

AVIANO AFTERBURNER

NEWSLETTER OF AVIANO REUNION ASSOCIATION



Volume 19, Number 3

August 2006

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From The President

Thank you for all the sympathy and support I received from those that knew about my mother's death in June. She is at peace now and free of the pain and confusion of Alzheimer's. She would have loved to be going to the next two reunions and would wish all of us a great time.

Just about time to pack for the Hawaii reunion. Please note all information from Ben and Lynn. They really know how to host a reunion and it should be a wonderful one.

Don't forget though, time to be thinking about next year as well. It isn't far off and if you haven't done so already, you need

to sign up with Martha immediately and get the reunion fee paid. She can't finalize everything until she knows how many are going to be there. Don't forget to make your reservations at the hotel also. All the necessary information is in this issue.

We won't have a business meeting this year, but we still need to vote for a reunion for 2008. So if you have a great place to visit and would like to host, please contact me and I will tell you what is needed. Call me at 813-390-3217 or e-mail tamat74@aol.com or you can snail mail at my address above.

MARGARET HEADLEY

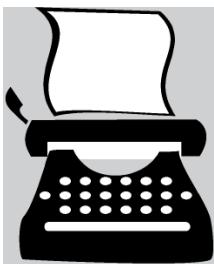
Margaret Headley died on June 12 in Tampa, Florida. She was the widow of our Past President, Brice Headley, and mother of Tama Tillman, current President. Margaret and Brice were charter members of ARA and attended every reunion from the first in Biloxi in 1987 until the third Italian reunion in 1998. Brice was President from 1989 to 1999 and Margaret was a very active First Lady. They had been married 55 years when Brice died in July of 2000.



Unfortunately, Margaret suffered from Alzheimer's and was unable to continue with traveling and socializing after his death. She died from the complications caused by Alzheimer's. Her ashes are now buried with Brice's ashes at the Florida National Cemetery. On their headstone is the name of their song, "Always."

**2007 Williamsburg Reunion
29 April - 4 May 2007
Information on page 4**

**2006 FINAL UPDATE
HAWAII CRUISE
on page 5**



Correspondence

Jean Ives – (6/29) ...we are going down under after Hawaii. We are meeting our granddaughter Mallory and our son Brent in Auckland. Mallory is a big Rugby player and is hoping to go to NZ or Aus for college so we are going down for her to see the campuses. Also we are staying at the Hale Koa prior to the boat.

Mary Small – (6/11) Sorry I won't be able to join the cruise in Hawaii although I hope to see everyone before you sail. I still have a home in Hawaii (on the Big Island) and my son and his wife will be visiting me at that time.

Ray Walbridge – (7/9) We are not going to be able to attend this upcoming reunion but certainly hope to make the next one. Marilyn is not able to walk at all right now, but starts another round of physical therapy Monday. Hopefully that will get her back on her feet. We moved back to Oklahoma in May so have been busy selling, packing, moving, unpacking (I did not think we still had this, haven't seen it in twelve years!!). Still have a lot of boxes to go through. We moved back to our house we built in 82, so for all of you who keep things forever, our address is the old one....Enjoy the cruise and know that we miss seeing everyone and are looking forward to next year. Now all I have to do is find which box the upcoming reunion info is in and get our deposit in the mail. How about that Italian soccer team!!!!

CHECK YOUR LISTING IN ROSTER!

Before the next issue of the Afterburner, we will be printing a new roster. Because of the reunion's dates, it will be slightly delayed, but will be done as soon as possible after September 30. We need you to check the listing for yourself in the previous roster. See if anything has changed or needs to be added. Unless you have seen an update in the last few issues of the Afterburner, that is what will be printed again UNLESS YOU LET US KNOW. Biggest problem we seem to have is people changing their e-mail addresses and not updating us. Please send the information to Emily Povey, 626 E. Davis Blvd., Tampa, FL 33606 or e-mail her at empo@tampabay.rr.com.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____
 Aviano Era _____
 Status _____
 Unit _____



And Returning Members

Patrick (Tom) & Cheryl McIlroy
 621 Kanaha Street
 Kailua, HI 96734-1941
 Phone: 808-262-0835
 E-mail: mcilroy002@hawaii.rr.com
 Aviano Era: 70-74
 Status: Military
 Unit: 15th Comm. Sq.

ROSTER CORRECTIONS

Roberto & Patti Bechi
 e-mail: info@toursbyroberto.com

Dorothy Brown
 E-mail: dmcdca@yahoo.com

Jack & Veda Kelley
 7504 Spring Branch Rd.
 Elberta, AL 36530-5756

Lash & Norma Lasher
 46847 Grissom Street
 Potomac Falls, VA 20165

Lynn & Barbara Moyer
 889 Claypike Road
 Acme, PA 15610

Pat Skelton
 e-mail: p.a.skelton@cox.net

Mary Small
 2410 Glenn Lakes Lane
 Missouri City, TX 77459-4451
 Phone: 281-835-5224, cell 832-443-7501

Rick Steve's Newsletter

Emily Povey sent me a copy of this Rick Steve's Newsletter back in May. Thought it would be of interest since it includes our favorite tour guide, Roberto Bechi. And what I found extra funny is that he mainly talks about tastes and eating. Remember I said we should call our reunions with Roberto "Eating your way through Tuscany?" Here is part of what he wrote.

—Tama



Tuscany is pretty, but its best sights are the ones you taste. I'm deep in Tuscany with my tour guide friend, Roberto. When traveling with Roberto, I generally eat what I sightsee. On a quest at the crack of dawn, we meet a local named Fabio and his two highly trained dogs. Stuck on fast-forward, the dogs rummage nose-first through an oak forest, with the three of us straining to keep up in a high-stakes game of hide-and-seek, Tuscan-style. The prize: those pungent underground mushrooms...truffles.

Heading home with a tiny cache of truffles, we drop by Victoria's farm, famed for its Chianina cows (the breed that makes Florentine-cut beef such a hit) and pecorino cheese. Victoria, whose traditional cheesemaking methods are somehow grandfathered into the EU hygiene standards, demonstrates her artistry for us. Not surprisingly, we leave with an ash-covered round of her best. In the shadow of the village bell tower, young and old are sitting in a convivial circle shucking carciofi (artichokes). It's the peak of the artichoke season, a fine excuse for a festival. Chuckling grandmothers — enjoying their 80th festa del carciofo — make sure the children enjoying their first festa get this tradition right.

Back at the agriturismo (farmhouse B&B), Roberto's "slow food club" has gathered in a rustic dining hall for their traditional long Sunday lunch. Hometown steaks sizzle on the open fire, children take their water con gas, crunchy artichokes are nibbled raw ("love me, love me not"-style), and the vino rosso comes corposo (full-bodied). Roberto grates an ugly but exquisitely fragrant truffle over my pasta with a "Tuscany rocks" panache...as I lap up the dolce vita.

ITALIAN TOMATO GARDEN

An Old Italian man lived alone in the country. He wanted to dig his tomato garden, but it was very hard 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 bad 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. If you were here my troubles would be over. I know you would dig the plot for me.*

Love, Dad

A few days later he received a letter from his son.

*Dear Dad,
Not for nothing, but don't dig up that garden.
That's where I buried the BODIES.*

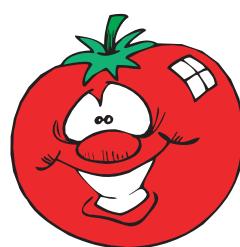
Love. Vinnie

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. That same day the old man received another letter from his son.

*Dear Dad,
Go ahead and plant the tomatoes now.
That's the best I could do under the circumstances.*

Love Vinnie



2007 Williamsburg Reunion



Plans for the 400th Jamestown Anniversary and our reunion are really moving. Some deposits have already been made and probably more by the time this newsletter comes out. The deposit for buses, tours, lunches, banquet, etc. is \$200 PER PERSON or \$400 PER COUPLE. Hotel reservations need to be made soon to assure your room. Hotel reservations at Four Points can be made at 1-800-962-4743 (punch 2 for Sales) or call 1-757-229-4100. Be sure to tell them you are part of the Aviano Reunion Association to get our rates and in our blocked rooms. Best time to call is Monday – Friday 9am - 5 pm.

Our group will be divided into smaller groups for the tours. So let me know if you have someone you want to tour with. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are the tour days. Thursday will be a free day with the final banquet that night. So you need to plan to arrive on Sunday April 29 and to check out no earlier than Friday, May 4. The rate is \$99 dbl or single, plus 10% tax and \$2 a day room charge. This rate includes breakfast. There are also 2 bedroom suites available with sitting room for \$199 plus tax & room charge. Good for families. If you would like to extend your stay the group rate is offered for our reunion and will be available starting 3 days before and after the reunion dates.

Itinerary

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, you will be doing the following tours, order depending upon which group you are assigned to:

*Jamestown/Lunch/Yorktown Tours

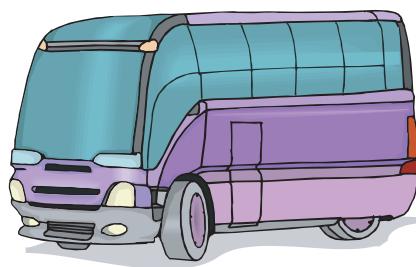
*Colonial Williamsburg

*2 Plantations with lunch at Indian Fields Tavern

Thursday – Free day followed by Banquet

The initial deposit of \$200 per person is to cover tours, which includes buses, some lunches, guides, tickets & also the final banquet, etc. \$100 is non-refundable.

Deposit is due immediately. Final adjusted payment will be due 60 days before reunion.



The amount will be determined by the number of participants and will be approximately \$25 to \$100 per person or less. There will be no refund 30 days before the reunion. Checks should be sent to Martha, made out to the Aviano Reunion Association. This is all on a first come basis. Please hurry so Martha can finalize all arrangements.

We have 3 airports near. Car rentals are available at each airport. Newport News (PHF) – 20 minutes to hotel. Taxi \$35 each way. Norfolk (ORF) – 50 minutes to hotel. Taxi \$56 each way. Richmond (RIC) – 50 minutes to hotel. Taxi \$65 each way. Amtrak comes into Williamsburg from D.C. Also D.C. is only about a 3 hour drive.

Martha & Gene Novikoff e-mail martha2007reunion@msn.com
1-B Sir Francis Wyatt Pl.
Newport News, Va. 23606
Ph 757 596-0834

Please include the following information with your check:
Initial deposit \$200 per person due immediately
Balance to be determined (\$25-\$100 per person) due 2/1/07

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Name(s) as you want on nametag(s) _____

Registered Attendees with hotel registration:

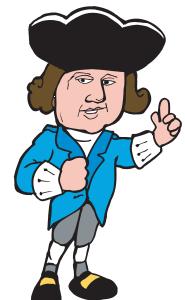
Al & Lou Currie
Bill & Dee Davis
John & Marianna Fells
Rodger & Betty Gracey
George & Diane Hefner
Ed & Judy Laurnen
Nick & Margaret Leone
Bill & Emily Povey
Joe & Franca Rutter
Jack & Pat Snelling
Gary & Tama Tillman

Registered Attendees not registered at hotel:

Jim & Connie Carino
Ray & Marilyn Walbridge
Bill & Gloria Walker

Others registered at hotel:

Melvin Black
Mike Hansen
Phil Howerton





Everyone is paid in full and ready to go --- all 64 of us. Many are flying over early and enjoying the sights of Oahu and Waikiki. Some are staying at the Hale Koa, some at the Hilton Waikiki Beach, some with friends and relatives, and some elsewhere. We have a few seasoned cruisers, as well as first timers; lucky couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary, as well as a honeymooning couple. And our age ranges are from 18 to 88 years young.

While everyone will be taking part in various activities on the ship and on shore at each port, we have three events arranged for the Aviano Reunion participants. An event schedule will be in each of your cabins soon after you board, showing you the dates, times, and locations.

We'll all get a chance to meet each other on Sunday, September 24 after we board the beautiful Pride of Aloha. Our first get-together is scheduled for that evening as we host a private Aviano cocktail party. We'll be working around the mandatory lifeboat drill, but we'll make sure everyone gets the word about the time and place.

Since this ship dines Freestyle (which means you eat when you desire, where you desire, and with whomever you desire), we have arranged for one special dinner for all 64 of us. It is currently scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 27, in the Italian specialty restaurant, Kahili. All folks booked into our ARA group are the special guests of Norwegian Cruise Line and will not be charged a fee for this specialty restaurant. After the meal you will have the opportunity to stroll on the deck or sit on your private balcony and view the very active Kilauea volcano, as we slowly sail by the fiery lava flows at night.

We also plan to have a farewell cocktail party on the last night of the cruise.

ONE LAST ITEM: Remember to complete the pre-cruise registration information form required by the U.S. Border Security Act. Yes, Hawaii is a state, but the form is required of all cruise passengers.

Contact Ben & Lynn (888-522-7447, 210-658-0019, or bcatalina@satx.rr.com) with any questions. See you in paradise soon. Ciao!

FINAL UPDATE

Aviano Hawaiian Cruise Reunion 2006

2006 ARA Cruise Reunion Registrants

Ben & Lynn Catalina
 Jack & Marilyn Curtis
 Carol Davis & Jean Kunz
 CeCe & Jessica Eaves
 Lew & Dottie Erhart & Tayler Bailey
 Rodger & Betty Gracey
 Erica Hall & Kristin Johnson
 James & Nelda Hall
 Mike Hansen & Linda Kazarian
 Marvin & Adella Hill
 Zane & Margaret Hoit
 John Horton & Kathy Tupper
 Tom & Elaine Horton
 Dick & Lee Hudgins
 Gene & Jean Ives
 William & Shirley Maruska
 Paul & Fran Mobley
 Leon, Joanne, & Samantha Moyer
 Lynn & Barbara Moyer
 Bill & Tisa Murphy
 Bill & Emily Povey
 Bert & Maurine Prudhomme
 John & Sherry Risan
 Abbee Roop & Ladessa Forrest
 Pete Ross & Bea Jernigan
 Joe & Franca Rutter
 Jason & Debra Schuber
 Gary & Tama Tillman
 Gary & Leah Turner
 Bill & Gloria Walker
 Bob & Carolyn Watters





**AVIANO
AFTERBURNER**

NEWSLETTER OF AVIANO REUNION ASSOCIATION



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