



## President's Message

**November Afterburner!** Normally we publish the November Afterburner later in the month, but we wanted to get you a quick update before the Nashville reunion.

**Nashville 2010!** By the time you read this, we are only a few days away! Our attendee list has now grown to over 60 and we're looking forward to seeing all of you. (Have you found your reunion nametags yet?) Joe & Franca Rutter, our wonderful hosts, have more details in this issue. For the latest info on the hotel, go to:

<http://www.gaylordhotels.com/gaylord-opryland/>.

**\$200 Prize!** As a reminder, those attending the Nashville reunion will be entered in a drawing to win a \$200 certificate applicable to their 2011 Italy reunion fee. Can you still register for the Nashville reunion? Yes, but our hotel group rates may no longer be available. Please contact the Rutters now.

**2011 Reunion in Italy!** We sure hope you haven't procrastinated in making your decision to join us. As you will see by the list on a later page, we already have deposits from 80 eager members! As we said in the last Afterburner, the reunion participants will be limited to a maximum of 80 members. The wait list has now begun. If you want to join us on this wonderful reunion and tour of Southern Italy and the Amalfi Coast, please mail your deposit check for \$200 per person to me now. We will put your names on the wait list, and if/when cancellations

occur, all wait list names will move up accordingly. For more information, please read the reunion article elsewhere or go to our website at [www.avianoreunion.com](http://www.avianoreunion.com).

**Post Reunion Cruise!** Over 80 people are also going on the cruise – 11-night Mediterranean & Holy Land. Space is still available. More details elsewhere in this issue.

**2012 Reunion Host?** Now is the time to volunteer to host the reunion for 2012. Our Association goal is to go to Italy every three years, but the other two years reunions are in the USA. Reunions each year have been so successful because of volunteers who step up and say "we'll do it." East Coast, West Coast, and places in-between have all been successful and fun events because of those volunteers. If you would like to chair the reunion for 2012, please contact me. We need to present your idea to the membership for approval at our meeting in Nashville. No formal proposal needed; just a "yes we volunteer!"

**Don't Forget!** If you would like your Afterburner emailed to you, please send Emily a note at [empo@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:empo@tampabay.rr.com). You'll get the information faster and it's guaranteed to not be shredded. Remember to check out our website at [www.avianoreunion.com](http://www.avianoreunion.com).

**In this Issue...**More new member names. Don't miss the Rutter's Nashville update. And...Italy Reunion 2011 update & attendee list...

### ARA Officers

Ben Catalina - *President*

Rodger Gracey - *Vice President*

Emily Povey - *Secretary/Treasurer*

Nick Leone - *Editor*

Lisa Ringler - *Webmaster*

Tama Tillman - *Board Assistant*

### FUTURE REUNIONS

2010 Nashville, TN - Hosts: Joe & Franca Rutter

Dates: Nov. 28-Dec. 3

2011 Italy - Hosts: Ben & Lynn Catalina

Dates: October 8-15, 2011

## NEW ROSTER

By the time of the printing of this Afterburner, you should have received your copy of the September 2010 roster. Please take the time to look at your listing in the roster and verify that all information is correct and complete. Any corrections or additions should be sent to Emily Povey at [empo@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:empo@tampabay.rr.com) or mailed to:

Emily Povey  
626 East Davis Blvd.  
Tampa, FL 33606

## Nashville Reunion News... See Below

### Opryland Hotel at Christmas



### From The Editor

I'm sure that all of you have enjoyed the "Members in the News" and "Memories of Aviano" articles. We would certainly like to see this continued with other member contributions!

### DUES FOR 2011

The year is quickly drawing to a close. Take time to look at your label and if you are only paid through 2010, take the time to send in your dues for next year. Checks should be made payable to Aviano Reunion Association and mailed to Emily Povey, 626 East Davis Blvd, Tampa, FL 33606. Dues are \$15 per year.



## Welcome New Members

Jeff & Erin Catalina  
Joe & Claire Dorris  
Tom Elpers  
Paul & Cheryl Glaza  
Glenn & Martha Heckman  
Victoria Ives  
William (Bill) & Barbara (Barb) Lloyd  
Malcolm (Mac) &  
Kathleen (Kathy) Steen  
Karen Szkarlat  
Josie Webb

*Please see new roster for contact information.*

### WELCOME BACK

Bonnie Collier  
Imogene (Imo) and James (Jim) Willis Jr.

*Please see new roster for contact information.*



## UPDATE ARA REUNION 2010 Opryland Hotel - Nashville • 28 Nov - Dec 3, 2010

Wow!! How time flies. We are now nearing the time for our Reunion in Nashville and the excitement is building. Everything is on schedule for the Grand Reopening of the hotel on November 15. The following link provides some insight into the activity at the hotel and its status.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5aqlJpuZRME&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5aqlJpuZRME&feature=player_embedded)

All the event tickets have been purchased and will be distributed at the hospitality gathering on Nov. 28. We have asked the hotel to locate our room block in the Magnolia section (which is near our hospitality room and

banquet room) and they will try to accommodate our request as best as possible. We thank all the attendees for their prompt action in sending in their final payments and responding to our requests for arrival information. Everyone has been very responsive for which we are very grateful. Please let us know if there are any questions we can help with. We can be reached at 256-534-7214 or 256-527-0406. Our email address is [josephgrutter@bellsouth.net](mailto:josephgrutter@bellsouth.net). We are so looking forward to seeing you all in Nashville. Buon Viaggio. *We love you. Franca and Joe*

# Aviano Reunion - Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN

## November 28 - December 3, 2010



### Agenda

- Nov. 28** - Check-in (after 3:00pm)  
Welcome reception/agenda updates.  
Pay-as-you go bar. **4:00pm-7:00pm**
- Nov. 29** - **7:00am - 10:00am** Breakfast (*on your own*) and free time to get acquainted with the hotel and its beautiful decorations  
**10:45am - 2:30pm** - General Jackson Riverboat Cruise with lunch and entertainment.
- Nov. 30** - **7:00am - 08:30am** Breakfast (*on your own*)  
**8:45am - 1:00pm** - Nashville City Tour  
**1:00pm - 6:00pm** Freetime  
**6:00pm - 9:30pm** - Grand Ole Opry
- Dec. 1** - **7:00am - 08:30am** - Breakfast (*on your own*)  
**8:45am - 12:30pm** - Tour of the Hermitage–General Jackson’s Plantation  
**1:00pm - 6:00pm** - Free time to enjoy all the venues in the Hotel  
**6:45pm - 10:00pm** - Radio City Rockettes
- Dec. 2** - **7:00am - 8:00am** - Breakfast (*on your own*)
- Optional Tour:**  
**8:30am - 4:00 pm** - Jack Daniel Distillery – includes lunch at Ms Bobo’s famous family boarding house  
**5:00pm - 6:00pm** - Cocktails. Pay-as-you go bar.  
**6:00pm - 11:00pm** - ARA Farewell Dinner.  
Music and Dance after Dinner
- Dec 3** - Checkout no later than 11:00am.

### Current Registrants

Ben and Lynn Catalina	Tom and Elaine Horton
Wendall and Norma Lasher	Dick and Barbara Gaskell
Nick and Margaret Leone	Bill and Dee Davis
Bill and Emily Povey	Daria Christenson
Mike Hansen and Linda Kazarian	Joe and Franca Rutter
Jay and Jane Maust	Phil and Hilda Howerton
George Hughes and Josie Webb	Carolyn Watters
Bill and Gloria Walker	Jim and Nelda Hall
Lew Erhart and Tayler Erhart Bailey	George and Nancy Beckwith
Gene and Jean Ives	Sally Eaves
Al and Lou Currie	Bert and Maurine Prudhomme
Robert Burnett	Faye Ives
Jaime and Belinda Vazquez	Katherine and Becky Oldis
Joanne Harnit	Jim and Jill Dohr
Neva Cole	Joe and Claire Dorris
Roger and Betty Gracey	Doris Burnett
George and Diane Hefner	Jim and Sandy Black
Dean and Dana Willsey	Ray and Marilyn Walbridge



## ARA FAREWELL DINNER MENU

~ Appetizers ~  
*(served family style)*

*Affettato Misto*  
Salame Toscano, Coppa, Capocollo, Soppressata, Salame "Cacciatore"

*Formaggi e Stuzzichini*  
Fontina, Asiago, Provolone and Prosciutto stuffed Cherry Peppers, Marinated Onions, Asparagus and Mushrooms

~ Salade ~  
*Insalata Volare*  
Mesclun lettuce with Merlot infused Sun-Dried Cherries, Gorgonzola and Candied Pecans

~ Duo Entrée ~  
*5 ex Filet Mignon*  
Marinated in our own herb blend with olive oil and garlic, and then grilled to perfection

Accompanied with  
*Stamberoni al Forno*  
Three Jumbo Shrimp baked with Feta and Parmigiano Cheeses on a bed of Angel Hair.  
Crispy green beans "aglio e olio" to compliment

~ Dessert de ~  
*Chef's Selection*

# Amalfi Coast & Southern Italy

## Aviano Reunion 2011

After touring with Roberto Bechi of Tours by Roberto for three previous reunions in Italy (2002, 2005, & 2008) throughout Umbria, Tuscany, Lake Como and the Aviano area, the ARA membership asked for a different tour area for 2011. Amalfi Coast & Southern Italy will be our destination next year! As in the past, Roberto has prepared a wonderful itinerary that I am sure we will all enjoy. And since his assistant, Anna, is from that southern region of Italy, she has helped tailor it to perfection, making it extra special. Having worked with us in the past, and getting to know us, they have developed some unique touches in the itinerary that only Roberto and Anna can do. As you know, they do not believe in "off the shelf cookie cutter" tours, but strive to be unique and at a very special price. They've done it again for us!

The dates are October 8 to 15, 2011. It will be a 7-night itinerary, concentrating on the Amalfi Coast area to include four nights in Sorrento, two in Matera, and one in Lucera. Not only are the itinerary and the inclusions fantastic, so is the price. This 7-night package with Rome airport pickup and return, hotels, transportation, tours, 10 meals, private guides (Roberto & Anna), private tour boats around Sorrento and Capri, and even a final night banquet, along with a little vino every now and then, will be only 1125 euros per person. (Yes, this is less than our 2008 reunion price!) There is a single supplement of 200 euros. As in the past, the tour must be priced in euros due to the fluctuating exchange rate.

The full itinerary details are listed separately, but in answer to the question we have already received --- yes, there will be an optional follow-on cruise.

### Key payment due dates are:

<b>NOW</b>	\$200 per person deposit
Jan. 15, 2011:	\$600 per person interim payment
June 15, 2011:	Balance of per person total

**NOTES:** (1.) The balance due on June 15 will be computed using the euro exchange rate on that date and will be based on the total per person rate. (2.) The deposit is refundable until December 31, 2010. (3.) Any cancellation at any time after December 31 is non-refundable unless we are able to substitute another member to take your place.

### A Few Rules

The reunion capacity is 80 adults; no children. Signups will be first-deposited, first served, following these rules:

1. First priority will be to members who attend the Nashville reunion.
2. Next priority will be given to members with longest continuous membership in the ARA.
3. All other members of ARA.

Can a nonmember of ARA attend? Unfortunately, no. Attendance is reserved for ARA members only. If you have relatives or friends who want to attend, please have them mail their \$15 annual membership dues to Emily. We'd love to have them as members and as reunion attendees.

**How to register:** Send a deposit check for \$200 per person, payable to Ben or Lynn Catalina, along with the names for whom the deposit is for, and mail to:

Ben Catalina  
8510 Aesop Lane  
Universal City, TX 78148

Since we have the 80-member maximum capacity for this reunion, please do not put this on the back burner and think about it. As you recall, we sold out quickly for our last trip to Italy and we had to create a wait list.

Questions? Email or call Ben or Lynn at 888-522-7447 or [bcatalina@satx.rr.com](mailto:bcatalina@satx.rr.com).

**Visit the ARA Website!!**  
**[www.AvianoReunion.com](http://www.AvianoReunion.com)**

# AVIANO REUNION ITALY 2011

## Itinerary

**Oct. 8-15, 2011**

(Depart from USA on Oct. 7 or earlier if desired)

### Day 1 October 8, (Saturday)

- Arrival at Rome's Fiumicino Airport (FCO)
- Pickup at the airport in the morning
- Lunch on the way to [Sorrento](#)
- Check-in at Hotel Ambasciatori overlooking the Gulf of Naples and Mount Vesuvius <http://www.ambasciatorisorrento.com/index.php>
- Late afternoon guided tour of Sorrento
- Welcome dinner at the hotel

### Day 2 Oct. 9, (Sunday)

- Tour by private boat of the Amalfi coast
- Stop in Amalfi with a visit of the Duomo and an ancient paper factory
- Lunch in a typical trattoria
- Return to the hotel in the afternoon
- Dinner on your own (we will suggest places to go)

### Day 3 Oct. 10, (Monday)

- Visit of [Pompeii](#)
- Demonstration at a local Mozzarella cheese-making artisan, followed by lunch there
- Free afternoon
- Dinner at the hotel

### Day 4 Oct.11, (Tuesday)

- Visit of Capri by private boat
- Visit of downtown [Capri](#)
- Lunch on your own and shopping
- Return to hotel
- Dinner at a famous "pizzeria"



### Day 5 Oct. 12, (Wednesday)

- Transfer to [Matera](#)
- Check-in at Hotel Italia <http://www.albergoitalia.com/eng/index.htm>
- Lunch in a typical restaurant in the Sassi area followed by a tour of the city
- Dinner on your own (we will suggest places to go)

### Day 6 Oct. 13, (Thursday)

- Visit of the famous Alberobello town in Apulia Region
- Lunch at a local trattoria
- Return to Matera and free time for shopping
- Dinner on your own

### Day 7 Oct. 14, (Friday)

- Transfer to Lucera (Puglia)
- Visit of Lucera Castello
- Visit to a winery in the Village of Troia with lunch
- Check-in at Grand Hotel Vigna Nocelli [www.grandhotelvignanocelli.com](http://www.grandhotelvignanocelli.com)
- Farewell Banquet with music combo at the hotel

### Day 8 Oct. 15, (Saturday)

- Departure after breakfast for Rome
- Arrival at Rome Fiumicino Airport, Port of Civitavecchia, or Rome downtown

**Total cost:** 1125 euros per person, including all transportation, hotels, tours, daily private guide, and 10 meals

Followed by optional Mediterranean / Holy Land Cruise departing Oct. 15, 2010 from the Port of Civitavecchia (Rome).

## Airline & Hotel Recommendations for Italy



In December, Ben & Lynn will send recommended arrival and departure times for airline reservations. They will also provide the recommended Rome hotel for those preferring to arrive to Rome early or stay later after the reunion & cruise.



## Aviano Reunion 2011 Registrants

Ben & Lynn Catalina  
 Jay & Jane Maust  
 Bill & Emily Povey  
 Bill & Gloria Walker  
 Mike Hansen & Linda Kazarian  
 Joe & Franca Rutter  
 George & Nancy Beckwith  
 Jaime & Belinda Vazquez  
 Bill & Dee Davis  
 George & Diane Hefner  
 Jim & Jill Dohr  
 Al & Lou Currie  
 Rodger & Betty Gracey  
 Tom & Elaine Horton  
 Gene, Jean, & Gay Ives  
 Joe & Claire Dorris  
 Faye & Wilma Ives  
 George Hughes & Josie Webb  
 Doris Burnett & Guest  
 Joanne Harnit & Neva Cole  
 Nick & Margaret Leone  
 Phil & Hilda Howerton  
 Lew Erhart & Tayler Bailey  
 Jeff & Erin Catalina  
 Betty Farmer & Al Richardson  
 Dave & Maryellen Scherer  
 Sally Eaves & Guest  
 Pete Ross  
 Jean & Heinz Kunz  
 Dan Hayes & Guest  
 Tom & Cheryl McIlroy  
 Brent Ives & Karen Szkarlat  
 Carol Davis & Tom Elpers  
 Zane & Margaret Hoit  
 Tom & Carolyn Scannell  
 Glenn & Martha Heckman  
 Paul & Cheryl Glaza  
 William & Barbara Lloyd  
 Lou & Astrid Ondrusek  
 Ursula Dominguez & Connie Brown

# NOVEMBER 11 A SPECIAL SALUTE TO ALL OUR VETERANS ON VETERANS DAY!

## Obedient Italian Wife!

*There was an Italian immigrant man who had worked all his life, had saved all of his money, and was a real "miser" when it came to his money.*

*Just before he died, he said to his Italian wife... "When I die, I want you to take all my money and put it in the casket with me. I want to take my money to the after life with me."*

*And so he got his wife to promise him, that when he died, she would put all of the money into the casket with him. Well, he died. He was stretched out in the casket, his wife was sitting there - dressed in black, (what else), and her best friend was sitting next to her*

*When they finished the ceremony, and just before the undertaker got ready to close the casket, the wife said, "Wait just a moment!"*

*She had a small metal box with her; she came over with the box and put it in the casket.*

*Then the undertaker locked the casket down and they rolled it away. So her friend said, "Girl, I know you were not fool enough to put; all that money in there with your husband." The loyal wife replied, "Listen, I'm an Italian Catholic & I cannot go back on my word. I promised him that I was going to put that money in the casket with him.."*

*You mean to tell me you put that money in the casket with him??"*

*"I sure did," said the wife.*

*"I got it all together, put it into my account, I wrote him a check.... If he can cash it, then he can spend it." AMEN!*



## Cruise the Mediterranean

The reunion fun need not end in Italy, as Ben and Lynn will host a follow-on cruise roundtrip from Rome to the Holy Land and Egypt. We were lucky enough to block group space quickly before word got out about Norwegian Cruise Line's special 11-night Mediterranean itinerary. As a result, our already excellent group rates now price even lower than current rates as this sailing is selling fast. We realize this is a longer cruise than normal for a reunion follow-on, but these amazing ports of call were just too tempting to pass up. And...if you fly all the way from the USA to Italy, you may as well make the most of the trip!

We'll board the NCL Jade in Civitavecchia (Rome's port city) on October 15 and, after two relaxing days at sea, will sail into Alanya, Turkey, a beautiful seaside resort with long stretches of sand framed by the Taurus Mountains. Next up is the island of Cyprus, where we can embark on a wine tour through picturesque island villages, tour the Limassol Castle and medieval museum, or simply park in a cafe and listen to bouzouki melodies.

Highlights of this cruise, however, will surely be the two overnight possibilities in Israel and Egypt. The ship will dock at both Haifa, near Nazareth and the Sea of Galilee, and Ashdod, near Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem. Although day trips will be offered at each port, the featured shore excursion includes overnight tours in Israel to Jerusalem, Galilee, Tel Aviv, Jaffa, the Dead Sea and Masada. Likewise, the Jade will stop at both Port Said and Alexandria, Egypt, where we can opt for an overnight stay in Cairo and visit to Egypt's pyramids and tombs. Shore excursions are not yet final, but we should know the details and prices by January. We may try to form a special overnight excursion for our group in Egypt.

Because of the popularity of this itinerary, it is very important to get your deposits in quickly, even if you're not sure you can sail. Deposits **MUST BE** by credit or debit card (\$400 per person) and are fully refundable until July 1, 2011 (*suites refundable until June 1*). Balcony cabins are only \$1389 per person, ocean view @ \$1149 per person, and inside cabins @ \$859 per person, plus tax of \$95 per person. Call Ben at 888-522-7447 or e-mail [bcatalina@cruisesinc.com](mailto:bcatalina@cruisesinc.com) for more information, more cabin choices, and to make your deposit.

NCL Jade, Oct 15-26, 2011

Day	Date	Port
Sat	10/15	Rome (Civitavecchia), Italy
Sun	10/16	At Sea
Mon	10/17	At Sea
Tue	10/18	Alanya, Turkey
Wed	10/19	Limassol, Cyprus
Thu	10/20	Haifa, Israel
Fri	10/21	Ashdod, Israel
Sat	10/22	Port Said, Egypt
Sun	10/23	Alexandria, Egypt
Mon	10/24	At Sea
Tue	10/25	At Sea
Wed	10/26	Rome (Civitavecchia), Italy



### 1960 Aviano Explosive Ordnance Disposal Detachment

*Standing: Nick Leone, Leroy Ayers, George Hughes, Bob Terry, Ed O'Brien, Micky Maasson, Bob Myers, Larry Solomon, And Bud Maligani.*

*Down In Front: Ben Gandy And Dave Selcer.*



Year 1960: Entrance To Aviano



The Newsletter of The Aviano Reunion Association

2623 Hickory Flats Trail  
Huntsville, AL 35801