



780TH NEWS

ISSUE NO. 6

AUGUST, 1970

DALLAS, TEXAS

DO YOU REMEMBER ITALY 25 YEARS AGO??????

While you were in Italy did you make it to Rome, Capri, Sorrento?? Well, I have just returned for a very short trip to These places plus a few others in Italy, Greece and Spain. It was a trip that I shall never forget - Rome is a very fascinating city so much history. Capri is all that Rosser had told me - about the beauty is really something to see - they just need to get rid of the the tourist traps.

One morning in the hotel coffee shop I was sitting around looking at a map and trying to figure out how I was going to get to your old base when the waiter came up and ask me what I was trying to find. After I told me he said "are you sure you don't mean the 736th Sqdn?" No, was my answer so one thing lead to another and I found out he was from Cerignola and was about 13 years old when the war ended - being a mascot of the 736th Sqdn of the 454th Group. The next morning when I went in to breakfast he had his scrap book with all the pictures of the men of the squadron. It was like old home week for me. Mario had wanted to drive me down to Cerignola and Canosa for the day, but time just didn't permit.

We had arrived in Rome on the morning of the 2nd of July -- drove to Sorrento on the 6th back to Rome on the 7th - Arrived Athens on the 8th -- toured the Greek Island by ship for three days and then to Madrid on the 13th and back in Dallas on the night of the 16th. So you can see I didn't let any grass grow under my feet.

Since the last newsletter I have done a little other traveling - spend 5 days in San Juan in December and 8 days in Hawaii in January. Now I am home to stay for another year or more.

Melissa has not made any of the trips with me - however I do plan on taking her to part of Europe next summer.

Rosser and I had talked of these trips so many times I only wish he could have been with me and especially the trip to Italy -- so many memories there even for me.

Bud Line and Ed Paluch where you surprised to receive my card? Now do you remember Italy 25 years ago -- sometime just a little reminder is all we need to think of all the sad and happy times we had together and people is what makes the world so wonder.

by WANDA DANNELLY

NOTE FROM ED PALUCH TO FULTON HAIGHT and HIS RESPONSE

This will acknowledge receipt of your interest in the 780th Sqdn. As Treasurer, I would remind you the dues are \$3.00 per year, a nominal sum. Some of the fellows pay five or ten years in advance. They are optimist, as to the longevity for themselves or the organization. ANSWER - 3 years is optimist as I can become.

Wanda is putting her 2¢ in right here --- the organization will be here just as long as there is interest and someone will take the time to work a little- You get out of something just exactly what you put in -- The 780th didn't let me down during the war and it is not going to now.....

LETTER FROM DANIEL A. KILLION, JR.

12-10-69

Received the 780th Newsletter yesterday and I sure enjoy reading all the news. It also served as a reminder that I did not pay my dues for this year and if my memory serves me correctly also for last year. I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$6.00 which should put me current.

LETTER FROM EDWARD RATKOVICH, COLONEL USAF

12-29-69

Late again! Thanks to the December letter I was reminded to pay my dues. Without that letter it would be tough to stay in touch so you must keep it going. Hope to make the next reunion in St. Paul, so I can meet you and all the other 780th whom I have never met. As you can see, I am still on active duty - 27 yrs.

LETTER FROM RICHARD B. SIGLE

1-13-70

Received the 780th newsletter and it was real welcome but I want to tell you so that you can tell the rest - that my old bombardier - Gene Koscinski had been after me for a long time to come to a reunion and pay my dues so that I would get the newsletter. Just after the 780 news came out - Mrs. Koscinski wrote and bawled me out for not mentioning her husband as the one that got me to join so please see that this is straighten out for me. (THANKS GENE- WE NEED MORE LIKE YOU WD)

Was glad to hear about some of the fellows - will try to get to a reunion sometime. I doubt it I could stay for it all but I might drop in for awhile.

I am farming quite a bit and losing my shirt doing it - also feed quite a few cattle and sheep for the markets. As you can see by my letterhead I am also connected with the Insurance Industry. I enjoy that a lot as I meet so many new people and continually make more friends. Have started flying again, a group got together and formed a club. We now have a Beech Musketeer. My wife is busy most of the time also, course with only 3 children home anymore - 2 away to college - she doesn't have much to keep her busy. She teaches 5th grade in part of her spare time besides running the household - leader of 4-H, Sunday School teacher, clubs, etc.

Must close for now, will look forward to having some of the old 780th drop by to visit since you found my address. We're just about 45 miles north of I70 have plenty of room so stop in.

LETTER FROM MRS. CHARLIE (NEYL) DAVIS

12-23-69

I've been home a week now from a months trip to Panama, Guatemala, Island of Cozumel and most of Mexico - Had an interesting trip but can't say I enjoyed Mexico much.

After receiving the 780th Newsletter that Wanda sent out I realized I had not paid my dues for this year (my Charlie wouldn't have liked that either).

LETTER FROM WALLY WITT

Although I was in the 783th B.S. 465th Group I enjoy your newsletters. How can I get a copy of your Sqdn. History Book?

Wonder if Johnny Downs is the same guy that worked at U.S. Steel in 1941?

I'm still on flying status with the 305th Aviation Co. St. Paul, reserve unit. Had to take a Warrant to keep flying.

LETTER FROM JOHN A GIDLEY

Just a few lines to inform you of my new mailing address (see change list). In 1968 I retired from St. Petersburg Fire Dept. as a district Fire Chief. (22yrs) I have moved to the "country" and have a forty acre farm. Will probably go into the cattle business on a small scale.

I see Bill Zeqadski every once in awhile. He has done some legal work for me. Would like very much to know where I can reach HOWARD DeCOUER. I was tail-gunner for him. On 8-14-66 we went to Switzerland. Got back 12-20-44 to Italy. If anyone has an extra copy of the Squadron History book I would be glad to buy it.

LETTER FROM CLYDE E. LEWIS

12-31-69

A few weeks ago we received the 780th newsletter, as always I am happy to receive it. I have never attended any of the reunions but still plan to sometime in the future.

Sorry to hear that Daniel Borchert passed away Nover 7th with a heart attack. You ask for a new address from some of the boys. I received a Christmas card from Joseph Sullivan (See change list). Enclosed is my dues sorry to be late again.

LETTER FROM GEORGE CRAWFORD

12-12-69

To Ed Paluch: The Old Sarg is sending under separate cover a package of smoke fish. We hope you enjoy it! He caught the fish but had it smoked commercially - we haven't learned that art as yet.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please note these on your mailing list.....

DIEDERICHS, FRANK C.
4154 Beachmeadow Lane
Westlake Village, Calif. 91360

GIDLEY, JOHN A.
Rt. 1
Bell, Florida 32619

HEVEY, LEO M.
8 Ross Ave
Ware, Mass. 01082

WITT, WALLY
808 E. McKinley
Appleton, Wisc. 54911

SULLIVAN, JOSEPH
4705 Mt. Vernon Mem. Highway
Alexandria, Va. 22309

RICHARDS, JAMES A., JR.
2200 Mark Ct.
Bakersfield, Calif. 93304

WALLACE, FRISTOE
Sheraton-Rochester Hotel
220 South Broadway
Rochester, Minnesota 55901

THOMAS K. WELCH
1521 S.W. 66th
Portland, Oreg. 97225

SCHMITT, JAS. J.
1545 Crosson
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

FRASER, JACK C., Senior Research Office
State Rivers & Water Supply Comm.
90 Orrong Rd.
Armadale, Victoria 3143 Australia

Correct Spelling of Name

SHAPPEE, JACK (shown as Sharpe)
Hendy Creek Rd.
Pine City, NY 14871

MAIL RETURNED UNCLAIMED OR MOVED.....

Golden, Nat
Coggan, Albert E.
Barnes, Wm. E.

Berger, Wm. E.
Grady, N.J.

Crist, Robert E.
Kupersmith, Vincent J.

WON'T YOU PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOU MOVE?? the post office will only forward mail for 2 years --- now it is up to you to keep us posted of your current mailing address.. As editor I will do what I can to keep the mailing list up to date but I can't do it all by myself. Please help me....

LETTER FROM JOHN GIDLEY

1-9-70

Got my check back - shows how many checks my wife lets me wife - she had a lot to say about my not signing it. (She was in charge of the Loan & Discount Dept. of the bank.. 18 years). said I was just like most of the customers she had. Can't win them all. Cold here for the last two days. 15^o yesterday a.m. ice on the roads who ever said it never got cold in Florida. Nice to hear from the gang. JIM- we all goof at one time or another.WD

LETTER FROM FRANK C. DIEDERICHS

12-9-69

Enclosed is my dues for this year. Also, for your records a change of address (see change list). I've written to Wanda indicating the new address. Hope to see you at the next convention. Spent sometime in Italy this summer - you'd never recognize the place! WILL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO YOU TELLING US ALL ABOUT YOUR TRIP AT THE NEXT REUNION, FRANK.

LETTER FROM LEO M. HEVEY

Just received the 780th News for the first time. I heard there was get togethers in the past but never knew when. Sending my \$3.00 for dues. I have lost track of most of the boys, but hope to get back in touch after all these years. This should be news in your next letter tell the boys I am still around. Received a letter from Earl Dibb, my old crew chief and good friend. Crew 145...WELCOME BACK, LEO.

LETTER FROM BETTY & FRISTOE WALLACE

12-22-69

Really have meant to write sever since we were in Dallas, but it seems my intentions are always better than my deeds. Anyway a belated thanks for all you did to make the Dallas reunion such a huge success.

We were assigned to this hotel (Sheraton-Rochester, Rochester, Minn) which opened in May 69 as of November 1. This is a most interesting town. We love it here. The view from our apartment would make a beautiful Christmas Car.

We haven't heard from the Balls since we left Minneapolis. We hear regularly from Mary & Carl Saporita from San Francisco. Their only Child, a son, has been in Vietnam for five months now. As you know we saw Herman Beeks when we were in Minneapolis - Also the Brozeks and their two children, whom we keep in touch with.

Hope you and Melissa have a happy holiday. Looking forward to seeing you in the Twin Cities in 1971.

LETTER FROM MRS. LARRY (MAURIE) GROWDON

6-3-69

I received the 780th news and think it is a great issue - you people are doing a fine job.

I'll be thinking of you especially the next three weeks as I'm going to Europe with 16 otherwomen and we are spending sometime in Italy, Rome, Naples, Capri.' You can imagine how I will feel to finally be going there. Larry had always planned to take me. We are staying at the Excelsior Hotel - Remember it? The No. 1 there they say - also going to Florence, Venice & Vianna - Lucerne, Paris, London, Madrid - we had a tour agency make all arrangements and we have our own guide all thru Europe - and all we have to do is sit back and enjoy it. Paid one big check here before leaving and all tips etc are taken care of. We never touch our luggage. Our reservations and dinners are ever paid for at lovely restaurants = for instance at the famous Husteria dell 'Orso in Rome, the Jockey Club in Madrid just to name a few. We also go to the Opera and different type theatre productions. In Paris Of course, the Follies Bergere. I realize it all won't be the same as if Larry were taking me, but after 16 years one does learn to live a little different type life without male companionship. Fortunately I have worlds of women friends. I enjoy being with.

I'm still teaching and continue loving it too. Chuck is just fine - very happily married to a perfectly lovely (and pretty) and extremely intelligent girl. As you know they both graduated from Stanford - He is now with Wells-Fargo Bank in San Fran. and she teaches a couple of courses at Stanford and they are very happy and doing well.

I hope to attend the next reunion. Enclosed - 780th dues for me and Chuck. (Charles K. Growdon).

LETTER FROM DON P. WHITE

12-9-69

Enclosed is my dues for another year. Had to have the newsletter to remind me. Please keep the newsletter coming.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

BEYRER J. BENJ.

BORCHERT, DANIEL 11-7-69

STENSWICK, CLIFFORD C. 3-31-70

RECEIPT FOR DUES PAID from last newsletter to 8-1-70

Richard Sigle	\$3.00	Lloyd Norlin	\$3.00	Harold Kenworthy	\$9.00
Forest Sommers	6.00	Edward J. Paluch	3.00	Earl R. Dibb	3.00
H. Millington	9.00	D. W. Payne, Sr.	3.00	Birchard S. Jones	6.00
Wm. R. Holub	6.00	Bill Haight	9.00	Mrs. L. A. Growden	6.00
Robert L. Tate	3.00	John T. McWhorter	3.00	F. C. Diederichs	3.00
Wm. McDermid	6.00	Robert A. Bleier	3.00	Harold Moss	3.00
Gene Koscinski	3.00	M. Robt. Fromkin	3.00	Wm. Holub	3.00
Archie Davis	3.00	Anthony DeRose	3.00	Sam Bernstein	3.00
Dean A. Fuit	3.00	Daniel A. Killion	6.00	Wally A. Witt	3.00
A. R. Steele	6.00	D. P. White	3.00	Carl J. Saporite	6.00

DUES CONTINUED

Clyde E. Lewis	3.00	Mrs. Charlie Davis	3.00	Vernon M. Bettenourt/	3.00
Edward Ratkovich	3.00	Charles A. Riley	9.00	W.C.O. Harris	3.00
Fred B. Withington	3.00	Jack C. Fraser	3.00	John E. Stock	3.00
D. J. Fischvoght	3.00	Paul E. Baker	3.00	John A. Fleisher	3.00
Reo Carr	3.00	Harry Millington	3.00	James M. Halter	3.00
Jack Shappe	3.00	Howard M. Hansen	3.00	Leo M. Hevey	3.00
John A. Gridley	3.00	Birchard S. Jones	3.00	Edward Gluklick	3.00
Richard Mooradian	3.00	Robert E. McNannay	3.00	Thomas K. Welch	3.00
Wanda Dannelly	9.00	Geo DeMars	3.00	Dale Ross	3.00
Ned Hayes	6.00	Gerald F. Stenger	3.00	Edward J. Miller	6.00

This is your receipt for dues received in 1969 - in order to keep the cost of operations to a minimum we are not sending out membership cards or receipts. The dues are spend on the newsletter, postage and etc...

THE DUES FOR THE YEAR 1970-71 ARE DUE IN SEPTEMBER --- THIS IS YOUR REMINDER TO PAY THEM - IF DUE. WON'T YOU PLEASE BECOME A DUES PAYING MEMBER... WE SEEM TO GET MORE OUT OF SOMETHING WHEN WE PUT A LITTLE BIT OF MONEY. AGAIN, WE ARE ENCLOSING SELF ADDRESS ENVELOPES (and probably for the last time for I am just about out of these,WD).

This is something that I haven't even talked with your President about as yet, but I think it is time that you start thinking about something of great importance to the 780th Association -- it is time that you have new blood as your editor and a member of the 780th (even thought in my heart I will always be a member). With this in mind I will publish one or two more letter next year at the direction of the president and then will turn my files over to whomever you select. It is will great sorrow that I do this, but I feel that I have done all that I can do for the squadron --- started working in 1962 to get mailing list together -- both or I should say a little bit on all three reunions then the newsletters. I will certainly miss hearing from all the members and hope that they will remember me once in awhile. It has nothing to do with time or my desires, that I have made this decisions, but feel that the men can do a much better job of keeping the squadron together and to me this is the most important thing. My best wishes to each and everyone of you and Gosh -- I will miss you more than you will ever know.

Wanda Dannelly, Editor 1968-71
(Mrs. Charles Rosser Dannelly)

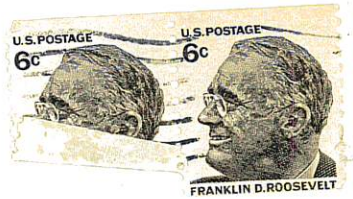
Visits ----

Spend a most enjoyable evening with Herman Beeks in Dallas the early part of the summer. We really talked about everyone..

Spend the weekend with George Kubala in Taylor the first part of June and Melissa even tried her hand at Watersiking = Did she ever get up on the skies, George?

REUNION DATES - August 6-7-8-1971
ST. PAUL, MINN. PLAN NOW TO
ATTEND. WE NEED EACH ONE OF
YOU. LET'S MAKE IT THE BIGGEST
YET. O K A Y.

ROSS, R. D.
1851 McCOMMAS ST.
DALLAS, TEXAS 75206



Int. Clam

KOSCINSKI, GENE
2245 Founders Dr.
Woodland Hills, Cal. 91364