The Marauder Thunder

A Reunion to Remember 2021 B-26 Marauder Historical Society

By: Roberta Dow Falkenbery

Barksdale Air Force Base is steep in history. At the start of World War II, Barksdale was the largest airfield in the United States and the B-26 Martin Marauder was a large part of its history.

We chose Barksdale AFB and the Shreveport/Bossier City area for this year's reunion because of our Marauder men and women. Forty crew members were trained there every month from 1942 through 1945. B-26 pilots would pick up their new planes and crews before heading overseas to fight in WW II.

We will be spending a day on the base learning the history of the B-26 Marauder shared with Barksdale AFB. Barksdale now home to the B-52 (Buff) MHS is honored to be involved with the naming of a B-52 "Flak Bait II" and will visit this plane as well on our tour.





We will be visiting the American Rose Association Memorial Gardens. Then we will float down the Red River on a river boat, learning the vast history of the area.

Please join us this year for a reunion that you won't forget. You will have the pleasure of visiting with our 1st generation men, and learn about their stories and experiences at Barksdale Air Force Base, and see where your father, grandfather or uncle trained in the past. We can't wait to see everyone there!

2021 II



2021 BARKSDALE REUNION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, 30 September -- Pre-Reunion optional dinner

No-host Early Arrivers' dinner at the local restaurant, Ralph & Kacoo's

Friday, 1 October -- Renewing Acquaintances Day

MHS Board of Directors Meeting Registration Desk Opens Hospitality/ MHS Store Opens Evening Welcome Reception at Hotel



2021 II



Saturday, 2 October -- Adventure Fun

American Rose Center Tour Riverboat Tour *Lunch on the go, provided by MHS* Hospitality/MHS Store reopens upon return to the hotel Book Signing - 2:45pm *Dinner on your Own* Happy Marauder Birthday – 7:30pm Cake Birthday games Airplane race Who's who game Fun for All!

Sunday, 3 October -- Education Day and Banquet

First-Generations Panel Post-Generations Panel Pat Rogers, David Pawski, Pat Robinson - Restoration Panel *Lunch in Hospitality Room. MHS Store open* Barksdale and Flak-Bait II video Jan Dewild – WWII Recovery Team Harold Jenson – How to archive Ron Bolesta – In My Father's Footsteps Amy Russ – Historian of the 307th





Banquet

Reception – 5:30pm Honor Guard Missing Man Ceremony Opening remarks by President and Reunion Chair Keynote Speaker by Lieutenant Colonel Bowman *Dinner* Raffle Silent Auction Hospitality Room open after banquet



Events

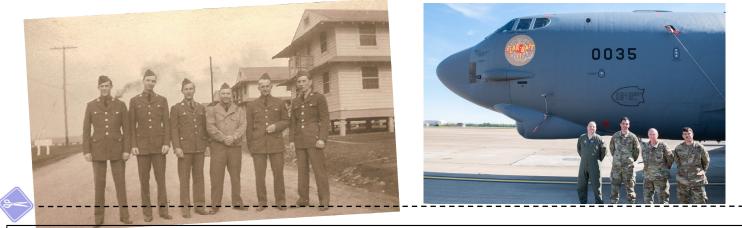
included

with full egistration page 3

<u>Monday, 4 October</u> -- Barksdale Air Force Base

Visiting Barksdale Air Force Base and Flak-bait II Museum tour and wreath presentation Visit Flak-Bait II, pilot and crew chief. *No-Host Lunch on Base* Parachute and hanging harness demonstration Hospitality/MHS Store reopens upon return to the hotel

To get on base at Barkdale we need a copy of every attendee's Drivers License or State Issue ID and the last 4 of your Social Security Number. If you choose not to submit these you are welcome to attend all Reunion activities EXCEPT the trip to Barsdale Air Force Base on Monday October 4th.



2021 Barksdale – B-26 MHS Reunion Registration Form – October 1 - 4, 2020

| Name: | | MHS Member? Y N | First or Nick Name for Badge: | |
|---------------------------|---------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Guest Name: | | MHS Member? Y N | | |
| Address, City, State, Zip | | | | |
| Phone | email | | | |
| Bomb Group | Bomb Squadron | Wheelchair or Special Assistance?YN(describe on separate page)Please bring necessary mobility assistance. | | |

Registration fee <u>includes</u>: full access to the Hospitality Suite, Welcome Reception, Lunch Saturday and Sunday, access to all scheduled Lectures and Panel Sessions, the Banquet, plus transportation and admissions during the reunion.

- PLEASE COMPLETE OTHER SIDE FOR REGISTRATION FEES -

page 4 The Marauder Thunder

Transportation and Hotel

The host hotel for the 2021 B-26 MHS Reunion is Lebossier Hotel & Event Center, located at 4000 Industrial Dr. Bossier City, LA. This hotel features a 24-hour fitness center, a snack bar/deli, and a 24-hour business center. Free WiFi and free self parking are also provided. Other amenities include a seasonal outdoor pool, free continental breakfast for all our MHS guests as well as flat-screen TVs in all rooms.

Rates are \$64+tax per night for single or double occupancy. Rates are available 28 September – 6 October *This special group rate expires September 16, 2021 so book early*!

Reservations are available by phone 318-747-0711 Let them know you are there for the B-26 Marauder Historical Society Reunion



United Airlines has graciously agreed to provide a discount on regular economy, business and 1st class fares. You can book your flight online by visiting <u>www.united.com/meetingtravel</u> and use promo offer code **ZK73**. Or you can book by phone at 800-426-1122 with your travel agent and reference the offer code above. Not only will you receive the discount, but MHS may also earn a United benefit.!

There is no Elevator. If you cannot use the stairs make sure to reserve a ground floor room.

| By registering you understand that there will be audio and | Registration | You | \$340 = \$ | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| video recording and are providing consent to the use of your | | Your Guest | \$340 = \$ | | | | |
| image/voice in these recordings. | Special Rate for WWII V | eterans | | | | | |
| (Must be <u>received</u> at MHS office by 9/15/2021 to receive this rate) | | | | | | | |
| <i>If you are not a member of the B-26 Marauder Historical Society add</i> \$20 and we will give you a membership for the remainder of 2021. This allows you to bring one guest at the reduced member rate. | | | | | | | |
| Attendees staying in our Lebossier Hotel & Event Center room block receive discounted registration! If you are not staying in the MHS block at least two nights, please add the non-host-hotel surcharge, @ \$50 = \$ | | | | | | | |
| Banquet-only tickets: Name #1 Name # (This option is for <u>non-registered</u> individuals who want to attend the | 2 he Banquet <u>only</u>) | | @ \$60 = \$ | | | | |
| Method of Payment | REUNION GR | AND TOTAL: | \$ | | | | |
| personal/business check Online registrat | Online registration available on our Website! | | | | | | |
| Fill out your entry form online & b | e entered into a drawing f ww.B-26MHS.org | for a B-26 MH | S logo item! | | | | |
| □ I am interested in joining in the no-host "early-arrivers" dinner o | n Thursday September 30th. | | | | | | |
| \Box I have submitted a copy of each attendee's State Issued ID and la | st 4 of their SSN so they may | be permitted at B | Barksdale AFB | | | | |
| Note: Regular and On-site registrations will be at higher rates and Single Event registration will be on a space-available basis. | | | | | | | |

REGISTRATION CANCELLATION POLICY

Prior to Aug 7 - Full Refund Aug 7 - Sep 15 - Refund less \$75 per registrant Sorry, no refunds after Sep 15