



82nd Fighter Group Association Newsletter

Issue 98

December 2018

**San Antonio Reunion Photos
2019 Reunion Preview
New Facebook Page and Website
Newsletter Distribution Change
New Dues Payment Option**



San Antonio reunion WWII participants Lute Thompson, Hank Phillips, Dick Ostronik and Olen Medley flanked by Cowden Ward, Jr. and another member of the Freedom Flyers

The President's Page

PRESIDENT
Lowell Phillips

VICE PRESIDENT
Steve Powell

TREASURER
Marc Buonaguidi

SECRETARY
Nancy Medley Manduano

PAST PRESIDENT
Todd Felton

UNIT REPRESENTATIVES
HEADQUARTERS
Bruce Loewenberg

95TH SQUADRON
Olen Medley

96TH SQUADRON
Richard Ostronik

97TH SQUADRON
Mel Roalsvig

MEDIA CONTENT EDITOR
John Netzer Parliman

ROSTER
Mary Buonaguidi

WEBMASTER
Jerry Martin

NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM
LIAISON
Bruce Loewenberg

As I stood at the podium at our San Antonio reunion accepting the new nomination for the President of the 82nd Fighter Group Association and looking throughout the room, I saw all the past and present individuals that have held some sort of office or position that have dedicated countless hours with their time and talents. Their valuable contributions are an essential part of the annual events of the 82nd FGA. Without these individuals, too many to name, who coordinate, arrange and ensure that all of us have a memorable reunion with friends and family, I would like to say "Thank You" for all you have done throughout the years.

This is a moment of personal honor for me, but also of deep personal responsibility. I do not take this lightly. I am very sure that every other nominee for this position was as capable if not more, of being nominated to this position.

As any new person that comes to an organization, they have their ideas of what they would like to present. Some of my ideas and thoughts may have been presented in the past. I firmly believe that communication is a must and those who have ideas and suggestions in the 82nd FGA should have a voice on the direction and continuation of the 82nd FGA as we move into the future. Jerry Martin and John Parliman have revamped our Facebook and website www.82ndfightergroup.org. With all the new technology and digital information that everyone has, the Newsletter will now be sent through email, Facebook and the 82nd FGA website for all members except the Originals and their spouses, who will get paper copies. If you haven't signed up for the newsletter or requested to join the 82nd FGA through our Facebook group, please do.

I am currently working on a presentation on our 2020 82nd FGA Family Reunion location and membership drive. The goal is to see where we are now and where we will be in 5 years. In order for the 82nd FGA to grow and prosper there is a need to actively seek new members and to reach out to past and present members, too.

ADORIMINI, *LOWELL*

3405 Circulo Adorno
Carlsbad, CA 92009
(760) 942-7104

web: www.82ndFighterGroup.org
email: admin@82ndFighterGroup.org

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

82nd FGA FINANCIAL STATEMENT
JULY 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2018

Beginning Balance:		\$5,167.78
Receipts:		
Registrations 2017	\$ 7,619.00	
Donations	125.00	
Dues	<u>1,520.00</u>	
Total Receipts		\$9,264.00
Payments:		
Bank Fees	\$ -136.00	
Newsletter 8/17	-542.38	
Newsletter 1/18	-808.56	
Newsletter 6/18	-798.86	
Reunion Expense 2017	<u>-9,331.21</u>	
Total Payments		<u>-\$11,617.01</u>
Ending Balance:		\$ 2,814.77

Respectfully Submitted, *Marc Buonaguidi*, Treasurer

Annual Meeting Minutes - San Antonio - October 12, 2018

The meeting came to order approximately 10:10 AM. Officers present: Todd Felton, Pres., Steve Powell, VP., Nancy Medley Manduano, Sec., Marc Buonaguidi, Treas. and Olen Medley and Richard Ostronik, 95th & 96th Squadron Reps. There were approximately 25 members present.

Marc Buonaguidi gave the Treasurer's report and Nancy Medley Manduano the Annual Meeting Minutes from the 2017 reunion. Both were unanimously accepted.

Lowell Phillips was proposed as President and Mel Roalsvig as 97th Squadron Rep. With no nominees from the floor for the other positions, the current officers agreed to continue. The affirmative vote for all nominees was unanimous.

Discussion took place as to whether the original members and the general membership wanted to continue having the annual reunions and continue as a stand-alone organization rather than explore joining with another veterans group. The consensus was yes to both the reunions and preserving our Association identity.

The Pinson Family (Linda and Jessica Pinson, Joanie Pinson Goodman and Everard Smith) discussed hosting the next reunion looking at the Dayton area and aiming at Sept 11, 2019. They received a very enthusiastic response and offers to help from the members.

The meeting adjourned approximately 11 AM.

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Medley Manduano*, Secretary

Folded Wings*

Cowden Ward, Jr. 11/17/2018

Del Ryland 96FS 12/6/2018

*Full obituaries on our website and Facebook page

Save the date!

82nd Fighter Group Association - 2019 Reunion

September 11 - 15, 2019

Crowne Plaza - Dayton, Ohio
33 E. 5th Street, Dayton, OH 45402



A special group rate of \$129.00 plus tax (single or double) has been contracted with the Crowne Plaza in Dayton. The rate includes:

- Hot Breakfast for all hotel guests
- Complimentary Valet Parking
- Complimentary shuttle service to/from Dayton International Airport. This is based on availability and should be scheduled with the hotel's front desk in advance at 937-224-0800.
- Complimentary local transportation within a 5 mile radius of the hotel based on shuttle availability.
- Free Internet
- Refrigerator in guest room
- Rooftop restaurant & lounge

**To make reservations, call 937-229-9835, or 800-689-5586
by the deadline of August 20, 2019 to ensure the availability of
the discounted rate.**

2018 Reunion - San Antonio

Hosted by Todd & Lorraine Felton

Our out-going President and wife chose a fitting way to end his two-term office by hosting this wonderful reunion. The charming El Tropicana hotel was right on the Riverwalk with the Hospitality Room on the Ninth Floor Veranda with a beautiful view of the city. Hurricane Irma caused some flight disruptions but everyone arrived safely though some a few days late.

Thursday was a free day in which many chose to explore the Riverwalk, the Pearl Brewery and the many wonderful shops and restaurants along the way. Two noteworthy free day events were Dick Ostronik getting to see Glacier Girl (article in this issue) and our Pinson family member, Everard Smith, giving an enlightening guided tour of the Alamo highlighted by well-researched facts and observations.

Friday, the 558th Flying Training Squadron at Randolph AFB rolled out the red carpet with a tour and demonstrations of piloted and remotely-piloted simulators. That evening our reception was highlighted by a Mariachi band, good food, our usual refined comraderie and an auction with highly-contested items like stained glass made by Lorraine Felton.

Saturday we toured the WWII Museum of the Pacific in Fredericksburg and observed a memorable reenactment of an amphibious landing with Lute Thompson providing air cover in a P-51. The banquet that evening from a delicious meal, inspiring color guard, remembrances and togetherness was first class. The speaker, Col. Frank King, ret., was in the 96th FTS with Todd at Laughlin, Director of Operations for the 340th Flying Training Group at Randolph which, among others, is comprised of the 96th and 97th FTS, and currently the Director of Instructor Simulator Training at Randolph. We were honored to have him at our banquet.

Nancy Medley Manduano gave the history of our Rose Ceremony. The roses were presented to the 82nd women by 2nd Lt Mikey Kambell and Maj Jarred Cooper of Randolph AFB.

So a well-deserved thank you to the Feltons for producing this exceptional reunion and to Todd, in particular, for guiding us for the past two terms of office.



Mary & Marc Buonaguidi presenting the Feltons a thank you gift



Mary Buonaguidi, our event coordinator, assuring 'i's are dotted and 't's crossed.



Marc Buonaguidi in one of his host support roles.



Our new president, Lowell Phillips, son of Hank, introduced himself and gave his ideas for the future of the Association. (pictured with wife, Joan, daughter, Sidney, and son, Wesley.

ADORIMINI



Ev Smith group tour of Alamo



Above: 2019 Reunion Hosts Jessica, Linda & Joanie Pinson (missing Everard Smith)

Reception & Auction



558th FTS - Laughlin AFB



Reinactment At WWII Museum of the Pacific



Lute Thompson and Cowden Ward, Jr at 'Pecos Bill'

Hospitality Room & Veranda



Banquet



Second photo from left: Rose Ceremony assisted by Maj Jerred Cooper and 2nd Lt Mikey Kampbell

Last to go: Imes & Parlimans - Monday AM

See many more photos on the 82nd Website and Facebook page. Find out how on next page.

A Well-utilized San Antonio Reunion Free Day by Sylvia Ostronik

Dick Ostronik had a really memorable time in San Antonio on October 11th, the so called free day.

Thanks to Sylvia's high school girlfriend ,Virginia Golenski , and her friend, Tracy Parris, Dick was able to have a personal tour of the museum and see the "Glacier Girl". This was at the San Antonio Airport, where the famous P38 plane has lived for the last 8 years.

The plane and others are owned by Ron Lewis, as part of his Warbird Collection, called Lewis Air Legends. Dick's tour was by Robert Reuland, chief helicopter pilot for Lewis Energy Group. (In 2000, Dick, John Kane and the late Roy Norris, flew from Cincinnati, with Roy at the controls, to Middleboro, Kentucky to view the restoration of "Glacier Girl".)



Left: Roy Norris & Dick Ostronik. (John Kane on camera.)



Rt: Dick Ostronik

Before his visit to the Lewis Air Museum, Dick spent 45 minutes in a simulator at Randolph Air Base. That was made possible by instructor Donnie Hudson; a retired Lt. Colonel and a friend of Todd Felton.

It was a full day including lunch and dinner making it a very "full, free day."

Two Big Changes in How You Can Get Association Information

Currently, you are receiving newsletters twice a year. The two changes below will not only contain the newsletters, but also allow you immediate access to updates, pictures, special features and more.

Our New Website

Check us out at www.82ndFighterGroup.org

You will see updates, current and past newsletters, past photos of original WWII members, reunions, videos and feature stories.

This is a chronical of the history of our Association.

Our New Face Book Group

This is a secure, closed group. It is only available to confirmed group members. You may enjoy and comment on posts and see immediate updates and items of interest about the Association. To join, find the 82nd Fighter Group Association on Face Book or click on the FB icon on our website. You will only see the home page. Click the 'JOIN' button under the cover photo and follow the directions. Once you receive an acceptance notice, you will have access to the site.

82nd Fighter Group Association
3405 Circulo Adorno
Carlsbad, CA 92009

**The National Museum of the Air Force
Dayton, OH**



Above right: **82nd Fighter Group commemorative plaque** at the Museum.