



ENDLESHAM EMORIES

34TH BOMB GROUP H

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 Paul Shull (P.X.) (816) 356-4630

CHANGING OF THE GUARD



New President, Ambers Hanson accepts the gavel from Past President, Eli Baldea

OBSERVATIONS

After a marvelous time in Huntsville we are finally home again. Even though I gave up my presidency there, both Rose and I agree that it was one of our best reunions. Those of you who did not attend really do not know what you missed.

No longer being president, I now have only one job - that of being your editor. With this issue I complete my 11th year as editor and, I must say, it has been most interesting, challenging and enlightening. Because of it we have met, and made friends of, numerous of our members and both Rose and I enjoy the interaction between friends, both old and new.

Your new president, Ambers Hanson, and his wife, Jean, are very cordial companions at any event and, I'm sure, will prove it at any get-together in which they participate. If you have a chance please get to know them. You'll be very pleased to do so.

I must also report that Hal and Jan Province had presented to both Rose and me some new sweat-shirts with illustrations on the chest extolling our service to the group in putting out Mendlesham Memories. They are beautiful and a photograph showing them will be shown at the end of this article.

I must also say, at this point, that so many of our workers get credit for their efforts but Hal, who I think probably has to work harder than I do, does not get the credit he deserves. He is both treasurer and corresponding secretary and both jobs require a lot of work. I do know that last year he sent out several thousand letters trying to find "Lost Souls" who, as yet, had not heard of our association. Due to his efforts we have added several hundred new names to our roster. Both he and Jan, who I'm sure helps out all she can, deserve a healthy amount of credit for our group's advancement. Although we lose a considerable number of members through normal old age reasons, our roster has more names on it than when he took over. He has taken over where Ray Summa left off and has done great!!

This issue is the one where we report on what went on at the reunion. The pictures will show most, if not all, who attended. Because, over the years, we have found that hiring a professional photographer to take pictures at the Saturday night banquet did not work out to our satisfaction, we asked those in attendance to take pictures and mail them in. We have used in this issue those we thought would be of most interest and tried to show all attendees at least once. If you were in attendance and your picture is not shown, it is probably because we did not get one of you on time or the photo we received was not properly reproducible. Sorry.

It was nice to see the extraordinary number of first-timers at the reunion. We hope they enjoyed it as much as we did and will try to attend our future reunions. Those of us who have been regulars for many years still thoroughly enjoy the reunions and are always looking forward to the next one. Those of you who have not been to one of our reunions should try it, at least once.

The March issue goes to press no later than January 19th, 1996. This allows the printers a few weeks to set all the type, have the proofs corrected or amended, as necessary, and be ready to mail the finished product by late February, which is necessary for most of our readers to receive their issue sometime in the month of March. Because we use bulk mailing (the postage is much cheaper) it sometimes takes several weeks for all of the newsletters to reach their destination. So, don't forget, all material for the March issue must reach us no later than January 19th, 1996.

With that said, I will close this column with some of our best wishes. Both Rose and I want to wish all of you the happiest of the Holiday Seasons possible.



Eli and Rose Baldea

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone enjoyed the trip to Huntsville, AL. reminiscing about the past and exploring the future at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. Thanks to the Reunion Committee for another well-planned reunion and to Paul Shull for providing members with a good selection of items at the P.X. Of the 350 attendees we had a good number of first-timers and we welcome all of you to the organization. We strongly encourage each of you to contact other 34th Bomb Group members and make plans for our next reunion in Raleigh, N.C., Sept. 19-22, 1996.

After a discussion at the Board meeting on September 14, 1995, a motion was made and carried at the General meeting that the 34th Bomb Group Assn. make a \$5,000.00 contribution to the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum in Savannah, GA. A request has also been made for memorabilia that could be donated at the museum. If you have items you wish to donate please contact Jack Clarkson for instructions.

As most of you may already know, Alabama has been hard hit by forces of Hurricane Opal. Auburn was included in the devastation and Jean and I have been busy cleaning up mountains of debris, limbs and trees after the storm. The roar of chain saws and generators could be heard all over town. Most of Auburn was without power for several days. Oil lamps, flashlights and candles were our only means of light and we learned to live without CNN.

I appreciate the opportunity of serving as your president during the coming year and, since this will be the December issue of Mendlesham Memories, let us wish each of you a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Ambers Hanson
President

DEADLINE

Any material or items to be inserted in the March issue of Mendlesham Memories should reach me on or before January 19, 1996. That is the date our final copy will be presented to the printers.

Eli Baldea, Editor

FROM THE TREASURER'S COMPUTER



WOW! Was that ever a REUNION!!! We had over 350 in attendance, fair weather, a goodly number of FIRST-TIMERS, a SHORT BUSINESS meeting, a tour of the NASA Space Museum with film at the OMNI-MAX theater, and then dinner. Then, on Saturday, we had a wonderful banquet and a dance band that knew how to play the GOLDEN OLDIES of the 1940's. I'm sorry that there were some of you who couldn't make the reunion. If you didn't, try to plan on the one next year in Raleigh, NC.

It's that time of the year again and, with the arrival of the December issue of MM, it becomes 1996 DUES TIME. So, those who have a 95 on their mailing labels should be thinking about sending in their '96 dues. Don't forget that the dues are \$10.00 per year now.

On the BLUE Dues page there are some new items that I've been gathering. If I don't have your birthdate, wedding date, and medals you earned while in service, please fill out the form and send it to me. This is especially needed from the many LIFE MEMBERS who seldom consider the Dues page. And if your AREA CODE for your telephone number has been changed I'd like to know the new code.

I don't want to take up much space since Eli will have many pictures from the reunion. I hope each of you had a pleasant THANKSGIVING! Jan and I send our BEST WISHES for a VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON and a MOST HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS 1996!! MAY GOD ABUNDANTLY BLESS!

Harold Province
Treasurer & Corres. Sec.



Crew of the "HIT AND RUN"

Only one identified is Andrew Pignatelli at lower right

SCHOLARSHIPS

FIRST PLACE WINNER STACIA LYNN SEATON

From Stacia Seaton - I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to you for choosing me for the scholarship. It is truly an honor to be the recipient, though I don't feel like I'm extremely qualified or worthy of this honor. Whatever the case, I'm grateful.

I am now attending Olivet Nazarene University on partial scholarship. It is a private university; therefore, it is rather expensive. Not knowing where the money for next semester's tuition was going to come from, I was extremely relieved to receive the scholarship money.

Classes are going well and I have to become involved in campus activities. I have been taught so much already; college really is a learning experience. I hope to continue on and obtain my college degree. I have not yet decided on a major, but am considering Biology/Pre-Medicine. Again, thank you so much. These scholarships are a great thing that you do and I will not soon forget it.

SECOND PLACE WINNER JEREMY ROBERT GRIMES

We are sorry to report that as we go to press we have not yet heard from young Mr. Grimes. If we get something from him for the next issue we will include it then.

REUNION COMMITTEE REPORT

To The 34th Bomb Group Membership:

The reunion committee thanks everyone that attended the Huntsville reunion - the first timers, the old timers, and the every timers. We missed those that were unable to be there because of poor health or other reasons.

The reunion committee works approximately three years on each reunion. This is from the site selection to the last goodbye. All of this work doesn't mean a thing unless the membership attends. This is why we're so happy to see all of you at these reunions.

We strive to choose a site that is different from the last. I'm certain that we succeeded in this venture to Huntsville. Huntsville opened our eyes as to what has been going on in our world of flight in the last 50 years. We were "Hot Shots", flying around in our B-24's and B-17's. This was horse and buggy compared to what we witnessed in the activities at Huntsville.

We're certain that the efforts put forth by the 34th Bomb Group carved a notch in the history of flight. We're also certain that the feelings which are created at these reunions will carve another notch in the brotherhood of flight.

Thank you to all who attended the Huntsville reunion. See you all in Raleigh, N.C.

P.S.: There was a 34th B.G. cap left in the hospitality room. We will be glad to send it to whomever lost it.

Sincerely,
Your reunion committee
Gerald Pine
Harold Rutka
Robert Wright

34TH BOMB GROUP ATTENDANCE 8TH AFHS REUNION ADAM'S MARK HOTEL ST. LOUIS, MO.

The 34th B.G. was represented by 24 members and spouses at the 8th AFHS reunion in St. Louis, MO. complete with a "Red-Tailed B-17 and flashing lights". The following were there:

CARROLL AND SYLVIA FORISTER
CHARLES AND EILEEN HERGET
POP AND TOOTIE HETHERINGTON
CARLYLE AND LORETTA OTT
HERBERT AND DOROTHY ROY
HAROLD AND GENEVIEVE RUTKA
JACK AND MARIAN SHARE
DON AND BONNIE SHEE
PAUL AND PAULINE SHULL
CARL AND MARGARET TRAUERNICHT
CHARLES AND VIRGINIA YOCKEY
BEN AND EDITH ZELDES

This was the best representation that we have had at the 8th AFHS reunions since Wichita, KS.

Harold C. Rutka

RETURN TO ENGLAND TOUR, 1996

The 34th B.G. (H) has authorized a return trip to England in 1996. So far the tentative date is for departure on June 11, 1996. You will be receiving a proposal in the mail from Tamarac Travel. The main tour will cover Mendlesham, Cambridge, Duxford and London. There will be an optional tour that will continue on to Paris. The optional tour could be combined with another bomb group to fill the bus.

Harold C. Rutka
Back to England Coordinator



34th Bomb Group B-24's on a mission

MESSAGE FROM THE P.X.

Reunion at Huntsville, 1995, is over, and nothing but good memories remain. We want to send a very special thanks to Paul and Beryl Anderson and their son, Lance, for all their such appreciated help in making the P.X. fun, and another successful year. Thanks, too, to the Reunion Committee for all their efforts for another great year! And - we appreciate all the members who stopped by to visit us in the P.X. and purchase our 34th B.G. items. We are now out of the navy jackets and the shirts, but do have about 10 of the tan jackets left. We will be getting new shirts again soon.

Being snow birds, Pauline and I will be heading back to Arizona the first part of October. Continue sending in your orders, though, and we will fill them in December and January while we are back home. After that we will be in Arizona for February, March and April.

Thank you all again for your support and, most of all, for your friendship.

Paul Shull
P.X. Manager

1995 BOARD MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Pres. E. Baldea at 10:00 A.M. After the Pledge of Allegiance, H. Rutka gave the invocation in the absence of our Chaplain, S. Baglio.

Pres. E. Baldea asked the recording Secr. to call the roll. Those present were: Pres. E. Baldea, 1st V. Pres. A. Hanson, 2nd V. Pres. R. Palmer, Treas. H. Province, W. Brauks, W. Griffis, A. Israelsen, C. Stemen, J. Doronsky, H. Rutka, C. Conklin, G. Pine, C. Romero, P. Anderson, B. Sothern and S. Wolstencroft.

Pres. E. Baldea asked for the reading of the minutes of the 1994 Board and Annual meetings. These were read and approved as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT - H. Province gave the following report for 1995:

GENERAL FUND	
In England	\$ 721.16
Checking Acct.	86.80
Money Mkt. Accts.	2,859.03
CD's	1,251.58
SUB-TOTAL	\$4,924.57
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND	
Savings	\$1,348.23
CD	3,300.00
CD	19,748.93
CD	6,069.94
SUB-TOTAL	\$30,467.10
SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ 4,386.53
MEMORIAL FUND	1,055.89
GRAND TOTAL	\$40,834.09

He noted that the General Fund is down some from last year,

BOARD MEETING

Continued from page 4

and the Life Membership Fund is up slightly. The publishing costs for two issues of the Mendlesham Memories have yet to be paid. He did not have to cash in a CD as was being contemplated in last year's meeting. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report and was seconded and carried.

REUNION COMMITTEE - G. Pine said the registration as of this date is approximately 350 with additional walk-ins probable. He told of getting the hotel restaurant to remain open from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. while the 34th B.G. Ass'n. is here, and of securing a chain and padlock for our P.X. room. The 1996 reunion will be in Raleigh, North Carolina at the Marriott, Sept. 19-22. The 1997 reunion will be at the Red Lion Inn in Omaha, Nebraska. No dates have yet been set, as negotiations are still in progress. He asked how the group felt about changing the reunion days from Thursday through Saturday to Friday through Sunday, the reason for the proposed change being that Sunday is normally a slow day for hotels, so better service and lower food prices could be realized. After considerable discussion it was moved to let the Reunion Committee make the decision. The motion was seconded and carried.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE - C. Romero reported there were twenty-three applications this year, including one from England. The competition was extremely close. The first place winner is Stacia Lynn Seaton from Bethany, OK., sponsored by Norris Seaton. The second place winner is Jeremy R. Grimes from Kissimmee, FL., sponsored by Robert Grimes. The checks and 34th B.G. History books have been sent to both of them. C. Romero stated he is resigning from the Scholarship Committee because of health reasons. R. Vaughn was suggested as a replacement. H. Province agreed to approach R. Vaughn on this subject. S. Wolstencroft requested we identify scholarship winners as either high school or college students.

G. Pine discussed proposed changes to the Memorial Ceremony part of our banquet. It will be tried at our Saturday night banquet.

CONSTITUTION - J. Farley said there were no changes to the constitution this year. H. Rutka brought up the question of who has our charter. He said it should be reviewed to assure there are no conflicts between the charter and our constitution. G. Pine said J. Blackham has our charter. J. Farley stated he would get it, or a copy, review it and report at the next meeting.

MENDLESHAM MEMORIES - E. Baldea stated everything was going on as usual with the M.M. There was some discussion of letters of complaint that have been received. It was the unanimous consensus that our editor has been doing an excellent job. H. Province stated he had some surplus issues of old M.M.'s and would have them in the P.X. for anyone who wanted them. H. Province presented E. Baldea a shirt with his picture on it for his ten year's work on the M.M.

Pres. E. Baldea appointed the following Audit Committee: R. Palmer, W. Howarter & V. Holcomb.

Pres. E. Baldea appointed the following Nominating Committee: B. Sothorn, J. Farley & J. Martin.

J. Clarkson introduced Dr. Walter Brown who spoke on the physical and financial status of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum at Savannah, GA. The grand opening of this museum is scheduled for May 14, 1996. He asked that we mention at our annual meeting on Saturday that they would appreciate any 8th Air Force memorabilia that could be donated for display at the museum. E. Baldea reminded the Board of a letter he had included in the June issue of Mendlesham Memories concerning the 34th B.G. Ass'n. support of the museum. A discussion followed of the task of compiling a data



The crew that filled practice bombs at Blythe - Rear L. to R.: ?, C. Brug, ?, K. Dolsey, ?, ?, ?. Frt.: L. to R.: R. Foley, ?

base of 34th B.G. information to be used by the museum. J. Clarkson stated he had tentatively reserved a glass exhibit case for display of 34th B.G. artifacts there. E. Baldea explained the problem of finding our old archivist, D. Underwood, to transfer papers and artifacts to our new archivist, W. Brauks. J. Farley suggested that an Ad Hoc committee be formed with the responsibility of finding material to send to the museum. Pres. E. Baldea appointed the following committee members: J. Clarkson, W. Brauks and W. Griffis. C. Romero moved that our president send a letter to the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum authorizing the reservation of an exhibit case for the 34th B.G. The motion was seconded and carried.

H. Province told of plaques given by the 8th Air Force Historical Society to the cities of Ephrata and Spokane, Washington for their service to the bomb groups that received some of their training in those cities during World War II. The 34th B.G. Ass'n. contributed to the cost of the plaques.

H. Rutka told of receiving inquiries about a group trip to England in 1996. After some discussion it was moved that the Board of Directors authorize such a trip. The motion was seconded and carried.

H. Rutka spoke of input he has been receiving about having a commercial group do the reunion rather than our own Reunion Committee. The Board felt that the Reunion Committee has been doing a good job and no change was necessary at this time.

H. Rutka suggested we make a donation to the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum. After considerable discussion it was decided that the Ad Hoc committee, previously appointed to find material for this museum, recommend a donation amount to the Annual meeting on Saturday for their approval or disapproval. J. Farley reminded the Board that the new president elected at the Annual meeting would have to reappoint the Ad Hoc committee.

No new business was heard. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried. Pres. E. Baldea adjourned the meeting at 12:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Anderson
(Acting for V. Ames, Recording Sec.)

1995 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

The annual meeting of the 34th Bomb Group Ass'n. was called to order by President E. Baldea at 9:25 a.m. After the pledge of allegiance H. Rutka gave the invocation in the absence of our Chaplain, S. Baglio.

Pres. . Baldea called for the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. It was moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes as they were previously published in the Mendlesham Memories. The motion was seconded and carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT - H. Province gave the following financial report for the period ending Sept. 12, 1995.

General Fund	\$4,924.57
Life Membership Fund	30,467.10
Scholarship Fund	4,386.53
Memorial Fund	1,055.89
Total	\$40,834.09

He noted that the total is up slightly from last year. He stated we now have 328 Life Members, and 600 paying annually. He reminded those paying the annual fee that the dues are now due for 1996.

REUNION COMMITTEE TREASURER'S REPORT - R. Wright gave the committee's financial report as follows: Last year's balance was \$5,490.63. There were 308 reunion attendees so \$1,540.00 was given to the Scholarship Fund. After retaining their allowable \$2,500.00, \$1,450.63 was sent to the General Fund. This year's reunion started with \$24,122.75. The Space Center dinner and activities were \$6,138.35 leaving a balance of \$17,984.40. The remaining reunion expenses will take most of the balance.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE - C. Romero reported there were 23 applicants this year including one from England. All applications were excellent and judging was most difficult. The first place winner is Stacia Lynn Seaton, sponsored by Norris Seaton. The second place winner is Jeremy Grimes, sponsored by Robert Grimes. C. Romero reported he was retiring from the committee because of health reasons. R. Vaughn will replace C. Romero, joining H. Province and J. Janes on the committee.

REUNION COMMITTEE - G. Pine gave the 1996 reunion dates as Sept. 19 to 22 at the Marriott in Raleigh, North Carolina. He noted the hotel will be just across the street from ample shopping opportunities. The 1997 reunion will be in Omaha, Nebraska at the Red Lion Inn. No dates have been set as negotiations are still in progress. He noted that consideration is being given to moving all reunion activities in 1997 back one day. This would place the gala banquet on a Sunday night rather than on Saturday night. Because Sunday nights are normally slow nights for hotels, they are offering a reduced food package price if we would elect to have our banquet on a Sunday. A round of applause was given the reunion committee for their good work.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - B. Sothorn presented the following slate of nominees for 1996:

President	A. Hanson
1st V. Pres.	R. Palmer
2nd V. Pres.	A. Israelsen
Recording Secr.	V. Ames
Archivist	W. Brauks
Treasurer/Corresponding Secr.	H. Province
Board of Directors, Class of 1998	D. Finley and N. Mayer

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

carried.

AUDIT COMMITTEE: R. Palmer reported that he, V. Holcomb and W. Howarter had examined the financial books of the 34th B.G. Assn., including the Reunion Committee and P.X. books, and found them all to be in good order.

REUNION ATTENDANCE - R. Wright gave the attendance as of Friday, Sept. 15th to 350. This is the largest group since the Nashville reunion. He asked all first-timers to stand and they were given a round of applause.

It was noted that James Carpousis, who was very active in the early organization of the 34th B.G. Assn., had passed away in April.

Mendlesham Memories - E. Baldea spoke of a new column he has planned for the M.M. to recognize anniversaries of members.

B. Gross read a message from Grady Deatheridge, first president of the 34th B.G. Assn., in which he expressed sorrow at not being able to attend the reunion because of ill health, and hoped those attending would have the best of times.

ENGLAND TRIP - H. Rutka spoke of a proposed trip to England in June of 1996, as approved by the Board of Directors. He noted that there were preliminary sheets concerning the trip available on the table, and final proposals will be received in the mail at a later date.

P.X. - P. Shull asked for opinions of the new 34th B.G. logo now on our new shirts and jackets, and for any other suggestions to improve our P.X. He expects the P.X. sales to exceed \$4,000.00 during this reunion.

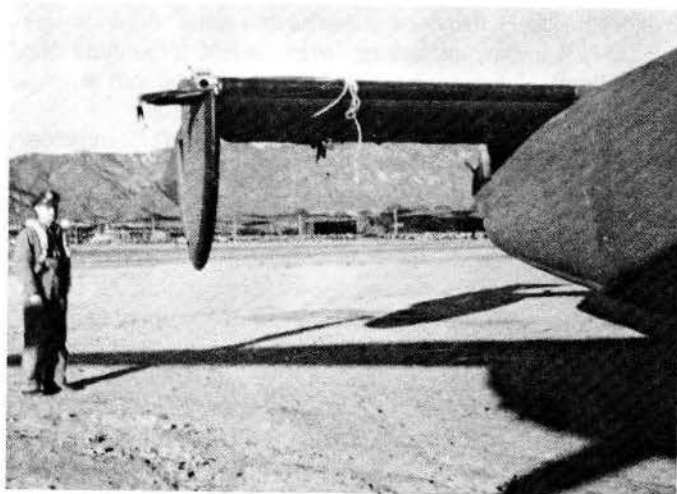
E. Baldea stated that there would be no professional photographer at the Saturday night banquet and asked that individuals take pictures of their table and neighboring tables. Pictures to be included in the next issue of Mendlesham Memories should reach him by October 15th, 1995, with people in the pictures clearly identified.

W. Brauks spoke on the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum. He moved that the 34th B.G. Assn. donate \$5,000.00 to the museum. The motion was seconded by J. Hawkins. After considerable discussion of the amount the 34th B.G. Assn. could contribute, alternative methods of raising the money, and the desirability of the 34th B.G. being represented, a vote was taken on the motion and it carried.

J. Clarkson spoke on the progress made with the construction of The Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum. He said the museum was to be open to the public starting May 14, 1996.

The being no other business, Pres. E. Baldea adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Anderson
(Acting for Vern Ames, Record Secretary)



Lt. Eugene Burton with the damaged "Powerful Katrinka"

ATTENDANCE AT HUNTVILLE REUNION

(* indicates "First Timers")

Bailey & Ruth Adams
Donald Allen
Lance D. Anderson
Paul & Beryl Anderson
Alex & Betty Antanovich
Denton & Eileen Armstrong
Charles & Evalyn Attridge
Lawrence & Lucille Babcock
Robert & Rose Baer
Eli & Rose Baldea
Roy & Mildred Ballantyne
Charles & Roberta Barclay
Cleo & Freddie Baughman
Carwin & Marlene Baxter
Joseph & Estrella Beale
Robert & Barbara Bell
Thomas & Madeline Belleau
Edward & Lois Berry (with
guests Bob, Dan & Amanda Berry)
Leonard & Helen Bess
Robert & Marjorie Bichowsky*
John & Marge Boczynski
Lloyd & Bobbie Boreen
Wally & Doris Brauks
Milton & Elaine Braveman
George W. Brown*
Tomlin & Linda Brown
William J. Browne
Mike & Patricia Bruning
Francis P. Bujalski
Douglas F. Burke*
Ralph & Marge Bush
Hymen & Ruth Chausow
William & Betty Cheek*
Jack & Dorothy Clarkson
James A. Clemens
Junius Cobb (with guest
Virginia ?)
Robert & Ginny Cole
Sanford & Mary Ann Cole*
Donald & Darlene Collins
Claude & Genevieve Conklin
Charles & Lorraine Conway* (with
guest Lucille Worst)
Anthony & Mary Coutros
Robert & Zoe Davis Sr.
Robert & Edith Dees
John & Esther Demko*
Marcus W. Dieterle
Edwin & Sue Dietz
Al & Elsie Dn Nenno
Lawton & Joan Dooley
John & Bev. Doronsky
Emile A. Duval Jr.*
Harold & Darlene Dwyer
John & Bernie Farley
Robert J. Filip
Alan & Dorothy Finch*
Dale Finley
Abe & Ernestine Firestone
Carroll & Sylvia Forister
Robert Fox (with guest
Son, Ric Fox)

Dale & Esther Frank
Earl & Mary Frank
Carl & Imogene Freysinger
Mollie Gardner (with guest
Velma Konsella)
Basil & Lorene Gaumer
Claude & Audrey Gibbs
Harry & Emily Gilreath
Forest & Irma Goetsch
Willie & Ostella Green*
Ryle & Juanita Griffin*
Willis Griffis
Bryant & Myrtis Grimes
Robert & Cynthia Gross
Anthony & Joan Habiger
Herbert & Anne Hall
Joy Hanrihan
Milton & Kathryn Hansen
Ambers & Jean Hanson
Daniel & Elizabeth Hardee
Robert & Lorraine Hartwick
Jeff & Libby Hawkins
Francis & Barbara Head
Glenn Henry (with guest
Vera Pokorny)
William & Lula Mae Hetherington
Verbal & Betty Holcomb
Gerald & Marie Holmes
Jack Hood (with guest
Bonnie Lasseigne)
Vincent & Helen Hosack
Wayne & La Verne Howarter
Clyde & Annette Humphrey
Robert & Marika Hutchison
Lloyd & Marla Inman
Al & Agnes Israelsen
Kiwett & Lucille Ivey
Kenneth & Velma Jackson
Mike & Margie Jacobbausk
Eugene & Helen James
Robert & Josephine Jansky
Walter & Donna Jellum*
Ray & Jean Jetton
Alf & Maye Johanson
Wyatt & La Vonne Jones (with
guest Robert Jones)
Dexter & Beulah Jordan
Gerald & Edith Kincaid
Joseph & Fran Krystof
Robert & Betty Lampey
Fred & Helen Le Master
Joseph & Frances Lee*
Acy R. Lehman
Bill & Spouse Lewis (with
two guests)
Ralph Livsey
Ralph Lundeen
Earl & Helen Maciel
Joseph & Kay Marks
James & Bettie Martin
Rex & Helen Martin*
Norman Mayer
John & Mary McCue*
William Mc Dannold
Coleman & Mabel Mc Spadden
Paul & Twyla Meeder
George Mehling

George & Eloise Mongeon
Fred & Ginny Muent
Thomas J. Mullin*
Russell & Norma Nelson*
Thomas & Mildred Newton
John & Liz Noe
Eugene Nolan*
John & Margaret Northrup
Carlyle Ott
Robert & Ginny Pacholski
Raymond & Bula Palmer
Karl & Mary Pederson*
Juan & Mattie Perez
Harry & Willie Perry
Gerald & Wanda Pine (with
guest Mr. Quilla Reed)
Phillip & Fran Podulka
Arnold & Georgia Prillaman
Harold & Jan Province
Thomas P. Reynolds
Floyd & Miriam Richmond (with
guest Thelma Warfield)
Evan Rogers
Cleveland & Henrietta Romero
Everett & Peggy Rose
Harold & Genevieve Rutka
Charles & Rose Sakal
Leon & Jeanne Salvesson
Frederick & Clara Schoch
Robert & Jennie Schroeder
Robert & Laura Schwartz
Jack & Marian Share
Paul & Pauline Shull
Robert F. Simpson
Ronald & Martha Simpson (with
guests Dale & Peggy Smith)
Frank & Alda Sivret
Edyth K. Small
James C. & Jane Smith
James H. & Chris Smith*
Bruce & Muggs Sothorn
Carl & Peg Stemen
James & Stella Stivender
David & Ethel Stiver
Donald & Evelyn Stufflebeam
James & Kathryn Stuthers (with guest
James Jr. & Juliana Stuthers)
Charles & Lenora Sutton*
James & Eleanor Thomas
Hal & Ruby Thorpe
Charles & Toots Thurner
Henry & Audrey Tobiasson
James Troup
Robert E. Vaughn
John G. Veres*
Herbert Vick
Hilton & Vicky Vincens
Frederick & Blanche Voss
Oral Walker (with guests
Jim & Peggy Walker)
Fred & Rachel Waltz
Sam & Peggy Wolstencroft
Ben Margaret Workman
Robert & Esther Wright
Wayne & Ondine Wright

REUNION IN HUNTSVILLE - 1995

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS - BOARD MEETING



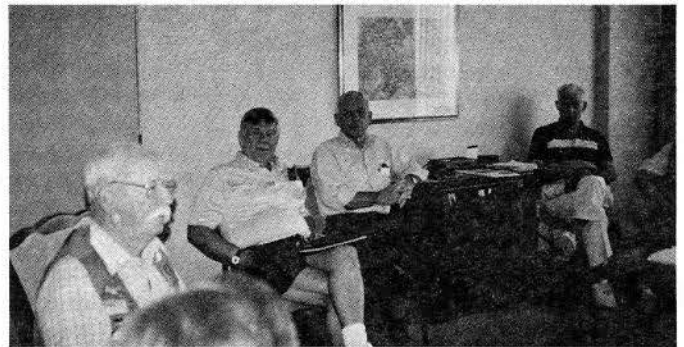
Board Meeting



Board Meeting

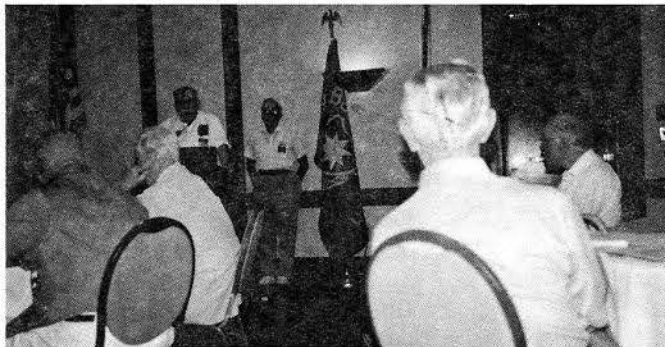


Board Meeting

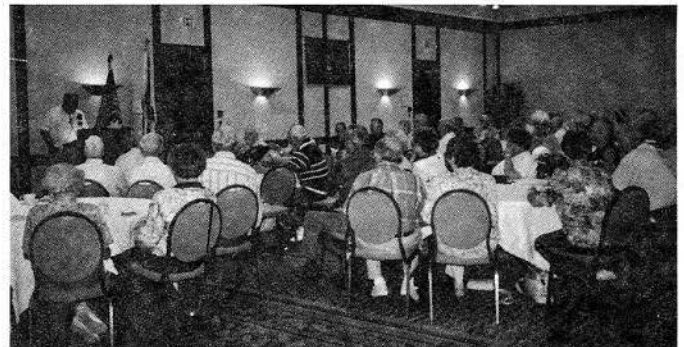


Board Meeting

GENERAL MEETING



View of General Meeting - Probably shortest on record



View of General Meeting - Probably shortest on record

THE WORKERS



L. to R.: Harold & Genevieve Rutka, Bob & Esther Wright,
and Wanda & Gerry Pine



Paul, Lance & Beryl Anderson with Pauline & Paul Shull
showing their straw hats

REUNION IN HUNTSVILLE - 1995

LEISURE TIME

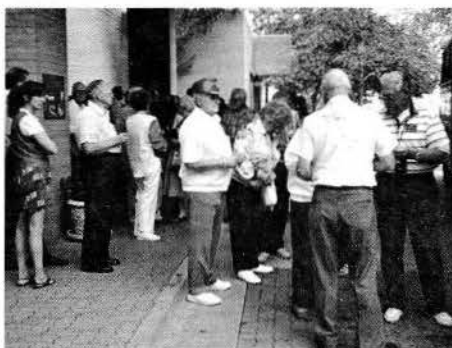


Reunion Golfers - Rear, L. to R.: R. Ballantyne, P. Shull, J. Clemins & R. Cole.
Front, L. to R.: H. Chausow, G. Henry, H. Vincens & R. Wirth

TOUR OF THE SPACE STATION



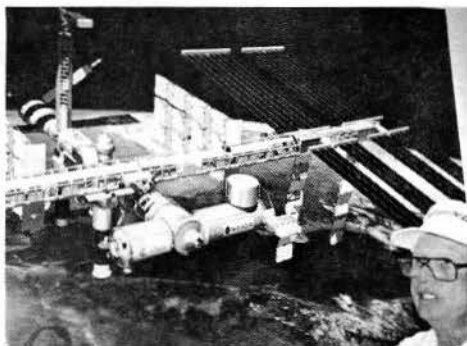
Tour Group waiting to board buses



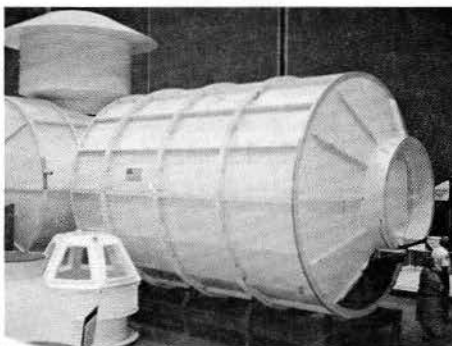
Tour Group waiting to board buses



View on the tour bus



Space Station picture with our tour guide



Space Station mock-up



Redstone historical sign



Space Station welding shop



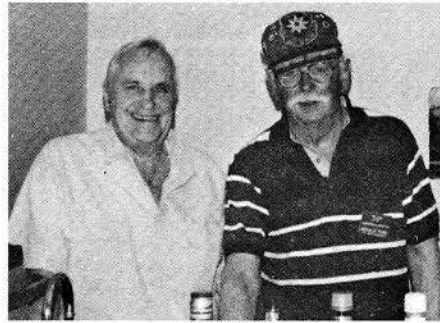
Rocket test stand



Rocket in the test stand

REUNION 1995

1. Hospitality room bartenders - Harold Rutka & Gerald Pine



1

2. John Doronsky entertaining in the Hospitality Room



2

3. Roy & Mildred Ballantyne

4. Bob Lampey & Jack Share

5. Mary McCue & Denton Armstrong

6. Bob Lampey & Oral Walker in Hospitality Room



6

7. James Clemens & Cleo Baughman

8. Lucille Babcock & LaVerne Howarter

9. Henrietta & Cleveland Romero

10. Henry & Audrey Tobiason



7

11. Enjoying the Camaraderie

12. Enjoying the Camaraderie

13. Enjoying the Camaraderie

14. Enjoying the Camaraderie

15. Enjoying the Camaraderie



11



12

16. Abe Firestone & Hal Province discussing computers

17. Norman Mayer & Rose Baldea

18. Ken & Velma Jackson

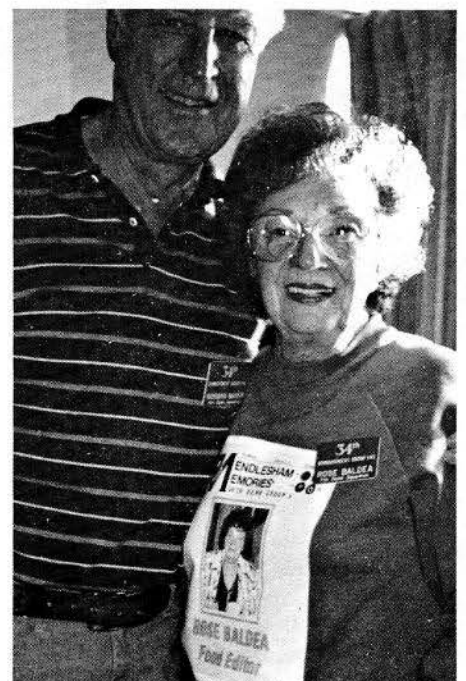
19. Bob Fox with his son Ric

20. Bob Cole & Francis Head

21. Esther & John Demko



16

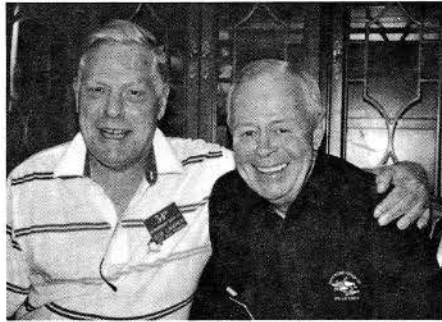


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- LEISURE TIME



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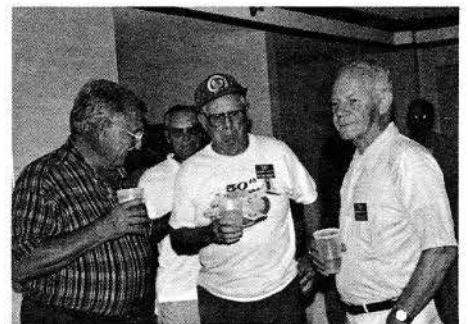
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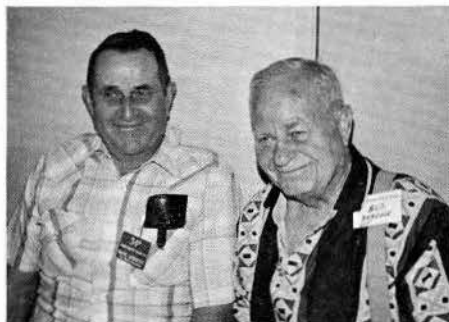


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REUNION - LEISURE TIME - 1995



Wayne Howarter & Bud Babcock



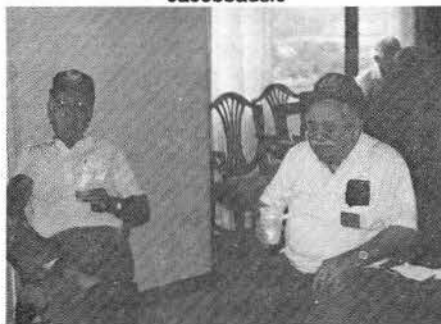
Peggy Schwartz, Myrtis Grimes & Margie Jacobbausk



Eileen & Denton Armstrong



John & Marge Bloczynski



Dale Finley & Harold Province in Hospitality Room



Mary McCue, Stella Stivender & Jennie Schroeder



Chris & James Smith with Betty Martin



Barbara Head, Joy Hanrihan & Virginia Cole



Relaxing in the lobby



First Timers Charles Sutton & Karl Pederson



Beryl Anderson (Who had a birthday during our reunion) with son, Lance and Hubby Paul



Jean & Ambers Hanson with Audrey & Henry Tobiason



Everett Rose, Gerry Pine, Bob Hutchison & M.M. Page 12



Frank Sivret, Bruce & Muggs Sothorn, Alda Sivret and Peggy & Everett Rose at poolside taking advantage of a bit of camaraderie



Trolley Bus Tour - Rear: Everett Rose, Frank Sivret & Eli Baldea. Frt.: Muggs Sothorn, Alda Sivret, Peggy Rose, Betty Martin and Rose Baldea

REUNION IN HUNTSVILLE - 1995

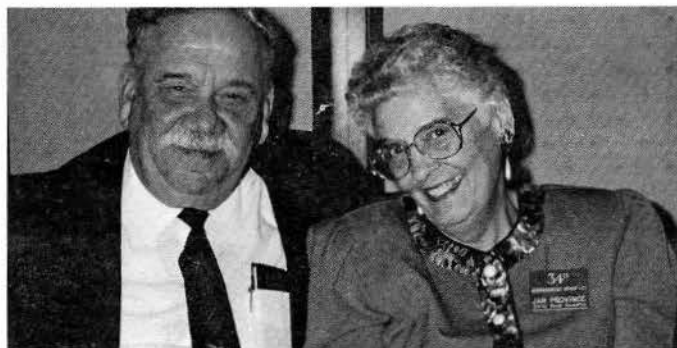
GALA BANQUET - THE HEAD TABLE



Rose & Eli Baldea



Jean & Ambers Hanson



Harold & Jan Province



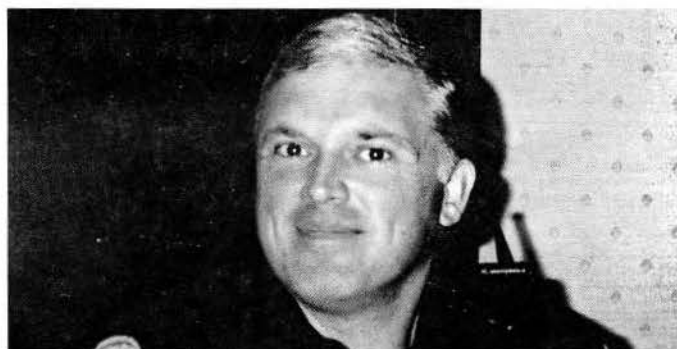
Bula & Raymond



Wally & Doris Brauks



Beryl & Paul Anderson



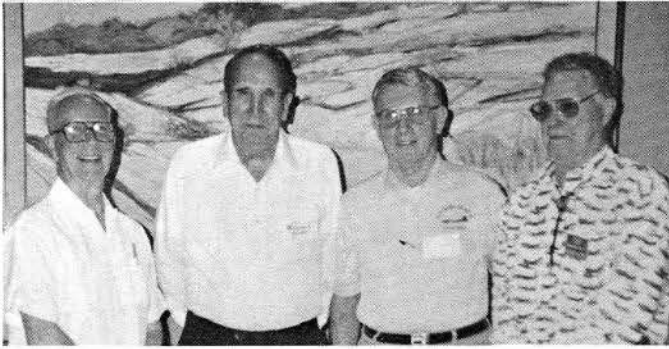
Representative of The Mayor of Huntsville



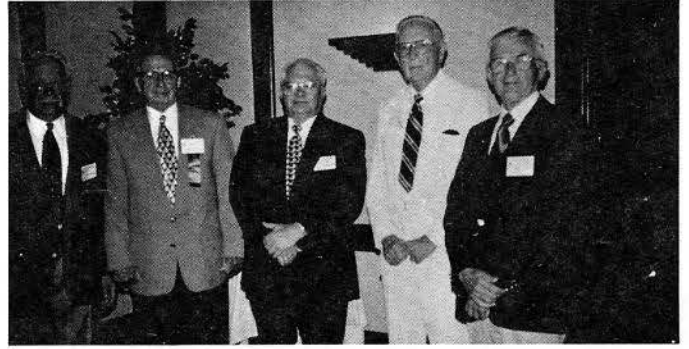
Ambers Hanson's Address

REUNION IN HUNTSVILLE - 1995

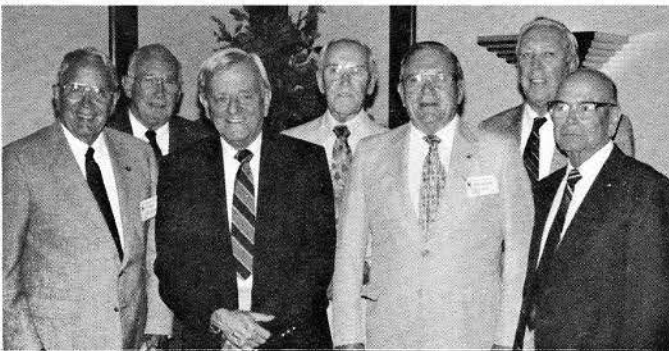
LARGER CREW ATTENDANCE



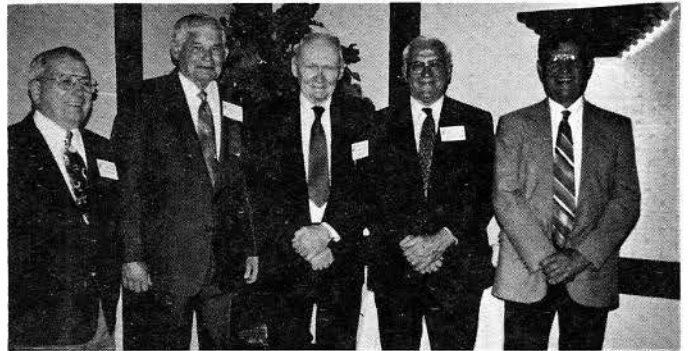
What's left of the "Tiger Rag" Crew at the reunion - Ed Berry, Gerald Holmes, Kivett Ivey & Claude Gibbs



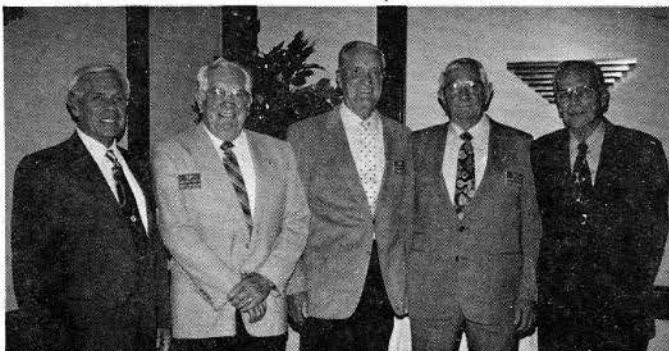
Herb Vick's Crew - L. to R.: C. Baxter, S. Cole, H. Vick, P. Podulka & J. Hood



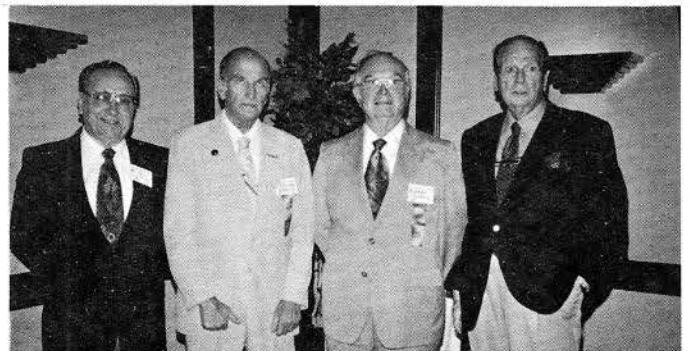
The J.C. Smith Crew - Frt. L. to R.: F. Muent, R. Pacholski, H. Hall & J.C. Smith - Rear L. to R.: B. Workman, D. Jordan & J. Troup



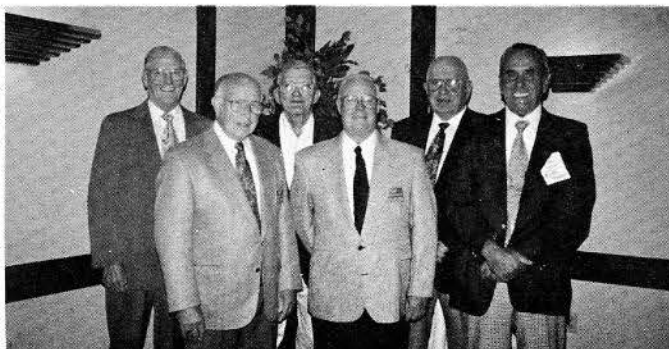
C. Sproul's Crew - L. to R.: H. Chausow, R. Martin, F. LeMaster, R. Vaughn & J. Krystof



Tom Mullin's Crew - L. to R.: C. Ott, M. Bruning, T. Mullin, D. Collins & E. Dietz



Ray Myers' Crew - L. to R.: J. Jetton, T. Brown, H. Gilreath, & J.W. Lee (H. Costello present but not shown)



Harold Dwyer's Crew - L. to R.: H. Dwyer, H. Thorpe, G. Brown, R. Bell, J. Noe & E. Duval



Joe Hammersley's Crew - L. to R.: J. Stivender, L. Inman, B. Adams, Mrs. J. Small, C. Thurner, J. McCue & R. Schroeder

REUNION IN HUNTSVILLE - 1995



Chris & James H. Smith, Walter & Donna Jellum and Betty & William Cheek



John & Marge Bloczynski with Joan & Lawton Ed Dooley and Donald Allen



Jack & Dorothy Clarkson with Eileen & Denton Armstrong



Betty Lampey, Marian Share & Pet & Carl Stemen



Ben & Margaret Workman with Jane & James C. Smith



Ginny & Robert Pacholski with Beulah & Dexter Jordan



Bonnie Lasseigne & Jack Hood with Dale & Margie Finley



Rear: Bob & Ginny Cole and Roy & Mildred Ballantyne. Frt.: Francis & Barbara Head and Joy Hanrihan

REUNION 1995

1. Joseph & Estella Beall
2. Verbal & Betty Holcomb
3. The memorial wreath at the banquet
4. Juan & Mattie Perez
5. Frances & Joseph Lee
6. J. Harry & Emily Gilreath
7. Roy & Mildred Ballantyne with Joy Hanrihan
8. Helen & Vincent Hosack
9. Mike & Margie Jacobbauski
10. George & Eloise Mongeon
11. Seated: Earl & Helen Maciel
Standing: Elaine Braveman
12. Lance Anderson (Assoc. Mbr.)
13. Jim Troup with Paul & Twyler Meeder
14. Sylvia & Carroll Forster
15. Thelma Warfield with Cynthia & Bob Gross
16. Paul & Pauline Shull
17. Kay & Milton Hansen
18. Robert Simpson with Henry & Audrey Tobiason
19. Molly Gardner & Velma Konsella
20. Vicky & Hilton Vincens
21. Clyde & Annette Humphrey
22. Danny & Elizabeth Hardee
23. Claude & Genevieve Conklin,
Winners of the B-17 Model "G"
24. Ben & Margaret Workman
25. First-Timers Ryle & Juanita Griffin



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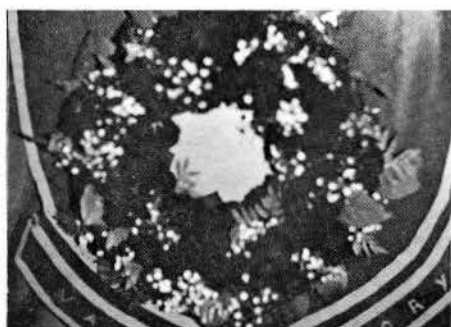


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- GALA BANQUET



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REUNION IN HUNTSVILLE - 1995



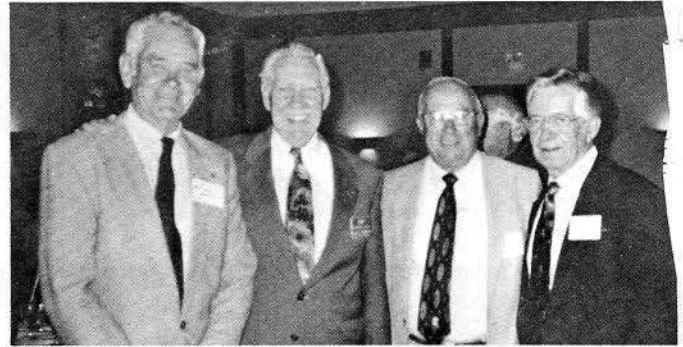
Oral Walker with Peggy & Jim Walker and Ron & Martha Simpson



Rear: Eugene James, Arnold Prillaman & Fred Schoch. Frt.: Georgia Prillaman, Helen James & Clara Schoch



Herbert & Ann Hall, James Clemins and Fred & Ginny Munte



Charles Barclay, Joseph Marks, Bob Simpson & Al Israelsen



Basil & Lorene Gaumer with Elsie & Al DiNenno



Robert & Lorraine Hartwick with Robert & Jo Jansky

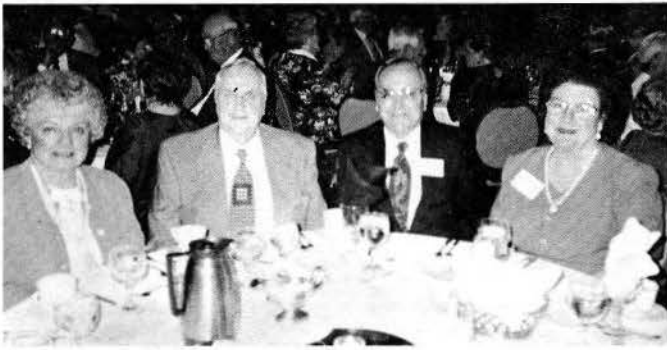


Freddie & Cleo Baughman with Leonard & Helen Bess



Everett & Peggy Rose with Alda & Frank Sivret

REUNION IN HUNTSVILLE - 1995



Genevieve & Harold Rutka with Ray & Jean Jetton



Beginning at Lower Left: Madeline & Tom Belleau, Toots & Charles Thurner, Jim & Stella Stivender, Lloyd & Marla Inman & Mary & John McCue



L. to R.: Bailey & Ruth Ann Adams, Edyth Small and Jennie and Bob Schroeder



Ostella & Willie Green with Dorothy & Alan Finch - All First-Timers



Al & Agnes Israelsen with Roberta & Charles Barclay



Abe & Ernie Firestone with Floyd & Miriam Richmond & Donald & Evelyn Stufflebeam



Fred & Blanche Voss with Imogene & Carl Freysinger



Mary & Earl Frank with Dale & Esther Frank

REUNION IN HUNTSVILLE - 1995



George Mehling, Jack Share & Robert Lampey



Quilla Reed, Wanda Pine and Esther Wright



Frances Lee, Bob Wright & Gerry Pine



Jim Sr. & Kay Stuthers with son, Jim Jr. & Juliana Stuthers



Myrtis Grimes, Robert Schwartz & Bryant Grimes



Juanita Griffin with Tony & Joan Habiger



Ethel & David Stiver with Basil Gaumer



Charles & Rose Sakal with Bob Fox & his son, Ric



Lloyd & Bobbie Boreen with Marhorie & Bob Bichowsky



Carl & Peg Stemen w/Elaine & Milt Braveman



ROSE'S CORNER

Huntsville?? What can we possibly see or do in a city which has never caught our eyes in the travel section of the newspapers?

We had all the answers by being at this reunion and many of you expressed the same thinking. It was fun and relaxing - no hurry, hurry, which we appreciated in our age group. I thought that it might be a little upsetting to not be near a shopping mall but I was wrong. We had lot of time to meet our friends, listen to John Doronsky entertaining us with the oldies but goodies on the piano in the lobby, catch up on lots of news and chat with many new-found lovely people.

The bus tour thru the space & rocket center and the walking tour thru the space museum were most revealing. I know we all learned a lot about our space station by actually being within touching distance of the parts being constructed. What an age we are living in!! Huntsville is a bustling city and I do highly recommend it.

I'm beginning to believe that this column is finally catching on. Being stopped by many of you asking questions about recipes convinced me of this fact and made me feel good.

The following is a grilled burger that Bernie Farley wants to share with you all and it does look good. The recipe was given to her by a New Jersey restaurant where she and Jack often go. It certainly was nice of them to divulge their secrets! Thanks Bernie.

CLOVERLEAF TURKEY BURGERS

2 1/2 lbs. ground turkey	1 tbsp. dry chicken bouillon
3/4 cup bread crumbs	2 tbsp. brandy
1/2 cup ketchup	2 tbsp. parsley flakes
3/4 tsp. garlic powder	1 egg
3/4 tsp. lemon powder	

Mix all ingredients together well and form into burger patties. Be sure to grease or spray the grill with PAM before cooking on outdoor grille. P.S. Jack says that these will never replace hamburgers! Rose's note: Turkey is good for you, Jack!

Since Christmas and Valentine's Day is coming I'd better let you have this Bon Bon recipe to make. It is a Pillsbury recipe and you can't mess up with this one. Thanks a lot, Jane Ann Felker.

PEANUT BUTTER BON-BONS

1 can Pillsbury Ready to Spread Vanilla Frosting Supreme	2 cups graham cracker crumbs
1 cup peanut butter	1 can desired flavor Pillsbury Ready to Spread Frosting Supreme
1/4 cup margarine or butter, softened	

In a large bowl combine vanilla frosting, peanut butter and margarine with fork until well blended. Stir in the crumbs until well mixed. Form into 1 inch balls and chill for one hour. In a small saucepan melt the flavored frosting over low heat, stirring

occasionally. Dip the chilled balls in the melted frosting and allow the excess to drip off. Place on a cooling rack over waxed paper. Let stand at room temperature until dry (about 6 hours) TIP: As frosting thickens reheat. Use any leftover frosting to dip dried fruit or nut halves.

For you nice people who asked me about recipes for grits, I will have them for you in the next issue. Keep watching and keep reading. This what keeps us going!

May God bless you all abundantly!!

Rose

SPECIAL NOTICES

We have received a letter from Lt/Gen. E.G. Shuler, the Chairman & CEO of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum as follows:

I send my thanks and appreciation to the 34th Bomb Group Association leadership and membership for the donation to the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Center. Successful completion of this noble project depends upon the support of veterans who are dedicated to the preservation of the accomplishments of "The Mighty Eighth". And as the members of the Eighth proved to the world, turning back in the face of a challenge is not how the Eighth earned its name and place in history. I encourage the members of the 34th B.G. to share their enthusiasm and support of the Heritage Center with other veterans. The eighth is depending on the veterans to do their part in this team effort. Again, many thanks for your support.

Also, as you will notice, in this issue we are showing a list of all our members who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversaries in the year 1995, at least those we are aware of at this time. We are sorry we never before thought of this idea and, thanks to Harold Province, we now plan to include these dates in each March issue.

Therefore I am requesting that all of you who will be celebrating your 50th wedding anniversary in the year 1996 please advise me of it not later than January 19th, 1996 in order that we have time to get the information into the March issue. We will print this information only once each year and that will be the March issue. I see no sense in repeating the same information over and over again in each of the four issues each year.

In the March issue, also, I will have a separate item covering those of you who have already celebrated your 50th wedding anniversaries. This will appear only once, so please have the information in to me no later than January 19th, 1996. Unfortunately we did not think of this sooner or we would have shown each in their 50th anniversary year. Sorry!

Don't Forget To Send Your Dues

Mail \$10.00 To: Harold Province
111 Province Lane
Carriere, MS 39426

Also, please send self-addressed,
stamped envelope for return mail.

NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

JACOB GREENSPAN - Chestnut hill, MA.

I have been receiving Mendlesham Memories of the 34th B.G. which I very much enjoy reading, and which I can see requires considerable effort on your part and that of the staff.

SAM WOLSTENCROFT - Westerly, RI.

In June we were in an auto accident and Peg came up with a cracked rib and, as they don't do anything for them, she had to suffer. Then we were without our new car for 4 1/2 weeks. Four new cars and four accidents within six months of buying new cars.

MRS. VIRGINIA (EARL) HERTZINGER - Anderson, IN.

I regret to inform you that my husband, Earl Hertzinger, passed away Dec. 2, 1994, at the age of 73. We had nearly 50 years of marriage.

BILLIE ROUTH - Easton, MO.

Just want to let you know that my cousin, Clarence Squires, passed away quietly on July 28th at 5:00 p.m. He knew that John and I were with him. He wasn't in any pain and did not suffer for which I am very grateful. I want to thank everyone for the cards and letters you sent him while he was in the nursing home. He had me read them over and over to him. Then he would talk about his experiences with each of you.

Those of you who have corresponded with Clarence for years know how much he loved his buddies from the Air Force. Your letters made his day. Again, I thank you and may God bless each of you.

MARY (EDWIN) FEIRING - Watford City, ND.

I regret the delay in response to your letter in trying to locate "Lost Sheep" of the 34th Bomb Group. Just recently returned to my prairie-land home from the east coast. Sorry to say I am not the "Ole Goat" but am his widow. For your records, Edwin M. Feiring died on January 27, 1991, here in Dakota.

I would appreciate any information you can forward concerning the 34th B.G. Assn. As Edwin's widow, perhaps I could send membership dues on his behalf. I am a veteran also of WWII and also have been trying to locate old buddies of my service WAC years. Thank you for writing.

MARY (BYRON) SHEESLEY - Oneonta, NY.

I was getting ready to write you about Byron's death when I received your letter. He died on Monday, July 1995. He was a man who was dearly loved by many. I will be happy to continue receiving Mendlesham Memories.



John Nelson, Robert Province and Carl Nichols at the base in Mendlesham

MARVIN JALVING - Mears, MI.

I do enjoy the "Mendlesham Memories". Keep up the good work!

PAUL A. SHULL - Raytown, MO.

It's been a good year for Pauline and I. We are looking forward to January of '96 to celebrate our "Golden Anniversary" on the 20th. How time flies!

We will leave for Mesa, AZ. around the first of October and stay through April of next year. Will fly back home for December and part of January.

JOSEPH DOMINO - Perkasi, PA.

Vic and I are in fine health except Vic still walks with a cane. She has arthritis in both her knee joints. At his writing she still refused to have them operated on, but time will tell.

G.H. RAMAKER - Carson City, NV.

Thank you very much for the ball gunner cut-away pic. I was a ball gunner with 25 missions and, so, spent many hours in that position. Couldn't do it today (71) but then we were just kids and could do lots of things we can't do today.

LE ROY O. KEEPING - Framlingham, Suffolk, England

I want to thank you very much for the 34th Bomb Group newsletter. It was much appreciated. It's nice to know that the old bomb groups are still together.

LONNIE CROOK - Shreveport, LA.

I'm sorry we had to miss the reunion. We just had too many projects going on at this time. Best regards to all.

ROY TAVASTI - Pismo Beach, CA.

I'm sorry we were not able to make the Huntsville reunion. We were committed to attend our granddaughter's wedding which, unfortunately, was scheduled at the same time.

I do feel compelled, however, to respond to Harold Azzopardi's comment regarding the Tavasti Provisional Group that was published in the Sept. issue. He is absolutely correct in noting that not all the crews wound up in the 5th A.F. I do not know the exact number that were diverted to the 8th A.F., but the overwhelming majority made it to Australia. In my previous comments about this matter I was in error to infer that all 47 of the original 55 crews that survived Salinas and Blythe with the 34th CCTS were all allocated to the 5th A.F.

HERBERT HALL - Scottville, MI.

You were so busy at the reunion that I didn't get a chance to tell you that my wife, Anne, and I celebrated our 53rd wedding anniversary on Sept. 11, 1995, which was the Monday before the reunion. It was a good reunion and our crew, J.C. Smith's, had a great time. You and the committees are to be congratulated.

JOHN E. REILLY - Ocean City, MD.

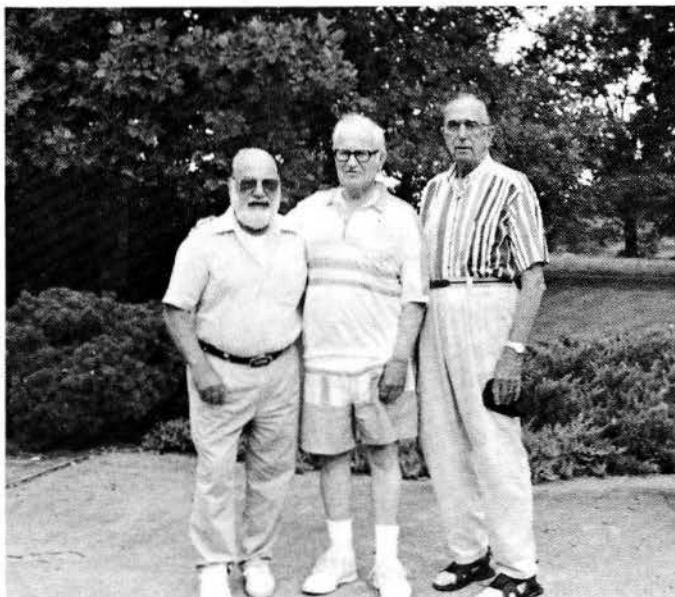
What lousy timing! One week before Glennis and I were scheduled to attend the reunion I fell and broke my hip. The ball joint had to be replaced, but not the socket. I spent six days in the hospital and seven days in a therapy center. I am now at home walking with (and without) a cane. We had really looked forward to attending the affair. It would have been our first reunion. Needless to say, I'm disappointed. NOW - I look forward to "Reunion '96" in Raleigh.

NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from page 22

MARGO (BILL) BURNELL - Kiekland, WA.

We were sorry to have to miss the reunion this year. Bill and crewmember, Jack Ashburn, traveled to Murphyboro, IL. to visit Tom Wright. Tom has been very ill and Bill and Jack decided a mini-reunion with Tom was most important this year. They had a wonderful visit with Tom and Louise. Remember, these three are part of the Gene James crew. We hope all went well with the reunion. Next year will be in No. Carolina and '97 will be in Nebraska. When do us West Coast folks get a break and not always have to travel so far??



Bill Burnell, Tom Wright & Jack Ashburn

FRANCIS V. JACKOVICH - Port Jervis, NY.

I have been hospitalized since January and the crew has been so supportive of me with phone call, letters, etc. Thank you for your decision to print our story in the next issue of M.M. I really wanted to do something nice for my crew.

RITA (ROBERT L.) PETERS - Suffield, CT.

Received your letter and, yes, it is true. Bob passed away on August 22nd. It happened so quickly it is still hard for me to believe he is gone. He did enjoy all the newsletters and other literature concerning the 34th Bomb Group.

BASIL L. GAUMER - Greenville, IL.

We had a great time at Huntsville. We have attended three reunions now and I haven't yet met any of my old buddies, but we have met a lot of new people and made a lot of new friends. The 34th is a great bunch!

AL DI NENNO - N. Ft. Myers, FL.

Let me congratulate you, Eli, in being elevated to the position of a "Has-Been". You had a great year. I want to thank Bob Wright for the plaque given to the Past Presidents. I will cherish the one given to me always. I want to close with a bit of statistics - there are 134 names in the 1995 Roster living in Florida. That is slightly over 13%!

WALTER POTAK - Hicksville, NY.

I enjoy reading Mendlesham Memories, even though I don't recognize most of the people who are mentioned in the stories, etc. I was with the 34th over a year but busy with Radar

Shop duties so had very casual interplay with flight personnel. I applaud the Assn. officers and Board members.

ELBERT H. SWENSON - Amelia Island, FL.

I am thankful for having been invited to sit at the table with Harold Province at my first banquet after finding the 34th B.G. Assn. I was a lost soul without anyone to join that I knew. Many thanks to him for filling the void which made an enormous difference enjoying the meal with conversation, all of which will bring me back for the next reunion.

EDYTH K. (JAMES C.) SMALL, Hot Springs, AR.

When the crew invited me to meet with them in Huntsville and I had my picture taken with the guys in honor of Jim, I was so touched it will live in my heart forever! No one at the reunion could have been more appreciative than I am. It was a well planned reunion - my first. I plan to go again if the crew goes.

ROBERT P. BEACH - Santa Ana, CA.

This is to inform you of the passing of my twin brother, Roland R. Beach, on August 16, 1995. He died at home twenty days following open heart, quadruple bypass, surgery. He also suffered diabetes.

HELEN NUSBAUM - Topeka, KS.

It is with great sadness I am writing you to inform that my brother, Howard Marn, passed away on August 8, 1995 in a VA hospital after a spell of 41 years of mental illness. He was always interested in the things I would tell him about the crew of the B-17 and all of the lettered written him. He had a graveside military funeral and was life member of the VFW.

MARGARET HILDEBRANDT - Albany, NY.

I'm sorry to inform you that my dear companion of the last 15 years, Henry B. Figel, passed away on Sept. 2, 1995 as a result of cardiac arrest. He enjoyed each and every copy of Mendlesham Memories. Thank you for the publication.

JOHN T. LYONS - New Port Richey, FL.

I was sorry to learn of Capt. Guy Gipson's death as reported by his wife in the June issue of MM. His crew shared a hut with ours (Rainey's). Ray Summa was their crew chief. I am enclosing a picture of Guy.



Guy Gipson whose death was reported in the June 1995 issue

Continued on page 24

M.M. Page 23

NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from page 23

HARRY J. CRAWFORD - Novi, MI.

I'm sorry we will miss the Huntsville reunion. I hope everyone enjoys themselves. We sold our home here and will close on Sept. 15th. Then we have 5 days to close on our new home in Leesburg, FL. Needless to say, we will have a hectic week straddling the reunion dates. We will make it a point, (God willing) to make it to Raleigh in '96.

MARGE (JOHN) BLOCZYNSKI - Marshfield, WI.

The reunion was just wonderful and we had a great time. A big "Thank You" to the reunion committee and all those who make the 34th Bomb Group such a memorable event in each of our lives. Each year we think "This is the best!", and every year it just gets bigger and better.

KIVETT IVEY - La Grange, NC.

Although Lucille and I didn't arrive at the Huntsville reunion until Friday, we had a wonderful visit with everyone. I thought it was one of the better reunions. Thanks to all the committee for a job well done!

DALE FINLEY - Crothersville, IN.

We really enjoyed the reunion and seeing and talking to the people again. Thanks for the time and effort put forth to make the reunions a great success. Anyone that hasn't attended is missing out on a lot of fellowship.

ROBERT COLE - South Bend, IN.

The reunion was another enjoyable and successful event and we are looking forward to 1996 in Raleigh, NC. I didn't get the opportunity at the general membership meeting to thank those people responsible for the success of our reunions. Soooo-Thanks to Gerry Pine, Bob Wright, Harold Rutka and their wives - Thanks to the organizers and participants of the Saturday night dinner-dance - Thanks to Paul and Pauline Shull and their helpers for our great P.X. and I also want to thank Eli and Rose for editing a great M.M. newsletter.

PAUL ANDERSON - Everett, WA.

I thought the reunion was excellent. Beryl and I really enjoyed it, especially since our son, Lance, was able to join us. We went on to Washington, D.C. to visit friends who really showed us the town. It was great except that we both came down with bad colds.



Maybe someone can recall riding this to the PX at Blythe? Only one identified is Charles Brug standing on the left

DALE FRANK - Winterset, IA.

You all did it again!! - A wonderful reunion!! Thank you for your year-round devotion!

CLAUDE GIBBS - Catawissa, MO.

As usual, the Huntsville reunion was a great gathering and congratulations to the reunion committee are certainly deserved. It was encouraging to see all the first-timers and we trust we shall be seeing them at future reunions. The continued efforts of you and Rose in publishing the M.M. is greatly appreciated and provides a first-class newsletter the group can be proud of.

CHARLES ATTRIDGE - Westminster, CA.

We had a great time at Huntsville last month and are eagerly looking forward to North Carolina and Nebraska.

VERNON C. AMES - Tonawanda, NY.

Thanks to all for the get-well cards! A special thanks to Bob Wright who handled our cancellations - also to Paul Anderson who answered our last-minute call for help. I understand we missed a great reunion. Both Millie and I were disappointed when we had to cancel our plans. See you all next year!!

WILLIAM F. CHEEK - Lakeland, FL.

We enjoyed seeing everybody in Huntsville. It was a great reunion and three of my crew and their wives were in attendance.

Thank you for being president - thanks for being editor and thanks for everything!

JOHN G. CLARKSON - Savannah, GA.

It was a great reunion! Just wanted to let you know that the museum has received the \$5,000.000 check from the 34th and wanted to thank you. Our 34th exhibit case is in need of some memorabilia. To date we have nothing. Please ask our members to send some items in.

HENRY TOBIASON - Remer, MN.

Just a few lines to tell you how much Audrey and I enjoyed the reunion in Huntsville. As usual we had a really wonderful time and it just seems to get better each year. Thanks again! You guys really do an excellent job every year and we sure do appreciate it.

BRUCE SOTHERN - Minneapolis, MN.

Just a couple of comments on our Huntsville reunion. Anyone who missed it missed a good one. the reunion committee is to be congratulated. Every reunion gets better! What a great place for a reunion. Gerry and his committee will surely have to go some in Raleigh, NC. to top this one. However, I'm sure they will try. Secondly, I congratulate you and the rest of the officers that keep this great organization running so smoothly. Thank you all.

BETSY BIRKO - Neville Is., PA.

It was nice to see the picture of the War Eagle crew on page 16 of the September issue. The 5th man in the second row is Thomas Birko, my late husband. He suffered a fatal heart attack in 1984. I do enjoy reading your newsletter.

CARL B. STEMEN - Bremen, OH.

I thought the reunion was a very good one. We didn't hear any negative remarks made.

NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from page 24

WILLIAM "PETE" GRAY - Virginia Beach, VA.

I trust the reunion was a success - it usually is. I'm hoping to make the one next year in Raleigh, NC. I had my annual colon exam recently and - no sign of cancer. They got it all the first time, a year or so ago. Still, they recommend an annual exam to be sure it doesn't come back. Also, no cancer in the prostate. Incidentally, I heard from Roy Travasti and they found cancer in his prostate. They caught it in time, so he says. I'm having an eye operation in November to remove a cataract. Hope it comes out O.K. (Old age sure ain't for sissies!)

JAMES A. STUTHERS - Venice, FL.

Kay and I, as well as Jim Jr. and his wife, had a memorably good time at the reunion. Though another member of the "Butler's Bums" had promised to be there it ended up that only Kay and I attended this year. Again, thanks to the committee for another fine reunion. Next year in Raleigh is a must.

FREDERICK SCHOCH - Spokane, WA.

We had a very enjoyable time at the reunion and the service, food and accommodations were excellent. I was pleased that B-17 raffle went so well. I know that the Ray Summa Scholarship Fund can use the \$300.00 that was donated. We are also pleased that Ambers Hanson accepted the presidency for '95-'96. He seemed to enjoy the challenge it entails.

Clara and I want to send our Holiday Greetings to all our dear friends of the 34th B.G.

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

From Henry Jurgens we have the following:

Do you know where your "Ruptured Duck" (otherwise known as the Honorable Service Lapel Pin) is? It was issued to all servicemen honorably discharged between Sept., 1939 and Dec., 1946. If yours is lost or you never got it a free replacement pin is available. Army Air Corps. veterans should write to: Air Force Reference Branch, National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, MO. 63132.

The verification process can take up to eight months or more, according to the Pentagon, but it may be shortened if applicants include copies of their WWII discharge papers, War Dept. AGO form 4 equivalent.



Blythe Baseball team in 1943

From Frank McCullough we have the following:

Many members of the 34th B.G. never received their Distinguished Flying Cross medals after completing their tour of duty. According to Frank we are all eligible for this medal and he thinks we should find out just how many of our members have not received it and go after our congressmen for these. If you are one of those who had completed your tour of duty overseas and had not received your medal, write in to Frank at: Frank McCullough, 2807 Andrea Drive, Allentown, PA. 18103 and he will contact them and see what can be done about it.

From The Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Center we have the following:

On Aug. 1st a work crew began erecting the steel superstructure of The Mighty Eighth Air Force heritage Center here. Lt. Gen. E.G. Shuler, Jr. said, "In the next three to four weeks we will see the museum take shape and get a real appreciation of its size". The 90,000 square foot structure will include an artifacts museum, gift shop, snack bar, library, archives and meeting facilities. Grand opening of the Museum is scheduled for May, 1996.

John 'Doronsky sent in the following:

In the June 11 issue of the Cleveland Plain Dealer is the story of the book titled "WINGS OF MORNING": The story of the last American bomber shot down over Germany in W.W.II. According to Dave Goldsmith, literary editor of the Plain Dealer, it is a well-written work that readers of World War II material will likely find of interest. The publisher is Addison-Wesley (No Address Given) but the book can probably be found in your book store.

William I. Dunkerley is asking for help as follows:

I am hoping that some of our members will remember the problem to which I refer and can help me. Shortly after reaching Mendlesham we had an outbreak of diarrhea which lasted for about a month. I was affected by it as were many of the group. I had a repeat problem when I was transferred to the 493rd Bom Group. The repeat problem was too much for my digestive system. It caused a fissure to erode in my rectum and caused other damage to my digestive system.

I have a hearing coming up before the Veteran's Board of Appeals very shortly and my medical records show that I was operated on for the fissure but does not indicate the cause. I would like to hear from anyone that remembers that outbreak. Please write me if you do. My address is: William I. Dunkerley, 2 Ray Street, Elmwood Park, NJ. 07407. Thanks!

Harold Province has received a letter from an individual who has purchased an old Air Force flight jacket from an antique dealer which he believes might be one from the 391st Sqdn. of the 34th B.G. On the front of the jacket is the symbol of a bird, the logo of the 391st., and on the back is the name "BOOTS" with the picture of a cowgirl standing between 33 falling bombs (indicative of 33 missions?). Above the bombs are two warplanes, a red-tailed B-24 and a redtailed B-17. If anyone remembers any plane called "BOOTS" or a crew-member nicknamed "BOOTS", please write to the owner of the jacket. He would like to be in contact with anyone who can shed some light on the history of that crew. Please write to: John Grindahl, at 1837 16th Street So., Fargo, ND. 58103. Any contact would be appreciated.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

(As of 10-24-95)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORG.	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIPCD
ABRAMS	MORTON	18	7141 DUBONNET DRIVE	BOCA RATON,	FL.	33433
ANDERSON	KENNETH E.	18	220 2ND STREET N.E.	MADENA,	MN.	56482
ANDERSON	LANCE D.	7A	2842 FENWICK	GRAND PRAIRIE,	TX.	75052
ARTEEL	MARIAN	7 391	6575 FOXDALE CIRCLE	COLORADO SPRINGS,	CO.	80919
BRIDGE	GLENN M.	7	235 CARTA ROAD APT. H4	KNOXVILLE,	TN.	37914
BRUG	CHARLES	18	6734 SOUTHKNOLL DRIVE	CINCINNATI,	OH.	45248
CARLSON	EDWARD R.	7	8780 FRUIT BARN LANE	SAN JOSE,	CA.	95135
CRAWFORD	HARRY	4	6414 WILANDER STREET	LEESBURG,	FL.	34748
CROOM	EDWIN		BOX 896, HWY. 412E	JACKSON,	TN.	38305
CROUSE	CONWAY	18	P. O. BOX 293	BAINBRIDGE,	NY.	13733
GEOHAGAN	EDGAR D.	7-18	16115 LINDSEY RD., S.E.	YELLUM,	WA.	98597
GRINROD	RAYMOND E.	18	32 MOLLUSK DRIVE	NARRAGANSETT,	RI.	02882
JONES	DAVID P.	391	749 MATADERO AVENUE	PALO ALTO,	CA.	94306
LOVE	WARREN	18LM	114 W. GRAPE	OMAK,	WA.	98841
MACCARNI	ISVENO	391	61 SHELLY AVENUE	YONKERS,	NY.	10701
STARR	JOHN J.	391	5655 GULF OF MEXICO D-107	LONGBOAT KEY,	FL.	34228
THRUN	TOMI	4LM	193 EMERALD LANE	BEREA,	OH.	44017

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

(326 As of 10-11-95)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORG.	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIPCD
ALLING	CHARLES B. JR.	7	P.O. BOX 2, PARSONS BEACH	KENNEBUNK,	ME.	04043
RYAN	GORDON J.	18-4	P.O. BOX 844	SALEM,	MA.	01970
VERES	JOHN G. JR.	391	200 EAST HAVEN ROAD	MONTGOMERY,	AL.	36109

NEWLY FOUND

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORG.	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIPCD
ARANGO	GASTON	7	29 MOHEGAN TRAIL	SADDLE RIVER,	NJ.	07458
BAILEY	HOLCOMB D.		1205 WESTWOOD APT. 181	ARLINGTON,	TX.	76013
BRLACICH	ANTHONY		SEE TAPS			
CONNOLLY	PATRICK J.		158-24 97TH STREET	HOWARD BEACH,	NY.	11414
FEIRING	EDWIN M.		SEE TAPS			

TAPS

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORG.	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIPCD	DIED
BEACH	ROLAND R.	7	1735 W. MARCELLA LANE	SANTA ANA,	CA.	92706	8-16-95
BRLACICH	ANTHONY			NAPA,	CA.		6-19-95
CROOM	EDWIN H.	18	4123 HWY. 412 E.	JACKSON,	TN.	38305	7-23-95
DOZIER	JOHN	18	P. O. BOX 2557	SOUTHPORT,	NC.	28461	
FEIRING	EDWIN M.		P. O. BOX 1023	WATFORD CITY,	ND.	58854	1-27-91
FIGEL	HENRY B. JR.	7	3 McDONALD PLACE	ALBANY,	NY.	12209	9-02-95
HAMILTON	CLARENCE B.			MCCALLA,	AL.		
HARRISON	CLARENCE M.			GREENWOOD,	MS.		3-11-77
MADDEN	JOHN L.	4LM	3237 GREGORY COURT	MERCED,	CA.	95340	
MARN	HOWARD	7	235 S.W. KENDALL AVENUE	TOPEKA,	KS.	66606	8-08-95
O'BRIEN	EDWARD J.	18	14 WATER STREET	ASSONET,	MA.	02702	
PETERS	ROBERT L.	18	77 LANDING CIRCLE	SUFFIELD,	CT.	06078	8-22-95
SHEESLEY	BYRON E.	7LM	R.R.3, BOX 134	ONEONTA,	NY.	13820	7-10-95
SMALL	JAMES C.	391	417 HENDERSON AVENUE	HOT SPRINGS,	AR.	71913	7-71-92
SQUIRES	CLARENCE W.	18	CRESTVIEW HOME, BOX 430	BETHANY,	MO.	64424	7-28-95
THONANDER	EARL R.	7	(NAME CHANGED TO THONE)	MEMPHIS,	TN.		
WILLIS	CLYDE W.	391LM	3142 SPOKANE DRIVE	LAS VEGAS,	NV.	89121	



(Moved and left no forwarding address

DONATIONS TO RAY L. SUMMA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

M.M. Page 27



Then and Now



HAROLD & GENEVIEVE RUTKA



1944

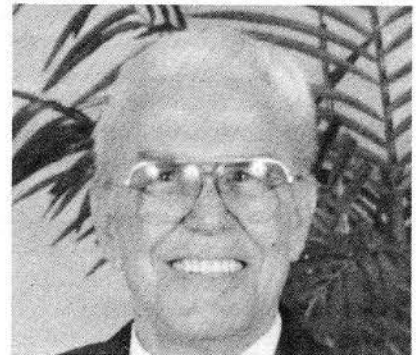


1994

JAMES A. HUNTER



1943



1994

WELDON K. BURNS



1944



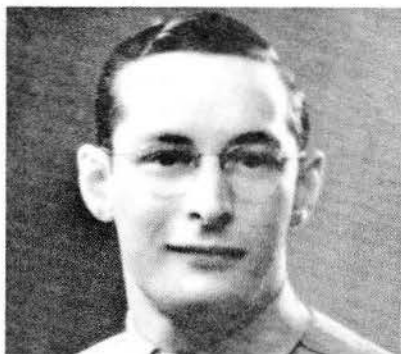
1995



Then and Now



HOWARD R. FOX



1943



1986

DALE GANGER

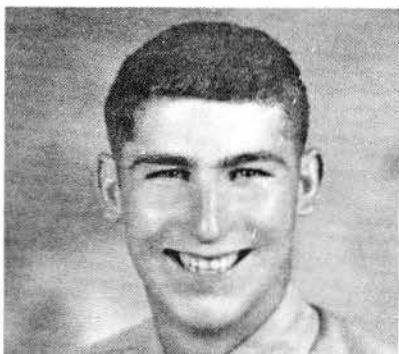


1944



1995

ARNOLD PRILLAMAN



1945



1995

MEMORIES

AN INTERESTING EXPERIENCE

by Francis Jackovich

The crew of "Bugs Bunny" finished our tour on Aug. 24, 1944. While waiting to return to the Zone of the Interior, our pilot Bill Lewis, co-pilot Herb Klier, radio man John Stoltz and engineer Bob McBlaine were ordered to fly gas missions. They flew gas in a B-24 from England to various bases in France to help fuel Patton's army. We don't know whether any other crews from the 34th did this. It was like flying a mini second tour.

After the crew had flown several missions they returned to Station 156 to pick up their mail. While Lewis was inside picking up the mail I asked the C.O. if we could fly back to Rheims with the crew inasmuch as we were finished flying our tour. Six of us, Francis Jackovich, George Gillespie, Jack Comdem, Robert Bynom, ? Chappel and ? Pilchler were given the go ahead.

We took off from our base and landed at an R.A.F. base to pick up the gas. Then we flew to Rheims, France, which was just evacuated by the Germans two days prior. The airfield was now just 17 miles from the German lines. The name of the field was Champagn-Rheims, which had been a ME-109 base. Several of them could be seen parked around the field.

After looking over the ME-109's we hitched a ride on an American truck to Rheims where we parked at an outdoor cafe. There we celebrated our first crew reunion. After a day of celebration the crew, except for myself and Gillespie, returned to England. We hitched a ride to Paris by an Army sergeant who was over-disciplined after we re-disciplined him Air Corps style. We stopped at a Champagne warehouse and picked up a case of champagne. We had a beautiful ride on the Red Ball highway from Rheims to Paris.

When I had left England I took a barracks bag filled with cigarettes and soap, which I traded for French goodies - one of which was perfume. The jeep driver directed us to a building where officers were waiting with orders for transportation to their units. They assigned us to a hotel room in Paris where we spent the night having a few drinks and then went to sleep.

The next day we went sightseeing in Paris and the following day we went to the message center. There they supplied us transportation (a French taxi) to Villecouple Air Field, where we observed about 40 various American aircraft.

We also saw a B-24 with several officers standing about and asked them for a ride back to England. They said "Yes!" While flying back to England the pilot flew us over different battle



Lt. Brooks

areas at low altitudes. Altogether there were about 25 Air Corps officers on the plane. The pilot landed us at our base 156.

My barracks bag was full of "French Goodies" from "Eiffel Towers" to perfumes. It was a happy trip and we all enjoyed our first reunion in Rheims!

A NIGHT OUT OF THE PAST

by Lee E. Harkleroad, Jr.

General Sherman is credited with the remark "War Is Hell". No one who has personally gone through the deprivations of a global conflict would dare to refute this charge. However, events sometimes occur that rise above the unpleasant and give vent to inspirational memories that live on after time has dulled the less memorable events. So it is with the experience I am about to relate.

World War II's "Battle Of The Bulge" began on the 16th of December, 1944, when the German Gen. Von Runstatt mounted an offensive that threatened to overrun allied positions and reverse the tide of battle over a large section of the western front. Allied air power had held supremacy of the skies over Europe as a whole for a lengthy period of time, so the German onslaught had been timed to coincide with a period of foul and foggy weather that had moved in over continental Europe, making it impossible for the Air Force to offer its customary support of ground operations. The Eighth Air Force, to which I was assigned as a tail gunner on a B-17 attached to the 7th Sqdn. of the 34th B.G., never got a plane off the ground for a period of nine days. By December 24th the fog-shrouded islands

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. 1, 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!!

MEMORIES

Continued from page 30

comprising the British Isles had begun to clear enough so that a maximum effort mission was scheduled in support of the beleaguered ground forces on the continent.

At the briefing that always preceded a mission, our bomb group learned that the 34th was assigned as a target the fighter pilot training field located on the outskirts of Frankfurt, Germany. Flight plans called for the bomber stream to cross the front lines at an altitude in excess of 25,000 ft. to escape, as much as possible, ground fire from A-A batteries that were also being used by the Germans as anti-personnel guns. We were then to descend to approximately 10,000 ft. and proceed to the target area to make our bomb runs on a visual basis rather than on instruments as usual. The 34th B.G. encountered light to moderate flak and the plane to which I was assigned sustained substantial damage. Our right outboard and left inboard engines were shot out. Then our right inboard engine began to rev. in excess of specifications and the pilot was compelled to cut the power to this engine. Loaded, as we were, with 250 lb. anti-personnel bombs, one engine was not sufficient to maintain normal flight and our plane lost some 15,000 ft. in a matter of minutes. The bombardier jettisoned our bombs and the crew members dumped out of the windows everything that was loose (50 cal. machine guns, flak suits, and other excess flight equipment). We even jettisoned the ball turret, better known as the "Belly Gun".

The pilot, meanwhile, had succeeded in starting the faulty right inboard engine and, fortunately, it operated normally. With two engines our B-17 could maintain level flight and we began our long journey home over alien territory, completely defenseless to any attack. He chose to skirt the southern anchor of the western front adjacent to Switzerland and then fly back across unoccupied France to our base in England. This devious route brought us back to the 34th B.G. base around 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, some three hours ahead of the remainder of the bomber stream. Our damaged plane barely cleared the cliffs of Dover as we crossed the English coast.

The break in the weather that had permitted the Air Force to fly this mission proved to be temporary. The foul and foggy weather that had blanketed the continent the previous nine days had returned and the 1st & 2nd Divn. bomber fields were not available as landing bases for the horde of planes that had departed that morning. Old Mother Nature is a rather fickle female at times and, for reasons known only to the "Almighty", our small portion of England, known as the 3rd Divn., was still clear, weatherwise. Here the entire 8th A.F. had to land or perish as the swindling fuel supply became exhausted from the lengthy mission.

Darkness had fallen when the first contingent of the 8th A.F. arrived over England. Landing fields were only one third of the number accustomed to accepting the many planes now milling overhead where, only months before, night flights meant that the Luftwaffe was in the area. Formation flying is perilous under the best conditions but under the conditions that existed that

Continued on page 32



4th Sqdn. PFF Crew - Rear: Boyle, Pratt, Morrison, Lemen & Bower. Front: Bell, Ingrouille, Macarrani, Hartman & Barnes

HDD

163

18

7

4

**34th Bomb. Group**

Eli Baldeo
2576 Brookwood Drive
Crown Point, Indiana 46307
(219) 988-4607



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

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MEMORIES

Continued from page 31

night it was extremely hazardous. To alleviate some of the danger to the flying personnel and their craft, the lead pilot turned on his landing lights. This maneuver triggered a spontaneous response by the other plane commanders and the heavens over England literally blossomed into what resembled an enormous Christmas tree. The red and green navigational lights located on the wings and tail assemblies of the planes blinked on and off, lending additional emphasis to the vision.

Down through history the British Isles, both willingly and unwillingly, have played host to the legions of foreign nations, from the influx of the Romans of Caesar, through the Viking era, and to the conflagration that was World War II and its invasion by countless thousands of Americans and allied soldiers. In a world torn asunder by years of conflict this simple act of survival practiced by the pilots aloft that night triggered a vision never witnessed by any of the preceding visitors to England. For a short period of time, at least to those of us safely on the ground, the spirit of Christmas blossomed before our very eyes and, for a moment, the miles separating us from our homeland seemed less awesome. Christmas never comes without arousing memories of this night out of the past.



Weldon Burns, Junior Craft & Leon Dipple in 1944