

AVIANO AFTERBURNER

NEWSLETTER OF AVIANO REUNION ASSOCIATION



Volume 21, Number 2

May 2008

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9151 Vista Entrada
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(619) 561-8025

From The President

Heard from Lew Erhart and sorry to report that Dot broke her right hip and fractured her right shoulder in December. They were out in California and she has been undergoing re-hab. Our thoughts and prayers are with them. Have included the California address and phone number in the roster section. We hope she is up and ready to go to the reunion in the Fall.

On a much happier note, at least for me, Gary and I will be attending the reunion after all. Seems that the new company that he is working for was very accommodating and will give him the time off for the trip. We are tickled to say the least.

As for the reunion, please look at the reunion update article for some tips and information.

SAN DIEGO REUNION SEPT 2009

Preparations and planning for the September 20-24, 2009 reunion in San Diego continue. 35 rooms have been contracted as of this date at the beautiful Hacienda Hotel (www.haciendahotel-oldtown.com), located in Old Town area of San Diego. Please let Linda and Mike know (Hansen.michael@att.net) if you plan to attend so additional rooms may be arranged if needed. Planned activities include a bus tour of San Diego, an all day tour south of the border (remember you will need your Pass Port) to the Guadalupe Valley wineries, followed by an afternoon visit to the port city of Ensanada for sight seeing and shopping. Also planned is an evening dinner on the bay of San Diego. Mark your calendar for some of San Diego's best weather.

Jack Hesseling

Emily heard from Jack Hesseling's wife, that he passed away on January 18th. They have been members of ARA since 1997. They were stationed in Aviano twice, 62-66 and 73-74. He was in the 7227 Combat Support Group. We send our sympathy to Mary and his family and friends.



Future Reunions

**2009 SAN DIEGO
SEPTEMBER 20-25**
**2010 NASHVILLE
TBD**

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ROSTER CORRECTIONS

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Bea Jernigan

Email: beatricejernigan@netzero.net

Helmut Joe Mueller

Email: seijaandjoe@verizon.net

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PSC 103 Box 2131

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Imogene & James Willis

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Lew & Dot Erhart's

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10 Cover St. Box 543

Maricopa, CA 93252

Phone: 661-769-8278



Gay A. Ives

P.O. Box 92

Dolores, CO 81323

Phone: 970-882-8017

Status: Dependent Daughter of Ives

School: Aviano Dependent School

Aviano Era: 60-63

Attended Army Post School

CORRESPONDENCE

From Cliff Hodgkin (2/27) – Do you hear from Lidia in Italy? She is going to think I do not exist anymore. How is the Aviano group getting along? I will be Ninety in June.



From D.R. Taylor (Feb) – Your officers are doing an outstanding job. Norma and I are more or less confined to where we live.

FINAL DUES REMINDER

Check your label. If it is highlighted purple and/or has 2007 on it, this will be the last issue you will receive unless you pay your dues for 2008. Dues are \$15 per year. Make checks payable to Aviano Reunion Association and mail to Emily Povey, 626 E. Davis Blvd. Tampa, FL 33606. If you have recently changed your email address, phone number or anything else since the last roster printing, please include that information with your payment. If you have recently paid and you are highlighted, the labels were printed weeks before the newsletter comes out. Please check with Emily to verify your status.

An old Italian lived alone in New Jersey.

He wanted to plant his annual tomato garden, but it was very difficult work, as the ground was hard. His only son, Vincent, who used to help him, was in prison. The old man wrote a letter to his son and described his predicament:

Dear Vincent, I am feeling pretty sad, because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. I know if you were here, my troubles would be over. I know you would be happy to dig the plot for me, like in the old days.
Love, Papa

A few days later he received a letter from his son. Dear Pop, Don't dig up that garden. That's where the bodies are buried.
Love, Vinnie

At 4 a.m. the next morning, FBI agents and local police arrived and dug up the entire area without finding any bodies. They apologized to the old man and left. Later, That same day the old man received a telegram from his son,

Dear Pop, Go ahead and plant the tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances. Love you, Vinnie

CRUISIN THE GREEK ISLES 2008

EIGHTY SIX PEOPLE are now deposited for our Mediterranean cruise following the Aviano Reunion! We are corresponding directly with all cruisers by mail, email, and phone, but thought we'd also add some final info here.

Following the great reunion at Lake Como and Aviano, the cruising gang will be bussed to the Port of Venice on Sept. 6 to board the Royal Caribbean Splendour of the Seas. We'll be cruising the beautiful Eastern Med, with stops in Piraeus (Athens), Mykonos, Katakalon, Corfu, and Split before returning to Venice on Sept. 13. Many folks are staying over in Venice for a night or two after the cruise before returning to the USA.

For all of those booked on the cruise, the final payment is due no later than June 18. Ben & Lynn can take care of that for you if you wish. Just send them an email or call with your credit card number. Or send in your payment instructions and check / credit card number to the address provided on your invoice.

For those who would now like to join us, we can no longer

*Ben & *Lynn Catalina
 *Jean Kunz & Carol Davis
 *Doris Burnett,
 *Mary Ann Scarborough,
 & Diane Hortman
 Lash & Norma Lasher
 Ed & Judy Laumen
 *Al & *Lou Currie
 Jacki Legg & Margaret Callahan
 *Richard & *Denise Cyr
 *Alex, *Betsy, & *Amelia Massie
 *Bill & *Dee Davis
 *Jay & *Jane Maust
 *Steve & *Sally Eaves
 *Dan & *Gwen Mitchell
 Lew & Dottie Earhart,
 & Tayler Bailey
 Carl & CiCi Newsome
 *Lou & *Astrid Ondrusek
 *Betty Farmer & Bonnie Coulier
 *Bill & *Emily Povey
 *Dick & *Barbara Gaskell
 Jim & Kathy Riestenberg
 *Erica Hall & *Debi



guarantee our group prices, or additional space on the ship, but we sure will do our best to get you onboard at the best price available. What a great way to see so many different ports and historic cities of Europe --- relaxing on your own private veranda and soaking it all in. If you want to cruise with us, give Ben & Lynn a ring toll free at 888-522-7447 or email them at Bcatalina@satx.rr.com. And remember that family and friends are welcome too.

The optional tour of Athens and the Acropolis was a sellout only two weeks after the announcement. For those of you who did not make the cut, there are many other options available through the cruise line. Ben & Lynn can help you with any questions.

Those who have paid their deposits for the cruise include the following. An asterisk by the name indicates that they were among the first 50 who responded and paid and will also be on the private Athens tour.

Schuber
 *Pete Ross & *Bea Jernigan
 *Jim & *Nelda Hall
 *Dave & *Maryellen Scherer
 *Joanne Harnit & *Peg Byrd
 Joe & Franca Rutter
 *George & *Diane Hefner
 Mark Rutter
 *Zane & *Margaret Hoit
 *Tom & *Elaine Horton
 Doug & Ann Trent
 *Kaki Horton & *Rob Colvin
 Lisa & Leon & Madison Van Holsbeke
 *Brent & *Gay Ives
 Ginny Wagner & Wanda Melton
 Gene & Jean Ives
 Bob & Carolyn Watters
 Faye & Victoria Ives
 *Jim & *Imogene Willis
 Meg Johnson & John Johnson & Jane Pol & Anne Collins &
 Megan Decker

Ciao and see you in Italia!

Call Ben or Lynn at 888-522-7447 or email at bcatalina@satx.rr.com <mailto:bcatalina@satx.rr.com> And check out all the ARA Reunion info at www.avianoreunion.com

2008 ITALIAN REUNION UPDATE

First of all, for those members that live in Italy, if you would like to attend any of the reunion functions, please contact Tours by Roberto directly for arrangements and details. Contact person is Cristina and she can be reached at tours-byroberto@googlemail.com or telephone 320-1476590. We would love to see you there.

Vacancy: We still have one double room left if you want to attend and haven't signed up yet. Please contact me at 603-320-7575 or tamat74@aol.com to get details. If you send an email, please use ARA or Aviano in the subject line so I will know it isn't spam and delete you by accident.

Arrivals and Buses: For those that are arriving at Malpensa on August 30th, please look for Roberto, Anna, Gary or Tama holding Aviano Reunion signs as you exit customs. You will then be directed to the gathering area for the buses. There will be two buses. We expect one bus to depart at 11 AM and the other at 3 PM or thereabouts.

For those arriving on other days or by other means, please go to the Malpensa airport, Terminal 1 prior to the buses departure times on August 30th, no later than 2:30 PM. Please look for Roberto, Anna, Gary or Tama with the ARA signs.

Billing: The billing for the final payment will be mailed out to the attendees by the end of May. For those with email access, I will also send you an email with the information. So you can either print out the email and mail it with the payment or wait for the snail mail version. The snail mail version will include an addressed envelope for your use. It is very important that you read through the information included and answer the questions and/or correct the information I have on record for those questions. It is also the time you will be asked to make your final decision on whether you want to go on the optional tour to St. Moritz. If so, you will need to include your deposit for that tour. Amount of deposit and the balance due will be included. The balance due on the optional tour will be paid to Tours by Roberto in

Euros upon arrival.

Tips: If you haven't done so already you should verify that your passport is current. You should also make sure you have the ARA nametag and lanyard. We recommend that you pack it in your carryon so you can put it on when you get there and you will be recognized by those waiting for you. Chance to recognize and meet other ARA members you might not be familiar with too.

Usually, the best rate of exchange is available by withdrawing Euros from ATM's. You need to check with your bank or credit cards though to see if there are additional fees involved. However, Gary just traveled to Italy on a business trip and even with the extra fee charged by our bank, it was still a better rate than the one he received from the Exchange vendor.

We are definitely in the countdown. Please contact me if you have any questions. **603-320-7575. SEE YOU THERE!**

An Italian workman wants a job, but the foreman won't hire him until he passes a little math test. "Here's your first question," the foreman said. "Without using numbers, represent the number 9."

"Withouta numbers?" the Italian says, "Datsa easy." and he proceeds to draw three trees.

"What's this?" the boss asks.

"Ave you gota no brain? Tree and tree and tree makes a nine," says the Italian.

"Fair enough," says the boss. "Here's your second question. Use the same rules, but this time the number is 99."

The Italian stares into space for a

while, then picks up the picture that he has just drawn and makes a smudge on each tree. "Ere you go."

The boss scratches his head and says, "How on earth do you get that to represent 99?"

"Eacha of da trees is a dirty now. So, it's dirty tree, and dirty tree, and dirty tree. Datsa a 99."

The boss is getting worried that he's going to actually have to hire this Italian, so he says, "All right, last question. Same rules again, but represent the number 100."

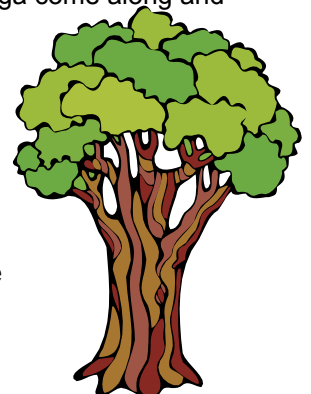
The Italian stares into space some more, then he picks up the picture again and makes a little mark at the base of each tree and says, "Ere you

go. One hundred."

The boss looks at the attempt. "You must be nuts if you think that represents a hundred!"

(You're going to love this one!!!)

The Italian leans forward and points to the marks at the base of each tree and says, "A little doga come along and shita by eacha tree. So now you gota dirty tree and a turd, dirty tree and a turd, and dirty tree and a turd, data makea one hundred. So, whenna I start?



2008 Reunion Attendees

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Doris Burnett | Kaki Horton & Rob Colvin | Jay & Jane Maust |
| Ben & Lynn Catalina | Tom & Elaine Horton | Tom & Cheryl McIlroy |
| Daria Christenson | Betsy & Alex Massie & Amelia | William McKinley & Nancy Hall |
| Al & Lou Currie | Phil & Hilda Howerton | Bill & Emily Povey |
| Bill & Dee Davis | George Hughes | Pete Ross & Bea Jernigan |
| Carol Davis & Jean Kunz | Brent Ives & Gay Ives | Joe & Franca Rutter |
| Steve & Sally Eaves | Faye Ives & Victoria Ives | Mark Rutter |
| Lew & Dottie Erhart and Taylor Bailey | Gene & Jean Ives | Richard & Eleanor Scalzitti |
| John & Marianna Fells | John Johnson | Dave & Maryellen Scherer |
| Rodger & Betty Gracey | Meg Johnson & Megan Decker | Gary & Tama Tillman |
| Mike Hansen & Linda Kazarian | Anne Collins & Jane Pol | Lisa and Leon Van Holsbeke & Madison |
| Joanne Harnit & Peg Byrd | Lash & Norma Lasher | Bill & Gloria Walker |
| George & Diane Hefner | Ed & Judy Laurnen | Bob & Carolyn Watters |
| Zane & Margaret Hoit | | Jim & Imogene Willis |

AVIANO REUNION ASSOCIATION, INC. TREASURER'S REPORT

For Year Ending December 31, 2007

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Beginning Balance in Bank – January 1, 2007 | | \$5,008.68 |
| Inflows: | | |
| Dues | \$2,430.00 | |
| Interest Earned | 59.57 | |
| Patch Sales | 6.00 | |
| Pin Sales | 21.00 | |
| Luggage Tag Sales | 3.00 | |
| Other Income | 10.50 | |
| Reunion Income | 5.00 | |
| Reunion Deposit Refunded | 500.00 | |
| Reunion Fees on Deposit | 1,800.00 | |
| Total Inflows | \$4,835.07 | |
| | | ----- |
| | | \$9,843.75 |
| Outflows: | | |
| Corporate Agent | 173.00 | |
| Postage | 728.27 | |
| Printing – Afterburner | 590.92 | |
| Misc. – Afterburner | 29.15 | |
| Printing – Roster | 465.50 | |
| Misc. – Roster | 64.37 | |
| Reunion Expense | 37.61 | |
| Total Outflows | | \$2,088.82 |
| | | ----- |
| Balance in Bank – December 31, 2007 | | \$7,754.93 |

Note, funds in bank include prepaid dues as follows:

| | |
|------|-------|
| 2008 | \$861 |
| 2009 | \$150 |
| 2010 | \$60 |
| 2011 | \$15 |
| 2012 | \$15 |

Funds also include deposits held for payment to Tours by Roberto: \$1,800.00



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