



Air Weather Reconnaissance Association

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AWRA Reunion 2006 - National Museum of the Air Force

From left: Bob Brown, Chauncy Paytee, Gaylen Carnel, Charles Hart, Norm Cox, John Priestle, Arnold Jarvis, Richard Hall, Dave Young, John Lassiter, Don Wood, Bob Tuttle, Bill Davis, Joseph Tabaco, Dave Heisey, Don Austin, Mike Burley, Bob Korose, Gary Navarre, John Hug, Charlie Fleischer, Pat Hanavan, Gene Wallace, Bill Scott, H.P. Bilyeu, and Bernie Barris

AWRA IS HEADING BACK TO DAYTON AND THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE USAF

Ten years after our last Dayton Reunion, the AWRA is heading back to the *"Birthplace of Aviation"*, Dayton, OH.

Some folks think that Kittyhawk, NC, should lay claim to that title, and they do put "First in Flight" on some North Carolina license plates. And lets not mention the current claims by Connecticut that Gustave Whitehead beat the Wrights by two years. Suffice it to say that the experts at the Smithsonian still recognize the Wright Brothers as the first to achieve powered flight in 1903. And most the tests and construction for that flight took place in Ohio. Look around while we are in Dayton, and you will see lots of *"Birthplace of Aviation"* references.

Bob Tuttle has done a fantastic job of setting up this get together. The hotel will provide a fun-packed location to enjoy our annual opportunity to see old friends and meet some new ones. It is always interesting to find out how much we have in common with the men and women who flew different aircraft, and served in different eras. Please take time to visit with them all.

Our AWRA group rate at the hotel does not kick in until Wed, 28 Sep, because the Commission on Presidential Debates will host the first general election debate on Mon, 26 Sep, at Wright State University. Hopefully, all of the candidates and pundits should have moved on by the time we arrive.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by G.D. "Stoney" Faubus, AWRA President

Greetings from the Pres ~

Well, it's that time of year again.

A great time was had in Tucson for our last reunion. We had a great turn out. Peter and Mary Copesky did an outstanding job as usual. Every one enjoyed the Pima and Boneyard tours.

We have lost a few members this year, but have picked up almost as many as were lost. I would encourage everyone to try to enlist someone from your past for the association. New membership is the lifeblood of any organization.

We are looking forward to the reunion at the "Air Force Museum". Having been stationed at WPAFB for three years, (way back when), Melva and I are going to enjoy seeing the area and some old friends again. This should be a great one, so try to get as many members that you know to come.

Thanks again and hope to see you in Fairborn.

Stoney



54th SRS, Medium, Weather



54th WRS



Stoney Faubus at the Palau International Airport during Christmas Drop 1981.
Photo Courtesy of Stoney Faubus, All rights reserved

Let's Make 2016 a Record Reunion Year

by Bernie Barris, Editor

The last time that AWRA held our reunion in Dayton was ten years ago, in 2006. At that time we had a large turnout and everyone enjoyed visiting and touring the National Museum of the USAF. We are hoping to repeat that success this year. The museum is opening a brand new building this month. This fourth building will house Presidential Aircraft, as well as experimental planes, and spacecraft. Many of these have been undergoing long term restoration and will be a great addition to our tours.

Bob Tuttle was good enough to volunteer to honcho this years reunion, as he did back in 2006. He has arranged a great group rate for us at the Holiday Inn in Fairborn. This venue has hosted numerous military groups over the years and we expect to again have fun visiting Wright-Patterson as well as seeing old friends and meeting new ones.

Because of the expanded things to see at the NMUSAF, we have arranged to have bus transportation to and from the museum on both Thursday and Friday. The cost for the bus is only

\$30 per person and is good for both days. There is no one day rate. The bus will be leaving from the hotel early on Thursday because the museum is letting us in before the general public. We will be going straight to the Cold War Building to visit the WB-50D. We will take a group photo in front of the exhibit similar to what we did in 2006. On Friday, the bus will take us on a short tour of the Wright-Patterson area on the way back to the hotel.

I call your attention to "Stoney" Faubus' request to get busy and recruit new blood into AWRA. This is key to our long term health as an organization. Many of us have now reached retirement age, and hopefully can commit to regular reunion attendance. Please track down some of your buddies and get them to join AWRA and hopefully attend the reunion this year.

We've had numerous requests to hold the reunion in the Northeast or Central U.S. Dayton has great access from all over New England by road and air. It is also a quick drive from the Great Lakes states. Lets see some new faces this year.

See you there.



Left side photo shows Bernie Barris, newly elected AWRA Chairman of the Board of Directors, enjoying the 2015 Banquet with past President and Chairman David Magilavy and his his wife Maureen. David is still going strong at age 95. At right is the 1st Annual AWRA Flight Suit contest. From Left is Peter Copesky, Stan Sowa, AWRA President Stoney Faubus, Bill Burnette, Charles Miller, and Dave Steiner. Dave brought his Thailand party suit from his Motor Pool days, the rest had their flight suits from the 1950's through the 1990's.

Photos Courtesy of Bernie Barris, All rights reserved

AWRA Officers

President	Stoney Faubus 1329 Hwy 395N STE 10-242 Gardnerville, NV 89410
Vice President (see note)	Peter Copesky 4112 E Kilmer St Tucson, AZ 85711
Secretary	William Burnette (See Directors List)
Treasurer	Bob Tuttle (See Directors List)
Historian-Archivist	Bernard Barris (See Directors List)
Membership	Bernard Barris (See Directors List)

Board of Directors

Bernard Barris (Chairman) 11019 Oaktree Park San Antonio, TX 78249 (210) 696-5072	
David Young 3800 Vista Circle Dr Lancaster, CA 93536	William Burnette 1910 Crest Ridge Dr Papillion, NE 68133 (402) 502-3771
Bob Tuttle 17118 Hideaway Ridge Rd Eagle River, AK 99577 (907) 694-4992	Pat Hanavan 12402 Winding Branch San Antonio TX 78230 (210) 479-0226

Note: AWRA is looking for nominees to fill Board of Director position(s). Contact any officer with your suggestions. Looking for individuals who can be available to serve and attend reunions.

The AWRA Newsletter is an unofficial publication of the Air Weather Reconnaissance Association. Address questions and comments to Bernard Barris, the Editor, at the address listed above, or E-mail Bernie at: awra038@aol.com



From the Weather Service Archives. An unidentified pilot watches as a scientist/meteorologist installs the meteorological instruments which record the barometric pressure, free air temperature, humidity, and elapsed time during the flight, to obtain weather forecast data for the US Dept. of Agriculture and Weather bureau. The aircraft is a BT-2BI trainer, tail no. 31-141, that had been modified for weather observation. Photo most likely taken at Wright Field, OH in the mid-1930's. Official USAF Photo

Welcome New Members

New Life Members

Stuart Chandler	54th	WC-130
John Cowgill	55th 56th 41st RWRW	WC-135
Art Dorell	54th 605th MASS	WC-130
Robert Fain	58th	WB-57
Daniel Freeman	56th	WC-135
James Hocutt	41st RWRW	WC-135
John Hughes	53rd 54th	WC-130
Paul Reilly	54th	WC-130
Jean Thuotte	55th	WB-50 WC-130
Dale Wolfe	53rd	WB-47 WC-130
David Woodward	54th	WC-130

AWRA doesn't mail renewal reminders to our annual members. It is incumbent on the member to send in their annual dues, or upgrade to Life Membership. For those annual members who want to become Life Members, please send \$30 to the membership chairman. Send to:

Bernard C Barris, AWRA Membership Chairman
11019 Oaktree Park
San Antonio TX 78249

If you noticed, all of our new members this year joined for Life. The subject of annual members was a discussion item at the 2015 General Membership meeting in Tucson. It was decided to raise the annual dues to \$15 per year, up from \$5. This was necessary to offset our rising costs, and also encourage new Life Memberships.

Membership Roster

We keep the most current version of the AWRA roster online in the Members-Only area of the AWRA web site. You can also download color copies of the current and past newsletters.

Go to:

<http://www.awra.us/roster/>

Log in credentials are required. If you have lost yours, or not previously asked for one, send a request to the web master at:

awra038@aol.com Subject: Members-Only Area Request

If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact the Membership Chairman for a hard copy roster.

TAPS

Sadly, over the past year, AWRA has learned of the deaths of several more members of our weather reconnaissance family. May they Rest in Peace.

Jack C Crose	2012	
Edward DiCenso	2012	
Robert Beaulieu	2013	
Mary Steiner	2013	Wife of David
Elmer Tingle	2013	
Bruce Ackert	2015	
Raymond DuBoise	2015	
Sanford Kahn	2015	
Pat Ladd	2015	Wife of Roy (D/09)
Lewis Williams	2015	
Richard Hall	2016	
Franz House	2016	
Matilda Nimke	2016	Wife of Helmut (D/13)
Robert Pipes	2016	
Randy Roberts	2016	

Our lives are so much richer for having known them.
We will greatly miss them all

The families of all of these men and women are
in our thoughts and prayers.



"Franz" House



Richard Hall



Photo above is from one of over 100 color slides shared by the late Robert Pipes. Bob was stationed with the 54th from 1952-54. It is somewhat rare to come across quality color photos from this era and Bob was an avid amateur photographer. His pictures show a glimpse of life around Guam and Andersen AFB, as well as capturing one-of-a-kind events. Obviously, the photo is black and white on our printed version of this document, but if you download the newsletter from the "Members Only" section of our web site, you'll see the WB-29 in all of its 1953 glory, including the C-1 air sampling foil, newly approved "Fireball" squadron logo, 13 typhoon mission symbols (in red) and a green and yellow stripe on the tail.
Photo courtesy of Robert Pipes, all rights reserved

SAYING GOODBYE TO OUR FRIENDS

Every year it seems more of our weather recon crew mates and friends are taking their final flights. This past year has been no different. Since 2004 I have chased around the US visiting with the men and women who flew the missions, and those who kept the missions flying. This has been my privilege as the AWRA Historian. Each and every one of you has something unique to add to the story.

Looking at this years TAPS list, I see Bruce Ackert,

Richard Hall, Ray DuBoise, and Elmer Tingle who all shared their memories and experiences with me.

Two men (both named Robert) on the TAPS list also shared all of their personal photos from tours on Guam and in Alaska. I am planning on adding many of these photos to the gallery section of our web site for folks to enjoy. Thank you Robert Pipes and Bob Beaulieu for sharing this piece of history with us all.

God Bless You, and Rest in Peace.



Photos above are just two of over 200 black and white candid pictures shared by the late Robert Beaulieu. Bob was stationed with the 59th and 375th at Ladd and Eielson from 1947-49. The photos show Bob (far left) and some of his squadron mates as well as day-to-day life in Alaska for a young airman.
Photos courtesy of Robert Beaulieu, all rights reserved

TUCSON REUNION RECAP

October 2015 proved to be a great time to be in Tucson.

A good-sized group of us met at the Hilton Hotel and enjoyed what the high, dry, desert had to offer.

Peter and Mary Copesky were once again outstanding hosts. They worked with the 25th OWS to host our folks for briefings and a picnic before we took a special "Boneyard" tour. Sadly, there were not as many of the old weather birds left in storage last year, and those that were there were not accessible for getting up close and personal. It was; however, inspirational to meet the current crop of Air Force meteorologists in training. I think the Air Force is still in good hands.

The Pima Air and Space Museum is one of the premier private exhibits in the whole country. They house many unique aircraft including numerous ones that are on loan from the NMUSAF and Navy. For those of you who did not attend the reunion, I recommend that you add Tucson to your list of places to visit, and Pima is a must-see place.

One of our highlights was our first ever flight suit contest. Five members brought their flight suit along (see page 3) and Dave Steiner even had his original party suit from Thailand. Hope to see even more this year. (I'm trying to get my wife to add some stretch panels to the back of mine. It seems to have shrunk over the years)

Might I suggest you make your plans today to get to Dayton in September? Believe it or not, the reunion is only three and a half months away! Make your hotel reservations and send your registration form (with check) to Bob Tuttle today!

DON'T DELAY, DO IT TODAY!!!

2016 AWRA Reunion Tentative Agenda

Wed, 28 Sep 2016

1200-2200 Hospitality & Registration in the Hospitality Suite

Thu, 29 Sep 2016

0700-2200 Hospitality & Registration in the Hospitality Suite
0800 Bus Departs for NMUSAF
0830-0900 Special Group Event and Photo at WB-50
0900-1400 Tour NMUSAF
1430 Bus Departs for Hotel

Fri, 30 Sep 2016

0800-2200 Hospitality in the Hospitality Suite
0945 Bus Departs for NMUSAF
1000-1345 Tour NMUSAF
1400 Bus Departs NMUSAF for Area Tour and Hotel

Sat, 1 Oct 2016

0800-1000 Hospitality in the Hospitality Suite
0900-1000 AWRA Board of Directors Meeting
1000-1100 AWRA General Membership Meeting
1100-1700 WWI Dawn Patrol Rendezvous at NMUSAF (Optional Individual Event)
1500-1600 2nd Annual Flight Suit Contest
1800-1900 No-Host Social Hour and Group Photos
1900-2100 AWRA Red, White, and Blue Banquet

Sun, 2 Oct 2016

0800-1200 Departure Hospitality
1100-1700 WWI Dawn Patrol Rendezvous at NMUSAF (Optional Individual Event)



**2016 WWI DAWN PATROL RENDEZVOUS
NMUSAF 1-2 October**



Air Weather Reconnaissance Association

c/o Bernard C. Barris
11019 Oaktree Park
San Antonio, TX 78249-4440

Place
Postage
Here

IMPORTANT REUNION REMINDER!

The 2016 AWRA Reunion
will be held in Dayton, OH
from 28 September - 2 October 2016

PLEASE FILL OUT THE ENCLOSED
REGISTRATION FORM AND
MAIL IT IN TODAY!

Also, call the Holiday Inn and make your reservation!