



# ENDLESHAM MEMORIES

## 34TH BOMB GROUP H



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## Changing Of The Guard



Past President  
Bruce Sothern



New President  
Sam Wolstencroft

# Happy Holidays!



## OBSERVATIONS

The 1993 34th B.G. reunion at Little Rock has come and gone. Those of us attending had an especially enjoyable time, meeting with old friends and making a lot of new ones. We had more than 30 first-timers with us and were told by most of them how much they enjoyed the hospitality and friendliness of the old-timers.

We did have a shock with the death of Ray Summa just days before the reunion. Rose and I flew down to Little Rock on Wednesday which allowed me to attend the funeral service in Anderson, Ind. on Tuesday. It's a 3½ hour drive each way but I was able to do it and I'm happy I did attend.

The head table at the banquet had two vacant seats for Ray and Hannah. Ray's napkin was black. Gen. Bill Creer gave a very good memorial address which is printed later in this issue. Also, the scholarship program has been renamed "The Ray L. Summa 34th Bomb Group Scholarship Program". Considering all that Ray has done for our group he deserves all that and more in commendation. Those of us who worked with him will miss him greatly.

With the passing of Ray there was to be a void in our services. We are fortunate, however, that Hal Province has volunteered to take over Ray's chores. Ray was one of the most devoted contact men imaginable. Along with the computer program purchased for Hal Province, with 34th approval, and a lot of hard work from both Ray and Hal, many thousands of letters have been sent out which, as you may have noted from recent issues, has brought in a multitude of new-found members.

This issue covers the reunion as best we can. The photographs portray most, if not all, of the attendees. Some of the photographs were too unclear for our printers so some of our people may not be seen. However, the useable pictures were all used to cover the majority of those attending.

Sometime after this issue is in your hands Rose and I will be heading down for our yearly sojourn in Florida. The March issue will be put together and printed while we are there. Our deadline date for any items to be used in that issue is January 21, 1994. Don't forget, our address in Florida is:

1107 W. Riviera Blvd.  
Oviedo, FL 32765

After late December all items for the newsletter should be mailed there.

With the holidays coming, Rose and I want to wish all of you the most glorious of holidays and a happy and prosperous new year. May all your highest aspirations come true!!

Eli Baldea,  
Editor



1446th Ord. Supply & Maint. Company formation.

## PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another reunion has come and gone. I hope everyone enjoyed our get-together in Little Rock as much as I did. I thank all who contributed to such an enjoyable occasion and a special thank-you to all those who helped make this past year's mission a success—"Bombs on target with minimum flak damage".

To all those who could not or did not attend, you missed a well-planned and very well attended reunion. Sure was great to see so many first-timers. Shows how valuable the phone disks have been in locating "lost sheep". Keep up the good work, Hal.

Mugs and I thank you all for the lovely Mikasa Crystal Canape Tray and the Attache Case.

Many of you took advantage of some of the entertainment in the Ozarks and Branson. Mugs and I were fortunate to spend three nights in Branson with our special friends, Frank and Alda Sivret and Everett and Peggy Rose, where we did some sight-seeing and took in a total of four shows. Hey, how about Bill Anderson and "The Old School"? That thirty minutes of entertainment they provided us with on Saturday night at the banquet sure went by in a hurry! Very difficult to sit still with that kind of foot-stomping music. We also stopped at Carthage, MO where we saw "Precious Moments". Just another reason for having the reunion in different sections of this great U.S.A. every year. There are so many things of interest to see and do.

Next year it's on the east bank of the Mighty Mississippi, 150 miles south of its origin at St. Paul. Then, in '95, we can saddle up and join forces in Huntsville, Alabama.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy 1994.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Sothern,  
Past President

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is a great honor for me to be elected as your new President for the ensuing year and I hope I can fulfill all your expectations. September has been a great month for me, not only as becoming President, but Peggy and I celebrated our 50th anniversary on Sept. 14th.

The reunion at Little Rock was great, as usual, and congratulations are extended to the committee for all the planning and leg work involved. They have done a remarkable job over the years. Eli, our editor in publishing the Mendlesham Memories, the Board of Directors, PX workers, - your dedication and performance should be commended.

We were happy to see so many new members plus all the familiar faces. We hope you enjoyed yourselves as much as we did. Each year you will meet different people and make more friends.

As you all know, it was a sad time, as we lose comrades that we have grown to know and like so much. Ray Summa will be sadly missed, not only for his friendship, but for all the tireless work and responsibilities he undertook for all of us as Contact Man and Corresponding Secretary and in so many other areas. I think it was Walt McAllister who called him the "Godfather" of this organization. General Creer delivered a very inspiring eulogy to Ray, which touched us all.

We missed all who couldn't attend and hope we all attempt to make the next reunion in St. Paul, Minnesota, so start planning now. Peggy and I wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Sincerely,  
Sam Wolstencroft







## FROM THE TREASURER'S COMPUTER

For many of you reading this I know that you are in shock upon hearing of the death of Ray Summa. It is a great loss for the 34th Bomb Group Assn. and I know that your thoughts and best wishes are with Hannah and her family in this time of bereavement. I'm pleased that the 34th Bomb Group Assn. saw fit to honor Ray by renaming the Scholarship Awards in his honor. I can think of no other 34th Member who better deserves such a memorial.

To you who missed the reunion, you really missed a good reunion! I feel it will be hard for the reunion committee to improve upon the quality of the 1993 Reunion! And I'm equally certain the reunions in the future will be on a par with the Little Rock Reunion! We had a good location for the PX and took in a record amount of money in sales. The Friday night Ozark Supper gave us plenty of time to socialize as did the hospitality room. The Gala Banquet on Saturday was highlighted by the memorialization of our departed comrades. Special recognition, by ribbons, for our "first-timers" was gratifying and I hope that we can continue to recognize those "first-timers"! The city tour and golf tournament rounded out the activities.

I know that Sid Rockmuller is working on the next reunion and is trying to reassemble the band called the "Jive Bombers". Won't that be a feat? Someone has suggested that we might be able to put together a barber-shop chorus for our entertainment. If any of you, who plan on attending the St. Paul reunion, sing in a barber-shop chorus we'd like to know about it. Please let me know about it! Maybe we can plan on a sing-along or greater for one of the night's entertainment! We have a pianist who can accompany us on a "SING-ALONG", John Doronski!

Now for a (soft) hit at some wallets! If you haven't paid your dues for 1994, I ask you all to sit down and send me a check for the 1994 dues! And, if you're not certain as to your status, look at the address label on this issue of Mendlesham Memories. If the number after your name is less than 94, then YOU OWE FOR 1994! The number will be encircled in red if your dues are due. Just prior to the reunion Ray sent over 230 letters to 34th'ers who hadn't paid their 1993 dues, noting that they were delinquent in dues and would not receive future copies of the newsletter. The response was gratifying and we've had more than 100 respond with not only their 1993 dues, but many paying their 1994 dues as well. I am presently in the process of sending out September copies of M/M to those who have updated their membership. And, for the rest of you, remember this! We'll send you the March issue, and the June issue goes to all on the roster but, after that, you won't be on the mailing list for the next issue of Mendlesham Memories unless you've paid your 1994 dues!!

We're still getting responses to our Lost Sheep letters. I'm making a new list of names to contact with another letter. I've added about 100 names, derived from several orders bestowing the Air Medal or clusters on those who earned them. Many of these are from crews who arrived at Mendlesham after the original crews, flew their tours, and left before the base was closed. If you have any copies of such orders, I'd appreciate a copy of them. I've received the updated phone disks and will be searching them for new addresses as I find some spare time.

I know it's a little early but "GREETINGS OF THE SEASON" to y'all!

Harold Province  
Treasurer & Corresponding Secretary



Capt. Bob Provenge doing news briefing at 34th bomb gp. base theater  
Mendlesham, England during 1944-45

## Don't Forget To Send In Your Dues

Mail \$7.50 to: Harold Province  
111 Province Lane  
Carriere, MS 39426



John Hurley & Dale Ganger

## IN MEMORIAM

Ray Summa, 77, died suddenly on Sept. 18, 1993. Following is the memorial address made by Gen. William Creer at the reunion banquet on Sept. 25, 1993:

Ladies, Comrades of the 34th Bomb Group Association, and guest. I am honored to be with you fine folks this evening.

My purpose - on behalf of us all - is to recognize and pay our respects and gratitude to Ray L. Summa who served so honorably for so many years.

As you may know, Ray passed away at his home in Anderson, Indiana on Sept. 18, 1993. He was much like the rest of us who served during the WWII period. He was from the earth of our country. Ray was born on November 5, 1915 in Mill Shoals, Ill. but spent most of his life in Anderson, Ind. He graduated from high school in 1932 and married Hannah Patterson in 1939.

THEN CAME HITLER!! Ray volunteered his services to our country. He served on war time active duty with the Army Air Corps from 1942 until 1945. His service with the 34th Bomb Group made a significant contribution to the success of our operations during World War II.

After the war Ray chose to take the high road. His deep compassion for his fellow compatriots blossomed. He elected to spend large portions of his time and talents to create a better life for his fellow men. By that I mean - we members of the 34th B.G. Association here in this room and elsewhere.

The 34th Bomb Group Association did have a representative at Ray's services last Tuesday. At our membership meeting this morning members voted unanimously to name our scholarship fund: THE RAY SUMMA 34TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

In my view we owe Ray our greatest expression of respect and gratitude. On this occasion may I suggest we bow our heads in a moment of silence and reflect on our good fortune for having had Ray L. Summa as a key member of the 34th Bomb Group Association and as a loyal companion.

Thank you and God bless.

Editors note: Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Hannah, a daughter, Mrs. Jerry (Catherine) Davis, two grandsons, two brothers and several nieces and nephews.

We of the 34th B.G. Assn. owe Ray a resounding "THANK YOU" for all that he accomplished. Without his ardor we would not be what we are today. "THANK YOU, RAY!!!"



We have received a letter from Hannah Summa to all her friends in the 34th Bomb Group Assn. as follows:  
Dear Friends;

Words cannot express the thoughtfulness of the 34th B.G. The monetary gift was not necessary, but was greatly appreciated.

How kind of the group to rename the scholarship fund in Ray's name. I'm sure he's smiling. He so loved working for the 34th and what a thrill when he found a new one.

This is a very difficult time. My family has been very helpful. Cathy and her dad were always close as were the grandsons and son-in-law. I miss him so very much, but I have many fond memories.

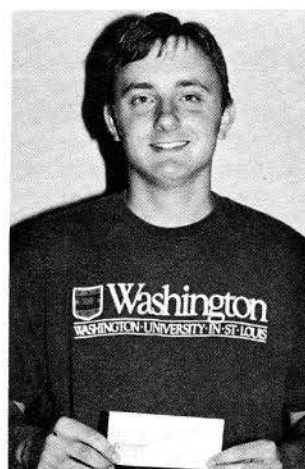
The cards, letters, phone calls and flowers are so meaningful. I treasure them in the caring words of friends - as a card from one of his doctors says, "World War II vets have always been my heroes".

Thanks again for caring.

Love to all,  
Hannah & family

## 1993 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The winners of the 1993 34th B.G. scholarship awards are:



1st Place - \$1,000.00:

Breck Stuart Polley  
4544 Woodstower Drive  
Newburgh, IN 47630

Sponsored by:

George Schmitt

2nd Place - \$500.00:

Angela Stufflebeam  
530 E. Prospect  
Farmington, IL 61531

Sponsored by:

Donald L. Stufflebeam  
Lewistown, IL

The other applicants, to whom we want to wish our best, are: Jennifer Auttersen, Jon Boyson, Leah Butler, Brian Buss, Kathryn Coburn, Christopher Clemens, John DeHaan, Daynon Fellows, Conrad Frazier, Celeste Hendrickson, Shannon Henke, Mark Howarter, Jeanette Jaeggi, Kirsten Kliensmith, Grant Prentice, Janelle Schmidt, Cassandra Writz, Jennifer Zimmerman, Allison Zugeneid.

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Cleveland Romero writes:

I have received a check in the mail from Randall and Shirley Martin in the amount of \$500.00 to be put into the Scholarship Fund in Ray Summa's honor. Randall stated in his letter to me that Ray Summa had devoted most of his life towards the good of the 34th Bomb Group and that he felt that he wanted to do something in his honor.

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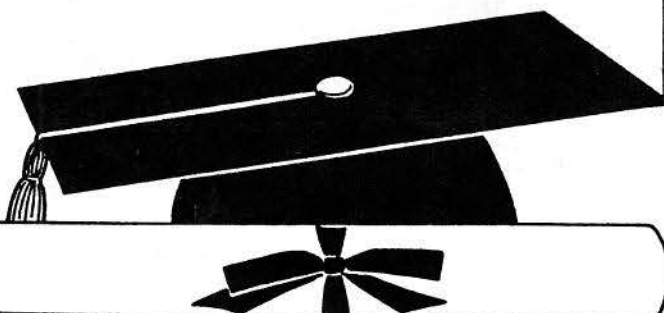
From George Schmitt we have the following:

This letter is to thank you and your committee for selecting my grandson, Breck S. Polley, as the first place winner of the 34th B.G. Assn. Scholarship Award for \$1,000.00. I'm sure he will not disappoint you with his performance.

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From Angela Stufflebeam we have the following:

I would like to thank all of the members of the 34th Bomb Group Assn. and especially the members of the Scholarship Committee for the \$500.00 scholarship which I recently received. As I promised in my application, I have put the money to good use, using it to pay for books for the fall semester. The scholarship was greatly appreciated and I thank you again for selecting me as the second place winner of your award.





## CLARIFICATIONS

It seems that our printers have never seen the "White Cliffs Of Dover" and have made a small error in printing the picture on page 11 of the September issue. If you'll turn it upside down you can see them as they appeared to us upon return from a mission over mainland Europe. Sorry about that!

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From Paul J. Hansen, Producer at Dane Hansen Productions, we have the following about our latest information in the September issue regarding their video tape, "Bombardier, The Real Story". This pertains to mistaken location and accessibility information based on letters we had received from some of our members:

"Please let members of your organization know that we are alive and well. We changed our 1-800 number and the previous company would not forward our calls. Our address remains the same. We're sorry if this has inconvenienced anyone. Our new phone number is 1-800-546-8871."

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From Dirk Gombert we have the following:

Seeing the picture of the B-24 going down in flames on page 8 of the September issue on August 7, 1944 brings to my mind some sad memories. It was flown by Capt. Irwin. Seeing my plane go down is sad enough but, in this case, it hurt me even more because it happened to be the plane and crew I had flown with ever since Blythe. On that day I was flying with Lt. Culver on Irwin's left wing. The picture was taken out of the waist window of Culver's plane. I do not remember who it was that took the picture.

As of this date only three members of Irwin's original crew are still among the living. They are Roy O. Jones, Lawrence Babcock and myself.

(See letter below)

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From Rolland Whited we have the following:

I wanted to let you know about the B-24 on page 8 of the Sept. issue. Our crew was in that plane which was a loaner from the 7th Sqdn. as ours was in for engine repairs. In any event we had a fire in #3 engine and, as the picture shows, we are turning away from our element lead to handle it. Ned Brown, our co-pilot, extinguished the flame with the fire extinguisher in that engine. We came home on three engines and a good amount of luck. At least flak had nothing to do with it.

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From Leroy Robinson we have the identifications of Coupland's crew shown on page 3 of the March, 1993 issue. They are: Standing L. to R.: R. McColl, L. Robinson, T. Coupland, M. Lopock and M. Rosenzweig. Kneeling L. to R.: H. McNeill, D. Wells, J. Gordon and R. Barnett.

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We have had letters with identifications for several of those pictured on pages 12 & 13 of the September, 1993 issue. They are: No. 1, August H. Luhrs; No. 5, William Boyd; No. 7, Gordon Barbaras; No. 10, Dan Staley; No. 13, Henderson??; No. 18, William Kenyon; No. 21, Andrew Champion; No. 24, Connelly Ferguson; No. 26, Michael Angelo Torre; & No. 28, Harold Roosa. Thanks to those who wrote in.

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## INFORMATION, PLEASE!

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In a letter received from the Netherlands, some information is requested. Any material regarding the raid of September 17, 1944 will be appreciated. British info indicates the target was "Wolfheze-Building". The target was indicated as "BUILDING 662803 (Target co-ordinate)". Please send any information to: Mr. Cor Janse, Appollostraat 5, 6991 GW Rheden, The Netherlands.

## REUNION COMMITTEE MESSAGE

To the 34th Bomb Group Membership:

The Reunion Committee has the pleasure of thanking everyone that attended the reunion at Little Rock. It is our sincere wish that everyone had a good time.

We were happy to see so many first-timers and hope we will all meet again at St. Paul, MN in 1994.

We mourn the passing of Ray Summa. His loss to the 34th Bomb Group will be felt by all.

The Reunion Committee

Gerald Pine

Harold Rutka

Robert Wright



## 8TH AIR FORCE REUNION NEWS

The 34th Bomb Group will be making a return trip to England - June 1 to June 10, 1994. You will be receiving a brochure from TAMARAC TRAVEL, INC. regarding land packages, but NOT the airfare. Tamarac Travel will give a discount on Senior Coupon books and offer a discount on individual flight schedules if you IDENTIFY YOURSELF as a MEMBER OF THE 34TH BOMB GROUP or the 8TH AIR FORCE. Their telephone number is: 1-800-228-9690, and they will be able to offer tours before or after our reunion.

The reason for our JUNE DEPARTURE DATE is that MEMORIAL DAY will be celebrated JUNE 3 so that Government Officials can attend D-DAY SERVICES.

The 19th ANNUAL REUNION of the Eighth Air Force was held in Chicago. BUD AND LUCILLE BABCOCK joined HAROLD AND GEN. RUTKA as representatives of the 34th Bomb Group. The Babcocks took in all the sights, joined us for the dinners at the WHITE EAGLE, the RENDEZVOUS DINNER, and the GALA BANQUET.

The theme for the 8th Air Force was a salute to the POLISH AIR FORCE; their WORLD WAR II started 1 SEPTEMBER 1939 against the Germans, then the Russians. They escaped to fight with the French and then with the RAF in England. We had the opportunity to meet with the POLISH VETERANS, and the CHICAGO POLISH VETERANS provided us with OUR HONOR GUARD.

The next 8th Air Force Reunion will be held: 5 to 9 OCTOBER 1994 in SAN DIEGO, CA. The 34TH BOMB GROUP will hold its reunion: 7 TO 11 SEPTEMBER 1994 in ST. PAUL, MN. This will give some of you a month to recover and join the 8TH AIR FORCE IN SAN DIEGO, CA.

HAROLD C. RUTKA

8th Air Force Reunion Chairman

P.S. A question asked many times is how many reunions have we had on our own and where were they?

1984 - Nashville, TN  
1986 - Colorado Springs, CO  
1987 - King of Prussia, PA  
1988 - Virginia Beach, VA  
1989 - Shreveport, LA  
1990 - Seattle, WA  
1991 - Louisville, KY  
1992 - Las Vegas, NV  
1993 - Little Rock, AR

In 1985 our reunion was held with the 8th Air Force at Wichita, KS.

## 34TH B.G. BOARD MEETING - SEPT. 23, 1993

The meeting was called to order by Pres. B. Sothern at 10:11 a.m. Sam Baglio led us in prayer, with a special remembrance for Ray Summa.

Pres. B. Sothern asked the Record. Sec. to call the roll. Those present were Pres. B. Sothern, 1st V.P. S. Wolstencroft, 2nd V.P. E. Baldea, Sec. P. Anderson, Treas. H. Province, F. Schoch, W. Griffiths, A. Hanson, G. Pine, H. Rutka, S. Baglio, V. Ames, P. Shull & J. Farley.

P.X. Report - P. Shull gave the following financial accounting:

Beginning Balance	\$ 684.00
Income from sales	2066.00
Expenses for merchandise, postage, etc.	-2054.00

Balance	\$ 696.00
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P. Shull told of new shirts, wind breakers and watches available in the PX this year. The question was asked if the \$500.00 limit on PX funds before being transferred to the General Fund was too restrictive on the PX manager. J. Farley noted that, if the constitution needs to be revised, this is the time to do it as other changes need to be made. R. Wright moved that the Addenda to the Constitution be revised to allow the PX manager to obtain additional funds from the treasurer when necessary for certain business transactions. The motion was seconded and carried.

The Board and General Meeting Minutes of 1992 were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report - H. Province gave a detailed report of the 34th Bomb Group Ass'n. financial status. Following is a summary of the various funds:

	Sept. 14, 1992	Sept. 21, 1993
General Fund	\$13,963.84	\$9,598.16
Scholarship Fund	1,809.42	2,471.92
Memorial Fund	2,934.39	2,941.89
Life Membership Fund	22,113.57	25,094.69
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$40,821.57</b>	<b>\$40,106.98</b>

The General Fund figure includes \$721.16 which is in a bank in England for the upkeep of the 34th B.G. Memorial at Mendlesham. G. Stedman has indicated to H. Province that this amount should be sufficient for the Trustees of the Mendlesham Memorial through 1994.

Anticipated expenses through the rest of 1993 are approximately \$3,000.00.

H. Province reported we have 746 paid members for 1993 plus 267 Life Members. He expressed appreciation for the purchase of the CD ROM reader and the phone number software authorized last year. It has helped locate, and/or relocate, many of our "Lost Sheep".

Reunion Committee-R. Wright gave the committee's financial status as follows: 1992=\$2,4751.49...1993=\$23,413.33.

The 1993 reunion expenses were not as yet taken out of the 1993 balance. He noted that since 1985 the reunion committee submitted \$10,195.00 to the treasurer in surplus over the \$2,500.00 operating account they are allowed to maintain. J. Farley asked if the constitution should be revised to include a note similar to the one just approved for the PX manager. H. Rutka asked if he was authorized to incur the expense for dinner meetings, medallions for the Mendlesham women and other misc. expenses on the trips to England. After some discussion S. Wolstencroft moved that the Addenda to the Constitution be revised to allow the Reunion Committee to exceed the \$2,500.00 limit on their operating account when circumstances require. The motion was seconded and carried. E. Baldea moved that the Reunion Committee be allowed to handle trips to England in the same manner as in the past. The motion was seconded and carried.

G. Pine hoped everyone was happy with their accommodations. He noted that 261 had signed up for the tour of Little Rock, and 25 for the golf tournament. He explained why the hospitality room could not be next to the PX and was moved to room 1622. He also told of the very generous donation by Golden Eagle Distributors of beer, golf and door prizes, signs, paper cups and

plates, etc. for our reunion. The Golden Eagle Distributors are owned and operated by the son and daughter-in-law of member Charles Yockey.

The 1994 reunion will be held at the Raddisson Hotel in St. Paul, Minn. Sept. 6 through Sept. 11. The 1995 reunion will be in Huntsville, Ala. Sept. 14 through Sept. 17. A discussion followed on the problem of avoiding reunion dates conflicting with some religious holidays. A. Hanson asked if the reunion committee needed any additional help. A discussion followed on how do we train new people for the committee and what happens as we all grow older and less physically able to handle the tasks of setting up a reunion. Another discussion followed on the Pros and Cons of having the reunion during the week or on weekends.

Scholarship Committee - Report was given by H. Province in the absence of C. Romero. The response this year was good, with some twenty applications. The 1993 34th B.G. Assn. Scholarship \$1,000.00 first place award goes to Bret Polley, grandson of George Schmitt. The \$500.00 second place award goes to Angela Stufflebeam, granddaughter of Don Stufflebeam.

Mendlesham Memories - E. Baldea noted he is beginning his tenth year as editor. He described changes that have taken place during this time and asked for written comments on those changes or suggestions for additional changes to be made. He stated we need someone to contact a photographer for the 1994 St. Paul reunion. H. Rutka suggested we have the 8th A.F. insignia on the Mendlesham Memories. E. Baldea also asked for help in writing the eulogy for Ray Summa. He also noted that, with Ray's passing, we need a new corresponding secretary.

Constitution - J. Farley reported on two problems. We have one person holding two elected offices at the same time in violation of 4.4 of the Constitution. Also we need a Corresponding Sec./Unit Contact. He suggested that 4.4 be revised to allow a person to hold two elective offices at the same time, when approved by the Board of Directors as an emergency vacancy occurs. After some discussion R. Wright moved that J. Farley be allowed to revise the Constitution to delete the positions of Editor and Corresponding Sec./Unit Contact from the list of elected offices, and make those positions permanent members of the Board of Directors. Motion was seconded and carried.

Pres. B. Sothern noted that H. Province had been giving considerable help to Ray Summa in his job as Corresponding Sec./Unit Contact for some time. He felt that, with the new computer equipment and software, H. Province could take on the responsibility of Treasurer and Corresponding Sec./Unit Contact. Pres. B. Sothern asked the Board for approval to combine these positions. It was granted. H. Rutka moved that H. Province be authorized \$100.00 to update the telephone number software for the computer. R. Wright noted that we have 35 first-timers at this reunion, many of them found with this software. Motion was seconded and carried.

H. Rutka moved to rename our scholarship fund "The Ray L. Summa 34th Bomb Group Assn. Scholarship Fund". After discussion, the motion was seconded and carried.

Pres. B. Sothern told of plans to honor Ray Summa at the Sat. night banquet. It was further decided to ask Gen. Creer to say a few words in memory of Ray Summa. J. Farley agreed to be a back-up in case Gen. Creer chose not to do so. Pres. B. Sothern told of a card at the registration desk for all to sign, to be sent to Hannah Summa. Also it was agreed to take up a collection for her at the Sat. night banquet.

Audit Committee - 1993 committee members are F. Schoch, V. Holcomb and E. Maciel.

W. Griffiths asked for help in completing a scrap-book of B-24 crews which he has been working on. He will have the scrap-book in the PX or the hospitality room.

Pres. B. Sothern stated we may have some films from the 8th A.F.H.S. library to show at the next reunion. F. Schoch asked if the Collins Foundation could be asked to bring their B-17 and B-24 to the next reunion. H. Prillaman was appointed to look into the feasibility of doing this.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and carried. Pres. B. Sothern adjourned the meeting at 1:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Paul Anderson, Secretary



## 34TH B.G. ANNUAL MEETING SEPT. 25, 1993

The annual meeting of the 34th B.G. Assn. was called to order at 9:12 a.m. by Pres. B. Sothorn. After the Pledge of Allegiance our Chaplain, S. Baglio, gave the invocation.

H. Rutka moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes as they were previously published in the Mendlesham Memories. Motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report - H. Province gave a detailed report of the various group funds. Fund balances are as follows:

	Sept. 14, 1992	Sept. 21, 1993
General Fund	\$13,963.83	*\$9,598.16
Scholarship Fund	1,809.42	2,471.92
Memorial Fund	2,934.39	2,941.89
Life Membership Fund	22,113.93	25,094.69
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$40,821.57</b>	<b>\$40,106.98</b>

\*This figure includes approximately \$721.16 in the 34th B.G. Memorial Fund in a bank in England. Anticipated expenses for the remainder of 1993 are \$3,000.00. H. Province also reported we now have 746 paid members plus 267 Life Members for 1993. Those figures for 1992 were 692 and 233.

Scholarship Committee - H. Province gave the report in the absence of committee chairman, C. Romero. This year's \$1,000.00 first place winner is Bret Polley, grandson of George Schmitt. The \$500.00 second place winner is Angela Stufflebeam, granddaughter of Don Stufflebeam. H. Province noted there were 21 applications this year. He also stressed the importance of including all required information on the applications. H. Rutka explained to the General meeting that at the Board of Directors' meeting it was voted to rename our scholarship fund "The Ray L. Summa 34th Bomb Group Scholarship Fund". The announcement was well received.

Reunion Committee - R. Wright gave the committee's financial report as follows: After expenses were paid the fund ended 1992 with a balance of \$4,843.33. \$2,468.00 was turned over to the General Fund to bring the Reunion Fund down to the allowable \$2,500.00. There is presently \$23,413.33 in the fund, with 1993 expenses yet to be paid. G. Pine announced that the 1994 reunion site will be the Radisson Hotel in St. Paul, Minn. The 1995 site will be at the Marriott Hotel in Huntsville, Ala. The 1996 site has not as yet been determined. Many sites are under consideration, on both the east and west coasts. It was suggested from the floor that a site be chosen which did not require a change from a major airliner to a feeder airliner for those who fly in.

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

President	S. Wolstencroft
1st V. Pres.	E. Baldea
2nd V. Pres.	A. Hanson
Treasurer/Corresponding Sec.	H. Province
Recording Sec.	Anderson
Board of Directors - Class of '95	A. Israelsen*
Class of '96	R. Palmer and C. Stemen

\*A. Israelsen replaces A. Hanson who moves to 2nd V. Pres. The floor was opened for additional nominations. None were heard. G. Ritchie made a motion to close the nominations and accept the slate as presented. The motion was seconded and carried. Pres. B. Sothorn thanked the two outgoing board members, E. Maciel and V. Holcomb, for their efforts.

Audit Committee - F. Schoch reported all of the 34th B.G. Assn. books were audited, found correct and signed off.

J. Clarkson spoke on the progress of the 8th Air Force Heritage Center. He gave details of an agreement signed by Chattam County, Georgia and the 8th A.F.H.C. for the development of this center. He noted that five bomb groups have already pledged \$25,000.00 to this development. A motion was made to appoint a committee to study the advisability of the 34th B.G. Assn. pledging money to this project. Motion was seconded but failed to carry. Gen. Creer noted we should have more than just

verbal information before committing to a large sum of money.

L. Crook spoke on the disposition of the painting of the two B-17's flying in formation which was donated to the 34th B.G. Assn. at the Louisville reunion. The picture has been framed and is now in the museum at the Barksdale Air Force Base. He also asked for recognition of Rober Ragan, son of Glen Ragan, a waist gunner in the 7th Sqdn., who is here with his mother.

It was proposed that Hannah Summa be made a Life Member of the 34th B.G. Assn. It was noted that this is automatic for spouses of Life Members.

Pres. B. Sothorn recognized those attending a 34th B.G. Assn. reunion for the first time.

E. Baldea said there would be a photographer for the Sat. night banquet. He asked people to use care to assure accuracy in filling out the name cards at the tables.

H. Province explained the CD ROM reader and computer software purchased last year and used to find 34th B.G. members not previously located. He has sent out over 11,000 letters this past year. The system has been very valuable in helping to locate our "Lost Sheep".

B. Cole recognized P. Shull and his wife for their work in the PX and asked if we had a count of attendees. R. Wright said his last count showed 360 attendees, but was not complete. He noted that 35 of these were first time attendees.

G. Ritchie suggested Savanna, GA. for the 1996 reunion. J. Clarkson noted that some of the 1996 Olympic events will be taking place there at that time and hotel space will be in very short supply.

C. Forister suggested we have 34th B.G. stickers to put on envelopes. P. Shull said he would look into it, and that he was always looking for new items to carry in the PX.

P. Mueller asked for help in locating members of the group's "Jive Bombers" band while we were in Mendlesham. Pres. B. Sothorn noted that maybe we should find talent within our group for our future entertainment.

W. Griffiths thanked the crew of "Frisolous Sal" for their donation to help in the support of the B-24 flown by the Collins Foundation.

A motion to adjourn was made by H. Rutka, seconded and carried.

Pres. B. Sothorn adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Paul Anderson, Secretary



Jerry Thompson, Don Wick & Dale Ganger.

# 1993 REUNION ATTENDEES

Aldridge, Frederick  
 Alexander, James & Katherine  
 Allen, Donald  
 Ames, Vern & Millie  
 Anderson, Lance  
 Anderson, Paul & Beryl  
 Armstrong, Denton & Eileen  
 Ashburn, John  
 Attridge, Charles & Evalyn  
 Babcock, Lawrence & Lucille  
 Baer, Robert & Rose  
 Baglio, Samuel & Lee  
 Baldea, Eli & Rose  
     Marianne Mandich &  
     Mark Tiernan  
 Ballantyne, Roy & Millie  
 Barclay, Charles & Roberta  
 Baughman, Cleo & Freddie  
 Bell, Robert & Barbara  
 Berglund, Fred & Hazel  
 Berry, Edward & Lois  
     Bob & Dan Berry  
 Bess, Leonard & Helen  
 Blair, John & Mary  
 Bland, Jack & Josephine  
 Bloczynski, John & Marge  
     Steve & Linda Mau  
 Boreen, Lloyd & Bobbie  
 Bourquin, Paul & Ann  
 Brauks, Wallace & Doris  
 Brown, Bill & Nita  
 Bruning, Mike & Pat  
 Bujalski, Francis R.  
 Burnell, Bill & Margaret  
 Bush, Ralph & Marge  
 Clarkson, John & Dorothy  
 Clemens, James & Lois  
 Cobb, Junius & Virginia  
     Betty Graves  
 Cole, Bob & Ginny  
 Collins, Don & Darlene  
 Conklin, Claude & Genevieve  
 Coutros, Tony & Mary  
 Crawford, Harry  
 Creer, Bill & Vivienne  
 Crook, Lonnie & Dorabel  
 Day, George & Marquerite  
 De Santis, Louis & Anne  
 Dietz, Edwin & Sue  
 Dineno, Al & Elsie  
 Donahue, Herbert & Eunice  
 Donoho, Kirby O. (94th B.G.)  
 Dooley, Lawton & Joan  
 Doronsky, John  
     Beverly Stearns  
 Dwyer, Harold & Darlene  
 Evans, Charles  
 Farley, John & Bernadette  
 Fillman, Don & Betty  
 Finley, Dale & Margie  
 Fix, Leonard & Mary  
 Forister, Carroll & Sylvia  
 Fossum, Lee & Bonnie  
     Ray & Kim Fossum  
 Fox, Robert & Jean  
 Franco, George & Felicia  
 Frank, Dale & Esther  
 Frank, Earl & Mary

Freysinger, Carl & Imogene  
 Funk, John & Caroline  
 Galloway, Robert & Beth  
 Gardner, Molly  
     Velma Gardner  
 Gaumer, Basil & Lorene  
 Gay, Robert & Phyllis  
 Gibbs, Claude & Audrey  
 Glass, James  
 Goerner, Hugh & Virginia  
 Gradin, Ginny  
 Griffis, Willis  
 Grimes, Bryant & Myrtis  
 Habiger, Tony & Joan  
 Hanrihan, James & Joy  
 Hansen, Arthur  
 Hensen, Milton & Kathryn  
 Hanson, Ambers & Jean  
 Hardee, Daniel & Elizabeth  
 Harris, Ferron F.  
 Henry, Glen  
 Herget, Charles & Eileen  
 Hetherington, William & Lula Mae  
 Hinchee, Ray & Marge  
 Hohnstreiter, John  
 Holcomb, Verbal & Betty  
 Hood, Jack  
     Bonnie Lasseigne &  
     Scott & Pat Middleton  
 Hudecek, Tom & Yvonne  
 Humphrey, Clyde & Annette  
 Israelson, Al & Agnes  
 Ivey, Kivett & Lucille  
 Jackson, Ken & Velma  
     Bill Jackson  
 Jacobbauski, Mike & Margie  
 James, Eugene & Helen  
 Jansky, Bob & Jo  
 Janson, Wendell & Annie  
 Jones, Eddie & Ianthia  
 Jones, Wyatt  
 Jordan, Dexter & Beulah  
 Klier, Herbert & Rita  
     Bessie Wood  
 Kline, George & Margaret  
 Lampey, Bob & Beth  
 Leath, John & Ethel  
 Lewis, Bill & Eula  
 Lindia, Joe & Dottie  
 Lonergan, Ed & Birgit  
 Lundeen, Ralph  
 Maciel, Earl & Helen  
 Marks, Joseph & Katherine  
 Martin, James & Betty  
 Matthews, Clyde  
 Mayer, Norman & Schatzie  
 McAllister, Walter & Ruby  
 McBride, James & Barbara  
 McDannold, Bill & Erma  
 Meeder, Paul & Twyla  
 Miller, George & Faye  
 Mongeon, George  
     Eloise Rollins  
 Moor, Ted  
 Moreno, John  
 Morlock, James  
 Morris, Cletus  
 Muento, Fred & Ginny

Newton, Tom & Mildred  
     Joe & Gloria Conklin  
 Noe, John & Elizabeth  
 Northrup, John & Margaret  
 Ott, Carlyle & Loretta  
 Pacholski, Bob & Ginny  
 Palmer, Raymond & Bula  
 Patterson, William L.  
 Paxton, Ken & Kathleen  
 Pedigo, William E.  
 Perry, Harry & Willie  
 Pine, Gerald & Wanda  
 Podulka, Phillip  
 Poole, Wally & Joan  
 Prillaman, Harold & Georgia  
 Province, Harold & Jan  
 Ragan, Mrs. Doris  
     Roger, Glen & Fred Ragan  
 Reed, Russell & Martha  
 Reid, Roy & Sybil  
 Reynolds, Thomas P.  
 Richmond, Floyd & Miriam  
     Thelma Warfield  
 Ricker, Conrad & Patricia  
 Ritchie, George & June  
 Rockmuller, Sidney  
 Rose, Everett & Peggy  
 Roy, Herb & Dotty  
 Rutka, Harold & Gen.  
 Sakal, Charles & Rose  
 Saxen, Robert  
     Lawrence Saxen &  
     Velma Ronsella  
 Schildman, William & Jean  
 Schneider, Charles S.  
 Schoch, Fred & Clara  
 Schwartz, Robert & Laura  
 Share, Jack & Marian  
 Shee, Don & Bonnie  
 Shull, Paul & Pauline  
 Simpson, Robert & Betty  
 Simpson, Ronald & Martha  
 Sivret, Frank & Alda  
 Smith, James C.  
 Sothern, Bruce & Muggs  
 Stemen, Carl & Peg  
 Stiver, David & Ethel  
 Sturdivan, Walter & Lois  
 Swanson, Samuel & Thea  
 Swenson, Elbert & Betty  
 Syverson, Marvin & Avis  
 Tavasti, Roy & Kate  
 Thompson, Clifford E.  
 Tobiason, Henry & Audrey  
 Varble, Charles  
 Walker, Oral  
     Jim Walker  
 Waltz, Fred & Rachel  
 Wells, David  
     Dan Wells & Jane Stewart  
 Wessel, Jerome & Dorothy  
 Wolstencroft, Sam & Peggy  
 Wong, Joseph & Marilyn  
 Wright, Robert & Esther  
 Wright, Thomas  
 Wright, Wayne & Ondine  
 Yockey, Charles & Virginia  
 Zeldes, Ben & Edith





# ROSE'S CORNER

Warm Greetings to all!!

Wasn't it fun? Of course it was because meeting our old friends and new friends was a real pleasure! Having our own Hospitality Room really made it easy to sit around and gab with a lot of our 34th family. It was very difficult to go anywhere in Little Rock with public transportation (Did anyone see any local buses?).

We stayed in the 4-Star Hotel Excelsior which I've been calling Hotel Excessive because of the restaurant prices. Of course, in a high-priced, classy hotel, it's to be expected that one will pay exaggerated prices. If one is working and has an expense account it's also to be expected, but that certainly doesn't make it right!

We enjoyed the Ozark dinner which was served buffet style featuring the famous Arkansas Catfish and fried chicken. They were accompanied by baked squash, black-eyed peas, potatoes and gravy, plus countless others. The dessert ran out before the end of the line was served and many were disappointed. We had a lot of people there and everyone was very hungry. I'm not aware as to whether this big hotel made any special effort to rectify the situation. Perhaps it did? Most hotels will do all they can to make everyone happy.

We are looking forward to the St. Paul reunion next year. About 10 years ago we had a delightful one there with lots of places to go, things to see and the food was real good! Our reunion committee will be working hard to make the next one memorable.

This newsletter will get to you just about the time that Christmas is just around the corner. If you are still thinking about some last minute baking, do try these. They are as good as they look and will melt in your mouth. I'll be waiting to hear whether you guys and gals tried them. Please write! Send a postcard with a short recipe you may have liked a lot. I love hearing from you.

## LINZER CIRCLES

- 1½ cups (3 sticks) butter, softened
- ¾ cup plus 1 tbsp. confectioners sugar
- 1 egg - room temperature
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 cup cornstarch
- 2 cups ground pecans
- 5 tbsp. seedless raspberry jam

Beat butter & ¾ cup conf. sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in egg. Add flour, cornstarch and pecans. Mix well. Wrap in plastic and refrigerate overnight.

Remove from fridge and roll out half of the dough on a lightly floured surface to 1/8" thickness.

Cut into 30 circles with 3" cutter or drinking glass. Cut smaller circles out of centers with 1" cutter or a small shot glass. Roll out the remaining dough plus the scraps and cut out 30 solid circles with 3" cutter. Place cookies ½" apart on an ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake in preheated slow oven (325 deg.) for 15 minutes until edges are barely golden. Cool on wire rack.

Sprinkle the 1 tbsp. conf. sugar over circles with cutouts. Spread rounded ¼ tsp. jam over center of each solid circle. Place cutout circles over solid circles so that the jam shows in the center. Store at room temperature. Enjoy!

May you have a blessed Holiday and take care of each other. Stay well until we meet again and ever after!

P.S. I found out a few secrets to staying young by talking to several of you who looked very fit and energetic and I'd like to share them with you. Roy Tavasti loves working on his boat and watches his diet. Ralph Bush is exercising and eating fish and poultry. Vivienne and Bill Creer continue to keep active and there's very little fat in their diet. Phyllis and Bob Gay work on their ranch and she loves her horses and blazing trails thru the woods! Good going, everyone! Keep up the good work! I'd love to have this kind of energy. If everyone would send me some of your secrets I'll be sure to share them with our 34th B.G. family. Thanks!

With Love!  
Rose



Fred Sanders, radio operator of "Evaidin Maiden".

## NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

Dorothy Carter, an associate life member, and sister of our deceased member, Leslie C. Carter, is hoping she can get some help from all of you. She is doing research work on WWII and is using our newsletters as references where possible. However, she needs as many back issues as she can get. Anyone who has some back issues and are not interested in keeping them would do her a great favor by sending them to her. After her research she will donate them to some Memorial Center for others to look at, providing you don't ask for them back. If so, she will return them. If you have any back issues send them to: Dorothy Carter, 224 South 12th, Salina, KS. 67401.

\*\*\*\*\*

From IAN HAWKINS we have the following:

"The Imperial War Museum Duxford is pleased to announce a new programme to establish personal tributes and memorials at Europe's top aeroplane museum.

"Duxford visitors may now commemorate family members and friends by purchasing a memorial bench. Each bench will carry a bronze plaque bearing the inscription of your choice."

Editor's note: A Duxford Memorial Bench costs 300 pounds, British currency. Anyone interest can write to:

Vanessa Crosby, Memorial Seating Programme  
Imperial War Museum  
Duxford Airfield, Cambridge CB2 4QR

\*\*\*\*\*



# REUNION '93



## BOARD MEETING

1 thru 4

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

5. A view of the gathering.
6. Another view of the gathering.
7. Treasurer Harold Province gives his report.
8. President Bruce Sothern calls the meeting to order.

## P.X.

9. Pauline Shull & Margaret Hinchee in PX.
10. Paul Shull in the PX.

## HOSPITALITY ROOM

11. Harold Rutka & Gerry Pine tending bar.
12. Jo & Bob Stansky (Newcomers).
13. Norm Mayer & Willis Griffis.
14. Schatzie Mayer with Everett Rose & Bob Wright.
15. Jean & Ambers Hanson.
16. Danny Hardee with Hal Province.
17. Annette & Clyde Humphrey.
18. Sue & Ed Dietz with Mike & Pat Bruning and Darlene Collins.
19. Josephine & Jack Bland with Bud & Lucille Babcock and Birgit Lonergan.
20. Dottie & Herb Roy.
21. Schatzie & Norm Mayer.
22. John Doronsky with Bev Stearns.
23. Ted Moor & Harry Crawford (Newcomers).
24. Evelyn & Charles Attridge.
25. Rose Baldea with Claude Gibbs.



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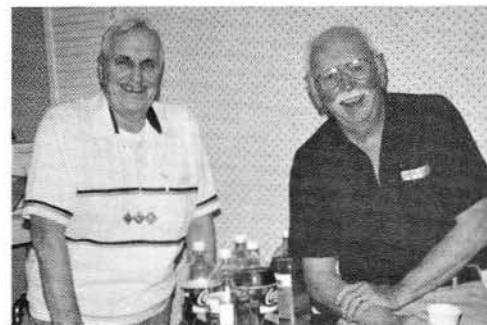
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# "GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS"

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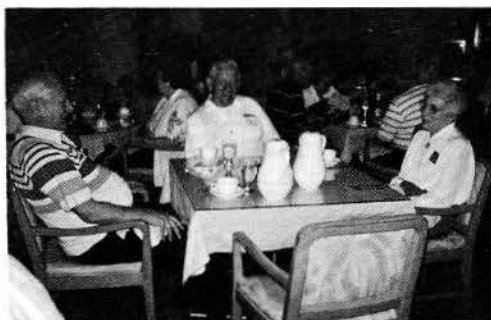
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# REUNION '93

## EARLY ARRIVALS AT DINNER

1. John & Marge Bloczynski with Don Allen.
2. Peggy & Everett Rose with Bruce and Muggs Sothern.
3. Bill & Lula Mae Hetherington with Charles & Virginia Yockey.
4. Velma & Ken Jackson with son, Bill.
5. Reunion Committee dining with ????
6. Raymond and Margaret Hinchee.
7. Sam & Lee Baglio with Lou & Anne DeSantis.
8. David & Ethel Stiver with Dotti & Joe Lindia.
9. Paul & Beryl Anderson with son, Lance and Pauline & Paul Shull.
10. Margaret & George Kline with Arlene & Sam Wolstencroft.



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## THE GOLFERS

11. L. to R.: H.H. Goerner, Virginia Goerner, June Ritchie & George Ritchie.
12. L. to R.: Jim Clemins, Lonnie Crook, Herb Roy & Art Hansen.
13. L. to R.: Bob Cole, Roy Ballantyne, Bob Wright & Jim Harrihan.
14. L. to R.: Jack Clarkson, Paul Shull, Harry Crawford & Jack Bland.
15. L. to R.: Ray Hinchee, Bob Simpson, Jim Clemins & John Blair.
16. L. to R.: Ed Lonergan, "B" Lonergan, Fred Munte & Arnold Prillaman.



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## TOUR

17. Group waiting to board tour bus.
18. On the tour bus.
19. On the tour bus.
20. Ruby & Walt McAllister with Marianne Mandich & Mark Tiernan having tour lunch at Spaghetti Factory.



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## SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

21. Esther Wright, Harold Rutka & Wanda Pine at Sunday breakfast.
22. Walt McAllister with Rose & Eli Baldea at breakfast.
23. Muggs & Bruce Sothern with Betty Martin at breakfast.
24. Sam & Arlene Wolstencroft at breakfast.
25. James T. "Pete" & Barbara McBride with Bill Creer at Little Rock. "Pete" was the chauffeur of the 34th B.G. Hdq. staff car at Mendlesham.



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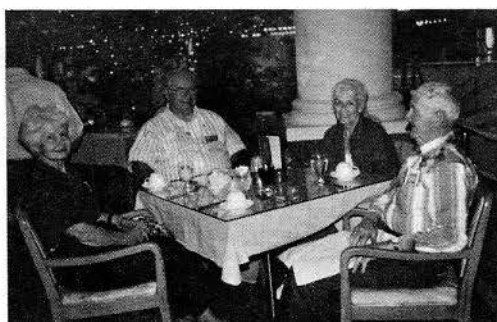
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# "MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES"

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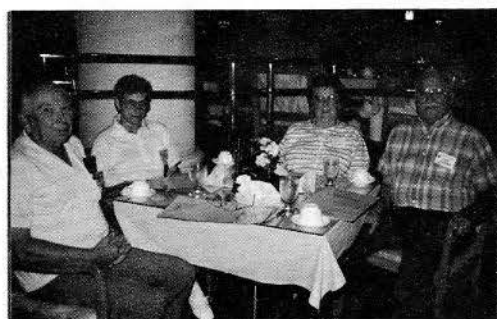
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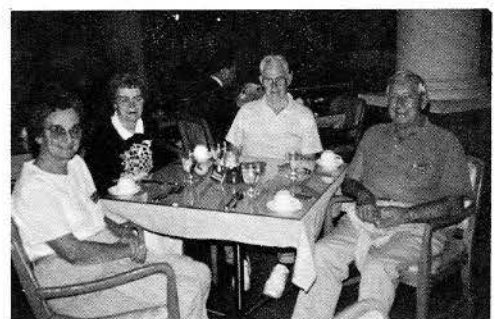
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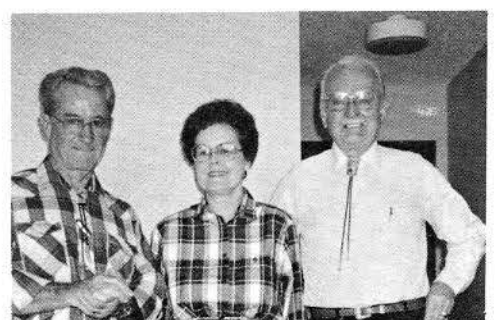
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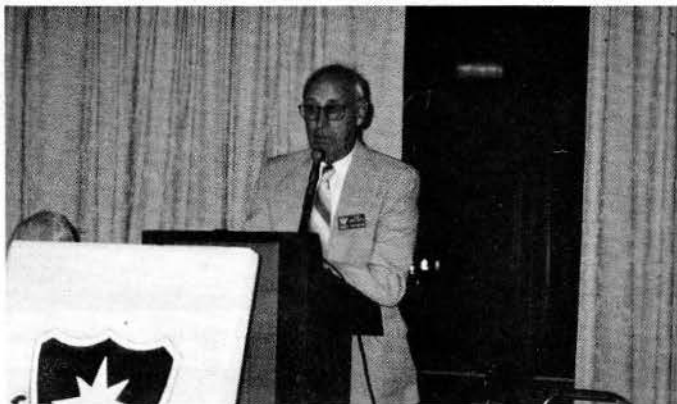


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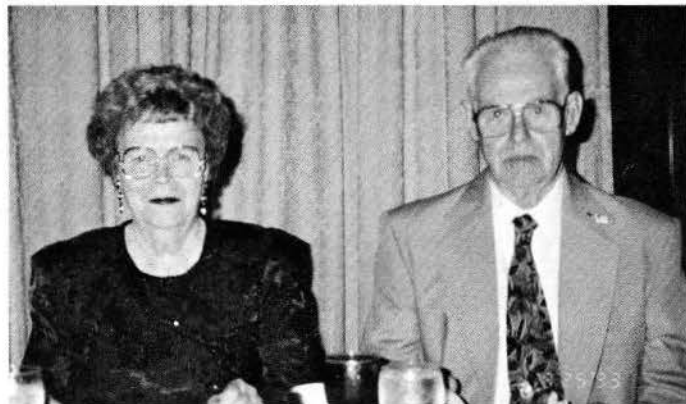
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# REUNION '93 "GALA BANQUET"

## "THE HEAD TABLE"



President Bruce Sothern telling everyone to enjoy their meal.



Incoming president Sam Wolstencroft and Arlene.



Secretary Paul Anderson & Beryl.



President Bruce Sothern & Muggs.



Chaplain Sam Baglio with Lee.



Editor Eli Baldea and Rose.



Treasurer Hal Province & Jan.

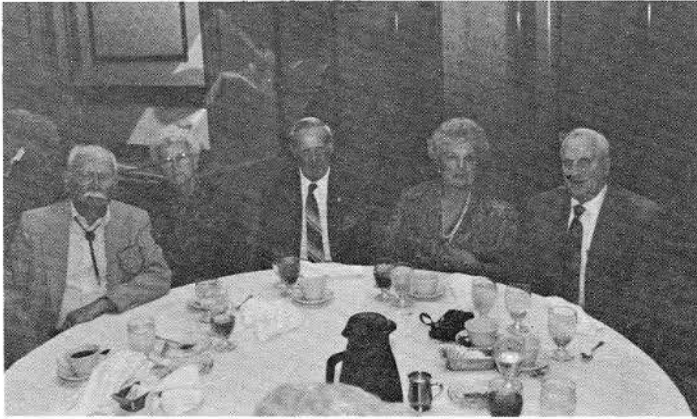


Golf Chairman Ed Lonergan & Birgit.



# REUNION '93

# "GALA BANQUET"



Gerry & Wanda Pine with Glenn Henry and Gen & Harold Rutka.



Kathleen & Ken Paxton, John & Margaret Northrup and Claude & Genevieve Conklin.



Eula & Bill Lewis with Bessie Woods, Cliff Thompson and Rita & Herbert Klier.



Bryant & Myrtis Grimes, Margie Jacobbauski, Peggie Schwartz & Hazel Berglund.



All newcomers: Standing: Mike & Pat Bruning and Don & Darlene Collins. Seated: Loretta & Corky Ott and Edwin and Sue Dietz.



Standing: Bob Gay, ???, Roy Tavasti. Seated: Phyllis Gay, Vivienne & Bill Creer, Dorabel & Lonnie Crook and Kate Tavasti.



Standing: Mollie Gardner, Robert Saxen and Clara & Fred Schoch. Seated: Gene & Helen James, Georgia & Harry Prillaman and John & Caroline Funk.



Al & Elsie DiNenno, Lorene & Basil Gaumer and David & Ethel Stiver.

# REUNION '93

# "GALA BANQUET"



Joe & Dottie Lindia, Bob Schwartz, Fred Berglund  
and Mike Jacobbauski.



Samuel & Thea Swanson with Elbert & Betty Swanson  
and John Moreno.



Frank Bujalski, Anthony & Mary Coutros and Jack & Bernie Farley.



J. C. Smith with Ginny & Fred Muenta and Ginny & Bob Pacholski.



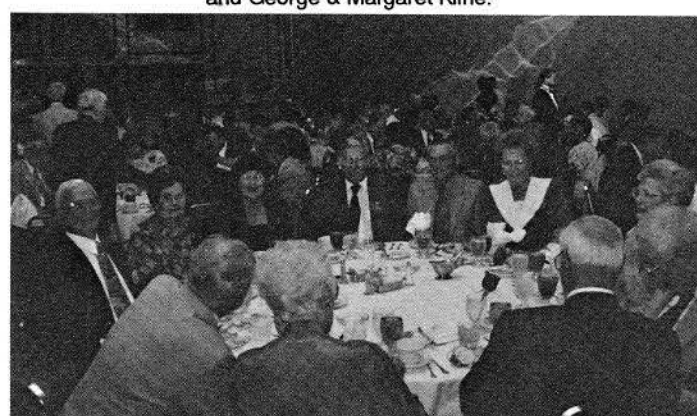
Marge & Ralph Bush with Conrad & Pat Ricker (Newcomers)  
& Anne & Lou De Santis.



Audrey & Claude Gibbs with Lucille & Kivett Ivey  
and George & Margaret Kline.



Erma & William McDannold with William & Jean Schildman  
and Phil Podulka.

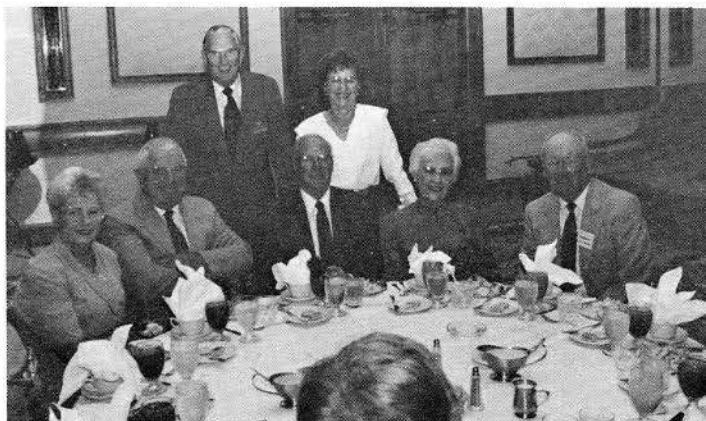


L. to R.: Roy & Sybil Reid, Freddie & Cleo Baughman  
and Tony & Joan Habiger.



# REUNION '93

# "GALA BANQUET"



L. to R.: Liz & Jack Noe, Darlene Dwyer, Bob Bell, Harold Dwyer & Beth & Bob Galloway.



Milton & Kay Hansen with Doris, Roger, Freda and Glen Regan.



Ted Moor (Newcomer), Norman & Schatzie Mayer, Harry Crawford (Newcomer), Ralph Lundeen and Willis Griffis.



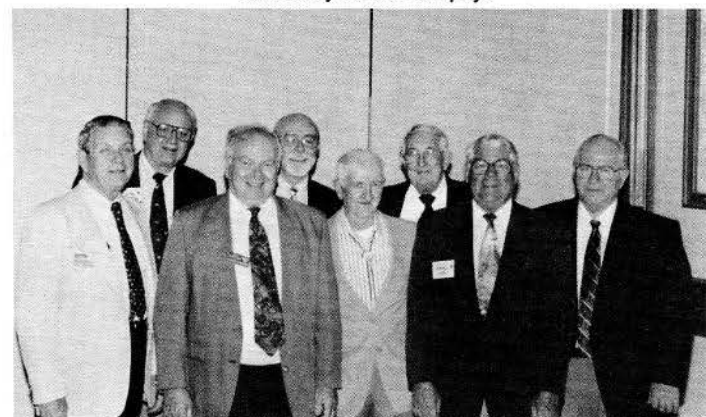
Jim & Joy Hanrihan, Ginny & Bob Cole and Millie & Roy Ballantyne.



Joe & Katherine Marks with Carl & Peg Stemen and Betty & Bob Lampey.



Betty & Bob Lampey with Jack & Marian Share and Wally & Joan Poole.



Crew of "Gallop'n' Ghost" of the 4th Sqdn.: Charles Yockey, Hebert Roy, Wm. Hetherington, Ben Zeldes, Jim Glass, Fred Aldridge, Don Shee and Charles Herget (Largest crew attending).

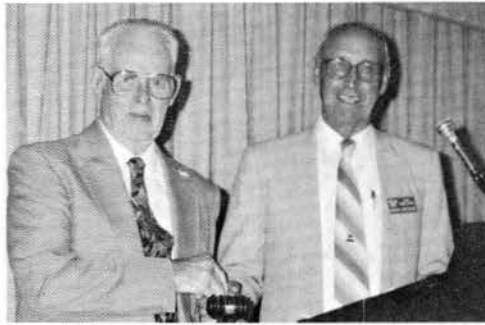


Crew of "Perry's Pirates" of the 18th & 4th Sqdns.: Bob Baer, Tom Newton, Charles Schneider, Jerome Wessel, Harry Perry & George Franco (2nd largest crew attending).



# REUNION '93

1. S. Wolstencroft getting the gavel from B. Sothem.
2. Gen. Bill Creer presenting his "Memorial" to Ray Summa.
3. Sue & Edwin Dietz with Pat & Mike Bruning waiting to enter dining room.
4. Evalyn & Charles Attridge with Lloyd & Bobbie Boreen.
5. Paul & Twyla Meeder with Beulah & Dexter Jordan.
6. Bill & Margo Burnell with Tom Wright & Jack Ashburn.
7. Faye & George Miller with James Morlock.
8. David Wells with Jane Stewart, Dan Wells and Kirby O. Donoho, Jr.
9. Wayne & Ondine Wright with Rose & Charles Sakal.
10. Patty Middleton, Jack Hood and Bonnie Lasseigne.
11. Margie & Dale Finley with Ferron Harris.
12. Jim Walker, Oral Walker and Ron & Martha Simpson.
13. Ron & Martha Simpson with Mary & Leonard Fix.
14. Robert & Betty Simpson with Henry & Audrey Tobiason.
15. Avis & Marvin Syverson with Herb & Eunice Donahue.
16. Pat Paterson, Raymond & Bula Palmer and Charles Evans.
17. Wally & Doris Brauks with the memorial flower board.
18. Walt McAllister putting a flower into the memorial board.
19. George Ritchie putting flower into the memorial board.
20. Betty & Jim Martin.
21. Laurence Saxen & Velma Ronsella.
22. Eddie & Ianthia Jones.
23. Beverly Stearns & John Doronsky.
24. Robert & Jean Fox.
25. Some of our younger attendees: Front: Patty Middleton, Marianne Mandich & Lance Anderson. Rear: Tom Reynolds, Glen Ragan, Roger Ragan, Jim Walker & Mark Tiernan.



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# "GALA BANQUET"



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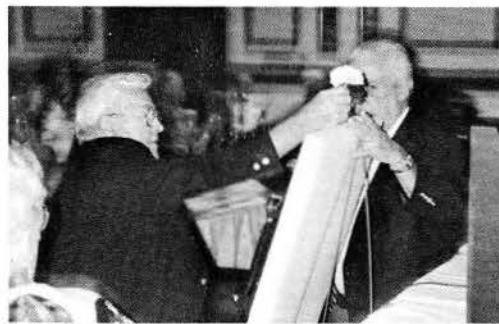
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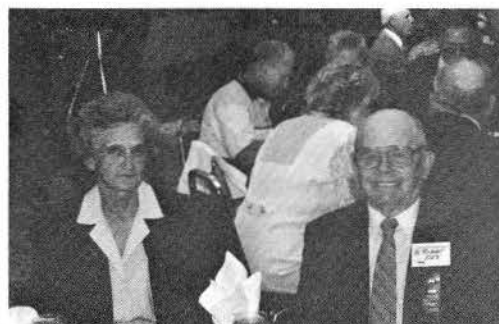
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# REUNION '93

1. Mark Tiernan & Marianne Mandich with Ruby & Walter McAllister.
2. Betty & Jim Martin with June & George Ritchie.
3. Vivienne & Bill Creer.
4. Marilyn & Joseph Wong (newcomers) with Paul & Ann Bourquin.
5. Mary & Earl Frank with Dale & Esther Frank.
6. Paul & Pauline Shull with Lucille & Bud Babcock.
7. Marguerite & George Day with Imogene & Carl Freysinger.
8. George Mongeon, Eloise Rollins, Tom Reynolds and Betty & Don Fillman.
9. Verbal & Betty Holcomb with Jean & Ambers Hanson.
10. Wallace & Doris Brauks with Russell & Martha Reed.
11. Russell & Martha Reed with Carol & Sylvia Forister.
12. Charles & Roberta Barclay with Al & Agnes Israelson.
13. Betty & Jim Martin with June & George Ritchie.
14. James & Lois Clemins with Lance Anderson & Ginny Gradin.
15. Betty & Bob Lampey with Jack & Marian Share.
16. Wyatt & LaVonne Jones with Don Allen and Ed & Joan Dooley.
17. John & Margaret Bloczynski with Linda & Steven Mau.
18. Lois & Walter Sturdivan with Bob & Jo Jansky (Newcomers).
19. Bob & Esther Wright with Katherine & James Alexander.
20. June & George Ritchie with Mary & John Blair.
21. Miriam & Bennett Richmond with Thelma Warfield and Virginia & Hugh Goerner.
22. Vern & Millie Ames with Leonard & Helen Bess.
23. Alda & Frank Sivret with Peggy & Everett Rose
24. Nita & Bill Brown with Anne & Bud Janson.
25. Waiting for the ballroom doors to open.



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# "GALA BANQUET"



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(Editor's Note): Hannah Summa has received very many letters of condolences and sympathy which she has sent on to us. We find that, along with our normal mail, and the fact that the December issue is always our largest due to reunion news and pictures, we aren't able to print all her letters and to print only some doesn't seem right, somehow. Therefore, please be advised that she has received them and is very thankful for your kind words.

\*\*\*\*\*

**GEORGE R. MORRIS** - Ontario, CA.

I just recently received a copy of Mendlesham Memories and a roster. Needless to say, I was happy to receive them. I was unaware that the 34th even had an association, but pleased to know they are organized.

I had a phone call from Walter Sturdivan and, a couple of days later, a copy of his book "Shake Hands With A Soldier". Walt was our radio operator/gunner. The book is wonderful and I was pleased to receive it. I'm proud a member of our own crew published a book so well written after all these years. It sure brought back a lot of memories.

\*\*\*\*\*

**GINNY (ROBERT) GRADIN** - Superior, WI.

Bob and I have so enjoyed many, many of the 34th Bomb Group reunions and were looking forward to Little Rock this September. With much sadness I have to tell you that Bob passed away on May 18, 1993. Through these reunions we have met so many nice people and, hopefully, I will be able to continue with these friendships and be at the reunions. As of now I plan on attending the reunions. As of now I plan on attending the reunion at Little Rock. See you then.

\*\*\*\*\*

**WALTER STURDIVAN** - Stockton, CA.

The pictures of the Windmill Theater in Picadilly Square in the March issue brought back a lot of memories.

Three crew members and myself went into the Windmill one day in 1944, much emboldened by a bottle of scotch. We laughed and talked in the wrong places. Sensing disaster, we escaped to the rest rooms. When we thought the way was clear we took leave of the premises.

The ever-present baton-carrying M.P.'s, however, intercepted us about a block away. By chance, Lt. Myron Levi, who had flown with us several times as a lead navigator, arrived at the scene. He helped us escape further humiliation, but we had to return to the base.

\*\*\*\*\*

**RICHARD L. GRAY** - Raymond, MS.

Thank you for your response and offer of an Associate Membership in the 34th B.G. Assn. It comes as an Honor and Privilege. As the saying goes, "Words cannot express my appreciation".

\*\*\*\*\*



7TH SQDN. GROUND CREW - Standing: Wright & Ulam.  
Kneeling: Unidentified.

**WILLIAM (PETE) GRAY** - Virginia Beach, VA.

Enjoyed the last M/M. It's one of the best of this type of publications I've ever seen. And it seems to get better with every issue. Hope you're still doing it 100 years from now and that I'm still around to read it. Rose too!!

Had a check-up a while back and everything came out fine. Have, however developed a small problem - my ankles have become quite swollen and are very uncomfortable at times. The doctor gave me some pills and is keeping an eye on them. I never mentioned the two fingers of bourbon I take every night and neither did he. The extremely hot weather might have something to do with it.

\*\*\*\*\*

**PAUL R. YOUNGHOLM** - Jefferson, NH.

Thank you for your persistence in finding me! Please send any and all information available - particularly any lists that show what has happened to some of my buddies. Chances are I won't make the Sept. '93 reunion, but I'm all set for '94. Keep me informed, please!!

I'd like to say a word re Carter B. Magendi who is listed in the latest TAPS roster. We were in the 391st as bomb loaders and armament maintenance. I was among the younger ones and, you can imagine, quite green. However, Sgt. Magendi was great to work with. He treated me and others in such a way that we wanted to do a good job. Though the promotions were slow or not forthcoming, I know he was very fair and his evaluations were "the way things were". May the record show that Carter Magendi was deeply appreciated by this one-time young fellow and his influence still lives on!

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLARENCE WALKER** - Walker, LA.

Thank you for contacting me. I was one of the cooks in the 4th Sqdn. and would so much like to make it to the reunion but am unable to do so. If possible, I would like to have the names of those in attendance there, especially of the 4th Sqdn. I would bring back a lot of memories to see the names and to know they are still alive.

\*\*\*\*\*

**WELDON K. BURNS** - Plano, TX.

Thanks for your letter. I was in the 18th Sqdn. and I think our crew was no. 44. I would appreciate receiving any information about the group and its activities, not only during my time of service, but afterwards. I am in the process of writing my memoirs and would like all the information I can get and, of course, will be willing to share anything I have with others.

\*\*\*\*\*



# NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from page 22

**AUGUST NIEMANN - North Pole, AK.**

I was glad to hear from you. I am retired from the Alaska R.R. where I worked until 1973. Then we went to Arizona for 7 years where we had a Christian bookstore. We returned to Alaska in 1980, where I am now the Assoc. Pastor at a church here.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**KENNETH L. HORTON, JR. - Winston-Salem, NC.**

Your letter was forwarded to me by my son, Kenneth L. Horton, III, who lives in Raleigh, NC. I did serve with the 34th and would appreciate any information you can send regarding the group.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**JACK W. BLAND - Pasadena, TX.**

I was very glad to hear from you and enjoyed the Mendlesham Memories very much. I haven't been in touch with any of my old friends since I left the service. I will try to make it to the reunion at Little Rock, AR. I love to play golf.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**GORDON BREEDING - Alpena, MI.**

Thank you very much for locating the long lost buddies of the "Dugan Wagon". Now we have located all members of our ship, whether living or passed away.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**PETER GASKIN - (FOTE) - England**

To all my friends in the 34th:

I have just received the card (via Harold Rutka) that you all signed at the Little Rock reunion. It was a really nice gesture. It is little things like this that help to buck you up when you are down in the dumps as I have been in the last few weeks. I won't be really happy until I get wheels again and, hopefully, that won't be too long now. Once again, thank you for your kind thoughts. P.S. Will be in touch in the near future.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**DELORES H. (ROBERT) GRIFFIT - Tonawanda, NY.**

I'm sorry to report that Bob passed away in 1966 at the age of 44. I still hear from a man I've never met who flew with Bob. He is Bob McWay of Arcadia, CA., who has kept in touch with the rest of the crew all this time. Happy Reunions!!  
\*\*\*\*\*

**PATRICK AITA - Toms River, NJ.**

I was happy to receive your letter and all the rest of the material. I am sorry that I will not be able to attend the Little Rock reunion. My wife is in the process of taking medical tests and, until we know exactly how the tests turn out, we cannot make any plans. Hopefully, we can attend the reunion in 1994.  
\*\*\*\*\*



Bill Sherman & George Zulch, 1239 QMC

**JAMES F. ADAMS - Woodland, CA.**

I am, indeed, the man for whom you have been looking. I didn't know I was LOST and now I am FOUND! I was an original member of the 34th B.G., 4th Sqdn. that was put together at Blythe, CA. I've lost touch with my crew and would find it most rewarding to find out what has transpired with them after all these years. In the press of making it as a civilian, I've lost touch.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**U. JAMES ANGLISANO - Lindenhurst, NY.**

I was very happy to hear from you. I won't be able to make the 1993 reunion but hope to make it in 1994.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**JOHN MOOERS - Fountain Valley, CA.**

Yes, I was with the 34th B.G. in "Jolly Old England" during the period of May, '44 to June, '45. Any information of the 34th B.G. Assn. would be appreciated.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ROBERT W. CHEETHAM - Ocala, FL.**

I have no idea where you obtained my name and address, but I did fly as a tail gunner on a B-17 with the 391st Sqdn. of the 34th B.G. I would be very interested in any additional information regarding the association.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**HAROLD M. FONDREN - New York, NY.**

This is the first contact I've had with anyone since the war. It seems to me to be a huge undertaking to locate people fifty years later and, just so it won't be a "thankless task", I thank you in advance for contacting me.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**THOMAS J. MULLIN - Sacramento, CA.**

Thanks for your letter. It feels great to be back in the 34th B.G. again. Sorry I can't be with you in September but I am committed to another reunion. See you in 1994!  
\*\*\*\*\*

**IRVING LEVY - Phoenix, AZ.**

I would like to say a good word about the group finding Joe Wong. Besides being the sheet metal expert who patched all the flak damage, he had another talent as a volunteer. When the inboard superchargers had to be changed he had the small stature to crawl inside the wheel well while somebody else worked on the outside. I never heard him complain and it was a very unique job for a kid his size.

I see by his picture in the Sept. issue that he hasn't put on too much weight. It was good to see him again, especially with those two beautiful fish. Welcome back, Joe!  
\*\*\*\*\*

**WELDON K. BURNS - Plano, TX.**

In the Sept. '93 issue the story, "Remembering - That Dreadful Night" brought back many memories. My best military friend, Junior Craft, and his crew were shot down that night. Three of his crew died and a fourth had to quit flying because of the trauma of the event.

Our crew, "Bachelors Baby", were on the same mission and picked up flak damage - no big thing, just a hole about the size of your thumb - but it cut the left aileron cable. We went into a spiral and lost some 7,000 ft. before "Pappy", C.W. Harris, finally got us leveled out and headed home at about 12,000 ft.

Next, two things happened. As I recall, #3 supercharger ran away and we had to throttle back. Then #4 prop ran away and we pulled it down with the feathering button, but when that didn't work we cut the fuel and let it windmill. We started looking for a place to land and it turned out to be P-47 base. We got permission to land. With all props turning and all landing gear down, our plight wasn't obvious.

On the down-wind let Pappy called out for more power and was told there wasn't any to be had. He then banked into the dead aileron and leveled out at about 30 deg. from parallel to the runway. We fell out of the air at 110 mph and bounced. We landed again and skidded to a stop just 500 ft. short of a stack of 500 lb. bombs.

Clayton W. Harris was decorated with the D.F.C. for this heroic landing and, I believe, he was the first person in the 34th B.G. to be so honored.  
Continued on page 24

## NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from page 23

**RUTH (EARL) HARTLINE** - Pomona, CA.

Thank you for your letter. Earl was a ground crew man in the service. He was a corporal when discharged. We moved to California soon after he was discharged. I don't have any information regarding anyone who was with in the 34th. Sorry.

\*\*\*\*\*

**WILLIAM L. PATERSON** - Bellingham, WA.

After receiving the information you sent when I joined I wrote to several of our crew members, one being Col. Freeman. "Bucky" was the best C.O. I had in the Air Force. I received a great letter from Ray Palmer and a reply from Reichman, our ball turret gunner. I was happy to read that Ray & Mrs. Palmer planned to attend the Little Rock reunion. I plan to be there. Ray was the first pilot that I worked with in the Air Force.

\*\*\*\*\*

**THOMAS J. MULLIN** - Sacramento, CA.

I am overwhelmed at the information regarding the 34th B.G. Assn. I had no idea there was such an organization. I thought that everyone went their own way after the war and that those glorious and tragic days of our youth were left to the historians. Inasmuch as I would like to attend the reunion in Little Rock, I'm afraid I can't make it. I'm already committed to a B-57 pilot's reunion at the same time at Langley AFB. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in '94.

\*\*\*\*\*

**JAMES W. SPARROW** - La Plata, MO.

I was very glad to receive my membership card. Thank you very much. I made some very good friends at Mendlesham and hope to see or hear from some of them. They may remember Nov. 17, 1944, when Gwen, who is British, and I were married at Mendlesham. It was raining hard that day so there were no missions flown. Quite a few attended and made our wedding very special for us.

**WAYNE ROE** - Allerton, IA.

Yes, I did serve with the 34th at Mendlesham from Feb. 1945 until May, 1945. I've always wondered if anyone had interest in the group. I hope someday I can get together with some of you.

\*\*\*\*\*

**JOSEPH F. LEMMON** - Northford, CT.

I did, indeed, serve with the 34th B.G., 391st Sqdn. I would like to have more information on the association.

\*\*\*\*\*

**CHARLES J. McCLURE** - Clifton Park, NY.

I did, indeed, serve with the 34th B.G. as a bombardier in the 391st Sqdn. from Feb. 1st to June 20, 1945. It certainly was a surprise to learn of the 34th B.G. Assn., and I would appreciate hearing more about it. Many thanks for tracking me down.

\*\*\*\*\*

**JAMES STUTHERS** - Venice, FL.

Thank you so much for contacting us. Unfortunately, Kay, myself and family have been very busy attending to our #2 son's confinement in the hospital and eventual death both before and after his funeral. He died August 29th and was buried Sept. 2nd here in Venice. We were fortunate to have him with us the past year through his illness and suffering with cancer. He was 42.

We hope to clear up the "loose ends" here and get away from Florida, heading north and west, eventually stopping a few days in Little Rock to attend the 34th Reunion.

\*\*\*\*\*

**WILLARD M. FAGER** - Idaho Falls, ID.

I do want to be remembered as a member of the 34th B.G. The 34th was as good a bomb group as was ever organized. The men were very dedicated in their many responsible jobs. I was a crew chief in the 391st Sqdn. and am proud to say that the two planes I oversaw flew 59 missions without having to abort because of mechanical failure.

\*\*\*\*\*

Continued on page 25



The good ship "EMILY".



## NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from page 24

**HAROLD C. SCHMIDT** - Houston, TX.

I was glad to hear from someone about the 34th B.G. I was with the ground crew as Refuel Unit Operator & Maintenance. I will try to make the reunion.

\*\*\*\*\*

**CHARLES D. ALLEN** - Highlandville, MO.

I certainly enjoy the publications about doings and members of the organization. My memories of the war are both good and bad as I am sure they are for many others.

I was with Lester Bennett's crew until they were all killed attempting to avoid a crash over the base. I then finished my tour flying with Elmer Sherkenbach's crew. If they decide to attend a reunion I would like to join them, however, I will probably not attend otherwise.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MICHAEL J. DERENGE** - Port Charlotte, FL.

Sorry I'm late with my dues but, because of a lot of sickness, it slipped my mind. Helen has been very ill and had major surgery. She had part of her colon removed as well as part of her small intestines. Thank God she's slowly recovering.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ROBERT M. PLATZ** - Ottsville, PA.

Sorry about the late dues. This summer just went to hell. I still have one foot in the hell hole of recuperation for quadruple heart bypass. All is well now and I expect to be back to normal for another 50 years.

I appreciate all you people do and I do not attend reunions, etc. since I am now just about completely DEAF!

\*\*\*\*\*

**SID ROCKMULLER** - Bronx, NY.

Words can't begin to explain what a great time I had at the reunion. My only regret is that I didn't know about the assn. years ago.

Bob Gay, Roy Tavasti and Bill Creer asked me to try and get the "Jive Bombers", our jazz combo, together for next year's reunion. To this end I would appreciate help from anyone reading this. If you have any information regarding addresses, etc. of the musicians, please contact me. I need information on our drummer, trumpeter, basist and sax. Lou De Santis was at the reunion and Doug Culver, who is now a minister, will be contacted by one of our friends at the reunion. Any help in locating the others would be greatly appreciated.

\*\*\*\*\*

**DALE FINLEY** - Crothersville, IN.

Just a few words about Ray Summa. He was a man who loved people and never met a stranger. He was always alert to find new people and friends, especially in the 34th B.G.

He was a dedicated person who worked hour after hour, day after day, for the organization in which he took great interest. Ray made the association better for us all and gave us the possibility to become re-acquainted after many years. The last several years, although he didn't feel up to par, Ray still held up his end of the battle to any challenge before him.

Ray was a husband, a father, and a grandfather. He went all out to please each and every one. Now Ray has lowered his flaps and gear for his final landing. "MAY HE REST IN PEACE".

\*\*\*\*\*

**JANE (FRED) GOETZ** - Westlake, OH.

It has been very difficult to write to our out of town friends, telling of Freddy's death on Dec. 3rd. I must tell you how much we both enjoyed the 34th newsletter. He saved them all to re-read. Our only regret was not being able to attend a reunion. How tickled he was when he found the picture of his crew printed in one issue.

I would enjoy receiving the newsletters, etc. in the future.

\*\*\*\*\*



L. to R.: Logan, Weddell, Davis, Gronouski, Hollowell (the pilot), Smith, Thomas, Stonefield and Gray.

**ROBERT J. FILIP** - LaGrange Park, IL.

Bingo! Your letter found its mark. Needless to say, I had lost contact with all my crew members, but your letter stirred up a lot of memories. I won't be able to make Little Rock this year but maybe St. Paul next year.

\*\*\*\*\*

**HUGH A. THOMPSON** - Phoenix, AZ.

Thank you. I don't know how you are able to run down the whereabouts of people after such a long time. Send me whatever information you have regarding the 34th B.G. Assn.

\*\*\*\*\*

**DEXTER JORDAN** - Huntersville, NC.

Thanks to everyone who had a part in setting up our reunion. It was a great shock to hear of Ray's death. He did so much in so many ways to keep the group together and help it grow. I have lost five close friends in just over one year; Ray Summa, William Cloud, James Miller, Jesse Gardner and George Schmitt, who died on Sept. 20th. George's daughter, Nancy Mainville, at 320 Dixon Street, Kaukauna, WI. would love to hear from all of George's friends. (Editors note: Dex didn't give a proper zip code for Kaukauna, WI.)

\*\*\*\*\*

**ERNESTINE (HOMER) SCHINDLER** - Tacoma, WA.

I appreciate receiving the picture of my husband, Homer, who died in 1978. I do enjoy Mendlesham Memories a lot. I hope the '93 reunion was fun for everyone.

\*\*\*\*\*

**EDWARD J. LONERGAN** - Fort Myers, FL.

Although only 24 golfers played in Little Rock, I think everyone had a good time. The Golf Committee wishes to thank the Reunion Committee for their preliminary work in obtaining the facility, the collection of fees and assisting the chairman in Little Rock to assure a successful outing.

Special thanks are again extended to Beth Yockey and Goldan Eagle of Arkansas, Inc., the Budweiser Distributor, for their making our outing even more enjoyable with their donation.

\*\*\*\*\*

**BILL CREER** - Las Vegas, NV.

Ray Summa and I had a very interesting and gratifying association though the years (give and take). On the long flight home from Little Rock I had time to reflect on my remarks.

In summary, I concluded that there is much more that needs to be said. Let's not miss an opportunity to develop and chronicle a more in-depth coverage of Ray's many activities that contributed to the betterment of our Association.

# ADDRESS CHANGES

(As of 10-24-93)

ALLEN	CHARLES D JR	18	142 DOGWOOD LANE	HIGHLANDVILLE,	MO.	65669
ANDERSON	MAURICE	18	17245 3RD AVENUE NORTH	PLYMOUTH,	MN.	55447
ARMSTRONG	DENTON	4-18	2916A WEST LONG CIRCLE	LITTLETON	CO.	80120
BAMBAUER	GILBERT R.	392 BG	974 FAIRWAY DRIVE	DEWEY,	AZ.	86327
BOEHMLER	BART	4	1703 HIGHWAY 3	HAMPTON	IA	50441
BROFFT	ROBERT J.		5915 EAST MADISON AVENUE	FRESNO,	CA.	93727
DAVIS	KENNETH J.	18	3244 FAIRMEADOW DRIVE	BILLINGS,	MT.	59102
HANSON	AMBERS	391	1505 LEE ROAD 51	AUBURN	AL.	36830
JUDD	J.E.	391	15648 NORTH 35TH AVENUE	PHOENIX,	AZ.	85023
KENNEDY	GRANT W.	18	(CHANGE OF ZIP CODE)	DUNNELLON,	FL.	34430
KNOWLTON	ROBERT W.	18	2865 CALLE LAS CASITAS	ST. GEORGE,	UT.	84770
LE BAILLY	MARGARET	GRP.	4725 4TH AVENUE N.E.	SEATTLE,	WA.	98105
LINDIA	JOSEPH	7	(CHANGE OF ZIP CODE)	HERNANDO,	FL.	34442
MAJCHZRZAK	AMBROSE J.	391	109 EASTERN AVENUE	MOON TWP.	PA.	15108
MINGL	MICHAEL	18	(CHANGE OF ZIP CODE)	CHULA VISTA,	CA.	91912
PLATZ	ROBERT M.	391	1711 SWEETBRIAR ROAD	OTTSVILLE,	PA.	18942
ROWLEY	FRANCIS D.	4	2820 MEADOWOOD DRIVE	JACKSON,	MI.	49202
SPARROW	JAMES W.	391	301 E. BATES ST., APT. 11	LA PLATA,	MO.	63549
SWEENEY	ROBERT E.	7	3499 SOUTH 96TH STREET	MILWAUKEE,	WI.	53227
VENNE	DERRICK J.	7	RR. 2, BOX 212-A	SWANTON,	MD.	21561
WAGNER	JAMES H.	7	P. O. BOX 3504	GROTON LONG PT.	CT.	06340

## NEWLY FOUND

(As of 10-21-93)

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ORGN.</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIP</u>
ANDERSON	MAURICE	18	17245 THIRD AVENUE NORTH	PLYMOUTH,	MN.	55447
ANDERSON	MILTON D.		BOX 371	OVERTON,	NV.	89040
ANGLISANO	UMBERT J.	18	811 NO. JEFFERSON AVENUE	LINDENHURST,	NY.	11757
BENSCOTER	DON	18	R.R.1, BOX 132	LAPWAI,	ID.	83540
BENSCOTER	DONALD	18	RT. #1, BOX 132	LAPWAI,	ID.	83540
BERRY	BOB	7A	1920 LYNNWOOD	BENTON,	AR.	72015
BERRY	DAN	7A	5 FELDSPAR COURT	LITTLE ROCK,	AR.	72212
BLACKWELL	S.D.		9601 VAUGHN DRIVE	LITTLE ROCK,	AR.	72205
BOLI	RAYMOND		5212 S.E. 60TH STREET	PORTLAND,	OR.	97206
BURNS	WELDON K.	18	2601 EAST 15TH STREET	PLANO,	TX.	75074
CHEETHAM	ROBERT W.	391	8707-D S.W. 95TH LANE	OCALA,	FL.	34481
FIGEL	HENRY B.	7	3 McDONALD ROAD	ALBANY,	NY.	12209
FILIP	ROBERT J.	391	601 HOMESTEAD ROAD	LaGRANGE PARK,	IL.	60525
PONDREN	HAROLD M.	18	1150 FIFTH AVENUE	NEW YORK,	NY.	10128
FRANCO	GEORGE A.	18-4	108 EAGLE LANE	HAMPSTEAD,	NC.	28443
GRAHAM	HERBERT W.	4	6229 FAIRFAX WAY	NORTH HIGHLAND,	CA.	95660
HORTON	KENNETH L.	18	732 ELDERWOOD AVENUE	WINSTON-SALEM,	NC.	27103
IVERSON	RICHARD	4	510 SPYGLASS DRIVE	EUGENE,	OR.	97401
LINDEN	SAMUEL	18	430 GOLDEN ISLES DRIVE #404	HALLANDALE,	FL.	33009
MAZZARELLA	EDWARD	18	30 CORNELIUS AVENUE	WATERBURY,	CT.	06706
MERRELL	RICHARD	391	2360 BRYAN AVENUE	SALT LAKE CITY,	UT.	84108
MOERS	JOHN B.	7	16310 CANDLEWOOD STREET	FOUNTAIN VALLEY,	CA.	92708
NIEMANN	AUGUST	391	3399 VENUS DRIVE	NORTH POLE,	AK.	99705
PERLONGO	PAUL		5400 S. WALNUT	DOWNERS GROVE,	IL.	60515
RICHARDSON	LUTHER	18	326 EAST 127TH AVENUE	TAMPA,	FL.	33612
THOMPSON	HUGH A.		11645 N. 25TH PL. APT. 222	PHOENIX,	AZ.	85028
TUCKER	WILFRED S.	4 LM	10100 HILLVIEW ROAD	PENSACOLA,	FL.	32514
WALKER	CLARENCE	4	30655 BOBWHITE STREET	WALKER,	LA.	70785
YOUNGHOLM	PAUL R.	391	P. O. BOX 3	JEFFERSON,	NH.	03583



# NEW LIFE MEMBERS

(Total 271 as of 10-24-93)

<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 J.	391	512 WASHINGTON STREET	CARROLL,	IA.	51401
BURKE	DOUGLAS F.	4	3536 GARDEN BLVD.	GAINSVILLE,	GA.	30506
COHEN	CECIL	7	HCR 1, BOX 16A	MARGARETVILLE,	NY.	12455
COLE	DAVID E.	391	33 BITTERSWEET ROAD	FAIRPORT,	NY.	14450
ELMO	SALVATORE S.		19 STRATTON WAY	BRANFORD,	CT.	06405
FAGER	WILLARD M.	391	734 EAST 15TH STREET	IDAHO FALLS,	ID.	83404
GRIMES	BRYANT E.	7	7819 GRAHAMCREST	HOUSTON,	TX.	77061
PODULKA	PHILIP	7	1312 SLEEPY HOLLOW ROAD	GLENVIEW,	IL.	60025
TUCKER	WILFRED S.	4	10100 HILLVIEW ROAD	PENSACOLA,	FL.	32514



## TAPS

(As of 10-24-93)

<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>
BEACH	VIRGIL		24 ELM STREET	FRANKLINVILLE,	NY.	14737	
CHESHIRE	HAROLD L.	4	1119 FULLER STREET	WENATCHEE,	WA.	98801	3/31/93
GOETZ	FRED W.	4-18	2959 SOUTH BAY DRIVE 611	CLEVELAND,	OH.	44145	12-3-92
GOLDSTEIN	IRVING	4	1930 WHIPPLETREE AVENUE	LAS VEGAS,	NV.	89119	NOV. '92
HARTLINE	EARL A.		2253 HEATHER WAY	PAMONA,	CA.	91767	10-16-86
KEEF	WILLIAM E.			FORT SMITH,	AR.		NOV. '88
LITCHENSTEIN	ALVIN D.		423 EUDORA STREET	DENVER,	CO.	30220	
LONG	ERNEST		5512 SEAGRAPE DRIVE	FT. PIERCE,	FL.	33450	1987
LUX	CHARLES W.	391	317 VILLAGE WALK DRIVE	MACUNGIE,	PA.	18062	OCT. '92
O'BRIEN	EDWARD J.	18	14 WATER STREET	ASSONET,	MA.	02702	6-26-93
RICHART	GEORGE A. JR.	391	1236 CORNELL DRIVE	LONGMONT,	CO.	80503	OCT. '92
SCHMITT	GEORGE J.	7	315 W. 8TH STREET	KAUKAUNA,	WI..	54130	9-20-93
SUMMA	RAY L.	18 LM	2910 BITTERSWEET LANE	ANDERSON,	IN.	46011	9-18-93
WALCH	STEPHEN	18	18 WESTVIEW COURT	SAGINAW,	MI.	48601	5/29/90
WIGGINS	ROBERT		906 RIDGEVIEW ROAD	ROLLA,	MO.		

## 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>
LOGAN	EDWARD	7	17442 NORTH 105TH AVENUE	SUN CITY,	AZ.	85373
MOLICA	JOHN	391LM	4345 EDEN STREET S.E.	SALEM,	OR.	97301
SWIFT	JONATHAN A.	391	754 CHEROKEE STREET	MARIETTA,	GA.	30060



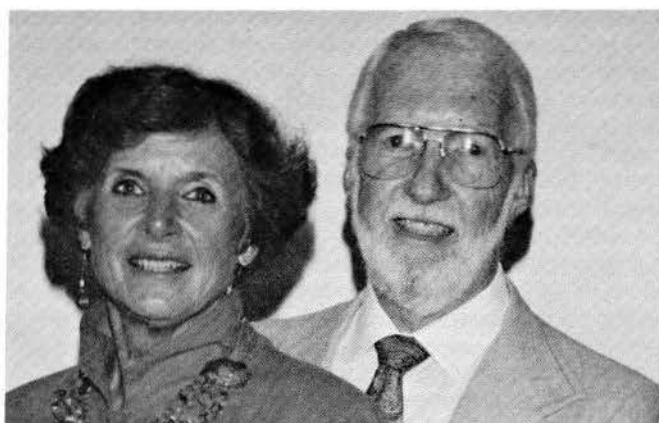
# *Then and Now*



## BYRON SHEESLEY



1945

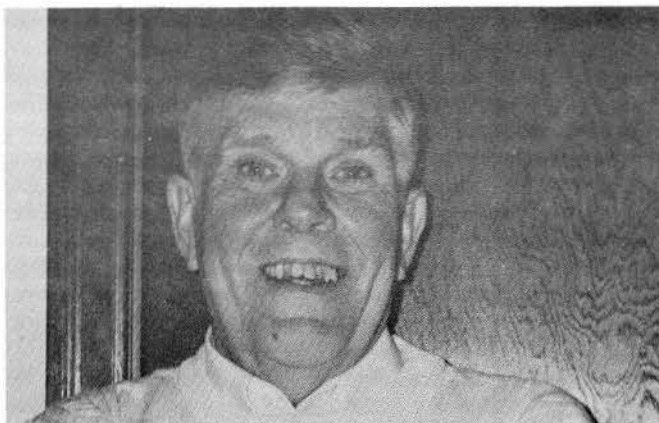


1992

## CARL STEMEN



1945

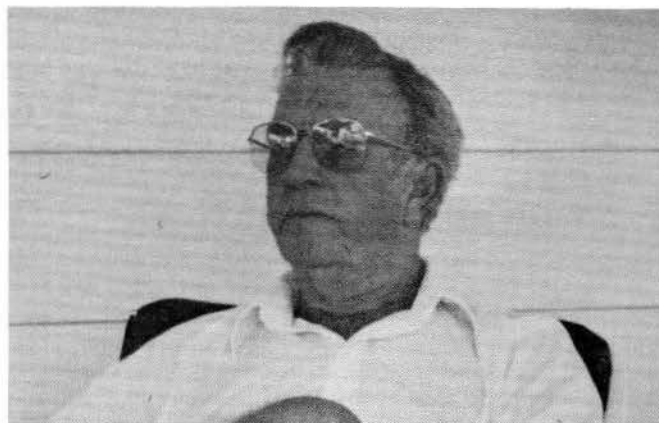


1993

## RAYMOND SWAN



1945



1991





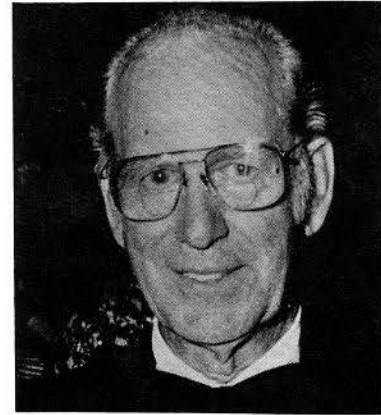
## *Then and Now*



### ELBERT H. SWENSON

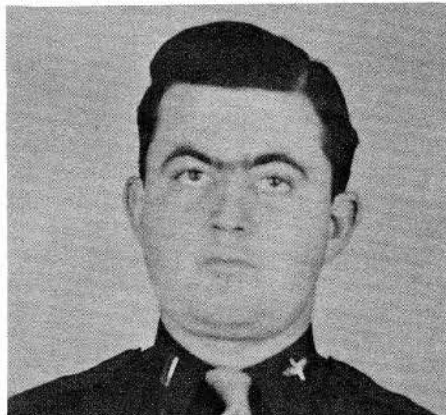


1945



1992

### CARL TRAUERNICHT



1945

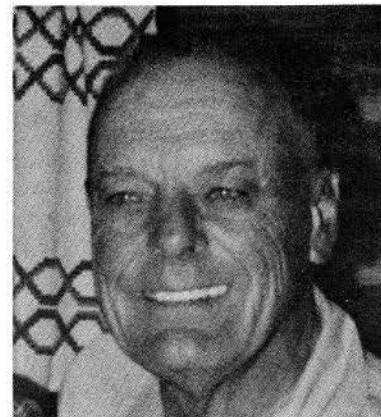


1992

### CHARLEY "TEX" WEAVER



1945



1991

# Memories

## COMING HOME - WWII MEMORIES

by Walter W. Studivan

The Ile de France was the third largest ocean liner in the world. She was able to cross from Liverpool to New York in five days. She was fast enough to keep ahead of the Nazi subs that lurked about in the Atlantic, but much too slow for the thousands of American servicemen aboard, some of whom had been away for five years.

I roamed her decks from deep in the hold to the promenade deck, where 200 English war brides drew much attention from the American soldiers. There's no stopping an American in love or war.

From the bow, I allowed my eyes to follow the curvature of the earth where the sea met the sky. Below the fantail, great billows of foam and spray cascaded up from the giant propellers, each revolution moving us closer to home. My friends in the 34th B.G. continued to fly, hoping to finish their tours of duty. Some did, some didn't. It was February, 1945.

I was 22 but had aged fast that last year. War does that to a man. Mere boys were running a war. Late 20's was considered old, if you lived that long. Twenty-five missions with 5 percent losses. Figure it out. Thank God for the P-51 fighter. It changed things.

Thirty missions to hell and back. Mine numbered 27. I was



Lois and Walter Sturdivan in 1945

no hero. We left them lying quietly under white crosses at Cambridge or scattered at other places on the Continent where they had come down in flaming bombers or shredded silk to meet the anger of sharpened pitchforks or cruel bayonets.

New York harbor!! The spine-tingling euphoria. We lined the rails, watching...and then we saw her! Standing grandly with her torch reaching 305 feet above Liberty Island, the Statue of Liberty! Most of us had never seen her before. Now our eyes rested

upon the symbol of the principles men were dying for, liberty under God!

Now a small ship came alongside with a band playing...our welcoming committee. The thrill of patriotism welled up inside. America was proud of us.

Small tugboats nudged us up to the pier. The giant engines that throbbed rhythmically for five days now were silenced. Men, some in the deep bowels of the ship, were lost in thought. Five years was a long time to be gone from home and loved ones. Letters and pictures, at best, were poor substitutes for flesh and blood. Will I be accepted? Is she still faithful?

And the nagging question for some of us...will it be more clouds of flak and cannon fire in the South Pacific? Time will tell.

As we stepped off the gangplank the earth felt good under our feet. American soil at last! And then we saw them...American women at their best...the Red Cross ladies! Do we deserve it? They seemed to think so. The outstretched hands with refreshments. Welcome home!! Oh, I could have hugged every one of them. But time was of the essence...we were still marching to the military drum. Buses were waiting.

Behold the contrast. Automobiles were everywhere between the great canyon walls formed by brick and mortar. Cars were scarce in England, as was everything else, except grit, guts and tenacity. Once again, we had come to our brother's aid with more than words. Liberty is purchased with blood. But night fell, as did sleepy eyelids. And then Camp Kilmer opened its gate for us, and a delicious meal was served for the weary transients. Now, blessed sleep on American soil.

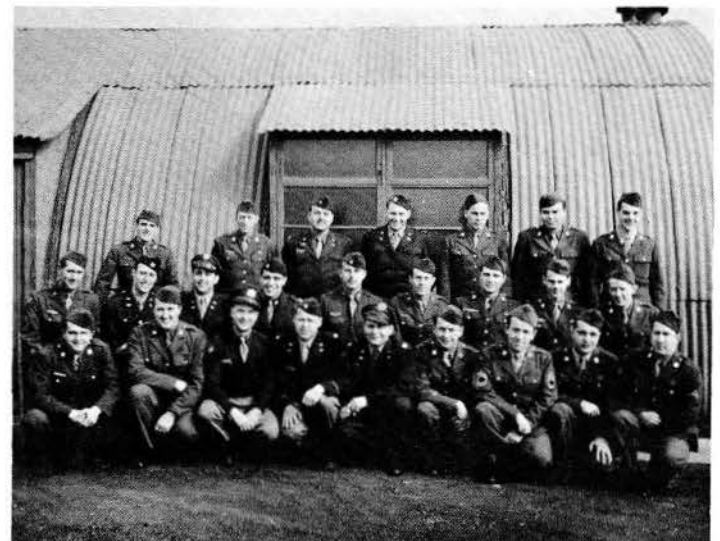
But the journey was only half over for me. Three days later I heard the click of Pullman wheels under me. The great wheels of the steam locomotive swiftly covered the land from east to west. Forests, rivers, mountains and great plains flashed by the dirty, film-streaked windows. Chicago, Denver, Salt Lake City were all a home to some serviceman of the 11 million under arms. Camp Beal beckoned first and, then, an all-night ride in my friend's car.

Soon after awakening I found myself standing alone on Colorado Boulevard in Glendale. A kindly man slowed at my outstretched hand, then stopped. "Where to, soldier?"

Colorado Boulevard broadened as it reached Pasadena. It was nearly deserted. Standing with my B-4 bag I hailed a taxi. After a short ride I found myself on Mountain Street. All was quiet. It was Sunday morning. I was dirty and disheveled from traveling. I stood by the front door. Life means different things to people. Behind that door was the light of my life, my war bride.

I knocked gently. A relative quietly opened the door. In a few seconds I stood before another door, the last separation. I opened it slowly. The pretty blue eyes opened. I had forgotten how beautiful she was. I stood for a moment feasting upon her presence. She smiled, "You did come back."

Continued on page 31



34th B.G. Headquarters personnel at Mendlesham.



# MEMORIES

Continued from page 30

## "AN UN-ARMED SOLDIER"

by Wm. "Pete" Gray

During World War II it was the Army's policy to have every soldier going overseas to carry a rifle with him aboard the troop ship. There were several reasons for this but, mainly, it was just a way of getting a large number of these weapons over into the combat zone without using a lot of valuable cargo space. And the 34th Bomb Group, being a part of the Army, "Army Air Corps.", followed this same procedure as it prepared for its overseas movement back in early 1944. It issued rifles to all its enlisted personnel shortly before shipping out from its base near Blythe, California.

All the personnel, that is, except one - me! Now, the reason they didn't give me a gun was that on the day they were passed out I was somewhere over the Arizona desert flying with Lt. Gerald Holmes and his crew in the B-24 "Tiger Rag". If I remember rightly, we were checking out its automatic-pilot.

Late that afternoon, upon our return to the base, I was told to report to the Armament Shack to get my gun. But the Armament people told me they had run out of rifles and I would have to take an ominous looking thing they called a sub-machine gun. Now I was born and raised in the City and had never fired a gun in my life so I was completely in awe of that menacing-looking weapon. It looked like something Al Capone might have used and I had no idea how to operate it.

Fortunately, there were several "experts" on guns in my barracks who, after examining that appalling piece of equipment, advised me that there was something wrong with its firing mechanism and that I should return it and get a replacement.

Armament agreed with their diagnosis but then informed me they had run out of sub-machine guns as well as rifles so I would have to wait until they received another shipment before I could get my gun.

So, every few days I checked with them but the shipment never arrived. By then I wasn't too enthused about getting a gun anyway. Everybody that had one complained about what a nuisance they were. They had to carry them everywhere they went, even to the mess hall as well as to the latrine. The only time they didn't have to worry about them was when they were sleeping. So, when Armament was unable to provide me with a gun, I was not too put out, as you might expect.

However, the captain there informed me, rather curtly, that I would positively be issued one at the Port of Embarkation. "Every soldier had to have a weapon", he explained to me almost peevishly. I think he was just a mite testy because I didn't have to carry around a gun with me while he had a bulky .45 on his hip which was weighing him down on one side.

Shortly thereafter we left Blythe for the POE, which was Boston, Mass. During the long train ride across the country those rifles continuously got into everybody's way. We were always stumbling over them or else they were bumping into something or someone. I felt kind of guilty - but fortunate - that I didn't have to carry one.

Now, by that time, I had been in the Army long enough to know when to keep my mouth shut so, when we arrived in Boston, I didn't mention to anyone my lack of a gun. I figured that it was now the Army's problem, not mine, so I kept quiet about it. Yet, during our short stay at the POE, no one ever contacted me about a gun. Maybe they would take care of it at dockside, I thought to myself.

When the time came to board the troop ship we marched up the gang-plank one by one, each with a rifle slung over his



Gene Tigges, Ed Thaete & Sam Sinden in front of "Big Ben".

shoulder - except me, of course. I felt a bit conspicuous and fully expected to be called out from the formation at any moment. But nothing happened. No one seemed to notice me and, I expect, I was probably the only one of that horde of soldiers going off to war without a weapon.

All during our trip across the Atlantic those guns again proved to be as much of a nuisance aboard ship as they had been on the train. Then, after some eight days at sea, we finally arrived at the port of Liverpool, England. Here we transferred to a train that carried us across England to East Anglia and the small village of Mendlesham in Suffolk County.

Soon after we had settled in at our new base we received orders to turn in the rifles we had brought over with us. That was one order everyone was anxious to comply with. And, as long as the war lasted, we never again were bothered with any guns. It was as if the Army had come to the conclusion that we had been trained as aircraft mechanics and knew nothing about guns, so they let us be mechanics.

Several months after the war ended I was scheduled to board the Queen Mary, along with several thousand other G.I.'s, for our return to the States. We had moved to the port of Southampton in south England and there I fully expected to be issued a rifle. I thought the Army would want us to carry back some of those we had brought over there almost two years earlier.

But, once again, the Army left me a little disconcerted as to the way it operated. It failed again to issue me a gun and I came back just as I had gone over there - completely un-armed!!

Continued on page 32



From the collection of:

Al Israelsen

Pilot, First Crew No. 1, 4th Sq. Feb - Nov 1944

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34th Bomb. Group  
Eli Baldea  
2576 Brookwood Drive  
Crown Point, Indiana 46307  
(219) 988-4607

## MEMORIES

Continued from page 31

### WHY DO WE COME? THE REUNION

by Lee Bergee

(borrowed from the 97th B.G. News)

What is it that binds combat vets together? It isn't friendship. We all have friends. You go to a company picnic or a convention and you will not feel the same emotions in the air as you do when you attend a veterans' reunion. It is something beyond regular friendship. It is the knowing that "you and they have been to Hell and back". It is a deep-rooted emotion that binds you together. It is the knowledge that when things were tough, you and your buddies stuck it out and lived through it. You can attend high school reunions, college reunions, company conventions...the whole civilian works, but there isn't the "band of brothers" feeling that you feel when combat buddies get together!

You and your buddies may have less hair on top and a lot more inches around the beltline, but deep within all of you is the same comradeship that you had during those terrible days of war. Whether it is 10 years or 40, when combat buddies meet it seems like yesterday! All of your memories begin to assemble in your mind...memories that you thought had been pushed back into the recesses of your memory bank..."Whatever happened to...?" and "Remember when...?"

You try not to let on that these old veterans mean a lot to you, but by the time Auld Lang Syne is played and the flags are furled and the stations wagon is packed, there is a lump in your throat and a tear in your eye as you part company with the men who once lived and fought beside you.

You tell your wife "Damn, it was good to see them again"...And, it was! "Old Charley" might have gained 50 or so pounds, but he sure could fire that machine gun. "Chief" looked almost as young and fit as he did when he crawled up and gave you first aid under fire. "Danny Boy" is still the comedian, although he left both legs over there. "Big John" is now almost bald, but he was quite a sergeant in those days and "Jimmy the Polack" gets around pretty good with one glass eye and one arm. YES, memories flood your mind as you head for home. No one know the feeling except those of us who were there. You wonder if you will ever see any of them again. Combat was hell and you have terrible memories of death and destruction, the memory of total camaraderie with men who shared Hell will forever be embedded in your heart. There is no friendship like that of combat buddies. It is something that lasts forever.



Crew of "Set 'Em Up"

Standing L. to R.: C. Pavlicek, H. Glover, H. Graham, & W. Vernuille.

Center: L. to R.: D. Spher, T. Mascarella & K. Westenburger.

Kneeling: L. to R.: W. Griffis, M. Chapman, J. Crouch, H. Crawford, R. Hendricks & W. Oneschak.

## MOVING?????

If you are moving, or have moved, get your change of address in so that you won't miss the next issue of Mendlesham Memories. Mailing labels are printed about Feb. 1, May 1, Aug., and Nov. 1 for the March, June, September and December issues. Send your change of address to: HAL PROVINCE, 111 PROVINCE LANE CARRIERE, MS. 39426 before the labels are printed to ensure the correct arrival of the MEMORIES!!