



# “Ready for Contact”

Volume 1, Issue 3

Summer, 2000



## Second Bi-Annual Reunion

The second 46th Air Refueling Squadron Association reunion will be held June 15-16, 2001, in Marquette, Michigan.

The headquarters hotel will be the Ramada Inn. The Ramada Inn is located on West Washington Street, just a few blocks from the heart of downtown. A block of rooms has been set aside for our group. When you make your reservations make sure that you mention the 46th ARS. The rooms are blocked for the evenings of the 14th through the 16th so you can come in a day early and still use them.

Initial planning includes an informal get together Thursday evening at the Ramada Inn for those who come in early. Friday will include a short business meeting to conduct the necessary association business, golf outings at either Chocolay Downs or Red Fox Run (the base course), and an informal buffet dinner. Saturday will be more golf, visits to old familiar places and a banquet (perhaps featuring a speaker if we can come up with someone interesting). We want to keep this one fairly flexible so you can get out and visit the old sights and old friends in the area.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a listing of other hotels in the area, dining facilities, and some of the interesting places you might want to see again or perhaps for the first time.

Further information will come out in early 2001 with final costs and deadlines.

## Places of Interest

The National Ski Hall of Fame, has a new location with new exhibits for those who visited in the past

The Superior Dome, NMU's football stadium, the world's largest wood framed structure.

Michigan Iron Industry Museum, exhibits on the iron industry in the UP.

Berry Events Center, NMU's new ice arena. Home of the Hockey Wildcats.

Marquette County Historical Society Museum, exhibits on the history of Marquette County and surrounding area.

Ojibwa Casino, located east of Marquette on M-28

Peter White Public Library, new remodeled library, to be opened in October 2000.

Presque Isle, Marquette's premier city park.

Ellwood Mattson Park, on the site of the old Spear Coal Docks on the downtown waterfront

Yooper's Tourist Trap, source for all your Yooper gag gifts, CD's (Second Week of Deer Camp) and just all around fun place to visit.

Jacobetti Veteran's Facility, Michigan State Home for Veterans.

Marquette Maritime Museum, exhibits on the history of Lake Superior and its influence on the growth of Marquette.

## From the Defacto Editor:

There hasn't been a lot going on the last year or so since the last reunion. We have lost a few members of the squadron (see TAPS) and found a few.

All has been quiet on the UP now that the political storm has blown over from moving the County Airport to the base. Overall it seems to be working out well. Especially since this fall will see the construction of a road running from CR 553 around the north end of the runway to the terminal. It will shorten the drive and hopefully alleviate the remaining complaints.

I would urge all who are intending to come up to the reunion to get their reservations in early for flights and rental cars. With only two airlines (Northwest AirlinK and Midwest Express) serving the area seats are limited at times. The same goes for hotel rooms. June will be the beginning of the tourist season so demand will be starting to rise. The Ramada is also hosting a state American Legion meeting and a wedding the same weekend so if you want to stay there make your reservation and be sure to mention the 46th ARS. We have a large number of hotels/motels in the area but still they are sometimes filled.

We will need some help on the days of the reunion, mostly to man (or woman) the registration table, take tickets at the meals, etc. We should be able to handle the arrangements before hand as we will be working with just one facility.

I have been trying to think of someone from the local area to have as a speaker at the banquet. If anyone has any ideas let me know and we will pursue them. Or if someone wants to volunteer we will take that under heavy consideration.

The Association's official web page should be up and running shortly. I still have some work to do on it and arrangements to be made with

the company which will host it.

John Stevens

## For Sale

The following items are offered for sale by the Association. Proceeds above cost of item and shipping (very minor) go into the Association General Fund.

Association Rosters	\$2.00
First Reunion Pins	\$3.00

Cost includes shipping. Order by phone call, letter or e-mail (see back page for number and/or address).

**Taps**

Richard Blood  
George "Rick" Franz – February 16, 2000  
James W Davis

## Pop Quiz Answer

What was the Squadron designation of the Air Refueling Squadron, which was originally assigned to the 4042 SW, and eventually was redesignated as the 46th Air Refueling Squadron?

First one with the designation "923rd ARS" was Jerry Miller and second Gene Bittrolff.

## HOTELS

Ramada Inn (Headquarters) 228-6000  
 Holiday Inn, west side of town 225-1351  
 Birchmont Motel, east of town 228-7538  
 Tiroler Hof, on Shiras Hill 226-7516  
 Comfort Suites, west side of town 228-0028  
 Days Inn, west side of town 225-1393  
 Value Host, south side of town 225-5000  
 Landmark, downtown, expensive 228-2580  
 Travel Lodge, in Harvey 249-1712  
 Village Inn, near NMU 226-9400  
 Brentwood, west side of town 228-7494  
 Cedar, west side of town 228-2280  
 Edgewater, east of town 225-1305  
 Parkway, in Harvey 249-1404

## DINING ESTABLISHMENTS

Babycakes Muffin Company  
 Northwoods  
 Up Front and Company  
 New York Deli  
 Casa Calabria  
 Bonanza  
 Hudson's  
 Brownstone Inn  
 Crossroads Bar  
 Vierling  
 The Office  
 Northwoods  
 Portside  
 The Shores  
 Villa Capri  
 Coachlight  
 Garden Room  
 Great Hunan  
 The Shamrock  
 Vangos  
 Village Cafe

## CAR RENTALS

Avis  
 Hertz  
 National

(Agencies have limited numbers of cars so  
 make your reservation early)

## GOLF

Marquette Country Club, hard to get a tee  
 time  
 Chocolay Downs, easy on  
 Homestead, 9 holes  
 Red Fox Run, base course  
 Wawonowin, Ishpeming

## Tentative Schedule

### June 14, 2001

Reunion Registration Table Open  
 6:30 – ? Informal Get Together in Harley's Place in  
 the Ramada

### June 15, 2001

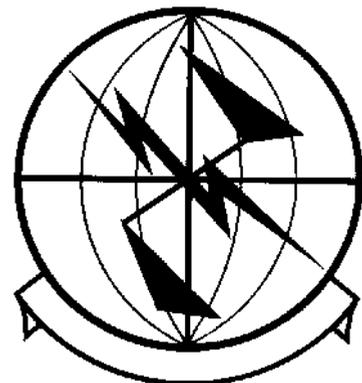
9:00 am Business Meeting  
 Rest of the day for visiting, golfing and touring  
 6:30 pm Buffet Dinner, Herb Baked Chicken,  
 Roast Beef and Lasagna

### June 16, 2001

All day for touring, visiting old friends, golf, etc  
 7:00 Banquet, Top Sirloin Steak and Lake Superior  
 Whitefish Fillet

### June 17, 2001

Depart



## 46th Air Refueling Squadron Heritage

The 46th Ferrying Squadron was activated on December 2, 1942 at Wadi Seidna Airport, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. The 46th was assigned to the 13th Ferrying Group whose assigned area took in the territory from El Geneine, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, to Karachi, India, and from Cairo, Egypt, to Tehran, Iran. The 46th was responsible for the aerial transportation of personnel, supplies, and mail throughout this area. The squadron was redesignated the 46th Transport Squadron on March 24, 1943. With the reorganization of the Africa Middle East Wing (AMEW), the 46th was disbanded on September 30, 1943 when the group and squadron organizations of the Central African Sector (CAS) were disbanded and replaced by stations. The 13th Transportation Group, its assigned squadrons, and all personnel and equipment were absorbed by the newly created Station #20, AMEW-ATC, Khartoum.

Reconstituted, and redesignated the 46th Transport Squadron, Medium, the 46th began operations at Kelly AFB, Texas, in July 1954. The 46th operated primarily as a training squadron until April 1955, at which time it became a full strength squadron. The primary mission of the 46th was to provide air movement of personnel

and supplies over almost two-thirds of the globe as scheduled by higher headquarters. The secondary mission was to train new Military Air Transport Service (MATS) personnel and make them an integral part of the squadron. The 46th Air Transport Squadron inactivated on April 8, 1956.

When the 923rd Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy, was discontinued and inactivated on April 1, 1961, the 46th Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy, was organized and gained the mission, personnel, and equipment of the 923rd. Stationed at K.I. Sawyer AFB, Michigan, the 46th flew regular, reflex, alert, and training refueling missions; its tankers refueled TAC fighters being deployed or rotated overseas, and those returning to the United States. Aircrews of the 46th were deployed to assist in refueling operations during the Cuban Missile Crisis; it also sent aircraft and crews to Southeast Asia to support combat missions of SAC bombers and TAC fighters. The 46th deployed aircraft and crews for tanker task forces operating out of Alaska, Spain, Labrador, and in the Great Lakes region. The squadron was awarded the Saunders Trophy, a SAC air refueling award, for 1963. The squadron was inactivated in 1996.

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