

AVIANO AFTERBURNER

NEWSLETTER OF AVIANO REUNION ASSOCIATION



Volume 17, Number 1

February 2004

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850 Aesop Lane
Universal City, TX 78148-2641

FROM THE PRESIDENT

First of all, I have to report that Dorothy Botvidson died November 1. Her niece notified us. Dorothy had been in a nursing home. Dorothy was one of the charter members of ARA. Her Aviano era was 62-64.

We also got a call from William McKinley to inform us that his wife Barbara Lee died. He didn't give any details other than the fact that it was a long process. They had always wanted to attend our reunions but were unable to do so. He plans on attending this year's in San Antonio. Our sympathies are with him for the loss of Barbara.

CONGRATULATIONS to Bill & Gloria Walker for being the first to submit their check for the registration fee for the Reunion in San Antonio! For their timeliness, they will receive TWO bottles of a special, limited edition, commemorative bottle of vino. Anyone registering and sending in their deposit by March 31 will have a bottle of this wonderful red wine waiting on them in their hotel room! (One bottle per room)



On to more pleasant news, Ben and Lynn Catalina (mostly Lynn) have been very busy working on this year's reunion. Please take time to look through the information in this issue and make your plans!

And there is also a little teaser about the reunion in Italy in this issue. Roberto and I have talked and have made plans for the reunion to be a combination of Umbria and Tuscany. Patti put together a few planning notes for us to go over.

LOSS OF MEMBER:

Walter R. Lacey of Huntsville, AL passed away on January 25th at the age of 77.



Inside This Issue...

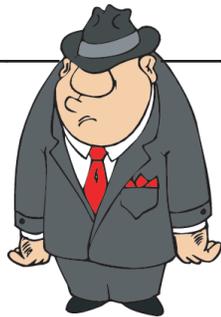
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ARA Webmaster – Lynn Catalina/
www.avianoreunion.com

REUNION 2004

Lots of excitement about the ARA Reunion in San Antonio. We've had inquiries from folks who have never attended a previous reunion, plus folks who are not yet members. Those who have said they are going, so far, include folks such as Ben & Lynn Catalina (of course!), Jaime & Belinda Vazquez (Jaime promises to sing again), newcomers Lou & Fema Rangel, Bill & Emily Povey escaping the Florida heat, Bill & Dee Davis from up the road from San Antonio, Gary & Tama Tillman from the cold northeast, Nick & Margaret Leone leading a contingent from Alabama, John & Marianne Fells (John has a special treat in store for us), and many more. Ben & Lynn have planned a full slate of events. If you're "thinkin bout it" now's the time to send in your reunion event fee of \$135 per person. SEE REGISTRATION FORM on page 4.

Check out the info on our website at <http://www.avianoreunion.com> BUT now is the time to start making your down payments. See the info in the separate box elsewhere in the Afterburner.



Why do Italians hate Jehovah's Witnesses?
Italians hate all witnesses.

Do you know why most men from Italy are named Tony?
On the boat over to America they put a sticker on them that said **TO NY**.

In The Pink?

If your label has been highlighted in pink, you should get your current year's dues sent in. Dues are \$12 per year. Make checks payable to Aviano Reunion Association and mail to Emily Povey, 626 E. Davis Blvd., Tampa, FL 33606. We also have pins (\$3), patches (\$2) and luggage tags (\$1.50) on sale.



CORRESPONDENCE

From Darrel Corradini... Hi my name is Darrel Corradini and my dad asked me to send you this address change for him as he lives with me in Annapolis, MD now. My mother is in an assisted living home and he stays with me.



Frederick (Rico) & Muriel (Babe) Tolerico
524 South 59th St.
Tacoma, WA 98408-6441
Phone: 253-620-1060
E-mail:
muriel.tolerico@boeing.com
Aviano Era: 68-73
Status: Military
Unit: Headquarters SP

Lisa Fairchild
2432 W. Hidden View Place
Tucson AZ 85742-4512
520-229-5119
lisa.fairchild@dhs.gov
work
lafinlady@comcast.net
home
Aviano Era: 62 – 65
Military Dependent
Father's unit unknown –
father's name - Earl E.
Fairchild (to young to attend
schools while there)

ROSTER ADDITIONS & CORRECTIONS

Richard & Geraldine Corradini
1200 Chrisland Court
Annapolis, MD 21403
Phone: 410-295-5171

Kaye & Joe DiCiero
E-mail:
kjditalia@cox.net



REUNION-2005

UMBRIA / TUSCANY

Tentative plans for the Umbria/Tuscany reunion are for the 3rd 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 working 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.



Divorce Court

Angelina says:

"Your honor, we beena marry 25 years ana Giuseppi he always picka his nose ana when we maka love he a never letsa me on topa. I justa canna taka dis no more." The judge

listens solemnly and then addresses Giuseppi. "Giuseppi, is disa true. You always a picka your nose and you never let Angelina on top?? What have you

gotta say fora yourself?" Giuseppi says: "Well your honor, itsa true. I picka my nose a lot and, yeah, Angelina, I tella her she'sa gotta be onna da bottom. Itsa all go's aback to when I'mma a younga boy. My poppa, he's a very smarta man. I always do ev'ryting he'sa say. My poppa one day he says, "Giuseppi, I gotta tella you da two main secrets ofa hava successful life" Numero Uno, you always keepa your nose clean. ana numero duo, never screw up.

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.

You have at least 5 cousins living in the same town or street. 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.

If someone in your family grows beyond 5'9", it is presumed his Mother had an affair.

There are more than 28 people in your bridal party.

You netted more than \$50,000 on your first communion.

And you REALLY, REALLY know you're Italian when:

Your grandfather had a fig tree.

You eat Sunday dinner at 2:00.

Christmas Eve . . . only fish.

Your mom's meatballs are the best.

You've been hit with a wooden spoon or had a shoe thrown at you.

Plastic on the furniture is normal. You know how to pronounce "manicotti" and "mozzarella." You fight over whether it's called "sauce" or "gravy."

You've called someone a "mamaluke." And you understand "bada bing??".



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 DAY TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 3-7 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

WEDNESDAY - Hotel check-in after 3:00 pm

THURSDAY - Morning at leisure; San Antonio Missions Tour in the afternoon; Mexican dinner on a barge cruising the renowned *River Walk*

FRIDAY - Bus tour to Lackland AFB for graduation ceremonies; tour of USAA (a la carte lunch in USAA cafeteria); evening free

SATURDAY - Free day with optional Hill Country Tour (wineries, Fredericksburg) - minimum number required; dinner at hotel catered by Texas Land & Cattle Restaurant

SUNDAY - Enjoy brunch on the river on your own; check out by noon

Make hotel reservations directly to:

River Walk Drury, 210 N. St. Mary's Street, San Antonio, TX 78205

Reservations: 800-378-7946 Cost: \$119 + tax per night, including hot buffet breakfast daily (*rates and availability guaranteed ONLY until September 3, 2004*)

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

bcatalina@satx.rr.com

\$135 per person.

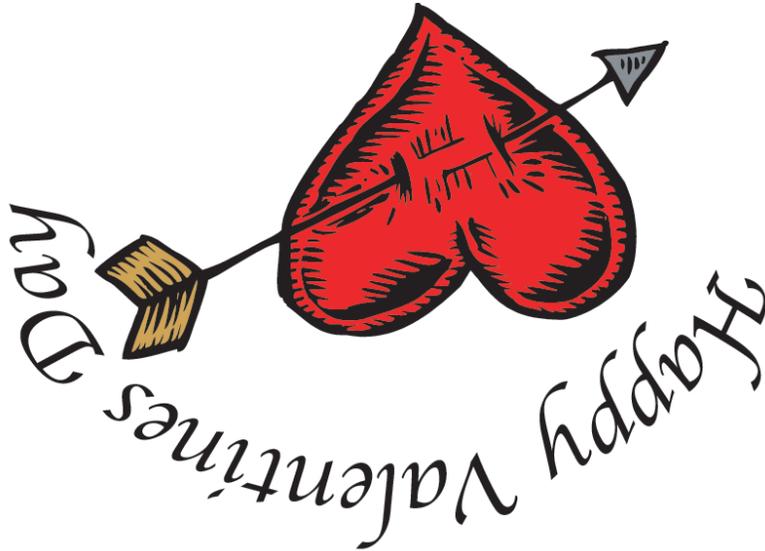
Please make checks out to Aviano Reunion Association and mail to:

Ben & Lynn Catalina

8510 Aesop Lane

Universal City, TX 78148

Thunder Road on the Left Flank
(Continued from page 4)



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Huntsville, AL 35801