



82nd Fighter Group Association Newsletter

Issue 96

December 2017

**2017 Reunion Highlights
2018 Reunion in San Antonio
Annual Financial Report
Annual Meeting Overview**



Reunion Honorees

l-r: Richard Ostronik (96th), Lute Thompson (96th), Olen Medley (95th),
Hank Phillips (96th), Jack Coshow (95th), Mel Roalsvig 97(th)

The President's Page

Hello 82nd Family!

It's the time of year to be grateful for all our blessings, including our 82nd Fighter Group family. Lorraine and I had another magnificent experience at the reunion in Portland. Many thanks to Jerry and Belinda Martin for hosting such a wonderful reunion. Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum was amazing, especially the Spruce Goose and all the warbirds our WWII members recognized from personal experience! The support received from the 142nd Fighter Wing was outstanding and gave me an opportunity to reconnect with a former squadronmate, our guest speaker, Colonel Sullivan. The beautiful rendition of the National Anthem by Georgene Rice was unforgettable. All in all, a fantastic reunion, enjoyed by everyone.

Lorraine and I are already thinking about plans for next year's reunion here in San Antonio. There are lots of options: Kelly AFB has an F-16 Guard unit and a C-5 Reserve unit. Randolph AFB, where I work, is a training base for new instructor pilots and of course, the Alamo, the Riverwalk and many other San Antonio sights.

Lorraine and I send much love and best wishes for a Merry Christmas season and we are looking forward to seeing everybody next year!

ADORIMINI, *Todd*

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

Open

NEWSLETTER

John Netzer Parliman

ROSTER

Mary Buonaguidi

NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM

LIAISON

Bruce Loewenberg

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A Non-profit, 501(c)(19) Organization

**82nd FGA FINANCIAL STATEMENT
JULY 1, 2016 – JUNE 30, 2017**

Beginning Balance:		\$10,784.59
Receipts:		
Donations	\$ 125.00	
Dues	<u>1,480.00</u>	
Total Receipts	\$ 1,605.00	
Payments:		
Newsletter #1	\$ 768.70	
Newsletter #2	542.38	
Reunion Expense 2016	4,537.57	
Reunion Expense 2017	<u>1,427.14</u>	
Total Payments	\$ 7,275.79	
Ending Balance:		\$ 5,113.80*

Respectfully Submitted, *Marc Buonaquidi*, Treasurer

**Secretary's Report
Annual Meeting - October 1, 2017 – Portland, OR**

The 82 FG annual meeting was called to order by President Felton with 35 attendees.

Minutes from the 2016 meeting and the current financial report were approved as read.

Topics discussed were: more timely newsletters with annotated photos, using Facebook for member communication and possibly aligning with another veteran's group as membership continues to decline. The mission of the 82nd FGA continues to be remembering our heritage and fostering fellowship among our members. Our website is not maintained. It will be changed to a single page with our logo and list current officer names and emails to handle inquiries.

No nominees volunteered for offices. Members voted that current officers will continue as long as requested by the membership.

The 2018 Reunion will held in San Antonio in October hosted by Todd and Lorraine Felton. The membership requested dinner trips in the San Antonio Area.

Thank you to Belinda and Jerry Martin (Olen Medley's nephew) for hosting the Portland reunion this year. The 82nd appreciates their hard work and hospitality!

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Medley Manduano* ,Secretary

* Receipts from the reunion are posted after July1 and are not reflected in the financial statement. The Association is in very good financial health.

Washington Park Rose Garden Tour



The local forest fires rained on our parade and the Columbia River tour was cancelled.



Our hosts arranged a visit to the Rose Garden and a wonderful bus tour of the city.



Microbrewery Tour

Arranged by Dennis Phillips (with wife, Carol, below). Enjoyed by all.



Reception & Hospitality Room

Center of each reunion: reconnecting and remembering



Thanks to photographers Karen McCaffery, Maryjane McKervey Parlman & Eileen Vincent

Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum

Home of the Spruce Goose



No picture adequately captures the Spruce Goose. Impressive size inside and out, all were awed. Our group with docent (left) and the Parlimages (right).

Banquet



The Priests



The Martins



Bill Hattendorf, niece Liz & husband Luke



The Vincents



The Manduanos



Pres Todd & Buonaguidis with gift for our hosts



Eileen, Nan, Regina, Lois



Youngest Rose Recipient



Shelby, Jaimie & Scott Coshow



Jack Coshow & Olen Medley both 95th FS. 10 year reunion.



Left: Lowell Phillips gifted Afghani scarves to wives of our original WWII members, to Mary Buonaguidi for coordinating our reunion and to Belinda Martin our host.



Brian, Linda & Michael Sheetz - Linda daughter of Blythe Pratt



Sunday morning - last group to leave

Keeping in Touch

Dick Ostronik attended an **Honor Flight to the World War II Monument** in Washington, DC last June. He tells us that **Del Ryland** went in October. Dick says it was outstanding and wants to make sure our WWII vets are aware of the opportunity. Airfare, two nights lodging, tour bus, meals, wheelchairs and oxygen are all provided *free* as well as trained guardians to help transport and assist vets throughout the event. For information: (website) www.honorflightie.org, (email) info@honorflightie.org or call (909) 580-7363.

Nona Isaacson sends her greetings to everyone. In a recent visit with the Ostroniks, she shared that her late husband, **Clayton 'Ike' Isaacson**, former CO of the 82nd, was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal in 2015 for "Heroic military services....as an American Fighter Pilot Ace."

Fran Kane sent a copy of a 1952 article in **The Saturday Evening Post** entitled 'Night Fighters Over New York' that featured her husband, John. The lead in is, 'While you sleep, interceptors roar into the dark after every suspicious plane to approach our shores. If (*enemies*) do come, men like **Killer Kane** will....stop 'em!' The full article will be in the memorabilia room at the San Antonio reunion. Fran says John was also one of two 82nd members to be a New Hampshire State congressman. The other – **Col. Romeo J Bouthier**

Kathy Rockey was sorry to miss the re-union and looks forward to San Antonio.

Folded Wings

Georg Fuereder - Associate Member - 10/29/17

In 1992, Georg and I spent two weeks in Fort Walton Beach, Fl. The owners of our condo introduced us to their friends, Marlene and Hank Phillips. The men, both born in 1922, fighter pilots who flew during WWII and later in their respective Air Forces, shared many experiences and partialities. Marlene and I share similar backgrounds and also developed a deep friendship. In 1995, Hank invited us to be his guests at the Sandestin Reunion. Thanks to Hurricane Opal we met the Ostroniks and Kanes after we evacuated to the Phillips' house in the late evening. The first Reunion which we really attended was in Scottsdale, AZ. where Georg became an Associate member of the 82nd. Hank later on became a member of the German Fighter Pilots Association. In addition to the Reunions, there were visits back and forth between us, the Ostroniks and the Phillips in Germany and the USA over the years until age took its toll. Georg and I really appreciated the cordiality with which we were received by the 82nd.

Lilo Fuereder, 12/30/17

Jerry Powell (97th) 9/14/17

(Excerpted from obituary. Full text may be viewed at the website of Stark's Funeral Home, Salt Lake City.)

The world has lost another WWII hero with the death of Jerry on September 14, 2017.

He formed an early love for flying, took lessons and became a cadet. When WWII started he was able to join the Army Air Force. He flew over 57 missions in a P38 (his first love). He was stationed in Foggia, Italy and flew the Rhine Land. Following the war, he finished his schooling at the University of Nebraska where he earned degrees in mechanical and commercial engineering. While there, he was a member of the Air National Guard and was the governor's pilot. He worked 30 years for Amoco Oil (Standard Oil of Indiana) as an engineer and manager.

In the 82nd Fighter Group Association, he is survived by his wife, Nan and son Steve. He also leaves son Rick, eight grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

The Birth & Nurture of the 82nd Fighter Group Association

(From March 1990 newsletter. Dick Lingenfelter, editor.)

Though it was a while before it was called such, our Association got its start during a meeting of the Fighter Aces Association at Harlingen, Texas in 1976.

It appears that, through the efforts of Harley Vaughn and Wayne Jorda, the group decided to meet again the following year in New Orleans using the Fighter Aces Reunion for support. At Harlingen the 82nd Aces also decided to look for other 82nd people including EMs, and invite them to join the reunion in New Orleans. According to Harley there were about two dozen 82nders at that second get-together.

1978 was a repeat of '77 with the Fighter Aces again and at the Ostness Hotel in New Orleans.

There was one giant step for Harley Vaughn and one great leap for 82ndkind in 1979 when Harley went away out on a limb and invited everyone to Corpus Christi – sans the support of the Fighter Aces. Harley said 75 turned out and the 82nd Fighter Group Association was on its way – even though it hadn't pulled its wheels up yet (that would take another couple of years). It appears 1980 was a dark year – for reasons unknown and if anyone can furnish hard evidence of a date and a location we will so acknowledge in the next newsletter.

Reunions resumed in Corpus Christi in 1981 and it was then the members decided to associate formally and Bill Holeman volunteered to draw up a set of By-Laws which were somewhat patterned after those used by the 1st FG Association.

George Simpson hosted the Orlando, Florida Reunion in 1982 and it was at that time the By-Laws prepared by Holeman were adopted and a slate of Officers elected. The Officers were: Harley Vaughn, Pres.; Ralph Embrey, Vice Pres. and Jerry Loewenberg, Sec-Treas. Squadron Reps were also elected.

The 82nd Association was back in Corpus Christi for the 1983 Reunion. It was in Denver in '84, San Antonio in '85, in Atlanta in '86, in Boise in '87, in Dayton in '88 and took that great cruise on the Queen in '89.

In Denver in '84, Paul Jorgensen volunteered to begin the Newsletter for the Association and that really solidified all the great work done previously by Harley Vaughn, Wayne Jorda, Bill Holeman, Ralph Embry and several others to make our Association the great organization it is today.

(JNP note: Pick your starting point for the 82nd FGA. Whether By-Law or reunion date - '79, '81 or '82. No matter - we have a lot to celebrate. Two discrepancies above - the '81 reunion was in Snowmass, CO. The '82 reunion was hosted by HankPhillips. The complete list will be published in the next issue.)

82nd Fighter Group Association
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Next Reunion - October 2018 - San Antonio, TX

(The Riverwalk shown above. Hotel and dates in next issue)