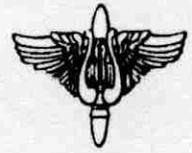




CODA

RETIRED AIR FORCE BANDLEADERS
AND SUPERINTENDENTS SOCIETY
Founded 1980



APR MAY JUN, 1995

VOL XV NO 2

PERSONALS

ANN LANZILLOTTI

Believing that everyone loves a Fairy Tale, here is ours - a true one! "Once upon a time..." Ann and Harold graduated together from the same Virginia High School. They had dated once, but afterwards, each went separate ways and did not hear of one another nor meet again until last April, 52 years later. At that time, Harold came to Shreveport, LA to visit his late wife's relatives. Before leaving VA, he learned of Ann's mother's death and that she had been living with Ann for the past 21 years in nearby Bossier City, LA. Ann's father had been a member of the same Masonic Lodge in VA to which Harold belongs, so he offered to bring a plant from the Lodge to put on Ann's mother's grave. On arrival in LA, Harold phoned Ann to tell her of his mission, and asked if he could come by her house, which he did and so it might be said that he literally "showed up one day at her door."

Following that visit, Harold and Ann used up many Frequent Flyer miles between VA & LA. In August, Harold invited Ann to accompany him, and others of his family, on an Alaskan cruise. This turned out to be the "Love Boat" for as they became reacquainted, remembering old times and renewing their friendship, they found in each other all the mix that later led to their decision to marry and spend the rest of their lives together.

Ann is the mother of four daughters and four sons, (one of whom is deceased), and she has eighteen grandchildren. Her late husband, **Joe Lanzillotti** was a career USAF Officer Bandleader, whose assignments moved the family several places abroad and in the US before retiring in LA. Ann is a

Cont'd p. 2

TAPS

SADAKO HOWARD

-1995

Sadako Howard passed away on Sunday May 21.

She is survived by her husband, Colonel George S. Howard of San Antonio, TX. Internment will be in the Howard family cemetery in PA. *(This is all the news at press time)*

BETTE J. KRAFT

1926 - 1995

Internment

Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery
Bette J. Kraft, age 69, passed away on Friday April 21, 1995 at San Antonio, TX.

Survivors include her husband, CMS Donald M. Kraft, USAF ret, daughter Dianne M. Kraft and husband, L. Scott Whitebird; sister, Virginia Duncan of Roseburg, OR; and brother William Shapro of Roseburg, OR.

VINCENT P. SOMMA

1934 - 1995

Vincent P. Somma, passed away on Mar 1, 1995 in Las Vegas, NV.

He began his trumpet career at 16, playing in dingy Brooklyn nightclubs and the Catskills. In 1952 he entered the Air Force. He was a member of the Airmen of Note from 1960 - 67. After leaving the service, he moved to Las Vegas and performed in the Las Vegas Hilton Orchestra from 1972 - 75, where he backed up Presley and later went on the road for Elvis' last tour. Joe Guercio, Presley's music director said Somma was one of the town's best players.

He is survived by his brother Jack Somma, three sons, Patrick, Vincent and Michael Somma; three grandsons Tony, Michael and Brandon Somma, and a granddaughter, Sandy Somma, all of Las Vegas.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AMY RIEBS MILLS has been appointed Music Director of the La Crosse Symphony Orchestra, La Cross, WI. She will continue as Music Director of the National Women's Symphony.

LTC CRAIG JESSOP, Commander of the Heartland of America Band, Offutt AFB, NE has been appointed Associate Director of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Salt Lake City, UT. He will retire from the USAF in May, 1995.

ED BRIDGES has been named as "Citizen of the Year" by the Henry County, GA Chamber of Commerce. The Honorable Mac Collins (R-GA) presented the award, praising Bridges for his work in promoting the arts in Atlanta's Southern Crescent. Henry Arts Alliance, of which Bridges is Founder and President Emeritus, has given birth to Henry Players, Henry Writers Guild, Visual Artists Collective of Henry County, Henry Dancers Roundtable, and Henry Community Chorus. Additionally, Bridges is Director of the Community Chorus in Henry County and Founder and Conductor of South Metro Concert Band, a 17 year old community band in neighboring Clayton County (where Bridges helped establish an arts council).

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PERSONALS, cont'd

past teacher and is engaged in music and church related activities where she presently lives, Bossier City, LA.

Since Harold and Ann have roots in both VA and LA, they plan to keep their homes and spend time in each location....and live happily ever after!

PETE MOREAU

This has been a hectic year back here in Virginia -- the reunion, Ed D'Alfonso's passing - personal family matters, business problems (year end inventory - trade shows, etc.) and let's not forget it's Tax Time!

To make a long story short I've lost track of time and now its time to catch up.

I'm still endeavoring to get some more materials to Herb Breaden - it's been difficult to get it together including a "history" of the last reunion. Ed was our Chairman and had most of the details.

TOM AND DONNA ABRAIRA

Donna and I have just completed the 1st level of our home in the British Virgin Islands (Tortola). We're looking forward to completing the upper level when she retires. I'm ready to sail down in ITZAYAT II now but I'll just have to be patient a little longer.

We enjoyed the last reunion and look forward to New Orleans. I hope the Singing Sgts. will be part of the program. Donna would have no excuse about going then!

We look forward to spring so we can begin sailing our home again. All the best to all.

LOU AND MICKI KRIEBEL

We are leaving the US on June 10 for England, then seven days in Scotland, 15 days in London, 7 days in Bournemouth. Will return around July 10. We will be "guides" for a couple from Orlando. A full report will be due when we get back!

CRAIG AND RANAE JESSOP

As you can see, I will be retiring in May to become the Associate Conductor of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. It is a position I have always wanted and it is an opportunity than only comes around once. I will miss the band world but am anxious to return to full time choral work and back to our home and family. I have treasured my association with each of you.

I will let you know my new address. We are planning to build.

My sincere best wishes to all. This organization (RAFBL) will become a lifeline with my Air Force friends. Thanks for keeping it going.

TOM NICOLAI

I am happy to report that membership in the American Military Music Preservation Society is up by 22 members during the last quarter of 1994. It sure would be nice if we could continue to grow at that rate. Thanks for your time and consideration, and all the work you put into the CODA.

BOB AND MARY TURNER

I think it's about time I brought you up to date on what's been happening with me. I'll try to make it brief.

I was diagnosed with lung cancer the end of October and my doctor immediately scheduled me for oral chemo therapy and radiation treatments. The good news is that the treatments have worked, and the X rays and CT scans show no trace of cancer remaining. I am finished with the radiation and am half way through the intravenous chemo, which will end in June. I feel great, am very happy with the medical attention I

received, and consider myself a very lucky fellow.

One nice thing was that I heard from ex AF Band types around the country, all wishing me well. It helped a lot!

ED AND JOAN BRANDT

Motor vacation - departed Rockledge, FL Mar 29 and stopped four days in San Antonio, four days in Tuscon, four days in Reno, five days in Colorado Springs, arrived home on Apr 22. 6,633 miles! Had a ball visiting old friends and sight seeing.

ED DOUGHERTY

I'm doing very well, do a lot of bike riding. Only been fishing once lately and the usual luck, nothing. Hope everyone is fine. All the best!

CARLTON AND SHARON TOLER

As a new member of RAFBL, I missed being at the last reunion. My wife tells me I should stop and smell the roses.

I just read some old CODA's Buddy Selke sent me, and its nice to see so many enjoying retirement. I just realized I've been retired 18 years. We live in a little town in FL called Freeport. I've been a stockbroker for the past 12 years, and am a registered principal with the NASD, enjoy the Wall Street scene and plan on continuing as long as my health holds out.

We have taken a couple of vacations, one to Madrid where I had been stationed 25 years ago. The "Whiskey and Jazz" club is still there! Saw Toledo and all the museums, etc.

We plan on making the New Orleans reunion next year.

LYLE AND WILLIE COOK

We had over 97 inches of snow in December. You'd think we lived in Alaska!

Willie had to have surgery last Thanksgiving. They got it all and the prognosis is great. Of course check ups for 5 years.

My son Jason (14) received his black belt in karate. Becky is 17 going on 25. I still work for the State of Alaska. Some days I like it! We are going back to Illinois and Indiana for 18 days in July.

Cont'd, p 3

NEWS OF THE USAF BAND

from the CADENZA

RUSSIA TOUR

The USAF Band sent members of the concert band and ceremonial brass to Russia in May. During the week long tour, the musicians presented several performances in Moscow and St. Petersburg, including a parade on Red Square in Moscow. The major event of the tour was the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of VE day.

MOVING

The USAF Band is finally moving into its new home. Beginning in April, the Band will move to Hangar 2 on Bolling AFB. The building, which used to be the commissary, has undergone a complete transformation. Each unit of the Band will have its own studio and office space, making this the first time since its

existence that the entire group will be housed under one roof. After so many years of working in WW II era buildings, everyone is looking forward to working in state-of-the-art surroundings!

CAPITOL CONCERTS

The annual summer concerts will take place June through August. Tuesday evening performances will be on the East steps of the Capitol. Friday evening performances are at the Sylvan Theater on the Washington Monument grounds. All units of the Band will be featured.

THE NOTE

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of WW II, The USAF Band has recreated the Glenn Miller Army Air Corps Orchestra of 1943-1945.

This ensemble will be on tour throughout the US during the month of May. It consists of The Note, Strolling Strings and members of the Concert Band, as well as the Crew Chiefs and a quartet from the Singing Sgts. After the tour, the orchestra will perform in Carnegie Hall on June 20 and in Boston on July 4.

CADENZA

The bi-monthly Newsletter of the USAF Band is available to friends all over the world. Send your name and address to TSgt Brian Jones -USAF Band -Bolling AFB, Washington, DC 20332

Personals, cont'd

HANK UHLAND

(May 1995) Mates: While in China, I'm testing to see if I can subsist on Chop Suey and fortune cookies for 18 days. Cheers, HU

SINGING SERGEANTS 50TH ANNIVERSARY 1995

Plans for this celebration are proceeding with great anticipation and excitement. Events are now confirmed as follows:

Thursday, Aug 24: Registration and Dinner Cruise on "The Spirit of Washington."

Friday, Aug 25: Tour of the New Band Facility.

Saturday, Aug 26: Band/Alumni picnic followed by "Nostalgia Night" at band facility.

Sunday, Aug 27: Closing Brunch.

Mark your calendars, and plan to be with us.!

A list of missing persons is attached. Please help us locate them.

BAFM V

Metairie Landmark Hotel
NEW ORLEANS, LA
JULY 24 THRU 28
1996

Old Buddies
Tours
Casinos
Golf

Large Hospitality Room
New Orleans
Plantations

Van service to French Quarter

River Walk Shopping

War Stories
Riverboat Rides
Crawfish Boil

Close to large shopping mall

4 Days of Reminiscing and Fun, Fun and More Fun

If you haven't received information, please send request to

Herb Broaden,

2461 Ashland Place, N., Gretna, LA 70056

The Singing Sergeants were unable to contact the following named alumni and would appreciate any help from our society

Adams, Raynah (60's)
Baker, Robert (50's)
Benedict, Richard
Broome, John
Burkett, Charles R
Circosta, Albert
Conforti, Robert
Cornelius, Murray
Culver, Robert H.
Davis, John
DeSantis, Modesto
Egerton, Hugh
Ennis, Gary
Eshelman, Ken
Ewing, Kenyon O
Eynon, Thomas H
Frazier, Creed
Galbraith, Wayne M
Ghitmanns, Ron
Grafton, Kenneth A
Hall, Edward G
Higa, Mel
Hubbard, Robert L
Ilardo, Joe
Kane, Morton
Lanigan, Pat
Law, Gerald
Long, Wayne

Martinet, Leigh
McCance, Roy
McLain, Armand
Merritt, George
Mols, Robert W
Newton, Derwood
Norcross, Clark
Oules, Gary
Passantino, Domenick
Pearson, Michael
Pecha, Emerich
Peerless, Mike
Pherigo, Gwen Haynes
Philips, Daryl
Preuss, James
Raper, Harrison C
Reichert, Robert
Rosness, Michael
Ruff, Howard
Russell, Don
Schiedel, Uyleau L
Scoggins, Don
Seltzer, George A
Siverson, Pete
Sollars, Ken
Travis, Renee
Viehweg, Frederick T
Wiest, Alton
Wood, Warren

If you have an address on any of these individuals, please send the information to:

SMSgt Patricia A.F. Wolfe, USAF
The USAF Band /BABS
23 Mill Street, Suite 5
Bolling AFB, DC 20332-5401