel from Sparta to Brentwood, TN and be in attendance. This lady is truly a study of courage and determination on how not to surrender. **HANG IN THEIR TOUGH MAMA ! WE ARE ALL PULLING FOR YOU !**

JUNE FARAGE—the wife of Nyme Farage the 50 mission 'Toggle Jockey' survivor on the Bates Crew like so many is suffering health problems in these so called golden years. For some time she has suffered severe leg cramps the cause and remedy baffling to all of the Medics who have been consulted. Recently, help was sought from a new medical group in the Warner Robbins, GA area. We all hope they will be successful in providing some relief. Suffering constant leg cramps and tolerating that 'Camel Driver' at the same time is one heavy load for any lady to endure.



Make your Tucson Reservations &

Travel Plans Today !

MIKE ('Mr Do It All ') MAGAZZINE—who has performed all the duties in the Squadron Association from President down to counting the coins and continues to print all the Directories & Mailing Labels underwent DOUBLE KNEE SURGERY at the Cleveland Clinic on Friday May 13th. Yes, you read it correctly. They replaced both of his knees in surgery lasting over 3 hours. If you think he is not one tough 'Pisan' allow the 'butchers' to replace one of yours much less two at the same time. After a short recuperation at the Cleveland Clinic he was moved by ambulance to a hospital closer to his residence and is currently undergoing rehab work . Take it from someone ,who has watched him march a long route for over 60 years , you can bet your boots & spurs he will arrive in Tucson at a double trot . MAKE A GOOD RECOVERY 'OLE FRIEND' !

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads that weren't paved !

LATRINE O GRAMS FROM FIRST STOOL DOWN



MELANIE JONES—in the last issue of this 'rag sheet' it was reported this young lady the grand daughter of Charlie Payne had won a trip where four Air Force Academy cadets would make a summer tour of Africa. Get a grip on your BVDs and scrutinize this itinerary. The first week they will focus on Senegal. The Group will visit Dakar visiting the colonial centers of Ile de Goree & St-Louis; investigate the rain forest at Casamance. The highlight of the trip—the two weeks in Mali—will begin at Bamako transferring to Segou. Then the group will the Markala Dam & the world-famous Dougouba Mosque—a massive , ninth century wonder built entirely of mud. The group will interact with locals at Kalabougou. Next up

is Mopti, built at the confluence of the Bani & Niger rivers. Then it's on to the Dogon region of Mali and the 200-meter cliffs at Bandinara. This will be followed by visits to the palaces at El Hadj Omar Tall, Djuguibombo abd Kanai. The overall highlight of the trip will begin back at Mopti, where the group will board a dhow and travel notheast along the Niger; at the end of the sail, the travelers will disembark at Timbuktu, one of West Africa's most historically significant cities. Finally, the group will spend several days in Timbuktu, take Land Cruiser and camel tours into the Sahara, then fly back to Bamo-Dakar-New York-Denver.

As a young girl growing up in Georgia she may have dreamed of visiting far away places. But never in her wildest dreams could she have visualized a trip like this.

LATE FLASH JUST RECEIVED— all attending recent reunions have witnessed **Cleo Jackson** 'plopped down'with his over weight girth over flowing the limited area of his wheel chair while his petite little wife **Susanne** huffs and puffs pushing him around jumping at his every command. Likewise all have witnessed when they announce the buffet is open he comes out of the wheel chair sprinting faster then Jesse Owens ever dreamed in order to be first in the chow line. Our reporter advises the other day poor Susanne made the mistake of announcing the food was on the table while standing between the table and Cleo seated in his wheel chair. In a record sprint he struck her sending her tumbling resulting in a trip to the Emergency Room requiring 7 stitches to close the resulting wound . Susanne we sincerely hope it in no way marred your pretty face.



PALO VERDE HOLIDAY INN

TUCSON, AZ

TUCSON REUNION COMMENTS

Since this reunion will be my last responsibility as your president, Lola and I are trying our best to make it a memorable gathering as this could well be our last reunion. In the following paragraphs, I will give you additional information about the events scheduled, especially the two tours. We have, first of all, a great tour of the aircraft boneyard at Davis Monthan AFB and the Pima Air and Space Museum. In addition, in order to provide you with the opportunity to get better acquainted with the great southwest, we have added a tour to Tombstone where Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday once walked the streets. If you have any questions about the amount of walking or any other phase of a tour, please give me a call and we can discuss it in greater detail.

DAVIS MONTHAN AFB & PIMA AIR & SPACE MUSEUM: A guide will join us on the bus as we drive through the area where thousands of aircraft are waiting to be sold or salvaged. When we get back to the Pima Air and Space Museum we will board trams that will take us through all of the outside exhibits including President Kennedy's Air Force One and the SR-71 Blackbird Spyplane. After that ride we will take a walking tour of the hangar exhibits, which includes the 390th Bomb Group Museum. The B-24 is beautiful. There is a very small "café" on the grounds (5 stools at a counter) where they have hamburgers and hot dogs and snacks. They cannot handle groups. Wheelchairs are available for use free of charge if anyone needs them. Driver and guide gratuities are included in your fee.

TOMBSTONE, ARIZONA: This is an additional tour that we have designed especially for those who do not have an extra day or those who will be flying in and do not have a car available to tour the area. Tombstone has a colorful history beginning with the discovery of a rich vein of silver. In 1879 the population was 100 but by 1881, the population had soared to 10,000 (current population is 1200). The historic area is concentrated primarily along a short three block stretch of Allen Street which is restricted to foot traffic (They tell me that it takes four Tombstone blocks to equal one city block. They also have benches all along the streets). The tour will begin at the Historama for a 26 minute multimedia presentation of the history of Tombstone narrated by Actor Vincent Price. Following that you will be able to browse the OK Corral Museum. We will then go to the Bird Cage Theatre. "It is Tombstone's only historic landmark in its original state, preserved from its beginning in 1881..." When we leave the Bird Cage Theatre, you will be on your own for lunch at one of the local eateries (all within this three block area) and have time to enjoy some of the other landmarks. A stop at the Tombstone Epitaph is encouraged. The newspaper has a museum and this is all free. As we leave Tombstone we will stop by the Boot Hill Cemetery which has a history of its own (there is no charge but they do appreciate donations). As a matter of interest, Gray Line Tours (we used them in Savannah) wanted \$69 for this tour including lunch. We put it together for \$27 with lunch on your own. Driver and guide gratuities are included in your fee.

783rd POOL-SIDE BAR (Vera Cruz Room) This room, which is surrounded by the Casita Suites in the pool area, will have our normal free fare of cocktails, wine, beer, soda and snacks. It will be open during "Happy Hour" (4 – 6) on Thursday, Friday and Sunday evenings. Local laws will not allow us to have any alcoholic beverages in the same building as the licensed bar. This gives us a chance to have a cool one at our private bar or lounging around the pool.

HOSPITALITY ROOM (Barcelona Room): This is just off the lobby in the main building, adjacent to the hotel bar (Stingrays). Free soft drinks and dry snacks will be available there for your enjoyment. And, if you want something a little stronger, you can buy a drink in their bar and bring it in to the Barcelona Room. This room will also be used for our Icebreaker Buffet on Thursday, our squadron business meeting on Friday afternoon, and our Farewell Dinner Buffet on Sunday evening.

MEALS: Remember the cost of meals includes a 20% gratuity and 5.6% sales tax.

HOTEL ROOM RATES: The quoted rates now include up to three people in a room – an improvement.

783rd BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION REUNION - 2005

TUCSON, ARIZONA

HOLIDAY INN – PALO VERDE

THURSDAY, October 6, 2005

- 3:00 – 5:00 PM Registration Desk open, Lobby Lower Level
- 4:00 – 6:00 PM 783rd Pool-Side Bar (Vera Cruz Room) Open for Cocktails & Snacks
- 6:00 – 12:00 PM Hospitality Room (Barcelona Room) Open
- 6:00 – 7:30 PM Icebreaker Buffet and Welcome in the Hospitality Room

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2005

- 8:40 AM Board buses for the Davis Monthan AFB & Pima Air & Space Museum (This includes the 380th Bomb Group Museum & Tram Tour) There is no provision for lunch. Snacks are available on the grounds to tide you over until we return to our hotel.
- 1:30 PM Return to hotel
- 2:15 PM Squadron Officer/Board of Directors Meeting – Vera Cruz Room
- 3:00 PM Squadron business meeting – Hospitality Room (Barcelona Room)
- 3:00 – 10:00 PM Hospitality Room open (Barcelona Room)
- 4:00 – 6:00 PM 783rd Pool-Side Bar open (Vera Cruz Room)
- 4:00 – 5 PM PX Clearance (only chance) – In 783rd Pool-Side Bar (Vera Cruz Room)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2005

- 8:15 AM Board Bus for Tombstone, AZ. (Restroom on bus) The tour includes: Historama presentation, Bird Cage Theatre Guided Tour, OK Corral, Tombstone Epitaph, and Boot Hill Cemetery plus time on your own to investigate the many other historical sites. Lunch is on your own.
- 1:30 PM Board bus for return to Tucson and our hotel. (Approx. 1 ¼ hrs.)
- 5:30 PM Cash bar opens in Seville Room
- 6:30 PM Banquet Dinner in Seville Room

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2005

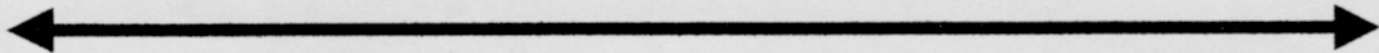
- 8:00 AM Tee time at El Rio Golf Course.
- As Needed Hospitality Room Open (Barcelona Room)
- 4:00 – 6:00 PM 783rd Pool-Side Bar Open (Vera Cruz Room)
- 6:00 PM Farewell Dinner Buffet (and awards to golf winners) – Hospitality Room

783rd BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION REUNION - TUCSON

October 6 – 9, 2005

**SQUADRON HEADQUARTERS
HOLIDAY INN - PALO VERDE
(520) 746-1161**

**Make your room reservations by calling the Holiday Inn at above number
783rd room rates are for up to 3 in room
Poolside Casita Suite \$85 & Standard Room \$72
These rates, plus tax, are good for 7 days prior to and 7 days after our reunion
You are responsible for settling for your room at the completion of your stay**



Please complete the **ACTIVITIES** registration form below and mail the form together with your check for the amount due (payable to 783rd BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION) to: Harry Fike
1132 W. 53rd St, Unit D2
Davenport, IA 52806

REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 9, 2005.

Your cancelled check is your receipt. There will be no refunds after September 16, 2005

783rd BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

Thursday, Oct 6 th	6:00 – 7:30 PM	Ice Breaker Buffet	15.00	X	_____ =	_____
Friday, Oct 7 th	TOUR 8:45 AM – 1:30 PM	Davis Monthan AFB & Pima Air & Space Museum	30.00	X	_____ =	_____
Saturday, Oct 8 th	TOUR 8:15 AM – 3:00 PM	Tombstone, Arizona (See schedule for details)	27.00	X	_____ =	_____
Saturday, Oct 8 th	6:30 PM	Banquet:				
		Herb Encrusted Prime Rib	30.00	X	_____ =	_____
		London Broil Jardinière	25.00	X	_____ =	_____
		Sautéed Chicken Piccata	25.00	X	_____ =	_____
Sunday, Oct 9 th	8:00 AM	Golf Incl. golf & ½ cart	31.00	X	_____ =	_____
Sunday, Oct 9 th	6:00 PM	Farewell Dinner Buffet	15.00	X	_____ =	_____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (PAYABLE TO 783rd BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION) \$ _____

ARE YOU FLYING? _____ DRIVING? _____ ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

I WILL NEED A WHEELCHAIR: AT THE PIMA AIR & SPACE MUSEUM _____ IN TOMBSTONE _____

PLEASE PRINT NAME (for name tag) _____ TELEPHONE # _____

SPOUSE AND/OR GUEST NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TUCSON REUNION PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANT EVER

The Tucson gathering may well find the Board of Directors facing their most difficult decisions ever. Their decisions could control the future of your Association. It could well be a time when they must reach down & exercise real executive thinking and planning.

Remember-like the Association Officers they serve at the pleasure of you- the membership. And-you the membership will have the obligation to vote up or down on the decisions they reach & recommend.

With the majority of the membership having said hello to 80 years of age and health

issues facing each of you it goes without saying 'Sundown' is approaching the majority. Initial disposition at previous meetings regarding the \$14 000 in the Association Treasury has been made. But the future Board Members & Association Officers to carry out such disposition will require serious consideration & review by all interested members. That is why each and every able bodied member should make every effort to attend. A large attendance will assure the majority has spoken and govern the future.

MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW TO ATTEND-YOUR VOTE WILL BE IMPORTANT.

* * * * *

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO ALL 'DRAFTED RECRUITS' & LADIES

With only the September LOG remaining for this term of office any of you 'Ole Drafted Recruits' or 'Good Ladies' having any photos; messages or stories you wish to appear in this 'rag sheet'--PLEASE SEND THEM-- so they can be included in the next LOG.

We recognize for the majority of the core membership journeying to Tucson will necessitate a long and hard journey. However, the importance of your attendance cannot be over emphasized . We urge one and all to make your decision and plans to attend today.

QUID FIT I
SAM



PALO VERDE HOLIDAY MOTEL

Tucson, AZ

Welcomes You

Oct 6-9 2005

**This Devil Will Get You That
Don't Attend--You Don't Need
His Punishment !**



783 BOMB SQUADRON ASSOCIATION

SAM MARIE

13306 LOBELIA

SAN ANTONIO, TX 78232

(RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED)



REPORT ADDRESS & PHONE CHANGES TO

MIKE MAGAZZINE 24023 E. OAKLAND RD BAY VILLAGE, OH 44140

PHONE 440-871-3203

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS & ADDITIONS

Peggy & Glenn Friar; 19 Old Neck Rd; Scarborough, ME 04074

Sandy Delucia; 1072 Siena Oaks Circle E; Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

Martin D. Seiler; 3777 Caribeth Drve, Encino, CA 91436

George Cross; 1600 W Marion Ave Apt 213; Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Mary Wilby; 187 Brainard Rd; Enfield, CT 06082



PHONE CHANGES CORRECTIONS & ADDITIONS

Peggy Friar 207-883-3456

AREA CODE CHANGES

783RD OFFICERS

HARRY FIKE-PRESIDENT

BOB WILLS-VICE PRESIDENT

NANCY YOUNG-TREASURER

SAM MARIE-SECRETARY

DIRECTORS

COLONEL ROB'T ANDERSON

HARRY FIKE

FRANCIS A. GOPLEN

DONALD KAY

MIKE MAGAZZINE

STAN PACE

RALPH SMITH