



The Crow Flight

Sixth newsletter of the 47th and 48th Bomb Squadrons, 41st Bomb Group (M) issued Aug. 18, 1998

REUNION HUGE SUCCESS!!!

In numbers, surely... At the banquet Saturday night there were a reported 237 attending. This broke down to something like 62 from the 47th, 40 from the 48th, 35 from the 396th, and 100 from the 820th.

The golf game on Thursday had about 12 golfers total from the squadrons and 3 local friends of Gutts with everyone having a grand time!

The tour which included the Dress Parade at Lackland Air Force Base was the most popular with about 160 people. The other tours were not as big but very enjoyable. San Antonio with its River Walk and Alamo and many other attractions is such an important and interesting historical area.

I think that many people enjoyed having all four squadrons there and being able to browse around amongst the four hospitality rooms. The general consensus, however, was that there were "just too many people..." "... it's so big.."

Your writer really enjoys having everyone there because he has many friends in all the squadrons and would like to see a group organization, but he is in a very definite minority. Many attendees from all squadrons agree... "yes we must have a group organization.. Our dwindling numbers and the dwindling health.. Etc..." Yet, not one squadron had space on its agenda for a group meeting. The writer has no reports of its even being discussed in any squadron meeting.

The 47th voted to go to Ontario in October, 1999, with your correspondent as the coordinator. The 48th and 396th later decided to join the 47th, with tentative plans for all three squadrons to go to Las Vegas a year later. The 820th votes two years in advance. They had already decided to go to Colorado Springs in May of 1999, and they voted at the San Antonio meeting to have their reunion in May of 2000 at Lexington-Concord Mass.

The 47th also voted to have Arnold Sayer research different ways of handling the archives and to make a report with a recommendation.

Editor's Note...An apology and a crusade....

I do apologize for this newsletter being so late. It was originally dated May 31... and then so many things happened, including three deaths in my immediate family.

My crusade is to find out about anyone who has been shocked or electrocuted at a boat dock gasoline pump. If anyone has heard of such an incident, please contact me at the masthead numbers. My objective is to get as much publicity as possible to help prevent its happening to anyone else

I so very sadly report that my grandson, Kemble R. Crowder, age 24, only child of Kemary, was electrocuted in such a manner at Havasu Palms, July 6, 1998. Brand new graduate from San Jose State U.... Sigma Chi.... Eagle Scout...6'8" and 240 lbs..big guy in every way!

George and Gutts save the day!

George Tolbert handed the Reunion Planning Committee all of his plans and contacts and suggested that they add a tour or two and Gutts suggested a golf game. The Committee did just that and a wonderful reunion resulted.

Then the bad news of the Holiday Inn's canceling of the contract and shifting over to the Radisson. The hassles here were unbelievable, but Urban A. Gutting rescued all four squadrons with either being in the Radisson's office or phoning daily on the seemingly constant problems.

A great big thank you to George and Gutts! All four squadrons owe you guys big time!

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