



The 461st

Liberaider



Vol. 2, No. 1

OCTOBER 1985

SOMEWHERE IN THE USA

FROM: THE REUNION COMMITTEE:

WE DID IT! Our first reunion was a great success. 114 members were there, along with dependents and friends, for a total attendance of 220 persons. The entire Falcon Inn belonged to us, making it easy to spot members of your organization. Many men saw faces that had been a blur for the past 40 some years, for others it was only last year to bring up the important past happenings.

We regret that we did not have as many jobs to be accomplished as we had volunteers for working. Anything that did not get accomplished was only due to the fact that we were all talking at the same time.

It was wonderful that every member present accepted assignment to the Membership Committee. Already we have seen results in this area.

For us on the Committee, the reward was to see those who made this reunion with constant smiling faces.

Many of you helped in many ways: the goodwill ambassadors, the gofers, the ladies at the registration tables, and those of you who did not have any title to your work. With gratitude and sincerity we extend a hearty, THANKS!

As we said before: The 461st WAS THE BEST!

DO YOU REMEMBER THE "LIBERAIDER"?

The Combat Souvenir Edition, Vol. 1, No. 1, dated April 1945, Somewhere in Italy, was a big hit at the Reunion. Those headlines really brought back memories. This starts Volume 2 and it is hoped that it will carry those memories on into the present time.

BRIEF MINUTES OF BUSINESS MEETING SEPTEMBER 14, 1985

Frank O'Bannon announced that Don Charland (764) has done much research on the Group, and has given copies of his findings to the Group. Additional information from the members will be appreciated.

A question was asked, "How did the reunion come about?" Answer: A group of 461st men wanted their own more personal smaller reunion in addition to the opportunity to participating in the function of the 461st/484th Bomb Groups Association.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to establish a 461st Bomb Group (H) organization that will hold reunions when the membership desires. This group will be administered by a President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, and a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will be composed of a representative of each Squadron. This organization will be incorporated, and non-profit.

The motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn for 15 minutes while each Squadron gets together and select their Director and an Alternate.

Results of the nominations are:

Hdqs Sqdn	Len Cole
764th Sqdn	Tom Javaruski
765th Sqdn	Tom Moss
766th Sqdn	Ralph Seeman
767th Sqdn	Harry Oglesby
Hdqs Alternate	Marion Pruitt
764th Alternate	Bill Harrison
765th Alternate	Ben Murphy
766th Alternate	Jim Dooley
767th Alternate	Jim Knapp

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A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the Board of Directors nominate the President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer. The following nominees were unanimously elected:

- President: Frank O'Bannon—764
- Vice-President: Sammy West—765
- Secretary/Treasurer Ed Spetman—766

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that our annual dues be a minimum of \$4.61 per year.



DO YOU WANT A 461ST PIN?

Our pin was designed by Bill Harrison, and was a souvenir at the Reunion. Additional pins are available for purchase at \$2 each. They are also now available with a tie-tac backing. Contact F. O'Bannon

INTERESTED IN A 461st PATCH?

We sold the patches at the Reunion, but a new one is being created, and will be available in the near future.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE?

Several members have made contributions to help establish our organization. If you wish to help in this way, please mail your donation to our Treasurer, Ed Spetman, Box 66 Rt #4, Council Bluffs, IA 51501

Information on dues will be mailed in December.

THE LIBERAIDER NEEDS YOU!

We need a volunteer Editor and contributing Staff. If you are interested in this "labor-of-love" position which will benefit the entire group, please contact Frank O'Bannon.

A REPORT FROM YOUR BOARD

Ed Spetman (766) has a fantastic set-up for us. He has put a large computer at our disposal, and will do the roster and financial report on it.

Sammy West (765) will submit a dummy Reunion Booklet to the Board, after he has processed all the photos. This will take three months.

Ed Spetman is proceeding with the incorporation papers. The Board voted to incorporate in Iowa. He will also submit By-Laws for the Board's approval.

Sammy West has additional Coors posters for anyone interested. Frank O'Bannon has additional A.F. Academy Blue Books. Any member may have one by writing him.

Frank O'Bannon will work on getting more film to add to our collection.

Bill Harrison (764) will continue to handle publicity for the Group.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT—SEPT 30, 1985

INCOME:

Reunion Fees	\$9,843.50
Pin Sales	60.00
Interest	84.78
Postage Donation Bal.	147.88
TOTAL	\$10,136.16

EXPENSES:

Crown Bus Co.	\$1,253.75
Officers' Club Lunch	850.00
Band for Banquet	400.00
Falcon Inn Bill	4,828.23
A. F. Academy Book	209.80
Pins	363.17
Name Tags	54.47
Misc. Office Supplies, Balloons, Postage, Print	359.03
TOTAL	\$8,318.45

BALANCE IN ACCOUNT

	\$1,817.71
TOTAL	\$10,136.16

Note: Reunion Booklet will be taken from account balance.

A DAY AT THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY

One of the highlights of the Reunion was our plaque dedication ceremony. We all gathered at the Memorial Wall to witness the acceptance of the plaque by Col. J. D. Manning on behalf of the Air Force Academy.

After the short ceremony, we bused to the beautiful Cadet Chapel for a Memorial Service.

This was followed by observing the cadets marching to their Dining Hall. As Americans you can't help but be proud of those young men.

Then we were off to the Officers' Club for a lovely luncheon. It was indeed a meaningful and great day!

ABOUT OUR PLAQUE

There is an interesting history to the wording on our plaque. These words were spoken by Capt. James Bumgardner, Jr., CSA, on the occasion of the dedication of the Confederate Cemetery and Memorial, Staunton, VA, June 9, 1879. Capt. Bumgardner is an antecessor of one of our 766th Squadron members, Alexander E. Sproul. We had the blessing of the current Judge James Bumgardner, to use the quotation. We all agree that "the old man" is up there smiling today. One hundred and six years later his words still speak a great truth.



THOSE REGISTERED OR ATTENDED

HDQS

- Len Cole
- Marion Pruitt
- 764TH
- George Miller
- Frank O'Bannon
- Allen Bro
- Bill Harrison
- Don Johnson
- John Underwood
- Wilburn Thomas
- Tony Nahkunst
- Richard Durand
- Walt Galloway
- Roger Weaver
- Bert Souther
- Donald Lundberg
- Carl Schank
- Elmer Hansen
- Marvin Weinstein
- Dusty Rhodes
- James Kochis
- Harold Brown
- Dalton Verner
- Harry Jenks
- Vince Pitka
- Herman Henderson
- Louie Henley
- Lloyd Emmert
- Bill Paradise
- John Benton
- Jim Hardee
- Charles Lindauer
- Richard Eley
- Meyer Brownstein
- Les Brown
- Ed Goree
- R. Messerschmidt
- Dwyer Green
- Tom Javaruski
- John Young
- Richard Freeman

- 765TH
- John Sabo
- Jim Colavito
- J. Lewandowski
- Wm. Wilkins
- Gail Peterson
- Robert Scanlon
- Dan Rice
- Jim Shipley
- Elmo Ward
- Wayne Boyce
- Len Bathurst
- Jack Jones
- Clifford Wilham
- Roy Huber
- Norman Hallett
- 766TH
- Alex Sproul
- Ralph Seeman
- Harold Watson
- Joel Fish
- Wm. Lecuyer
- Fred Dunn
- Bill Franklin
- Jerome Davis
- Robert Hayes
- Rudy Wild
- Jay Garner
- Robert Forster
- Theodore Ahlberg
- Carl Remp
- Ed Spetman
- Ken Perkins
- Joseph Coffey
- James Dooley
- Gerry Huizenga
- Wm. Parkhurst
- James Jones
- Glenn Stempl
- Harrison Word
- Ben Murphy
- Spencer Newcomer
- Virginia Slusing
- John Boyd

765TH

- Jim Van Nostrand
- Vernon Garrison
- Ralph Naven
- Sammy West
- Tom Moss
- Charles Kostka
- Howard Ritter
- Arthur Young
- Eugene Hetzel
- Otis Groom
- John Simeroth
- G.E. Presho

765TH

- John Sabo
- Jim Colavito
- J. Lewandowski
- Wm. Wilkins
- Gail Peterson
- Robert Scanlon
- Dan Rice
- Jim Shipley
- Elmo Ward
- Wayne Boyce
- Len Bathurst
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- Roy Huber
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- Gerry Huizenga
- Wm. Parkhurst
- James Jones
- Glenn Stempl
- Harrison Word
- Ben Murphy
- Spencer Newcomer
- Virginia Slusing
- John Boyd

767TH

- Frank Lucas
- Harry Hoermann
- William Lovett
- James Knapp
- Howard Sossamon
- Bob Chaat
- Rich Carney
- C. J. Capporelli
- Mike Malloy
- Otto Muller

THOSE REGISTERED OR ATTENDED: (Cont.)767TH

Al Smith	Harry Oglesby
Dale Snively	Ed Latal
Pete Henspeter	Carl Polakowski
Socrates Delianedis	Robert Suitts
Jacob Lebsack	Buren Storts
Joe Horn	

MISSING AIR CREW ROSTERS:

Of the 327 air crews assigned to the Group we are missing 184 crew rosters. Check your old orders!!

C.B. Alexander	-4	W.J. Barnes	-6
R.C. Arnholt	-4	H.J. Barcus	-6
J.M. Batenic	-4	R.M. Barnhart	-6
H.J. Beson	-4	J.C. Bontempo	-6
J.W. Anderson	-5	W.F. Auston	-7
R.K. Baker	-5	J.A. Ballinger	-7
W. Baran	-5	R.P. Bogner	-7
R.T. Barnes	-5	F.B. Capalbo	-7

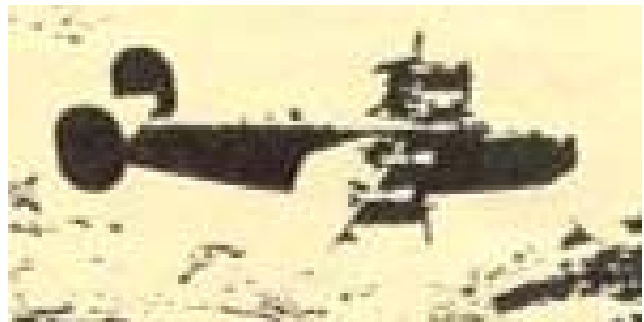
Send your orders to F. O'Bannon. More names in next issue.

IN MEMORIAMTAPS LIST

Known deceased since September 1985
(Not previously listed)

William K. Slusing	766th
Jake Genvardi	765th
Albert E. Mai	764th
Robert Gerlach	
Culos M. Settle	766th

In future issues this space will include pictures and short eulogies or memorials to deceased members provided the material is furnished well in advance to the editor by a friend or member of the family.

**461st BOMB Group (H) 1943-1945**

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