



OSS-101 ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Summer 2010

www.oss-101.com

2010 REUNION

Wednesday, October 13
through
Sunday, October 17

Holiday Inn National Airport
Arlington, VA and Washington, D.C.

Join Us This October in the Nation's Capital

By Brian Ferry

Planning is swiftly underway for the OSS-101 Association's 2010 reunion in Washington, D.C. and its surrounding communities. We'd love for each and every one of you to join us for a long weekend of exciting and interesting events!

OSS-101 Association Reunion
Wednesday, October 13 through Sunday, October 17, 2010
(Wednesday night is our check-in night.
Events will begin on Thursday)

Holiday Inn National Airport
2650 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 684-7200

BOOKING YOUR HOTEL ROOM

As soon as you can, please book your hotel room. Our hotel is the Holiday Inn National Airport, just one mile from Ronald Reagan National Airport in Arlington, VA. We have a group of rooms set aside for the reunion, including a small number of smoking rooms. Representatives at Holiday Inn National Airport have been extremely kind and accommodating. There is a free shuttle bus that runs



World War II Memorial



Air Force Memorial

REGISTRATION FORM

Mail To: Dennis Klein
701 Glasscock Road – Liberty Hill, TX 78642-5738
Make checks payable to: OSS-101 Association

NAME _____
(Please PRINT legibly)

Preferred name for name badge:

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

NAME OF SPOUSE / GUESTS ATTENDING:

Amount	Per Person Price	Number Attending
Registration Fee <i>(Includes admission to all Thursday and Friday events & Hospitality Suite)</i>	\$110	_____
Ladies Luncheon <i>(Saturday, Noon, O'Malley's Pub)</i>	\$25	_____
OSS-101 Banquet <i>(Saturday evening, Shenandoah Ballroom)</i>	\$35	_____
Sunday Send-Off Breakfast <i>(Sunday Morning, Room TBD)</i>	\$27	_____

TOTALS _____

Saturday Dinner Selection

(Include a number [1, 2, 3, etc] for multiple guests)

Sirloin of Beef with peppercorn demi-glaze	Chicken Florentine with shallot cream sauce	Vegetarian Lasagna
_____	_____	_____

between Reagan National Airport and the hotel. The bus runs every 15 minutes with pick-up stops at Doors 5 & 9, but reunion attendees can also call the hotel's front desk and request pickup upon their arrival.

When you call to reserve your room, mention that you're part of the OSS-101 World War II Veterans Association and you will receive a special group rate of \$119 per night. If you require a smoking room, which will be located on the hotel's dedicated 3rd Floor, please mention this when you book your reservation. Our special group rate expires after Monday, September 13, so please book as soon as you can.

Please note: if you or one of your guests require shower grab bars, they are only available in the hotel's limited number of ADA-accessible rooms. Be sure to mention this when booking your reservation. Additionally, if you require an in-room refrigerator for storing medicine, these are only available in double rooms. If anyone needs refrigeration for medicine, but can only fill a single room, let me know and I will make proper arrangements.

Those who wish to book your hotel room online, please e-mail me at bferry@gmail.com. The hotel has sent me a special link for our organization that, when a member books through it, they will automatically receive the discounted rate.

REGISTRATION FORM

To the left, you'll find an official registration form for the 2010 reunion. It contains all of the information we will need to arrange your access to two full days of events, as well as the Ladies Luncheon, Saturday night's banquet, and our Sunday morning send-off breakfast. We ask that all members detach this page, fill it out, and mail it in to Dennis Klein along with a personal check that covers admission to all of the events you wish to attend.

Some events are still in the planning stages, but I can confirm that they include a tour and presentation of the recently-completed United States Air Force Memorial, a driven tour of Arlington National Cemetery – including a viewing of the Changing of the Guard and a special wreath-laying ceremony by a select group of our own 101 veterans, a leisurely walk about the National World War II Memorial, and a tour of the US Capitol Building. Details on all of our events will be published in our next newsletter, shortly before the reunion date.

Please contact me directly with any questions or concerns.

Brian C. Ferry

— DONATIONS —

\$2,000 from "OSS-101 member"
\$100.00 from Kathryn Halpern
\$2,000.00 from anonymous (Det. 101 Veteran)

Schools Continue to Thrive Thanks to BPPSI, Kachins and Donations

By Brian Ferry

The winter and summer sessions of our 101-schools in Myitkyina have seen an exponential increase in interest and attendance by local Kachin children. Instrumental in the success of these schools, which Col. Dan Tarter of Big Sun Sky Projects International says are nearly overwhelmed with eager students, is thanks in part to BSSPI's efforts in the region, the interest of local educators and volunteers around the Myitkyina area, and continued support by 101 Association members.



The most recent semester of 101 Schools was held during a traditional Spring break season for the Burmese, partly because interest has been so high. Teachers decided to increase tuition to 3,000 kyat per month (\$3 USD) to help offset the costs for additional classroom costs and to help make the program more self-sustaining. The increase in costs hasn't dissuaded the student population, which now numbers 564 according to local estimates, up from 250 in December 2009. The program has begun holding three instructional periods per day, has taken on two additional instructors, and has opened up an additional classroom site. Some select teachers continue to receive teacher training in Rangoon, thanks to a program called Educasia, mentioned in the Fall 2009 newsletter.

It is the teachers and local BSSPI representatives, including BSSPI Country Director Daw Khin Thit Yee, who we have to thank for this tremendous increase in enrollment and positive attention the program has received. Back in December 2009, students and teachers participated in a Christmas party that included music, prayers, traditional Kachin foods, and the disbursement of "one-O-one Exercise Books" that have been manufactured especially for our students with seed money provided by BSSPI. Khin Thit Yee explained, "Students liked the books as they were very good quality and they were too poor to be able to buy those

kinds of notebooks." The books serve an additional purpose: 101-Schools teachers and administrators are attempting to sell the exercise books at a profit to local high school students to help finance our program.



In addition to the children's Christmas party, a second party was held in January 2010 that brought together teachers, military officers, police officers, Township Peace and Development Officers, Military Intelligence Officers, Kachin leaders, landlords, and volunteers. All were briefed on the goals of the 101-Schools program and such a meeting further demonstrates the cooperation we've received from local authorities because of the transparency of, and lack of a political skew associated with, our program. School representatives have also met with Kachin businessmen to attempt to solicit their support and monetary contributions.



Financial aid continues to be a sticking point in the program's annual progress. One outstanding Kachin businessman agreed to pledge 100,000K as a Christmas present to the schools, but otherwise BSSPI and local Schools administrators have found it very difficult to petition for additional funds from the locals. Col Tarter explained that BSSPI has applied for a local grant from the US Embassy in Rangoon, but he is not confident that we will be approved for the funds. Current funding was scheduled to expire at the end of June but Treasurer Dennis Klein announced that a few generous donations have been made to the program –

totaling \$7,500 – that should carry the 101-School through our October 2010 reunion, at which time additional fund raising strategies will be discussed. Fundraising is crucial, as Col. Tarter explained that our program provides an unparalleled educational opportunity for Kachin children.



“A great number of very needy kids continue to learn and grow under what is provided by your love and simple charity,” he recently wrote. “Without your help, there is no question this program could not continue to exist.

Marje Luce

Former Editor of the O.S.S. Detachment 101 Newsletter

Marje Luce, editor of the O.S.S. Detachment 101 newsletter for many years, passed away March 25, 2010. She was loved and admired by many and was an invaluable member of this organization. Here are some tributes to her:

■ If it were not for Marje Luce, I would not be a member of the 101-Detachment Burma organization. When my father, Patrick Smith, passed away in 1999, I wrote to Marje and told her about him. She replied to say that, as a daughter of a 101 member, I could continue to be a member and come to all the 101 Reunions. So, the first reunion I attended was in Washington DC (2003) where Marje met my sister and myself and introduced us to the group I now consider my very dear friends. I have attended all the Reunions since then - enjoyed every one of them - and hope to attend the one in Washington DC this year. Marje was a kind, friendly and gracious lady and we had many a conversation about her husband’s time in Burma during the War. I will miss her.

Colleen Mitchell

■ My meetings with Marje were at reunions and over the phone between reunions. She was always delightful and helpful in every way and I enjoyed knowing and appreciating her as one of the world’s good friends. She was important to the Detachment 101 Association and its membership. As a prior president of the Association I was thankful

for her help. I am sure that all prior presidents of the Association (if they were alive) would say the same thing.”

Sam Spector

■ Marje and I met and became friends at the Los Angeles Reunion. She was highly intelligent and had a great sense of humor. During the time she was in nursing care we spent many hours on the telephone. Marje was well aware the end was near and faced it with courage and faith.

Dan Weinstein

This from Marje’s good friend Jan McNeilan:

■ Many thanks for the flowers from 101. The Peace Lily was beautiful and full of blooms. It is an indoor house-plant so we left it for the reception area of the health care center. Marje would have liked that. The memorial service was very well attended. On May 7th, Marje joined Jim in Arlington, so it is the end of another chapter....not to be forgotten. The friendship of you and all connected with 101 was so very important to Marje and it kept her connected to Jim....it was wonderful.

Peace and good health be with you.

Jan McNeilan

This from Jay Dee Barry, graphic designer for the Detachment 101 newsletter:

■ I believe I first starting working with Marje on the Detachment 101 newsletter somewhere back around 1995. Over the years we became friends and would chat about 101 or Master Gardeners whenever she had to drop something off or I was delivering the printing to her home. I loved how she would cover the rails of her patio with huge baskets of her prized geraniums and encourage the squirrels to frequent the feeders and bring their babies to the porch even though they made a pretty big mess. Her beloved cat was usually a topic of conversation as was one or two of the more interesting newsletter articles and usually a trip outside to view an interesting new botanical. My favorite was her rose that smelled like grapefruit.

She told me about Jim and more about all the members whose names I routinely encountered while producing the news. One year she suggested that I attend the reunion so I could meet the people I had come to know through their stories and photos. I was honored that I would be offered the opportunity to attend, but unfortunately it never came to be.

I am proud that I continue to have the opportunity to work on the Detachment 101 newsletter and to work with its new Editor.

Ms. Jay Dee Barry

Banker Still Keeping Busy at 93

By Brian Ferry

Don't get in his way, because Detachment-101 veteran Harold "Bud" Banker has stuff to do.

In addition to recently becoming a pen pal of mine, where he's made many helpful and interesting recommendations for the upcoming OSS-101 Association Reunion, Bud has made it perfectly clear that he's staying active in order to keep his mind, body, and soul in shape.

"The secret to long life is staying busy, not watching the boob tube," he recently wrote.



At the age of 93, Bud schedules his days to include a list of hobbies and activities that would tire a young man one-quarter his age. Foremost on that list is his role in the South Hills Senior Softball League, which helped earned him a Citation from the Philadelphia House of Representatives in

2007. Bud has been an active member of the league for over 14 years, playing in at least two games a week, earning Most Valuable Player honors in 2005, and being recognized by Senior Softball USA as the oldest registered and active softball player. His softball experience dates back to shortly after World War II, when he began playing in a fast-pitch church league.

If that weren't enough, Bud has a few other activities to round out his week. He writes both fiction and non-fiction and is currently working on his tenth book. He enjoys watercolor painting and has seen one of his pieces displayed permanently in Washington D.C. He has recently been learning to play the organ and said that he has, "invented a new show lace for sport shoes."

Bud worked in the War Room at the Pentagon before being sent to CBI. According to the roster from OSS headquarters, he finished the war as a Technical Sergeant with Detachment-101 – a rank renamed Sergeant First Class in 1948 by the United States Army. Today, SFCs are the first senior non-commissioned officer rank. They are recognized by the sleeve insignia of three chevrons and two rockers and are recommended to have 15 to 18 years of Army experience. From this information, it could be said that Bud's rank was an indication of things to come! His post-war career included time as Art Director of the Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph, which was bought out in 1960 by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette that still serves the community today.

Bud closed a recent letter by saying, "My doctor said he

is going to keep me till I am 100 years young." From the sound of it, he'd better find another doctor to take over for the many years he'll have after that.

OSS Medical Specialist Tours SF Med Facilities: in Veritas: March 31, 1969

Historian Troy Sacquety found this 1969 article in his research:

"Medical efforts have always been a very potent influence on people in a time of war, and in fact can serve as a major entrée to a population."

So commented Doctor James C. Luce while on a three-day tour of the medical training facilities at the Center for Special Warfare earlier this month.

Doctor Luce, now a private physician in Medford, Ore., saw action as a medical officer with the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) in Burma during World War II.

The OSS, a forerunner of today's Special Forces, was comprised of extremely specialized volunteers who were trained in unconventional warfare techniques.

"One of the most striking features of a Green Beret medic is the advanced manner in which he can be utilized so efficiently," he commented after observing the training program.

"It's such an advantage over what we had. I don't know of any place where medical aidmen get such good training."

Luce was sent into northern Burma in 1943 with the 101st OSS which was to gather intelligence and participate in guerrilla warfare operations against the Japanese.

His job was to provide medical treatment for the Burmese in an effort to win their confidence and obtain their support in combating the enemy—what the Green Berets are doing in Vietnam today.

While in Burma, Luce was head of a medical detachment comprised of a 50-bed field hospital and air evacuation squadron.

Comparing his work in Burma with that of the Special Forces, Luce commented. "The purpose is the same but with the training they receive and equipment available today, there is no doubt that the Green Berets do a more efficient job."

The Association Newsletter is always looking for up-dates from 101 Veterans. Please feel free to write in about your recent exploits. Include pictures! If any of you aren't confident with your writing abilities, feel free to send me a brief note telling me what you've been up to. We can exchange a few letters over several weeks and I will have enough to compose something on your behalf.

Brian Ferry

Taps

Marjorie Sandfort Luce

Meritorious OSU Master Gardener Passes Away

Marjorie Sandfort Luce passed away at the Health Center of the Rogue Valley Manor peacefully on March 25, 2010. She was born on February 4, 1925, in Humboldt, Neb., to parents, Gertrude Schuetz Sandfort and Carl H.N. Sandfort. Marjorie is survived by sisters, Lucile Lathrop, of Kearney, Neb., and Ethel Johnson (Don), of Lemon Grove, Calif.; as well as nieces, nephews and numerous cousins. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. James C. Luce; and sister, Dorothy Sandfort.

Marjorie graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University and Bryan Memorial Hospital as a registered medical technologist. She came to work at the Medford Clinic in 1950. Prior to this she worked at the University of Michigan in influenza and polio research. She was a lifetime member of the United Methodist Church and active volunteer community member, serving on the Jackson County Juvenile Board. Following the death of her husband in 1989, she became active in WinterSpring, helping others with their grief and loss.

Marje was a leader and also a mentor in the Oregon State University Extension Service Master Gardener program, serving in many capacities both at home and across the state and nation. She served as president of both the Jackson County Master Gardener Chapter and the statewide association and helped to bring the second national meeting of Master Gardeners to Oregon in 1989. She was instrumental in developing a Search For Excellence program to recognize excellence in education. She became a board member of the E.R. Jackman Foundation at OSU, helping to raise and manage funds for the OSU College of Ag Sciences.

Her husband, Jim, was a U.S. Navy veteran, surgeon, captain, and member of Detachment 101 of the OSS (pre CIA, the grandfathers of the Green Berets of Special Forces). Marje served as editor of their newsletter helping to keep the world-wide members of Detachment 101 connected.

A lover of cats, horticulture, travel, theater, and music, Marje was never afraid to take the leadership responsibility when asked, but also gave continual support and provided behind-the-scenes help wherever needed. She will be missed.

Marje joined Jim at rest in the Arlington National Cemetery on May 7, 2010. A celebration of life service was held at the Rogue Valley Manor on May 13. She suggested that in memoriam, a tree or flower could be planted to show our love for the earth.

Rene Julian Defourneaux Sr.

Réné Julian Défourneaux Sr. passed away on April 1, 2010 after living a brilliant life. He was born on April 29, 1921 in Lebetain, France. Réné may be gone, but his legend will live on for a very long time. He is survived by his wife, partner and best friend, Virginia Ruth Edds Defourneaux. His six children and nine grandchildren who live in six different states and two European countries also survive him. Family and friends all over the world will miss Réné.

While a young man, Réné emigrated to the United States with his mother, Emilie and his sister, Marcelle, in order for them to join his father, Ernest in New Jersey. Réné was very proud to have been naturalized as an American citizen and he was proud to serve in the Army's Office of Strategic Services during World War II. He devoted over twenty years of his life to the United States Army both in Europe parachuting behind the lines and in Southeast Asia, working with Ho Chi Minh to offer resistance help against communism in the region. He was definitely a member of the greatest generation. During Réné's lifetime, his vocations and avocations could be listed as: artist, bread baker extraordinaire, smuggler, tool and die maker, photographer, carpenter, spy, private detective, coin and stamp collector, importer/exporter, author, raconteur and public speaker. His stories are captivating and historical and he has written and published four books.

Réné loved technology and in the early 90's was among the first of his peers to have a computer and use an email address. To this day he has had his own website, www.defourneaux.com. In recent years he could be found using Skype on his computer to talk and see distantly located family members and friends.

Réné loved and enjoyed promoting his adopted city of Indianapolis. He was a dedicated Kiwanian and won many awards for perfect attendance and as a bell ringer for the Salvation Army. He was honored to be a member of the Indianapolis Literary Society. Among his experiences during his long and eventful life, he was named Honorary Mayor of Baton Rouge, Louisiana and an official Kentucky Colonel. He was also an active member of the All Souls Unitarian Church of Indianapolis. In lieu of flowers and in honor of Réné, donations may be made to the All Souls Unitarian Church Foundation, the Kiwanis of Indianapolis Abe Lincoln Scholarship Program, or Community Home Health Services Hospice. Interment will be in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. There was a memorial

service held at the All Souls Unitarian Church on East 56th Street in Indianapolis on Friday, April 16, 2010.

Thomas Baba

Thomas Baba was born on December 17, 1917. He died on February 10, 2010 at 10 AM at the hospital from Congestive-Heart Failure and Pneumonia. He is survived by wife, Yuriko Baba, Brother Haruo Baba and sister Yuriko Hayashikawa.

Mr. Baba volunteered for the 442nd RCT and during training, was selected by OSS and served in Burma, behind enemy lines with Lt. Oscar Milton (Australian) and two Burmese agents, spying and reporting Japanese military activities and movements. This information was relayed to the OSS-DETACHMENT 101 and Air Force for bombing. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. God Bless him. Received from Mrs. Yuriko Baba.

Anne Lee

Wife of Harrison Lee passed away March 4, 2009.

John J. Sipos Jr.

John J. Sipos Jr, 95 formerly of Bethlehem, died on Tuesday, June 8, 2010 at Gracedale in Nazareth, PA. John was born in Perth Amboy, NJ and was the son of the late John J. and Anna (Magyarics) Sipos and the widower of Bertha T. (Reybitz) Sipos who died in May of 2007. They celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in January of 2007.

John worked for the Bethlehem Steel Co. in the Electrical Department as a clerk retiring in 1976 after 30 years service. John served in the U.S. Navy during WW II with the OSS Detachment 101 in the CBI Theater. He was one of the first persons to cross the Golden Gate Bridge in May of 1937 as part of a U.S. Navy Honor Guard. He was a member of the VFW. John loved the outdoors and was an avid hiker.

John will be lovingly remembered by two daughters, Marilyn Patch and her husband Edward of Whitehall, PA and Joan Lankford and her husband Douglas of Atlanta, GA., two grandsons, Edward Patch, Jr. U.S. Navy, Sicily and John Patch of Reading, PA and a sister Margaret Marteny of Dawsonville, GA.

John is predeceased by his parents, wife, and two sisters Helen Sipos and Catherine Martin.

Friends and family may call on Saturday, July 3, 2010 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at St. Anne's Catholic Church, 450 Washington Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18017 followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 AM in the church.

Burial at Holy Saviour Cemetery following Mass.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Carmelite Sisters, 3551 Lanark Rd., Coopersburg, PA 18036-9324

OSS-101 Association Is Now On Facebook

This will give anyone who has an account (free to set up) the ability to upload their pictures for all to see. I have uploaded the 2008/2009 cruise reunion pictures. In addition, become a fan – this way when the page is updated, you will get an email stating so.

How to get to the OSS-101 page: Close to the top of the page, while in Facebook, there is a "search" space – just type in OSS-101 Association. It will take you to our page.

Dick and Irene Hamada at a ceremony honoring WWII Japanese-American veterans in Hawaii



Photo to left: In this photo taken March 28, 1943, by the media, I am on the third row left side with a black half circle.

Bottom photo: June 5, 2010. The surviving Vets are in white – taken at the Iolani Palace Gnd. I am on the 4th row right with the most leis. Irene standing next to me was cut out of the photo.



OSS-101 Association

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OSS Det. 101 WEB SITE

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