

Scholarship Committee Report.

This report was given by Chris Donaldson at the business meeting Nashville Reunion October 1990.

The scholarship committee was authorized to provide four scholarships of \$500 each during the 1989-1990 academic year. The criteria remained the same - students in the Cerignola/Torretta area who have excelled in their studies and for whom the scholarships will represent encouragement to continue their academic careers.

In October of 1989 scholarship awards were presented in a ceremony in Cerignola to these four young Italian students: Umberto Massafra, Tiziana Gentile, Maria Sgaramella, and Assunta Davenia. Miss Davenia was unable to be present, and the award was accepted on her behalf by her father, Matteo Davenia, who was a houseboy and laborer at the 764th Squadron area. He, in turn, re-donated the award to the Cerignola community's school for orphaned girls.

The ceremony was attended by representatives of the association: Alexander Azary and W. D. Donaldson and their wives.

The members present were aided by the services of a young Italian student translator, Miss Tiziana Perla of Cerignola.

The scholarship committee has been authorized by President Markel to offer four additional scholarships for the 1990-1991 school year. At the request of the local academic authorities in Cerignola, the scholarship awards henceforth will be made in the spring of the year. It has been agreed that the date of the next awards ceremony will be Friday, April 19, 1991. This date has been selected to coincide with the planned association tour of Italy next spring and the date that those participating will be in Cerignola.

The committee continues to be composed of Edwin Goree, co-chairman, Ross Wilson and myself. It is, as Mr. Goree initially proposed, a "no-load fund." (i.e. all scholarship funds received by the association are spent on scholarship grants; Their administrative or other expenses are borne entirely by the committee members themselves.)

The actual selections are made by a committee of academic and civic representatives from the Cerignola area headed by Professor Umberto Albanese. A carefully established set of criteria guides their decisions. These committee members, too, serve without compensation.

Scholarships to date

To date, the association has awarded 13 scholarships of \$500 each to the following Italian students:

April 1986

Ripalta Scalzo
Luisa Marinelli
Lucia Nigro

October 1987

Rosario Conversano
Dario Grassi
Antonietta Lotito

December 1988

Assunta Lepore
Antonella Cicinetti
Paolo Conversano

October 1989

Umberto Massafra
Tiziana Gentile
Maria Sgaramella
Assunta Davenia

Ever since the first awards were made, the Italian media has carried full and detailed reports of the association's scholarship program. It has received wide attention throughout Italy as well as in the Foggia-Cerignola area. The committee continues to solicit advice and suggestions from the membership as to the conduct of its activity.

Annual business meeting
Nashville, October 13, 1990 at 10 AM. At the business meeting on Saturday morning, after the minutes of the last meeting and financial report were approved, and the Scholarship Committee's report was given, the election of directors for the coming year took place. The directors are: Bud Markel, Bea Markel, Frank Valdez, Tom Javaruski and Chris Donaldson.

Important Matters Other matters of importance were discussed at the annual meeting, including a report on the current membership status of the Association, and a report on the funds needed for printing of microfilm reels of the 461st and 484th Bomb Groups history.

1992 Reunion Site A Midwest site for the 1991 reunion, was chosen by popular vote. The choice was Kansas City.

End of Report

Contributors to the Memorial Scholarship Fund

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