



ENDLESHAM EMORIES

34TH BOMB GROUP H

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REUNION '96

Raleigh, NC.

Sept. 19 - 22



SEE YOU THERE!

OBSERVATIONS

Thank God! Winter is finally over. We, in the northern Indiana, northern Illinois area, were very fortunate in the January and February winter months. Although we had record low temperatures for a few days, the snow amounts had fallen from the norm to new lows. What missed us decided to head east and cause record amounts in the eastern states, from Maine to North Carolina.

However, March came in like a lion and decided to pay us back. In the early part of the month we had very many days of low temperatures, sleet, freezing rain and snow. Oh well, Rose and I deserve this inasmuch as this is the first year in many that we haven't spent the winter down in Florida. We were there for a couple of weeks during which those record low temperatures occurred so we did miss some of the worst temperatures ever recorded in this area.

Now, back to 34th B.G. business. In this issue you will find hotel reservation and reunion registration forms for our reunion at Raleigh, N.C. in September. We are looking forward to seeing many of you there. If you have not attended any of our previous reunions, believe me, you will enjoy an experience of meeting up with old friends and getting to know many new ones. Rose and I, and many of our regulars, seek out "first-timers" to get to know them.

I also want to remind those of you who do attend to bring along your cameras. We have found, after several years, that the professional photographers hired did not really satisfy us with pictures taken and identifications of those pictured. Therefore, we ask that you photograph those at your table and, possibly, neighboring tables, identify those pictured, and send them in for inclusion in our December issue. We have found this system much more satisfying. We do identify the owners and return all photographs after use in the issue.

The June issue, as directed by the B.O.D., is being mailed to all names on our roster. It is hoped that some of the non-members will decide to become active members after reading about our activities and aspirations. None of us are getting any younger and it won't be too many more years before we all not be able to communicate with each other as well as we can now.

In order to get the September issue out at the proper time, I must set the deadline for incoming materials as July 19th. This allows us time to put it together, have it set up in print, check and correct the proof copy and have it printed and ready for mailing by late August so that most, if not all, will receive their copy in September. With bulk mailing privileges comes the reality that some of the most distant destinations take as much as four or five weeks to receive it. Remember, the "DEADLINE" for September issue items is "JULY 19, 1996"!

That's all I have for this issue. As I said before, Rose and I are looking forward to the reunion at Raleigh, N.C. We hope you do too! "SEE YOU IN RALEIGH!"

Eli Baldea,
Editor and Past President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

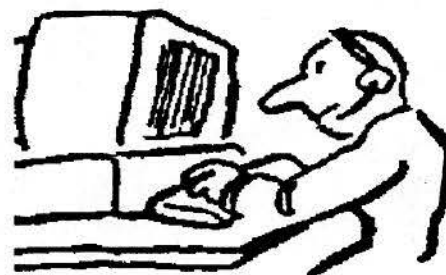
Spring has finally arrived in Alabama but, from watching the Weather Channel, I realize that some of you are still experiencing the effects of "Ole Man Winter". Maybe that will be an excuse to head south to Savannah, GA. for the dedication of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum open house on Monday, May 13, 1996 at 9:00 a.m. It would be nice to have the 34th Bomb Group well represented. Jean and I plan to attend as well as Hal and Jan Province and Dale and Margie Finley. If you plan to attend you need to call (912) 748-8888, Ext. 102 no later than May 1st to register. Jack Clarkson continues to request memorabilia that can be placed in the museum. Let me encourage you to look in old trunks, closets and attics for items that you could donate to preserve the history of the 8th Air Force for future generations.

Because of illness John R. Janes had to resign from the Scholarship Committee. Hal Province was very helpful in finding a replacement. Hilton P. Vincens has agreed to serve on that committee along with Hal and Robert Vaughn. They will be busy in the next few weeks considering the applications and making their selections for the winners of the \$1,000.00 and \$500.00 scholarships.

If you are unable to attend the opening of the 8th Air Force Museum please remember to mark your calendar for September 19-22 at the Marriott in Raleigh, North Carolina. We look forward to seeing you there and, until then, take care.

Your President,
Ambers Hanson

FROM THE TREASURER'S COMPUTER



Writing in April for June distribution is dog-gone difficult! By the time you will be reading this Jan and I hope to have seen some of you at the dedication of the 8th AF Museum in Savannah. Many thanks to those of you who wrote and extended best wishes to Jan in her hip surgery. I'm happy to report that she came through with flying colors and, in early April, is just about ready to quit using the cane, but her doctor wants her to continue until her next appointment.

In other health news, John Janes, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, is moving from Slidell, LA. to Richmond, VA. because of health reasons. John is relinquishing his position on the Committee. Please see the URGENT MESSAGE elsewhere about the CHANGE

Continued on page 3

FROM THE TREASURER'S COMPUTER

Continued from page 2

OF ADDRESS! The best of everything to John and Gloria in their new home in Richmond. John and Gloria will be sorely missed on the Scholarship Committee. Hilton Vincens, of Chalmette, LA. has graciously agreed to serve on the Scholarship Committee.

I've been getting quite a few wedding dates when membership dues are sent to me. Eli can't publish your 50th or more anniversary date unless you let us know when it is! There are many Life Members who need to send in their dates but have never seen the form which is used by those who pay the dues annually. I'll be glad to accept the data from anyone on one of the "DUES are DUE" sheets which accompany almost every issue of MM. We have some couples who were married before the U.S. entered WWII. Any idea which couple holds the record for the 34th B.G.? See September's MM for the answer!

There has been a request to include telephone numbers in the roster. To do so would mean omitting some of the data we carry there now such as squadron and/or spouse's name. We've used condensed print in order to construct the roster so we're at a limit of what can be included. By the way, area codes have changed for some areas - telephone numbers, also, for some members. Let me know if your number has changed. And I also would like to have the 4-digit zip code from those who haven't sent it in to me.

Take care everyone! We'll be looking for you at Raleigh, God willing!

Harold Province
Treasurer

REUNION TIME FOR THE 34TH BOMB GROUP

19 September - 22 September, 1996

**RALEIGH MARRIOTT CRABTREE VALLEY
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA**

It is time to go through this issue of Mendlesham Memories to find the two registration forms. One of these forms is for the Marriott Hotel. Fill in this form and return it to the hotel to ensure your room. The other registration form is to make sure of your food, tour, golf and other activities. Send this form to Robert H. Wright, 411 Parkovash Ave., South Bend, IN. 46617.

The reunion committee has met with the various departments of the hotel to establish our menus and the space required for our activities. There is a substantiated tale out on different areas of the golfing world that Ed Lonergan has the 34th B.G. annual outing all under control. He has promised a bigger and better meet with lower scores than ever dreamed of. A real nice tour, including lunch, is planned.

The hotel has complimentary shuttle service from

the airport to the hotel and from the hotel to the airport. There is a large mall across the street from the hotel which has many stores, shops, restaurants, hair salons, etc. Shuttle service there is also available.

Your Reunion Committee
Gerald Pine
Harold Rutka
Robert Wright

The 8th AFHS reunion will be held Oct. 3rd to 6th at the Clarion Plaza Hotel in Orlando, Florida. This will be an ideal time to attend the reunion and visit the Disney properties.

Harold C. Rutka
8th AFHS Reunion Chairman

As of April 8, 1996, the following members will travel to England:

Gordon & Patricia Alling
William & Harriett Butler
Bill Browne
Claude & Genevieve Conklin
Lee & Helen Harkleroad
Harold & Genevieve Rutka
Harold & Evelyn Williams

We will be joined by another bomb group to make the trip to France.

Harold C. Rutka
Back to England Coordinator



34th B-17's on Holland Food Mission.



ROSE'S CORNER

Eli says, "Again, you're the last one to give me your column!" My editor-husband is after me again to get a move on so I decided to get busy and do it. (I must address him as such because he is very proud of his efforts.) I would rather be chatting with you in person and by golly, this is what I will do when we meet in September at Raleigh, North Carolina! Can't wait!! Now you understand why my column is so short.

Meanwhile, Margie Finley heard my plea and sent in three recipes to share with you. This one is called LEMON 7-UP cake. Looks like a winner. It's easy to assemble and a yummy dessert to please family and friends. Enjoy!!

LEMON 7-UP CAKE

1 box Lemon cake mix	10 oz. 7-UP
1/2 cup oil	4 eggs
1 box instant lemon jello pudding	

Beat all ingredients well and pour into greased 9"x13" pan. Bake at 325 deg. for 1 hour.

ICING

2 eggs	1 stick butter
1 1/2 cups sugar	1 1/2 tablespoons flour
1 cup drained crushed pineapple	1 cup coconut

Mix all but coconut and cook until thickened. Then add coconut. Stir and spread on cooled cake.

Bye for now and may God bless you all abundantly!

Rose

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!!

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

From the 8th A.F. News "Mail Call" section we have the following two items:

Anthony M. Stevens of Flushing, NY. writes: "ICE CREAM CAPER".

The 34th Bomb Group had an ice cream machine made from airplane parts in early 1944. The responsible officer was Capt. Barks, supervisor of the Consolidated and Station Complement Mess Hall. The ice cream was most enjoyable.

H.E. Harvey of Rt. 1, Box 259, Clarksville, AR. 72830 writes:

I want to hear from personnel stationed at Blythe AAF in the summer of 1943 when a B-24 crashed.

We have recently been informed about a new 8th A.F. combat novel written by Frank R. Westie, an ex-pilot of the 487th Bomb Group. It is both a war story and a romance. Supposedly, the hard copy version was sold out within one month of its release in northern Michigan. However, we are told that the Barnes & Noble booksellers have the paperback versions for \$14.95. We understand that any ex-WWII 8th Air Force persons would find the book very interesting and informational for their children as to what life was like back then. The title of the book is "ASH WEDNESDAY '45".



ROY TAVASTI - Pismo Beach, CA.

We're sorry we missed seeing everyone this year. We are planning on going to Raleigh in '96.

WALLACE E. GREEN - Brooklyn, CT.

I discovered in the last Mendlesham Memories that William Cheek, Walter Jellum and James H. Smith are indeed alive even though I donated to the scholarship fund in their memory. I saw their pictures as attending the last reunion. To me the donation was in memory of days past. Please acknowledge my memory in any way appropriate. You are all doing a wonderful job for our bomb group. Thank you.

NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from page 4

GEORGE R. MORRIS - Ontario, CA.

I wish to let you know that my wife, Ruth, and I will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary this year on January 25th. For a time there it seemed like it wasn't to be. I was admitted to the hospital on May 5th, 1995 and finally discharged on November 10th. I still don't know for sure what was wrong. I had exploratory stomach surgery that was inconclusive. About a week later surgery was repeated, still inconclusive. Eventually I recovered after double pneumonia, etc. and a lot of good care from the nursing staff and physical therapy. Then I began to walk again, albeit with a cane, but I am improving. I guess there is still something an old bombardier is still there for.

Thank God for Medicare and Medigap insurance. I hope they don't mess it up!

HELEN (BEN) DeHANN - Grand Forks, ND.

A note to let you know that Ben passed away on December 8th, 1995. He enjoyed being a part of the 34th Bomb Group Assn. and enjoyed your newsletter.

JOSEPHINE (JACK) BLAND - Pasadena, TX.

Just a note to let you know about my husband, Jackson Wallace Bland. We found he had cancer in his left lung on Oct. 27, 1995. He was taking radiation and chemotherapy. It was very hard on him. He went from 169 lbs. to 132 lbs. but he didn't make it. He was a good, loving, tender man and will be greatly missed.

He was with me until the very few last minutes. He started coughing up blood. I called 911 but they couldn't save him. We both enjoyed the one reunion we attended and planned to attend others. I plan to keep in touch with the group through the newsletters.

LORRAINE (ROBERT) HARTWICK - Bellevue, OH.

I would like for you and everyone to know how much Bob and I enjoyed the Huntsville reunion, even though he wasn't able to attend all the activities. I wanted to notify you of Bob's death on Jan. 3, 1996. He had a



391st Ordnance Crew Rear: ?, ?, Nash, Reifsnyder, Robinson & Brewer. Middle: Peterson, Michalowski, Gray, Pecoraro & Mahoney. Front: Knight, Vincins, Hardee & Humphries.

massive heart attack. It was sudden. He had only felt bad for a few days.

I would like to continue to receive Mendlesham Memories so I can keep up with my friends who I have enjoyed over several years. Thank you so much for everything.

JOHN DORONSKY - Willoughby, OH.

I am enclosing my "Then & Now" pictures for the MM, I hope they are satisfactory. Boy, we certainly age in 50 years, don't we?

JOAN W. (PHILLIP H.) COMBS - Banning, CA.

I want to tell you that my beloved husband of nearly 50 years is gone. We had known for more than a year that Phil's heart was slowing down, but he was able to keep doing most of the things he wanted to do.

An upper respiratory infection right after Christmas developed into pneumonia and congestive heart failure. He was hospitalized from January 30th to February 8th. I was able to bring him home but he never regained his strength. Early in the morning of March 3rd he slipped away from me.

Thank you for all the pleasure you brought him. The reminiscences and letters brought back memories of times and friends of long ago and would remind him of the incidents to tell me about. I truly hope you can keep your members in touch with each other for many years to come.

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

I hope everybody made it through the winter O.K.! I think this past one is the worst I've put up with since the one of 1944/1945 in England. I haven't been really warm since last October but most of that can be accounted for by my advanced age. I will be 80 years young next year.

I got a short note from Roy Tavasti which states that he found he had developed prostate cancer but they think they found it before it had advanced too far. Also, Dr. Wm. C. Alston (Flt. Surgeon - 7th Sqdn.) wrote me inquiring about my cancer scare of a few years ago. He's a specialist in that field and I was glad to give him a favorable report. At the last exam everything says that I'm free of both prostate and colon cancer. They had me hanging on the ropes for a while, though.

I am planning on attending the reunion at Raleigh, NC. next fall unless some new medical misfortune comes up. This might be the last reunion I will make unless they come back to Virginia Beach. At 80 years of age I don't want to be traveling too far.

JOHN LYONS - New Port Richey, FL.

We went north for the holidays and, while there, visited Al Fruit, my ball turret gunner. I hadn't seen Al since we left Mendlesham over 50 years ago. We had a nice visit with Al who has had circulative problems necessitating the removal of his left leg. He has been fitted with an artificial leg and hopes to get out of the

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NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

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wheelchair soon.

His daughters look after him in his Senior high-rise apartment but, apparently, his membership renewal to the Assn. was misplaced. Please reinstate him in our association.

CLINTON L. BEARD - Beverly Hills, FL.

I would like to get back on the mailing list for the 34th B.G. Relocating cut our line of communications. Your mail to me didn't get forwarded and my contact with you got put into storage until our new house got built. One never knows how much the contact means until it stops. I've missed you all for almost two years.

RANDY BAILEY - Rochester, NY.

I received my copy of MM and saw your paragraph mentioning my contact with Wally Brauks concerning the death of my uncle, TSgt Ralph F. Kruse, in the raid over Mendlesham aboard Dale Eastman's B-24 which crashed on base. I am most grateful for all the 34th B.G. members who have given me many details about the raid that killed my uncle.

My mother, Bob's sister, gave me her blessing to do the research since I had no desire to bring back the pain she was inflicted with in June of 1944 when she was notified at work of his death. She, too, was gratified by the letters and response of those who wrote and I believe it helped in closure of his loss. She wasn't actually sure how he was killed; it was just enough for her to know he wasn't coming home. Now she knows.

Thanks to your group for your help in giving me many details about that raid over Mendlesham. I continue to be an associate member and enjoy Mendlesham Memories very much.

JOSEPH F. LEMMON - Northford, CT.

Have received the March issue of MM a few days ago and have found it as interesting as ever.

On Sept. 14th Dee and I will celebrate our fiftieth wedding anniversary. We are in good health and intend to stay that way (with the good Lord's help). I don't know if we'll be able to make Raleigh but we're sure going to try.

LEONARD GOLDEN - Portage, OH.

We both enjoy reading Mendlesham Memories. We will be celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary on June 19th of this year. On July 6th our children are hosting a 50th celebration buffet and dance in our honor. Len and I have been blessed with loving, happy years together and we are praying there will be many more ahead of us.

RAY KUBLY - Watertown, WI.

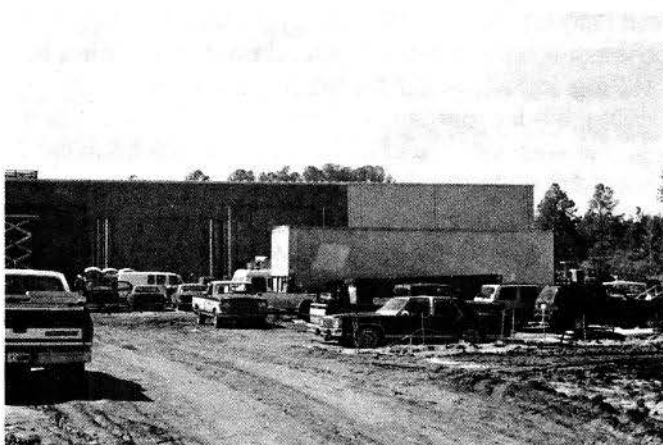
I am hoping to get to Savannah this year to see the 8th AFHS Museum - if not this year then later.

ROBERT (BOB) WRIGHT - Port Charlotte, FL.

This is the worst winter of our 12 years in Florida. We had a lot of nice days but a lot of cold ones also. Two frosts wrecked a lot of shrubs and plants which are now starting to grow back again. We stopped in Savannah at the 8th AFHS Museum on the way home. They have a long way to go to finish by May, unless it's May '97. Took some pictures for the 34th to see where the money we gave to the Heritage Fund is going.



View of the Museum from the I-95 Exit at Savannah.



View of the east side of the building.

WILLIAM F. CHEEK - Banner Elk, NC.

Just got my March issue of MM forwarded on to me by my son from Florida. It's another interesting issue. We have been here on Sugar Mountain for 9 days now and it has snowed 4 times. Thursday brought us 4 inches and Friday 5 inches. Then this morning (Saturday) at 8:00 a.m. the temperature was 4 below zero. How about that for a pair of native Floridians?

JOSEPH DOMINO - Perkasi, PA.

Please show us in your 50+ years anniversaries. As we are both aging, Vicky and I are still in the best of health. If all goes well we both expect to see you all at the 34th reunion at Raleigh in September. By the way, our 56th anniversary is August 31st, 1996.

NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Continued from page 6

H. ARNOLD PRILLAMAN - Martinsville, VA.

I first met him in June, 1944 at Pyote, Texas. I saw him last in June, 1994 as we departed Heathrow Airport in London after having retraced some of our wartime steps along with Eugene James and Fred Schoch. Everyone liked him, and with reason. He was a true gentleman who managed to find some humor in every situation.

He died in November, 1995, a sad loss to the ones of us who were privileged to have shared some life experiences with him. His name was John Ashburn.



John Ashburn & Arnold Prillaman at Mendlesham-June, 1994

ORAL D. WALKER - Battle Creek, MI.

Just a note to let you know that Margie and I were married on August 20, 1941. I lost her on March 6th after about 4 1/2 years of total blindness, leukemia, heart problems and, you name it, she had it!

Last year my son, Jim, and his wife, Peggy, enjoyed the reunion at Huntsville and we are looking forward to Raleigh. I hope we can take some time for some side trips.

WILLIAM E. BOARMAN - Greensboro, NC.

Just a note to say I appreciate the efforts of all of you who keep Mendlesham Memories going. I, for one, appreciate the publication and one of these days will get around to sending a picture of Tom Rider's crew.

Perhaps we'll make the Raleigh reunion in September.

PAUL ANDERSON - Mesa, AZ.

This winter has been one of the best in the 11 years we have been coming to Arizona. One down side is the lack of rain, this winter, has resulted in fewer desert flowers this spring. We plan to leave here for our home in Washington a few days after the 25th of April. That will be our 54th wedding anniversary, so you can add our names to your list.

We hope to make the reunion in Raleigh and hope to see everyone there.

CASEY COOK - Iowa City, IA.

I am the son of Patrick B. Cook. My father passed away nearly 18 months ago of a sudden illness. He talked little of the war, but all his eight children knew that he treasured his comrades and his experiences as a B-17 pilot.

YVONNE (THOMAS) HUDECEK - Eureka Springs, AR.

Just a note to tell you that Tom died on February 24, 1996. He was in the nursing home for almost a year. He had Alzheimer's and it sure took its toll on him. His weight was about 140 lbs. and he hadn't walked since September. It has been so hard to see him change so much. He was such a gentle and loving man and will be sorely missed.

CHARLES A. BILLMAN - Sun City West, AZ.

Just wanted to make a correction in your TAPS list. Cecil Tevis was incorrectly listed in your January TAPS list with the first name "Ray". The balance of the information is correct, so far as I know.

GLEN D. BARR - Newcastle, WY.

We're sorry we couldn't make it to the reunion but we have really enjoyed the Mendlesham Memories. You are all doing a great job and we appreciate it. Thank You!

RUSSELL REED - Monrovia, CA.

Getting a LIFE MEMBERSHIP is one of the best investments I have made in the past few years. I wear my pin with pride. Thanks for the hard work you continue to do for the 34th.

DONALD BENSCOTER - Lapwai, ID.

Barbara and I took much interest in the December issue. We now have all of the literature on Raleigh that the Chamber of Commerce could supply. If something doesn't interfere, we will see you all there.

GWEN (JAMES) SPARROW - La Plata, MO.

I was so sorry to hear of Mollie Gardner's death. I had just started being a pen pal to her and am very sorry I didn't have time to know her better.

RUTH (GEORGE R.) MORRIS - Ontario, CA.

It is with sorrow and deepest regret that I must inform you of the passing of my dear husband, George R. Morris. We had been together for 50 years. He was very proud of his military service and had worked his way up to Lt. Col. after many years in the reserves. He enjoyed the MM newsletter very much. Two of his crew members of "The Dugan Wagon" live here in California and we were able to get together before he passed away.

(Editor's note: Please see George R. Morris's letter to MM earlier in this section)

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NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

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WILLIAM H. DORRANCE - Kailua, HI.

Please add our names to the Anniversary list. We were married on August 31, 1946. All four of our children and four grandchildren will attend a grand celebration here on Oahu. All live in different cities on the mainland so arranging the event was no minor logistical exercise. It will be the first such Dorrance family reunion in over twenty years.

How wonderful it is that in these days of 50% divorce rates so many of our members have found lifetime partners and have lived so long. Truly, our generation is special!

SPECIAL NOTICES

From Walter Sturdivan we have the following:

The 34th Bomb Group lost 34 planes missing in action. There were 39 planes lost in other operational losses. We had the lowest casualty rate in the ETO for a heavy bomber group. I am compiling a list of missing in action planes. At the present time I am aware of 15 planes, but not all the details. Sometimes it's hard to distinguish between the type of losses whether shot down or crashed. Of course, some were very visible right over our base on June 7, 1944.

I would like to request information from our members as to any planes they were involved with or saw or heard of that went down, either on the Continent or in the British Isles. Please include the name of the pilot (or crew members), the date and the place. Also include any information concerning the incident. After compiling the information I will make it available to our members. If possible I would like to have this information before our next reunion at Raleigh on Sept. 19-22, 1996. Please send it to: Walter Sturdivan, 5901 N. El Dorado St., Stockton, CA. 95207.

From Dr. Horst Wilhelm of Germany we have the following:

I have been searching for the destiny of B-24 crew members who died in my hometown on July 19, 1944. Possibly you can help me by publishing the following

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.**



Lt. Keifer's crew - Rear, L. to R.: Cochrelle, Vanderdley, Keifer & Hicks. Front, L. to R.: McArdle, Conklin, Hopkins, Lotspiech, Pritmore & Dunn.

question in your next issue. This involves the collision of two B-24's near Saarbrücken on July 19th, 1944. One aircraft crashed in the town of Schiffweiler and the second one in the town of Freidricksrahl. Both towns are 20 miles northeast of Saarbrücken. Only two of the crewmen survived. They were Lt. William Hart and Lt. Blevins.

I would like to know any information regarding that raid on Saarbrücken. Any further records, photos or other documents would help. Also, any information about some of the personnel aboard those planes (their names, hometowns, families, education or occupational background)? Are there any photos of them or their crew? Where are their final burial places?

A German eyewitness is maintaining he saw a crew member leaving the wreck (bleeding out of the mouth, running away and getting captured after fainting) Are there any survivors of that crash alive today?

I plan to publish the story of those two planes together with other events of WWII. I am in contact with the mayors of both Schiffweiler and Friedrichsthal. We also plan to fix plaques in both towns in remembrance of the U.S. airmen killed in action over our towns. We think that, after more than 50 years of the end of WWII and of so many years of German-American friendship, it is time to remember the men who died in helping free Germany and Europe from dictatorship and nazism. Responses are to go to: Dr. Horst Wilhelm, 66578 Schiffweiler, Am Tafelbrunnen 6, Germany.

We are advised that an old pair of prescription glasses can still be useful to indigent people in the United States and other countries, such as Mexico, Nigeria, Brazil and the Ukraine. To make a donation, send used

SPECIAL NOTICES

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glasses to New Eyes for the Needy, 549 Millburn Avenue, Dept. P, Short Hills, N.J. 07078. Include your name and address for notification that your tax-deductible contribution has been received.

We have also been advised that General Adolf Galland, one of Germany's top fighting aces during World War II, has died on February 9th at the age of 83 at his home in Oberwinter, Germany. During 4-1/2 years of combat flying, he shot down 104 Allied planes making him one of the top fighting aces of the war. He attended the 8AFHS reunion at St. Paul, MN. in 1981 as a guest.

(Editor's note: Rose and I had the pleasure of meeting him at that reunion)

From Peter Gaskin of Essex, England we have the following:

Please find enclosed an article from one of our regional newspapers. The story behind it started at the reunion at Minneapolis/St. Paul when Jack Share asked if it was possible that I could find a certain Aubrey Meadowcroft of the A.S.R. who, with his crew, pulled Jack and his crew from the freezing waters of Dunkirk on April 5, 1945. I thought it was a tall order but decided to give it my best shot.

When I got home I set things in motion and, almost one year later, I found him. It was just before the '95 reunion in Huntsville and Mr. Meadowcroft phoned Jack

at the hotel there. Then, 2 weeks ago, Mr. Meadowcroft phoned me to say that Jack's pilot, George Mehling, had been to visit him at his home on the south coast of England. Fortunately a friend tipped off the local paper, hence the article.

We hope everyone's in good health and looking forward to the summer as we are. Our winter has been diabolical and we are beginning to think the sun has burnt itself out. See you all at Raleigh-Durham.

From the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum we have the following:

Construction on the museum continues to move along rapidly in preparation for grand opening on May 13-14, 1996. It will be a two-day event. Monday, May 13, will be devoted exclusively to 8th A.F. veterans and families. Doors will open to them at 10:00 a.m. In the afternoon there will be a memorial service for the veterans followed by a reception for them in the museum that evening. On Tuesday, May 14, there will be a grand opening ceremony for the general public at 10:00 a.m. The 90,000 sq. ft. Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum is being built to honor the more than one million men and women who have served in the Eighth since it was created in Savannah, GA. in January, 1942.

In late March Rose and I spoke to Walt McAllister, my ex-pilot, as we do periodically, and were told that Betty (Jim) Martin had had a stroke. I immediately wrote to Jim for confirmation and asked that he write me back with his

Continued on page 10



John Lyons with 34th B.G. B-17 "Miss Angela" in airshow at St. Paul, Minn.

SPECIAL NOTICES

Continued from page 9

wishes regarding mentioning it in the newsletter.

Yesterday, April 9th, we received a phone call from him stating that Betty is much better and has been released from the hospital to recuperate at home. We were very glad to hear that and want to wish Betty all the best for her complete recovery and the ability to rejoin us at future reunions.

Betty - Rose and I, and many others, are praying for you and are looking forward to seeing you again at any one of our get-togethers in the future. Please get well!!

URGENT NOTICE!!! URGENT NOTICE!!!

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS - PLEASE NOTE!!!

(Members - please tell your grandchildren!!!)

John Janes, the Scholarship Committee chairman, will be moving to Virginia (for health reasons) before the scholarship applications are due on July 1, 1996. All



Rear, L. to R.: McWay, Lombardo, Griffis, & Johanson.
Front, L. to R.: Sadowsky, Andrignola, Trotter Copeland & Hunter.



Mrs. Pauline (Robert) Smith at the 34th B.G. Memorial at Mendlesham, April, 1995.

Scholarship Applications should be sent to: HAROLD PROVINCE, 111 PROVINCE LANE, CARRIERE, MS. 39426-7414. The committee believes that some applications may be lost if they are sent to John Janes and then forwarded to his new Virginia address by the U.S. Postal Service. John's Virginia address is not know at this time (April 6, 1996). IF AN APPLICATION HAS ALREADY BEEN SENT TO THE SLIDELL ADDRESS, PLEASE LET HAROLD KNOW THAT AN APPLICATION HAS BEEN SENT TO JOHN. HOPEFULLY, JOHN WILL HAVE RECEIVED THE APPLICATION AND SENT IT ON TO HAL. It may be necessary to send in a duplicate copy of your application.

We have been informed by Maj. Gen. James E. McInerney, USAF (Ret.), the Executive Director, that the American Air Museum in Britain construction is now under way. They are looking for additional founding members and have asked for our help in contacting our membership in their behalf. Their membership coordinator is Eve Holloway and the toll-free number is 1-800-233-4226. Anyone who would like more information regarding the only museum of its kind outside of the United States can call and learn what it's all about.

DEADLINE

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

Eli Baldea, Editor



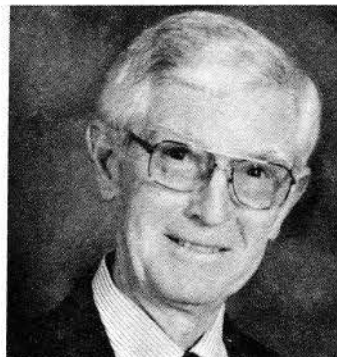
Then and Now



AMBERS HANSON



1943



1995

CLAUDE CONKLIN



1944

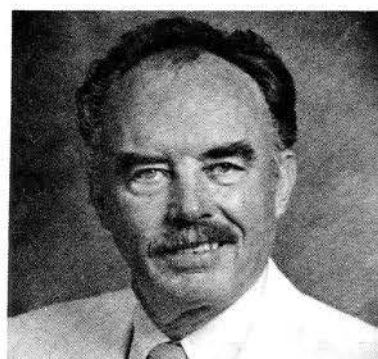


1994

RAYMOND V. PALMER



1944



1995

CHANGES OF ADDRESS (As of 4-19-96)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGN.	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZPCD.
BEARD	CLINTON L.	18	4564 NORTH LENA DRIVE	BEVERLY HILLS,	FL.	34465
BOWER	WALTER R.	391-4	P.O. BOX 257	ISLESBORO,	ME.	04848
CLEMIN	JAMES A.	391LM	2820 NORWOOD DRIVE	RACINE,	WI.	53403
JELLUM	WALTER H.	391	11490 400TH AVENUE	WASECA,	MN.	56093
MANN	DONALD G.	18	800 2ND AVE. N., APT. 212	GREAT FALLS,	MT.	59401
MCCARTHY	DONALD	18	C/O TREVILLA, 7505 COUNTRY CLUB DR.	GOLDEN VALLEY,	MN.	55427
REPOFF	MRS. JEANNE F.	4LM	7422 E. WINDLAWN WAY	PARKER,	CO.	80134
ROBINSON	RUSSELL E.	18LM	P.O. BOX 13, TAYLOR AVE.	BINGHAM,	ME.	04920
SCHWARZ	BERNARD	391	100 SEQUASSEN AVENUE	OLD SAYBROOK,	CT.	06475
STEVENS	WILLIAM F.	18LM	RT. 4, BOX 1090-0	GRAVOIS MILLS	MO.	65037
THAETE	EDWARD H.	18	1809 E. CATALINA AVE.	SANTA ANA,	CA.	92705

NEW LIFE MEMBERS (337 As of 4-16-96)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGN.	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZPCD.
KRYSTOF	JOSEPH P.	391	31 WOODHAVEN DRIVE	KENSINGTON,	CT.	06037
PAULNOCK	RUSSELL S.	18	1404 LAS CAMOAS LANE	SANTA BARBARA,	CA.	93105
SCULLY	RICHARD F.	18	1649 QUAIL DRIVE	SARASOTA,	FL.	34321
YATES	GRAEM	391	9516 GLENBROOK DRIVE	CHARLOTTE,	NC.	28215

NEWLY FOUND

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGN.	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZPCD.
GROVES	WILLIAM E.		249 GRALAN ROAD	BALTIMORE,	MD.	21228
LEWIS	CHARLES H.		P. O. BOX 335	FREELAND,	WA.	98249
MOLLENBERG	ERNST F.	18	1955 MATICO AVENUE	DELTONA,	FL.	32725
ROBIDA	JOSEPH A.		149 PRINCETON STREET	NEW BEDFORD,	MA.	02745

TAPS

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGN.	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZPCD.	DIED
BLAND	JACKSON W.	4	1409 BERNARD STREET	PASADENA,	TX.	77506	01-26-96
COOK	PATRICK B.	7LM	1414 ROSELIND RD. S.E.	EAST GRAND RAPIDS,	MI.	49506	- -94
COOMBS	PHILLIP H.	391LM	1133 NO. FOURTH STREET	BANNING,	CA.	92220	03-03-96
DE HAAN	BENJAMIN F.	7LM	815 DUKES DR. #402	GRAND FORKS,	ND	58201	12-08-95
HARTWICK	ROBERT N.	7	734 EAST MAIN STREET	BELLEVUE,	OH.	44811	01-03-96
HUDECEK	THOMAS	4	144 APPALOOSA DRIVE	EUREKA SPRINGS,	AR.	72632	02-24-96
LEVI	MYRON B.	18	998 NORTH E. STREET	TULARE,	CA.	93274	02-08-96
MORRIS	GEORGE R.	18	559 H STREET E.	ONTARIO,	CA.	91764	04-03-96
NIXON	WENDELL B.	18LM	986 WOODLAND STREET	HEMET,	CA.	92545	??????
REVETTI	JOSEPH	391	6597 SO. TIMBRIDGE DR.,	YOUNGSTOWN,	OH.	44515	02-10-95

LOST SOULS

(Moved and left no forwarding address)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGN.	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZPCD.
INGRAM	WILLIAM G.	7	1053 DUTTON AVENUE	SANTA ROSA,	CA.	95407
SHOVE	LAURA	7 GRP.	4906 LA CUENTA DRIVE, A116	SAN DIEGO,	CA.	92124
THOMPSON	LOUISE	391LM	8649 SW KLAMATH CIRCLE	WILSONVILLE,	OR.	97070

DONATIONS TO RAY L. SUMMA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	IN MEMORY OF
ALDRIDGE	FREDERICK	JAMES M. GLASS
ALDRIDGE	FREDERICK	MEMORIAL OF GINNIE YOCKEY (WIFE OF CHARLES YOCKEY)
ROY	HERBERT	MEMORIAL OF GINNIE YOCKEY (WIFE OF CHARLES YOCKEY)
STEVENS	WILLIAM	RAY SUMMA (HIS CREW CHIEF)
ZELDES	BENJAMIN & EDITH	MEMORIAL OF GINNIE YOCKEY (WIFE OF CHARLES YOCKEY)

50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY (Congratulations to all!)

MARRIED	LAST NAME	FIRST NAMES	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZPCD.
1940-??-??	SAXEN	ROBERT & LEONA	511 S. MAIN STREET	HOLSTEIN,	IA.	51025
1940-08-31	DOMINO	JOSEPH & VICOTRIA	1336 TUNNEL ROAD	PERKASIE,	PA.	18944
1940-08-31	DOMINO	JOSEPH F. & VICTORIA	1336 TUNNEL ROAD	PERKASIE,	PA.	18944
1941-09-28	NICHOLS	CARL O. & KATE	5300 N. COLONIAL AVENUE	PRESNO,	CA.	93704
1942-01-24	SWAN	RAYMOND F. & GRACE	14 SOUTH MARINA PLAZA	ENGLEWOOD,	FL.	34223
1942-04-11	MORRISON	DONALD R. & SHIRLEY	3150 CHANNEL BLVD. R	CHEMAINUS,	BC.	CANADA
1942-04-25	ANDERSON	PAUL & BERYL	11622 W. SILVER LAKE RD. SP91	EVERETT,	WA.	98208
1942-05-14	GREENE	PAUL C. & NELLIE	6207 N.C. HWY. 22	CARTHAGE,	NC.	28327
1943-05-26	JOHNSON	CHESTER A. & CLAIRE	BARTER'S ISLAND	TREVETT,	ME.	04571
1943-09-12	FRANK	EARL & MARY V.	329 LANDFAIR AVENUE	SAN MATEO,	CA.	94403
1943-12-28	LYNN	JOSEPH H. & CAROLE	2685 11TH AVENUE	SACRAMENTO,	CA.	95818
1944-01-26	CHEARY	WILLIAM W. & BERNEDEAN	296 ARLBERG ROAD	HICKMAN,	CA.	95323
1944-03-19	FRANCO	GEORGE A. & FELICIA	P. O. BOX 477	HAMPSTEAD,	NC.	28443
1944-03-31	THURNER	CHARLES W. & FRANCES (TOOTS)	460 JONQUIL	PITTSBURGH,	PA.	15210
1944-07-15	MANTENFEL	ALFRED A. & THERESA	290 HOFFMAN STREET	FRANKLIN SQUARE,	NY.	11010
1944-08-15	FRIEDLANDER	GILBERT A. & FRANCES	5719 SUNNYSLOPE AVENUE	VAN NUYS,	CA.	91401
1944-11-17	SPARROW	JAMES W. & GWEN	301 E. BATES STREET, APT.11	LA PLATA,	MO.	63549
1945-07-02	HAM	ROBERT E. & GINNY	P. O. BOS 222	RAMSEUR,	NC.	27316
1945-07-10	ANDERSON	CECIL L. & FRANCES	8720 GRIGGS AVENUE	CIRCLE PINES,	MN.	55014
1945-09-07	CLARKE	MARSHALL J. & JEAN	5325 SEDONA COURT	CARMICHAEL,	CA.	95608
1945-11-03	BACSKAJI	JOSEPH J. & ELIZABETH	2206 CHANEY DR., LOT 498	RUSKIN,	FL.	33570
1945-11-04	BROWN	WILLIAM O. & NITA	975 BINGHAM LANE	STONE MOUNTAIN,	GA.	30083
1945-11-22	HAKJO	CHARLES V. & JANE	42 ELECTRIC STREET	WORCESTER,	MA.	01610
1945-12-30	GAUMER	BASIL & LORENE	911 NO. ELM, BOX 323	GREENVILLE,	IL.	62246
1946-01-25	MORRIS	GEORGE R. & RUTH	559 EAST H STREET	ONTARIO,	CA.	91764
1946-01-26	FOSSUM	LEE M. & BONNIE T.	2903 NO. 6TH STREET	COUER D'ALENE	ID.	83814
1946-03-16	GOERNER	HUGH H. & VIRGINIA	6 LINKS COURT	AUSTIN,	TX.	78738
1946-05-19	COHEN	LOUIS L. & MINI	221 BALLARD DRIVE	WEST HARTFORD,	CT.	06119
1946-05-23	SANDHOLM	KIETH & CHARLOTTE	402 GARFIELD STREET	SHENANDOAH,	IA.	51601
1946-05-25	TAMACCIO	DAVID L. & JANE	739 WYNDALE	JENKINTOWN,	PA.	19046
1946-06-19	GOLDEN	LEONARD W. & GENE	10957 OAK STREET	PORTAGE,	OH.	43451
1946-08-17	DEMPSEY	WILLIAM F. & SHIRLEY	9021 WOODHAVEN COURT	BOISE,	ID.	83704
1946-08-31	DORRANCE	WILLIAM H. & JANET	385G KAELEPULU DRIVE	KAILUA,	HI.	96734
1946-09-14	LEHMOM	JOSEPH F. & DOLORES	26 MILLER ROAD, BOX 153	NORFORD,	CT.	06472
1946-09-14	SCHARMEN	MERRILL E. & AUDREY	162 LEASON COVE DRIVE	LUSBY,	MD.	20657
1946-11-24	VINCENS	HILTON & VICKY	2413 VICTOR STREET	CHALMETTE,	LA.	70043



34TH B.G. ASSOCIATION EARLY HISTORY

by William F. Cheek

Using sources from: 8th A.F. News, Esther Carpousis, Hannah Summa, Aida Kaye, Ed Kueppers, Grady Deatherage, Robert Wright, Don Stufflebeam, Harry Doles, and John Hildebran

Usually the best place to start anything is at the beginning. In this instance the beginning is at the end - the end of World War II, that is. With the war over, and most of us returning to civilian life, our military activities were put behind us. Some were returning to continue



Lt. Hicks' Crew - Rear, L. to R.: Vanderkley, Cockrelle, Johnson, Hicks & Nichols. Front, L. to R.: Springman, Conklin, McArdle, Dunn & Lotspiech.

MEMORIES

Continued from page 13

their education under the G.I. Bill of Rights - others to their former employment and raising their families. Thoughts of war experiences would flash through our minds - about comrades we lost and places we fought. Also sights we never expected to see and war buddies we may never hear from again. But, for the most part, we pushed that aside and went on with the business at hand - our family, our home, our employment and educating our children.

Then, after about 30 years with some of this accomplished, we found that we had a little more spare time on our hands and, with aging and mellowing somewhat, our not quite so busy minds begin drifting back to thoughts of what we were doing and where we were when we were the age that our children are now.

At about this time a few of us were seeking out some of our wartime buddies and renewing old friendships that had been part of our survival about 30 years ago. Important to us were the veterans of the 8th Air Force who were meeting in south Florida. As their numbers grew they began to form the 8th Air Force Historical Society and the Florida chapter of the same. This took place in the mid-1970's.

Before these meetings began John Woolnough, a 466th pilot of Miramar, Florida, edited and published the 8th A.F. News which he called the Journal of the 8th Air Force Historical Society prior to the forming of the 8th AFHS. The first issue of two pages was published in January, 1975. This publication grew like Topsy. By the 13th issue, which was Volume Four, Number 1, February 1978, it had grown to 16 pages. Many will agree that his newsletter was the lifeline of the 8th AFHS.

Early members were urged to put notices in their hometown newspapers concerning the forming of the 8th AFHS. Resulting from this and personal contacts, along with notices to veteran's organizations, many names of former 8th A.F. members were being found. The Historical Society led the way in locating members who would serve as Unit Contacts.

With all these names and addresses coming in, the 8th A.F. Clearing House was formed to assign members to their respective unit contacts. Elmer Fessler, 303rd B.G., Opa-Locka, FL. with considerable help from his wife, Jean, undertook this task. By September, 1979, the Fesslers had mailed 5,458 names and addresses to unit contacts, some of which were 34'ers. This was no small task.

It should be pointed out that, even though the 8th AFHS and the Florida chapter were being formed in the mid-1970's, some other units of the 8th A.F. were already organized and having reunions, but mostly by units and not as a total overall organization.

In April, 1975, representatives of 8 units of the 8th A.F. met in Hollywood, FL. for the purpose of forming an organization and planning a reunion. This group met in May and voted to form the 8th AFHS. They started with 121 members by including all subscribers to the 8th A.F. M.M. Page 14

News. One year later on May, 1976, membership had grown to 939. By the end of 1979 the paid membership in the 8th AFHS stood at 5,200. In March, 1996, membership was 31,247.

The first reunion of the 8th AFHS was held in October at Miami Beach, FL. with 617 persons in attendance. Arthur Selevan of the 398th B.G. was elected the first president of the 8th AFHS. In December of 1975 about 50 men and women met at Ft. Lauderdale, FL. to form the Florida chapter. Selevan chaired this meeting and it was decided to hold the Florida chapter meeting at Lakeland, FL. the following May. About 40 persons attended and Harry Doles of the 306th B.G. was elected their first president. It was at this meeting that your writer, Bill Cheek, first learned that anything about the 8th Air Force was going on. A notice of the meeting was placed in the local newspaper. That notice caught my eye and I joined the 8th AFHS as member number 1086, and in the Florida chapter.

A reunion was being planned in cooperation with Rambling Tours, Inc. for a Friendship Holiday Tour back to England for September, 1976. Your writer signed up for this England trip along with his wife and son. A full contingent of 350 persons made this trip.

Our first stop in England was at London's Tara Hotel. It was here that four former members of the 34th, who were on tour, got together for the first time - Grady Deatherage, Doug Underwood, Bob Wright and Bill Cheek. The tour included many things and a highlight revisiting the site of the 34th B.G. Our guides were local members of "The Friends Of The Eighth". At one point, as we toured the grounds, Doug Underwood pointed out that you could still see the perimeter footings where the Officer's Club once stood. This area is now used as a swine farm and hogs were all over the place. One of our guides, in his best accent, said, "Hasn't changed much, has it?" Former "EM's", Deatherage and Cheek, had a big laugh while former Colonels, Underwood and Wright, managed a tight grin.

Continued on page 15



Crew of the "Mizpah" - Rear: C. Greiman, J. Friedman, C. Davis, & C. Steman. Middle: R. Carothers, O. Hopkins, ?, S. Kopacz & Kurger. Front: K. Ulam & W. Wright.

MEMORIES

Continued from page 14

The second reunion of the 8th AFHS was held in October, 1976 at Dayton, Ohio, with 816 persons in attendance. James A. Carpousis, of the 391st Sqdn., had been named the 34th B.G. unit contact. A mini-reunion there, including the four who had been to England the previous year. A highlight here, for your writer, was that member Herb Mermelstein, former 391st Sqdn. clerk, had a picture of the writer's crew and a picture of a B-17 taken just prior to take-off on a food drop mission to Holland. Others, besides Mermelstein in the picture, included pilot Evans, co-pilot Schwarz, navigator Plaut, bombardier Patrick, engineer Beckley and radio operator Feters with "The Flying Pinocchio" in the background. Since gunners Jellum, Smith and Cheek had been on a previous food mission, they were "stood-down" in order for ground personnel to make the flight.

The fourth reunion of the 8th AFHS was held in October, 1978 at Washington, D.C. with 1,150 persons in attendance. A 34th B.G. mini-reunion was held with a good number present. Interest was growing to form a 34th B.G. Association. Jim Carpousis had been serving as 34th B.G. unit contact since 1975 and he asked to be relieved of this responsibility as he needed time for his wife and seven children, not to mention his teaching duties in the Reading, PA. school district. Jim and his wife, Esther, attended the reunions in Dayton, St. Louis and Washington.

At the end of this reunion Deatherage, Underwood and Cheek met for a conference to discuss what route to follow to further the forming of the 34th B.G. Assn. Ray

Summa and his wife Hannah, attended this reunion and he expressed an interest and the willingness to take an active part. Henry Jurgens, of the 18th Sqdn., gave Jim Carpousis the name of Summa as a possible successor. Jim asked Ray to take over his job as unit contact. At the same times Ray was getting encouragement from others. He accepted and most of you know the rest of the story.

Soon after, Ray and Hannah went to Maxwell A.F. Base to the research center for several days getting names and addresses. He did many things for the association, including working on the by-laws and getting our non-profit status.

The first newsletter was prepared by Ray in June, 1979. He looked for a title for it and asked John Woolnough, who suggested "Mendlesham Memories", and this has stuck. Ray sent many letters to newspapers to run articles looking for 34th'ers. He had phone books from most of the states and spent hours trying to run down former 34th'ers. Hannah said that he got quite a thrill when he received a phone call or letter from a "Lost Sheep". In addition to looking for lost members as unit contact and preparing the newsletter he was secretary, treasurer and handling the PX items -- quite a load. His enthusiasm spread and others began to share the load. Eli Baldea took over the responsibility of the "Mendlesham Memories" and, at Ray's death, Hal Province took over as secretary, treasurer and contact man. Paul Shull, with able help from his wife Pauline, took over and enlarged the PX duties.

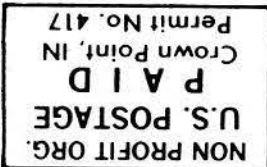
The 8th AFHS reunion Orlando in 1980 saw the 34th B.G. Assn. take off with good attendance. Grady

Continued on page 16



Auto. Gunsight & Turret Spec. 2 From Group & 6 From 7th Sqdn. Front, L. to R.: V. Aspelin, J. Stomakin, E. Saulnier. Rear, L. to R.: C. Wiltse, ? Grp., W. Wood, ? Grp. C.W. Kohr.

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



MEMORIES

Continued from page 15

Deatherage served as the first president and your writer, Bill Cheek, as first secretary. At the 1982 8th AFHS reunion in Cincinnati, OH., the 34th B.G. had its first real large attendance with 112 members and 79 wives registered. Another 15 or 20 34th'ers joined in. Malcolm Corum was the second president and Bob Wright the third.

Up until now all 34th B.G. Assn. reunions were mini-reunions in conjunction with the 8th AFHS reunions. The first 34th B.G. Assn. reunion alone was at Nashville, TN. in 1984. These have continued each year since and with mini-reunions still being held at 8th AFHS reunions. 34th B.G. reunions have been planned by chairman, Gerald Pine, aided by Bob Wright and Harold Rutka with much assistance from their wives, Wanda, Esther and Genevieve. On the national level, Doug Underwood has served as Archivist of the 8th AFHS and Harold served as secretary in 1993 and as vice-president in 1994 after being on the Board-Of-Directors.

Something should be included about Roger Freeman and his enormous contribution to members of the 8th A.F. when his book, "The Mighty Eighth" was published in 1970. If you have ever wondered why that is its name, here is the correct answer. As his book was about to go to press the publishers suddenly decided they didn't like the original title and Freeman was given half a day to come up with a new title. He knew the 8th A.F. was the largest air striking force that had ever been committed to battle and, as a youngster, he had seen the vast formations of bombers and fighters going to war. A title that expressed this might was the obvious choice - "The Mighty Eighth". This title proved popular with 8th Air M.M. Page 16

Force veterans.

In conclusion, the writer would like to say that there may be a few errors in the foregoing and a few names that should have been listed that were not. Also, that he is not an experienced writer but that he has made an effort to give the information that was asked of him by newer members attending the reunion in Huntsville. My apologies to anyone who should have been mentioned and was not - and for errors and omissions, but I gave it my best shot.



Noseart on Alf Johanson's Aircraft