

456th FIS Newsletter # 12, November 1, 2007



Visit the 456th web site
at <http://www.456fis.org>

**Bob Justus has rebuilt
the site – THANKS BOB!**

Attention email users:

On August 23, 2007 I emailed a 2008 Reunion Notice to over 200, 456th Alumni. About 20 of them rejected and were not delivered. If you normally receive email from me but did not receive the Reunion Notice, please send me your correct email address to popperry@hotmail.com or popperry@verizon.net.

Email is a lot cheaper than postage!

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Status of other F-106 Projects
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This newsletter is a publication of the 456th FIS Alumni Committee. The Committee consists of seven former 456ers from the mid-sixties who decided to record some history of the 456th FIS from its birth in the mid-forties to its final deactivation in 1968. Our home base is Castle Air Museum in Atwater, CA. We hold no offices and work as a team to do a little of everything to find former members and conduct events where they can reunite and have some fun. We do have some primary duties listed here so please email us if we can help you in any way.

Jim Arnie Arnold jsarnie@insightbb.com - group founder
Bruce Gookin profun41@aol.com - group founder
Bob Justus bjjustus2@earthlink.net - webmaster and historian
Paul Ketchum pketchum@twcny.rr.com - people finder
John Marcotte JohnMarcotte@aol.com - morale officer
Al Mueller jaqnal@clearwire.net 2006 Reunion Coordinator
Pat Perry popperry@hotmail.com - newsletter & mail list
Lou Pizzarillo loupizz@comcast.net - 2008 Reunion Coordinator

Recent 456th FIS losses since 2006 reunion

Harry Savoy - Pilot
Gunar Damberg - Electrician
Bruce Thatcher – AGE
Paul Phillips – Crew Chief
Kenneth Taylor CO 456th 44-46

2008 REUNION NOTICE

To all 456th Alumni,

The 456th FIS Alumni Committee is planning to conduct Reunion # 5 on **Thu May 1 - Sun May 4, 2008 at Dulles, VA** and we need to know how many people to plan for. **So, please RSVP** on the enclosed form as soon as possible and let us know how many people will attend with you. Send completed Form to: **Lou Pizzarello 1743 Whisperhill Drive Reston, VA 20194 phone: 703-481-6872 email: loupizz@comcast.net**
Send "regrets" to me popperry@hotmail.com or popperry@verizon.net or call at 972-355-2116

Why Dulles, VA? It's the home of the new Udvar-Hazy National Air & Space Museum and is 35 miles outside Washington, DC. The hotel rates are much less expensive than D.C. and there is less traffic. DC is still close enough for shuttle trips to see the sights. Jet Blue seems to be the best for airfare to Dulles, but Southwest is beginning to enter the mix and United/Ted also has some good deals. We will be staying at the Holiday Inn in Dulles. Lou Pizzarello (MA-1) lives in the area and will be our host. The Holiday Inn has blocked a certain number of rooms for until April 10, 2008 for \$99 per night. See the enclosed form for reservation details. The hotel also has shuttle service to the airport and local attractions. Our goal is to make this trip as inexpensive as possible while getting you close to all the attractions Washington has to offer.

Here's a tentative agenda for the reunion:

Wed - Some members of Alumni Committee arrive early and do some logistics planning.

Thursday - Early arrivals registration. Individuals visit DC and/or local attractions and sites. (Alumni Committee Dinner)

Friday - Remaining arrivals check in. Individuals visit DC or relax. Sign up for a **tour of the White House** hosted by our own Richard Scorza (sign-up form enclosed). Evening cocktail reception at Holiday Inn.

Saturday - All visit Udvar-Hazy with a tour by our own Fred Williams.
Cocktails & Banquet at Holiday inn.

Sunday - Optional farewell breakfast & departure.

Holiday Inn Dulles <http://www.hidullesairport.com/>

Udvar-Hazy Museum-home of the Enola Gay
<http://www.nasm.si.edu/udvarhazy/>

USAF Memorial <http://www.airforcememorial.org/>

[Washington DC Visitor Information](#)





456th FIS 2006 Reunion & F-102 Dedication June 3, 2006
Castle Air Museum Atwater, CA



Ted & Frankie Feasel win raffle



Woodie Spears wins door prize



Ralph Robledo wins F-102 Award



Al Mueller wins Blue Beauty Award



Greenbergs, Turleys and Feasels catching up

Past Reunion Pictures Available
All 4 previous reunion pictures can be found at
http://www.456fis.org/PAST_REUNIONS.htm FREE downloads

<http://community.webshots.com/user/poppery> FREE downloads

Other Places to visit at the 2008 Reunion
The Smithsonian Museums in D.C.
The Presidential Memorials
The White House
The U.S. Capital
The Mall and its Monuments & Memorials
The USAF Memorial



Gookin plays with danger at Farewell Breakfast



In June 2007 Pat & Judy drove to California for their son's wedding. On the way they stopped to visit with the Old Sarge, Jim Gier and his lovely wife Sandy. Pat & Jim met on the Internet and have spent several years raising funds for aircraft restoration projects. This was the first time they met in person. Sandy made us a great lunch and we had a very enjoyable visit. Jim plans to build some more of his famous clock awards for the 2008 reunion and we are trying to get them to come to Dulles to spend time with their adopted 456th Squadron. Jim was at the 27th FIS.

Veterans May Now Salute

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe (R-Oklahoma) today praised the passage by unanimous consent of his bill (S.1877) clarifying U.S. law to allow veterans and servicemen not in uniform to salute the flag. Current law (US Code Title 4, Chapter 1) states that veterans and servicemen not in uniform should place their hand over their heart without clarifying whether they can or should salute the flag.

"The salute is a form of honor and respect, representing pride in one's military service," Senator Inhofe said. "Veterans and service members continue representing the military services even when not in uniform."

"Unfortunately, current U.S. law leaves confusion as to whether veterans and service members out of uniform can or should salute the flag. My legislation will clarify this regulation, allowing veterans and servicemen alike to salute the flag, whether they are in uniform or not. I look forward to seeing those who have served saluting proudly at baseball games, parades, and formal events. I believe this is an appropriate way to honor and recognize the 25 million veterans in the United States who have served in the military and remain as role models to others citizens. Those who are currently serving or have served in the military have earned this right, and their recognition will be an inspiration to others."

This Bill was passed July 25, 2007. Let your veteran friends know about the Passage of this Bill.

Our Favorite Web Sites

Visit Pat McGee's World of F-106 web site for the most comprehensive collection of F-106 information ever! Free!
<http://www.f-106deltadart.com/index1.htm>

Also see Pat McGee's F-106 Forum and sign up to become a member (it's free!). Join in the discussion topics.
<http://forum.f-106deltadart.com/>

And if you're looking for your old aircraft by tail number there is no better place to research the F-106 fleet than Erv Smalley's web site (it's free too!) and chances are you'll find pictures of all the aircraft you were assigned to.
<http://convairf106deltadart.homestead.com/index.html>



The Thin Aluminum Line

Supersonic airplanes and a screen of radar stood ready during the cold war to avert the end of the world.

Former 456th FIS pilots Ralph Hanna and Guy Sherrill were interviewed by Carl Posey writing for the Smithsonian Air & Space Magazine. Read this interesting, in depth article at

http://www.airspacemag.com/issues/2007/december-january/thin_aluminum_line.php

Why We Attend Reunions

I now know why men who have been to war yearn to reunite. Not to tell stories or look at old pictures. Not to laugh or weep. Comrades gather because they long to be with the men who once acted their best, men who suffered and sacrificed, who were stripped raw, right down to their humanity.

I did not pick these men. They were delivered by fate. But I know them in a way I know no other men. I have never given anyone such trust. They were willing to guard something more precious than my life. They would have carried my reputation, the memory of me. It was part of the bargain we all made, the reason we were so willing to die for one another.

I cannot say where we are headed. Ours are not perfect friendships; those are the province of legend and myth. A few of my comrade's drift far from me now, sending back only occasional word. I know that one day even these could fall to silence. Some of the men will stay close, a couple, perhaps, always at hand.

As long as I have memory, I will think of them all, every day. I am sure that when I leave this world, my last thought will be of my family and my comrades...such good men.

From "These Good Men" by Michael Norman



Larry Birks is the Curator at CAM and welcomes donations of 456th memorabilia. Visit the **NEW** Castle Air Museum web site at <http://www.castleairmuseum.org>

CAM Update... August 25, 2007 - Joe Pruzzo, Castle Air Museum Executive Director announced that the Century Series Fighters will all be moved to the spot just in front of the B-36. This "Move of the Century" will cost \$8-10 thousand dollars for concrete wheel pads and a personalized brick paver walkway.

Restoration continues on the A-4M and the F-15 and both are just about ready for paint. Parts collection continues for the TF-102. The Restoration Team has been working on paint maintenance for aircraft on display. They just finished the B-50 and it looks great! Next they will tackle the C-131. The next multi-year project is re-skinning much of the B-36 thanks to the donation of magnesium plate by Kaiser Corporation.

CAM membership just passed 2000 towards their goal of 5000. If you are not a member yet, go to the new web site (see URL above) and join up.

A milestone was reached when CAM Chairman Dave Wood announced that the museum became the sole owner of its land including the PG&E substation property. Look for expansion and new buildings as the board develops its 25 year plan.

The CAM Board has engaged with local enterprises to expand the number of events at the museum. CAM Members receive the Castle Contrails newsletter or you can look up the event schedule on the web site.

Note: Cash Donations to CAM should be made out to Castle Air Museum and mailed to 5050 Santa Fe Drive, Atwater, CA 95301. Be sure and write in your favorite project on the check memo or leave it blank to let them decide.

Here's the B-50 looking great again



Here's the F-14 and A-4 getting ready for paint



The 456th is well represented at CAM with the completion of the F-102. The 456th raised the majority of the funds for restoration.

2008 Reunion Attendees So Far

Yes Total 56

Jim & Sheri Arnold
Karl Bossi
Lavern & Signe Bruhn
Don & Bonni Carr
Jim & Donna Chambers
Virgil & Georgia Deshong
Nelson & Elizabeth Fernandez
David, Judy & Dan Golas
Bruce & Gail Gookin
Bill & Nan Hoover
Bob & Polly Justus
Rosemary Kell
Steve Keeseey & Sandy Tom
Paul & Betty Ketchum
Ron & Karen Kuntz
John & Ginnie Marcotte
Al & Jacqueline Mueller
Miguel & Judy Ondina
Buell & Linda Patton
Pat & Judy Perry
Bill Pinkard
Lou Pizzarello
Dean & Irene Rager
Jody & Betty Roberts
Richard & Lina Scorza
Denver & Nancy Tate
Fred & Nancy Williams
Erv & Sandy Smalley
Ralph & Sandy Robledo
Dean & Graciella Robledo

MAYBE Total 0

NO Total 15

Jim Brazeel
Jim Brincks
Dennis Collette
Herb & Elsa Koss
Bob & Grace Lee
Gerald & Linda McGill
Ed & Willa Olivas
Roy & Angela Winton
Mike & Judy Woloszyn

2006 Reunion Recap

Sixty-six of us had a great time with the dedication of the F-102. The CAM Restoration Team did a fantastic job and even made very authentic looking missiles out of PVC pipe! Joe Pruzzo and the museum staff sponsored a breakfast for us and the California Air Guard saluted us with a 2-ship F-16 flyover.

The cocktail reception was well attended on Friday night and the Saturday night dinner was excellent at the Branding Iron. Leon "Woodie" Spears was our guest speaker. As a Tuskegee Airmen pilot he was shot down and captured by the Germans then abandoned when the Russians moved in to free the prisoners. John Collins, one of the few remaining Buffalo Soldiers from WWII also spoke. Woodie won the Jim Gier door prize clock which was ironic since Jim had just finished a clock for the Tuskegee Red Tail P-51 Restoration project. We were able to give CAM a check for \$175 from the raffle proceeds.

In keeping with our tradition to go back East for every other reunion we selected Dulles, VA for 2008. This gives our Central and Eastern Alumni a chance to save a few bucks on air fares and hopefully makes us appreciate Castle even more when we get to go back there. CAM will always be our home base so we try to support them through fundraising efforts even when we meet in another location.

It is always fun to see everyone at these reunions and I especially enjoy meeting guys from the 1956-1966 era when Luther was worn on F-86, F-102 and the '59 models of F-106 (vertical tapes). Illness was a big factor in the lower attendance at the 2006 reunion so we're hoping that everyone is in better health for 2008 and looking forward to meeting in Dulles.

Reunion Dinner Deposits

OK, here's how it works. We are expecting about 100 - 125 attendees at Dulles. The more attendees we have, the lower the cost for dinner deposits.

We take the quoted price for reception snacks and banquet dinner and add a small sum to build a cash reserve. We use the reserve to buy dinners for our special guests and to pay for postage, nametags and any other incidental costs that always come up. If anything is left over we usually donate it to the museum. We'll provide a full accounting in the post reunion newsletter. If anyone pays their deposit and can't attend we will always offer to refund it or donate it to CAM, it's your call.

In this newsletter is a Dinner Deposit Form so please take the time to fill it out and mail it to Lou Pizzarello. You may send your payment with the form or send the form now and the payment before April 1, 2008. We maintain no funds so any upfront expenses must be paid by the Alumni Committee until everyone has paid their deposits.



Ralph Robledo sent us this picture of a F-106 B 59-0158 he recently helped to dedicate at Edwards AFB – Ain't she a beauty!

By the way.... If you received this newsletter in the US mail it means that I do not have an email address for you or the one I have does not work. If you would rather receive this in **full color, please send me your email address at popperry@hotmail.com** . Otherwise you'll continue to receive it in black and white via snail mail!

Announcement for you model builders: 1/48 scale model Decals for the F-106 displayed at CAM are now available at the CAM Gift Shop. Names on the nose wheel door are Marcotte, Keeseey and Koss! Phone 209-723-2182

PICTURES NEEDED: If anyone has any pictures of 456th FIS F-102 aircraft please let Pat Perry know.
Popperry@hotmail.com

Other sites to visit in D.C.



WWI Memorial & Washington Monument



White House North View



Vietnam Memorial



Marine Corp Memorial



Jefferson Memorial



USAF Memorial at Arlington Cemetery



Lincoln Memorial



The National Capital Building

456th FIS 2008 Reunion Dinner Deposit Form

Please mail to Lou Pizzarello ASAP

Dress: casual for all events

My Name _____ Spouse/Guest(s) Name _____

My phone number _____ My Email address _____

Thursday May 1, 2008 Meet your friends at Holiday Inn 45425 Holiday Drive, Dulles, VA 20166

Contact: Call 703-471-7411 or 1-800-Holiday and reserve your room before April 10, 2008 for the best rates. Specify 456th FIS reunion so you'll get the \$99 rate. Cancellations made prior to 6 PM day of arrival will not be penalized. Please let the hotel know if you have any special handicap needs.

Friday May 2, 2008 – 6-10 PM Reception in the Holiday Inn Morven Park Room

Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar cocktails

Number attending _____ x **\$15.00** each = Total \$ _____

Saturday May 3, 2008 – 5-10 PM in the Holiday Inn Chantillys Room

5-6 PM reception cash bar cocktails, couples pictures

6:30-10 PM buffet dinner and speakers

Number of meals _____ x **\$48.00** = Total \$ _____

Friday & Saturday Night Grand Total \$ _____ Make check payable to Lou Pizzarello

NOTE: Unregistered/unpaid arrivals at the door will be charged \$20.00 per head for Friday night and \$58.00 per meal on Saturday night.

Please mail this page to Lou Pizzarello **ASAP**. If you prefer, you may send your payment with the form or just send the form now and send payment not later than April 1, 2008 which is the final deadline for registration.

Lou Pizzarello
456th FIS Reunion
1743 Whisperhill Drive
Reston, VA 20194

Phone: 703-481-6872
loupizz@comcast.net

Hors d' Oeuvres Friday Night Reception **Swedish, Barbecue or Sweet and Sour Meatballs**

Chef's Specialty Chicken Wings with a
Variety of Dipping Sauces

Imported and Domestic Cheeses served
with Crackers and Baguettes

Chips and Dip, Pretzels and Peanuts
Freshly Brewed Iced Tea with Lemon
Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee
and Hot Tea

Buffet Dinner Saturday Night

Mixed Garden Greens with Assorted Dressings
Creamy Cole Slaw
Warm Rolls and Butter

Entrees:

Grilled Chicken Breast with Mushroom and Cream
Sliced Beef Bordelaise

Steamed Seasonal Vegetables
Oven Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes
Rice Pilaf

Daily Desserts Display
Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee and Hot Tea
Iced Tea with Lemon

(Please let Lou know if you have any special dietary needs)

Please complete the next page if you want to attend a White House Tour on Friday May 2, 2008

White House Tour
Friday May 2, 2008
Security Information

The tour requires that visitor security information be provided to the Government before the tour. Please provide information for you and your guest as indicated. It will be compiled and submitted by Lou Pizzarello to Congressman Steny Hoyer's office.

Reference web site: <http://hoyer.house.gov/services/whtour.asp>

Please insert the appropriate information as show below.

Do not use punctuation marks other than those shown. (Example: no punctuation in O'Brien)

Please type only one name per field, leave out all hyphenations, spaces, or other punctuation marks. (Note - no space or hyphen between women who keep both names)

Type a Y for US Citizen or N if not. If not, please provide the Country of Origin.

Enter SSN, if foreign, leave blank

Passport # is only needed if group member is not a US Citizen.

SSN needed only for children 14 years of age and older.

Group Name: 456th FIS
Date of Visit: May 2, 2008

Last Name	_____	_____
First Name	_____	_____
Middle Initial (no period)	_____	_____
D.O.B. (mm/dd/yyyy)	_____	_____
SSN (no dashes)	_____	_____
U.S. Citizen (Y or N)	_____	_____
Country of Origin (US if USA)	_____	_____
Passport # (if not US citizen)	_____	_____

Thanks from your 456th FIS Alumni Committee

Jim Arnold - Bruce Gookin - Bob Justus - Paul Ketchum - John Marcotte - Al Mueller - Pat Perry - Lou Pizzarello.

SEE YOU AT DULLES!