

82nd Fighter Group Association Newsletter

Issue 94

November 2016

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PRESIDENT

Todd Felton

VICE PRESIDENT

Steve Powell

TREASURER

Marc Buonaguidi

SECRETARY

Nancy Medley Manduano

UNIT REPRESENTATIVES

HEADQUARTERS

Bruce Loewenberg

95TH SQUADRON

Olen Medley

96TH SQUADRON

Richard Ostronik

97TH SQUADRON

Jerry Powell

NEWSLETTER

John Netzer Parlman

ROSTER

Mary Buonaguidi

NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM

LIAISON

Bruce Loewenberg

WEBMASTER

Darren Buonaguidi

Hello 82nd family! We're all safely back home after another amazing reunion in San Diego. What a beautiful city, the weather was gorgeous and there were many wonderful activities that allowed us to celebrate America's military heritage and San Diego's history. The trip was made even more special for Lorraine and me since we were able to visit with some of our California family. Our heartfelt thanks go out to Marc and Mary Buonaguidi and everybody else who contributed to such a fantastic reunion.

Speaking of reunions, more thanks to Jerry and Belinda Martin, for volunteering to host next year's reunion in Portland! That's a tremendous gift that is much appreciated and there are many in the Association who will be willing to pass along advice and help in any way we can.

I also want to extend my personal thanks to all of you who granted me the honor of continuing to serve as your President. I'll continue to follow your outstanding example and do my best to share the stories of the 82nd.

I'm reminded during this political season, that as messy, ugly and even hurtful as our political process can be, it's still the process by which a free people elect their government. There are many countries around the world who don't have that ability. Our members of the 82nd, from WWII on up, all raised their right hand to "defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic." We are the only country, that I know of, whose military members agree to potentially sacrifice their lives for an idea, the promise of freedom from our Creator. We don't swear to defend a President, or even a piece of land, but an idea, which is an awe-inspiring concept. I'm so proud to be able to spend time with men and women who were, and are, willing to make that sacrifice, for something so much larger than themselves.

Lorraine and I are truly blessed to be a part of the 82nd Fighter Group Association and look forward to next year's reunion in Portland.

ADORIMINI, *Todd*

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Secretary Report

Annual Meeting Minutes ,San Diego, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 0915 by Interim President-Retired Colonel Todd Felton. Present approximately 20 members. Secretaries report and minutes of 2015 minutes were presented by Nancy Medley- Manduano. Motion made to accept as written by John Parliman and seconded by Steve Powell.

The financial report was presented by Treasurer, Marc Buonaguidi. Motion to approve by John Parliman. Second Judy Parliman. Unanimous approval.

Bylaw changes were proposed to allow Heritage and Honorary members to vote and hold office. Heritage members are active or retired military who served in an 82nd FGA unit after WWII. Honorary members are those members voted in by the Executive Committee in recognition of their exceptional efforts on behalf of the Association. Vice President Steve Powell stated this bylaw change is imperative to keep the association going. Motion was made by John Parliman and seconded by Judy Parliman. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Steve Powell and seconded by Peggy Powell to accept the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee composed of Olen Medley, Hand Phillips and Bob Priest. That slate: President - Todd Felton, Vice President - Steve Powell, Treasurer – Marc Buonaguidi, Secretary – Nancy Medley-Manduano, HQ Unit Representative – Bruce Loewenberg, 95th Representative – Olen Medley, 96th Representative – Richard Ostronik, and 97th Representative – Jerry Powell was unanimously voted in.

Next reunion to be held in Portland, Oregon, 2017, hosted by Jerry and Balinda Martin(nephew of Olen Medley). The 2018 and 2019 reunions to be held in San Antonio, hosted by Todd and Lorraine Felton and in Dayton, hosted by Linda and Jessica Pinson.

A discussion, prompted by Steve Powell, ensued about the importance of re-activating and maintaining the Association website, 82ndfightergroup.org. This is to assure that the rich history of the 82nd and its original members is preserved as well as indicate the continued health and presence of the Association on the web. Executive Committee members agreed to meet after the annual meeting to strategize how best to accomplish this.

Meeting adjourned 0938.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy

The President's Page
Secretary Report



Folded Wings

Leslie Anderson	Unknown
Ronnie Anderson, spouse of Leslie	Unknown
George Rivest, 97th	August 2016
Gene Hickock, Associate	Spring 2016
Ruth Donohoo	April 2016



Special Note of Appreciation

Patti Stahr, daughter of Charlie Charlton, 97th , and her husband, John, donated original artwork and other items to the reunion auction. John is the artist. His work hangs in the Heritage Room of the 95th Fighter Squadron at Tyndall AFB. He is also a pilot and has dressed his plane with a mural of Charlie and his P38. We welcome these new members and appreciate their efforts to help make our annual auction a success.

Last, but not least

The hardest part of any reunion is saying good-bye. Here are some pictures of the breakfast after the banquet. Hope to see you in Portland, OR late September, 2017. More details and registration form in the next newsletter.



Keeping in Touch

Each annual dues reminder produces notes from our members. The letter this past March was particularly rich with responses.

Ruth Keller sent pictures of past reunions for us to distribute. They will be posted at the Portland, OR reunion next fall.

Melvin Chorich, 96th, asked if unit patches are for sale. Sorry, Melvin. You can check on sites like eBay for original patches or Air Force heritage units for current patches. The 82nd and 97th are at Sheppard AFB, the 96th at Laughlin AFB and the 95th at Tyndall AFB.

Herbert Mueller, nephew of **Olaf Omlid**, has found a bible in his uncle's memorabilia inscribed **T/Sgt John Ureck, 96th** that he would like to return to Ureck's family. Anyone having any information about the location of the Ureck family please contact the editor. Associate member, **Larry Lyons**, link to the 82nd is **Hank Phillips**. He writes he enjoys the newsletter.

Katie Kroeger, spouse of **Harold, 96th**, thanked us for keeping the association going. She says the newsletters bring back fond memories.

Associate member, **Andy Corona**, writes he supports the Association in the name of his long-time friend and co-worker, **Dick Ostronik**.

Ysabel Litchfield sent her best wishes to all the reunion attendees. She adds her husband, **John, 97th**, was so proud of the 82nd.

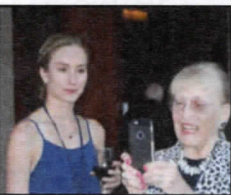
Leo Fisher, 96th, past Association President, has moved, is unable to attend the reunion and wishes us good luck in future reunions. Contact the editor for Leo's new address. The family of **Ruth Donohoo** notified us that she passed on April 12th and that she valued the Association.

Linda Pratt Sheetz, daughter of **Leonard** and **Blythe**, writes that Blythe will not be able to attend the reunion and wishes the Association continued success.

Jack Coshov, 95th was happy to get reconnected with the Association and looks forward to the newsletters. The reconnection was through the efforts of his daughter in law, **Jaime**, sending us Jack's new address. Jack entertained the Parlimans in Portland, OR with 82nd and career memorabilia richly displayed around his suite as well as 82nd memories and asked for fellow Bonehead, **Olen Medley**.

The many references to **Hank Phillips** in the KIT segment revolve around his being newsletter and roster editor for 15 years. One interesting connection comes from Associate member **Tommy Thompson** who sent in a scroll-work P38 for the reunion auction. Tommy and Hank's niece were co-workers. Through her, he met Hank. Tommy, USAF retired, loves P38s and made about a dozen scroll-cut models with embedded clocks for Association members. He fondly remembers **Ben Mason** calling him in appreciation. Hank's is still displayed in his den.

Al Graham, son of **Fred, 96th**, donated his dad's coin collection of famous aircraft to the auction. He emailed he was thinking of us at the reunion and sent his regards to all.



San Diego Reunion Recap from the Hosts

Hello 82nd Fighter Group members and friends,

Another successful reunion - San Diego and the weather was beautiful. The turnout was good and those unable to attend were missed. Thursday was a wonderful trolley tour of the area. First stop, the Air and Space Museum, showcased the history of flight in San Diego. There wasn't a P-38 in the museum; however, there was a P-38 Allison V-12 engine. Next was a trip over the bridge to Coronado Island, home to North Island Naval Air Station and The Navy SEALs. Then, we traveled to Old Town San Diego for an outstanding meal at the Old Town Mexican Café, compliments of the Association. From there, we returned to the hotel for a much needed Siesta. As always, the hospitality room was jumping.

Friday, we were up and at em' again with a tour of the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier. Admission included a self-guided tour to over 60 exhibits throughout the historic aircraft carrier and 29 restored aircraft. Especially popular were the museum docents, each eager to share a personal story, an anecdote, or an amazing statistic. Hank and Marlene Phillips especially enjoyed the Navigation Room. He was happy to learn that the U.S. Navy has started teaching celestial navigation again at the Naval Academy.

Friday evening was the annual Reception and Silent Auction held on the outdoor deck of the Westin Hotel. The food was delicious and everyone had a great time. The silent auction was a huge success! Thanks to all who contributed to the silent auction. A special thanks goes out to our new members, John and Patti Stahr, for the wonderful aviation artwork donations.

Saturday was a well-attended Association membership meeting with a free afternoon to explore San Diego. Saturday evening everyone arrived at the dinner in their finest attire. President Todd Felton's remarks at the conclusion were outstanding. Thank you Todd, for a job well done!

It was sad to see everyone leaving Sunday morning, but we look forward to seeing all of you again next year in Portland. Our hosts will be Jerry and Belinda Martin. Thank you Jerry for stepping up!

It was our pleasure to be your hosts in San Diego.

Adorimini, Marc and Mary Buonaguidi

Treasurer Report

82nd FIGHTER GROUP ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2016

Beginning Balance: \$10,048.06

Receipts:

Donations	\$ 164.72
Dues	1,235.00
Reunion 2015	7,267.00
Reunion 2016	3,518.00
Flag Sales	426.00
Total Receipts	<u>\$12,610.72</u>

Payments:

Postage	\$ 218.72
Newsletter	513.00
Flags	864.00
Reunion Expense 2015	7,232.47
Reunion Expense 2016	3,046.00
Total Payments	<u>\$11,874.19</u>

Ending Balance: \$10,784.59

Respectfully Submitted,

Marc Buonaquidi

Treasurer

The annual financial statement above was presented and approved at the annual meeting. Total 2016 Reunion receipts were \$10,759.00 and total expenses were \$15,296.97 for a loss of \$4,537.97. The loss is due to the Association-subsidized parking fees and reduced registration fees put into effect to reduce reunion costs to members. The overage was covered by the operating fund. Bank balance as of October 1, 2016 was \$6,246.62. Detailed reunion expenses may be obtained from the editor upon request.

San Diego Reunion Hosts

2nd FIGHTER GROUP ASSOCIATION
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
JULY 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016

Financial Statement for the 2nd Fighter Group Association, Inc. for the period July 2015 to June 30, 2016. The statement shows a net income of \$1,148,000.00 and a total assets of \$1,148,000.00.

82nd Fighter Group Association
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Overheard at San Diego Banquet

Jerry Martin: Hosting can't be that easy

Steve Powell: Trust me!

2017 Reunion in Portland, OR

Jerry & Belinda Martin, Hosts

Pencil in the date - Tentatively September 30th - October 2nd