



# Fighter Group Legacy

Station F378 – Fowlmere, England

## NEWSLETTER

“The Lads from Fowlmere”



# Final Flight Reunion



On Oct 11th to the 14th in New Orleans, the 339th FG Association met for one final time before disbanding. It was one last chance to celebrate the fine men who served in the 339th Fighter group during World War II. Though we did not have any of the veterans who are still with us, we toasted them and told the stories that they passed on. New comers Walt Reed, son-in-law of John Holloway and Carol Moore joined us.



The Country Inn and Suites in Metairie La. Was the location of this final reunion. People started coming in on Thursday or Friday Oct. 10-11. Bill and Sharon Clark opened up a hospitality room where everyone met on Friday to renew acquaintances and discuss the weekend activities. The World War II museum on Saturday, dinner at the Bistro Orleans and a final breakfast on Monday were the major points for the weekend.



## WORLD WAR II MUSEUM

We took the shuttle to the museum for the 10AM show of *Beyond All Boundaries*, a 4D experience in the main theater. After the show everyone was able to wander about the museum's many buildings and exhibits. The many exhibits showcased different parts of the European and Pacific campaigns.

Several of us had lunch at the American Sector restaurant.



There were plenty of chances to purchase something from the numerous gift shops... my wife's choice:



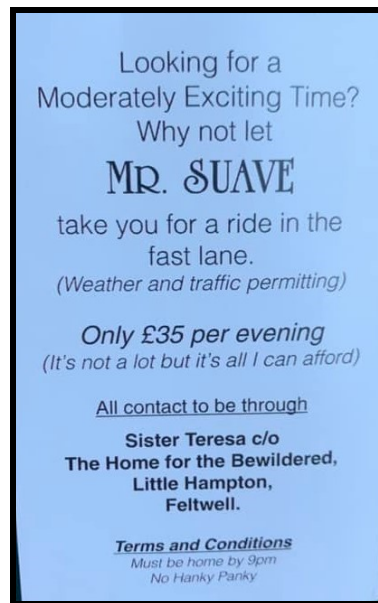
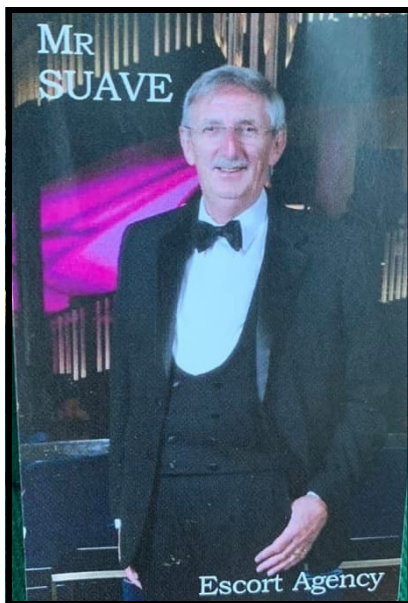
We boarded the shuttle at 2:30 and headed back to the hotel. We met back in the hospitality room. Part of Bill Clark's family had interests in the Texas A&M Alabama game.

# AND THEY CALL HIM MISTER SUAVE

Saturday afternoon we were honored by 3 ladies who visit the veterans that stay at the hotel. They are part of an organization of married military wives stationed at nearby bases. Joy, Brittney and Sarah came dressed in 1940's garb. Though we did not have a veteran for them to visit, they were willing to talk about this volunteer position.

This is Joy, in the blue and Sarah.

The ladies were charmed by Ray Ellis's accent. Then Ray brought out his business card...



Needless to say Ray's card was a must have item and Ray gave out the rest that he had as well as taking a lot of good natured ribbing and the brunt of many one

liners. Ray's droll statements made it hard not to be sure if he was serious or not. Then the conversation turned to the "little blue pill" which Ray made several comments that had everyone in stitches laughing. At some point Sarah asked to give Ray

A big kiss: signed sealed and delivered. Everyone laughed again. Ray then asked to even up the kisses with one on the other side: Mr Suave strikes again.



The Fowlmere Airfield Museum sent along hats , one per family, for the participants at the reunion:

Thanks Guys.. Great looking hat.





Tony and Frank looking very dapper in their hats

Thomas Roach



Nancy Roach



Hats were sent to the veterans.

Sunday morning and early afternoon, everyone was on their own. We later climbed on the hotel shuttle and went to the BISTRO ORLEANS restaurant, a Cajun / seafood restaurant with a good selection of American food.

On Monday was, of course, the goodbye breakfast.

Attendees:

Bill Clark, Sharon and his son and family

John, Nancy and Thomas Roach

Cathy and Terry VanTreeck

Tony Williams

Frank Knapp

Ray Ellis

Walt Reed and Carol Moore

Jim and Deb Rosati

Jack and Lori Verhil

Good Byes were said with hopes to meet somewhere down the road, and as Steve Ananian would end his newsletters:

# BLUE SKIES

From Across the Pond:

Mark Donagain sent photos of the drop tank they purchased for the museum:



Word from Tressa Marbach:

Veteran Bill Perry's wife Lova fractured her T-12 vertebrae. She is slowly healing. If you would like to send her a get well card, her address is:

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