

ENDLESHAM EMORIES

34TH BOMB GROUP H

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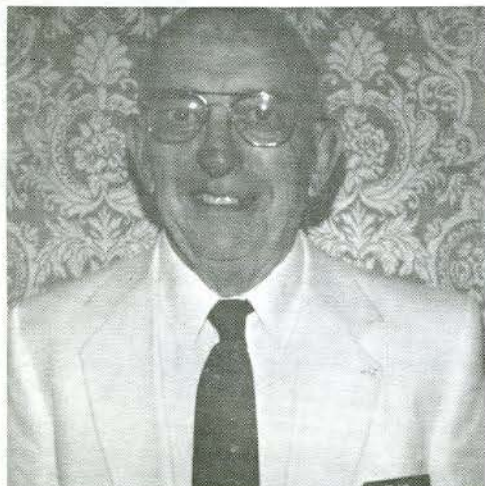
OFFICERS

President: Bruce Sothern (612) 789-2225
 1st Vice Pres.: Sam Wolstencroft (401) 322-7758
 2nd Vice Pres.: Eli Baldea (219) 988-4607
 Recording Secr.: Paul Anderson (206) 337-4747
 Treasurer: Harold Province (601) 798-2059
 Archivist: L. Douglas Underwood (205) 281-1498
 Past Pres.: Fred Schoch (509) 327-5746
 Corresponding Secr.: Ray Summa (317) 644-6027
 Editor: Eli Baldea (219) 988-4607

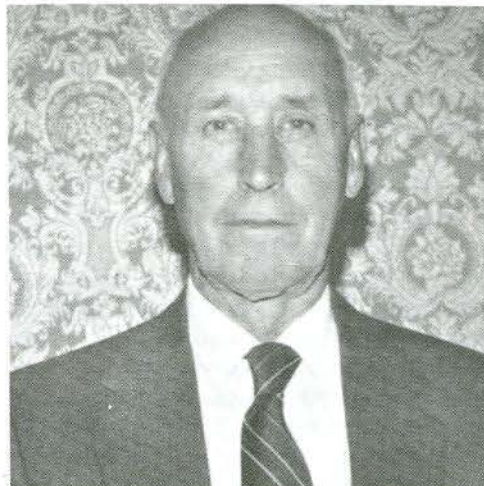
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Earl Maciel (93) (319) 444-2503
 Verbal Holcomb (93) (816) 542-3450
 H. Arnold Prillaman (94) (401) 737-6231
 Robert Wright (94) (219) 232-4287
 Willis Griffis (95) (312) 816-7728
 Ambers Hanson (95) (205) 821-8412
 Gerald Pine (Reunion Chmn.) (608) 836-3939
 Cleveland Romero (Scholarship) (318) 232-0774
 Harold Rutka (Reunion) (218) 724-1667
 Sam Baglio (Chaplain) (717) 654-0205

Changing Of The Guard



Past President
Fred Schoch



New President
Bruce Sothern

Happy Holidays!

OBSERVATIONS

Well, another reunion has come and gone and I believe most of us had a good time. There was a small problem for those of us who went on the tour to Nellis AFB. First of all, the bus was an hour late in picking us up at the hotel to start the tour which caused us to have to rush our lunch at Nellis and to miss the last half-hour of the tour. Then we found that our bus had some problems and another bus line was contacted to pick us up at Nellis for return to the hotel.

Our tour of Nellis was extremely interesting. After all, it is the home base of the Air Force Thunderbirds, that crack maneuvering outfit which many of us have seen at air shows, etc. I have included some tour photographs in our reunion photo section. I believe you'll find them interesting.

Now to the business at hand. First of all, I must apologize to most of you for bringing this up but I was shocked recently to receive some material, forwarded to me by Ray Summa or Hal Province, from people writing to me but "DON'T KNOW ELI'S ADDRESS". I don't know how much clearer it can be if these people read the Mendlesham Memories. My address is plainly printed in the address block on the back of each issue. All anyone need do is look for it.

Secondly, I'm happy to report that the board of directors has approved my having others handle the mailings. I've made mention in past issues about my bad back and the mailing chore was becoming unmanageable because of it. Now I can continue as your editor.

I must also bring up, at this point, the fact that we had no official photographer for pictures at the banquet. I announced that anyone taking pictures at their table can identify those depicted and send them to me for inclusion in Mendlesham Memories. Many of you did that and, for that, I say "Thank You!". However, in comparing the pictures with our reunion attendance list, I find quite a few attendees for which I have no photos. I'm sorry about that but, in this case, there's nothing I can do about it. I've tried the best I can with what I have at my disposal. You can't print what you don't have. Please be advised that Cleveland Romero has made arrangements for a photographer for our 1993 reunion in Little Rock. This same problem should not exist next year.

All of us should start planning for our 1993 reunion at Little Rock, Arkansas next September. That's part of the country Rose and I had never visited so we're really looking forward to it. If you've never attended before start planning for this one. All newcomers will be identified as such so we old timers can try to make you feel welcome and at home.

Also, I must make mention that, by the time some of you are reading this, Rose and I will be on our way to our winter residence down south. I bring this up in order that all should know that any material, pictures, stories, etc. for the March issue will have to be mailed to me there. I'll make the address very clear so you'll all know where to reach me. It is:

Mendlesham Memories
c/o Eli Baldea
1107 W. Riviera Blvd.
Oviedo, FL. 32765

Our March issue goes to the printers on January 22nd, 1993, so please have any material in to me before then.

Rose and I want to wish each of you health, wealth and happiness during the coming holiday season. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!!

Another reunion has come and gone. Now it's time to do a bit of evaluating. Conclusion: Las Vegas is a good place to visit, play Keno, see some shows, play Bingo, sight see, play the slots, swim-exercise, visit black jack tables, eat good food (cheap), play poker and try to visit with old friends.

We were handicapped by not having a hospitality room which would have taken us from the gaming rooms. It was good to see so many in attendance and extremely gratifying to see so many first-timers.

Thank you all for the vote of confidence in selecting me president of this great organization. With all engines of the 34th tuned and in synchronization, my tenure (term) should be a real smooth flight.

By the time you read this the World Series will be history and the presidential election over. However, it's not too soon to start planning for Little Rock and an opportunity to live a little of your past with a few "old" friends.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of you.

Bruce Sothern
President

PAST-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To my fellow comrades:

This past year has been a wonderful experience and I have made many close friends. It seems the good times go by all too quickly. I hope this year's reunion was a memorable one for those who attended.

The Gold Coast hotel did their best and came through on schedule. The Golf chairman, Ed Lonergan, did a super job with help from Gen. Creer and Arnold Prillaman. Thanks to all.

The board chairmen, with their reports, were complete and accurate. I believe we have some of the most talented people in these key positions. They have a big "Thank You" from all of us.

To our incoming president, Bruce Sothern, I wish him well and hope he enjoys his year. We will all give him our utmost support.

I was pleased to hear that our P.X. had outstanding sales for the few days at Las Vegas. Paul Shull informed me that the total sales were approximately \$3,100.00 The purchase I made was the VCR tape "Start Engines Plus Fifty Years". This should be viewed by all of us. It is a portrayal, in the first person, of the men who participated in all phases of the missions of the Eighth Air Force. One of our own members, Paul Shull, has an important part to contribute to this epic picture.

I wish to thank my wife, Clara, and daughter, Pamela, for the help in selecting the napkins and lettering the place cards for the head table. Paula also lettered the label for the "Last Man's Toast" bottle.

Clara and I wish to express our appreciation and thanks for the gifts presented to us at the banquet. I have also received the official "Past President" cap from our corresponding secretary, Ray Summa. Thanks to you, Ray.

Finally, to the Board of Directors, thank you for your support and suggestions.

Lastly, Clara and I want to wish everyone a Joyful Holiday Season.

Fred Schoch
Past President





REUNION '92 LAS VEGAS REUNION COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE 34TH BOMB GROUP MEMBERSHIP

Fellow members of the 34th B.G. Assn.;

First, Hannah and I want to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, for by the time this reaches you it will be the Holiday season.

We were very disappointed in missing the reunion in Las Vegas. Hannah had been saving her quarters for over a year - now she says she will be going Xmas shopping.

I do want to express my thanks for all the cards, letters and phone calls that I received while I was on the sick list. I do appreciate each one very much. I am feeling better now and am back at the typewriter answering letters from the members of the 34th. I also want to thank Don Shee for the VCR tape of the reunion which he sent me. As I watched it on the TV, it seemed as if I was there with you. Thanks, Don. You did an excellent job for an amateur photographer.

I am told you had a very large turnout at the reunion and that there were many first-timers there. Hopefully we will have the same amount or more at the 1993 reunion in Little Rock. I have just finished reading the minutes of the BOD and business meetings and it seemed as if everything went well. The report from Sec. Paul Anderson was good and explained everything.

I still have nine (9) "Lucky Bastard" pins left to sell. The cost is \$5. If you were one of those who completed 25 or more missions you should have one of these pins. They were designed by General Creer. The pins are in the shape of a gold horseshoe with a blue center and in this center are the initials "LB" representing the words "Lucky Bastard". Send your order to me and I will mail one as soon as I get your letter.

As chairman of the reunion committee it is part of my duties to present a report to the membership on what makes one of these reunions "tick" and "why".

To take care of the "tick" end of our last reunion in Las Vegas, there were several people that made things go. First of all, a whole bunch of thanks to Gen. Bill Creer for his legwork on arranging the Nellis AFB tour and for his space on the golf course. Then, to Ed Lonergan for putting together a very successful golf outing. Bob Wright deserves our thanks for his ever-efficient registration system. Harold Rutka, also, is always there to provide that little necessary helping hand. Esther, Gen. and Wanda, the three ladies at the registration desk, deserve a special applause for a job well done. How could we "tick" without their endless hours of devotion to the group. Thanks, again, to Eli Baldea for getting our registration forms out in time and for his coverage of our year's work. Also, let's give a standing ovation to Ray Summa for his back-breaking efforts to provide enough membership to warrant a reunion. Lastly, to the Board of Directors and Officers for placing faith in their various committees and to the general membership for attending.

This was a partial list of what makes things "TICK".

Now for the "WHY" end of things. Ain't it just great to get the family together again?

Gerald Pine
Reunion Committee Chairman

THANK YOU LETTER TO NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE

To: Major General Thomas R. Griffith
Commander
USAF Weapons and Tactics Center
Nellis AFB, Nevada 89191

Subject: 34th Bomb Group tour of Nellis AFB, 9-15-92

This letter is to express appreciation from the members of the 34th BG who had the opportunity to visit Nellis AFB during our recent reunion in Las Vegas.

The Nellis Public Affairs office was efficient and patient in setting up the Luncheon at the NCO Club, the T-bird briefing, the Flight Line tour and the Red/Green Flag briefings. Lynda Johnson was our primary contact and took time to accompany us on the tour. James L. Wagner and Mrs. Martine Ramos gave much assistance.

The transportation from Las Vegas was faulted, thus complicating execution of the timely schedule set up by the Public Affairs office.

We are grateful for the Nellis contribution to the success of our Reunion and send our thanks.

Sincerely,
William E. Creer
MGEn USAF (Ret)
WWII Cmdr. 34th B.G.



Crew of "BAMBI".

REUNION ATTENDEES

Abraham, Frances	Ezell, Dale & Theda	Lampey, Robert & Betty Lou	Scherr, Fred & Libbie
Adams, Bailey & Ruth	Fager, Willard & Roxie	Larson, Lowell & Marian	Schifferer, John & Barbara
Akers, Kenas	Farley, John & Bernadette	Leath, John & Ethel	Schoch, Fred & Clara
Allen, Don & Laraine	Fiedler, Morton & Sheri	Lee, Wallace & Wilma	Schroeder, Robert & Jennie
Ames, Vernon & Millie	Fillman, Don & Betty	Lewis, Bill & Eula	Schrupp, Dana & June
Anderson, Milton & Nowie	Finley, Dale & Margie	Lewis, Ken & Martha	Shee, Don & Bonnie
Anderson, Paul & Beryl	Firestone, Abe & Ernestine	Lindia, Joseph & Dotti	Sheesley, Byron & Mary
Antanovich, Alex & Betty	Forister, Carroll & Sylvia	Loneragan, Ed & Birgit	Shull, Paul & Pauline
Armstrong, Denton & Eileen	Frank, Dale & Esther	Luhrsen, August & Kitty	Sigourney, David
Ashburn, Jack	Frank, Earl & Mary	Lundeen, Ralph	Simpson, Ronald & Martha
Atkin, Willard & Jean	Freeman, Edmund & Gil	Marks, Joe & Kay	Sivret, Frank & Alda
Atwater, Vernon	Friedlander, Gilbert & Frances	Martin, Jim & Betty	Sligh, Frank & Patsy
Autry, Elwin	Galloway, Robert & Beth	Mayer, Norman & Schatzie	Smith, James & Jane Ann
Susan Bryant	Gay, Bob & Phyllis	McAllister, Walter & Ruby	Smith, John & Sloyne
Babcock, Lawrence & Lucille	Gibbs, Claude & Audrey	Meeder, Paul & Twyla	Joseph & Susan Smith
Baer, Robert & Rose	Gombert, Dirk & Dorothy	Mollica, John & Mary	Sothorn, Bruce & Muggs
Baglio, Sam & Lee	Gombos, Bill & Marjorie	Mongeon, George	Spilker, Gordon
Baldea, Eli & Rose	Gradin, Bob & Ginny	Eloise Rolling	Springer, Robert & Beverly
Ballantyne, Roy & Millie	Griffis, Willis	Moore, Alex & Minette	Sproul, Cransford & Beatrice
Baron, Arnold & Wanda	Gronkowski, Edward & Thomasine	Moreno, John	Stivender, James & Stella
Baughman, Cleo & Freddie	Habiger, Tony & Joan	Muellerschoen, George & Betty	Stufflebeam, Don & Evelyn
Belleau, Tom & Madeline	Haggins, Elmer & Gloria	Muente, Fred & Ginny	Sturdivan, Walter & Lois
Berglund, Fred	Hall, Herbert	Nendel, Robert & Dorothy	Swanson, Sam
Bess, Leonard & Helen	Hanchar, Joseph	Newton, Tom & Mildred	Swenson, Elbert
Bloczynski, John & Marge	Hanrihan, James & Joy	Nichols, Carl & Kate	Syverson, Marvin & Avis
Boreen, Lloyd & Bobbie	Hanson, Ambers & Jean	Noe, John & Elizabeth	Tavasti, Roy & Kate
Brauks, Wally & Doris	Hendrickson, Leonard	Noehren, Robert & Letha	Terry, John
Brown, Bill & Lenore	Herget, Charles & Eileen	Orton, William & Naoma	Thomas, James & Eleanor
Bruning, Mike & Pat	Hetherington, William & Lula Mae	Pancake, Charles & Louise	Thompson, Clifford & Louise
Burnell, Bill & Margo	Holcomb, Verbal & Betty	Paxton, Ken & Kathleen	Thompson, Roy & Valerie
Busse, Art & Kathy	Hood, Jack	Perez, Juan & Mattie	Turner, Charles & Frances
Campbell, Robert & Liz	Bonnie Lasseigne &	Perry, Harry & Willie	Trapani, Joseph & Joan
Casey, Ralph & Dot	Scott Middleton	Pine, Gerald & Wanda	Tuttle, Don
Casler, Dudley & Mary	Howarter, Wayne & Laverne	Podorefsky, Arthur & Beatrice	Ron Tuttle
Clarkson, Jack & Dorothy	Inman, Lloyd & Marla	Poole, Walter & Joan	Vaughn, Robert E. & Helen
Clemins, James & Lois	Isaacs, Seymour & Claudia	Prillaman, Arnold & Georgia	Veon, Elly
Cole, Bob & Ginny	Israelsen, Allen & Agnes	Province, Harold & Jan	Vincens, Hilton & Vicky
Conklin, Claude & Genevieve	Jacobbauski, Mike & Margie	Reed, Russell & Martha	Waarvick, Tilvern & Pat
Coutros, Anthony & Mary	Jakel, Max & Eila	Reid, Roy & Sybil	Waltz, Fred & Rachel
Creer, Bill & Vivienne	James, Eugene & Helen	Richmond, Floyd & Miriam	Wessel, Jerome & Dorothy
Day, George & Marguerite	Jetton, Ray & Jean	Thelma Warfield	Elmer & Mary Wessel
Dees, Robert & Edith	Jones, John & Doris	Robinson, Leroy & Doris	Willis, Clyde
Des Lauriers, Robert & Shirley	Jones, Roy	Romero, Cleveland & Henrietta	Wingo, Truman & Lea
Donahue, Herb & Eunice	Jones, Seamans	Rose, Everett	Witham, Harold & Lea
Dooley, Lawton & Joan	Jordan, Dexter & Beulah	Roy, Herb & Dorothy	Wilstencroft, Sam & Arlene
Doran, Vince & Jean	Kantorak, John & Jeff	Rutka, Harold & Genevieve	Wright, Burch & Mary
Doronsky, John	Kenny, James & Mary	Salveson, Leon & Jeane	Wright, Robert & Esther
Beverly Stearns	Klier, Herb & Rita	Sauermilch, Fred & Alene	Yockey, Charles & Virginia
Dwyer, Harold & Darlene	Knudson, Harold	Saxen, Robert	Zeldes, Ben & Edith
Erlandson, Jack & Maxine	Krystof, Joseph & Fran	Lawrence Saxen	Zesch, Ed & Dolores

Season's Greetings

BOARD MEETING 34TH BOMB GROUP ASS'N SEPT. 14, 1992 GOLD COAST HOTEL LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by Pres. F. Schoch. H. Rutka led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain S. Baglio gave the invocation.

Pres. F. Schoch called for a roll call of the Officers and Board members. Those present were: Pres. F. Schoch, 1st V.P. B. Sothern, 2nd V.P.S. Wolstencroft, P. Anderson, H. Province, E. Baldea, C. Conklin, C. Willis, V. Holcomb, H. Prillaman, R. Wright, G. Pine, C. Romero, H. Rutka and S. Baglio.

The Board Meeting minutes of 1991 were read and accepted.

Pres. F. Schoch appointed the following committees:

Audit Committee - C. Conklin, V. Holcomb, C. Willis

Nominating Committee - V. Ames, J. Martin, W. McAllister
Communications - none reported.

Treasurer's Report - H. Province distributed copies of his report and explained each item. A summary of the funds are as follows:

	1991	1992
General Fund	\$13,253.87	\$13,963.83
Scholarship Fund	*	1,809.42
Memorial Fund	5,830.86	2,934.39
Life Membership Fund	19,814.35	22,113.93
Total	<u>\$39,450.69</u>	<u>\$40,821.57</u>

*Memorial Fund to be split: \$2,915.43 to Scholarship, and \$2,915.43 to Memorial Fund.

Reunion Fund - R. Wright reported the Reunion Fund started the year with \$2,500.00. Sept. 8, 1992 balance is \$18,962.46. The 1992 reunion expenses not as yet taken out of this balance.

P.X. P. Shull reported he needs a room in which to set up the P.X. G. Pine temporarily left the meeting to talk to the hotel sales office about procuring a room. P. Shull gave the following financial accounting:

Beginning Balance Sept. 1, 1991	\$ 554.86
Income - Mdse. sold at Louisville	3,388.95
Mdse. sold by mail	1,610.88
Expenses for Mdse. & supplies	4,868.95
Ending balance Aug. 31, 1992	\$ 685.74

P. Shull explained the problem of the very high cost of ordering squadron patches and pins unless very large quantities are ordered.

Scholarship - C. Romero expressed gratification at the increased number of applications received this year. The 1992 34th Bomb Group Ass'n. \$1000 scholarship award winner is Christopher Fandry, grandson of M. Syverson. The \$500 award goes to Richard Bullis, son of D. Bullis. C. Romero commented on the very high quality of the applications received this year.

Pres. F. Schoch told of the availability of some certificate forms that could be adapted to give to the scholarship winners, and to those made honorary members of the 34th B.G. Ass'n. H. Province agreed to investigate the procurement and use of these certificates.

H. Rutka told of an interesting conversation he had with Shelia Jackson Lindsay on his recent trip to England. She was a Red Cross Lady at the Mendlesham base for over a year, and was on duty the night of the intruder attack. H. Rutka moved that Shelia Jackson Lindsay be made an honorary member of the 34th

B.G. Ass'n. Motion seconded, and carried. H. Rutka also stated she gave him a picture of the B24 "Shadrack", and he would give it to the first member of that plane's crew to ask for it.

Mendlesham Memories - E. Baldea distributed copies listing several points he wished to discuss. Discussion followed on these items:

1. The Dec. 1991 issue of the Mendlesham memories was the largest ever. The per copy mailing cost was \$2.49. He questioned if it was time to raise our dues.

2. E. Baldea has been making two copies of pictures taken at the reunion, and mailing a remembrance to all participants. The cost of film, developing, envelopes, postage, etc. runs into some money. This cost for the 1991 reunion was \$163.05, not including the amount paid to the photographer. He questioned if he has the authorization to continue this practice.

3. The hiring of a photographer for the reunion banquets has become a problem. It is very difficult to find one whose asking price is not far too much. He asks if we want to continue having pictures taken at the banquet, and if so can the reunion committee help in finding a photographer.

4. E. Baldea states his bad back is making it increasingly difficult for him to handle the boxes of Mendlesham Memories from the printer, and the sacks to the Post Office. The printer will handle this for a fee of approximately 8.3 cents per copy mailed. He asks if we want to handle the mailing in this manner. If not he states he will have to resign as M.M. editor.

H. Rutka moved that E. Baldea be authorized to pay 8.3 cents per copy to have the printer mail the M.M. Motion seconded by B. Sothern, and carried.

B. Sothern moved that E. Baldea be authorized to arrange for the taking of reunion pictures as he deems appropriate, and be reimbursed from the General Fund. Motion seconded by C. Romero, and carried.

5. E. Baldea told of a magnificent book that Fred & Margaret Maundrell commissioned Maldwyn Williams to produce. It is a memorial book devoted to the 34th Bomb Group personnel who failed to return from missions. The Maundrells also financed the creation of a glass case in which the book will be displayed in the Mendlesham church. E. Baldea moved that Fred & Margaret Maundrell, and Maldwyn Williams be sent a letter of thanks by the 34th B.G. Ass'n. secretary, and that Fred Maundrell be made an honorary member of the 34th B.G. Ass'n. Motion seconded by H. Rutka, and carried.

H. Rutka gave some details of the recent 34th B.G. Ass'n. trip to England. He stated that an examination of the 34th B.G. Memorial at Mendlesham shows it to be in very good condition. The ladies who maintain the memorial were invited to one of the 34th B.G. dinners at Cambridge, and given medallions.

G. Pine reported there will be a room for the P.X., Sept. 15 & 16, Tuesday and Wednesday. P. Shull told of the availability in the P.X. of an excellent VCR tape on the 8th Air Force, "Start Engines Plus 50 Years".

G. Pine reported 1993 reunion dates to be Sept. 23, 24, 25 and 26, at the Excelsior Hotel in Little Rock, Arkansas. The 1994 reunion dates will be Sept. 6 through Sept. 11 at the Radison Hotel in St. Paul, Minn.

H. Prillaman suggested reunion dates be set so that those flying to reunions on airline senior citizen coupon books could attend two reunions before the one year expiration of a coupon book. The reunion committee explained the difficulty of getting such specific dates.

A discussion followed on the advisability of having a hospitality room. The majority favored having one.

G. Pine brought up the question of financial help for our Chaplain, S. Baglio, in sending cards to the family of deceased

Continued on page 6

BOARD MEETING 34TH BOMB GROUP ASS'N

Continued from page 5)

members. After some discussion, E. Baldea moved that our Chaplain be authorized and reimbursed for the purchase of custom made 34th B.G. cards to be sent to families of deceased members, and the necessary postage. Motion seconded by W. Brauks, and carried.

B. Sothorn asked if the Recording Secretary received any financial help in the performance of his duties. The answer was no. R. Wright moved that the Recording Secretary be reimbursed for his postage and reproduction expenses. Motion seconded by C. Conklin, and carried.

B. Sothorn brought up a point the group should be thinking about, i.e. the problem of dwindling money in the Scholarship Fund as fewer and fewer people in the future attend the reunions due to the aging of the group.

S. Wolstencroft discussed a letter received from P. Gray concerning the financial affairs of the 34th B.G. Ass'n. B. Sothorn said he would answer the letter.

H. Province told of Confederate Air Force oral historian, Col. Don Norton, present in the hotel, and wanting to interview 34th B.G. members.

H. Province told of a flyer in the Military Reunion News concerning a company that would send notices about our reunions to over 2000 papers for \$69.50. After some discussion, he moved that the 34th B.G. Ass'n. sign up for this news release service. Motion seconded, and carried.

H. Province told of a Compact Disc and Reader that work through a computer. The CD contains 80 percent of all the telephone numbers in the United States. The unit would be of great assistance to our Corresponding Secretary/Unit Contact. Motion to procure the CD and Reader made by E. Baldea, seconded by B. Sothorn, and carried.

H. Rutka proposed the possibility of signing spouses as associate members. Considerable discussion followed. No action taken at this time.

Pres. F. Schoch asked the audit and nominating committees to report at the Annual meeting on Wed.

Motion to adjourn made, seconded, and carried.

Pres. F. Schoch adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Paul Anderson, Secretary

ANNUAL MEETING 34TH BOMB GROUP ASS'N. SEPT. 16, 1992 GOLD COAST HOTEL, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Annual Meeting of the 34th Bomb Group Ass'n. called to order by Pres. F. Schoch at 9:10 a.m. Chaplain S. Baglio led us in prayer. H. Rutka led us in the Pledge of Allegiance

Treasurer's Report - H. Province gave a detailed report of the General, Scholarship, Memorial, and Life Membership Funds. Sept. 8, 1992 balances are as follows:

General Fund	\$13,963.83
Scholarship Fund	1,809.42
Memorial Fund	2,934.39
Life Membership Fund	<u>22,113.93</u>
Total	\$40,821.57

Anticipated expenses for the rest of 1992 are \$5,300.00. He also reported the paid membership is now 692, plus 233 Life

Members, for a total of 925.

Mendlesham Memories - E. Baldea reported the December issue of M.M. will go to the printers October 22, 1992. Any items to be included in that issue must reach him before that date.

Reunion Committee - G. Pine apologized for the poor treatment the people received on the Nellis AFB tour. The tour operator has promised the 34th B.G. Ass'n. a 50 percent rebate. G. Pine gave the 1993 reunion dates as Thurs., Sept. 23 through Sun., Sept. 26, at the Excelsior Hotel in Little Rock, Arkansas. The 1994 reunion is to be in St. Paul, Mn. The reunion committee is looking for an east coast site for 1995.

Reunion Fund - R. Wright reported a Sept. 1991 balance of \$21,312.73. After the 1991 reunion expenses were paid, the balance was \$4,156.12. A check for \$1,656.12 (the overage of the \$2500 allowable Reunion Fund) was sent to the association treasurer. As of Sept. 1992 the Reunion Fund balance was \$18,962.46. The Reunion Committee expects there will be some overage after the 1992 reunion expenses are paid.

Scholarship Committee - C. Romero reported applicants increased from the 8 or 9 of previous years, to over 30 this year. This years first place \$1000 winner is Christopher Fandry, of Goodhue, Mn., sponsored by Marvin A. Syverson. The second place \$500 winner is Richard Bullis, of Verdi, Nv., sponsored by Darrel Bullis. C. Romero commented on the very high quality of the applications received this year. He noted that application blanks for next year's awards will appear in the Mendlesham Memories.

P.X. - P. Shull commented on the VCR tape "Start Engines plus 50 Years" which is now available in the P.X. He reported the following balances:

Sept. 1, 1991 beginning balance	\$ 554.86
Income from merchandise sold	4,999.83
Expenses for merchandise purchased	4,868.95
August 31, 1992 ending balance	\$ 685.74

P. Shull commented that his granddaughter, last years scholarship winner, is attending Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., and may get a chance to study in England.

Mendlesham Memories - E. Baldea explained that they were unable to get a photographer at an affordable price to take pictures at the evening gala banquet. He asked people with cameras to take pictures of their table, and send them to him if they wished them published in the Mendlesham Memories.

Audit Committee - C. Conklin reported the 34th B.G. Ass'n. books were audited, found to be satisfactory, and signed off.

Nominating Committee - V. Ames presented the following slate of nominees:

- President - B. Sothorn
- 1st Vice Pres. - S. Solstencroft
- 2nd Vice Pres. - E. Baldea
- Recording Sec. - P. Anderson
- Treasurer - H. Province
- Corresponding Sec./Unit Contact - R. Summa
- Board of Directors - W. Griffiths & A. Hanson

The floor was opened for additional nominations. None were heard. A motion was made to close nominations and accept the presented slate. Motion seconded and carried.

The two outgoing Board of Directors members, C. Conklin and C. Willis, were thanked for their efforts.

Pres. F. Schoch told of his discussion with the family of General Le Bailly, and suggested our Scholarship Fund be renamed in honor of him. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to rename the Scholarship Fund "34th B.G. Scholarship Memorial Fund To General Le Bailly". The motion failed to carry.

J. Clarkson spoke on the 8th Air Force Heritage Center. He

Continued on page 7

ANNUAL MEETING 34TH BOMB GROUP ASS'N.

Continued from page 6

noted they now have a new chairman, Lt. Gen. P. G. Schuller, who commanded the 8th A.F. during Operation Desert Storm. He read a Sept. 17, 1992 news release telling of the aims of the 8th A.F. Heritage Center.

New Business - H. Rutka spoke of a 1994 reunion in England, and emphasized that planning must start now if we wish to have one. B. Sothorn asked H. Rutka if he would lead another tour to England. Rutka said he would if enough people showed interest. Several members spoke of the satisfactory service offered by Tamarac Travel on previous trips. It was agreed that H. Rutka would contact Tamarac Travel to start work on a 1994 England Reunion.

M. Syverson thanked the group for his grandson's scholarship award.

W. Brauks explained the working details of the third annual memorial ceremony to take place during the evening banquet. He also told of an experience he had at Gen. LeBailly's office in 1970.

Pres. F. Schoch told of receiving a call from Rosemary Davis of Manchester, Conn. She is seeking information on a Lt. Albert J. Nagy, who was a Bombardier in the 34th B.G., 18th Sqdn.

Pres. F. Schoch recognized those attending for the first time, the crew with the most members present (seven members of the Joe Hammersly crew), and thanked the officers, Board, and committee members for their work. He suggested that each squadron assemble in a different corner of the room after the meeting adjourns.

Pres. F. Schoch asked General Creer to say a few words to the group. General Creer complied with some very kind words for the 34th B.G.

Motion to adjourn made by J. Perez, seconded by H. Rutka, and carried.

Pres. F. Schoch adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Paul Anderson, Secretary



Lewie H. Miller, Jr.

REUNION CRITIQUE by Harold Province

Well, it's over for another year and I think all enjoyed their stay in Las Vegas. There were several pluses that must be acknowledged! 1) The number of first-timers was great and to have the guys stand and identify themselves was extra icing on the cake. 2) Room rates were GREAT! No one can gripe about the cost of the rooms. 3) The banquet we enjoyed was exceptional. The steak and service could not have been better. 4) The entertainment was superb. It would be hard to beat!

In spite of the above, I believe there could have been more consideration given to the needs of the 34th BGA and those who wanted to socialize rather than spending all of the time gambling. In this regard there are several negatives that must be considered. 1) The lack of a HOSPITALITY ROOM was quite evident. Several sat in the hall outside the room where we were served breakfast and held their meetings on Monday night because of the lack of a room where we might have otherwise gathered. 2) The failure to provide a room where our PX could display their wares was a definite minus. This has been a need ever since we started the 34th BGA meetings at Nashville. The last minute efforts by the reunion committee wouldn't have been required if they had anticipated our needs. 3) The costs of the breakfast was a "RIP-OFF". I was quite amazed to receive coupons for free breakfast and lunch when I checked in at the hotel.

While some of the above may only apply to a meeting at Las Vegas, I feel that the reunion committee should consider our future needs. I've begun to think that a job description needs to be written for the Reunion Committee along with a change in the committee. We need some new faces with fresh ideas.

8TH AFHS REUNION

LOUISVILLE, KY.

Report by Harold Rutka

We had ten (10) representing the 34th Bomb Group (not all registered) and six (6) for the "Gala Banquet".

Dale and Marge Finley were at the Memorial Service and fly by.

Charles and Beverly Culbertson, (new members), stayed until the "Unit Banquet" on Friday evening.

Bob and Jo Jansky, (new members), stayed until the final breakfast, and we were fortunate to be seated together at the "Gala Banquet" so we could visit.

Marion Billman Denton (Bob Billman's daughter) attended with husband, Bob Denton. She would like to have any information from anybody regarding her father. Unfortunately, we were not able to arrange seating with them.

Hubert Childress of the 7th Photo Group, Gabby Gabreski of the 56th Fighter Group and Jim Hower of the 447th Bomb Group were elected to the Board of Directors.

I made contact with Dick D'Amato of TAMARAC TRAVEL AGENCY about the return of the 34th Bomb Group to ENGLAND in 1994. He will start to put together plans for the reunion. It has been suggested that we spend four days in the Mendlesham area, two days around Stratford Upon Avon and two days in London. Maybe a couple of days in Scotland. DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS ABOUT WHERE YOU WANT TO GO AND WHAT YOU WANT TO SEE?

Harold C. Rutka

NOTICE

As explained earlier, we had no official photographer for the reunion banquet. It was announced that each table was to try to get their own photos taken to be mailed to us for printing in this issue. Many followed the instructions and sent in their pictures. However, at our going to press date of October 23rd we had quite a few of our reunion attendees for which we had received no photos. We assume some of these will be arriving too late to be included in this issue. The late-comers will be reserved for printing in our March '93 issue. Those not yet received were:

Bailey & Ruth Ann Adams
Don & Laraine Allen
Vernon & Millie Ames
Alex & Betty Antanovich
Elwin Autry & Susan Bryant
Lawrence & Lucille Babcock
Robert & Rose Baer
Cleo & Freddie Baughman
Fred Berglund
Leonard & Helen Bess
Lloyd & Bobie Boreen
Bill & Lenore Brown
Mike & Pat Bruning
Bill & Margo Burnell
Art & Kathy Busse
Ralph & Dot Casey
James & Lois Clemins
Bob & Ginny Cole
Vince & Jean Doran
Dale & Theda Ezell
Willard & Roxie Fager
Morton & Sheri Fiedler
Don & Betty Fillman
Carroll & Sylvia Forister
Dale & Esther Frank
Earl & Mary Frank
Gilbert & Frances Friedlander
Dirk & Dorothy Gombert
Bill & Marjorie Gombos
Edward & Thomasine Gronkowski
Tony & Joan Habiger
Joseph Hanchar
James & Joy Hanrihan
Lloyd & Marla Inman
Seymour & Claudia Isaacs
Mike & Margie Jacobbauski
Max & Eila Jakel

Eugene & Helen James
Ray & Jean Jetton
Roy Jones
Seamans Jones
James & Mary Kenny
Herb & Rita Klier
Joseph & Fran Krystof
Wallace & Wilma Lee
Bill & Eula Lewis
John & Mary Mollica
George & Betty Muellerschoen
Robert & Dorothy Nendel
Tom & Mildred Newton
Robert & Letha Noehren
Ken & Kathleen Paxton
Juan & Mattie Perez
Harry & Willie Perry
Arthur & Beatrice Podorefsky
Roy & Sybil Reid
Leory & Doris Robinson
Leon & Jeane Salveson
Robert Saxen
John & Barbara Schifferer
Don & Bonnie Shee
Ronald & Martha Simpson
Frank & Patsy Sligh
John-Sloyne Smith with
Joseph & Susan Smith
Cransford & Beatrice Sproul
Clifford & Louise Thompson
Roy & Valerie Thompson
Joseph & Joan Trapani
Robert E. & Helen Vaughn
Tilvern & Pat Waarvick
Clyde Willis
Burch & Mary Wright

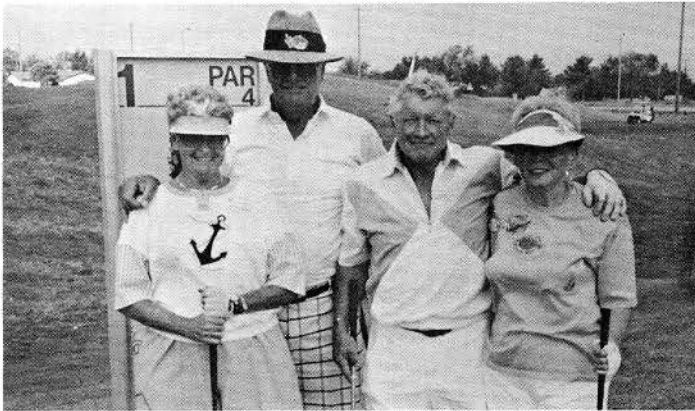
REUNION '92 - "THE GOLFERS"



26 Happy golfers. We really had 27 but "B" Lonergan took the picture



Bob Cole, Bob Wright, Roy Ballantyne & Jim Clemins



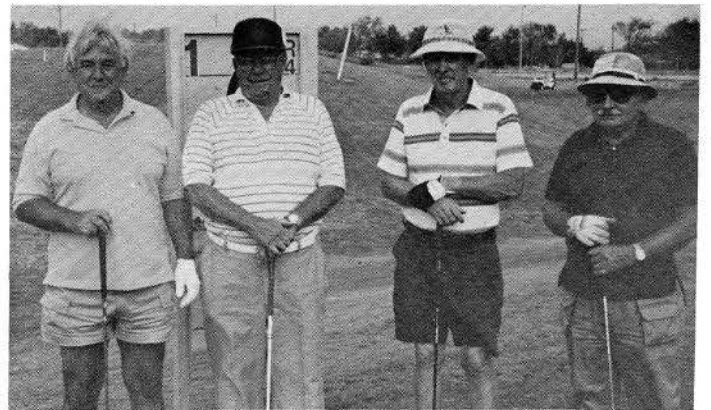
Jack & Maxine Erlandson and Elmer & Mary Wessel



Hilton Vincens, Lowell Larson, Herb Roy and "Hap" Prillaman



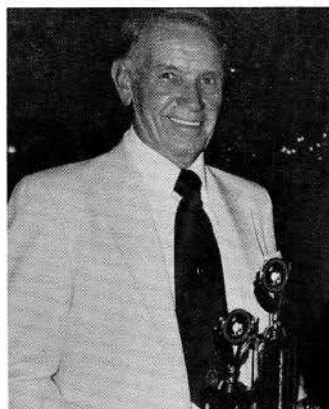
Paul Shull with Eloise & George Mongeon



John Moreno, Bill Orton, Harold Knudson & Leroy Robinson



Ed & Birgit Lonergan and June & Dana Schrupp



Golf Champion with an 82 and nearest to hole #12 Willard Atkin

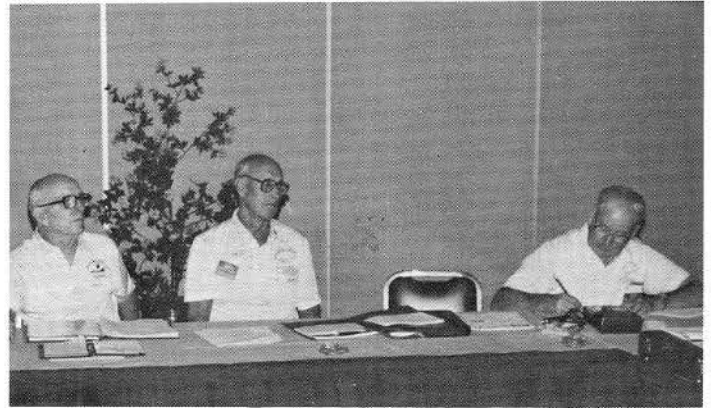


Ralph Peterson, Mort Fiedler, Jean & Will Atkin

REUNION '92 - "GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS"



Secr. Paul Anderson reading minutes of the last meeting



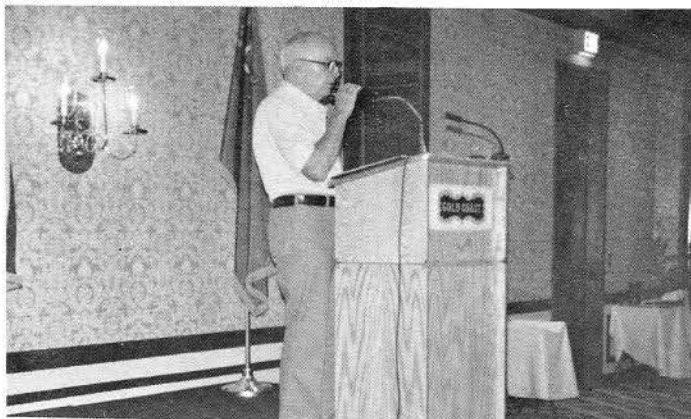
Head table at the Board Meeting



General meeting in progress



At the Board Meeting



Pres. Fred Schoch calling the general meeting to order



At the Board Meeting



Welcome 34th Bomb Group

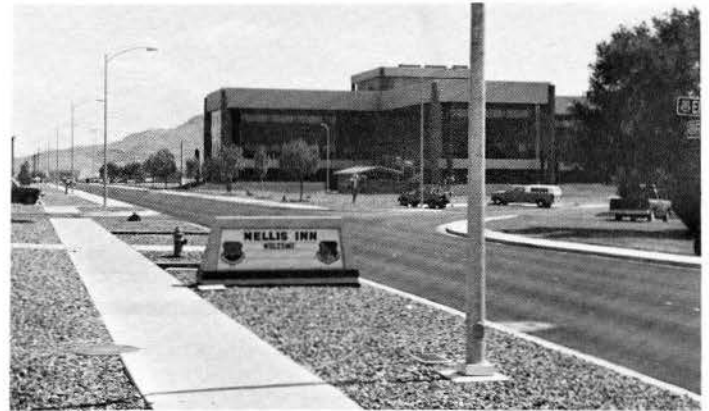


Our registration crew - Esther Wright, Wanda Pine and Genevieve Rutka

REUNION '92 - "NELLIS TOUR"



Nellis AFB NCO Club



View at Nellis AFB



On the Nellis tour bus



Group waiting for tour bus



Ginny Gradin in cafeteria



Rose Baldea & others in cafeteria line at Nellis AFB



Henrietta Romero and others in cafeteria line



Chowing down at Nellis AFB

REUNION '92 - "NELLIS TOUR"



Thunderbird logo on hangar floor



Chowing down at Nellis AFB



Thunderbird F-16's on the line at Nellis AFB



Chowing down at Nellis AFB



Exterior of the "Thunderbirds" building



Chowing down at Nellis AFB

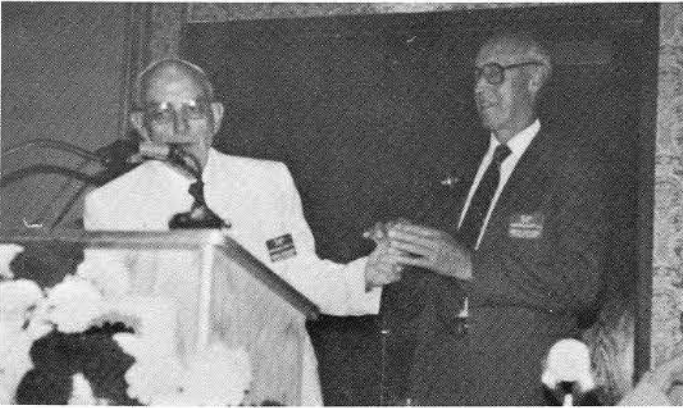


F-16 head-on view



Chowing down at Nellis AFB

REUNION '92 - FESTIVITIES



Fred Schoch passing the gavel to Bruce Sothern



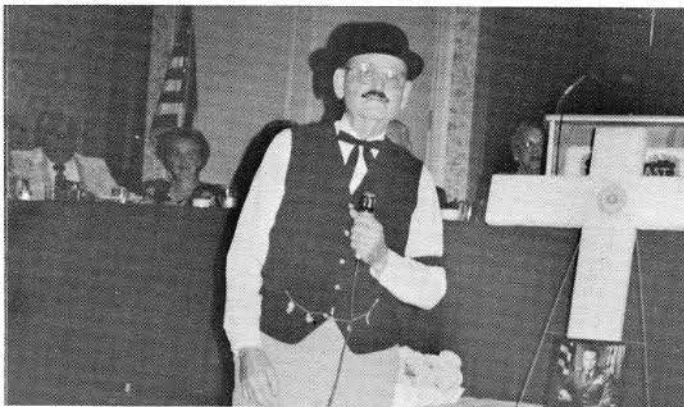
"Chorus of Sweet Adeline" entertaining the crowd



Reunion chairman Gerry Pine addressing the group



Inserting flowers on our memorial cross



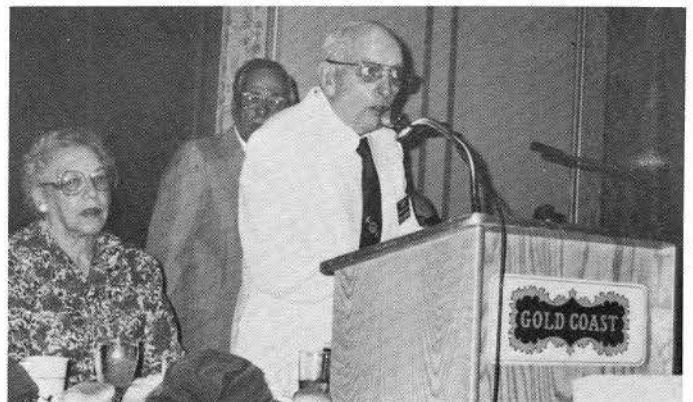
Vince Doran recites "The Shooting of Dan McGrew"



Memorial cross with remembrance flowers



Dana Schrupp properly decorated by the "Chorus"



Pres. Fred Schoch addressing the group from the podium

REUNION '92 - FESTIVITIES



Verbal & Betty Holcomb and Jean & Ambers Hanson



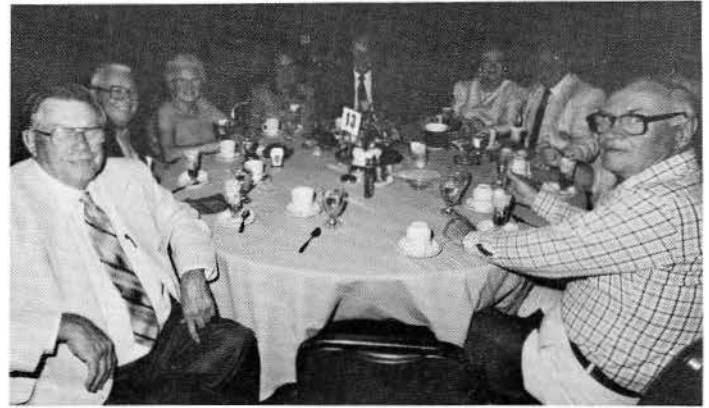
Carroll Forester with Wanda Pine



Dana & June Schrupp and Rose & Eli Baldea



L. to R.: Claude & Audrey Gibbs, Doris Brauks and Margie & Dale Finley



Clockwise - Harold Knudson, Wally & Jean Poole, Betty & Bob Lampey, Shirley & Bob Des Lauriers and Nonie & Milton Anderson



L. to R.: Scott Middleton, Jack Hood, Bonnie Lasseigne and John & Jeff Kantorak



L. to R.: Gene Atwater, Schatzie Mayer, Willis Griffis, Gloria & Elmer Haggins and Arnold & Wanda Baron



L. to R.: Bill & Viv Creer, Roy & Kate Tavasti, Bob & Phyllis Gay, and Gil & Buck Freeman

REUNION '92 - FESTIVITIES



L. to R.: Barbara & George Day and Kathryn & Carl Nichols



Standing: Claude & Gen Conklin; Seated L. to R.: Birgit & Ed Lonergan and Mary & Byron Sheesley



Kate & Carl Nichols and Verbal & Betty Holcomb



Members of Jim Glass' crew, Chuck Herget, Ben Zeldes, Bob Yockey, Bill Hetherington, Herb Roy and Don Shee



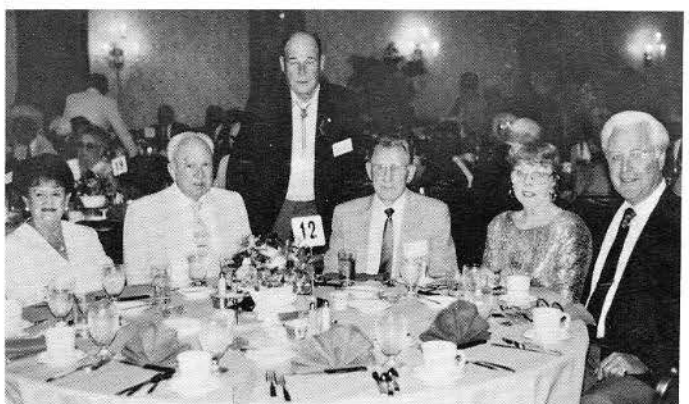
Willis Griffis, Gene Atwater & Gloria & Elmer Haggins



John Doronsky, Beverly Stearns and Mary & Anthony Coutros



Clockwise: Deb Steward, Toots & Charles Thurner, Louise & Charles Pancake, Jim & Stella Stivender and Bob & Jennie Schroeder



Gloria & Elmer Haggins, Gene Atwater, Ralph Lundeen and Schatzie & Norman Mayer



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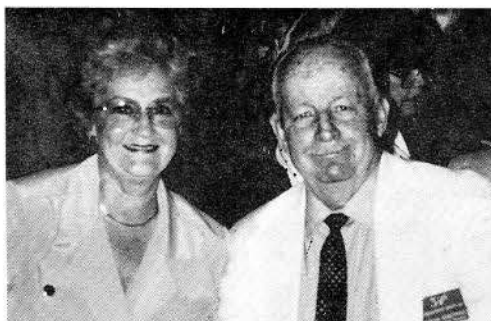
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FESTIVITIES



4



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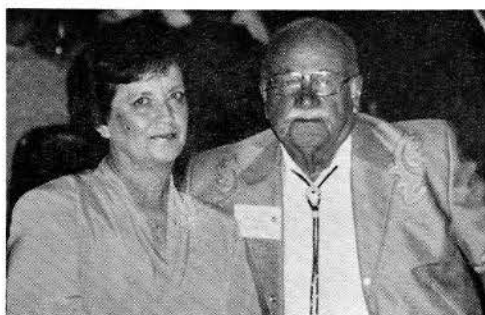
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10



14



15



19



20



24



25

1. Wanda Pine & Gerald Pine
2. Bruce and Muggs Sothern
3. Harold and Lea Witham
4. Clara and Fred Schoch
5. John & Marge Bloczynski
6. Fred & Rachel Waltz
7. Hilton & Vicky Vincens
8. Ethel & John Leath
9. Abe & Ernestine Firestone
10. Joan & Ed Dooley
11. Dorothy & Jack Clarkson
12. Eileen & Denton Armstrong
13. Paul & Pauline Shull
14. Evelyn & Donald Stufflebeam
15. John & Doris Jones
16. Wally & Doris Brauks
17. Sam & Lee Baglio
18. Miriam & Floyd Richmond
19. Herb Roy, winner of "Pitch to the Pin" golf award, with wife, Dottie
20. "Toots" & Bill Hetherington
21. Ginny & Bob Yockey
22. Bernie & Jack Farley
23. Arnold & Wanda Baron
24. "Lovebirds" Edith & Ben Zeldes
25. Edith & Chuck Herget



REUNION '92 - FESTIVITIES



Center: Eleanor & James Thomas



Eunice Donahue, Avis Syverson and Bev & Bob Springer



L. to R.: Robert Dees, Edith Dees



Bettie & Jim Martin and Dana Schrupp



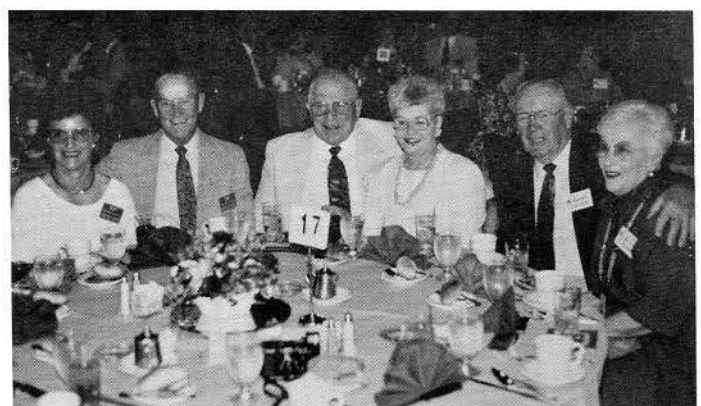
Jan & Hal Province and Cleveland & Henrietta Romero



June Wuertz & Elly Veon



Lowell Larson, Herb Donahue, Marv Syverson & Marian Larson



Darlene & Harold Dwyer, Jack & Liz Noe, and Bob & Beth Galloway
Leo Hendrickson, William Orton & Kenas Akers

REUNION '92 - FESTIVITIES



L. to R.: Dave Sigourney, Carol Roch



Sam Swanson, Elbert Swenson and John Moreno



L. to R.: Esther Wright, Bob Wright



Martha & Russell Reed and August & Kitty Luhrsen



Jack Jones and Agnes & Allen Israelsen



Joe & Kay Marks, Jeanie Abraham and Jack Jones



Standing: Lea & Truman Wingo; Seated L. to R.: Harold & Lea Witham and Lois & Walter Sturdivan



L. to R.: Dotti & Joe Lindia and Dudley & Mary Ellen Casler

REUNION '92 - FESTIVITIES



L. to R.: Mary & Anthony Coutros, Bernie & Jack Farley



Standing L. to R.: Frank Sivret, Everett Rose and Fred Sauermilch
Seated, L. to R.: Alda Sivret and Alene Sauermilch



Ruby & Walt McAllister and Betty & Jim Martin



L. to R.: Edith Dees, Earl Zesch, Dolores Zesch



Sam & Lee Baglio and Arlene & Sam Wolstencroft



L. to R.: Cleveland & Henrietta Romero, John Doronsky & Beverly Stearns



Leo Hendrickson, William Orton & Kenas Akers



Clockwise: Ken & Martha Lewis, Madeline & Tom Belleau, Minette & Alex Moore, Libbie & Fred Scherr, and Liz & Bob Campbell

REUNION '92 - FESTIVITIES



Paul & Beryl Anderson and Wally & Doris Brauks



L. to R.: Edward Lonergan, Mary & Byron Sheesly



Jack Terry, Don Tuttle & Ron Tuttle (father & son)



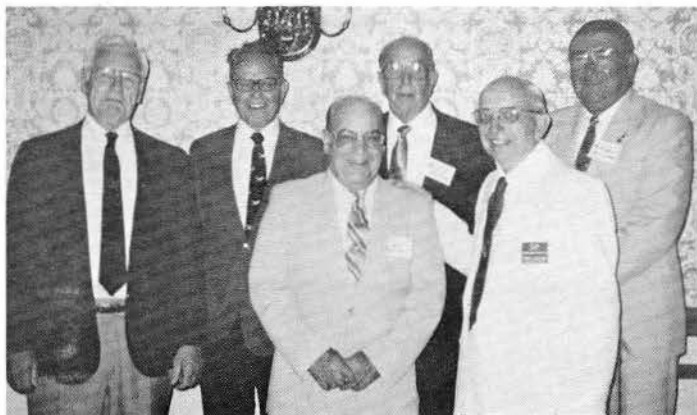
Fred & Ginny Munte and Herb Hall & J.C. Smith



Dexter & Beulah Jordan and Twyla & Paul Meeder



L. to R.: Paul & Pauline Shull, Harold & Genevieve Rutka and Wayne & Laverne Howarter



L. to R.: Gordon Spilker, Gene James, Bill Burnell, Jack Ashburn, Fred Schoch, and Arnold Prillaman



Joan & Ed Dooley and Donald Allen

REUNION '92 - "THE FAREWELL BREAKFAST"



The farewell breakfast



The farewell breakfast



The farewell breakfast



The farewell breakfast



The farewell breakfast



The farewell breakfast



The farewell breakfast



The farewell breakfast



WILLIAM LEWIS - Alexandria, LA.

I have certainly enjoyed Mendlesham Memories. I regret that I did not learn about the 34th Association a long time ago. I just received a copy of "The 34th Bomb Group History" published by Turner Publishing Co. It was good - as far as it went. There's so much more that needs to be written. Maybe revisions and updates will be forthcoming. I hope so.

I was a pilot in the 4th Sqdn, in the original bunch that formed in Blythe, Cal. Seven of our crew are still alive, and we're hoping to get together in Las Vegas. We hope to meet many in Las Vegas. This will be our first 34th reunion, I regret to say, but not our last, I hope.

WAYNE F. WRIGHT - Jackson, TN.

I frequently look at reunions listed in the NARKE publication. Needless to say I was glad to see the 34th listed. I don't think I can attend this year but I'd like to know who of the 7th Sqdn. are attending.

I joined the 34th as a mechanic (747) at Blythe, CA. and went to England in the spring of 1944. I was there when the change was made from B-24's to B-17's - there for D-Day and at the end. I was discharged in 1945. I worked as a civilian for the Air Force from 1962-1979. I would appreciate any reply.

RALPH A. BUSH - Springfield, IL.

The past nine months have been tough ones for both myself and Marge. Early last winter my annual physical disclosed a prostate problem which resulted in many tests, hospitalization and thirty-five radiation treatments. Apparently the cancer has been eliminated.

However, I had a massive heart attack early in June and was in intensive care for several days. I've had two angioplasty procedures and am now doing pretty well, but will not try to get to Las Vegas. Hopefully, next year we will be able to join you again.

Best of luck for the reunion and my regards to all of the 34th.

WILLIAM SHERMAN - Miami, FL.

You are, no doubt, aware of Hurricane Andrew hitting Miami. We were lucky - only a few trees down. However, one neighbor, only a few miles south, lost everything. We are still without power and the heat is dreadful. So I am afraid the Las Vegas trip is out.

AUDREY (CLAUDE) GIBBS - Catawissa, MO.

We enjoyed our time in Vegas. Was great seeing a large number of first-timers. We visited relatives in San Diego and Alamogordo. It's good to be back home after eighteen days on the road. We appreciate the time and effort you put into M.M.

RUSS WEIDNER - Culbertson, NE.

(President of the McCook NE. Army Air Base Society)

I just finished reading the Sept. issue of MM - a fine job. You mentioned that the listing of "Taps" is getting longer - sad but true. Because of that I was hoping that you might tell your members to start writing down their memories or recording on audio or video tapes. Anything to save their memories for future generations. Time is not on our side on this.

After they have completed their stories make some copies and give them to a library, a museum and to their grandchildren or whoever will accept them and take care of them. Now is the time to share your experiences.

(Of course, the McCook Army Air Base Society would appreciate and display any materials also!)

THEA D.W. (RICHARD) CHILDS - Lehigh Acres, FL.

My late husband, Richard D. Childs, was a navigator with the 445th B.G. for almost all his time in England. He was only with the 34th from July through September, 1944. He mentioned a Sgt. Radford and that he shared a room with a pilot named Hogan from Cincinnati in his journals.

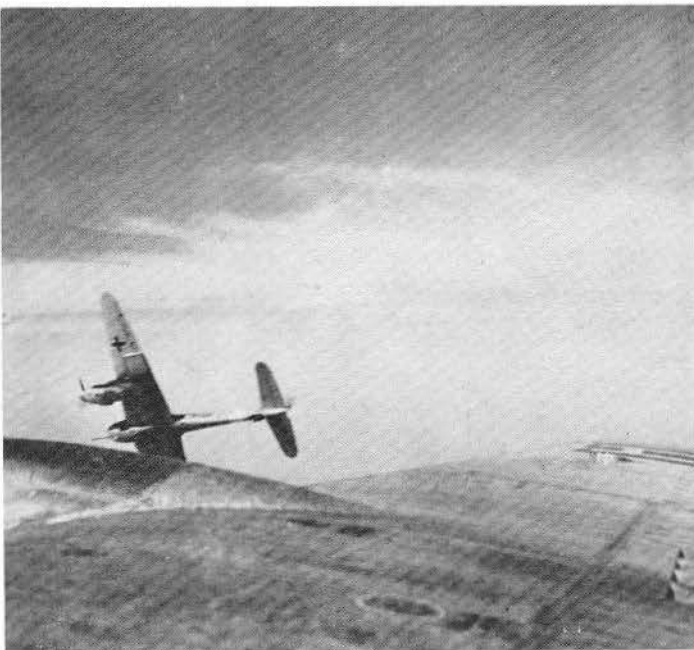
He was with the 34th while he finished up his missions and then came home and was with the ATC. I have written to the Locator service in St. Louis and am getting microfilm from Maxwell Field, including one on the 34th, so we'll see what I find.

VINCE DORAN (Anchorage, AK.)

It was so nice to see everyone again at the Reunion in Las Vegas. Wished there could have been more opportunity to get together, but the hotel was so full of people it was hard to get a corner to visit in.

Mendlesham Memories is an outstanding publication. Through it we are able to keep in touch with so many old and new friends and spouses. I'm enclosing a copy of "THE SHOOTING OF DAN MCGREW". It's a great story of the Klondike gold rush of 1898. I was privileged to be invited to recite it to our group. It was the highlight of the reunion for me.

(Editor's note: We'll print this in the March issue because the December issue already has more pages than usual.)



Germany fighter off our right wing.

Continued on page 24

NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from page 23.

DOROTHY (LESLIE) CARTER - Salina, KS.

I picture the 34th B.G. as a very caring family, for each other. The article in MM did not give my brother's name but I did receive two telephone calls and one letter.

Cleveland Romero called. He was the only survivor from Leslie's plane. Cleveland had lost track of Leslie's wife and I gave him her address. I received a letter from Robert Huhta whose brother's plane did not return on the same date as Leslie's, Jan. 14, 1945. He's also looking for information and is offering to share any information he gets regarding Leslie while looking for his brother. William (Pete) Gray called. He was crew chief for Leslie's plane which went on 19 missions. The boy's 20th and last mission was not on their own plane.

I have paid for the missing crew report and am still waiting for it. The four crew members buried together in Zachary Taylor National Cemetery at Louisville, Ky. are not listed on your TAPS list and I will be looking for their addresses to send to you.

JAMES STUTHERS - Venice, FL.

Our crew was in the same huts with the crew shown on page 5 of the June, 1992 issue. Bill Oravec and Richard Kashishian were my "buddies" and the ones to whom I said "Goodbye" on the day I finished my tour of duty. I've also enclosed a picture or our "Butler Bums" crew. While some of our crew are lost or unaccounted for now-a-days, I am in constant touch with Richard Scully who lives nearby in Sarasota.

We're trying to arrange to be in Las Vegas for the reunion. Kay and I enjoyed ourselves at Louisville last year.



Standing l. to r.: Roy Reynolds, Dick Scully & Bob Butler. Kneeling l. to r.: Ed Renowden, Jim Stuthers, Martin Kallinen & Joe Remy

ROBERT B. ELSENER - Bellevue, Ky.

I served with the 34th from Sept., 1942 to cessation of hostilities in Sept., 1945. I was with the 7th squadron until May of 1943 and with the 4th squadron until the end. A grand experience and a lot of fond memories of a lot of good buddies.

PAUL ANDERSON - Everett, WA.

Beryl and I enjoyed the reunion, though a little better facilities for the PX and Hospitality rooms would have been nice. It was great to see so many new people attend this year. We hope they enjoyed it as much as we did.

ROY THOMPSON - Bolton, CT.

We had a great time in Las Vegas. I thought we would need a Brinks truck to bring home my mother-in-law's (who was our guest) loot. We're looking forward to '93.

LEONARD HENDRICKSON - El Centro, CA.

It was a thrill and quite an honor to be able to attend the reunion in Las Vegas. All the people were super. Those persons responsible for all the arrangements did a super job.

RAY SUMMA - Anderson, IN.

I go to the hospital for an operation on the prostate on Oct. 17th. I'm supposed to be there only 3 days if everything is O.K. No cancer was found but the bladder was enlarged due to the prostate. It shouldn't be a very rough operation but a little painful for awhile.

EDWARD LONERGAN - Fort Myers, FL.

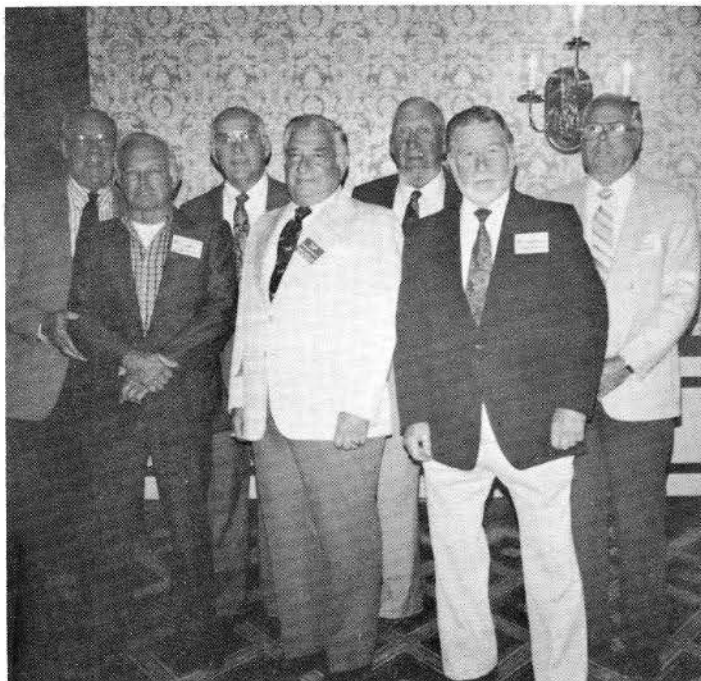
I want you and the reunion committee to know how much Birgit and I enjoyed the meeting in Las Vegas. We had forgotten the size of the Las Vegas Complex since our last visit there in 1979. Now it is huge but, under the circumstances, we feel the committee did a great job and we had a great time.

As appointed volunteer chairman of the Golf Committee I would like to thank Gen. Creer and Arnold Prillaman for their assistance and encouragement in a successful and enjoyable outing. Bob Wright deserves special thanks for managing the finances and records of the golfers who sent money to play in advance.

At the moment arrangements for the 1993 Golf Outing in Little Rock are incomplete. However, keep watching your Mendlesham Memories for the announcement of a bigger and better outing next year with everybody a winner.

JAMES STIVENDER - Gadsden, AL.

Our crew, together with our wives, really enjoyed the 34th B.G. reunion in Las Vegas. Having seven of our crew members, together with their spouses, in attendance was wonderful.



Largest crew attendance - the "Butch" - Rear l. to r.: Pancake, Stivender, Schroeder & Adams. Front l. to r.: Inman, Baglio & Turner

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

Greetings, Veterans! I WANT YOUR UNIT! I am gathering reminiscences and photographs from all units involved in the D-Day invasion for inclusion in a 50th anniversary pictorial salute. The history will be interspersed with stories from both ground personnel and aircrew perspective. Photographs of all types are desired. I do all of my own darkroom work in my home and can make copy negatives, enlargements, etc. I would like to have squadron aircraft in invasion marking if at all possible. All negatives, photos or slides will be copied and returned to you in a timely manner. Please send all to: MSG Mark D. Bacon, 24364 Pansy Ct., Apt. D, Elmendorf AFB, AK. 99506.

From a Mr. Wallace R. Forman we have the following:

I have a collection of 2,000 nose art pictures of B-24s and 1,100 of B-17s. An index list of either the B-17 or B-24 lists can be had for \$6.00 or both for \$10.00. Along with the list will be a coupon which may be returned to me for a copy-machine copy of the nose art of your choice. Ground crewmen may find these as interesting as air crews.

In addition, if available, you can send me a picture of nose art for inclusion in the list. These will be copied and returned to you by next-day mail.

My address is: Wallace R. Forman, 2161 W. County Road B., St. Paul, MN. 55113. My phone number is (612) 633-7670 and the Fax number is (612) 786-0814.

The American Legion has established a WWII 50th Anniversary National Media Data Bank. They are looking for stories of experiences from WWII veterans for inclusion in this commemoration of that war. You need not be a member of the American Legion to participate. If you are interested in sharing your story write to: D. Mark Katz, Media Relations Manager, 1608 K. St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 and request one of their questionnaires.

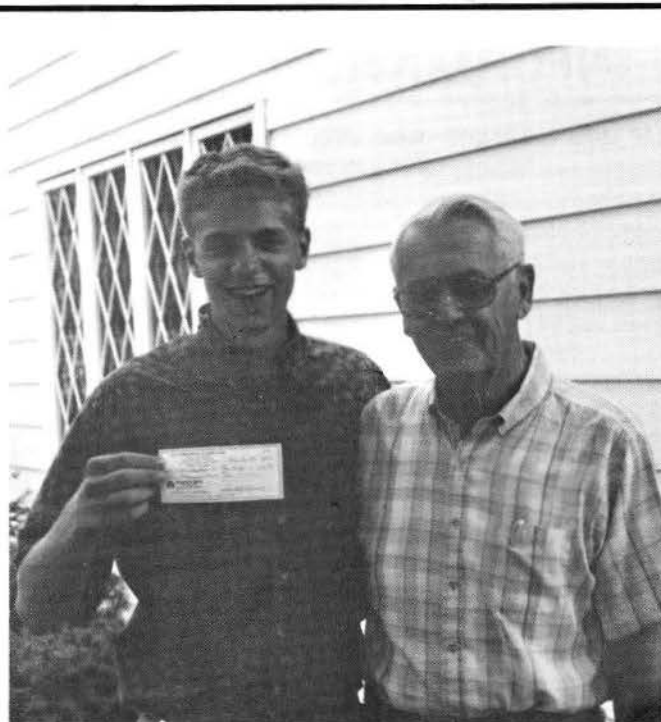
We have a missive from Bombardiers, Inc. looking for all bombardiers. "We need to know of them and their location and fate!" If you have any information please contact: BOMBARDIERS, INC., 500 Jackson St. #1407, Daphne, AL. 36526-7035

From William Dorrance we have received a book review of the book "50 MINUTE CRUSH" written by Lt. Col. Donald R. Currier. Bill's remarks are as follows:

"This is a well-written story of a B-24 squadron that flew from a God-forsaken base in Italy. I'm an ex-B-17 pilot who survived 33 missions but I take my hat off to the author and his (few) fellow survivors. Read the book - it's quite a gripping story."

The book contains 171 pages with a cost of \$24.95. It is published by Burd Street Press, ISBN: 0-942597-35-4. I'm sorry but that's the only address we were given. I'm sure this book is available in book stores.

A2 JACKETS! For those of you looking for a replacement A2 jacket, we have a new source with a good price: S-M-L-XL \$154.00, TALL M-L-XL \$170.00, and BIG 2X-3X \$185.00. MILITARY ART CO. of 207 TATE ST., PICAYUNE, MS. 39466 can also refurbish or repaint your old A2 jacket (if it still fits!), or will paint you a new jacket. Bob Vaughn of Picayune says the prices are very reasonable, too. He's had two jackets painted. (One was displayed in our PX at Las Vegas.) The telephone of MILITARY ART is (601) 798-1209 or the fax is (601) 799-1440 should you wish to contact them by such means.



First place winner - Chris Fandrey with sponsor, Marvin Syverson.

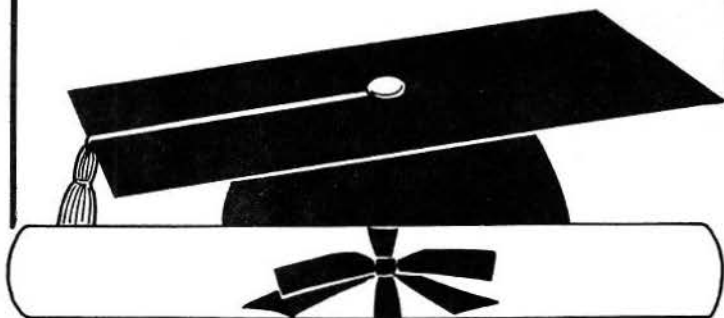
OUR SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

1ST PLACE - CHRIS FANDREY

Dear 34th B.G. and Scholarship Committee;

I would sincerely like to thank you for awarding me first place in the 1992 34th B.G. Scholarship. The money and book are very much appreciated. It will go a long way in helping me to pay for college. Best of luck and thanks again.

Chris Fandrey



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!

INFORMATION, PLEASE!

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

Can anyone identify the captain on the right side of this photo, with his left foot on the bumper of the jeep? Please write me at: William C. Alston Jr., 3722 E. 46th Place, Tulsa, OK. 74135-1901. I will appreciate it.



Can anyone identify the captain on the right?

During WWII I was a radio operator in England flying with the 351st B.G. After completing my missions, awaiting transfer home, I discovered that there was another young man from our home town flying missions. I never knew which group he was in but I had wished to have been able to visit with him. His name was Elmer Louis Reitman. His obituary says that he was last seen leaving LUDHAM tower in intense fog on Jan. 2, 1945.

On our recent trip to England I saw his name at Cambridge Cemetery listed as being in the 4th B.S. of the 34th B.G. All these passing years I've wanted to write to someone who might have known him. His parents died years ago and most of his relatives have also, but he is remembered by many. I would appreciate hearing from anyone who knew him with any information you can give. Contact me at: Elmer F. Ruschman, Mary Ingles Hwy., Melbourne, KY. 41059.

From Leonard Hendrickson, one of our associate members, we have the following:

I was named after my mother's brother, Leonard S. Ray. He was killed on July 19, 1944 over Saarbrücken, Germany. I've been researching for some time now and have learned a lot but have a long way to go. I plan to write a novel centered on this information when I retire in a couple of years. My uncle was co-pilot on the plane piloted by Donald DeMatio. The crew names were Walter Vachon, Garfield Morehouse, Cecil Tankersly, Carlo



ROSE'S CORNER

REFLECTIONS ON LAS VEGAS

It was wonderful to see so many of you in Las Vegas and we're so sorry not to have met all of you who made this one your first reunion. It was difficult to meet everyone without a meeting room but we have been promised a hospitality room in Little Rock, Ark. where I promise to make an all-out effort to say "Hello" to every one of you newcomers.

Las Vegas was hot, fun, noisy, a source to make money, more of a place to lose it, and a city that never sleeps! We know where our money is so, someday, we may go back to redeem it!?? I'm wondering as to how many of you agree with that statement? I'm sorry that I didn't have my camera to capture the expressions on some of you gals' faces, sitting by the slot machines, especially when the bells started ringing and you knew what it felt like to be a winner! Henrietta Romero was one of our winners, that is, while we were watching. Nice going, Henrietta!

My favorite part of the reunion was the banquet on Wednesday evening where you men looked so handsome and your ladies had that gorgeous look which makes a very pretty picture. The meal was secondary to the rest of the evening. I can't wait to receive our 7th Group picture. The singers, "The Chorus of Sweet Adeline" were super! The speeches were short and easy to listen to and, of course, the very touching ceremony of placing flowers on the memorial cross and announcing the names of your "downed" buddies, brought many tears around the room.

Let's all get together again to enjoy our "family" reunion in Little Rock next year and make it even better than this one. May you have enough faith to banish any depression and may God bless you abundantly.

With Love, Rose

P.S. Watch for a nifty recipe from Audrey Gibbs in our next issue.

Asti, Harold Williams, Harvey Morehead, Jesse Schulman and John McCarthy. I am looking for anyone who can provide any information, suggestions or ideas concerning my project. I would especially like to contact someone from the ground crew of the plane who could provide information concerning the number of missions made by the crew. (All members of the crew were lost.) Please write to me at: Leonard Hendrickson, 2130 Elm Avenue, El Centro, CA. 92243. It would be greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Roseanne Davis is looking for information on her cousin, Lt. Albert J. Nagy, of the 18th Sqdn. Lt. Nagy, a bombardier, was reported missing in action in November of 1944. She believes her cousin was with the 34th from Blythe to Mendlesham. Any information would be appreciated. Please write to: Mrs. Roseanne Davis, 198 Esquire Drive, Manchester, CT. 06040. Her phone no. is (203) 646-6576.

ADDRESS CHANGES

(As of 10-23-92)

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ORGN.</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIP</u>
BALDEA	DAVID E.	7 (A)	304 BURLINGTON BEACH ROAD	VALPARAISO,	IN.	46383
BAMBAER	GELBERT R.	392ND B.G.	P.O.BOX 2817	PINETOP,	AZ.	85935
BOULDIN	JAMES E.	18 LM	1129 S.E. ASTORWOOD	STUART,	FL.	34994
ELLIS	CHARLES W.	7	2100 CIRCLE DR., APT. 233	SCOTTSBLUFF,	NE.	69361
GALLOWAY	JOHN H.	4	P. O. BOX 1021	BURNSVILLE,	NC.	28714
GRAVES	HARRY W.	18	E 14410 10TH AVENUE	VERADALE,	WA.	99037
HOPKINS	JAMES C.	7	1104 ARBOR LANE	MARBLE FALLS,	TX.	78654
HUBERT	DOUGLAS	A	MOVED - NO FORWARDING ADDRESS			
HYLER	ROBERT D.	4 LM	330 JOHN ROSS ROAD	BELMONT,	MO.	64012
JALVING	MARVIN	7 (LM)	RT. 1, BOX 203	MEARS,	MI.	49436
JONES	WYATT S.	18	5997 WINTERGREEN ROAD	NORCROSS,	GA.	30093
MOLICA	JOHN V.	391	4345 EDEN STREET S.E.	SALEM,	OR.	97301
PAULNOCK	RUSSELL S.	18	P. O. BOX 2582	SANTA BARBARA,	CA.	93120
PETERMAN	ARDYCE	A	626 LANDING DRIVE	AIKEN,	SC.	29801
SCHMIDT	JOSEPH J.	4 LM	2921 S. SIDNEY CT.	DENVER,	CO.	80231
SEAMONS	RICHARD L.	4	7245 S.W. 13TH AVENUE	PORTLAND,	OR.	97219
SMITH	CARRIE (MRS. CHAS.)		2854 YORK STREET	ROCHESTER HILLS,	MI.	48309
THOMPSON	CLIFFORD A.		P.O. BOX 310	LIVINGSTON,	TX.	77351
WOODEN	JOHN RAYMOND	4	P. O. BOX 2174	RIALTO,	CA.	92377
WRAGA	WALTER W.	18	7535 CHESAPEAKE AVE.	BALTIMORE,	MD.	21219
YOUNG	JAMES G.	7A	P. O. BOX 89	BRIDGEVILLE,	PA.	15017

NEWLY FOUND

(As of 10-23-92)

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ORGN.</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIP</u>
BRUNING	MERLIN		512 WASHINGTON STREET	CARROLL,	IA.	51401
DEL BIANCO	ANTON	18	116 LINCOLN CIRCLE	KOHLER,	WI.	53044
GUERTIN	DONALD J.	18	6200 NICOLET ROAD	RICHMOND,	VA.	23225
HAEFELEIN	GEORGE	4 (LM)	70 BRITTIN STREET	MADISON,	NJ.	07940
WIENER	SIDNEY	4	5609 EDMERE DRIVE	TORRANCE,	CA.	90503

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

(As of 10-23-92 - 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>
BAUCUS	JOHN J.	7	528 POWER STREET	HELENA,	MT.	59601
HAEFELEIN	GEORGE W.	4 (LM)	70 BRITTIN STREET	MADISON,	NJ.	07940
KANTORAK	JOHN	7	1642 WOODWARD AVENUE	LAKEWOOD,	OH.	44107
MOLICA	JOHN V.	391	4345 EDEN ST. S.E.	SALEM,	OR.	97301
THOMPSON	CLIFFORD E.	391	4345 EDEN ST. S.E.	SALEM,	OR.	97301



TAPS

(As of 10-23-92)

<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>
BLAKELY	GEORGE	391	671 C. STREET	LEMOORE,	CA.	93245	AUG. '92
LOPEZ	MIGUEL	18 LM	807 MONROE	RIO GRANDE CITY	TX.	78582	1992
NETH	CECIL B.	391	724 CHEYENNE DRIVE	FORT COLLINS,	CO.	80525	OCT., 1992
SMITH	CHARLES E.	7	2854 YORK STREET	ROCHESTER HILLS,	MI.	48309	FEB. '92
SPAYDE	DONALD E.	HQ. LM	3 EAST 5TH STREET	BLOOMSBURG,	PA.	17815	1992

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
HUBERT	DOUGLAS	A	416 2ND AVENUE SOUTH	SEATTLE,	WA.	98104



G. Grishal & J. Gill



K. Muccino & R. Lane



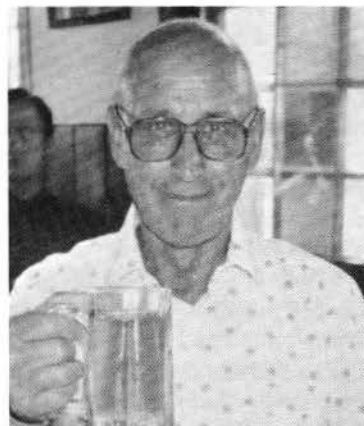
Then and Now



BRUCE SOTHERN



1941



1988

DON TUTTLE



1944

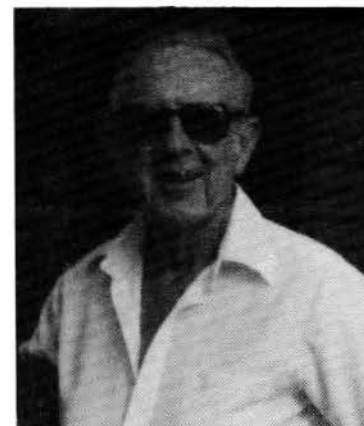


1989

ROBERT E. VAUGHN



1943



1989

Memories

REMEMBERING THAT DAY

by Don Fillman

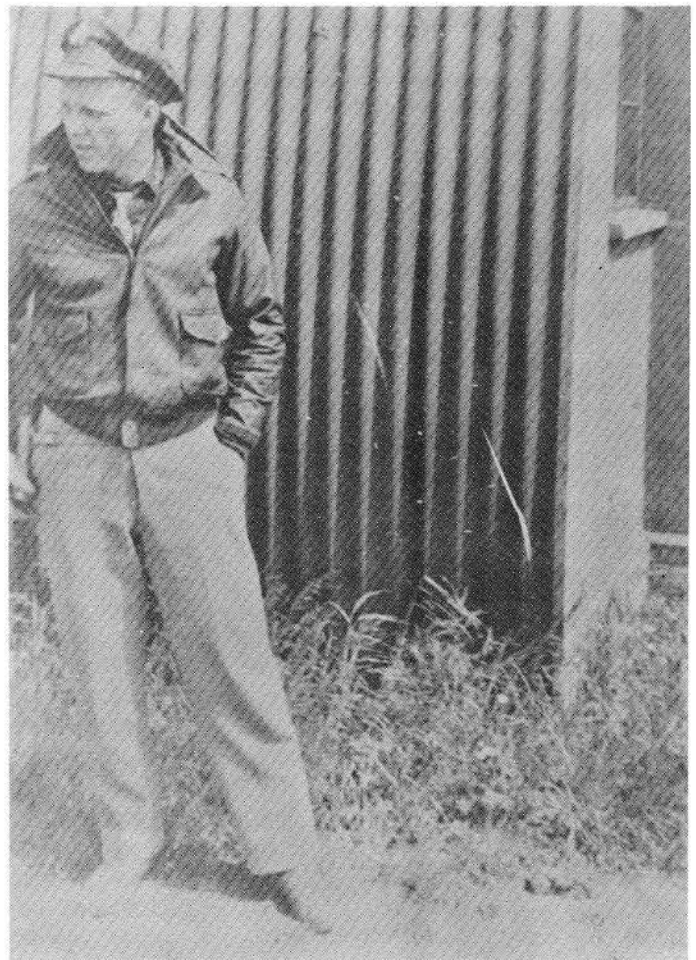
I recall the mission on June 7, 1944 that ended up with the two JU-88's hitting us on landing pattern and final approach. I was getting into position to call out the indicated air speed and saw two B-24's in the approach ahead of our plane, "The Belle Of The Brawl". Someone said "Look at that". He was looking out the co-pilot's window and at a quick glance I saw, on the ground, a lot of smoke, very black.

Soon we saw at least two tracers that came very close to us. They were a bright white and they hit the bomber on our left in the No. 3 engine and the fuselage. It tore up some aluminum and the engine was smoking badly. Later I found out that it was Oscar Hanson's plane which peeled off to the left. I also found out that Paul Shull was the engineer on that plane.

Lt. Russell Paulnock put us on the ground as soon as he could and I don't think any of us saw the JU-88's. It was also a long time before any of us were told how many bombers were lost.

During that approach and landing we noticed an odd-ball B-24 not far from us. I was in the waist and he came up from 4 to 5 o'clock at our elevation over the channel. I noticed that it was painted a little darker shade of paint and was named "Joker" with a Joker playing card, also showing an "X" and a small "m". I also recall that the pilot of the "Joker" was either very tall or, maybe, sitting on a seatpack chute.

Our navigator reported that the "Joker" left the formation at Luton, England. I've suggested that the "Joker" may well have been a captured and repaired B-24 flown by a German crew and reporting our altitude, position and headings. It's a certainty that the JU-88's hit at a perfect time, almost home at 2350 hours.



James Bartels



Francis Jackovich with two nurses of Her Majesty's Royal Nursing Corps.

I REMEMBER HIM WELL!

by William "Pete" Gray

My first contact with Captain William C. Brophy was down on the flight line at Blythe, CA. on a blistering hot afternoon in the late summer of 1943. He was accompanied by another flight officer whose name I don't recall. They were going to make an overnight flight to San Bernardino and, needing a flight engineer, they asked me to go along.

I got a buddy of mine, "G.I." Williams, to go with me. I never did know if the "G.I." part of his name was real or just a nickname. Anyway, that's what everybody called him.

At that time San Bernardino was the site of the largest Air Corps Supply Depot on the west coast. It consisted of literally hundreds of enormous warehouses scattered over the desert floor just east of Los Angeles.

Upon our arrival there we parked our B-24 in front of one of the warehouses, so close we could see the familiar red and white colored lights of the Coca-Cola machine. While waiting for some transportation to take us over to Headquarters we all enjoyed a cold one.

The guy on duty there told us they had almost anything you might possibly need at the Depot - anything from a gem clip to a complete airplane. It really was a huge operation. Later that night we ran into this same fellow down at the PX having a beer.

Now, at that time, as some of you will remember, back at Blythe we had a lot of planes which were restricted from night flights due to a shortage of fluorescent light bulbs. These bulbs were needed in the cockpit so pilots could read the flight in-

Continued on page 31

Memories

Continued from page 30

struments in the dark. Regular white bulbs were not suitable - they would have ruined their night vision.

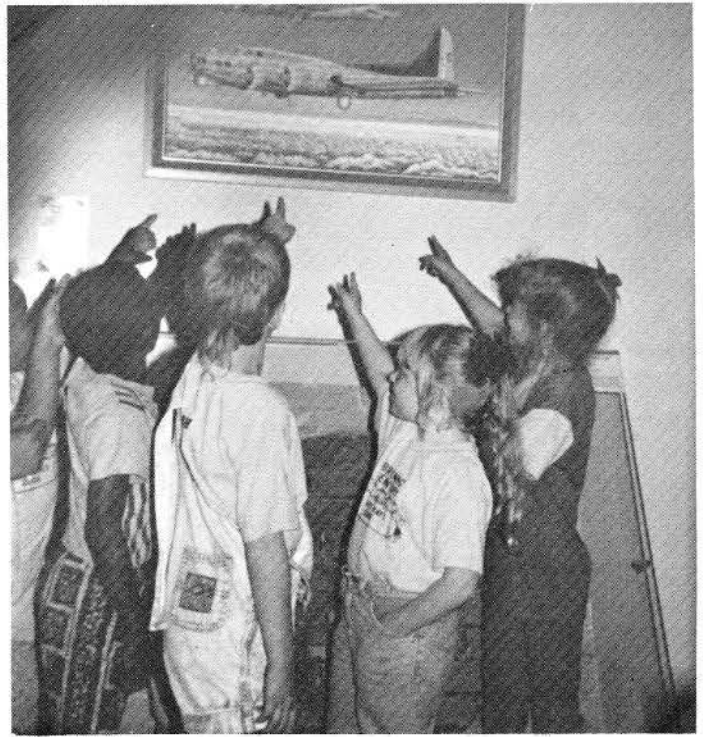
We mentioned this to our new friend and, after a few cold ones, he admitted that he just might be able to help us out. He told us to stop by sometime the next day and he'd see what he could do. And he was as good as his word. The next morning, after breakfast, we found ourselves making trip after trip from the warehouse out to our plane with boxes of these bulbs and several other items as well. We stored them all in the waist and tied them down so that they wouldn't bounce around and get broken.

Later that afternoon Brophy sent word for us to be ready to leave about 7:00 that evening for our return flight to Blythe. So, after supper we went down to the plane and waited for Brophy and his co-pilot to arrive. While sprawled out in the shade of the wings we got to wondering what Brophy would say when he saw all those boxes. We knew it would be kind of hard to explain why they were there. Also, it was possible we could be accused of stealing them and our friend in the warehouse could get involved and we might all wind up in the local Stockade.

But G.I. didn't seem too concerned. He figured both pilots would enter through the bomb bay doors and never even go back to the waist. My thought was that they just might go back to the rear hatch and up through the waist where the boxes were. We even made a small bet as to which way they would go.

G.I. lost - both pilots headed straight for the rear hatch much to our dismay. We knew they were soon going to be asking a lot of questions for which we didn't have any answers. And, when they saw all those boxes tied down to the floor, both of them came to a complete halt. Neither said a word at first while G.I. and I were busy trying to think up some answers to the many questions they were going to ask, such as "What is in the boxes?", "Where did they come from?", "What were we going to do with them?"

Finally Brophy leaned over and poked at them with his foot



Our painting being admired by some kids from the first grade at Brown-ing Elementary School, Webster Parish, LA.

and, with a kind of quizzical expression on his face, turned to me and asked, "How much does all this weigh?" Now that was one question neither of us had even considered and, for a moment, we were a little disconcerted. Finally I managed to come up with a weak, "Not much, just about 40 pounds - maybe 45."

Brophy thought about that for a second or so, then nodded his head and, without another word, stepped over the boxes and made his way toward the front of the plane with his co-pilot right at his heels. After they closed the door behind themselves we both grinned at each other and started slapping one another on the back. All that worrying for nothing, we told ourselves. We had got away with it easily!

But today, looking back on the event, I'm beginning to wonder. Did we even get away with it at all? Somehow, I'm beginning to think Brophy knew what was going on all the time but just didn't want to "see" it. And, later back at Blythe, no one ever questioned why, all of a sudden, there were plenty of fluorescent light bulbs on hand. But, like Brophy, they also knew better than to ask too many questions.

Funny thing though. Some months later, at Mendlesham, I made several other flights with Brophy. Never once did he enter the plane through the rear hatch. He always climbed in through the bomb bay doors.

THOSE COCKY AIRMEN

by Vince Doran

I met a nurse who was stationed in an American military hospital somewhere in southwest England. Most of their work was ministering to combat casualties to U.S. airmen and ground forces. She had a serious complaint against the airmen:

- a. They were irresponsible.
- b. They were forever crawling out of the windows at night and picking up English girls in the local pubs, or anywhere else they could be found.
- c. They would get drunk and disorderly and embarrass everyone but themselves when brought back to the hospital by the MP's.

Continued on page 32



Vivienne Creer on "VIV'S NEW TOY"

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



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MEMORIES Continued from page 31

d. They were always trying to hit on the nurses, even when they weren't physically able.

e. They were cheerful and lighthearted.

f. They used every rule in the book to get discharged from the hospital and back on flying status.

She said that, although the airmen were fun to be around, their high spirits must be an indication that they were too immature to be taking the war seriously. She said they should be more like the infantry, engineers, artillery and tankers:

a. They really knew how to take the war seriously.

b. They were in no hurry to heal and get back into combat.

c. In fact, combat was the last place they wanted to go.

d. They were full of bloody horror stories about the war.

e. They had nurses write their will and sad letters back home.

f. They were not cheerful nor lighthearted at all.

She was right about airmen wanting to get back into combat, but nobody had told her why. It was the definite combat tour that accounted for our high morale. When we finished 35 bombing missions (33 if the crew stayed together) we would be sent back to the ZI. We could go home for a leave before receiving the next assignment which could not, necessarily, be in the shooting war again. So we did everything we could to stay on combat status and keep flying. Each mission completed was one closer to that magic number.

Nothing like that was ever figured out for the ground troops. They had to stay in the line indefinitely. The best they could hope for was a few days off once in a while, if they could be spared. The American GI was a great soldier, but it is easy to understand that long combat duty, and the prospects of more of the same, might not make him a happy warrior.

That nurse thought we were irresponsible, and we were fun loving on the ground. The enemy saw another side of us in the air. The Germans had good reason to believe we were serious, well-trained, effective and deadly.



John Funk, Tail Gunner



Cpl. O. G. Pegram

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111 Province Lane

Carriere, MS 39426