



483RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) ASSOCIATION

(1943) Ephrata, WA – MacDill Field, Tampa, FL – Steparone, San Severo-Pisa, Italy (1945)

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President's Message

Greetings!

As I sit here writing my first President's column, the day before Thanksgiving, I am filled with so much gratitude for each and every one of you! I still cannot believe that I have the privilege of serving you as your President. It is truly an honor that brings me much joy!

For all of the 483rd "family" on the East coast that has been affected by Hurricane Sandy (you notice I spell my name with two e's) our hearts go out to you. As I watched the news throughout the day and the days afterwards many of you that I know personally who live in the areas affected by the storm would come to mind and I would wonder how you were and then say a prayer for your safety and then I would also say a prayer for all of you that might be affected that I do not know personally. In fact, if any of you want to email me at 483rdreunion@gmail.com to let us know how you fared perhaps we can share them in the next newsletter.

Our reunion in Detroit was great! We even made the local papers thanks to Harry Millnamow, the organizer of that first reunion in Detroit 34 years ago. The Detroit hotel accommodations were wonderful, the tours fun and interesting but most of all, the occasions when we all came together in fellowship were the highlights. It is also very exciting for me to see our 2nd and 3rd generations joining our reunions in greater numbers.

We are busy putting together the San Antonio Reunion and looking forward to visiting the great state of Texas! Stay tuned to the next newsletter for all the details. We think it will be great fun!

From me and my family, I want to wish you and yours a very joyous Christmas / Hanukkah and may 2013 bring health and prosperity to us all.

In Gratitude,
Sandee



Review of the Detroit Reunion

The Detroit reunion was another success and enjoyed by all that attended. We visited the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, GM Renaissance Center where we took a tour of downtown on the Detroit People Mover, The Henry Ford Museum to see the amazing collection of historic items, Ford Rouge Factory Tour to see pickup trucks being assembled, Green Field Village to see the historic buildings collected by Henry Ford, and took a dinner cruise along the Detroit River. But by far the most exciting part of the tours was the B17 flight on Yankee Lady and seeing the other vintage airplanes at the Yankee Air Museum.

Harry Millnamow took it upon himself to publicize the reunion in an effort to generate greater participation and make the 2012 reunion a success. He contacted the news media and was able to have stories and pictures printed in the Detroit Free Press, Detroit News, and USA Today, as well as getting a radio interview on WJR Radio (Voice of the Great Lakes). We attempted to gain permission to reprint the stories from the newspapers but were unable to get that permission before our deadline for publishing this newsletter. However, if you have access to a computer or can have someone print the articles for you, here are the Internet links to 2 of those articles and accompanying pictures, and a video of the B-17 flight along with interviews of spectators:

<http://www.freep.com/article/20121001/NEWS05/310010133/Bombers-bonded-by-World-War-II-reunite-in-metro-Detroit>

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20121006/METRO/210060368/1409/metro/WWII-vets-reminisce-missions>

<http://www.detroitnews.com/videonetwork/1880918284001>

In addition to those articles, Ami Simms, a quilting blogger on wordpress.com was told about a radio interview with Harry on WJR in which her father's name was mentioned – her father died in 1984. It turns out

[continued on next page]

that her father was part of the 817th squadron. You might want to read her account of that day and her visit with attendees at the reunion at:

<http://amisimms.wordpress.com/2012/10/07/an-adventure-in-time/#comments>

Printed below is a note from Harry regarding his efforts:

Since I was not on any committee to do publicity or any other committee (I gave that up a long time ago) I took it upon myself to see if I could increase attendance for 2012 in Detroit. Results being about 10 to 15 additional showed up at the reunion. They saw, heard or read about the reunion and wanted to be part of it since they knew someone that belonged to the 15th Air Force or the 483rd.

I had a long conversation with a gentleman whose brother was a member of the 483rd and was killed on his second mission. This gentleman also brought his two sons with him so they could learn about the group with which their uncle had flown. He said he was able to get a lot of his questions answered and that alone will diminish the hurt of not knowing for all those years.

Since starting the 483rd Detroit reunion in 1979, I thought I might be able to work a little magic again – but no, time has taken care of that and maybe the magic we thought we had was not magic at all – just the sound of a drum in cadence with time.

Harry Millnamow
817th



Murder in Milan

The ladies had a special treat this year at their brunch on Friday morning during the Detroit reunion. Several of the ladies took on major roles in a murder mystery skit which also involved participation of all those in attendance. The main cast of characters is shown in the picture below, complete with costumes. Which of these do you think was the murderer?



Letter from the Treasurer

Note: The following letter should not be considered as tax advice and you should consult your tax advisor or accountant before applying this information to your income taxes. More information regarding charitable contributions and expenses in service of charitable organizations can be found in IRS Publication 526, and can be viewed by following this internet link: <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p526.pdf> Leon Waldman is working with the IRS to assure the 483rd retains its tax exempt status.

We are considered a qualified organization under Sec. 501(c)(19) of the I.R.S. code.

Generally, you may deduct your contributions of money (dues, fees, and memorial contributions) or property that you make to or for the use of the association. If property is given, you may deduct the fair market value of the property at the time of contribution.

You may deduct certain amounts you pay in giving services to the association. The code states that "If you are a chosen representative attending a convention of a qualified organization, you may deduct actual unreimbursed expenses for travel, transportation, and lodging while away from home overnight in connection with the convention." You may also deduct 50% of the amount for meals. "You may not deduct personal expenses for sightseeing, fishing parties, theatre tickets or night clubs. You may not deduct travel, meals and lodging and other expenses for your spouse or children."

If you use your automobile to attend the reunion, you may deduct the cost of gas and oil. You may not deduct any part of general repair and maintenance expenses. Instead of using the actual cost, you may use the standard rate of 14¢ per mile driven in service of charitable organizations to figure your contribution for travel. In either case, you may deduct parking fees and tolls. You may not deduct depreciation and insurance.

Because of the nature of the 483rd Association, all members are considered a "chosen representative attending the reunion and meetings."

In summary, the following are deductible:

1. Dues
2. Donations for special projects such as the archives
3. Registration fees and costs of the functions arranged by the Association
4. Hotel room
5. Cost of airfare, car expenses, taxi, limousine, parking, tolls, and tips.
6. 50% of meals not included in #3 above

The I.R.S specifically states that you cannot deduct the expenses for your spouse or children.

Leon Waldman
Treasurer

TAPS - Deceased Members not Previously Noted in Newsletters

Name	Squad	Date	Reported By
SAUER, JOHN G	816	11-00-10	JIM SAUER
RING, MELBOURNE D	815	03-00-10	GLENDA RING
BESWICK, JAMES P	817	09-17-12	JAMES CHRISTNER
PACITTI, WILLIAM	815	09-24-12	FRANKLIN HAMMERSCHMIDT
SHOWALTER, NOAH D	840	08-13-12	LOUISE SHOWALTER
SIMPSON, RALPH H	815	06-24-12	ANN S SCOTT
KOLAR FRANK A	816	00-00-00	RUTH GERHARDT
PAULSON, OSCAR I	817	10-04-12	ASIMA PAULSON
SIMMONS, RUSSELL H	817	03-26-12	JACKIE BOYD
RICE, BYRON L	815	06-14-09	STEVEN RAUSH
LEE, THAEN K	817	02-10-11	YUN HA

Membership News

Dear members,

Please insert the enclosed sheet of the Board of Directors in the proper page of your roster which you recently received. Take care of the roster, for next year the roster will not be printed and you will receive an addendum to the roster with the changes which will occur this coming year.

Take care,
Guy



Have you ever wondered about the computer system that Guy keeps all of our membership records on? Well the picture below is where it is stored and the printer is used to print the labels for our quarterly newsletter mailings. If the computer ever dies, we might be "up a creek". At the Detroit reunion, Guy did show a couple of us the power of the DOS-based database software he uses and it is quite impressive.



Publicity Director's Report

PX-

The PX is alive and well, if we have any leftover stock, we will fill the order. The PX now is mostly 483rd caps, 15th Air Force wings, and medals.

Publicity Report-

We turn our attention to the state of Texas and the city of San Antonio where our next reunion is to be held in the fall of 2013. We are awaiting word from Laurie as to the exact date. I will have historical background information on our host city, San Antonio and the Alamo where Texas heroes of heroic deeds and myths like Sam Houston, Colonel Travis, Davey Crockett, Sam Bowie, all stand tall in the history of Texas. I'm looking forward to the "walk" so stay tuned for stories on the Alamo and Texans who were there to create history.



Happy holidays and a Very Merry Christmas, and of course, a great New Year!

George



Thoughts from the Chaplain . . .

NEV John 15: 18 - 21 "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated Me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed My teaching, they will obey yours also. They will treat you this way because of My name, for they do not know the One who sent Me."

John 16: 33 "I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

'Tis the season for music, TV specials, and celebrations. Folks everywhere you look are shopping, decorating, and cooking. Soon, if not already, homes, businesses, and public buildings will be festooned with lights and lawn art. It's our annual celebration of ... the Winter Solstice? Happy Holiday? Or is it the amalgamated celebration of QuanzHanamas? Maybe Seinfeld got it right: it's Festivus! (for the rest-of-us). Whatever this season is, it feels less and less like Christmas. Maybe that's because there's no Christ in it anymore. I was at one of those large discount stores recently and looked at all the holiday decorations they had. Aisle after aisle of bright red and green stuff, a whole department of trees and lawn art, yet could not find one single manger scene. I even asked the store clerks who assured me I was mistaken, until the clerk who was in charge of the department confirmed that I was indeed correct. She did say there was one coloring activity set in the toy department, but that was all they had. They had every sort of lawn art that was sure not to offend anyone: penguins, polar bears, pigs, and pelicans. They had Peanuts characters, Santas, snowmen, elves, chimneysweeps, and carolers. But not a Wise man, shepherd, or Babe in the whole lot. I was very disappointed, but must say I wasn't surprised.

Then there's the holiday TV listing in the newspaper. Thanksgiving Day's edition published a full page of all the holiday shows from the 'hall of fame' classics like "Frosty the Snowman", "Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer", "The Polar Express", and "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" to a host of musicals, animated shows, and saccharin dramas that assure us of the magic of this season if we only "believe." Believe in what? Magic? Self-deception? Believe in who? Santa? Ghosts? Whatever is in your heart? Or in the snow?

I hope there's more to believe in than that! In fact, I know there is. Maybe I should say, "I believe there is!" I believe that, even though the world doesn't want any part of its Creator, He has overcome the world as He said. I believe that even though many people reject the out-dated quaintness of religion, while others demand tolerance for all views except Christ, nonetheless Christ has fully accomplished the redemption of all who would receive Him. And I believe that the world's hostility or apathy or dismissal of Christ also means its hostility, apathy, and dismissal of me. And I believe that the hurt and disappointment I feel is a good thing. It shows I am still on His side. No matter how 'in the world' I may seem I can know by the discomfort in my heart that I am not 'of' the world.

So what? Do we just let the world go its way while we go ours? Sorry, but we cannot do that. We're stuck in it, but more than that, since Christ died not only for our sins but for the sins of the whole world, we are sent by Him into that hostile world to speak and live out His love even for those who reject Him. It doesn't mean we get to be militant, but neither are we to be silent. We are to give witness to the hope we have in Christ Jesus, with gentleness and respect. At that store I didn't make any big scene about the company's choice of stock, nor did I swear never to shop there again (I confess that thought did cross my mind). Instead, when I noticed the discomfort on the faces of 2 of those store clerks, I wished them a merry Christmas and smiled. They seemed grateful not just to be off the hook, but to be able to share with a customer their own disbelief in the state of our culture. One of them said sadly, "We even have a hippopotamus, but no Nativity." That's okay, it's not what's on our store shelves or in our yards that matter but what's in our hearts. It's not just that we believe in something, but that we believe in the One who gave Himself for us and has promised to return to take us to be with Him forever. With that warming our hearts we have courage to celebrate Christmas this winter, and every day. Joy to the world! Peace on earth and good will to men. Merry Christmas, indeed!!

...Many blessings to you,

Your friend in Christ,
Pastor Bryan Jones



**483rd Bomb Group 34th Annual Reunion
Minutes of the Business Meeting
October 15, 2012
Detroit, Michigan**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Dennis West at 10:30 A. M.

II. Invocation

Chaplain Bryan Jones gave the invocation.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Treasurer's Report

Leon Waldman reported as follows:

As of September 25, 2012,

Vanguard Mutual Fund	\$30,530.00
Vanguard Prime Money Market	\$1,362.00
Treasurer's Checking Account	\$1,841.00
Membership Checking Account	\$3,533.00
PX Cash Account	\$616.00
PX Inventory	<u>\$500.00</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$38,382.00*

*The above does not include the reunion account.

V. Approval of the Minutes of 2011 Meeting

Minutes approved as published in January, 2012 Newsletter

VI. Committee Reports

A. Chaplaincy

Chaplain Bryan Jones reported as follows:

Bryan received money from his predecessor Ken Davis and used the money to purchase letter writing supplies for condolence letters that he sends for members of the 483rd who have passed away.

Action Item: Bryan will send a copy of his past year's budget to Treasurer Leon Waldman.

B. Membership

Chairman Guy Venier reported as follows:

Reporting Period: September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2012

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$1,842.51
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Income:

Life Member Dues	\$0.00	
Regular Member Dues	\$2,700.00	
Account Interest	\$0.00	
Misc. Donations	\$295.00	
Misc. Sales	\$1,000.00	
TOTAL INCOME		\$3,995.00

Expenses:

Stamps	(\$133.00)	
Postage	(\$47.29)	
Supplies	\$0.00	
Misc.	(\$137.56)	
Roster Printing	(\$1,480.00)	
Bulk Mail Permit Fee	(\$190.00)	
Bulk Mail Postage	(\$316.47)	
TOTAL EXPENSES		(\$2,304.32)

ENDING BALANCE	\$3,533.19
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Membership Totals:

Veteran/Spouse Life Members	102
Veteran/Spouse Active Members	60
Veteran/Spouse Semi-Active Members	22
Veteran/Spouse Inactive Members	375
Friend Life Members	148
Friend Active Members	8
Friend Inactive Members	7

Note that only Life and Active members receive printed rosters.

C. Clipped Wings

Chairman Sheryl Norton reported as follows:

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$600.00
Misc.	(\$32.50)
ENDING BALANCE	\$567.50

Note that postage will soon be purchased and sent out to the Clipped Wings writing staff, which will bring the balance to approximately \$400.

D. Publicity, PX, Archives

Chairman George Stovall reported as follows:

Publicity:

George wrote several articles about Detroit for this year's reunion and is gearing up to start writing about next year's reunion in San Antonio, TX.

PX:

The PX mostly sells caps and George has collected approximately \$100 in sales.

E. 2012 Reunion

Co-Chairman Sandee West Maeda reported that there are 95 attendees at this year's reunion of which 23 are veterans, 6 wives/honorary members, 27 friends and 39 guests. Sandee stated that last year's reunion broke even since the lanyards that were purchased for last year's reunion, but did not arrive in time, were used for this year's reunion.

F. Newsletter

Chairman Bruce Coogler reported as follows:

The cost of printing the newsletters this year was \$1873. There is an imperative need to keep the newsletter equal to or less than 1oz., which is equal to four pages double-sided, to keep the cost of mailing the newsletter down. There are currently 520 newsletters that are printed and mailed. If you would like to be added to the electronic newsletter distribution list or would like to contribute an article to the newsletter, please contact Bruce.

VII. Old Business

No old business to report.

VIII. New Business

A. Move the 2013 Reunion to Georgia

President Dennis West suggested the idea to move the San Antonio, Texas reunion to 2014 and replace the 2013 reunion location with an undetermined city in Georgia within traveling distance to Warner Robins Air Force Base for the group to visit the 483rd archives. Ken Hoffman motioned to move the 2013 reunion to Georgia near Warner Robins Air Force Base, Bryan Jones seconded. Macon, Savannah, and Atlanta were discussed as potential Georgia cities for the 2013 reunion. The Pro-side of the discussion stated that most people have not seen the archives and that there is a desire to hear/share first-hand stories

at the archives. The Con-side of the discussion stated that the long (2-4 hour, depending on the reunion city) bus trip from any Georgia city with enough activities for the group are difficult and that it is perceived that the move of reunion location is driven by the 2nd generation and not the will of the 1st generation who voted for San Antonio, Texas at last year's reunion. **The motion was lost; the 2013 reunion location will be San Antonio, Texas.**

B. Roster Printing Amendment

Bryan Jones motioned to amend the printing schedule of the 483rd roster to full printing in the even years, and an update addendum in the odd years, Ken Davis seconded. **The motion was carried; the full 483rd roster will be printed in the even years and an update addendum will be printed in the odd years.**

C. Shortening the Reunion

Bruce Coogler motioned to shorten the reunion by one day, Sandee West Maeda seconded. The Pro-side of the discussion stated that the cheapest days to fly are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday; that shortening the reunion will reduce the workload for the reunion planners; and that it will reduce the cost of the day room and transportation. The Con-side stated that regardless of the number of days the reunion is planned for, members and guests have the option of when they arrive and the duration of their stay. **The motion was carried; the 2013 reunion and subsequent reunions will be shortened by one day such that the Early Bird tour will be on Tuesday, with normal tours Wednesday through Friday.**

D. Election of President-Elect

Ken Davis nominated Sandee West Maeda as president-elect, Penny Jones seconded. There were no other nominations from the floor. **The motion was carried; Sandee West Maeda is the new President-Elect.**

E. Selection of 2014 Reunion Location

Karen Nelson is the Vice-President of the 2nd Bombardment Association and they have requested formally to combine reunion hotels in 2014. Combining hotels does not necessarily mean the two groups share activities. The 2nd Bomb Group's 2014 location will likely be in California. Dennis West stated that he will follow up with the 2nd Bomb Group and coordinate with them on potential reunion locations in 2014. Combining reunions with the 99th Bomb Group was also mentioned, however it was stated that the 99th Bomb Group is not interested. Further discussion on how reunion dates are decided revealed that the reunion chair chooses the dates within a late September/early October window that takes into consideration Jewish holidays and hotel availability among other things. **A 2014 reunion location was not chosen.**

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President Dennis West.

Note from the editor:

If you would like to receive this newsletter via email rather than in printed form, please send an email to bcoogler@comcast.net requesting the email version and I'll be glad to place you on the email list. The email version is sent in Adobe Acrobat format (PDF) and the pictures are in color rather than the printed version's black and white.

I am always looking for new materials to include in the newsletter, so if you have something that you would like to include in a future newsletter, please send it to me. Some of you YounGuns must have something to include!

YOUR 2011-2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PAST PRESIDENTS

Phillip A. Luetke (Deceased) 1980
William A. Haskins (Deceased) 1981
James V. Reardon (Deceased) 1982-83
Lynn M. Borders (Deceased) 1984
Joseph W. Gawthrop (Deceased) 1984
M.L. "Bob" Hotman 1985 (Deceased)
Harry K. Keller (Deceased) 1986
Donald R. Speegle (Deceased) 1987
James "Russ" Heflin (Deceased) 1988
Evan M. "Jack" Edwards (Deceased) 1989
Ralph H. Simpson 1990
Harry P. Millnamow 1991
William P. Dunn (Deceased) 1992
Edward T. Cotton (Deceased) 1993
Harry D. Whye (Deceased) 1994
Ray H. Whitaker 1995
Harold D. Leveridge, D.D. 1996
William I. Jeffs (Deceased) 1997
George F. Stovall 1998
John A. Campbell 1999
Verne H. Cole 2000
Benjamin H. Adams Jr. 2001
Robert W. Mitchell (Deceased) 2002
John P. Nobel 2003
Curtis B. Clark 2004
Fredric A. Hicks 2005
Wilfrid Hebert 2006
Stanton "Mike" Rickey 2007
Ellis Maxey 2008
Jim Ashley 2009
Dennis West 2010, 2011, 2012



483rd Bombardment Group (H) Association

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