



ENDLESHAM EMORIES

34TH BOMB GROUP H



Dear Fellow Members of the 34th Bomb Group:

Yes that time has again rolled around. Time for the June Newsletter. It seems as if it was only yesterday that I sent out the March newsletter.

This time of the year always brings back memories of the 34th B.G. to me. I joined the 34th in May 1943 and we started overseas in April 1944. Our First Combat mission was flown May 23rd 1944. Our last, the 170th mission was flown, April 20th 1945. Several food and P.O.W. missions were flown in the following months. As you know the 34th B.G. came home in June 1945.

As you can see by the invitation, with this letter, I have been in touch with both Gen Creer and Gen LeBailly, two of our former Commanding Officers. Both of them will be at the reunion of the 34th B.G. and the 8th AF in St Paul Mn. Oct 15th thru 18th 1981. They are both looking forward to seeing their old friends and comrades of the 34th B.G. at the reunion. Gen. LeBailly will be the speaker for the 34th B.G. banquet which will be held on Friday Nite Oct 16th. So Make your reservations early, for you do not want to miss meeting our two Commanding Officers and the others from the 34th B.G. who will be at the reunion.

Malcolm and Tillie Corum, drove up from El Paso Tx, to visit my wife and me and to go to St Paul with us to attend the meeting, concerning the 8th AF reunion, to be held there Oct 15-18 1981. This was to be a briefing of the things to expect at the reunion. They were great company for my wife and me both going and coming.

We met Bruce Sothern at the Hotel where the meeting was to be held, Bruce was our representative at the meeting.

The Hotels where the reunion will be held, are the Raddison St Paul and the Raddison Plaza. Both Hotels are close to each other with a overhead walk way between them. The Raddison St Paul will have 450 rooms available to us and the Raddison Plaza will have 225 rooms. The Raddison St Paul is located downtown close to the Convention Center and close to the Mississippi River and from the Terrace, one can see the river winding its way thru the edges of the City.

We met Murray Fein, of Rambling Tours, who has charge of planning the reunion, inside of the Raddison St Paul, where the Headquarters of the reunion will be. I might say, that of the 13 people, representing various Groups of the 8th AF., there were 5 from the 34th B.G. Malcolm and Tillie Corum, Bruce Sothern, our representative, and my wife Hannah and I. Our wives were just as interested in the events, of the reunion, as we were.

I will not go into the events of the reunion but just give a few things which might not be in the brochure, which is enclosed in this letter. Thursday morning will be the breakfast for all Unit Contacts, things will be explained to all the Unit Contacts at this meeting. Each large group will be given two rooms to be used by the Group, One on the Mezzanine Floor will be the Hospitality Room, it will be opened at 12:00 on Thursday. The other will be the Banquet Room and this will be on the Lower Level of the Hotel. (There are both elevators and escalators leading from the Mezzanine to the Lower Level). We can have the Hospitality Room from Thursday noon until Sat. at 5:00 in the evening. There will be cash bars, run by the Hotel but one can set up their own bar in the Hospitality room or bring ones own drink to the room. We do not have to buy the bottles, if one wants one, from the Hotel, as we have in the past.

There will be parking available at the Hotel Garages but it will cost so much an hour or day. There is a parking place close by, run by the city and one can park there. It is said to be patrolled by the City. One can ride the bus back to the Hotel or back to the parking place for a very nominal fee as compared to the cost of the Hotel parking. Several of you have trailers or campers and have asked about the facilities for parking them over night. I am not too sure of the facilities for campers but it was said that one could park at the Fair Grounds and ride the bus over to the Hotel. The Fair grounds are not too far away from the Hotels.

I will not go into any of the program, this is explained in the brochure. One thing Murray did promise, the food and service will be much better at St Paul than it was at Orlando.

Some of you have been wondering about the seating at the Sat Nite banquet. This will be taken care of. Each Bomb Group will be given certain tables to sit at and as you receive your tickets, after you arrive and register, you will note on the back of the Banquet ticket the seat and table you will be given. This will be on the tickets of those registered for reservations by Sept 16th. If you want to sit at a table with your B.G. I urge you to get your reservations in as early as possible. The late reservations will just have to trust to luck as to where they will sit. If you do think you will be going to the reunion, send in your reservation as early as possible you can always cancel, if you do not get to attend.

Part of the registration fee which you pay will be coming back to each Bomb Group. So please register each person who will be there. We get back \$3.00 per person. Part of the rest goes to the Memorial Fund of the 8th AFHS.

Some of you have asked about Hotel and Motels close to the reunion. There is one called the Best Western Inn, but it is not connected to the reunion. If one can not get reservations at the Reunion Hotels, one might try this one. But if you are planning on going to the reunion, I repeat send in your reservations early. Those of you who live close by in St Paul and Minneapolis and other cities close and would like to attend the reunion but stay at your own home, can write for another brochure which gives the prices for each event.

We did not stay at the Hotel for the Cocktail Party, given by the 8th AFHS Board Members for the Representatives of the various Groups who were at the meeting, but went back to our Motel where we were to meet some of our 34th B.G. people for dinner. For dinner on Saturday Nite, there were four teen of us: John and Lavonne Lyons, Fred and Hazel Berguland, Paul and Betty Schommer, Lyle and Catherine Rhein, Bruce and Marge Sothern. Malcolm and Tillie Corum and Hannah and myself. Of course you know what we talked about, The 34th B.G. and the upcoming reunion. After dinner we all went to our Motel Rooms and talked to the wee hours in the morning. I want to thank all of you who were at the dinner for the hospitality you showed us. We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the reunion this fall.

On Sat morning before the meeting we met Jim Hanson and his wife, Bonnie for breakfast. As you know Jim is the nephew of Oscar Hanson who went down on the Mersburg raid. Jim had been trying to find out something about Oscar and his Crew since he was little. Between the two of us and the help of some of the others of the Group, we have found all but one of the survivors of Oscar's Crew. We had a real interesting talk with Jim and Bonnie. Jim is compiling some data on the 34th B.G. and you may hear from him about it. He may call or write to you about something concerning the Group, so give Jim all the help you can. Jim and his brother will be at the reunion in St Paul.

After we came back home, Tillie and Malcolm stayed for a few days and we went to the AF Museum at Dayton. This pleased Malcolm, for he had flown in many of the planes like those on exhibit at Dayton. While at the Museum we met George Crump, 34th B.G. Medic, who is writing a book about the 34th. George is real interested in writing this book so if he asks you for help, do so. George it was nice of you to take off work and meets us at the Museum.

While Malcolm and Tillie were here we visited the 500 Race Track Museum in Indianapolis. We also visited the War Memorials in Downtown Indianapolis. These are some sites to see. I think that outside Washington D.C, no one City has as many Memorials to their service men as Indianapolis Ind. While Malcolm was here he helped me stamp the envelopes for the June newsletter. Every once in awhile he would say " isn't that about all"? When you stamp 800 envelopes with 3 rubber stamps it takes awhile. At the time of writing this I will have one stamp to go. It was real nice having you visit us, Malcolm and Tillie. We will see you this fall at the reunion.

We had a visit from Charles and Carrie Smith, of Pontiac Mi. Charles was on the flight line in the 7th Sqd. Charles and Carrie came over to the house one day when he was visiting his brother in Anderson. We had a great time talking about all the ones we knew in the 34th B.G. Charles could not believe that the "Pete" Gray I had talked about was the one he was on the same crew with, in the 7th Sqd. I showed Charles a picture of "Pete", which George Ritchie had sent me and lo and behold Charles was in the picture also. We write back and forth now and we get a laugh out of some of the letters. Charles told all about getting on the SS Wakefield to go across and the storm we had going over. He also said that if he was a General, he still Would've had to pull K.P. It seemed as if he was always on K.P. Once when he arrived at a new Base, his name was already on the Board to pull K.P. and he wasn't even signed in yet. We love your letters Charles and Carrie keep them up. I gave Charles a copy of the list I have of the men from MI. and Charles has been sending me addresses of some of the 34th whom he has found. Thank a lot Charles.

Early this spring, my wife and I went over into Ohio several times to find some of our men from the 34th B.G. On one visit we went to see John Meyer, who was on the Line in the 18th Sqd. Johnny and I were together a lot and we have kept in touch all these years, but a couple. We always have a real good time when they come to Anderson or we go to visit them in Ohio.

Some of you have been wondering how I do all the typing, well I do not do it all, I have some help from Rosemary Fryer of El Paso Tx. Rosemary is the sister of Austin Fryer, 391 Pilot, who went down with his crew over enemy territory and was one of those who was killed. If any of you remember Austin, you might drop Rosemary a line. Her address is on our membership list I am sure she would be glad to hear from you. Rosemary has been doing the typing for some of the stories and for the name and address labels. Thanks a million Rosemary. If you were closer to Anderson, I could keep you busy most of the time.

While we were on the way to St Paul, we were supposed to stop and see Gerald & Wanda Pine at the only Waunakee Wi in the world. Just a couple of days before we left, Wanda called and said, Gerry had gone to the Hospital to have Heart Surgery. He had been called early. Since, we have been home, I have called Gerald and have heard from him and he is getting along good. He is up walking everyday and getting his strength back. He is still planning on coming to the reunion this fall. Gerald has helped me find some of our men by writing 60 or more letter to addresses of our men. Thanks a lot Gerald and Wanda. Keep on improving and we will see you this fall.

As you know I keep in touch with Henry and Ruth Jurgens, for they have been a great help in finding several of our men. Henry and I are wondering if any of you men from the 391st know where Nelson Keyser is. The last address I had, was sent to me by Henry Tepper. It was from Fontana Ca. Nelson stopped writing to Henry several years ago. I have called and written several letter to Fontana but no one seem to know him.

Some of you men in N.Y. try to find Robert Ballesteros. 1/Sgt of the 18th Sqd. He stayed over when we came home and we have not been able to locate him as yet.

There is another one we would like to locate. Clarence E. Dick, formerly of Baltimore MD. He has moved from there to somewhere in Pa. Some of you in Pa. go thru your phone books and see if you can find him. These men can help us locate some more of our friends from the 34th B.G.

By the way, you men from the 391st Sqd., one of your Crew Chiefs, Clarence Bradford. is in the Leader Nursing Center Room 224 B, W. Buttonwood St W. Reading Pa. 19611. I am sure he would be glad to hear from some of you who knew him. Clarence has been in the Nursing Home for quite sometime now. He is confined to a wheel chair but may not be able to answer you. He knows everyone and can talk. I have learned of this thru his Sister-in-law and brother-in law, who keep in touch with Clarence. They are Julian and Margaret Straka of 411 Morrison Rd. Reading Pa. 19601. I hope you receive a lot of letters, Clarence. Hang in there and I will stop and see you when I come thru there, sometime in June.

Have all of you who want the 34th History book sent for it yet? It should be ready, to send out by the time you receive this letter. If not and you want the book. Write to The Battery Press Inc. Box 3107, Uptown Station, Nashville. Tenn 37219. There will be a limited Edition of this book reprinted and when they are gone, there will be no more. This could be a good gift to give to your Library, for I do not think any Library has them.

Some of you men, who came home by boat, must have the shipping orders which shipped you home. These could have the addresses of some of our men on them or from the number of the shipping order we might be able to find the order, at the Historical Record Center at Montgomery, Ala. This would greatly help us locate some of our missing men. If you should find one have a copy made and send it to me.

Here is a report on the Memorial to be erected at Dayton by the 8th AFHS. I am on the Committee to erect the Memorial at Dayton and I have enjoyed working with the rest of the committee. I will report the progress in future editions of the Newsletter.

EIGHTH AF MEMORIAL

Dear Sirs,

Calvin B. Mattson, President of the 8th Air Force Historical Society, has announced the acceptance of plans to construct an 8th Air Force Memorial on the grounds of the Air Force Museum at Dayton, Ohio.

This memorial will be a stone and bronze monument that will commemorate the part that 300,000 airmen played in the 8th AF in England in WWII. The stone will be dedicated to the nearly 50,000 who paid the supreme sacrifice. It is expected that

the memorial will be completed and ready for a suitable dedication ceremony by April or May 1982.

Col. Richard L. Upstrom, Director of the Air Force Museum, has approved plans to site the 8th AF Memorial at the entranceway to a new WWII airbase replica to be constructed at the southwest corner of the AF Museum building on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

The 8th Air Force Historical Society, a non-profit veterans organization, formed in 1975, has over 7,700 members and is now growing at a rate of nearly 2,400 new members

a year. Though the organization consists mostly of WWII veterans, it was established to represent all 8th AF War Veterans and therefore welcomes all 8th AF veterans who served during U.S. wartime periods.

Donations to the 8th AF Memorial Fund may be sent to 8th AFHS, c/o Edward J. Creeden, Treasurer, 247 Wayne Ave., River Edge, NJ 07661.

Please have a reunion notice placed in your home town Newspaper. similar to the one enclosed.

Some of you may wonder about the weather in St Paul in Oct. Last year the weather was very good. It is said at that time of the year the mean Temp. during the day is 60 degrees. Of course it get a little cooler at night. Do not let that worry you for you will not be out too much at night.

Now a message from the President of the 34th Bomb Group. A meeting of all Officers and Board members is called for 3:00 on Thursday afternoon Oct 15th. There will also be a membership meeting of the Group on Friday afternoon at 2:30.

The Confederate Air Force will stage an Airshow at the Bakalar Airport Columbus Ind July 11-12. This is your chance to see several WW II Aircraft which will be on display and flown during the Airshow.

I will see you all in St Paul in Oct. Until then remember, some people are like chickens, some make a killing, some just cackle and crow and others just lay eggs.

CHEERS

YOUR 34th BOMB GROUP UNIT CONTACT

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Holcomb, Verbal L. 391
1145 East 37th St
San Bernardino, Ca. 92404

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Everett, Wa, 98204

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Maquoketa, Iowa 52060

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Lansdale Pa. 19446

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Ilion, N.Y. 13357

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Black Lick Ohio 43004

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LeaderNrsng Center 224B
425 W. Buttonwood St
W Reading Pa. 19611

Rossow, Blair L. 391
118 Butler
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Wiltze, Claude
Jefferson Iowa 50129

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3121 Brunswick St
Dubuque Iowa 52001.

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Framington Mi. 48024

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Westland Mi. 48184

Head, Francis S.
18924 Oak Dr
Detroit Mi. 48221

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42104 Gladwin
Northville Mi. 48167

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Ft Wayne, Ind 46827

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Rockway Beach Queens.
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Upper St Clair Pa. 15241

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2216 Larkspur Rd.
Birmingham, Al. 35226

Klusmeyer, Emmet E.
1415 No 4th St
Manitowac, Wi 54220

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Upper St Clair Pa. 15241

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303 Millet Ave
Mesa, Az. 85202

Luscher, Raymond
23-50 SW.
Wyoming Mi. 49509

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18 Robinette Ct.
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Weese, Russell 4
2995 Easthaven South
Columbus Ohio 43227

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137 Abbey St
Massapequa, N.Y. 11762

Lux, Charles W. 391
611-B Main St
Palmyra, Pa. 17078

Hoban, Robert G.
22120 Brackett St
Excelsior, MN. 55311

Hill, Allen P. 4
RR #1
Janesville, Wi. 53545

Dolsey, Kenneth 391
Box 50 Rte I 54615
Black River Falls. Wi.

Otto, Morris D.
413 Finch Dr.
Satellite Beach, Fla 329

Mislak, Frank
34 w Akard St
Ludlow Ma. 01056

Yates, Frank B.
27 Hickory Rd.
Gulford, Ct. 06347

Grinrod, Ray E.18th
5 Carriage Dr
Lincoln, R.I. 02865

Lovitt, Sidney
14 Black Creek Lane
Warwick R.I. 02888

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21 Cross Hill Rd.
Newton, Mass. 02159

Zeldes, Benjamin
113 Vincent Dr
Newington, Ct 06111

Richards, Robert S
230 Pleasant St.
Birmingham Ala. 48009

Hildebrand, Thomas H 4
Rt #1 Box 165
Rembert S.C. 29128

Jerow, Gordon 18
3119 Kinsington Dr
Avondale Ests Ga. 30002

Rockwell, Willard 7
617 E 2nd St
W. Liberty, Iowa 52776

Mortensen, Frank 7
5128 30th Ave
Woodside N.Y. 11377

Boland, James 18
41-06 Denman St 11373
Elm Hurst, Queens. N.Y.

Stathis, George
154 Beach 121 st
Rockway Beach N.Y. 11694

Cotar, Henry
87-44 125 st
Richmond Hts. N.Y. 11418

Schonthaler, Kalman 7
1139 E 30th St
Erie Pa. 16504

Borquin Paul 18
20 Dogwood Lane
Pleasantville, N.Y. 15057

Peters, Donald J.
3518 Buckeye
Terre Haute, Ind 47805

Schreiber, Julian 4
195 Lindberg Ave 11572
Ocean Side L.I. NY.

Waag Bernard W. 4
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Hawkins, Jefferson R. 391
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Costello, Hugo D 7
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Madison Wi. 53704

Dillsworth, Robeert
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Toledo Ohio

Brown, Toulmin H 7
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Pass Christian Ms. 39571

Buona, Ralph 7
Manager Mfg. Eng.
American Meter Div 16512
920 N. Payne Erie, Pa

Gill Joseph E.
Rt
Shelburn. Ind 47879

From the collection of:

Joseph K Marks

Pilot, 4th Squadron, Crew #12, April - Aug 1944

TAPS

General John K Gerhart
John T Calamaris 7th Sqd Crew Chief.
David Belcher
John Scholle
LeRoy Kastler 7th Sqd Crew Chief
Bernard Knudson
Marvin Zick

Address Changes or corrections

Dwight Bell to 1706 Glenwood Dr Des Moines Iowa 50312
Correct Stephen Peters address to 7858 Normandie
Robert Alves add #508 to address
George Crump address to 525 Gerogetown Rd Apt 25 Elyria, Ohio
Correct Cyril Laurie address to 3029 Wheaton Way Bremmerton, Ws.
Malcolm Corum's Z.C. should be 79924
Mrs Kenneth Amerman (Frances) Change to 234 Village Dr Apt #10 Mishawaka, Ind

You will note that we have found 78 more of men since the March list went out. Keep this list with the others lists. I have sent. Some of you may not have all the membership list, maybe it is because you did not send for them, when I wrote to you the first time.

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