

# AVIANO AFTERBURNER

NEWSLETTER OF AVIANO REUNION ASSOCIATION



Volume 17, Number 2

May 2004

## Your 2003-04 ARA Officers

### President

Tama Tillman  
10 Tacoma Circle  
Nashua, NH 03062-1460

### Vice President

Rodger Gracey  
1810 Apache  
Cheney, KS 67025

### Editor

Nick Leone  
2623 Hickory Flats Trail  
Huntsville, AL 35801

### Reunion Host '05

Tama Tillman  
10 Tacoma Circle  
Nashua, NH 03062-1460

### Secretary/Treasurer

Emily Povey  
626 E. Davis Blvd.  
Tampa, FL 33606

### Historian

Gene Ives  
3525 Hartstock Ln.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80917

### Reunion Host '04

Lynn & Ben Catalina  
850 Aesop Lane  
Universal City, TX 78148-2641

### ARA Webmaster

Lynn Catalina  
8510 Aesop Lane  
Universal City, TX 78148-2641  
[www.avianoreunion.com](http://www.avianoreunion.com)

## From the President

The year is quickly passing. If you haven't done so already, please get your reservations in for the San Antonio Reunion. Looks like it will be a big one! Information and forms are in this issue.

Sorry to hear about the deaths of two of our long time members, Claire Mueller and R. O. Collins. The membership sends their sympathy and prayers.

I also received the very happy news that another long time member, Jo Ann Vogt, got married to James Klassen recently. Congratulations!

Just a reminder, we really need to hear from you. We don't know about changes of address (street or e-mail) unless you tell us. And we would also like to know if you would be willing to host a future reunion. Any questions, contact me, Tama Tillman, or Emily Povey.



## IN MEMORIAM

*Claire Mueller* died March 12, 2004 at the age of 95. She and Otto were married for 24 years. Both have been ARA members since 1989.

We have been recently notified that *R.O. Collins* died last year on March 1, 2003. His wife Gene and he have been members since 1987.

## Are You BLUE?

If the "Paid Thru" date is in blue and/or still showing 2003, please send in your dues! Otherwise, this will be the last issue of the Afterburner that you will receive. Dues are \$12 per year. Make checks payable to Aviano Reunion Association and mail to:

Emily Povey,  
626 E. Davis Blvd.  
Tampa, FL 33606



Include any changes of address or other information. Please see form in this issue page 2

### Inside This Issue...

Registration for 2004 Reunion in San Antonio .....	page 4
Reunion 2004 Schedule .....	page 4
Reunion 2005 Umbria/Tuscany .....	page 5
Photo Album .....	pages 6-7



**Russell (Russ) & Jacquelyn (Jackie) Barr**  
 608 Bellenden Dr.  
 Peachtree City, GA 30269-3203  
 Phone (770) 631-1773  
 E-mail: RussBarr@aol.com;  
 JaDeeBarr@aol.com  
 Aviano Era: 71-75  
 Status: Military  
 Unit: Base Chapel/ABG

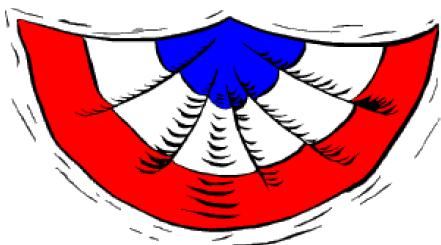
**Linda Sowitch**  
 1541 1<sup>st</sup> St. S.W.  
 Minot, ND 58701-5942  
 Phone: (701) 838-0420  
 E-mail:  
 oldgreyone@hotmail.com  
 Status: Sister of Joanne Harnit

**Charles H. & JoAnn Campbell**  
 Nickname: Cam  
 2507 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Los Alamos, NM 87544-1542  
 Phone: (H) 505-661-4284/505-665-8544  
 Email: CamandJo@webtv.net/  
 Ccam@LANL.gov  
 Aviano Era: 71-75/ 80-83  
 Status: Military  
 Unit/School: 40<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron

**Michael D. Hanson & Linda K. Kazarian**  
 Nickname: Mike  
 9151 Vista Entrada  
 Lakeside, CA 92040-5815  
 Phone: 619-561-8025  
 Email:  
 MDHANSEN@CTS.com  
 Aviano Era: 72-74  
 Status: Military  
 Unit/School: 40<sup>th</sup> CAMS

**Richard & LeNeille Hudgins**  
 Nickname: Dick  
 37235 S. Desert Bluff Drive  
 Tucson, AZ 85739-2197  
 Phone: 520-825-9457  
 Email: hudginshome@att.net  
 Aviano Era: 72-74  
 Status: Military  
 Unit/School: 40<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron

**Donald W. Fishlinger**  
 NickName: "Fish"  
 Spouse: Alice M. Fishlinger  
 Address: 27 Crestline Ave.  
 Bethpage NY 11714-4612  
 E-mail: df447@aol.com  
 Era: 66 - 70  
 Status: Military  
 Unit: 40th CAMEON-(worked on Flight Line as Aircraft Mechanic-in Transit Alert)



# ROSTER ADDITIONS & CORRECTIONS

**Paul Bolen**

E-mail:  
 paul.bolen@investintl.com

**Bert Prudhomme**

E-mail:  
 prudhommeb@hotmail.com

**Gene S. Collins**

3405 Chaparral Dr.  
 St. George, UT 84790

**Jane Sellars**

E-mail:  
 jdsellars@comcast.net

**JoAnn (Vogt) Klassen**

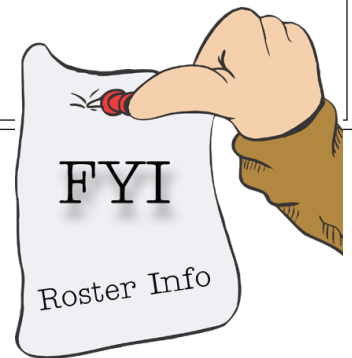
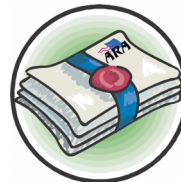
Spouse: James Klassen  
 29060 County Road 33  
 Utica, MN 55979  
 Phone: (507) 932-3617  
 E-mail: jimandjoa@msn.com

**Wendell & Norma Lasher**

7505 Ashby Lane Unit F  
 Alexandria, VA 22315  
 Phone: (703) 924-8884  
 Email: wlasher@earthlink.

**Lasher new cells:**

Norma (703) 819-4254  
 Lash (703) 819-0796



Clip and mail to:

Emily Povey • 626 East Davis Blvd. • Tampa, FL 33606-3922  
 phone 813-251-4664 • email - empo@tampabay.rr.com  
 You may send the information using any of the above.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

New address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_

New Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Anything you would like to have in the Roster or Afterburner

# REUNION 2004

We are just six months away from our 2004 San Antonio reunion



and are pleased to announce that we already have 60 folks registered! It's not too late to join in the fun, however, so continue to encourage your ARA friends, as well as your own family members, to get their registrations in as soon as possible. Please make checks payable to Lynn Catalina, and mail them to the address on the registration form.

Of course, it is now officially too late to qualify for that special bottle of Chianti that was promised to all who registered by March 31. We congratulate all of you who qualified—see the accompanying list of registrants, as of April 1.

Jaime Vazquez is busy coordinating our trip to Lackland and USAA—surely to be a highlight of the weekend. He's even making arrangements for a golf outing for any of you desiring this option. His wife Belinda will be providing some special touches and historical perspectives on the Missions tour. The river barge dinner is contracted and the margarita machine is being tested by Ben. And Lynn and Ben played tourist for a weekend and stayed at the River Walk Drury Inn & Suites in February, walking from the hotel to various points of interest along the River Walk. The steaks in the Texas Land & Cattle Restaurant were superb! We think you will agree that the Drury is in a great location for our event — right on the beautiful River Walk!

By the way, for those of you flying in to San Antonio, a rental car is not needed. You can take an inexpensive shuttle to and from the hotel. We will have chartered buses for the Missions tour and Lackland/USAA tours. The hotel is very convenient to all venues downtown. IF you would like to rent a car for a day of sightseeing on your own, the hotel has an excellent service agreement with Enterprise Rental Car, which will deliver the car to the hotel for you.

Need more incentive to get more folks here? With this issue we are announcing a special campaign. Effective April 1, any ARA

member who brings a paying, non-member guest to his or her first ARA reunion will be entered into a drawing for a special prize to be awarded during our dinner Saturday night. Round 'em up and herd 'em in!

If you haven't made your hotel reservations yet, please don't delay. Even though our group rates are protected until September 3, this hotel is very popular and will easily sell out for our November dates. We're looking forward to seeing you in beautiful San Antonio!

## List of 2004 Paid Registrants

Ben & Lynn Catalina  
 Bill & Gloria Walker  
 Jaime & Belinda Vazquez  
 Bill & Emily Povey  
 Nick & Margaret Leone  
 Jay & Jane Maust  
 Gerald & Linda Smith  
 Peter Ross  
 Paul & Fran Mobley  
 Joe & Franca Rutter  
 Gene & Jean Ives  
 Gary & Tama Tillman  
 Al & Lou Currie  
 Bob & Carolyn Watters  
 Wendall (Lash) & Norma Lasher  
 Bill & Ellie Coote  
 Leo & Pat McCarthy  
 Paul & Donna Bolen  
 Walt Geisinger  
 Anita Burnett  
 John & Marianna Fells  
 Rodger & Betty Gracey

Jim & Connie Carino  
 Phil Howerton  
 Ray & Marilyn Walbridge  
 Gene & Martha Novikoff  
 Lew & Dottie Erhart  
 Joanne Harnit  
 Bea Jernigan  
 Neil & Nancy Lewis  
 Bill & Dee Davis  
 Earl & Harriett Fairchild  
 Bert & Maurine Prudhomme  
 Melvin & Sandy Black



**You know you're Italian when . . .** You can bench press 325 pounds, shave twice a day and still cry when your mother yells at you.

You carry your lunch in a produce bag because you can't fit two cappicola sandwiches, 4 oranges, 2 bananas and pizzelles into a regular lunch bag.

Your mechanic, plumber, electrician, accountant, travel agent and lawyer are all your cousins.

## Correspondence



*The Beckwiths* – “.....The newsletter was GREAT!!!”

*Gene Stephens Collins* – This has been a busy and readjustment year. Richard died 1<sup>st</sup> March 2003. I have since moved and

rebuilt. Richard never got to Aviano, except by the tales he heard from those who were stationed there, like myself. Hope to make San Antonio.

*Raymond Walbridge* (2/26/04) – Marilyn continues to improve. Can walk unassisted but needs someone with her so she won't fall. Spirits are good and the change in medications that were made eliminated the tremors, so life is looking up. We definitely plan on being in San Antonio. Our son and family live there so we can't pass up a chance to see the grandkids and all the Avianoites. We do appreciate the prayers, thoughts and cards concerning Marilyn. Ciao.

### You know you're Italian when...

You have at least 5 cousins living in the same town or on the same block. All five of those cousins are named after your grandfather or grandmother.

You are on a first name basis with at least 8 banquet hall owners.

You only get one good shave from a disposable razor.

## ARA 2004 San Antonio Reunion Registration Form

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) as you want them on tags

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \$135 per person (Make checks payable to Lynn Catalina or Emily Povey)

Print and Mail Form with Payment To:

**Ben & Lynn Catalina**

**8510 Aesop Lane**

**Universal City, TX 78148**

**888-522-7447**

*Please remember to make hotel reservations directly to:*

*River Walk Drury Inn and Suites*

**800-378-7946.**

## SAN ANTONIO 2004 REUNION SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 3-7 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

### Wednesday, Nov. 3:

Hotel check-in after 3:00 p.m.

Cocktails in hotel lobby

Welcome reception in hospitality room

### Thursday, Nov. 4:

Breakfast in hotel lobby

Morning at leisure

Missions tour in the afternoon

Cocktails in hotel lobby

Mexican dinner barge trip along the River Walk

### Friday, Nov. 5:

Breakfast in hotel lobby

Lackland BMTS graduation and tour of USAA

Evening free

### Saturday, Nov. 6:

Breakfast in hotel lobby

Optional events such as Hill Country tour, golf, other sightseeing, shopping...

Evening dinner party catered by Texas Land & Cattle Restaurant

### Sunday, Nov. 7:

Breakfast in hotel lobby or enjoy brunch on the river on your own

- Check out by noon

REUNION HOSTS Ben & Lynn Catalina 888-522-7447;

bcatalina@satx.rr.com

\$135 per person.

Please make checks out to Aviano Reunion Association and mail to:

Ben & Lynn Catalina

8510 Aesop Lane

Universal City, TX 78148

# REUNION-2005 UMBRIA/TUSCANY

Tentative plans for the Umbria/Tuscany reunion are for the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October. We are hoping to keep the fee around the same as the last Tuscany reunion. The good news is that the hotel should be cheaper. Here are a few of the notes about the proposed plans:

Suggested location/lodgings was 4 star hotel in Chianciano Terme- this means access to many things he thinks the group will appreciate

- Spa treatments (very well-known throughout Europe and very good for the tired traveler) mud treatments, massage, thermal water pools, etc.
- Easy connections to other areas on free days - by train
- Excellent treatment (staff in area very used to visitors, multilingual, etc.)
- Reasonable price (right now in 2004, the average 4 star in Chianciano costs about 25% less

than the Jolly in Siena)- I, Patti would caution against saying the overall cost of the package could be less than before, given the incredible inflation in Europe from the Euro, plus the weak dollar, but basing the group in a city that costs less than Siena is certainly a good step to containing costs.

- Entertainment in area - Chianciano has music, dancing, "nightlife" that would appeal to the group.

Suggested activities

- Two city tours (with transport, Assisi and Orvieto are suggested, guided half days with meal)— the Assisi day would be followed by free time or a close by destination, the Orvieto day would be possibly combined with a trip to scenic Lake Bolsena.
- Two countryside tours (full days, with meal)- Roberto has suggested one day in the Valle D'Orcia, with an Etruscan museum, tomb site, and a "hands-on" visit to a work-

ing farm (where they make cheese, etc) with meal at the farm, tour of farmhouse, and the other full day in the Maremma touring the hill towns of Sorano and Pitigliano, both very panoramic quaint towns.

- Roberto has not suggested the optional tour yet and perhaps that would come out from various requests as you begin your job of gauging interest- perhaps something to do with food & wine, perhaps a particular destination Roberto has yet to discover...
- Certainly one special final meal, perhaps another "themed" meal during the week or special restaurant meal during the week
- And, again, assistance. I'm happy to have any and all input on the kinds of assistance that would be helpful.



Two guys, one 80 and one 87, were sitting on their usual park bench one morning. The 87 year old had just finished his morning jog and wasn't even short of breath. The 80

year old was amazed at his friend's stamina and asked him what he did to have so much energy. The 87 year old said; "well I eat Italian bread every day. It keeps your energy level high and you'll have great stamina with the ladies." So, on the way home, the 80 year old stops at the bakery. As he was looking

around,, the lady asked if he needed any help. He said, "Do you have any Italian bread?" She said, "Yes, there's a whole shelf of it, would you like some?" He said, "I want 5 loaves." She said, "My goodness, 5 loaves...it'll get hard." He replied, "Does everybody in the world know about this Italian bread but ME?"







**AVIANO  
AFTERBURNER**

NEWSLETTER OF AVIANO REUNION ASSOCIATION



2623 Hickory Flats Trail  
Huntsville, AL 35801