

VOLUME XVI

NUMBER 3

SEPTEMBER 1992

# ENDLESHAM EMORIES

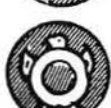
34TH BOMB GROUP H

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**Come Join Us  
For Fun And  
Fellowship**



**REUNION '92  
Las Vegas, NV  
Sept.14-17, '92**

## OBSERVATIONS

Phew!! This past year has passed by so rapidly I just don't know where it went. It seems only yesterday I was putting out the last reunion's reports and here we are, going to another one. Not that I'm complaining, mind you. We always do enjoy the reunions. It's just that the old adage about time slipping away faster the older you get is certainly coming true with every year.

I mentioned in one of my recent "Observations" that, maybe, it's time to find a replacement for me on this job. Unfortunately, I've had a bad back for many years and, as time goes by, it's getting worse. The problem is the handling of generally over 1,000 copies of the newsletter from the printer to my home and, then, taking anywhere from 8 to 12 large mail sacks to the post office for mailing. However, to date we've had no volunteers to take over this job. Consequently, I'm going to the next board of directors meeting with a solution which requires some expense of money in order for me to continue putting out the Mendlesham Memories.

Most of you should receive this issue before our reunion dates of Sept. 14th to 17th. If you haven't already made plans to join us, do so now. I'm sure you'll be able to find hotel space somewhere and the reunion committee always has contingency plans to add late-comers to the list of attendees.

This issue includes the 1992 Roster of all our known comrades as well as those who've passed on. Please, check your address listing and, if there is an error, notify us as soon as possible. We still get far too many returns because of incorrect addresses or participants moving without notifying us. Please be advised that our bulk-mailing permit does not include any forwarding postage so, if the address is wrong or you have moved, there is little chance that you will receive your copy of the newsletter.

Rose and I are looking forward to this reunion. We've been to Las Vegas several times and have enjoyed it without exception. There is so much to do with your free time. If you are not a gambler there are tours to Hoover Dam, Lake Mead, etc., as well as many items of interest on the strip. Most of the larger casinos have stage shows of all types to suit all tastes. Others have many activities other than gambling, right inside their compounds. There is no need for anyone to be bored with whatever free time there is allotted.

We're looking forward to seeing each and every one of you in Las Vegas. Try not to disappoint us. Better yet, don't disappoint yourselves by not attending.

Eli Baldea  
Editor

## SCHOLARSHIPS!

We have been informed, as we go to press, by Cleveland Romero that the winners of the 34th Bomb Group scholarships were:

**1st Place** - \$1000.00 goes to Christopher Fandry of Goodhue, MN. sponsored by Marvin A. Syverson

**2nd Place** - \$500.00 goes to Richard Bullis of Verdi, NV. sponsored by Darrell Bullis.

May they put them to good use!!!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow members of the 34th Bomb Group:

This June 1st our U.S. Air Force reorganized two commands. The following were activated: Air Combat Command, Langley AFB, and Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB. The Air Force Chief of Staff, General Merrill A. McPeak, ordered the official activation. This change in command structure brings about a new look and mission for our Air Force. Our history for the "Air Service", "Air Corps.", and, finally, "Air Force" will see major changes in missions. Our time has passed with our duty to a great cause and, finally, the "Valor to Victory". My thoughts regarding this bit of information is for our members to be informed about this major change in our Air Force. This information can be found in the Air Force Magazine's July, '92 issue. The title of this article is "Unfurling The New Flags".

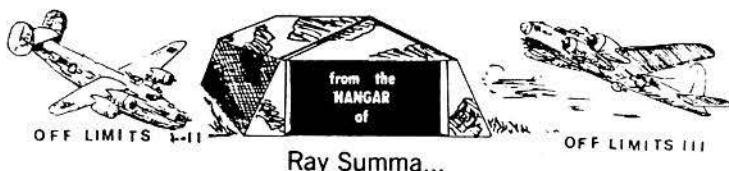
As we read this issue of Mendlesham Memories, we will be progressing towards our annual reunion. There will be serious times for our business meetings. We will be making decisions for the betterment of our Association.

I hope we can all look forward to an enjoyable time. Please remember that we all are members of the greatest Bomb Group to have carried the colors of our country. Let us support our "Scholarship Program" and submit applications to our chairman, Cleveland Romero. Our grandchildren and young people need our support. They are our future for this country. Let us all be found in Las Vegas this September.

Regards  
Fred Schoch



Bill Sherman, Ollie Weedon & Max Benjamin



## TREASURER'S REPORT

As of July 15, 1992

### CASH IN BANK ACCOUNTS:

Money Market Account	\$9,361.96
Checking Account	\$17.74
Life Memb. Savings Acct.	\$614.41
Brit. Mem. Acct. (Aug. 14, 1991)	\$1,284.52
CD Life Memb. 77213 - 6.2% 1/1/94	\$1,500.00
CD Life Memb 206425 6.25% 4/9/97	\$19,748.93
CD Gen. Fund 206426 6.25% 4/9/97	\$10,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$42,527.56</b>

### FUNDS:

Scholarship Fund	\$3,309.42
Memorial Fund	\$2,926.89
Life Membership Fund	\$21,863.34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,099.65</b>

### ANTICIPATED EXPENSES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR:

August, 1992 - Scholarships	\$1,500.00
September Mendlesham Memories	\$2,000.00
December Mendlesham Memories	\$2,500.00
General Expense, Postage, Etc.	\$800.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,800.00</b>

Hal Province, Treasurer

Hello from Indiana:

Our spring and summer weather has been unusual. Had the furnace on for a few days in June and now it is in the 90's here in Anderson with the air conditioner going full blast. With my health problems we have not been traveling very much this year.

Sure hope many of you are planning to attend the reunion at Las Vegas. We sent in our reservations as soon as we received the newsletter. Hope a lot of you guys did the same.

I've received several letters from men from different countries and sent them on to Eli for the newsletter. I hope some of you might like to answer some of them.

We've received several newspaper clippings from Mollie and Jesse Gardner telling about the reunion back at Mendlesham. Thanks a lot, Mollie. I do appreciate them very much and have read and re-read them. I wish I could have been there. From the report I received from Ian Hawkins, the 34th had a wonderful time while they were there at Mendlesham.

I would like to thank all of you who sent me clippings about the death of Gen. LeBailly, especially Tony Lauby and Henry Jurgens. Tony called Henry as soon as he heard of Ben's death and Henry immediately called me and I was able to follow up and notify a lot of people. Lauby sent me a record of LeBailly's life and it was very interesting. He led a colorful life when in the U.S.A.F. and he will be missed.

Have you noticed the "TAPS" list is getting longer and longer each time? If you know of anyone who has passed on and is not on the "TAPS" list, please send us the name. Thankfully, we are still getting a few "NEWLY FOUNDs".

We'll see you all at Las Vegas, I hope!

RAY L. SUMMA  
Unit Contact

## REUNION '92

Sept. 13 - 17, 1992

Las Vegas, NV.

## HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

Time is again closing in on registration time. Be sure you get your reservation in at the Gold Coast soon, as the cut-off date is 13 August. Bob Wright is also waiting to get you on the list.

The registrations are coming in at a slower pace than normal. Let us have a good turnout. It's great to meet our friends again and it keeps our happy family intact.

SEE YOU IN LAS VEGAS!!

The Reunion Committee  
Gerald Pine, Chairman



James Bartels?? with bunny



# 1992 REUNION IN ENGLAND

Members of the 34th B.G. rendezvoused at Heathrow Airport on May 14th, boarded our bus and headed for the Holiday Inn at Cambridge, our base of operations for five days. Our tour guide was Tina D'Amato, quite a looker and, besides, she didn't smoke cigars. Peter and Sylvia Gaskin, F.O.T.E., and Bill Browne joined us for our tour. We had dinner, followed by our briefing with Ron Blake and Ian Hawkins, both of F.O.T.E., and Dina. We then introduced ourselves as some of our group were on their first England reunion tour. We also found out that we had four ball turret gunners with us.

Friday, May 15th, was an open day to recuperate from the effects of our air and bus travels. It didn't take long for the group to become acclimated. Some walked and some used the bus, but all held up well from the effects of "Sticker Shock". That evening we had dinner with the group that takes care of our Memorial. Those in attendance were Ron and Jean Blake, Margaret and Russell Brundish, Mrs Gladys Capon, Mrs. Vera Peters, Rosemary Peters, Mrs. Doreen Scruby with son, Michael, and Mr. Len Smith. Gerald and Lorraine Stedman were unable to attend and we were sad to hear that Mrs. Joan Stedman had passed away. We did meet the Stedmans at the Memorial Service. We met with Violet Abbott, Mrs. Beaumont and Mrs. Matilda Webb Sunday at church and lunch. We had a social hour before dinner and it helped us to get to know our friends better. Gifts of the 1992 American Silver Eagles were presented.

Saturday, May 16th, was another busy day with services at the 34th Memorial in Mendlesham. When we arrived at the memorial we found a tag hanging on one of the wreath supports from Carroll and Sylvia Forister. They were there on May 14th and were on their way to Sylvia's mother's funeral. The memorial service was conducted by Canon David G. Woodward and wreaths were laid by Marvin Jalving and Bob Lampey. We also had a fly past of WWII trainers. Some of the hardier persons climbed into the restored WWII Army vehicles and traveled to the squadron areas. The rest of us boarded the bus and visited the old main hanger and then traveled the perimeter. We were pleasantly surprised to meet Sheila Jackson-Linsley, who served with the Red Cross at Mendlesham in 1944. She was on duty the night of June 7, 1944, the night that the ME-410 came back in our formation. My only regret was that we did not have a recorder to get her stories about the base. We invited Shelia to join us for our bus tour around Mendlesham and we did enjoy her company. We had lunch at the FLEECE and boarded the bus for Wetheringsett. We were met by Mrs. Elizabeth Aldred, Chairman of the Parish Council, and townspeople, and joined them in coffee, tea and cookies. We toured the area by bus, walked down some of the lanes and saw peacocks running loose in the area. We bid Wetheringsett adieu and headed for the 390th Control Tower Museum. The tower has had the exterior refinished and two quonset huts have been added for a PX and exhibits - also a refreshments counter with tables and chairs. We made it back to the hotel in time for a 7:00 p.m. dinner - We didn't want to miss a meal. We were joined by Bob DesJardins and sons,

Robert and Danny, who were in England for a few days.

Sunday, May 17th, was another busy day. We attended church services at St. Mary The Virgin Church in Mendlesham. Many from the 34th used to attend services there and we have continued to do so at our reunions. The church dates back to 1075 A.D. Fr. Philip Gray conducted services and remembered our departed brothers in prayers. Fr. Gray gave us permission to visit the Armoury over the North Porch. The Armoury was established in 1593 to store armour for the defense of the church against the attacks of Philip II of Spain, and is the most complete of any church in England. We decided, from the size of the armour, that they would make good ball turret gunners, and they could have worn chutes. We were shown the "Book Of Remembrance" that is used for prayers on the anniversaries of airmen of the 34th who lost their lives. The "Book Of Remembrance" has to be seen to be appreciated, because my description wouldn't do it justice. The book is bound in red Morocco leather, gold-tooled - the inside is lined Moire Silk - the sheets are goatskin parchment and the names are shown in Baskerville Capitol Letters in black ink. The only problem is that not all the names are listed in the book. **YOU CAN SUPPLY THE NAMES AND DATES - SEND THEM TO RAY SUMMA OR MYSELF AND WE WILL FORWARD THEM.** Pictures of the book will be shown at our reunion in Las Vegas.

We then traveled to the Mendlesham Community Centre where we had a buffet lunch with 125 people in attendance. We were met by Mr. Ray Fenning of the Mendlesham Parish Council. Also present was a member of Parliament, Michael Lord with his wife, Jenny. It was

Continued on page 5



Walter Fleming, Robert Filip, Anthony Ryerson, Albert Gervais, Charles Burnett, J.J. Gallagher, M.M. Terrell, Herb Nash, Sy Tull & James Spencer

# 1992 REUNION IN ENGLAND

Continued from page 4

called a lunch but we all came away "stuffed". We had to break away as we had a scheduled arrival time at the Madingly Cemetery. The ceremonies were very impressive and included a flyover with the "Missing Man Formation" by the 48th Fighter Wing, RAF, Lakenheath. Claude Conklin presented the floral decoration for the 34th at the "Presentation of Floral Decorations". There were 86 presentations made. The afternoon ended with a flyover by a B-17 from Duxford and a return to our hotel for another great dinner.

Monday, May 18th, was our tour of Duxford where many photos were taken. Our guide, Peter Gaskin, had the B-17, Mary Alice, open for us. Two of our ball turret gunners managed to get into the ball turret - Jalving and Lampey. We visited all types of aircraft, exhibits, etc. and walked a lot of miles. We were glad to sit down and wait for departure time. We took one last trip around Madingly and Cambridge. Some of our group rode the "Double Decker" bus around Cambridge topside while the rest rode downstairs. Our five days in Cambridge was just about over. The Holiday Inn hotel rooms and food were great. The personnel were exceptional. **THIS WAS THE BEST HOTEL WE HAD IN FIVE TRIPS BACK TO ENGLAND.**

Tuesday, May 19th, after our usual full English breakfast, we left for London, stopping on the way at R.A.F. Hendon. Peter Gaskin was our guide and was able to point out the features of the various aircraft. Then Peter and Sylvia left us and said they would try to see us in London. The rest of that day and the next two days we went our separate ways after our half-day tour of London. Some of the sights that we heard about: The Chelsea Flower Show; a visit to the Cricket Club; a visit with R.A.F. personnel at their Club; traveling on the "Underground"; visiting theatres and many other famous places; and shopping at Harrods. There was also a "rumor" that some tried to locate places in Picadilly.

On Thursday evening, May 21st, we had one final get-together. It started in the lobby of the TARA Hotel and ended in the Benedicts Wine Bar. Peter and Sylvia Gaskin and Sheila joined us. Our English friends had to leave us as they had a long trip back to their homes. We had to sleep fast as most of us had to leave the hotel by 8:00 a.m. for our trip home. The Hansens and the Holcombs, being adventurous souls, stayed another week to ride the rails and visit castles, etc.

OUR THANKS TO ALL who helped to make our reunion enjoyable and successful - TAMARAC TRAVEL - Ron Blake - Ian Hawkins - Peter and Sylvia Gaskin - Sheila Linsley - the people of Mendlesham and Wetheringsett - the people who take care of our Memorial - John Conroy and his staff at the Holiday Inn - and the members of the 34th B.G. that attended the reunion.

Harold C. Rutka



Standing L. to R.: Abe Firestone, James Sain, Hugh Goerner, Don Stufflebeam, Tony Scimeca. Kneeling L. to R.: Lloyd Shilkett, Edward Durban, Floyd Richmond & Harry Hoffman.





Willard S. Atkin with "Goombah" in background

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## ODE TO THE 34TH BOMB GROUP,

### U.S. 8TH A.F.

by Sheila Jackson-Linsley

Can it be nearly 50 years ago  
That you came on this Suffolk scene  
To help us in our hour of need  
To stop Adolf Hitler's dream?

I watched you arrive in '44  
So young, so fresh and keen  
I watched you leave in '45,  
So changed after all you had seen.

Will we ever 'meet again'  
Like it says in the words of the song?  
Well, if we do, one thing's for sure,  
I'll try to come along -

To listen again to your tales of back home  
Of the girls that you left over there -  
To look at your pictures or make you a loan  
When you find that your wallets are bare!

Meanwhile I'll ask you to raise your glass  
and drink a toast with me -  
To all the boys who didn't come back  
But live in our memory.

"To the Valour to Victory Boys of the 34th Bomb Group"  
God Bless 'em all!!

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## RETURN TO ENGLAND, 1992

from article in East Anglian Daily  
Times sent in by Mollie Gardner

Mendlesham airfield, which was home to the 34th Heavy Bombardment Group from April, 1944 until June, 1945, flying more than 170 missions, is now an industrial estate surrounded by fields of corn, but the area still evoked many memories for the returning veterans.

At Mendlesham on Saturday morning 28 members of the 34th toured their old airfield and saw a display of 2nd World War military vehicles. The veterans also met with residents from local villages, including members of the Stedman family, on whose land a memorial to the B17 bomber crews stands.

A service of remembrance conducted by rector of Wetheringsett, Canon David Woodward, was held at the memorial and two 2nd WW Steerman training aircraft flew low over the area in salute. Wreaths were laid by two of the veterans, Marvin Jalving and Bob Lampey. On Saturday afternoon they visited Wetheringsett for tea at the village hall.

Sunday they attended the morning service at Mendlesham Parish Church where a leather-bound book of remembrance, made by Maldwyn Williams of Mendlesham, and containing the names of Americans who failed to return to the airfield from bombing missions, was dedicated. Afterwards the Americans were entertained for lunch at the community centre.

The visit to Mendlesham was organized by former Staff Sgt. Harold Rutka as part of the celebrations to mark the arrival of American airmen in England 50 years ago. Mr. Rutka said that, although the area has changed considerably since 1945, it held many memories and he particularly thanked the ladies who regularly placed flowers at the memorial to the group on the edge of the airfield.



John Krebs & Jerry Mueller  
1239 QMC

## Don't Forget To Send In Your Dues

Mail \$7.50 to:

Harold Province  
111 Province Lane

Carriere, MS 39426

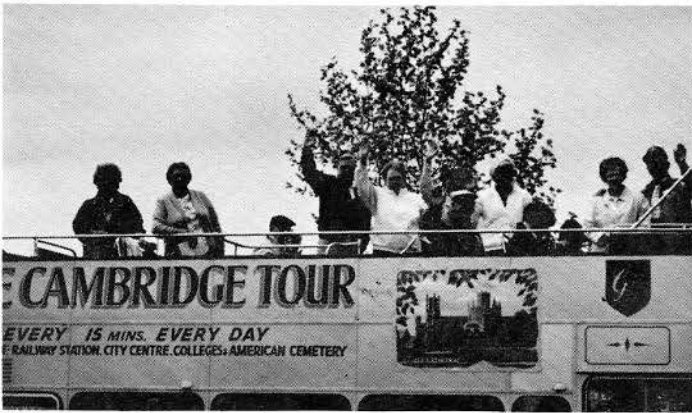
# 1992 REUNION IN ENGLAND



Group sightseeing at 390th Control Tower Museum



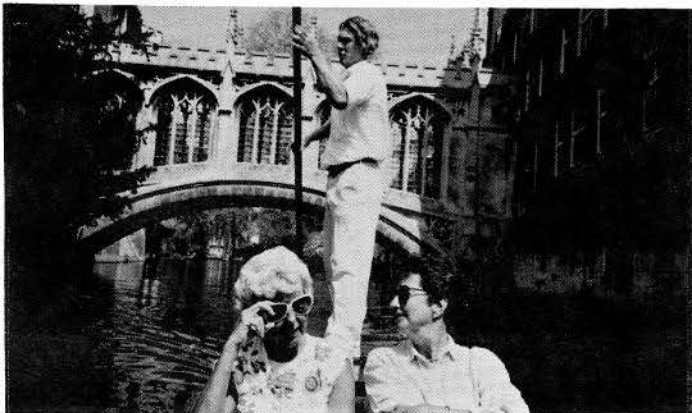
Group boarding bus for trip to Madingly



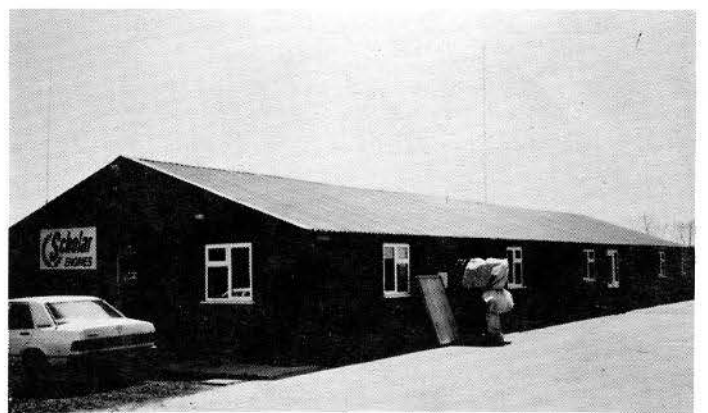
Double Decker Tour in Cambridge



Lunch at Mendlesham



Shirley Martin & Lois Jalving punting on the CAM



7th Sqn. Day Room today



Bill Brown, Shirley Martin & Peter Gaskin in Cambridge



Alfred Bernardo & Sheila Linsley (Red Cross Girl)



# 1992 REUNION IN ENGLAND



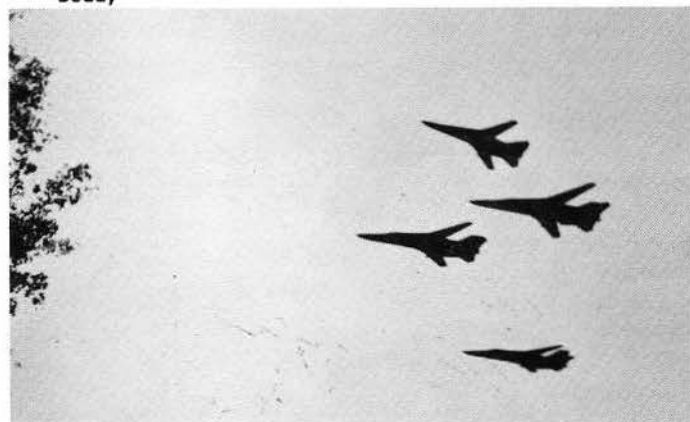
Bob Lampey and Marvin Jalving at Wreath Presentation - 34th Memorial



Marv Jalving, Bob Desjardins & Randy Martin, Crew of "01' Buddy"



Marvin Jalving in ball turret and Bob Lampey



Jet flyover at Madingly



Alfred & Doris Bernardo



View of Madingly Cemetery



Gen & Harold Rutka



Ron & Jean Blake of F.O.T.E.



# 1992 REUNION IN ENGLAND



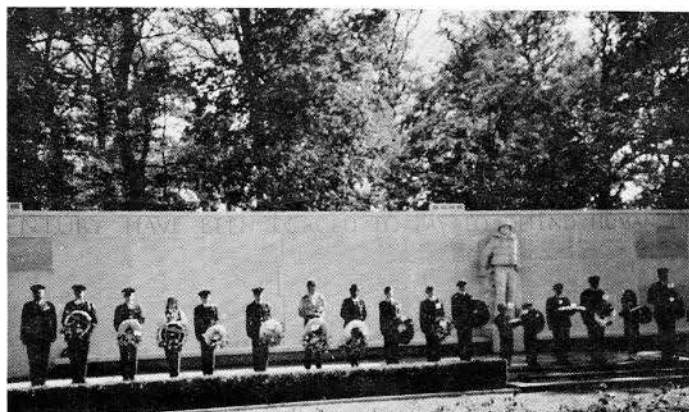
Bill Browne, Gerald Stedmand & Harold Rutka



Verbal & Betty Holcomb in Cambridge



Gen Rutka, Sheila Linsley, Jean Hanson & Sylvia Gaskin



Wreath layers at Madingly Cemetery



Harris & Edith Nesbitt



Ianthia and Eddie Jones



Randy & Shirley Martin holding wreath at American Cemetery at Madingly



Michael & Doreen Scruby

# 1992 REUNION IN ENGLAND



Russell & Margaret Brundish



One of the English ladies with Peter & Sylvia Gaskin



Betty Holcomb & Ambers Hanson in Cambridge



Doreen & Millicent Scruby at Mendlesham Memorial



Wall art in 7th Sqdn. Day Room



Jean Blake with Ianthia Jones



Shirley Martin, Betty Lampey & Edith Nesbitt



Kay Henry, Gen. & Claude Conklin & Alfred Bernardo at airport on way home.





WILLIAM "PETE" GRAY - Virginia Beach, VA.

Really enjoyed the June issue of "MM", especially the very touching article about Jean Root concerning her relationship with Junius Cobb. This was an unusual story as it had no relation with the big 34th B.G. nor the conflict going on at that time. Yet, most of us who were in England during that time can relate to it.

Haven't as yet decided on making the reunion at Las Vegas. I'll have to wait and see what kind of physical shape I'm in at that time. I walk several miles each day and enjoy the wonderful scenery around my neighborhood. All the young gals are wearing shorts now, and since my eyesight is still very good, I don't miss much. Have to be careful, though. If I look at them too intently there is a chance I may stumble and fall down again. As my doctor told me - at my age girl-watching can be hazardous to my health!

\*\*\*\*\*

IRVING LEVY - Phoenix, AZ.

It has been a while since I contacted anyone from the 34th. Losing your mate and friend after 46 years has taken some time to overcome even though it doesn't show every day.

I keep busy working part-time two or three times a week which keeps me out of the house and gives me a chance to dress up and shave. My two children and four grandchildren live in Tucson and I see them quite often. I do plan to attend the Las Vegas reunion.

\*\*\*\*\*

GORDON BREEDING - Alpen, MI.

I had a 1963 Artic CAT snowmobile given to me this last winter. Now I am in the process of taking it apart and restoring this machine. I belong to the Antique Snowmobile Club of America. A lot of people have never seen a machine like this. I've been told that only about 4 of them were built in 1963.

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VIRGILINE (JAMES) SPENCER - Carsonville, MI.

Really enjoy your "Memories". But just have not taken the time to send in our dues. Not your fault, you are all doing a good job. Know it takes money to keep going so am sending in our life membership. My husband is nicknamed "Chip".

\*\*\*\*\*

WILLIAM SHERMAN - Miami, FL.

I've always had an interest in the 34th Bomb Group, although I was not really a part of it. I was in the 1239 QM attached to the group. They asked me if I would like to join the bomb group as a mechanic. I refused saying, since I did not finish school, it did not seem proper to work on planes. I should have taken them up on it, I suspect. The QM was filled with old timers and no rank was available. I made corporal after so many got in trouble with V.D.

\*\*\*\*\*

VERNON ATWATER - Cottonwood, AZ.

A note today with the information that Merle Hartman, one of the crew of "Bambi", has passed on May 6th after a long illness. I wanted this to get to you just in case Mrs. Hartman overlooks the fact at this time in her grief.

\*\*\*\*\*

WILLARD S. ATKIN - Frazier Park, CA.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and commend you for an excellent piece of work. I am enclosing 3 photos you may or may not be able to use in our publication.

\*\*\*\*\*

ALFRED BERNARDO - New Cumberland, PA.

Doris and I really enjoyed our trip to England. The people there treated us as though we were really someone special. The memorial ceremony at Cambridge was very emotional. After the services they had a B-17 fly over to salute us.

We met a lady who said she worked with the Red Cross at our base. She told me she would love to hear from anyone who flew on the plane "Untamed Shrew", which was so-called in her honor. Her address is Sheila M. Linsley, 10 Gunters Mead, Esher, Surrey. KT10 9HJ, England. I don't know what her maiden name was.

\*\*\*\*\*



# Notes From Our Friends

Continued from page 11

**MOLLIE (JESSE) GARDNER - Bagley, IA.**

We have enjoyed all the stories and news items in the MM. We've attended only two reunions - and wondered why we never attended more. Believe me, no one is a stranger going to the 34th B.G. Reunions. All one has to say is "Hi" to the first one they meet.

Due to Jesse's health we can't make this year's reunion, but know those who do go, and get a little wild (Ha-Ha), will enjoy it.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ROBERT ALVES - North Olmstead, OH.**

I continue to receive my copies of M.M. which are always interesting to me. I was so sorry to learn, in this last issue, about the death of Eugene B. LeBailly. In my opinion he was the nicest officer I came into contact with during my three years in the service. I remember so well he obtained the use of a British Mosquito bomber. He loved the performance of this plane so much he had a difficult time returning it to the hangar. My heart felt sympathy goes out to his wife and family.

\*\*\*\*\*

**A.J.Z. FIRESTONE - Hampton, VA.**

I can't tell you how excited I was to receive my first issue of "Mendlesham Memories". For years I have been trying to make contact with some of my buddies and the crew of the "Knockout Dropper" of the 4th Squadron.

Looking through the roster I was saddened to find that my pilot, Jim Sain, had passed away. I did, however, find my co-pilot, Don Stufflebeam, and called him. Forty-seven years had passed and I never thought that I would see or talk to any of my old buddies again. I am planning to attend the convention in Las Vegas and look forward to sharing some of the old times with the guys.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MARY (CHARLES) WITWER - Tallmadge, OH.**

I'm sorry to inform you that Charles died of cancer on June 24th, 1992. We had visited the base in England in the summer of 1990. Charles was so happy visiting there.

\*\*\*\*\*



L. to R.: Wilmer Shinn, Roy Thompson, Tony Artuso, Paul Buss and Eugene Coombs



Standing L. to R.: Joseph Schaus, Paul Baber, John Blair, Robert Mason. Kneeling L. to R.: Willard Atkin, Frank Besnier, Malcolm Corum & Charles Lux

**GLORIA (RALPH) MURPHY - Port Richey, FL.**

I'm writing to let you know that Ralph passed away on Palm Sunday, April 12th. He had been coughing a lot all winter and had failed a stress test. He was scheduled for a catheterization the following Thursday. We had been to church, sang in the choir as usual, and had eaten our meal. He got up from the table and said that he didn't feel right, and died in that instant. We are so glad that he didn't have to suffer, but we were not ready to give him up willingly.

He spent most of his time doing for our church. He was chairman of the finance committee, served on the Day Care Board, and was a Trustee, along with singing in the choir. He was always proud of his Air Force experiences and enjoyed the reunions when we could make them. We had been together since I was 15 and he was 18. We had a lot of good years together.

We had been to visit the Florida National Cemetery a couple of times with friends and decided that we would be buried there. It is a beautiful place. As the service was completing an unplanned fly-by was overhead from McDill AFB.

\*\*\*\*\*

**WALLACE BRAUKS - Afton, MO.**

Several months ago Doris and I had an enjoyable visit with Wallace and Jean Schildman at their home in Jacksonville, IL., which is 80 miles from our home. We had a fine dinner and they showed us around the town. Wallace and I had a long overdue conversation. He is the "Champion" model airplane maker. Last year, at our reunion in Louisville, KY., he donated a number of hand-carved model airplanes that were sold in the P.X. The proceeds were donated to the 34th B.G. Wallace and I were both members of the 7th Sqdn., both P.O.W.'s in the same camp in Germany, and both of us survived the 89 day forced march towards the end of the war. We had a lot to talk about and a lot of catching up to do. We believe that 34th B.G. veterans should get together whenever possible.



## NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

From Mr. Eric Smith of England we have the following:  
**"JUST FOR YOU!"** - Recall memories of your service in England with this specially commissioned poem, **"THE RETURN OF THE G.I."**, personally written in fine calligraphy in color - no prints - on good quality paper. The finished size makes it ideal for framing. If interested contact: Eric Smith, Hillcroft, 5 High Road, Epping, Essex, England.

\*\*\*\*\*

From Wally Brauks we have the following:

While going through some papers I came across **SPECIAL ORDER 54** of 22 March '44 at Blythe, California. This order listed 113 enlisted men of the 7th Bomb Sqdn. to be put on aerial status. I noticed that there are quite a number of names on the list who are members of the 34th B.G. Assn. I will bring copies of this order to Las Vegas for those who want one.

\*\*\*\*\*

From William Shove we have the following:

The Eighth Air Force Historical Society is planning their 20th annual reunion in San Diego, CA. in 1994. It is planned for the resort hotel, The Town and Country Hotel, from Tuesday, 4th October to Sunday, 9th October, 1994. Although it is still only 1992, it's not too early to begin planning attending this reunion.

Editor's note: We're informed that information packages are forthcoming to this desk for reporting in the December issue.



"Bombs Away" at St. Genevieve Lesgasny



## ROSE'S CORNER

### GRITS??

Because I hadn't tasted grits before, I wasn't too sure about this article and recipe sent to me last year by Pete Gray. Lately I've tried grits mixed with cheese and a little butter and I loved it! I do believe that you will consider making the dish once you've had it this way. Simple - unflavored grits are very non-descript and bland - so this recipe, using butterscotch-flavored chips will make it very interesting. I'm willing to try it - how about you? If you have some wild recipes for me, bring them along to Las Vegas and we will discuss them. Otherwise, please send them to me. Here's Pete article:

In case you missed it, the World Grits Festival concluded last week in St George, S.C. The festival featured contests for grits eating, grits rolling (participants rolled in a tub full of grits) and grits grinding. As usual grits recipes were concocted. One of the more unusual was the creation of Nicole Bulley of Columbia, S.C., for creamy butterscotch grits. This is the recipe:

### CREAMY BUTTERSCOTCH GRITS

4 cups water  
 1 cup non-fat dry milk  
 1 cup Martha White Jim Dandy Quick Grits  
 1 teaspoon salt (optional)  
 3/4 cup butterscotch-flavored chips

Combine water and non-fat dry milk in large saucepan. Blend well. Bring to a boil. Stir in grits, salt and butterscotch-flavored chips. Return to boil. Cover and reduce heat to low. Cook 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Serve warm. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

We are looking forward to meeting all of you again and it will be soon because time is flying - at least that's the way I feel.

With love and wishing you a safe and fun-filled trip!

Rose

\*\*\*\*\*

## MOVING?????

Don't jeopardize receiving your next copy of **MEMDLESHAM MEMORIES** by NOT telling us of your **NEW ADDRESS!** The Postal Service **WON'T** forward copies of **MEMORIES!** We need your **NEW ADDRESS!** Please advise **HAL PROVINCE, 111 PROVINCE LANE, CARRIERE, MISS. 39426** of your **NEW ADDRESS!**



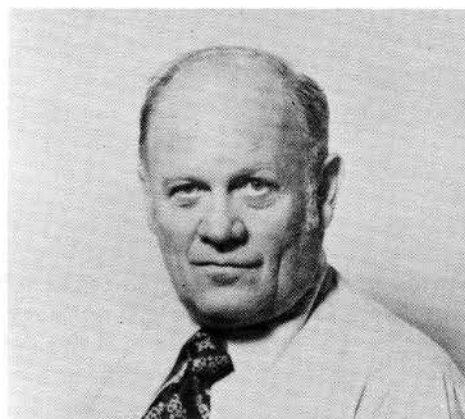
## *Then and Now*



### JOHN V. FOWLER



1946

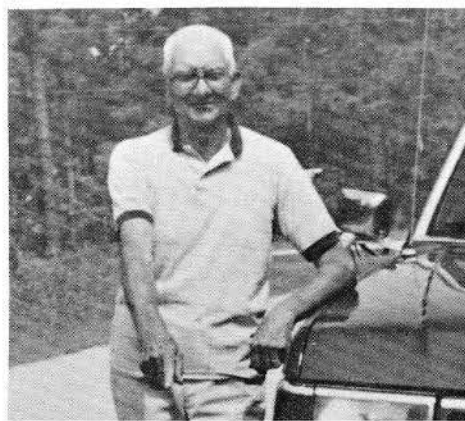


1985

### BILL GOMBOS



1944



1990

### CREW OF NEAR SIGHTED ROBIN



1944



1991



# Memories

## REFLECTIONS

By Walt Sturdivan

While on a recent trip to southern California I stopped by Blythe Field. At the airport office I met a nice young lady who was very interested in the history of the air base. Following directions from her we looked around.

The perimeter track still exists, although it is in a sad state of disrepair due to time and lack of attention. There is one large hanger still in use and another deserted building which was probably the dispensary. There are a lot of foundations left which formerly supported buildings around the headquarters area.

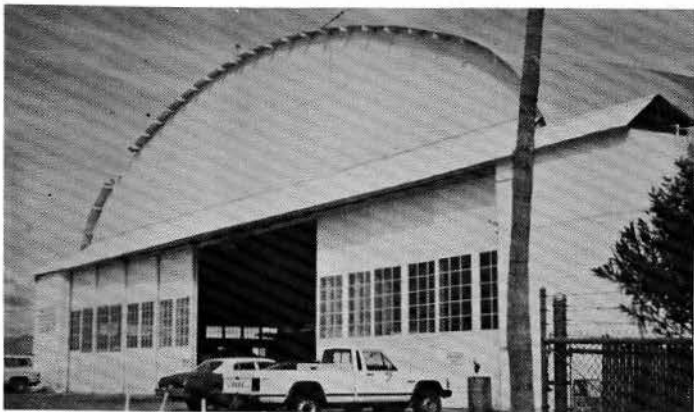
We were able to locate the swimming pool over on the southwest corner of the field. There is now a large truck stop nearby. The large pool, partially filled with dirt and debris, with sides lined with graffiti, once offered its cool, clear water to sun-parched young airmen and support troops who were preparing to carry the war to Hitler and his ilk.

I sat for awhile at the south end of the runway and looked toward the craggy mountains far to the north. Even yet it is easy to remember that on March 30, 1944, Capt. Russell "Swede" Lindstrom swung a new B-24 onto that runway for the last time and pushed the throttles forward. He was heading for Mendlesham. As radio operator, sitting behind the co-pilot, I watched the landing gear extend as the strong Davis wing lifted the "Liberator" upward. Just as the wheels cleared the runway and started to fold inside the wings a friendly voice from the control tower spoke into our headsets with a message for Capt. Lindstrom: "Give 'em hell, Swede!".

\*\*\*\*\*



Blythe A.F.B. swimming pool in 1992



Blythe A.F.B. Hangar still in use

## THEY ALSO SERVE WHO WATCH AND WAIT

Borrowed from the Capitol Region 8th A.F.

Veterans Group newsletter

With heads turned eastward to scan the skies and ears attuned and straining to hear the drone of distant engines, the coverall-clad mechanics, armorers, supply specialists, cooks, medics and entire station support personnel loiter anxiously to learn the fate of their very own combat crew and Flying Fortress.

"Here they come!" sounds the cry as tiny specks begin to appear against the lowering sky. 1,2,3,4,5....13,14,15.... "My God, is that all?" Six out of twenty-one ships missing. Low squadron begins to peel off for landing, with the third ship firing Red-Red flares, indicating the presence of wounded aboard. The meat wagon shifts into high gear, tracking the ship down the runway onto the taxi perimeter where the medics quickly attend to the wounded being carefully handed down by the remaining combat crew.

From the desolate moping of several ground crews it becomes quite obvious as to what ships failed to return. However, in some cases, waiting pays off. Failure to return doesn't always mean that the ship is completely lost. It is our intention here to describe the major part played by the ground personnel in the aerial war against Germany. Charles Kiley, staff writer for the Stars and Stripes, published on Dec. 23, 1943 the following:

To most people the U.S. Army Air Force means dashing, carefree fliers with Congressional Medals of Honor, Silver Stars, DFC's, and Air Medals; handsome heroes in silk mufflers with a way with women; young, nerveless Frank Merriwells who take part in spectacular air battles, fight through hordes of enemy fighters that "came in at nine o'clock and blew up after I gave him a burst at 500 yards."

True, that may be part of an exaggerated picture. But the Air Force also means something else. To fliers, whose chances to safely complete an operational mission depends as much as anything on the men who service their ships, the Air Force means their unspectacular ground crews whose contributions to successful aerial combat are as unsung as an unwritten tune.

Still, it took another war to make even the fliers reopen their eyes to the fact that able ground crews go hand in glove with able airmen. Pick out a combat crew with a crack record and behind it you usually find a highly capable and efficient ground crew.

Peace-time condescension of the flier to the "paddle-foot" on the ground has disappeared because in war time fliers soon learn how much the grease-monkeys mean to them.

There is little reward for ground crews. Their tour of operations is for the duration plus like most of the American Sad Sacks. There is no glory in their work. Nobody hands out medals for guarding bombers by night and grooming them by day. When their ships take off they don't even know where they are going. But they can tell how long the trip will be from the amount of gas in the tanks.

From the time the ground crews are alerted, sometimes as much as 16 to 17 hours before takeoff, the groundlings are with the ship getting everything in perfect order...changing spark plugs, checking superchargers, servicing hydraulic systems, carefully testing 225 feet of oxygen lines with soap and water for leaks, preflighting

Continued on page 16

# Memories

Continued from page 15

engines...a hundred and one other things.

They line the runway during takeoff, staying to the last to be certain their "queens" got a flying start on their mission. Then, bereft, they turn towards their huts for a few hours until the ships are due back.

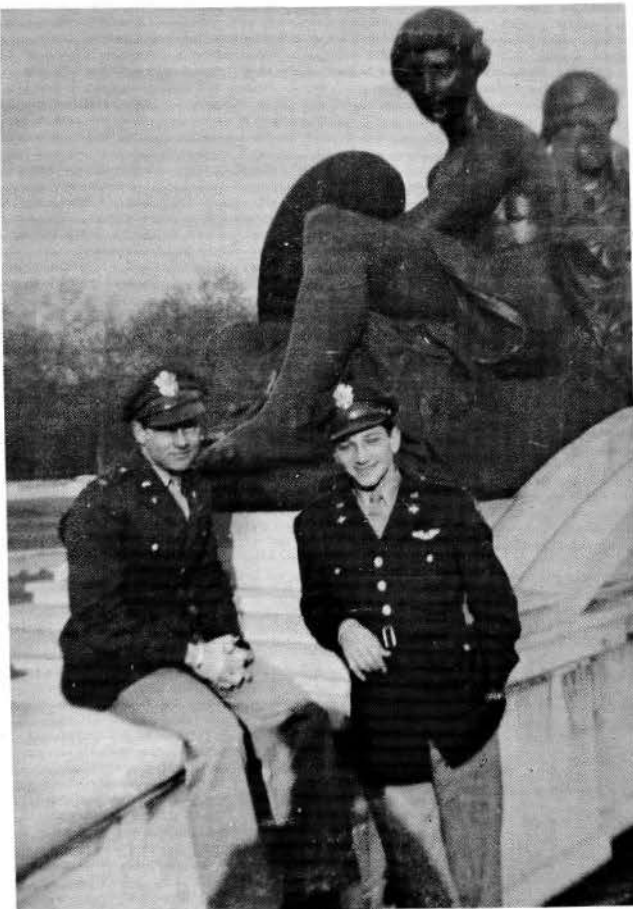
You have to be part of a ground crew to know what it is to lose a ship. To some it merely means a different plane and a new crew - "too bad, they were nice guys." But to many the loss is greater than that. They may have worked on the bomber for months, since it came off the assembly line. It's reasonable to believe that men can become attached to planes as well as to dogs and women.

The work done by ground crews doesn't always stop with servicing of planes according to the book. They are responsible for numerous improvements made on combat planes. It may only be a modified gun mount, but it will help the gunners do better shooting, and is a small but valuable contribution to the progress of their Air Force.

Ground crews may not be so handsome with complexions dry and red from long, cold, sleepless hours spent grooming planes. They may not be glamorous without wings on their greasy coveralls but they are as much a part of the Air Force entrusted with tremendously important jobs, as any flier in combat.

A faulty mechanism carelessly overlooked on the ground can send a Fortress, Liberator, Marauder, Thunderbolt, or Lightning to its doom over enemy territory as surely as a battery of flak guns or 20mm shells from Nazi fighters. Ask one who flies.

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John L. Jones and Gilbert Friedlander in front of Buckingham Palace

## THE PRICE HAS BEEN PAID borrowed from Georgia Chapter, 8AFHS

Shortly after Pearl Harbor, the highest level of United States and British governments and their military advisors determined that the major US effort to save Europe would be through heavy bombardment of the German homeland. With that mission in mind the Eighth Air Force was formed and began operations in 1942. The Eighth became the largest air force in the history of aviation and was locked in the most dangerous air battle in aviation history. This event will never be replicated. The cost in casualties of the brave young men who were never turned back by enemy action was awesome. Of an estimated 200,000 combat crew people, 26,000 were killed; 28,000 became POW's; and 9,000 bombers were shot down by enemy fire. With the inclusion of the ground crews, 350,000 Americans served with the eighth during WWII.

No other United States military component has such a high percentage of losses. The 8th A.F. lost 7.42% of its personnel to combat deaths. The Eighth's losses far overshadow the losses of 2.94% for the Marines, .88% for the Navy and 2.08% for the Army. This is not intended to minimize the loss of any service man but only to underscore the risk taken by flying daylight missions over occupied Europe. The Eighth is still an active part of the United States military establishment as it has been since January 28, 1942. Over a million men and women have served with the Eighth since its formation.

The cost of lives in combat, the involvement in four major wars, and 39 years on alert during the Cold War deserve special recognition. That recognition can be no less than a home for the Mighty Eighth in the United States of America. More than 10 million blood relatives reside in the United States with the knowledge that the price has already been paid for such an institution. The price was the life of their son, husband, brother, or father. The cost of construction pales in comparison to the price that has already been paid.

The Heritage Center will be a memorial and monument to the men who did not return from war and the survivors that continued to make their contribution in both the public and private sectors of our country. No greater legacy can they leave than a Heritage Center with the specific mission of nurturing and educating the youth of America. Youth education programs begun at an early age would help to guide and lead them to become productive citizens whereby their individual strength will add to the strength of our nation.

### JUST A REGULAR GUY

by William "Pete" Gray

I was quite sorry to hear of the passing of Gen. LeBailly. He and I arrived at Blythe at about the same time - early spring of 1943. He was a captain at that time and I was just a PFC, if I remember rightly. But my best recollection of him was probably at the 34th's reunion in St. Paul, Minnesota, back about 1981, I believe.

On the last morning of the reunion (Sunday) about 7 or 8 of us from the 7th Sqdn. met in the lobby of the hotel. We had made plans to eat breakfast together. As we entered the dining room we found ourselves right in line behind LeBailly who happened to be alone. We invited him to eat with us and he graciously consented.

After we were seated he was quite surprised to find

Continued on page 17



## MEMORIES

Continued from page 16

out we were all airplane mechanics from the 7th Sqdn. He commented on what a fine job we had done during our stay at Mendlesham and wished he could do something to show his appreciation. Then, looking around the room, he saw that none of us had our coffee as yet and he immediately got up and took a large coffee pot from the waitress and went around the table pouring each of us a cupful. We all got quite a kick out of that - a 3-Star general waiting on a bunch of sergeants. He said it was quite an honor for him as well.

I don't think you would find such a thing happening in any other branch of the services. Only the Air Force has such a spirit of good will and camaraderie among its members.

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## INFORMATION, PLEASE!

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(We urge anyone who can help to write to these correspondents)

DOROTHY CARTER, 224 South 12th, Salina, KS. 67401

I am looking for information regarding the 7th Sqdn., 34th B.G., to which my brother was assigned. He was a pilot of a B-17 Flying Fortress and was shot down over Kiel, Germany on January 14, 1945. I thought somewhere there would be someone who knew him and his activities, as well as those of the 34th Bomb Group.

\*\*\*\*\*

MISS P. HOWELL, "Brackley", 15 Flr. Park, Ashill, Nr. Thetford, Norfolk, England, IP257DF

In January, 1945 I met F/O John J. Ciagne of the 18th Bomb Sqdn. stationed at Mendlesham. We had a brief, loving and happy few weeks before he was shot down and sadly killed on March 4th, 1945. His home was in Flint, Michigan. I would like to hear from anyone who might have a photo of him or his squadron. I have tried to obtain one from several sources but have had no luck.

\*\*\*\*\*

ROGER L. RAGAN, 10 Edgewood Dr., Medina, NY 14103

My father was Glen T. Ragan, a crewmember on the B-17 "RIDIN HI" in the 7th Sqdn. of the 34th B.G. He passed away several years ago and I am attempting to find out as much as I can about his service while in the 8th A.F. He rarely talked to me about it and I have only limited information. I hope someone can help me in my efforts.

\*\*\*\*\*

THEA D.W. CHILDS, 210 Lowery Avenue, Lehigh Acres, FL. 33936

I am writing a book on my husband's experiences in the 8th A.F., initially with the 445th B.G. and then with the 34th B.G. from July, 1944 thru October, 1944. Even though this was a very short time, I still hope to find some contacts in the 4th Sqdn. who could give me some background on that period. My husband's name was Richard D. Childs.

He left the 34th after finishing his 30 missions and went to the Ferry Command, serving in the C.B.I. theater. Again, if anyone served with him in that area I would be most grateful for any information.

\*\*\*\*\*

ANTOINE BLACHON, 56 Rue De La Roquette, 75011, Paris, France.

I am a 20 yr. old French student and a warbirds fan. I'm especially interested in learning more of the 8th A.F. story and about the men who flew over occupied Europe 50 years ago, in a sky where many lost their lives. Seen from the French side of history, the air war over occupied Europe contributed also in the liberation of our country, our people and, of course, a part of my family.

I am looking to make contact with anyone who had a link with the 8th A.F. Being that 1992 is a special year for all of the actors of that period, for me it's a great opportunity to get in touch with these men and, unfortunately, I know that time is catching up so the emotion is even larger.

\*\*\*\*\*

TED LEHMANN, P.O. Box 1435, Ft. Walton Beach, FL. 32549-1435

A friend of mine, Hal Carothers from Milton, FL., passed away a couple of months ago. I'm putting together a display of his W.W. II service. Mr. Carothers was a tailgunner in the 18th Sqdn. I am trying to get information on the missions of his service and would like to hear stories of missions he flew on.

I know he received the Soldier's Medal for events that took place on Jan. 16, 1945, but I would like to know how he received the DSC and the Silver Star earlier. I am also looking for an original patch from the 18th Sqdn. and for an original crest of the 34th B.G. "Valor to Victory", also any photos in which he appeared. I need these items for the display.

\*\*\*\*\*

MANANET ARNAUD, 24 Place Saint Saens, 95400 Villiers-Le-Bel, France

I'm a 22 yr. old French man who would like to correspond with veterans of World War II. I would like details about your personal war story. For example, the unit you were assigned to, your plane's name, when you entered service, where, which branch, your grade, your campaigns, missions, etc. I'm especially fond of little anecdotes, little true stories, sometimes funny, sometimes sad, that happened to you. I'd also be very grateful for a picture of you in uniform (with your plane in the background or with your A-2 flying jacket).

The reason I have decided to devote my spare time and energy to this fascinating period is that I don't want the sacrifice of all those brave men to be in vain. I have the deepest respect for those who freed my country some forty-seven years ago. They must never be forgotten. They must live forever in our memories.

\*\*\*\*\*

VERBAL HOLCOMB-1145 East 37th Street, San Bernardino, CA 92404

How about it? Does anyone remember one of our group named Jim Begay who used to visit with the Thorps for Sunday tea in Mendlesham? They would like to re-establish communications with him. Please write to me and I'll handle it.

\*\*\*\*\*

# ADDRESS CHANGES

(As of 7/28/92)

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ORGN.</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIP</u>
ACKERMAN	HARRY	HDQ (LM)	3114 STONE CREEK LANE	GRAPEVINE,	TX.	76051
BUCKLEY	BEN	7	2511 14TH STREET SOUTH	WISCONSIN RAPIDS,	WI.	54494
CAMDEN	WILLIAM	4	RT. 5, BOX 126	AMHERST,	VA.	24521
CROOM	ED H.	18	ZIP CODE SHOULD BE			38305
DE ROCCO	CLEM	7	MOVED - NO FORWARDING ADDRESS			
FOX	ROBERT C.	18	3944 CONSTANT VIEW, APT. 5	DECATUR,	IL.	62526
GALLOWAY	JOHN H.	4	P. O. BOX 924	CRAWFORDSVILLE,	IN.	47933
GIBSON	JAMES L.	7	1442 WICKLOW DRIVE	PALM HARBOR,	FL.	34684
HANSEN	DEAN F.	391	MOVED - NO FORWARDING ADDRESS			
INGRAM	WILLIAM	7	1053 DUTTON AVE. #2	SANTA ROSA,	CA.	95407
MOORE	GEORGE W.	391	5124 SIERRA MADRE DRIVE	SAN ANTONIO,	TX.	78233
PRITZ	JOHN	18	8732 STURBRIDGE DRIVE	CINCINNATI,	OH.	45236
RATHBUN	EDGAR H.	7	190 HERITAGE ROAD	WINDSOR,	CT.	06095
REED	JAS RUSSELL JR.	4	1331 HIGHLAND AVE. APT. 214	DUARTE,	CA.	91010
ROSEQUIST	JOHN G.	391	P. O. BOX 98	MASCOUTAH,	IL.	62258
SCHROEDER	ROBERT	391	2442 HIGHWAY 39	AMERICAN FALLS,	ID.	83211
SMALL	JAMES C.	391	ZIP CODE SHOULD BE			71913
STARR	JOHN J.	391	444 BURROUGHS DRIVE	SNYDER,	NY.	14226
STRAWDER	EARL C.	7	690 - 26TH AVE. SE.	MOULTRIE,	GA.	31768
TEARE	PAUL N.	7	R.R.1, BOX 105-S	GREENWOOD,	DE.	19950
THOMPSON	CLIFFORD	391	8649 S.W. KLAMATH	WILSONVILLE,	OR.	97070
VAUGHN	ROBERT E.	4	106 COUNTRY CLUB DR.	PICAYUNE,	MS.	39466
VENNE	DERRICK J.	7	345 S.58TH ST., BROADWAY ESTATES	MESA,	AZ.	85206
VRONZ	JOHN M.	7	610 NO. SPRING STREET	LIBERTY,	MO.	64068
WEBB	FLOYD	391	12 FOX CREEK DRIVE	WAUKEE,	IA.	50263

# NEWLY FOUND

(As of 7/28/92)

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ORGN.</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIP</u>
ALLING	GORDON C.		8655 BROWN SUMMIT RD.	RICHMOND,	VA.	23235
BUCKLEY	ROBERT J.		STAR RTE. BOX 182	SQUAW LAKE,	MN.	56681
CAMDEN	JACK	4	RT. 5, BOX 126	AMHURST,	VA.	24521
CARTER	DOROTHY	7 (A)	224 SOUTH 12TH STREET	SALINA,	KS.	67401
ERLANDSON	JACK S.		P. O. BOX 240	CLE ELUM,	WA.	98922
FIELDER	MORTON I.	18	8095 BURLINGTON COURT	LAKE WORTH,	FL.	33467
FIRESTONE	A.H.Z. (ABE)		5 TEMPLEWOOD DR.	HAMPTON,	VA.	23666
FOUST	FRANK R.	HDQ.	7740 INDIAN OAKS DRIVE C-319	VERO BEACH,	FL.	32966
FOX	ROBERT		4539 GAMBLE COURT	INDIANAPOLIS,	IN.	46241
FRANK	DALE	7	702 WEST COURT AVENUE	WINTERSET,	IA.	59273
FRIEDMAN	MAX J.	391	6133 BEDFORD AVE.	LOS ANGELES,	CA.	90056
GALLARDO	FRANK A.	391	3440 FULTON AVE.SP. 3	SACRAMENTO,	CA.	95821
HUHTA	ROBERT G.	7A	362 WEST 9TH ATREET	ERIE,	PA.	16502
LEE	WALLACE B.		23747 7TH PLACE WEST	BOTHELL,	WA.	98021
MAY	ALLEN L.	391	755 E. BAY FRONT LANE	OAK HARBOR,	WA.	98277
RAGAN	ROGER	7 (A)	10 EDGEWOOD DRIVE	MEDINA,	NY.	14103
RUSSELL	WILLIAM V.		138 CHAMBERLIN DRIVE	WEST SENECA,	NY.	14210



# NEW LIFE MEMBERS

(As of 7/28/92 - Total Now 230)

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ORGN.</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIP</u>
BROWN	WILLIAM A.	4	13122 TAMARISK DRIVE	SANTA ANA,	CA.	92705
CARTER	DOROTHY	7 A	224 SOUTH 12TH STREET	SALINA,	KS.	67401
CLEMINS	JAMES A.	391	3213 17TH STREET	RACINE,	WI.	53405
KRAMSCHUSTER	EUGENE G.	391	472 LAKEWOOD DRIVE	MONDOVI,	WI.	54755
ROY	HERBERT	391	0 MARYHILL DRIVE	ST. LOUIS,	MO.	63124
SPENCER	JAMES L.	391	3577 HYDE PARK ROAD	CARSONVILLE,	MI.	48419



## TAPS

(As of 7/28/92)

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ORGN.</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIP</u>	<u>DIED</u>
CHILDS	RICHARD			LEHIGH ACRES,	FL.		
GULLI	FRANK	7	41 SANTA MONICA WAY	SAN FRANCISCO,	CA.	94127	
HAFERKAMP	BERNARD C.	18	3501 CLOVERLEAF DRIVE	WACO,	TX.	76706	
HARTMAN	MERLE	4	30 KINZUA AVENUE	KANE,	PA.	16735	5/6/92
KUPTIZ	LEWIS	7		MILWAUKEE,	WI.		
LONG	ERNEST	4	5512 SEAGRAPE DRIVE	FORT PIERCE,	FL.	33450	
MURPHY	RALPH P.	7	7421 MAYFIELD DRIVE	PORT RICHEY,	FL.	34668	
RAGAN	GLEN T.	7		CARPENTER,	OH.		1985
SANDERS	FRED			NAPLES,	FL.		
SMIT	JOHN		DRAWER C	PANACEA,	FL.	32346	11/83
WITWER	CHARLES	391	261 N. MUNROE ROAD	TALLMADGE,	OH.	44278	6-24-92

## LOST SOULS - MOVED? - STRAYED?

(Mail returned when sent to these addresses - Need new addresses)

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ORGN.</u>	<u>LAST KNOWN ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIP</u>
DAYE	PHILIP J.	7	60 E. 52ND PLACE	HIALEAH,	FL.	33013
DE ROCCO	CLEM	7	10042 MEREDITH DRIVE	HUNTINGTON BEACH,	CA.	92646
HANSEN	DEAN F.	391	3573 SUDBURY LANE S.W.	BONITA SPRINGS,	FL.	33923
HILLIS	LAYMAN M.	4	715 WOODTOP ROAD	WILMINGTON,	DE.	19804

From the collection of:  
**Al Israelsen**  
 Pilot, First Crew No. 1, 4th Sq. Feb - Nov 1944

NON PROFIT ORG.  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 P A I D  
 Crown Point, IN  
 Permit No. 417

HDD  
 18  
 391  
 7  
 4  
**34th Bomb. Group**  
 Eli Baldea  
 2576 Brookwood Drive  
 Crown Point, Indiana 46307  
 (219) 988-4607

## BATTLE HYMN OF THE AGING

submitted by George H. Kline

We reach the age of 65, our golden years are here.  
 They tell us that the age begins a happy new career,  
 For now our Uncle Sam becomes our permanent cashier,  
 As we go marching on.

(Chorus)  
 Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, Glory, Glory, Hallelujah,  
 Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, As we go marching on!

Our Social Security from Baltimore is sent.  
 We buy a little bit of food and maybe pay the rent.  
 And after that we're stony broke and left without a cent,  
 But we go bravely on.

(Chorus)

As for the checks from Medicare, will someone tell us how  
 They always find some doctor's bills they sadly disallow?  
 And dental costs, as we well know, they wholly dis-avow,  
 But we go bravely on.

(Chorus)

We don't know how we make it as we live from day to day,  
 With income fixed and prices up there's always more to  
 pay.  
 So mind our arthritis, let's get on our knees and pray,  
 That we'll go bravely on.

(Chorus)

And, first of all, let's thank the Lord that we are still alive.  
 The dreams we have may still come true when we are  
 ninety-five.  
 So please, dear Lord, give us the strength our troubles  
 to survive,  
 As we go bravely on...

(Chorus)



Two GI's with British friends in front of the "FLEECE" Pub at  
 Mendlesham - Anybody recognize them?



John Fowler??