

# Videmus Omnia

## 55<sup>th</sup> WING ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2011

### FROM THE PRESIDENT



*President Jim Thomas, resplendent in WWII garb, opens the 2011 Tales of the 55<sup>th</sup> brandishing the dreaded hook, to be used in case any speaker ran too long.*

Greetings from the (under water) Heartland.

Another reunion is in the history books. **Greg** and **Julie Smith** are to be commended for their hospitality and work at putting this affair in order. One item of great interest was the low attendance. There was much constructive discussion at our meetings about possible reasons for the attendance. Many ideas were posed. Many members knew of others who were unable to attend due to family commitments, i.e.; weddings and graduations.

However, our reunions have been held during the busy times of the spring and not had the same attendance shortfalls. This time, however, the business caught up to us. We will avoid planning reunions in May and the first half of June in the future. We will again give our best efforts to deconflict from other organizations' reunions as there are so many organizations now; however, 100% deconfliction is never assured. Other suggestions will be taken under advisement as we plan for future reunions.

On the other hand, those who did attend, as usual, had a great time together. Many old

acquaintances were renewed as the album pictures will show. And most fortunately, when the final accounting was over, the contracted deficit in room nights was made up by modifying the food and beverage contract, a generous bar tab by the membership, and the generosity of friends of the **Association**.

Most reunion planning cycles allow for a year prior as a minimum deadline for a location contract to ensure availability. Not the case with Colorado Springs as it is a much desired and used convention/reunion location. **Al** and **Sandy Feldcamp** have stepped up to the tremendous responsibility of hosting our next reunion in Colorado Springs. Having experience hosting reunions there, Al and Sandy knew that the planning and contracting timelines start months before a year. They are well on the way to putting together a super reunion for us, **September 5 - 9, 2012**. There are many events and locations to visit, a possible Air Force Academy football game, and potentially, speakers we could arrange for. Our previous reunion in Colorado Springs was May 1998 and attendance was 320. I don't see any reason that we can't at least match that.

There are some items I would like to share with the membership. For two reunions now, **Larry D'Orvilliers** and **Elvio Palmieri** have endeavored to increase the participation of our enlisted **55<sup>th</sup>** veterans. I have appointed Larry and Elvio as Enlisted Affairs Liaisons with an open line to the Board of Directors on all things that would benefit our enlisted **55th** veterans. If this action does nothing but increase communications on this subject, the **Association** will benefit.

In the village of Nuthampstead, United Kingdom, there is an effort afoot to create a museum in memory of the 398<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group and the **55<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group** that served at Station 131,

Nuthampstead, during WW II. Memberships are being sold (linked to our [www.55WA.org](http://www.55WA.org)) to finance the museum. An anonymous donator has purchased a founder membership in the Nuthampstead Air Museum for the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing Association**.

During 2011 the **Association** has been very fortunate. We are slowly healing financially as a result of our dues increase, and donations to the **Association** that we did not anticipate. The **Association** is grateful to those who have included extra money along with their dues payments, to the family of **Joe Gyulavics**, Calvert Systems Engineering (CSE), L-3 Communications Systems Integration, and the Ozmen Family Foundation at the Community Foundation of Western Nevada.

Finally, I would like to touch base on the bottom line for our **Association** and its future...membership. As reported herein, we have 631 members in good standing and 81 members became delinquent as of 1 April 2011. We will be contacting each one of those 81 with a personal letter to remind/ask them to come back to the **Association**.

The best I can tell you about these numbers is that 81 fallouts is less than half what it was last year, and that last year we gained back 50% of the loss. If we are lucky to do that again we will have a membership of approximately 670. That is 130 above the number of dues paying members we need to sustain the amount/cost of activities we conduct each year now. So, we call that the breakeven point in membership/dues (540).

Active duty folks are coming into the **Association** at about the same numbers as in past years. This is not sufficient for the long term, but we are holding our ground for the near term. That is where we stand with membership as I see it.

Please do not forget, **each member** is a recruiter for the **Association**. Contact a friend who you know is not a member, or someone you know has fallen off our wagon and get them back into the **Association**. Contact Mike Cook about all matters on dues and membership, [Michael.Cook@Cox.net](mailto:Michael.Cook@Cox.net).

Enjoy the newsletter. I know that Max has put lots of TLC into it.

Have a pleasant summer...and...Y'all be careful out there now.

**VIDEMUS OMNIA**, Jim T

## RECON ROUNDUP REUNION RECAP

The **55th Wing Association's** twenty-eighth reunion took place 18-22 May 2011 with HQ at the elegant Courtyard Marriott in Allen, TX, just about 30 miles north of Dallas.

**Greg Smith**, a former **55<sup>th</sup>** Vice Commander, was the Recon Roundup trail boss, and he rode herd on yet another memorable reunion.

On the 20<sup>th</sup>, one highlight of the gathering was a bus tour to the L-3 facility at Greenville, TX, where the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing's** RC-135 fleet undergoes modernization and maintenance.



*"Bud" Kerner, L-3 Director, Hangar, Dock, Line (upper center, on ladder), briefs the assemblage on related mission integration programs.*

As always, the hospitality room was a popular gathering spot. The western style BBQ on Friday was a big hit with the cowhands and the ladies.

Saturday, the general membership meeting was interesting and informative as Pres Thomas outlined the **Association's** activities and accomplishments since the last reunion in Reno in September 2009.

Other subjects evoked lively discussions, as well. (*See minutes following.*) The Board of Directors was also elected for another term.

The grand banquet that night with featured



**BrigGen Donald Bacon**, who had assumed command of the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing** in March, as the featured speaker. The general affirmed the close rapport the Wing and the **Association** still maintain. He also iterated his support for the organization and recognized its many continuing contributions to the Wing's missions and personnel.



**55<sup>th</sup> WING ASSOCIATION**  
**MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**  
21 May 2011  
Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Allen, TX

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Thomas at 0905. He stated that the meeting notification was in the February 2011 **Association** newsletter, and that a quorum was present. He made opening remarks welcoming the assemblage, among other general statements.

He called upon Acting Secretary **George Ross** to read the minutes from the last membership meeting of 17 September 2009. George stated for the record that the subject minutes were published in the November 2009 issue of the **Videmus Omnia**, and were posted on the **Association** web site. **Bill Ernst** moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes; the motion was seconded by **Jim Maloney**. Motion passed.

Pres Thomas then showed a map with the location of all the current **55<sup>th</sup> Wing Association** membership.

Jim then introduced BGen Don "Bits" Bacon, the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing** Commander, who told those present how proud he was to again be a member of the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing**. He shared his joy when he was notified that the Bacon family was being transferred to Omaha, NE. General Bacon proceeded to give the **55<sup>th</sup> Unit Mission Briefing**. The **55<sup>th</sup>** has continually supported the SW Asian Theater for 21 consecutive years. "The sun truly never sets on the **Fightin' Fifty-Fifth!**"

**Bill Lewis** asked to speak to the membership to deliver a message from General (Ret) **Jack Shotts**

(former **15<sup>th</sup> Air Force** Commander). His message was that during his tenure as **15<sup>th</sup> AF CC**, he always considered the **55<sup>th</sup>** as the "Crown Jewel" of the Air Force.

**Mike Cook**, **Association** Treasurer, gave a brief summary of the current membership status and recapped our financial status. We have 631 current and paid up members. We also carry as Newsletter Recipients-Widow (NLR-W), 170 widows. The **Association** has approximately \$25,000 in the bank. This is a three year layout as dues can be paid for a three year period.

Pres Thomas then recapped the **Association** actions since the last reunion in 2009. It was a busy 18 months with many significant events.

Thomas talked about the **Association** name change, the Change of Command, the success of the **Tales of the 55<sup>th</sup>**, the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing** Birthday Ball, the Wing Hall of Fame, and the **Association's** Award for Excellence (Winner: **Senior Airman Enrick Earl**, a Medical Technician in the **55<sup>th</sup> Medical Group**).

Jim gave a summary of the vote count for the **Association** name change. He told of how the **Association** Offutt-area members helped say farewell to the outgoing **55<sup>th</sup> Wing** Commander, **BGen Jack Shanahan**.



The Omaha board members then continued the **Association** tradition of welcoming the new wing commander, BGen Bacon, by hosting a dinner for him shortly after his arrival.

Jim then talked about the Heritage Week activities which included **Tales of the 55<sup>th</sup>**, the Hall of Fame announcement (Those selected were **Max Moore**, **Robb Hoover**, and **Mike Cook**), and the Birthday Ball. Jim then talked about the part the **Association** played in coordinating the **69<sup>th</sup> Doolittle Raider** reunion, which only has five remaining participants, one of which attended this reunion.

Next, the president recognized Bill Ernst, the Nomination Committee chair, to put forth the slate for election to the Board of Directors. Ernst explained that under the recently revised **Association** Bylaws, all the directors were now elected positions. He listed the 17 nominees as: **Sam Pizzo**, **Don Griffin**, **Bill Ernst**, **Max Moore**, **Robb Hoover**, **Errol Hoberman**, **Jim Thomas**, **Michael Cook**, **Ricky McMahan**, **Dennis Haun**, **Larry Utley**, **Jim Maloney**, **George Ross**, **Fox Censullo**, **Pete Glenboski**, **Kevin Todd**, and **Don Kelly**.

Hoover moved the slate be accepted and that the nominations be closed. Seconded by Maloney. The

motion passed, and the nominees were elected by acclamation.

Thomas introduced **Al** and **Sandy Feldkamp** who will chair the next reunion from September 5–9, 2012 in Colorado Springs, CO. Al gave a brief overview of the Colorado Springs reunion along with the many attractions, and encouraged everyone to plan to attend. A vote by the membership was not required because the site was approved at the Reno reunion in 2009.

Pres Thomas recognized **Greg Smith** and his wife, **Julie**, for their outstanding work in setting up and running this reunion.

The **Association** was designated a 501c (19) tax exempt, veterans organization in 1995. In September 2009, additional information was provided the IRS about the membership and purposes and activities of the organization. Due to these changes in our membership makeup, activities and purposes, the IRS acknowledged that we are an organization of war veterans, well over 90%, and our activities and purposes qualify us under the provisions of Section 170 of the code so that **donations** to the **Association** are deductible for the purposes of federal income tax. Examples of these donations recently are cash donations from members who include extra money along with a dues payment (extra is deductible, **not the dues**) and donations given to the **Association** in memory of **Joe Gyulavics**, and other pending corporate donations.

The second topic centered on why we had a smaller turnout than normally expected for this year's reunion. Several ideas were openly discussed and ranged from "too many activities occur in May each year" to "the location did not have enough attractions to draw members", to "the hotel was too expensive"; the list goes on. **No solutions** were reached but the membership did discuss combining a reunion with the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing Birthday Ball** in the spring of 2014, and making Omaha a permanent location for every other reunion (those scheduled for the spring time).

These ideas, although favorably accepted, seemed to have as many issues as solutions and will be looked into further in the months to come. As of now, we **do not have** a location selected for the spring 2014 reunion.

**Reg Urschler** introduced the cadre of **55<sup>th</sup>** members in attendance who were part of the **55<sup>th</sup>** when it was located at Forbes.

The meeting ended with Jim Thomas thanking everyone for attending.

The meeting adjourned at 1055.

Respectfully submitted,

**George A. Ross**, Acting Secretary

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**Note:** Due to a culmination of unrelated circumstances, the Board of Directors meeting held immediately after the membership meeting was unable to convene a quorum; thus, no official business could be conducted, including electing the officers of the **Association** for another term.

However, since all the incumbents had agreed to stand for election again, they are to continue in the positions held until such time as a Board action can make the election official.

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## **ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS DIRECTORY**

### **Association Business/Policy/Awards:**

#### **President Jim Thomas**

4418 Anchor Mill  
Bellevue, NE 68123-1168  
E-mail: JThomas927@aol.com

#### **Vice President Ricky McMahon**

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E-mail: Rick\_CaryMc@comcast.net

### **Membership/Dues/Changes of Address:**

#### **Treasurer Michael Cook**

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Bellevue, NE 68123  
E-mail: Michael.Cook@cox.net

#### **Secretary Kevin Todd**

31651 E 167<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
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#### **Newsletter Editor Max Moore**

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### **Association Historian:**

#### **Robb Hoover**

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### **Association Web Page Comments/Ideas:**

#### **Webmaster Jim Maloney**

7908 Kona Circle  
Papillion, NE 68046-5619  
E-mail: jim@maloney.com

**Other Members of the Board of Directors:**

Sam Pizzo, Bill Ernst, Errol Hoberman, Don Griffin, Fox Censullo, George Ross, Dennis Haun, Pete Glenboski, Larry Utley, Don Kelly. *Active Duty:* LtCols John Cooper and Mohan Krishna.

Please remit dues payment to **55<sup>th</sup> Wing Association** as soon as practical for future years.

Mail to: **55<sup>th</sup> Wing Association**,  
ATTN: Michael J. Cook  
PO Box 13165  
Offutt AFB, NE 68113

**Appointed Enlisted Affairs Liaisons:**

**Larry D’Orvilliers**  
10703 Captain Hook Circle  
Thonotosassa, FL 33592  
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**Elvio Palmieri**  
1060 Highland Avenue  
Lake Forest, IL 60045-3873  
Elivo13@comcast.com

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**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

As of 30 June 2011, the **Association** had 631 members in good standing, including 19 life members and 13 gratis positions from the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing** senior staff. This is a decrease of 62 in members from 31 January 2011.

Regrettably, any member whose dues **expired on 31 December 2010** was **taken off** the member-in-good-standing roll **effective 1 April 2011** and no longer receives the newsletter or other **Association** correspondence.

There is a concerted effort to get those folks and others to return to the fold.

Approximately 170 widows of former members receive the newsletter at no cost, and are welcome to participate in any and all **Association** activities.

Additionally, 39 wing units and associated units receive the newsletters as a public relations gesture.

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The most asked question of the membership chairman is, “What is the expiration date of my dues?”

That date is to the RIGHT of your name on the address label in bold print: 20XX

Membership comes due each January. It is hoped/expected that those of you who have yet to renew your dues will do so soon. If your dues expire in 2011, it’s not too soon to submit your dues for the coming years.

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For whatever reason, if you do **not** know your expiration date, to inquire on same, please e-mail **Michael.Cook@cox.net**; or drop him a note at the above address to get an update on your dues status.

**Please keep us informed of any changes in your address or other contact information.** Invariably we get returned mail because of outdated addresses. Please help us stay current.

**You will find a membership/information update form at the back of this newsletter (page 20), as well as on the **Association** web site. Respectfully request that the form be used when paying dues; and/or to report any address or other changes in your contact information.**

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**TREASURER’S REPORT**

As of 30 June 2011, the treasury had an account balance (rounded) of \$28,000. Although the **Association** is solvent, we have expenses, obligations and bills to pay, such as publishing this newsletter. **So, please pay your dues promptly, or early and often.** Thank you very much.



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*Occasionally, members include modest amounts of money over and above what is required for dues to add to the treasury. Those donations (NOT DUES) are tax deductible under an IRS ruling for the organization. Every dollar is much appreciated. We can use the economic stimulus like every other group.*

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**55<sup>th</sup> WING CHANGE OF COMMAND**

On 9 March 2011 BrigGen Donald Bacon became the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing** Commander. He assumed the position from BrigGen John Shanahan who was



assigned as Deputy Director of Global Operations (J39), Joint Staff at the Pentagon, Washington, DC.



*LtGen Glenn Spears, 12<sup>th</sup> AF Commander, presents the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing flag to BGen Bacon. 55<sup>th</sup> Command Chief MSgt Suzan Sangster stands at the ready.*

General Bacon is a former RC EWO and Chief of Protocol with the Wing at Offutt (1998-2000). He is the first EWO to hold the chair, and the first **55th** alumni to return to command since **Colonel Dan Peterson**, the first navigator to be Wing CC, in 1988. Before being rated, he was an intelligence officer; and he has been in the electronic combat units at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, during previous assignments.

His last assignment was Deputy Commander of 3<sup>rd</sup> Air Force at Ramstein AB, Germany.



## THE ASSOCIATION HOSTS NEW WING COMMANDER

Keeping alive what is now an established tradition begun in 1997, a cadre of **Association** members in the Offutt/Omaha community hosted BGen Bacon on 22 March 2011, for dinner at Anthony's Steak House in south Omaha. He is the ninth wing commander to be so treated.

Sixteen gents met with the general for a social hour and the event opened with the ringing of the **55th** Ceremonial Bell.

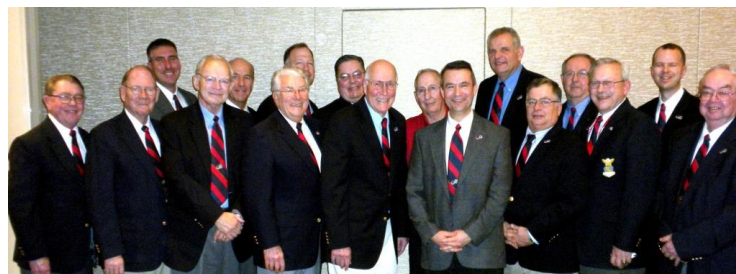
Treasurer Michael Cook (*sitting in for an ailing Pres Jim Thomas*) welcomed BGen Bacon with opening remarks that included noting that the

assemblage represented over 250 accumulative years service with the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth*. Then the attendees did a round-robin of introductions of themselves.

After dining, the general then wound up the convivial evening by expressing his appreciation for the service and dedication of the **Association** and its members, and for the hosted gathering. He said he was looking forward to a continued close relationship with the **Association** during his tenure as leader of the best wing in the Air Force. Having been assigned to the **55<sup>th</sup>** for three previous tours, he said he was well aware of the **Association's** contributions and fervor for supporting the Wing.



BGen Bacon was presented with a copy of the book *We See All*, by **Bruce Bailey**.



*Lodge meeting pose: L to R, Front Row: Moore, Dick Purdum, Hoover, Ernst, Fred Schapker, BGen Bacon, Dennis Haun, Cook, Frank Hicks. Back Row, L to R: LtCol John Cooper, Dan Peterson, Don Kelly, Jim Maloney, Ham Kennedy, Dave Wolfe, John Tresmer, Major Andy Burroughs.*



## MEMORIAL FOR A/C 664

Heritage Week 2011 for the **55th** actually began on 15 March with the 45<sup>th</sup> RS hosting a memorial ceremony to commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the crash of COBRA BALL, RC-135S aircraft, tail number 664 at Shemya AFB, AK. Six crewmen

were killed in that accident during extremely poor flying conditions.



**LtCol Brian Humphrey**, 45<sup>th</sup> commander, welcomed the gathering with opening remarks and introductions.

Two speakers for the occasion were **Kerry Crooks** and **Bill Maxwell** who related their experiences as survivors of the incident, and remembered those who perished. Among the many guests at the occasion were four other survivors.

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## LTCOL STRATTON HONORED

A road just north of the General Curtis E. LeMay Building (Bldg 500) at Offutt AFB, NE, was dedicated in honor of **LtCol Mark E. Stratton II** on 26 March 2011. LtCol Stratton was killed when an improvised explosive device detonated beside his vehicle in a convoy he was leading north of Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan on 26 May 2009.

Remarks were made by BGen Bacon, 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Commander, LtCol Humphreys, 45<sup>th</sup> RS Commander, and **Jennifer Stratton**, Mark's widow, and **Jan York**, his mother. Each lady spoke eloquently of LtCol Stratton's qualities as a son, husband and father.

LtCol Stratton served in the 55<sup>th</sup> at Offutt from 1996 to 2002. He was a senior RC navigator, IN, evaluator in the 45<sup>th</sup> RS. He was also a wing executive officer and co-chaired the 2001 Birthday Ball. He later served as the aide-de-camp to the vice commander of US STRATCOM.

He was assigned to the Pentagon when he volunteered to go to Afghanistan to lead a unit responsible for building roads and bridges in the war torn areas. LtCol Stratton was described by his peers as a dedicated patriot and a hard charger who was destined to inspire and lead others.



*After the unveiling, the Offutt Base Honor Guard stands watch as Mrs Stratton and Mrs York accept a road sign replica from BGen Bacon.*

The 45<sup>th</sup> also dedicated a heritage room in his honor after the road ceremony. The dedications were during the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing's second annual Heritage Week.

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## 55<sup>TH</sup> WING HALL OF FAME

This year's inductees into the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Hall of Fame, Cold War veterans and comrades all, they are: Colonel (Ret) Michael J. Cook, LtCol (Ret) Robb L. Hoover, and LtCol (Ret) Max R. Moore.

The trio was recognized for their significant active duty contributions and many years of outstanding, dedicated service to the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth*, even after Air Force careers and to the present. A pilot, EWO, and navigator respectively, they now form their own 'select crew'.

BGen Bacon is shown presenting the plaques to Cook, Hoover and Moore, respectively







The induction ceremony took place Friday afternoon, 25 March 2011, in the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing** HQ building at Offutt, to a standing room only crowd of Wing staff, families and friends.

They were also presented at the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing** Birthday Ball the following evening.



*Hall of Fame first ever group photo: L to R: Larry Mitchell, Lynn Duncan, Moore, Hoover, Ernst, Loose Lane, Cook.*



## **TALES OF THE 55<sup>TH</sup> - 2011**

The 12<sup>th</sup> edition of *Tales* took place on Friday, 25 March 2011. Once again Jim Thomas conducted

the program of more oral history of the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth's* heritage.

Getting underway with welcoming remarks and introductions, Thomas recognized dignitaries, members of the Hall of Fame, and the Royal Air Force 51 Squadron contingent who are at Offutt for RC-135 crew training.

BGen Bacon then opened the event with the ringing of the **55<sup>th</sup>** bell, and followed with his remarks on the significance of the *Tales* and the **Association's** support of the Wing.

Thomas gave an update on monuments in the UK to the **55<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group** of WWII. Memorial projects are at RAF Nuthampstead and at an abbey in Wormingford.

### *The Speakers*

**Fitz Carty**, a former RC AC (*who later served as the Wing vice commander*) related a current event relevant tale of the original confrontation with Libya's Muammar Gadhaffi (*does anyone know or care how to spell this nut job's name?*).

In 1981 the dictator had declared a Line of Death across the Gulf of Sidra, which was challenged by the US Navy and with **55<sup>th</sup>** recon missions.

Carty and crew were pursued by Libyan MiG fighters and had to take evasive action to include emergency decent. The thrill ride was memorable for all involved.

Hoover was up next to detail a four ship coordinated mission against Soviet defenses in 1981. Using an RC-135V, RC-135U (COMBAT SENT), SR-71 and an RAF 51 Sqd Nimrod at various altitudes, directions and timing, the Baltic Sea area of interest was 'stimulated' to great effect (*to say the least*) with superior electronic surveillance results. Robb had been a SAC HQ planner for the unique mission, and flew on the SENT as a staff observer.

The 55th Electronic Group Commander, **LtCol John Rye** from Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, presented his unit's EC-130H "JAM IT" mission capabilities and operations of the recent past and currently. Another significant element in the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing's** arsenal.

The *Tales* closed with the traditional toast to all the deployed troops of the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth*.





L to R: Thomas, Hoover, Carty, Rye, BGen Bacon.

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## 55<sup>th</sup> WING BIRTHDAY BALL

The 33<sup>rd</sup> annual gala was held on Saturday, 26 March 2011 at the LaVista (NE) Embassy Suites.



This event celebrated the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the WWII origin of the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth*. It is the Wing's largest formal social function each year and is regularly attended by over 800 people, including many dignitaries, active duty and civilian members of the Wing, retirees, families and friends.

The theme for this year's Ball was "*Courage, Character, Commitment*" recognizing the focus of the Wing, and the men and women who perform the many and varied missions the Wing executes worldwide in support of both peacetime and in the war on terrorism.

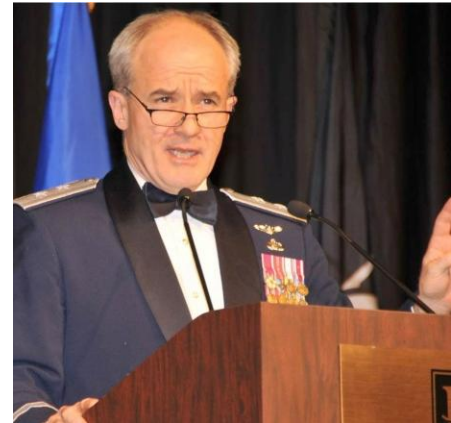
Besides the usual local **Association** attendees, among those who came from afar to enjoy the festivities were: **Congressman and Mrs Lee Terry** (R-Neb), **Jim and Marilyn Brookie**, **Fitz Carty**, **Lynn Duncan**, **Alan and Sandy Feldkamp**, **Pete and Margo Glenboski**, **Rich Holsinger**, **Cliff and**

**Kay Lambert**, **Loose and Cynthia Lane**, **Bo and Ann Marlin**, **Ricky and Cary McMahon**.

Also there were: **Susan and Larry Mitchell**, **Maria Goforth McAtee** and her daughter **Linda Schilder**, **Ellen Moore**, **Treva and Pete Potter**, **Jim and Marion Taylor**, **Colonel Jeff and LtCol Trish Seinwell**, **Joe Siniscalchi**, **Mark and Suanne Smith**, **Patty and Gary Smith**, **Steve Visco**, **Paul and Susan Yeoman**.

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**Major Andy Burroughs**, of the 55<sup>th</sup> Intelligence Support Sqd, and his sidekick, **Capt Devin Long**, of the 45<sup>th</sup> RS, led the committee to plan and execute the gala affair.



**Major General James Poss** was this year's guest speaker, a former commander of the 488<sup>th</sup> Intelligence Squadron, RAF Mildenhall, UK. General Poss is the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR), HQ USAF, Pentagon, Washington, DC. His talk recounted significant eras of the 55<sup>th</sup>'s history.

**Dave Webber** emceed the event for the fifth year in a row. He is a longtime Omaha TV personality who once served a four year hitch as a member of the SAC Elite Guard in the early 1970s.

As is the custom, the newest Hall of Fame inductees and the **Association's** Award for Excellence were presented at the function.

After dinner and the program, there was dancing to the *Nightwing* ensemble of the Heartland of America Band until the midnight hour.

The festivities did not end with the actual closing of the ballroom, as after-parties were held in suites sponsored by various persons and groups. A notorious 'speakeasy' was particularly lively into the wee hours.



Doing the honors for the traditional cake cutting are, L to R: **Airman Basic Robert Chandler** of the 338<sup>th</sup> CTS, the newest member of the 55<sup>th</sup> by three days; **BGen Bacon**, and **LtCol (Retired) Jim Taylor** representing a senior generation of the 55<sup>th</sup>.

The **Association** contributes \$1000 each year to help defray the costs for younger airmen to attend; and Max Moore and Bill Ernst continue to represent the **Association** as advisors to the committee. Moore also submitted the theme for this year's Ball.



Treasurer Cook presents the **Association** donation to Major Burroughs as BGen Bacon witnesses.

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## ASSOCIATION

### AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Pres Thomas announced at the Ball the winner of the 2010 **55th Wing Association Award** for Excellence: **Senior Airman Enrick D. Earle**, of the 55<sup>th</sup> Medical Group.

The young man had previously been awarded the Air Combat Command Airman of the year, made a below-the-zone promotion, and was

consistently recognized for his superior performance.

In particular he led a team of medical material technicians deployed to Haiti in the aftermath of the massive earthquake. They procured, maintained and ensured the availability of medical supplies and equipment for a deployed surgical team under the most arduous conditions.

He was also credited with recovering, and thus saving the life of, an infant.



Board Member Jim Maloney presents the plaque to Airman Earle.

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### PLAN AHEAD NOTAMS:

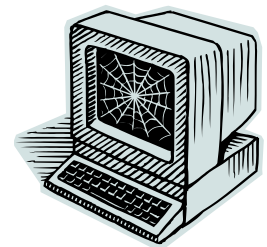
The 2012 *Tales and Birthday Ball* will be held on **30 and 31 March**, respectively. Mark your calendars for those events. It is not too early to plan on attending these significant festivities.

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## YOUR 55<sup>TH</sup> WING ASSOCIATION WEB SITE

[www.55wa.org](http://www.55wa.org)

Under the continued technical expertise of Webmeister **Jim Maloney**, the home page is an integral and vital part of the **Association's** line of communications and information. It is where you can keep informed





between newsletters, and where news is reported and updated in a real time manner.

Plus, it provides members a forum to keep in touch, learn about current and ongoing **Association** activities, and reference previous projects and/or events.

An increasingly important function is that our internet link to the world provides former **55<sup>th</sup>** warriors a means to reconnect. It is not uncommon for past **55<sup>th</sup> SRW/55<sup>th</sup> Wing** members, or friends and families, to find our web site after an internet search, and reengage friends and comrades from their days with the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth*.

You are urged to check it out often for timely news, activities and information exchanges. The latest news on reunions, the Birthday Ball, and other significant events are there. "Mail Room", "Clothing Sales", "Memory Lane", a picture gallery, and links to other associated and interesting sites are included.

The site has an alphabetical, as well as chronological, listing for the **TAPS** section. That makes for easier research access to the names and dates of those in the **55<sup>th</sup>** family who have passed.

#### *A New Addition*

Also, a **new convenience** is a layout depiction (*not an actual photo*) of the brick patio at the **55<sup>th</sup> SRW** Cold War Monument at the Memorial Gardens of the National Museum of the Air Force near Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. It can be checked out for the location of your brick, or others, in preparation for any visit there; or just so you know.

It is yet another diligent and dedicated effort from **Jack Kovacs**, our on-site guardian and monitor of the Memorial.

**Thanks once again, Jack.**

\* \* \* \* \*

## TAPS



**CARBAUGH, PHILIP C.**, 79, died 26 May 2011, Lakewood, WA; wife Margaret Mary (**Mickey**). He joined the Air Force in 1952 and began his career as a navigator and instructed at basic nav school at Waco, TX. After a break in service, Phil became a pilot and served in

the **55<sup>th</sup> SRW** at Forbes AFB, KS, in the RB-47 in the 1950s and 1960s. He later flew C-124s out of the Philippines in support of the Vietnam War before retiring in 1974.

**ELZE, LEO (Butch)**, 70, 16 April 2011, Phoenix, AZ. Butch served in the 2ACCS battle staff as an intelligence officer at Offutt AFB, NE, in the late 1970s and early 1980s. He was a long time resident of Papillion, NE, and worked for SAIC after retiring from the AF.

**GYULAVICS, JOE**, 85, 9 March 2011, Winter Haven, FL. A WWII, Korean War, Cold War and Vietnam era veteran, Joe joined the **55<sup>th</sup> SRW** at Forbes as an RB-47 copilot in 1952. He moved with the Wing to Offutt and transitioned into the RC-135 in 1966. He later commanded the 343<sup>rd</sup> SRS at Offutt. (*See article following TAPS*)

**JEFFERS, FRED F.**, 12 May 2011, Centennial, CO; wife, Frances (**Heidi**). A veteran of WWII and Korea, he flew bomber missions in Europe and in the Berlin Airlift. He was also a Cold War recon pioneer as an EWO in RB-29s/-50s at Ramey AFB, PR, and Forbes in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Fred retired from Barksdale AFB, LA, in 1961.

**KRESGE, CLETUS C.**, 88, 20 March 2011, Alexandria, VA; wife of 63 years, **Margaret**. Clete was also a veteran of four wars: WWII, Korea, Cold War and Vietnam era. Clete enlisted in the Army Air Corps right after 7 December 1941. He flew B-29s in the Pacific theater and weather recon missions over Hiroshima and Nagasaki on the days the atomic bombs were dropped.

He served in the **55<sup>th</sup>** from 1957-62 as an RB-47 AC at Forbes. After tours at Vandenburg AFB, CA, Maxwell AFB, AL, and the Pentagon, Clete retired in 1974.

**LOUKOTA, ROBERT (Speedy) D.**, 76, 29 January 2011, Shalimar, FL; wife, **Patricia**. Bob entered the Air Force via the aviation cadet program in 1953. Two years later he was in the **55<sup>th</sup>** at Forbes as an ERB-47 EWO. He later flew missions in Vietnam. Retiring in 1979, he had a second career as a systems engineer for Teledyne Engineering. Pat also is a retired AF officer.

**MANLEY, FRANK D.**, 90, 23 January 2011, Overland Park, KS; wife of 54 years, **Joan**. Frank was assigned by The Boeing Company, to work with the **55<sup>th</sup> SRW** as a technical



representative at Forbes from February 1957 through June 1963. Both Frank and Joan were faithful reunion attendees, and Frank organized the Seattle reunion in August 1992. Long time residents of Bellevue, WA, they had relocated to the Kansas City area.

**MARK, JOHN W.**, 75, 1 April 2011, Omaha, NE. He came in to the **55<sup>th</sup> SRW** at Offutt in the original cadre of RC-135 crews, although, he first checked out in the RB-47 Tell Two, likely one of the last EWOs to do so. John later went to the 82<sup>nd</sup> SRS at Kadena AFB, Okinawa, circa 1972-78. He then had a tour in the SAC Recon Center at Offutt, 1978-82.

**MILLER, PAUL B.**, 78, 7 March 2011, Seattle, WA; wife, **Judith**. A navigator with the **55<sup>th</sup>** in RBs at Forbes and in RCs at Offutt in the 1960s and 70s. He also served on staff and had a tour at the SAC Recon Center retiring in 1975. After that, he was a commercial real estate broker in Seattle for many years.

**MURPHY, JOHN J. (Jack)**, LtGen USAF Retired, 86, 21 March 2011, Dunedin, FL; wife, **Wilma**. General Murphy was commander of 15<sup>th</sup> AF in 1981-83 when the **55<sup>th</sup>** was under that command. He was a good friend of the Wing and the speaker at the 1983 Wing Birthday Ball.

**ROLLER, TOSHIE**, 83, 13 May 2011, Bellevue, NE; wife of **Harry**, a former crew and line chief with the **55<sup>th</sup>** at Offutt in the 1970s. Toshie was an accomplished chef at the NCO and Officers clubs, and in area country clubs. She later instructed Japanese at Creighton University in Omaha for several years.

**RYAN, DONALD R.**, 82, 18 August 2010, Muskegon, MI. A native of Muskegon, Don was an RB EWO at Forbes 1955-56. He also had assignments in Germany, Japan, Okinawa, and Greenland during his 22 years in the Air Force. He later worked another 19 years as a civilian auditor for the Air Force.

**SHAW, EUGENE (Gene) B.**, 84, 10 May 2011, Omaha, NE; wife, **Linda**. A bomb/nav in B-47s by trade, Gene served in the **55<sup>th</sup>** at Offutt as a staff officer in the early 1980's. After retiring he was a GS in Plans with the 3902<sup>nd</sup> Air Base Wing.

**THOMAS, BARBARA N.**, 89, 12 June 2011, Mendocino, CA. Devoted wife of 56 years to **Don (DL)**, an RB-47 pilot at Forbes in the 1960s. They

regularly attended the reunions, most recently last May in Texas.

**WALLER, ROBERT (Bob) E.**, 82, 2 May 2011, Tulsa, OK; wife of 54 years, **Maralene**. Bob came into the **55<sup>th</sup>** at Forbes as an RB-47 pilot in the early 1950s. He participated in surveillance over flights of the Soviet Union in *Operation Homerun* in 1956. He later served as an attache' in Chile, Uruguay, Guatemala, and Panama. After retiring from the Air Force in 1982, Bob went to law school, became a practicing attorney, and eventually served as a municipal judge in Tulsa.

**WEST, RUFUS H.**, 87, 29 June 2011, Boise, ID, former resident of Ft Walton Beach, FL. An enlisted WWII navy veteran, Rufus later graduated from the University of Alabama, then went into the Air Force as an officer and served during the Korean War. He came to the **55<sup>th</sup>** as an EWO in RB-47s in the mid-1950s at Forbes. Retired in 1970.

\* \* \* \* \*

**TAPS** notification of **Association** members, spouses, friends and associates taking the Big PCS should be sent to Max Moore, 201 Basswood Court, Bellevue NE, 68005; or e-mail MaxMoore55@aol.com

**Please include next of kin and an address to whom the Association condolence card may be sent; date of demise, age, location; and if known, connection to the 55<sup>th</sup> - base, time and duty. Thank you.**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **JOE GYULAVICS (JUH-lay-vix)**

Affectionately known as "*Jumpin' Joe*", he was a patriot, leader, mentor, and a friend to practically everyone he met. More than all that, he was a fine human being. His positive attitude and sunny disposition were infectious. He and Dottie were a team for nearly 65 years.



Joe had an interesting life and Air Force career. He had the rare experience of going through

aviation cadets twice. No, he did not wash out the first time.

A native of Buffalo, NY, he joined the Army Air Corps in 1943. His first stint in the aviation cadet program trained him as a navigator as WWII ended. After demobilization, he later reenlisted in 1947 as a master sergeant, and continued to fly as an enlisted nav/bombardier/observer in B-29s with the 28<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp at Rapid City, SD. During temporary duty to Germany and the UK, he flew in the Berlin Airlift.

Joe applied for pilot training in 1950 and was accepted into the last cadet class to take married and enlisted students. He graduated with his pilot wings and a regular commission, then was sent directly to Kadena AB, Okinawa, as a B-29 co-pilot in the 19<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp. That unit flew combat missions during the Korean conflict.

After that tour, in 1952 he was assigned to the **55<sup>th</sup> Strategic Reconnaissance Wing** at Forbes AFB, KS, as an RB-50 co-pilot. He transitioned with the Wing into the RB-47H in 1954, upgraded and got his own crew. Joe was in stand/eval as a copilot and later with his own crew. He also served as the Wing Safety Officer in 1959.

Still with the **55<sup>th</sup>** as it prepared to receive RC-135 aircraft, he went to Castle AFB, CA, and checked out as a receiver and tanker pilot in the -135 and returned to Offutt AFB, NE, where the **55<sup>th</sup>** had relocated in 1966. While awaiting the arrival of the new RCs, he was sent to Clark AB, PI, as a detachment commander overseeing some early Vietnam missions seeking the locations of SAMs. Back at Offutt, he flew in the Airborne Command Post for a few months until the RC-135Cs arrived.

In January 1968 he took command of the 343<sup>rd</sup> SRS, where he remained until May 1971, and was promoted to colonel without any professional military education square-filling.

### ***Joe Leaves the 55th***

After over 19 years in the **55<sup>th</sup>**, Joe was then assigned as the deputy commander for operations to the 6<sup>th</sup> Strat Wing at Eielson AFB, AK, and later became the vice wing commander.

With over 10,000 flying hours, he was medically grounded and was assigned to be base commander at Glasgow AFB, MT, in 1973. Next, he was the base commander at Andersen AFB on Guam for two years, a hectic and exciting time

during the Vietnam conflict. He was so respected and involved in the entire community there that he was known as the unofficial ‘mayor of Guam’.

His last assignment was to 15<sup>th</sup> AF at March AFB, CA. He retired after 35 years of service in 1978. Over 19 of those years were in the **Fightin’ Fifty-Fifth** in three different flying platforms, two bases and a variety of responsible crew and staff positions.

Joe and Dottie enjoyed Guam so much they returned there in retirement and stayed for over ten years, then resettled in Winter Haven, FL, in 1990. They were regulars at **55<sup>th</sup>** reunions and missed just one from 1977.

Joe relished instigating songfests on those occasions. With Dottie, **John** and **Reese Drost**, he helped compose a **55<sup>th</sup>** theme song of sorts to the tune of “*Hey Look us Over*”, (“*the 55<sup>th</sup> is here*”) at the Seattle reunion in August 1992, which, at each succeeding reunion, attendees were happily obligated to sing as Joe directed the group.

Joe also served on the **Association** Board of Directors from September 2003 until his passing.

Dottie died on 28 January, less than six weeks before Joe. Their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary would have been 11 March 2011. They celebrated it together, no doubt.

They will be sorely missed by the entire **55<sup>th</sup>** family of which they were so much an integral part.

\* \* \* \* \*

## MAIL ‘N STUFF

\* \* \* \* \*



Well, there is a void here.

You don’t write, you don’t call.....heavy sigh. Guess I could just make up stuff. Who would know? Me.



\* \* \* \* \*

*Any casual observer will note that this issue of the **Videmus Omnia** is particularly Offutt-centric with many of the same individuals involved. That is the nature of the beast as so many events occurred*

in a short span of time since the last newsletter, and the **Association** members in the Offutt area are engaged in those activities.

**Here is how members can help diversify the coverage:** Editor's usual plea: If anyone wishes to contribute letters, stories, photos and articles, please do so and send them to me.

If events occur in your area (DC, CSprings, et al?) that you think would be of interest to **the general readership**, mail or e-mail the pertinent details, and include the names of those who attend. **Names are news. Pictures are good.**

The **only way** to broaden our coverage is to get input from the near and far reaches of **Fifty-Fifth-land**.

Thanks, and **Videmus Omnia**, Max  
MaxMoore55@aol.com  
(Contributions may be,..... well, of course they will be, edited for content, readability, and spacing.)



\* \* \* \* \*

**Late notam:** As this issue of the newsletter was prepared for publication, we were informed that the Colorado Springs/Denver area contingent is to hold its second annual RC Reunion on 23 July.

**Kerm Neal** heads up the effort to gather **55<sup>th</sup>** alums at Fox Run Park for barbeque, beverages, goodies and a heap of war stories.

*Note: Local weather agencies are being alerted for a heavy BS front to move through.*

\* \* \* \* \*

## ASSOCIATION BX

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### ASSOCIATION POLO SHIRTS/CAPS

These are 'must have' items for the reunions, and they look good on the golf course, for casual Fridays at the office, and any leisure time.

Give a big hint to the family and mayhap some generous loved one will give you one for whatever you have going: Easter, Father's Day, birthday, anniversary, Christmas, Hanukkah, Ramadan, Kwanzaa, Chinese New Year, whatever.

**Great gifts!** The shirts and caps are **unisex**, so get one for your spouse, significant other, or other family members.



There are currently two designs available. Both have the dual shield on the left breast, no pocket.

The former design is white with red collar and sleeve trim, navy blue front placket. They are 100% pre-shrunk combed cotton pique. This shirt's **cost remains \$25 per shirt.**

**Those shirts are now available only in small and medium** as they are being phased out. When they are gone, they are gone.

The **new** all white design is 100% polyester micro pique, moisture-wicking and anti-microbial control; available in sizes medium, large, XL, and XXL. Size 3XL can be ordered if the need arises, Big Fella. **The cost of this version is \$30 each.**

**Be sure to state the design and size you want.**

The golf/baseball caps are royal blue with the dual shield logo on the front, and an adjustable back strap. **They go for just \$7 each.**

The items can be viewed in color on the **Association** web site at [www.55wa.org](http://www.55wa.org), and click on the **BX, Clothing Sales** links.

**There are charges for priority postage to be added to the individual item cost: \$5.35 for one shirt, or one cap; \$10.60 for both a shirt and cap order; \$10.60 for two shirts.**

More ways to identify with your **Association** and "show the logo" as appropriate for official, social and casual functions.

\* \* \* \* \*

### THE ASSOCIATION TIE

The **Association's** 'regimental' tie is a distinguished blue and red striped design with the **Association's** dual shield logo prominently displayed in the tie's center. A fine gold line defines



every fourth blue/red stripe. It can also be seen in color on the web site.

**The price is \$25 per tie, including shipping and postage.**

**Order now! This item is another must have for the reunion banquets and other appropriate events.**

\* \* \* \* \*

Shirts, caps and ties sold well at the May reunion and more are on order.

Anyone desiring to purchase shirts, caps or ties can contact **Larry Utley** at his e-mail OFFWEGO@cox.net; phone: 402-592-6627; or write 2409 Leigh Lane, Papillion, NE 68133. **Checks for the full amount of your order should be made to the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Association.**

\* \* \* \* \*

## 55<sup>TH</sup> FASHION PINS

The pins continue to be sold to **Association** members all over the country. They are particularly evident at official and social functions at Offutt, and at 55<sup>th</sup> reunions.

You will want to (Shown near actual size) acquire one for that special lady in your life to wear on any occasion. Gents, it makes a great birthday or anniversary accessory gift, or holiday stocking stuffer. Classy, but inexpensive.

The **Association** does **not** sell these pins and receives **no** money.

But, as a service for those who wish to possess same: **Erwin's Jewelers, Frank Kumor**, proprietor, and an **Association** member and supporter, offers them and **you can purchase directly from the store.**

Send order requests to 223 W. Mission Ave, Bellevue, NE; or call: (402) 291-2454, or fax to (402) 293-5873 to order the pins. **Costs are \$9 for the pin and \$4 for shipping.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**George Back** has donated prints of two of his paintings to the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing Association**. The first print (20" x 15") depicts the North Korean MiG



attack on a **55<sup>th</sup> SRW** RB-47 in April 1965. As most members know, George was an electronic warfare officer on that historic Cold War sortie. The battle-damaged RB-47 landed safely back at Yokota due to the superb piloting of A/C **Matt Mattison** and the gunnery skills of copilot **Hank Dubuy**



The second print (26" x 16") depicts a montage of Combat Apple RC-135M memorabilia from the 82nd SRS during the Vietnam era (1967-74).



Either of these prints are available for \$20 each (which includes shipping) through the **Association** store c/o **Larry Utley** (Offwego@cox.net). Make checks to the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing Association**.

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## REUNIONS

\* \* \* \* \*

## BIG SAFARI ASSOCIATION



24-28 AUGUST 2011  
Dallas, TX, Embassy Suites Outdoor World

For full details, agenda, registration form, and updates you can go to the web site [www.bigsafariassociation.org](http://www.bigsafariassociation.org); or contact **John Reynolds** at home, 903-883-2080.

\* \* \* \* \*

## AIR FORCE NAVIGATORS OBSERVERS ASSOCIATION



6-8 SEPTEMBER 2011  
Tuscany Casino and Resort,  
Las Vegas, NV

Complete forms and details are on the web site: [www.afnoa.org](http://www.afnoa.org). Contact for registration is **Jimmy Bannerman**, at [jimmybannerman@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jimmybannerman@cfl.rr.com). Registration fee is \$150 and the **deadline is 1 August 2011**.

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## THE NEXT 55<sup>TH</sup> WING ASSOCIATION REUNION



5-9 SEPTEMBER 2012  
Colorado Springs, CO.

**Sandy Feldkamp**, chairperson, **Alan** assisting. Look to the web site [www.55wa.org](http://www.55wa.org) and future issues of the newsletter as details develop.

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## B-47 STRATOJET ASSOCIATION



1-3 NOVEMBER 2012  
Tucson, AZ

This one is in the works and will be hosted by **Bill Clark** ([clark3wl@yahoo.com](mailto:clark3wl@yahoo.com)). More information will be available as it is detailed and will be posted on the web site at [www.b-47.com](http://www.b-47.com).

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## WHO SHOT WHAT



Graphics and organization logos from various sources and web sites. Pictures: Thomas and Tales toast by Max Moore; Greg Smith by Jim Thomas; L-3 brief from Greg Smith. **Charles Haymon**, 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Public Affairs, for Stratton Blvd, Hall of Fame photos, Ball cake cutting and Gen Poss. Change of command and Ball logo by **Josh Plueger**, 55<sup>th</sup> Wing PA.

Shanahan g'bye, Bacon dinner pix, check and Award presentations, Moore. Joe G from family.

**Association** shirt, cap and 55<sup>th</sup> pin, Moore; tie by Pizzo. Prints from George Back. Reunion album photos thanks to Thomas, **Dave Wolfe**, Hoover, Maloney and **Elvio Palmieri**.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Never try to argue with an idiot. He/she will drag you down to his/her level and defeat you with experience.*

*They will still be idiots and you will be frustrated.*

## 2011 REUNION ATTENDEES

Gil and Ellen Agronis  
George and Gerrie Back  
Brigadier General Don Bacon  
Bruce and Fay Bailey  
Doug and Lynn Barrett  
Bob (BJ) Bates  
David and Joy Baugh  
Al and Suzi Brunner  
Harris R. Blount and Norma Kussmann  
Andy and Sue Borden  
Jim and Marilyn Brookie  
Kenneth and Gretchen Bryan  
Ted and Marlene Boydston  
Jean and Sue Caselton  
Buz Carpenter  
Fox and Teresa Censullo  
Charles (Chuck) Cherry  
Ralph Cofield  
Michael Cook  
Roby Craft  
Bill Crossland  
Herschel W. and Linda Crump  
Matt and Cindy Crump  
Larry and Giles D'Orvilliers  
Hank and Sandra Dubuy  
Glen and Ann Duer  
Golda (Tom) Eldridge, Jr.  
Golda and Nancy Eldridge  
Bill and Linda Ernst  
Tom and Monica Everling  
Alan and Sandy Feldkamp  
Norm and Arlene Fennelly  
Larry Ford  
Phil and Kris Ford  
Paul and Jane Fortin  
Don French and Sue Baucom  
Phil and Margareta Giambri  
Sam and Pat Goeden  
Don and Barbara Gurney  
Cargill Hall  
Errol and Sue Hoberman  
Robb and Shirley Hoover  
Russell Howard  
John Johnson  
Al Kamback  
Ron Knecht  
Bill and Lou Lewis  
Charles and Sara Liller  
Jim and Peg Maloney  
Mike and Pearl McFarland  
Ricky J. McMahon  
Jeff and Cecelia McRaney  
Widd Medford  
Larry and Susan Mitchell  
Colonel Mark and Nancy Morris  
Mike (The younger) and Daphne Morris  
Gary and Karen Nelson  
Ron and Martha Nickerson  
John and Chris Olivo  
Elvio and Darlene Palmieri  
George and Rob Penfield  
Garry and Janet Percival  
Jack and Michiko Perrizo  
Pete and Treva Potter,  
    Hal and Mary Kennedy (guests)  
Mark Prody  
Hank and Jo Ann Rieden  
Bob and Brenda Robeson  
Jack and Diane Robinson  
George and Betty Ross  
Bill and Elly Rosser  
Bobby and Duveen Russell  
Roland and Kathy Saenz,  
    Ray and Mary Jo Saenz (guests)  
Walter and Ann Savage  
Fred Schapker  
Walt and Mary Schrecker  
Stan and Shirley Sievers  
Bill Simon  
Tony and Lynne St. Amant  
Rudy and Terry Smart  
Ken and Myrtle Stoop  
Aristeo and Virginia Sul  
Mark Tarpley  
Jim and Marion Taylor  
Don and Barbara Thomas  
Jim Thomas  
Colonel Ed Topps  
John Trumble  
Ray and Susan Uribe  
Reg Urschler  
Gerry and Brenda Walker  
Neil and Doloras Whitworth  
Herb and Barbara Williams  
Ned and Mary Wilson  
David "Tiny" Wolfe



## REUNION ALBUM



Greg Smith, Mike Cook and Ricky Mac book 'em, check 'em, line 'em up.



Rudy Smart, Bill Ernst, Jim Taylor, Hank Dubuy Grip and grin.



Bill Lewis, Don Thomas, Reg Urschler



Tiny Wolfe, Walt Schrecker, Sue Hoberman, Sam Goeden



Get on the bus. Get off the bus.



L to R: Mesdames Maloney, Barrett, Ross McFarland, Olivo, Seavers, and Censullo  
"STOP! In the name of love...."



Water? We don't need no stinkin' water. We got booze!  
McFarland, Maloney, Wolfe, Trumble, Olivo, Ross, Seavers, Topps, Barrett



Clockwise from left: Perrizos, Robesons, Bailey, Don and Barbara Thomas



C/W from left: Bordens, Nickersons, Wilsons, Brookies, Stoops



*Operation Homerun* (1956) veterans, RB-47 deep penetration overflights of Soviet Union.  
 Clockwise from front: **Bill Rosser, Paul Fortin, Glen Duer, Tom Everling**, EWOs all.  
**Cargill Hall**, former Chief Historian of SAC and later the National Reconnaissance Office, and Assn  
 Historian Robb Hoover conducted oral history interviews with these gentlemen during the reunion.



L to R: Charles and Sara Liller, Larry D'Orvilliers, Elvio and Darlene Palmieri, Dee and Neil Whitworth.



C/W from left: Bill, Lou (hidden) Lewis, Ann, Walt Savage, Sam, Pat Goeden, Marion Taylor, the Baughs, and Jim Taylor's lovely pate (front and center).





# Videmus Omnia



## 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Association, Inc. (Formerly – 55<sup>th</sup> Strategic Reconnaissance Wing Association)

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Veteran? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No    Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_  
(Dates of Service)

Are you a former member of the 55th Strat Recon Wing? \_\_\_\_\_

When were you a member of the 55<sup>th</sup> Strat Recon Wing? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Dates of Service)



Are you a current or former member of the 55th Wing? \_\_\_\_\_

When were you a member of the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Dates of Service)



Which 55th Unit(s) were you a member? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you on active duty? \_\_\_\_ If so, with what unit? \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

What is your present occupation? \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form with dues, if applicable  
**(\$20 per year or \$55 for 3 years)\***

to:  
**55<sup>TH</sup> WING ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**P.O. BOX 13165**  
**OFFUTT AFB, NE 68113**

\* Note – Expiration date of new members joining after 1 October extended to 31 December of following year  
\*\* Note – Dues expiration date – 31 December



