



Tuskegee Airman, Inc.

Buford A. Johnson Chapter Newsletter

September, 2016

September Meeting

For September, we are back at Altura Credit Union. We will meet at 10:00 AM sharp as usual. We will share the results of our fundraising at Celebration Park. Proceeds will go toward establishing a fund to help local qualified graduating seniors with educational expenses. Thank you to all who turned up at the park to help out at our "meeting". A special thanks to Maggie Arana who, though not a member, helped in many ways. We have some new pictures which we are offering as a part of our fundraising activities. School is back in session and soon we will be participating in Living History Days at local high schools. We will look forward to seeing all of you at our September meeting.

Buford A. Johnson Chapter Participates in the 2016 African American Family Reunion

On Saturday, August 20th, the Buford A. Johnson Chapter of the Tuskegee Airman set up a booth at the 2016 African American Family Reunion held at Celebration Park. Many of our members showed up to help out or to visit. Merchandising Officer Bill Richards had new items that garnered quite a bit of interest.



Left to right front row: DOTA Buford A. Johnson and Bill Richards

Back row left to right: Maggie Arana, Stephen White, Bishop Hodges, President Donald Fleming, and Edison Marshall. Thanks to Alvin Ward who spent time to select the replacement shade canopies.



Mr. Marshall took time to peruse Bishop Hodges Minister's Manual



Public Relations Officer Jackie Jempson takes a moment to relax. Mr. Jempson and Mr. Fleming also were a part of the team that hosted the event.

Feeling Better

Member, Mr. Ivan Berry reports that he is doing better. He was not feeling well for some time, prompting members to check on him. We are happy to say he is feeling much better now. We look forward to seeing him at meetings. Mr. Berry took a gold medal at the Veteran’s Administration’s Golden Age Games.

Historical Facts



On March 24, 1944, a fleet of P-51 Mustangs led by Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, commander of the Tuskegee Airmen, set out on the longest escort mission their crews would fly during World War II. The 43 fighters were there to help B-17 bombers run a gauntlet of over 1,600 miles into the heart of Hitler’s Germany and back. The bombers’ target, a massive Daimler-Benz tank factory in Berlin, was heavily defended by whatever forces the Luftwaffe could muster at that point in the war. The 25 aircraft protecting the plant included the battle tested Fw190 radial propeller fighter, the Me

163 “Komet” rocket-powered plane and the much more formidable Me 262, history’s first jetfighter and the forerunner of today’s modern fighters. While the American P-51s typically lagged behind the Me 163s and 262s, they could outmaneuver them at low speeds. The German planes also tended to run out of fuel more quickly than the Tuskegee Airmen’s Mustangs. Making the most of their limited advantages, pilots Charles Brantley, Earl Lane, and Roscoe Brown all shot down German jets over Berlin that day, earning the all-black 332nd Fighter group a Distinguished Unit citation. <http://www.history.com/news/the-tuskegee-airmen-5-fascinating-facts>



Mr. Johnson on the left