"Borsa Di Studio"

Is the Italian way of saying Scholarship

The following report is compiled from the Scholarship Committee report given by Chris Donaldson at the 1991 annual meeting, and correspondence from Professor Umberto Albanese.

The scholarship grants for the year 1990 took place April 19, 1991, in Cerignola, Italy.

The ceremony took place at 6:30 PM in the auditorium of the Commercial Technical Institute. No association members were present at the ceremony. Although an Italian tour of Association members had been in the works, it was cancelled due to the Gulf war. Scholarship grants of $500 each were given to four students. They are: (1) Maria Fondalini, (2) Costanza Masciaveo, (3) Giuseppe Acella, and (4) Marco Degemmis. This brings to a total of 17 scholarships awarded by the Association since the program began in 1986.

In anticipation of the scheduled Italian tour that was to have taken place to coincide with the awards ceremony, Professor Umberto Albanese prepared at his own initiative, a photographic exhibit consisting of 150 photographs of the American Army Air Force's activities during WWII at airfields in the vicinity of Cerignola.

The exhibit was installed in 25 standing glass display panels in the large hall of the Institute. A welcome sign in English and the American Flag flanked the presentation. The photographic presentation served as a visual history honoring the work and sacrifice of the American airmen. The exhibit was well received especially by the participants who had a first hand look at the war effort of the American Army Air Force that was under the command of the United States 15th Air Force.

Because of the growing importance of the scholarship program, the ceremony was attended by: (1) the Under Secretary of State for Education the Honorable Savino Melillo, (2) the Director of Education, Foggia district, (3) the Administrator of Education Cerignola, (4) the Headmaster of the Commercial Technical Institute, (5) Professor Umberto Albanese, the Administrator of the scholarship program and honorary member of the Association, (6) the press, and (7) families and guests of the honorees.

We continue to be grateful for the assistance of Professor Albanese of the Cerignola Technical Institute who, with his Associates, selects and recommends the Scholarship winners, and arranges for the media continued prominent mention of the event and of the 461st and 484th Bomb Group Association.

The Scholarship Fund, from its outset, has been a "No-Load Fund" and all contributions are dedicated to the scholarship themselves. Administrative expenses of the committee are borne by the members.

The Letters from the four honorees

Members & Friends
461st & 484th Bomb Groups
Association
Dear Sirs:

I'm very glad you have formed an association to keep up the memory of so many friends and soldiers that were killed during World War Two.

You've grown fond of the country and our fellow-townsmen, in which, I think during that time you found affection and solidarity (while your dear ones and your homeland were far away). I appreciate very much this year to be part of the prize-winners.

I'll bear the "reason" in mind binded to this prize-giving that shall give me the possibility to pursue my studies.

Many thanks,
Costanza Masciaveo

Cerignola
Dear Sirs,
I am a student of the 4th class in the High School of Commerce of Cerignola.
I want to express my deepest thanks to this Association that out of a remarkable generosity has decided to grant me a scholarship for the year 1990.

I very much appreciate such a meaningful award, which will give me the possibility of going on with my studies in great confidence.

I want to give voice to the feelings of all the Cerignola community, by my addressing to you the expression of wide esteem, hoping that our friendly relations will continue.

Thanks again.

MARCO DEGEMMIS
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Marco Degemmis