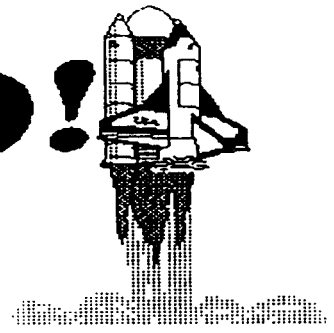




OFF

WE

GO!



MERCER CHAPTER #293
AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

afamercerchapter293@yahoo.com

Volume 18, Issue 36

June 2016

Editor: Carolyn D'Amico

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By: Jo Bair

**OUR MOTTO-OFF WE GO!!
TO SUPPORT OUR CHAPTER EVENTS!!**



President's Report



Hope everyone had a wonderful and safe Memorial Day. This was not just another 3 day weekend, but a time of remembrance and thanksgiving for our men and women who give of themselves in service to our country so that we may enjoy the freedoms that we often take for granted. Please keep our military men and women in your prayers...especially those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

Memorial Day also marks the beginning of the summer season. Enjoy the warm weather, have fun and please be safe.

June 7th is Primary Election Day. Please make your voice known and exercise your right to vote. Remember, every vote counts. Our elected officials need our continued prayers for wisdom and guidance to lead our great country to once again being the respected superpower we once were. Every vote is important!

As I mentioned in the previous newsletter, I have made several requests for members to step up to serve as an officer for our Chapter, but unfortunately no one responded. As a result, our Chapter is in limbo. We are no longer holding monthly meetings. However, we are still meeting for breakfast at Pat's Diner on South Broad Street in Trenton, twice monthly, on the first Friday and third Thursday of every month. About 10-12 members faithfully attend the breakfasts and we would love to have you join us for good food and fellowship. Check the Upcoming Events page for more details.

We will also hold our Annual Picnic on Wednesday, August 17th at 12 noon, at the home of Norm and Ilona Matthews. Please see the enclosed flyer for specific details.

In addition, we are planning our Annual Christmas Party on Sunday, December 11th at 1pm at Town & Country Diner on Rt. 130 in Bordentown. Please see enclosed flyer for specific details.

Unless we have additional news to report or interesting events or articles, this will probably be the last newsletter. I would encourage you to reach out to me if you have an upcoming event or articles that may be interesting to our membership. My contact information is as follows: Email: mamabair28@aol.com; Cell: 609-529-7107

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the current and former Chapter Officers for their dedication and support to the Chapter. I would also like to thank the NJ State AFA, who made it possible for Mercer Chapter #293 to publish this newsletter. Thank you for your financial support. And to our Community Partners and Members...thank you for your continued support.

May God bless you, grant you good health and give you peace!

Peace and God Bless,

Jo Bair

Have a great day!



Do something good for someone else..

<u>Acting Officers Names & Phone Numbers</u>	
Jo Bair, Secretary	(609) 529-7107
Marcy Johnson, Treasurer	(609) 213-7702

UPCOMING EVENTS ... FOR 2016

JUNE 2016

- ▶ Friday, June 3, 2016—Breakfast @ Pat's Diner, located at 1300 S. Broad Street, Trenton, NJ
- ▶ Thursday, June 7, 2016—Primary Election Day—VOTE-VOTE-VOTE!!!
- ▶ Tuesday, June 14, 2016—Happy Flag Day!
- ▶ Thursday, June 16, 2016—Breakfast @ Pat's Diner, located at 1300 S. Broad Street, Trenton, NJ



JULY 2016

- ▶ Friday, July 1, 2016-Breakfast @ Pat's Diner, located at 1300 S. Broad Street, Trenton, NJ
- ▶ Monday, July 4, 2016—Happy Independence Day!!
- ▶ Thursday, July 21, 2016- Breakfast @ Pat's Diner, located at 1300 S. Broad Street, Trenton, NJ



AUGUST 2016

- ▶ Friday, August 5, 2016—Breakfast at Pat's Diner, located at 1300 S. Broad Street, Trenton, NJ
- ▶ Wednesday, August 17, 2016-Annual Picnic at the home of Norm & Illona Mathews (see enclosed flyer)
- ▶ Thursday, August 18, 2016-Breakfast @ Pat's Diner, located at 1300 S. Broad Street, Trenton, NJ



DECEMBER 2016

- ▶ Sunday, December 11, 2016—Annual Christmas Party at Town & Country Diner (see enclosed flyer)



Message from Member, **NICK LOVELESS**

The 57th Bomb Wing Association held its 47th reunion in New Orleans in October, 2015. The original Wing served in North Africa, Sicily, Corsica and Italy, flying B-25 aircraft. The 310th Bomb Group, 321st Bomb Group and 340th Bomb Group were in the Wing during its entire existence, and the 12th Bomb Group and 319th Bomb Group were in it for a short time before being transferred. This writer was a tail gunner/strike photographer in the 486th Bomb Sqdn, 340th Bomb Group and flew 60 combat missions with them over Southern France, Italy, Austria and the Balkans. I had flown ten missions before I turned 19 years old. Our Squadron Commander, at different times, were Major Louis Keller and Robert Hackney, both of whom were stand-by pilots on the Hornet for Doolittle's Tokyo raid.

Only ten men of the Association were able to make the New Orleans Reunion, but 60 2nd and 3rd generation members were also there. We attended the big air show in Metairie and had a gratis ride in The Yellow Rose, a restored B-25. We also attended the World War Two museum and the Bob Hope USO Show and dinner theatre. (Pictures enclosed) One of the highlights of the reunion was a visit by Tokyo Raider Richard Cole, who was Jimmy Doolittle's co-pilot on the Tokyo raid. Cole is an amazing 100 yrs old and only one of the two Tokyo Raiders still alive. We had a great time re-living history and the B-25 with him. We were also able to spend some time on Bourbon Street where Halloween decorations were everywhere in anticipation for that occasion.

Another Reunion was held there at the same time, the 307th Bomb Wing Association of the Korean War. I was a voluntary recall in 1950 and retrained in B-29s. Then assigned to the 307th on Okinawa, and flew another 38 combat missions over North Korea. I was tail gunner for 307th Wing Commander, leading the 307th to take out the bridges over the Yalu River between China (Manchuria) and North Korea, on April 12, 1951. It was the first major battle with Mig-15s of the Korean War and our losses were heavy.

During my 26 years of mostly AF Reserve time, I also checked out as boom operator on tankers and B-52 tail gunner. Have been a long-time member of Mercer County Chapter, although not very active in recent years...Served on Lawrence Township Police Department 36 years, and was Police Chief when retired in 1990.

Amen.....

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Air Force Association



...THE FORCE BEHIND THE FORCE



Welcome to the
57TH BOMB WING
ASSOCIATION



2016 EASTERN MINI-REUNION

June 2–6, 2016

Reading, Pennsylvania

The WWII Weekend at the
 Mid-Atlantic Air Museum
 has become the 57th Bomb Wing
 Eastern Reunion *tradition*



Our 57th Bomb Wing Eastern Reunion Veterans and Families
 are to be honored guests at the

Mid-Atlantic Air Museum's famous

WORLD WAR II WEEKEND

The 57th Bomb Wing Association will once more have an exhibit table
 in the hangar during WWII Weekend, where veterans can sit
 and talk to event attendees and gather with family members.

The events and the WARBIRDS air show are a great
 educational experience for the whole family.

Mid-Atlantic Air Museum's World War II Weekend Activities

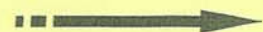
- WARBIRD AIR SHOWS—including four B-25s , a B-17, & a B-29
- Over 200 Military Vehicles
- Over 50 Vintage Flying Warbirds
- 1940's Live Music—Big Band Dance Fri Night
- Encampment Exhibits – Re-enactors – Warbird Rides
- USO Shows ongoing throughout the weekend

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION ON WWII WEEKEND—AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS IN ADVANCE:

www.maam.org or (610) 372-7333

OTHER AREA ATTRACTIONS:

- Pennsylvania Dutch Country
- The Reading Pagoda—A beautiful view!
- Sight & Sound Theatre
- Famous Fashion Mall
- Civil War Battlefields and Historic Sites
- Shady Maple Farm Market & Smorgasbord



REUNION SCHEDULE



NOTE: The Hospitality Room will be open Friday–Sunday.
Hotel Restaurant, 6:30 am–10 pm, Bar 4:30 pm–1 am, full room service all day.

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2016

Hotel check-in and dinner with friends

FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2016

6:30–10 AM **Complimentary hot breakfast buffet at hotel**
(if you are staying Thursday night.)

8:30 AM – 5 PM **Mid-Atlantic Air Museum—WWII Weekend & 57th Exhibit Table**
or visit area attractions on your own.
Hospitality Room at hotel available for use upon request all day.

Evening **Dinner with friends at area restaurants or
Ham Dinner and 1940's Dance at WWII Weekend at Air Museum**
(Separate ham dinner tickets are required—sold in advance only.
Dinner tickets sell out fast. See www.maam.org
The dance is free with Friday's admission or with meal ticket.)

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2016

6:30–10 AM **Complimentary hot breakfast buffet at hotel**

8:30 AM – 5 PM **Mid-Atlantic Air Museum—WWII Weekend & 57th Exhibit Table**
or visit area attractions on your own.
Hospitality Room at hotel available for use upon request all day.

7 –10 PM **57th Eastern Mini Reunion Banquet at the Hotel**

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016

6:30–10 AM **Complimentary hot breakfast buffet at hotel**

8:30 AM – 5 PM **Mid-Atlantic Air Museum—WWII Weekend & 57th Exhibit Table**
or visit area attractions on your own.
Hospitality Room at hotel available for use upon request all day.

Evening **Dinner on your own with friends.**

MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2016

6:30–10 AM **Complimentary hot breakfast buffet at hotel**

Morning **Check out—See you next year!**



Questions about reunion activities and accommodations?

CONTACT: Dianne Ambrosino (daughter, Dan Beagan—340/489)
(401) 568-5354, or Cell (401) 954-5354, or dcambrosino@cox.net

Questions about registration?

CONTACT: Julie Martin (daughter, Jim "Red" Martin, 340/486)
(978) 994-1236 (eves) or jmcsummer@hotmail.com

Nick Loveless: Eastern Mini Reunion Advisor, 340/486th



Members of 57th Bomb Wing Association at Reunion in New Orleans, October, 2015. Sitting: Del Gibson; Richard Cole—Jimmy Doolittle’s Co-Pilot on Tokyo Raid; Martin Benoff; Nick Loveless. Standing: Bernard Peters; Michael Fedirko



Members of 57th Bomb Wing with cast of Bob Hope USO show at WW2 Museum (Bob Hope Re-enactor in Pith Helmet). Sitting: Nick Loveless, 3rd from left sitting.



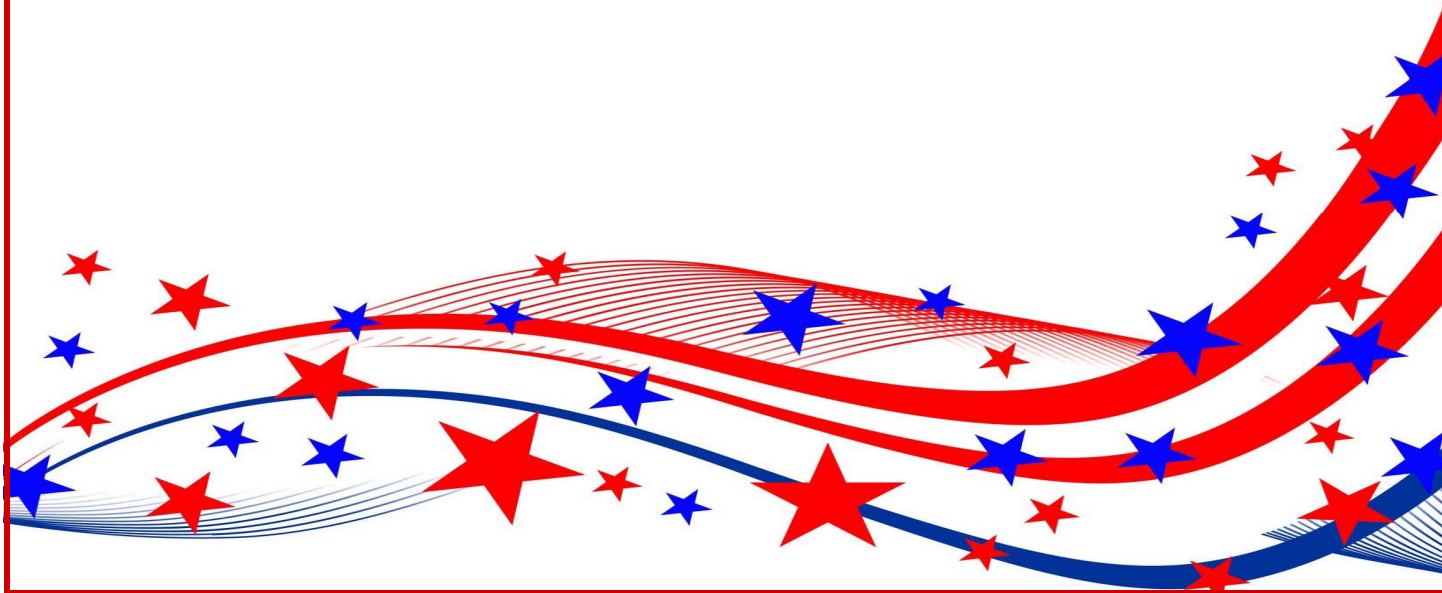


Bob Hope Re-enactor at USO show.



*Seated: Bernard Peters; Del Gibson; Richard Cole-Doolittle's Co-Pilot on Tokyo Raid; Martin Benoff; Nick Loveless.
Standing: Michael Fedirko*

*LakeFront Airfield, New Orleans-Air Show-B-25 Yellow Rose;
Nick Loveless seated 4th from left. We had comp ride in the plane.
In the background is "Fifi"-the only Flying B-29.*





CHRISTMAS PARTY

NJ AFA Mercer Chapter #293

Sunday, December 11, 2016

1:00pm - 4:00pm

TOWN AND COUNTRY DINER

Route 130

Bordentown, NJ

Name: _____

Number in Party: _____

Dinner will be individually ordered from the menu and you will have your own check.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY DECEMBER 1, 2016

**Mail Reservation Form or Call: Jo Bair, 1 Nightingale Drive, Hamilton, NJ 08690
(609-586-1433)**





AFA MERCER CHAPTER #293 ANNUAL PICNIC

Wednesday, August 17, 2016
12:00pm – 4:00pm

At the Home of Norm & Ilona Mathews
193 Taft Avenue
Hamilton, NJ

\$10.00 Per Person

Please bring a salad or dessert of your choice.

HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS, CHICKEN, BAKED BEANS, CORN ON THE COB, SOFT DRINKS AND
MUCH MORE.....

Please send your reservation by **August 5th**

and check payable to Mercer Chapter #293 to: Jo Bair, 1 Nightingale Drive, Hamilton, NJ 08690
(609-586-1433)

Name: _____

Number in Party: _____

Salad: _____ Dessert: _____



THESE ARE OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS



A.J. PONE OPTICIANS

David Pone/Dennis Pone
2303 Whitehorse-Mercerville
Mercerville, NJ 08619
Phone: 609-586-6633
www.ajpone.com

BROTHER'S PIZZA

Antimo & Gennaro
871 Route 33
Mercerville, NJ 08619
PIZZA - DINNER - SANDWICHES
609-586-2707

CARELLA'S SHOES

2431 Nottingham Way
Mercerville, NJ 08619
609-587-5823

DEDICATED SENIOR ADVISORS

Leonard P. Hayduchok
12 Cartwright Drive
Princeton Jct., NJ 08550
609-750-0370
E-mail: len@dedicatedsenioradvisors.com

GENERAL PALLET, LLC

Mr. Don Baldwin
P.O. Box 1000
Readington, NJ 08870
908-238-1000

HALDEMAN FORD

J. R. Battreal, General Sales Manager
640 Route 130 & Hickory Corner Road
East Windsor, NJ 08520
609-448-0940

PAT'S ORIGINAL DINER

1300 South Broad Street
Trenton, NJ 08610
609-392-2024

PRINTWORX

Carolyn D'Amico, Owner
2103 Whitehorse-Mercerville Road
Hamilton, NJ 08619
COPIES, LARGE FORMAT, GRAPHIC DESIGN
Phone: 609-586-3006 Fax: 609-586-6168
Email: inbox@printworxnj.com
Website: www.printworxnj.com

INVESTOR'S BANK

Emma Cartier, Vice President
2300 Route 33
Robbinsville, NJ 08691-1411
"Let us Fulfill Your Banking Needs"
609-223-8300

SAUL FUNERAL HOMES, INC

W. William Saul
3795 Nottingham Way
Hamilton, NJ 08690
609-587-0170

Please Support Our Community Partners!



The Force Behind the Force

Looking for NEW Members!

ANYONE WELCOME TO JOIN!

JOIN THE AFA TODAY

OUR MISSION

The Air Force Association educates the public about the critical role of aerospace power in the defense of our nation; advocates aerospace power and a strong national defense; and supports the United States Air Force, the Air Force family, and aerospace education.

ABOUT US

The Air Force Association (AFA) is an independent, nonprofit, civilian education organization promoting public understanding of aerospace power and the pivotal role it plays in the security of the nation. AFA publishes Air Force Magazine, conducts national symposia and disseminates information through outreach programs. It sponsors professional development seminars and recognizes excellence in the education and aerospace fields through national awards programs. AFA presents scholarships and grants to Air Force active duty, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members and their dependents; and awards educator grants to promote science and math education at the elementary and secondary school level. Additionally, AFA publishes a wide range of materials on www.afa.org.

APPLICATION REQUEST

(Please fill out to request a formal application with additional information about AFA)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

**Questions or General Inquires
Please contact:**

**Stewart Zitzner
609-586-8984**

or

**Steve LaPoint
908-672-7182**

afamerchapter293@yahoo.com

MERCER CHAPTER #293
3 SWALLOW DRIVE, HAMILTON, NEW JERSEY 08690



AFA

Air Force Association
An Independent Non Profit Aerospace Organization

afamerchapter293@yahoo.com

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1 NIGHTINGALE DRIVE
HAMILTON, NJ 08690

