



NEWSLETTER



**707th WEBSITE is: www.af-acw.com
Issue #16 April 2008**

Have You Sent In Your Registration For The 707th AC&W SQUADRON REUNION



**It's the
45th ANNIVERSARY
of the Base Closing
GRAND RAPIDS, MINNESOTA**

18 - 22 June, 2008

SAWMILL INN

Call 1-800-235-6455 for Reservations

**If you need a Reunion Registration Form contact Barney 513-574-7431
do it NOW.**

General



By Barney Fisher

If you haven't taken heed of the opening statement and you miss the Reunion all I can say is shame on you and you're going to miss one heck of a good time. It has been a long 5 years since our gathering in 2003 and there have been a lot of changes. One of the most troubling is the fact that our number of deceased members has more than doubled. Our list of those with medical problems has more than tripled and all of us are 5 years older. I hate to bring these stats up but I'm leading up to something, There are only 9 WWI veterans still alive, we are losing over 1,000 WWII vets each day, Korea isn't far behind with Cold War and Viet Nam closing fast. Now comes what I was leading up to – **this reunion we are going to dedicate a permanent marker** at what is left of the old 707th site. It's not going to be long and there won't be any of us left, most of the people in Grand Rapids that remember the base have also either passed on or moved. **On Friday 20 June 2008 we are going to unveil a lasting tribute to the men that served at the 707th.**

I want to thank Skip Brunetta and his team for working on this project and getting the backing of the town. As I've said so many times, I might have the ideas but it takes workers to make it happen. This has been a dream of mine for many years and thanks to those workers it has turned into reality. The marker was delivered in Grand Rapids last week and will be positioned mid to late April and the landscaping will take place in May. This is going to be one nice display and I'm sure, well accepted by everyone. I wish everyone could be there for the dedication ceremony.

We are proud of our accomplishment and of the town folks that supported us in this endeavor. We have open the dedication to the public and are expecting a very good turn out. **The dedication will be in conjunction with the memorial service** and as in 2003 we will have guest speakers. Folks this is a very well organized event and is designed to impress all those in attendance.

So if you haven't made arrangements to be there, now's the time.



Bulletin Board by Barney Fisher

Are you a golfer or how about a bowler? We plan on having both at the 2008 Reunion but as of now there aren't that many folks signed on for either one. The golf outing is set for 21 June 2008 at the Pokegama Golf Course. You don't have to be a pro to play in this outing, just come and join in the fun. We had some really good bowlers at the 707th so I'm sure we're going to have an afternoon or evening event where the schedule allows. You don't have to make up your mind on the bowling now but if you want to let me know, just put it on the registration form someplace. No money due on that until you bowl.

I need you folks that only receive the snail mail newsletter to contact me and let me know what your intentions are in regards to attending the reunion. So far only 4 folks from the snail mail group have sent in their registrations. We're down to the crunch time and need to have numbers to work with. Deals are made with numbers and unless we have them we're going to loose out. **If you need a registration form, Please let me know ASAP.** Thanks



Day Room by Barney Fisher

Ferd's Words of Wisdom:

'Life isn't about how to survive the storm,
but how to dance in the rain.'



Inform and be Informed by Barney Fisher

As I stated in the last newsletter I'd like to encourage each member to save \$1.00 a month for our annual donation to Grace House. If each person, who receives this newsletter, does that we'll have a tidy sum to donate to such a worthy cause. We're not going to build the place ourselves with the donation but it'll go a long way to help provide for the everyday operating expenses.

Jill Schubert (the Director of Grace House) Rev. Lynn Rosburg (Pastor of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church) and Herb Bergson (former Mayor of Duluth) are going to be at the reunion to personally thank the 707th for the generous donations over the past 2 years. Grace House is suppose to break ground for a new building this month, so hopefully come June we'll be able to see some progress on it. I'm really looking forward to meeting all these folks in person.

Sick Call: We've heard of many members that have been having medical problems or procedures over the past months. Please say a prayer for all our members and their families. If you have, or know of any other member with, a medical problem – and would like to be added to our prayer list, Please let me know.

Shirts and hats with the 707th emblem on them are available. These are the same fine quality shirts and hats we had at the 2003 Reunion. The polo's are available in Red, White, Sky Blue, and Navy Blue, ladies sizes are available in this style. The long sleeve shirts are denim and come in Blue and Natural. An order form is on the last page of this newsletter. **If you would like a color flyer of the shirts, contact me.** It is cost prohibitive to mail them to everyone as color copies cost 60 cents each. **You can view them on the 707th website at www.af-acw.com** Time is running short so if you want to place an order get in touch with **Dan Capece at 352-489-7137** and he'll be more than happy to assist you.

This is going to be short but I need help. With the phone calling completed we have quite a few folks we were unable to contact, for one reason or another. In many cases a message was left but we haven't heard back. If you have any information on the following please let me know. Thanks.

Joe Arsenault - Ramon Balut - Dale Beaubien - Gordon Britt - Bill Coalson - Dick Cole - Ardeth Conner - Don Couch - Wilbur Davis - Don Hessler - Alice Koski - Howard Leong - Ralph Lobdzinski - James McNeal - Bob Middleton - Dewitt Mitchell - Darryl Moss - Dick Neilssien - Bill Nielson - Bob O'Neill - Fred Pepping - Jim Remley - Larry Rickard - Carl Schenk - Les Schultz - Bob Shreve - Tim Skeens - Don Starbuck - Dave Stewart - Dick Stork - Dick Survis - Bob Westman - Art Wilson - Pat Yanatti



From Headquarters

by Barney Fisher

I've received some questions in regards to the following so even though it was posted in the last Newsletter I'll say it again just so there aren't any misunderstandings.

NOTICE: Minnesota has a No Smoking Law. In essence what this means is, the reunion being held in a public hotel, there will be no smoking except in designated areas. Smoking is not permitted in the pool area, (that's where the hospitality suite is located) restaurant, banquet hall and hotel hallways & restrooms.

No alcoholic beverages will be provided by the Reunion Committee. This doesn't mean you can't bring your own drinks or you can buy them in the lounge and carry them out. We will make sure there are enough non-alcoholic beverages available at all the functions.

By the way there is a strict enforcement of no alcohol in the park.



Sound Off

by Barney Fisher

I'm not going to be able to have a mailing of the newest Master Roster but there will be copies available at the Reunion. I'm sorry but the budget won't allow for mailing them. I would try and list the changes but there have been so many that is almost an impossible task. Speaking of funding, with a little restraint we should be able to make it through the year without asking for any additional financial backing.

PICTURES: There have been some new photos added to the Photo Gallery, we're always looking for pictures from the past or present. Thanks.



Taps

by Barney Fisher

This spot reserved for reporting the passing of our brothers. Please take a few minutes to reflect and say a prayer for a friend now gone ahead. So far we haven't added anyone to taps this year, lets keep it that way. If you know of anyone that has suffered a loss, or is ill, please keep us informed so we may acknowledge them, Thanks.

All of our deceased brothers will be acknowledge at a very moving Memorial Service on 20 June 2008. In conjunction with the service there will be the dedication of a Historical Marker which will be a permanent and lasting tribute to the 707th. I look forward to seeing you there.



Dismissed by Barney Fisher

I don't know how they do it in your church but in mine they always have announcements before they end the mass. Guess they figure it's a captive audience and you've got to listen. Well maybe I've got your attention so I'm going to list the high points of this letter. That way if you skimmed over it you've got a second chance to go back and read it again.

**Sign up for the 2008 Reunion, register with me, and reserve a room at the Sawmill.
There will be a dedication of a permanent memorial/historical marker at the old base.
We need your registration ASAP if you need a registration form let me know.
We're looking for golfers and bowlers.
707th shirts and hats are available if you want a colored flyer and order form let me know.
I need help in locating some folks.**

In closing I'd like to ask everyone to keep me informed of any information regarding our members and yourself. PLEASE, send me stories/memories of the 707th. Pictures of your days with the 707th or after are always welcomed. My contact information:

Barney Fisher
5791 Valley Vista Way
Cincinnati, Ohio 45247
ffisher@cinci.rr.com
513-574-7431

Till next issue, remember to Thank a Veteran, Pray for our Troops and God Bless America.

Be safe and be happy!

**707th AC&W
SHIRTS & HAT
Order Form**

Name:

Ship to address:

City: **State:** **Zip:**

E-Mail address:

Phone number:

**Polo Shirts w/707th Embroidery
@ \$22.00 Each + Shipping***
S-M-Lg-XLg-XXLg***

Size – Gender**	Color	Quantity
	Red	
	White	
	Sky Blue	
	Dark Blue	

* if available ** indicate if for male or female

Total # polo's: @ \$22.00 each = **Total:**

**Denim L/S Shirts w.707th Embroidery
@\$35.00 Each + Shipping***
S-M-Lg-XLg-XXLg***

Size	Color	Quantity
	Blue	
	Natural	

* if available

Total # denim's: @ \$35.00 each = **Total:**

**White Baseball caps w/logo
@ \$12.50 Each + Shipping*****

Total # cap's: @ \$12.50 each = **Total:**

Sub-total:
+ Shipping:
TOTAL DUE:

***Shipping: 1 item: \$9.95; 2 or more \$13.00

Please make check payable to
and mail order form & check to

**Dan Capece
7824 N Hale Rd
Citrus Springs, Florida
34434**

Questions: E-Mail sgtdan1013@bellsouth.net
