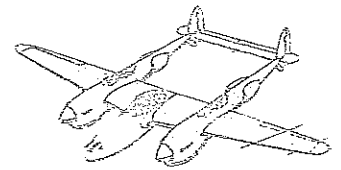




457TH FIGHTER GROUP



NEWSLETTER

2010



The 475th Fighter Group reunion for the year 2010 is history. The Thisted's with help from Judy Oxford hosted this event in Seattle, Washington and as was to be expected, they went above and beyond to ensure every little detail was covered. Dale and Barbara got very little sleep keeping things running smoothly. It all started Thursday night with the hospitality room opening for business. Fox Olson and Tom Oxford just happened to be on hand to christen the opening. Of course Dale had everybody's specialties, Tangery gin for Howard Max and Korbel brandy for Dave Berby. Attendance totaled 44 bodies with 9 original 475th members. Dale Burgess, PJ Dahl, Marvin Rose and Curt Tinker rounded out the total number of original 475th Fighter Group personnel on hand. And how could we not mention Carlo Marlow and Dana Grossman, Thisted's daughter helped them so much and is responsible for the picture of the guys by the F-22 (above).

Barbara had a room immediately adjacent to the traditional hospitality room to accommodate the ladies. This "ladies courtesy room" included a lovely lady who was available and able to satisfy whatever a lady could ask for; hair-doo, massage, manicure and even a little pediatric work for one Bobbie Dahl. This room was really appreciated by our gals.

Saturday kicked off with a breakfast and membership meeting. Among other things the membership was advised that \$5,000 was approved by the board of trustees to get the WEB site back on track. Rhonda Rose is heading up this project. One of the board's resolutions was to amend the Bylaws regarding memberships. A spouse, son, daughter or grandchild of original 475th Fighter Group personnel automatically become Associate Members. Also individuals who contribute \$250 during the prior 24 months may become Associate Members. Those interested in becoming an Associate Member may contact Fleurette Miller, 475th FG Historical Foundation Treasurer at (626) 447-6447 or fleurettemiller@snigllc.com.

The 475th will soon be receiving a yet to be determined, but sizable amount of money from the Jack Purdy Trust Fund. Before Jack passed away he was adamant about providing some of his estate for the operation and maintenance of the museum. The Fund was to be activated when Liz passed away. She died, just a few weeks ago and Vanessa, Jack's daughter, contacted PJ regarding the trust. Chris is in the process of administrating the necessary actions to obtain the funds. We will all long remember Jack and Liz and their participation and support over many, many years.

The membership voted to have another reunion. It will be in Racine, Wisconsin to be hosted by Dave Berby. Dave has already booked a beautiful hotel right on the water for Aug 18-20, 2011. Dave's friend and long time 475th supporter Dennis Rybarik will be assisting him. I can't remember Dave attending a reunion without Dennis being on hand. He is a true friend of both Dave and all 475th members.

The rest of Saturday was taken up with a tour of the Museum of Flight. We had to commandeer four wheel chairs. PJ was busy wheeling Howard Max around so Carol Gray, bless her heart, pushed Bobbie Dahl around the facility. Bobbie is still suffering some back problems. Dave Berby and Tom Oxford were the other wheelies. It is really fun getting old.

An F-15 and an F-22 were flown in by the guys from the 433 sqd at Nellis AFB. They were on static display and our group was the only one allowed near the F-22. The three pilots joined us in the hospitality room later for a great time swapping stories and being sure Dale's efforts to supply all the booze and snacks one could ever need, did not go to waste.

Following our tour of the museum we spent what was left of the afternoon in the hospitality rooms gearing up for the evening banquet.